

COUNTRY PROFILE

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# Jordan

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE





Eastern Amman

# FOREWORD

Jordan is growing quickly. With high rates of population growth and a unique geography, Jordan is faced with both unprecedented challenges in managing the country's lands and development and also offered exceptional opportunities in revitalizing the Kingdom. Jordan is one of the smallest and poorest economies in the Middle East, with 14 percent of Jordanians living below the poverty line. The country suffers from structural unemployment, as the economy fails to absorb the annual inflow of new job seekers. Moreover, Jordan's active-to-total population ratio is one of the lowest in the world, with an average of four non-active individuals depending on a single worker. Unless this situation is reversed, significant economic growth and wealth will be difficult to achieve. With the current population growth rate and the economic status-quo, unemployment rates could well exceed 20 percent and could account for over half a million unemployed in the coming ten to fifteen years.

Jordan's population continues to increase and water supplies are increasingly strained. If current trends remain the same, Jordan will be in absolute water shortage by 2025. Jordan's industrialization and urbanization cause aquifers and polluted water to be exploited and Jordan's agricultural practices, with 77.5%, use the most water, heightening Jordan's water scarcity problems. Having a young population (57% of population under 25) poses greater demands for jobs, affordable housing, transit and social services within our urban areas.

Jordan is also a host to about 1.3 million Syrians ( according to the recent Population & Housing Census 2015), including around 630,000 refugees. While some 82 per cent of all refugees have settled in host communities, particularly in the urban area of Amman and the northern governorates of Jordan, the remaining are hosted in refugee camps. Prior to the Syria crisis, local governance in Jordan was already struggling to address service delivery shortages, induce local economic development, and maintain social cohesion within communities. Meeting the needs of the 521,611 refugees residing outside camps threatens to overwhelm these already stretched local administrations, in particular in the most affected northern governorates. The challenges of Jordanian cities today are very real, UN-Habitat, as the UN Agency focused on cities, is proud to work within this context. The UN-Habitat Country Programme projects were developed in close collaboration with the national and local partners and are closely aligned with the development priorities of Jordan.

UN-Habitat's programme focus for the period 2015 - 2017 is to work with central and local government partners to support them to strengthen all aspects of governance and management in urban areas through:

- Effective urbanization, urban planning, and local governance;
- Improved land management and administration;
- Increased emphasis on pro-poor housing;
- Improved infrastructure and basic services; and
- Strengthened Jordanian resilience in urban protracted crisis.

This document provides the framework for greater partnerships with all the development players, and is equally considered as a major tool to advocate UN-Habitat's mandate and to guide the implementation process.



**Iman Zaki**  
**Programme Manager**  
**UN-Habitat Jordan**

# URBAN ISSUES

GDP Growth	3.1% (2015) <sup>1</sup>
IHDI rank	77/187 (2014) <sup>2</sup>
Urban Population	82.6% (2012) <sup>3</sup>
Population	9.53 million (2015) <sup>4</sup>
Population Growth Rate	1.52% (2015) <sup>5</sup>
Urbanization Growth Rate	2.5% (2015) <sup>6</sup>
Youth population (15-24)	22% <sup>7</sup>
Average household size (persons)	4.8 (2015) <sup>8</sup>
Refugee population (% of urban population)	9.4 (2014) <sup>9</sup>

## Population of Major Cities

City	Area (km2)	Population 31-12-2012	Density person/km2
Amman	7,579	2,473,400	326.3
Zarqa	4,761	951,800	199.9
Irbid	1,572	1,137,100	723.3
Ma'raq	26,551	300,300	11.3
Jerash	410	191,700	467.6
Ajloun	420	146,900	349.7
Madaba	940	159,700	169.9
Salt	1,120	428,000	382.1
Aqaba	6,905	139,200	20.2
Ma'an	32,832	121,400	12.1
Tafeila	2,209	89,400	40.5
Kerak	3,495	249,100	71.3

1 World Bank: <http://data.worldbank.org/country/jordan>  
 2 UNDP: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/inequality-adjusted-hdi>  
 3 Jordan Habitat III Report (2014)  
 4 Population & Housing Census 2015: [http://census.dos.gov.jo/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2016/02/Census\\_results\\_2016.pdf](http://census.dos.gov.jo/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2016/02/Census_results_2016.pdf)

## High Levels of Urbanization

The urban sprawl and lack of urban planning in Jordanian cities since the 1960's has resulted in high costs to guarantee infrastructure and services. Jordan's cities have grown at a rate parallel with other cities in the MENA region. Doubling, or depending on regional conflict, tripling every 25-30 years has been the latest trend. In that time, many of Jordan's towns and cities have expanded over some of the country's most limited and precious natural resources. At the same time scattered, uncoordinated development is becoming more expensive to service and maintain.

