



## Reforms Catalysts

### Advancing Energy Sector Reforms and Financial Sustainability

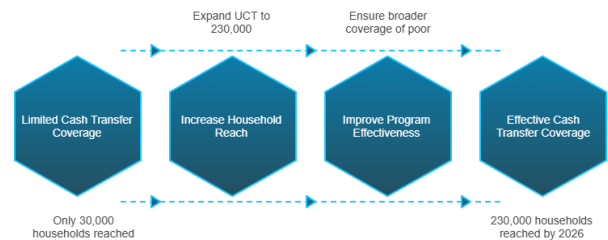
A comprehensive support package for the energy sector under the MDTF was just concluded. Over the past few years, targeted analytical and technical assistance, as well as capacity-building support were provided, allowing for advancing significant reforms implementation in Jordan's energy sector. The support contributed to strengthening the legal, regulatory, and commercial frameworks, supported by analytical work and technical assessments in areas related to fiscal reforms, energy storage, e-mobility, and green hydrogen development.

The support also played a key role in informing major policy decisions and World Bank-supported operations, while enhancing institutional capacity across key sector entities. These efforts have laid the groundwork for improving the financial sustainability of the electricity sector, strengthening governance, and supporting Jordan's transition toward a more efficient and sustainable energy system.

### Strengthening Social Protection through Digital and Inclusive Cash Transfers

With support from the Jordan Growth MDTF, delivered through the World Bank in close coordination with the National Aid Fund (NAF) and the Reform Secretariat at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan has significantly advanced its national cash transfer program through NAF, enhancing the delivery, targeting, and impact of social protection for vulnerable households.

Over a six-year implementation period, the program successfully expanded the Unified Cash Transfer (UCT), reaching 230,000 households by project closure (August 2025), compared to 120,000 in 2023 and 30,000 in 2019, ensuring broader and more effective coverage of poor and vulnerable families, while advancing the transition from assistance programs toward a unified, poverty-based targeting approach.



MDTF support contributed to critical reforms to modernize service delivery systems. Payments were digitized through e-wallets and bank accounts, the Management Information System

was enhanced, and more transparent and inclusive delivery processes were introduced. Gender-responsive measures were also integrated, including adjustments to allow joint household access, expand the definition of household head, and enable households to choose the payment recipient. By 2025, 23% of UCT households had a female primary payment recipient.

The program also strengthened linkages between cash assistance and economic opportunities. Through improved coordination with employment programs, 7,111 beneficiaries were placed in jobs under the national employment program as of November 2025, including 2,927 women, supporting pathways from social assistance toward more sustainable livelihoods.

In parallel, the reform strengthened Jordan's wider social protection architecture by advancing the National Unified Registry (NUR) as a backbone for integrated service delivery. The NUR expansion plan was endorsed, technical committees were established to design processes for five additional public services, and 36 governmental institutions were connected to the backend of the NUR by project closure.

Looking ahead, the foundations established through MDTF support continue to inform ongoing reforms, including the integration of shock-responsive mechanisms and the expansion of "Cash Plus" approaches linking cash assistance with social and development services, helping beneficiary households move from a cycle of need toward greater stability, resilience, and economic empowerment.

## Advancing the National Statistical System and Data Governance

On 14 April 2026, the Cabinet approved the National Strategy for the Development of the Jordanian Statistical System (2026–2030), marking a significant step toward strengthening data governance and evidence-based policymaking. The strategy was developed with

technical and advisory support from the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC.

The strategy aims to modernize the national statistical system, enhance coordination among data-producing entities, and promote the use of advanced technologies in data management. It also defines institutional roles and strengthens collaboration mechanisms to improve the exchange and integration of statistical data across entities.

Comprises six main objectives and nineteen sub-objectives, the strategy includes the establishment and organization of a national interactive statistical data center, which will support institutional integration, improve data sharing, and enhance the availability, accessibility, and quality of statistical information, providing a unified and reliable foundation for planning, monitoring, and evaluating development outcomes.

Aligned with the Economic Modernization Vision (EMV) and the National Digital Transformation Strategy, the strategy further supports the automation of all statistical processes and the development of digital applications for data collection, verification, processing, and improving mechanisms for archiving, storage, and dissemination.

*Source: Prime Ministry*

## Launch of the Institutional Seal for Supporting and Empowering Women in the Public and Private Sectors



The Institutional Seal for Supporting and Empowering Women in the Public and Private Sectors was launched as a national initiative to promote more inclusive and supportive

workplace practices across both sectors. It provides a clear framework to help institutions improve working conditions for women and support their participation and advancement in the labor market.