Attracted by urban economies, amenities, institutions and educational opportunities, people are transitioning from rural to urban ways of life. Planning for this urban growth is critical as young population matures, and greater demands for jobs, housing, transit and social services will be placed on our urban areas. Rising to this challenge and seizing the economic opportunity requires prudent planning and equitable investment to ensure the needs of future generations are met. There is a disconnect between urban planning efforts pursued by municipalities and infrastructure and service delivery, organized and implemented by central government agencies, making the management of urban development a difficult task. Consequently, urban growth is based on spontaneous land-use planning decisions and partial initiatives, in addition to

5 Ibid.  
 6 Ibid.  
 7 UNDP: <http://www.jo.undp.org/content/jordan/en/home/countryinfo.html>  
 8 Jordan Habitat III Report (2014)

market and land speculation forces, leaving no choice but for infrastructure to follow up. A concentration of 10 houses is enough to oblige the government to provide road access, electricity, water and street lighting.

## Poorly Planned Urbanization

There is a set of laws and regulations that govern and guide urban planning in Jordan. In spite of these regulations, there are several shortcomings and limitations in the regulatory and legal framework for urban planning, as described in the following:

- Lack of integrated transportation networks and land use planning resulted in reliance on private automobile, leading to traffic congestion, poor transit coverage and an increase in carbon footprint;
- The absence of a National Urban Policy/ Strategy for Spatial Planning: currently, zoning and subdivision plans are created and approved in the absence of recently (within last 20 years) approved or updated national strategies for spatial planning and regional plans. Also, the absence of a national Geographic Information System;
- Limited public participation in the planning process and the dependence on the public sector for the provision of jobs as the result of the limited engagement of private sector in urban development;
- Needs of youth in urban areas: Despite

9 Ibid.



Ground breaking event for the construction of demonstration housing units under Jordan Affordable Housing Programme

the efforts to promote and activate the role of youth in the development of their communities and to improve their living and economic conditions, some problems remain in view. Such as the increasing rates of unemployment among the educated youth, the failure of education and training systems to keep up with the needs of the labour market, the lack of coordination between agencies supporting young people, poor quality of physical and social infrastructure which would be necessary to help youth occupy their leisure time, in addition to the lack of public budgets directed to the youth sector, and the lack of accessibility by the youth to the activities of cultural and media institutions;

- The needs of the elderly: despite the effort exerted to improve the conditions of the elderly in Jordan, they are still facing a

number of challenges, such as a negative perception of the elderly by the family and community, the lack of a supportive and safe environment, a lack of social and health services provided in nursing homes, the lack of opportunities for the elderly to participate in their local and general communities in taking the decision related to their well-being, particularly their needs for shelter;

- Incorporating gender in urban development plans: notwithstanding the strategic plans, policies and legislation designed and applied in the past decades for the purpose of uplifting the women status and enhance their economic, social, and political participation, and to bridge the gender gap in various domains, the status of women's participation in and contribution to development is still below the level of ambition;

- Improving technical capabilities for planning and management of cities: there is a need to improve the technical capacity of city planning in an elaborate scientific, practical future-oriented manner to solve the problems and avoid the emergence of problems;
- Inefficient data management systems:
  - » Poor employment of demographic indicators in the development planning process, and the lack of accurate and aggregate data on migration;
  - » Lack of interest in the use of geographic information systems, development and linkage of the same to planning;
  - » The difficulty of systematic and continuous access to information for all and at all levels, and poor capacity building and exchange of experiences, knowledge and expertise in the field of

- urban planning;
- » Lack of or paucity of qualitative research projects related to urban planning and sustainable land use;
- » The lack of information and data related to environmental and urban development, which often makes the process of evaluating the programs and plans inaccurate in many cases.

### Impact of Syrian Crisis

Five years into the crisis the prospects for a prompt return of the millions of Syrian refugees to their home country are remote. Even in the unlikely event of a solution to the crisis, it will take more than a decade for the country to rebuild and for Syrians to resettle. While many refugees will attempt the route to other destinations, the majority are expected to remain in those countries neighbouring Syria that have generously welcomed them for the past five years. For these host nations, the magnitude and longevity of the crisis will likely translate into mounting costs and ever-increasing challenges to the social, economic and political fabric of the country.

Jordan is host to about 1.3 million Syrians, including around 630,000 refugees. While some 82 per cent of all refugees have settled in host communities, particularly in the urban area of Amman and the northern governorates of Jordan, the remaining are hosted in refugee camps. In providing for their needs, Jordan has received support from the international community. Funding however, has not been proportionate to the response requirements and whereas needs

are increasing, overall support is decreasing. By October 2015, only 34 per cent of the funding requirements of the Jordan Response Plan 2015 had been committed.

Funding shortfalls have put additional pressures on national services and infrastructure thereby affecting Jordan's resilience. Eighty-six per cent of Syrian refugee families are either food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity compared to 48 per cent in 2014. Overcrowded health centres and schools, dilapidated water, sanitation and municipal services, and pressures on the labour and housing markets have left Jordanians feeling increasingly disenfranchised and neglected by response actors. Meanwhile, poor macroeconomic performance and pressure on public spending continues to limit Jordan's ability to invest in development, ultimately eroding the country's capacity to maintain its developmental gains and deal with future challenges.

The absorption capacity in urban areas is rapidly being exhausted and in some areas (Mafraq and Irbid) may already have been exhausted. Unlike previous refugee influxes into Jordan, the majority of Syrians who have come to Jordan are poorly educated and possess extremely limited resources, causing them to settle in low-income areas where they have quickly been absorbed amongst the urban poor, competing over limited space, resources and job opportunities.

The influx of Syrian refugees is severely straining the absorption capacity of the Jordanian housing market. some 521,611 Syrians in Jordan need

housing, which translates over 100,000 units.<sup>12</sup> The Jordanian housing sector, meanwhile, has produced an annual average of 28,600 units during the period 2004-2011 against a total demand of 32,000 units.<sup>13</sup> Moreover, supply is not well aligned with demand, with an oversupply at the middle and upper end of the market and some 18% of the housing stock remaining unoccupied.<sup>14</sup> As a result, rental has been the main source of affordable housing for almost half of the poorest 10% of Jordan's population.<sup>15</sup>

### Environmental Issues

Rather than being a contributor to, Jordan is one of the countries affected by the phenomenon of climate change. Like many developing countries Jordan has begun to suffer from the negative effects of climate change including the increasing temperatures, the increase in drought-affected areas, erratic rainfall, wobbling heat waves, a significant plunge in available water (underground and surface) due to the decline in water flows, thus causing a shortfall of water available for irrigation and thus threatening food shortage, in addition to the impact of climate change on disease patterns and availability of clean water and decent sanitation facilities, the migration of population from the most affected areas, and the impact of all this on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Jordanian citizens, especially in cities are also facing an increasing amount of air pollution. The main challenges in this regard manifest in the increased concentrations of sulphur in diesel, due to unsustainable patterns of production in

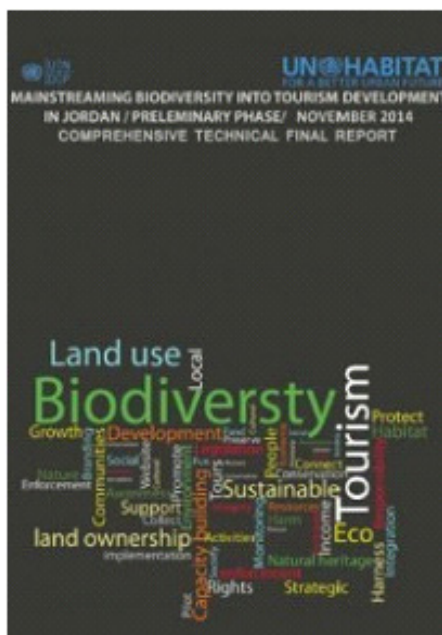
12 UNHCR Jordan Response Plan uses a planning figure of 5 people per refugee household, while ACTED (2013) reports an average Syrian refugee household size of 7.12.

13 Department of Statistics (DOS) and HUDC 2004-2011 Housing Sector Report

14 Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDC), Urban

and Housing Indicators, August 2013

15 HUDC Urban and Housing Indicators, August 2013



challenges facing the efforts to reduce disaster risk lies in the limited financial resources, lack of qualified human resources, and the lack of coordination between the agencies involved.