The seal, developed and to be implemented by the Ministry of Social Development in partnership with the King Abdullah II Center for Excellence, offers a structured framework to assess and recognize institutional commitment to gender equality, based on clear criteria aligned with international best practices and national legislation.

As the first initiative of its kind at both the national and regional levels, the Institutional Seal is expected to strengthen institutional accountability, improve workplace conditions, and support women's recruitment, retention, and career progression. It will also contribute to increasing female participation in the labor market, in line with national reform priorities and the Economic Modernization Vision (EMV).

Further details: [Launch of Corporate Seal to Advance Women's Empowerment in Workplaces](#)

## Reforms to Enhance Jordan's Business Environment (B-Ready)

During the past few weeks, the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation supported the Ministry of Investment in developing a comprehensive reform matrix aimed at improving Jordan's performance in the World Bank's Business Ready (B-Ready) Report. The matrix was prepared in close coordination with ten government working groups covering the report's ten topics, ensuring a whole-of-government approach to designing and implementing priority reforms.

The matrix covers all ten B-Ready topics, including Business Entry, Business Location, Utility Services, Labor, Financial Services, International Trade, Taxation, Dispute Resolution, Market Competition, and Business Insolvency. The matrix is currently under final review by the relevant ministerial taskforce.

These efforts aim to strengthen the regulatory and operational environment, improve service delivery, and further enhance Jordan's investment competitiveness.

## Enhancing the Investment Environment Regulatory Framework

On April 19, the Cabinet approved the justifications for a draft amended bylaw to the Investment Environment Regulation for 2026, marking a further step toward modernizing the regulatory framework governing investment in Jordan. The draft bylaw will be referred to the Legislation and Opinion Bureau to proceed with issuance procedures in accordance with applicable processes.

The proposed amendments aim to strengthen the investment climate by streamlining procedures, unifying regulatory concepts, and addressing overlaps in existing provisions. They also introduce more flexible and efficient regulatory approaches, including mechanisms to accelerate licensing processes and reduce the time and cost required for investors to establish and expand their projects, and stimulate investment in less developed areas.

The draft bylaw is part of the Executive Program of the EMV and reflects a comprehensive government approach to modernizing the legislative framework governing investment. It is expected to enhance policy stability and reinforce confidence in the business environment, while contributing to improved investment attractiveness and competitiveness.

The regulation was developed through extensive consultations with both public and private

sectors stakeholders to ensure it responds to investors needs while serving broader national priorities. *Source: AIMamlaka TV.*

## Sovereign Green Bond Framework Nearing Finalization

Significant progress has been made in advancing the Sovereign Green Bond Framework. The Ministry of Finance, with support from the

Reform Secretariat at MoPIC and World Bank experts, has worked extensively to incorporate key enhancements aligned with international best practices. The framework was prepared and submitted to a Second Party Opinion (SPO) provider for independent review, classification, and assessment, marking an important step toward strengthening Jordan's readiness for a potential sovereign green bond issuance.

## Strengthening Tourism Sector Regulation and Site Management Frameworks



In collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (MoTA), the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC is currently supporting the development of regulatory instructions for the tourism sector, financed through the Jordan Growth MDTF. These efforts aim to enhance the organization of tourism-related activities and strengthen the regulatory framework governing tourist and hotel establishments and services.

In parallel, the Reform Secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank and through the Jordan Growth MDTF, is supporting MoTA and the Department of Antiquities in developing the second thematic Site Management Plan for Al-Karak Castle. The process began with a comprehensive assessment, including field visits, and adopts a strategic, integrated approach focused on unified interpretation frameworks and enhancing the overall visitor experience. This approach aims to transform currently fragmented assets into a cohesive and clearly defined destination.

## Advancing Implementation of Inclusive and Climate-Resilient Bus Stop Design Standards

Building on the approval of the Bus Stop Design Guidelines, the Government of Jordan is advancing the development of detailed design standards and technical specifications to support the upgrading of a pilot of 30 bus stops across the Kingdom.

This phase is also supported by the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC through the Jordan Growth MDTF and is being implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and the Land Transport Regulatory Commission.

This initiative aims to translate the approved guidelines into practical, on the ground improvements that enhance safety, accessibility, and climate resilience in public transport infrastructure.

## Integrated Labor Market Information System (LMIS)



As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen labor market governance, the Ministry of Labor advanced the development of the Integrated Labor Market Information System (LMIS), a national platform that enhances access to labor market data. The system supports improved job matching, evidence-based policymaking, and greater transparency by consolidating key labor market information in one place. It also contributes to improving labor market efficiency and informing employment and skills development strategies. The Ministry is

currently updating the system to incorporate 2025 data, further strengthening its role as a comprehensive and up-to-date national reference for labor market information.

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