## UN-HABITAT PROGRAMMES IN JORDAN

### Urban Planning and Design

#### Project: Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Tourism Development in Jordan

**Duration: 5 months, Budget: \$52.000**

**Donor: UNDP**

the industrial sector, the increased numbers of private cars as people avoid the use of public transportation, poor funding for the expansion of networks for monitoring the quality of air in order to cover all regions of the kingdom

By virtue of its geographical location and human activities in and around the kingdom, Jordan is prone to many risks, including natural hazards such as earthquakes, floods, droughts, the risk of locust invasions, severe weather conditions (blizzards, freezes). Besides natural ones, there are the risks caused by human activities such as fires, chemical hazards including industrial accidents, hazardous materials transportation accidents on the roads, etc., chemical, radiation, and bacterial pollution, armed conflicts and population migrations. One of the most important

Based on an agreement of cooperation between UNDP and UN-Habitat, UN-Habitat provided technical and management consulting services to assist UNDP in the implementation of phase 1 of the land-use component of the Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Tourism Development Project. The project aims to reduce the impact of tourism on biodiversity in Jordan and it will intervene at three levels.

At the national level it will develop a regulatory and enforcement framework in order to reduce the impact of tourism on biodiversity centrally. Components will be piloted at the local level, assessed and refined before being adopted nationally and made available for replication and up-scaling. At the regional level the project will create public awareness about the sensitivity

and value of biodiversity as an asset for tourism in addition to institutional capacity building for planning, monitoring and enforcement of tourism development inside and outside formally protected areas as well as to manage its impacts. At the Protected Area (PA) level, the project will work to enhance capacity and manage effectiveness of PAs, including revenue generation, tourism planning and management as well as community relations.

The project has three outcomes:

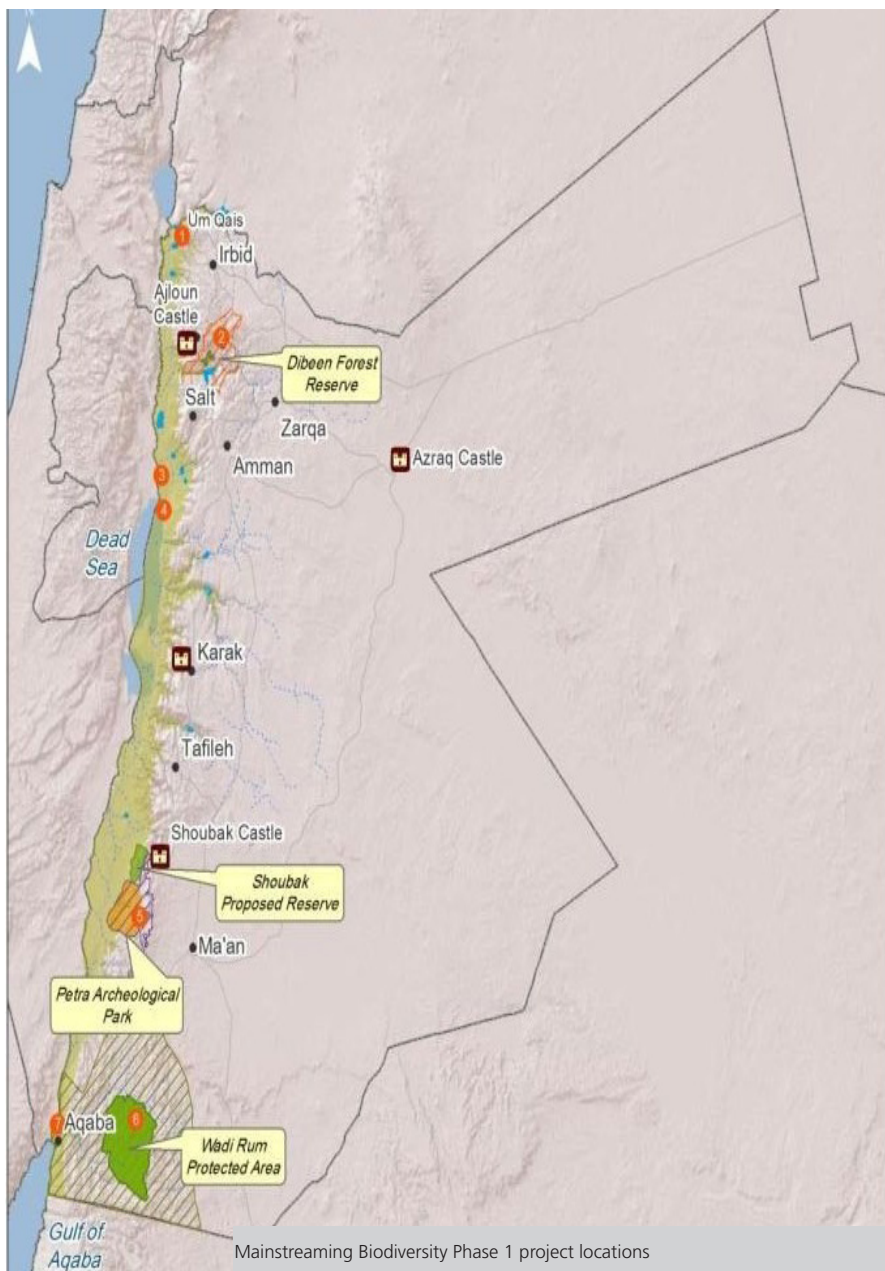
**Outcome 1:** Key stakeholders at national, regional and local levels apply an enhanced regulatory and enforcement framework in order to avoid, reduce, mitigate and offset adverse impacts of tourism on biodiversity.

**Outcome 2:** Institutional capacities for planning, monitoring and enforcement strengthened in the Jerash, Petra and Wadi Rum areas so as to manage the impacts of tourism development on biodiversity within ecologically valuable and sensitive areas.

**Outcome 3:** Improved management effectiveness particularly in community relations, tourism planning and management as well as revenue generation in the Dibeen, Shoubak and Wadi Rum protected areas.

UN-Habitat has been tasked to implement the land use planning component relating to Outcome 2 of the project specifically. It addresses the implementation and achievement of the following outputs:

**Output 2.2:** Comprehensive land-use plans based



on a Biodiversity Information Management System (BIMS) and covering Jerash Governorate, PDTRA territory, and the Greater Wadi Rum landscapes/development zones to set development limits so as to protect biodiversity.

**Output 2.4:** Improved enforcement of land use development constraints geared to protect biodiversity.

UN-Habitat is to provide technical and management consulting services to assist UNDP in the implementation of the planning component of the project, besides building the institutional and technical capacities of the different enforcement agencies required for planning, implementing, monitoring and enforcement so as to manage the impacts of development with emphasis of tourism development inside and outside formally protected areas.

The activity is divided into two distinctive phases. UN-Habitat executed Phase I which is the introductory/preparatory phase that was implemented over a period of around 5 months. Phase II will adopt its results when they are achieved.

**Pipeline Project: Zarqa Master Plan**  
**Duration: 18 months, Budget: \$1.500.000**  
**Dnor: Zarqa Municipality**

The municipality of Zarqa approached UN-HABITAT seeking their technical support in preparing a Master Plan for the Zarqa municipality.

The Master Plan will be integrating the city profiling and city Prosperity index approaches to be the base on which the Master Plan can rely



on and manage their updating and development.

The Zarqa Municipality has several development projects in the pipeline and opted to prepare a Master Plan for the city prior to implementing the projects so that the work will be integrated with the city priorities and priority action plans and budgets can be allocated accordingly.

### Urban Economy Project: Credit Rating

**Duration: 6 months, Budget: \$120.000**

**Donor: UN-Habitat**

In 2014 the Minister of Municipal Affairs in Jordan has expressed his interest to the director of UN-Habitat's Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS)

in obtaining UN-Habitat's assistance for rating the credit worthiness of five municipalities in Jordan as a pilot project. The credit rating exercise enabled UN-Habitat to understand more about the limitations of municipal finance in Jordan. The rating aimed at evaluating the municipal creditworthiness and ability of municipalities to meet their financial obligations regularly and to have access to the capital market. The exercise concluded that in addition to opening up the potential to borrow, municipalities can increase local revenue by implementing revenue collection modalities already available to them within current legislation.

### Pipeline Project: Jordan Municipal Finance Programme (Phase 2) - Endogenous Revenues Enhancement

**Duration: 3 years, Budget: \$2.973.263**

UN-Habitat strongly promotes local empowerment through building strong, local revenue based financial management. This project builds on UN-HABITAT's municipal credit rating project and aims to strengthen municipal financing through strengthening capacity of municipalities to collect and manage revenues, and generate revenues from a range of sources as well as eventually borrow from the capital market. This will result in increased municipal revenue, strengthened financial independence of municipalities and reduced reliance on donors to support key services provided by municipalities, including garbage collection, roads construction, rehabilitation and maintenance, street lighting and cleaning, sanitation, water supply, pest control, establishment of markets and public parks, town planning activities, prevention of hazards and drainage system management, and others.

This Programme is included in the JRP (2016-2018), and 3RP 2016. It has also been designed and developed in close collaboration with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs MOMA, Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB), and municipalities across Jordan.

Key components of the project include:



First Creditworthiness Rating Forum for Municipalities in Jordan December 2014

(i) Improving municipal financing systems with assessments, ICT technologies and fundamentals.

(ii) Improving local revenue collection by implementing better revenue collection with integrated land value sharing mechanisms and registry systems.

(iii) Improving citizen and government awareness, buy-in and political support on the merits of strengthening local finance, and the variety of means to do so.

(iv) Continuing activities from Phase 1, strengthening capacity of municipal lending from capital markets, and access to local financing by integrating information, capacity and development.

## Housing and Slum Upgrading Project: Jordan Affordable Housing

**Duration: 18 months, Budget: \$1.317.400**

**Donor: Governments of Switzerland and Denmark; UNHCR**

New housing solutions are needed, for both Jordanians and for refugees.

The Jordan Affordable Housing Programme of UN-Habitat and the government of Jordan is a predominantly private sector funded solution that will deliver houses to lower-middle income Jordanians without the use of subsidy. It combines the credit capacity of Jordanian families interested to make an incremental investment in property, financing from local commercial and Islamic banks and the available resources of Jordanian developers and their construction capacity.

The Jordan Affordable Housing Programme seeks to enable the scaled delivery of small-sized housing units priced at 15,000-16,000 JD per unit across the Kingdom of Jordan that can be purchased by lower-middle income Jordanians (Jordanian families earning between 300 and 500 JD per month). These units can be occupied by the new owners or rented to low-income Jordanians or refugee households. They will be designed such that they can be expanded or combined to create 100–130m<sup>2</sup> units in the future. This is a large-scale, private sector solution for both lower income Jordanians (through increased affordable housing supply) as well as refugee populations (through increased quality rental housing). The JAH Programme will raise the entire build cost from private sector capital (up to JD 450 million or \$600 million for the delivery of 30,000 housing units) and as such will be an excellent example of a needs driven housing solution in Jordan, both for lower-middle income Jordanians seeking a home of their own, and for refugees and vulnerable Jordanian families in need of rental accommodation.

The refugee crisis is severely straining the absorption capacity of the Jordanian housing market. The sustainable development of cities, towns and other human settlements requires resilience – the ability to withstand crisis and difficulty. Jordan's resilience is being severely tested by the crisis in Syria as all levels of government struggle to meet the needs of Jordanians as well as Syrian refugees. UN-Habitat's Jordan programme is working to support and strengthen resilience in the areas of affordable housing and develop municipal capacity. The focus of the work is on sustainability and scale, using partnerships with the private sector to

achieve lasting results for all Jordan residents and Syrian refugees.

The number of Syrians living in Jordan is estimated at 1.4 million, including around 630,000 refugees. While some 82 per cent of all refugees have settled in host communities, particularly in the urban area of hosting communities of Jordan, the remaining are hosted in refugee camps.

Even before the refugee crisis, Jordan had a persistent lack of affordable housing. The price for a house on the market today is well above the reach of lower middle income Jordanians. Although the construction sector is strong, delivery of housing supply has not been well aligned with demand, leading to an oversupply at the middle and upper end of the market but a lack of affordable housing for the lower middle and lower income market. The refugee crisis has worsened an already existing affordable housing shortage.

### The Programme has two phases:

#### Phase 1 - 2014-2016:

With generous support from the Governments of Switzerland, Denmark and UNHCR, the JAH Programme has been able to make strong progress on analysis, perception change and partnerships and will create the formal structure to which all partners will contribute as well as deliver a number of demonstration houses.

A demand survey in eight governorates (excluding central Amman), undertaken at the start of 2015, has confirmed that there is a very high demand for affordable housing of this type (around 500,000 households), and that both the price and the

size of this proposed housing unit would be very acceptable to the target market.

Local banks can offer 10 or more years of financing for 80% (and potentially up to 100%) of the purchase price at market rates. Currently the repayment amount over 10 years for a 13,000 JD grant, whether from a commercial or Islamic bank, would be around 150 JD per month. The survey indicated average monthly rental rates outside Amman are 145 – 150 JD, so a buyer would pay essentially the same amount to be an owner as they would to be a tenant if they are currently renting. Alternatively a purchaser should be able to fully offset the cost of financing if a tenant family were installed.

Following a design competition held by the Jordan Engineering Association, a house design has been selected by the programme. Work is underway to build demonstration units of this design in 4 locations (Karak, Amman, Dhleil, Ramtha) to enable people to see a 65m<sup>2</sup> house firsthand, as well as the space created when it is expanded to both 100 m<sup>2</sup> and 130m<sup>2</sup>. These demonstration units, paid for by the programme and situated on land provided by the four municipalities, are expected to be completed in early 2016. At the same time, discussions are ongoing with a number of developers and municipalities about the possibility of undertaking one or more pilot projects. These projects will test the viability of the entire affordable housing delivery proposition at

scale, from availability of funding - for suitable serviced land and construction, to permissions, preparation and construction at expected cost, to buyer demand and availability of finance for purchase. The first phase is expected to end in April 2016.

### Phase 2 - 2016-2018:

The second phase of the programme will deliver “proof of concept,” combining all the separate stakeholder agreements into two pilot projects that deliver up to 200 units of affordable housing. The pilots will be supported by several related activities including: (i) marketing campaign to promote the concept with local Jordanian families (as buyers) and with potential tenants (including Syrian refugee and vulnerable Jordanian families), developers, contractors and financial institutions; (ii) using the demonstration houses from Phase I as technical information hubs to provide borrower education training, information on designs to potential participants; (iii) provision of technical support to municipalities and ministries on affordable housing policy, public private partnerships, green technology and urban extension planning; (iv) establishing an affordable housing vehicle, including an agreed structure and staffing plan, a business plan, and the development of an operational policies and procedures manual, including appropriate measures to ensure the protection of vulnerable renter groups, including Syrian refugees.



Illustration for pilot project in Ramtha Municipality

## Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation Pipeline Project: Local Emergency and Risk Management Plan

**Duration: 5 months, Budget: US \$259,710**

**Donor: World Bank, DFID-UK, Canada, Switzerland, Sweden**

The Government of Jordan (GoJ) has requested the World Bank, DFID-UK, Canada and Switzerland to support Jordan mitigate the negative impact of Syrian refugees. The objective of the project is to assist the GoJ to respond rapidly to address some of the pressing service delivery and socioeconomic needs of the affected host populations, to boost their confidence in the existing systems of government, and also initiate strengthening institutional capacities and community coping mechanisms to address similar crises in the future. The primary beneficiaries of this project shall be the communities residing in the municipal areas of Northern Jordan and possibly other areas depending on how the refugees settle in Jordan over the next three years.

The World Bank is providing a grant to the Government of Jordan to “help Jordanian municipalities and host communities address the immediate service delivery impacts of Syrian refugee inflows and strengthen municipal capacity to support local economic development.” Within this project, the Ministry of Interior has been tasked to coordinate and carry out a project component entitled “Institutional Development for Crisis Resilience and Emergency Preparedness”.

The overall project - Emergency Services and Social Resilience Project (ESSRP) is primarily been envisaged to reduce the vulnerability of Jordanians to the highly volatile environment and

build resilience to internal and external shocks by addressing the challenges through laying a foundations for inclusive growth through local development, improvement of public services, livelihoods and above all social cohesion.

This project is part of a wider ongoing World Bank, DFID-UK, Canadian, Swiss, and Sweden response to support Jordan mitigate the negative impact of Syrian refugees. The ESSRP Project will aim to achieve a number of results set out in the Project Appraisal Document (PAD). The following are the Project tasks:

A) Task 1: Assessment and Diagnosis of Existing Systems and Capabilities

B) Task 2: Two Local Emergency and Risk Management Plans developed (LERMP)

C) Task 3: Implementation arrangements for the recommended LERMPs.

## Pipeline Project: Strengthening Urban Resilience through improved Urban Services in 10 Jordanian Cities (City and Neighbourhood Profiling)

**Duration: 18 months, Budget: \$3.517.700**

City and neighbourhood profiling are very useful for identifying opportunities for community-based approaches that can contribute to (i) accountability to affected populations (AAP) - local communities identifying their own priorities and strengthening their own coping mechanisms; (ii) more effective use of humanitarian and recovery resources, including interventions with a much larger number of beneficiaries (cost-

effective); (iii) improved governance by connecting communities, municipalities, Governorates and Ministries in decision-making and implementation.

This Programme is included in the JRP (2016-2018), and 3RP 2016.

Overall Objective : Strengthened resilience of vulnerable local authorities, host communities and refugees in 10 Jordanian cities through improved urban service delivery systems.

Expected Accomplishments and main Outputs:

**Expected Accomplishment 1:** Strengthened capacity of Ministries, local authorities and communities to improve the targeting, coordination and monitoring of humanitarian and development responses through an improved Urban Information Management System.

**Output 1.1:** System in place to generate urban information and analysis, and monitor the impacts of interventions across humanitarian, resilience and budget support initiatives designed to improve urban services delivery.

**Output 2.1:** Ten Rapid City Profiles produced in municipalities hosting significant refugee populations.

**Output 3.1:** Up to 30 Neighbourhood Profiles generated with prioritised action plans (approximately 3 per city) identifying key needs and priority interventions in communities hosting significant refugee populations.

**Expected Accomplishment 2:** Jordanian host communities and refugees have improved access

to urban infrastructure and services in 10 cities heavily impacted by the Syria crisis

**Output 4.1:** Up to 15 community infrastructure, services and/or livelihood projects implemented in 10 most affected cities in Jordan.

**Output 5.1:** Improved capacities of municipalities, communities and service providers to mitigate the impacts of the **Syrian crisis**.

## KEY PARTNERS

- Ministries
  - » Ministry of Municipal Affairs
  - » Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (Through a five-year agreement to support the programme's operational activities in Jordan)
  - » Ministry of Public Works and Housing & Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDC)
  - » Ministry of Foreign Affairs
  - » Ministry of Interior
  - » Ministry of Finance
- Local authorities:
  - » Petra Development and Tourism Region Authority
  - » Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA)
- Municipalities:
  - » Greater Amman Municipality (GAM)
  - » Greater Karak Municipality
  - » Dheilil Municipality
  - » New Ramtha Municipality
- Academia:
  - » Petra University
  - » German University
- Civil society:
  - » Jordan Construction Contractors Association (JCCA)
  - » Jordan Engineers Association (JEA)
- NGOs:
  - » Royal Scientific Society (RSS)
  - » Mohanna Foundation (Credit Rating Project)
- CBO:
  - » The Jordanian Humanitarian Society (JHRS)
- Other UN Agencies in Jordan
  - » UNHCR: UNHCR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT UNDER JORDAN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME - UNHCR provided support to UN-Habitat in order to analyze current context and recommend and prepare guidelines for a refugee rental scheme designed as part of the JAH plan, which will take advantage of the opportunity provided by the production of new, affordable housing stock in Jordan. It also provided support for a national consultant to undertake activities in the housing construction / government sector to ensure delivery of demonstration units and provide support for initial pilot projects to be launched where there is developer and investor interest. UN-Habitat welcomes this additional support and expertise to its overall programme as a means to ensure refugees are best served by the JAH programme, as much as is possible.
  - » UNESCO: UN-Habitat is in the process of discussing potential collaboration with UNESCO for the development of land use management plans for Petra archaeological park.
  - » UNDP.

## LIST OF PROJECTS

Project Title	Donor	Duration	Objective
Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation in the Tourism Sector Development in Jordan. Phase 1/ Validation of Land-Use Planning Component	UNDP	August 2014 - Dec.2014	Main objective of phase 1: validation of the precise and up to date scope, activities and expected results of the full planning component so as to ensure the best incremental effect of the project at the time of its effectiveness.
Jordan Credit Rating /Phase 1	UN-Habitat	April 2014-Dec.2014	The awarding of an interactive credit rating to four municipalities (Maadaba, Gharb Irbid, Al Mazar Al Shamali, Al Shawbak, and Al Feheys ), and indication of key conclusions and recommendations on ways to enhance various aspects of the enterprise's operations and obligations, financial and asset management and strategy which could ultimately affect its credit rating. This project was implemented by the Urban Economy Branch and Muhanna Credit Rating Agency in Beirut, Lebanon, whilst UN-Habitat Jordan Office provided logistical support and coordination with the respective municipalities and stakeholders.
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme	SWISS & Denmark Government	Nov.2014-May 2016	The Jordan Affordable Housing Programme seeks to enable the scaled delivery of small-sized (60 –65 m2) housing units priced at 15,000-16,000 JD per unit across the Kingdom of Jordan <sup>16</sup> that can be purchased by Jordanian families earning between 300 and 500 JD per month. They will be designed such that they can be expanded in future to 120 – 130 m <sup>2</sup> .

<sup>16</sup> With the exception of Central Amman, where land prices make the 15,000 JD unit cost prohibitive.



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