



MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

الصندوق الائتماني متعدد
المانحين للنمو في الأردن
JORDAN GROWTH MULTI DONOR TRUST FUND



وحدة دعم تنفيذ
الإصلاحات الاقتصادية
REFORM SECRETARIAT

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Reforms Catalysts

Strengthening Environmental and Social Accountability in Jordan's Reform Efforts

In the last week of August, the Reform Secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank, delivered an in-depth three-day training on the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). Over 50 participants from 31 government entities engaged in sessions designed to equip them with the essential tools and knowledge needed to assess environmental and social

impacts in both ongoing and future reform initiatives.

The training included comprehensive modules on ESF core concepts and Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), along with practical case studies of reform efforts. The primary goal was to ensure that Jordan's reforms not only drive economic growth but also support sustainable and resilient development, adhering to high standards of social equity and environmental protection.

Access photos: [ESF Training](#)



“Every reform, regardless of its scope, can have environmental and social impacts. This training is essential for providing us with the expertise to effectively assess these impacts and implement measures to mitigate risks and avoid negative consequences. This initiative underscores our commitment to sustainable development, with ongoing support from the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and partners to ensure the successful implementation of reforms.”

Mr. Omar Fanek, Director of the Reform Secretariat

Collaborative Efforts Drive Key Reforms and Development Initiatives in Jordan

Successful Completion of Joint World Bank-AIIB Mission Enhances Jordan's Investment Program



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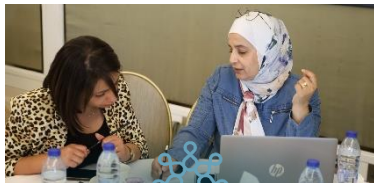
From July 21 to 25, 2024, the World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), in collaboration with the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, concluded a significant joint mission as part of the Transparent, Inclusive, and Climate Responsive Investment in Jordan - Program for Results. This mission focused on evaluating the program's progress, addressing key challenges, and engaging with stakeholders across various ministries and government entities. The mission's findings highlighted substantial progress towards achieving the development goals and the program's medium-term results indicators.

The program, launched in August 2021, aims to stimulate both public and private investment in Jordan, aiding the country's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. It also supports Jordan's economic recovery by focusing on green opportunities and creating jobs, particularly for young people and women.

More details: [Successful Completion of Joint World Bank-AIIB Mission Enhances Jordan's Investment Program](#)

World Bank Mission Supports Procurement Reforms

Earlier in July, from the 15th to the 18th, the World Bank led a mission focused on public procurement reforms in collaboration with the Reform Secretariat. This mission aimed to strengthen government procurement processes and address challenges faced by Project Management Units (PMUs) in implementing World Bank programs. Meetings with key stakeholders, including the Government Tenders Department (GTD) and the Government Procurement Department (GPD), emphasized enhancing procurement efficiency and supporting ongoing reforms to ensure effective project delivery. As well, meetings took place with the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship, the Procurement Policy Unit, and the Procurement Complaint Committee to



discuss further development in Procurement Complaint process. The results of this mission demonstrated progress in the effectiveness of public procurement management.

These missions emphasize the continued collaboration between Jordan and international partners, reflecting a shared commitment to advancing Jordan's development priorities. By addressing key areas such as investment, procurement, and capacity building, these efforts collectively contribute to a more sustainable and prosperous future for Jordan.

More details: [World Bank Mission Supports Procurement Reforms and Enhances Performance of Project Management Units in Jordan](#)

Reform Secretariat Supports Development of National Traceability System for Agri-food Products in Jordan



The Reform Secretariat, through the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund, is supporting the Ministry of Agriculture in developing a National Traceability System for Agri-food Products. The project was officially launched on Sunday under the patronage of Minister of Agriculture, H.E. Eng. Khaled Henefat, with the presence of Secretary-General Eng. Mohammad Al-Hiyari.

This initiative is expected to strengthen Jordan's position as a key exporter by optimizing access to global markets for agri-food products.

Minister Henefat highlighted the project's role in boosting the competitiveness of Jordanian agricultural exports, ensuring the production of healthy, high-quality products that meet international standards. The system will enhance

food safety, support export requirements, and integrate advanced quality certification systems.

More details: [Reform Secretariat Supports Development of National Traceability System for Agri-food Products in Jordan](#)

Workshops to Promote the E-Participation Portal

The Reform Secretariat at MoPIC has provided essential technical support to the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship (MoDEE), the Legislative and Opinion Bureau, and the Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Unit at the Prime Ministry in developing the e-participation portal "[Tawasal](#)." Following the launch of the portal's demo in May, three governorate-level workshops were held in August across Irbid, Karak and Zarqa to raise awareness, encourage citizen interaction, and promote participation in decision-making through the portal. These workshops also aimed to gather feedback on the demo. Another workshop will be held in Amman next November 2024.

This initiative is part of the Reform Secretariat's support for the implementation of good regulatory practices reforms under the Reform Matrix and the second commitment of the Fifth Action Plan (2021–2025) under the Open Government Partnership, which focuses on enhancing community participation in decision-making through digital means.

Advancing Procurement Efficiency: Capacity-Building for the JONEPS System



Over the last three months, the Reform Secretariat at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation has supported a comprehensive capacity-building program on

the JONEPS and Standard Bidding Documents. This program, delivered in five phases, targeted 950 public procurement practitioners and included refreshing training for trainers. It was funded by the Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Growth in Jordan, in collaboration with the Public Administration Institute.

The goal of this initiative is to build capacity to achieve the intended outcomes of JONEPS, which include modernizing public demand management and government procurement, increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of procurement processes, and streamlining procedures within a framework of transparency and good governance. The system also aims to provide equal competition opportunities among companies and stakeholders, significantly reducing costs.

As the number of government entities using JONEPS for procurement activities increases, there is a pressing need to enhance training and capacity-building for these entities. This training program is part of a broader plan to target around 987 government officials from 60 government entities and units and aligns with the state's financial reform policies aimed at digitizing all government procurement processes in line with global best practices. The Reform Secretariat is also part of the training oversight team and works directly to ensure effective training.

Jordan's New Flexible Work Bylaw Now in Effect

As of September 1, 2024, Jordan's new Flexible Work Bylaw No. (44) for 2024 has come into effect. This bylaw was supported by the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund with technical review by the World Bank's specialized team. It aims to enhance employment opportunities in the private sector by introducing flexible work arrangements that align with employees' family and social responsibilities. It also supports increased participation of women and people with disabilities in the workforce while providing employers with reduced operational costs.



The bylaw outlines several flexible work options, including remote work, part-time work, flexible hours, compressed workweeks, and annualized hours. Employees such as students, breastfeeding or pregnant women, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities are eligible for these arrangements. Contracts must be formalized in writing, and transitions between flexible and non-flexible work are permissible after a minimum of three months.

For more details, read the full bylaw [here](#). (in Arabic)

Progress on Licenses Reform: Recent Developments

In the last week of August 2024, the Cabinet approved amendments to two significant regulations. These include the updated bylaw on fees and licensing for various entities such as printing presses, publishing houses, distribution centers, libraries, research institutions, translation services, public opinion polling centers, advertising agencies, and periodicals for 2024. Additionally, the amended bylaw on licensing for publishing and advertising institutions for 2024 was also approved.

The amendments are designed to streamline the registration process for libraries by removing the need for licensing from the Media Authority. Instead, libraries will now rely solely on licenses issued by relevant regulatory bodies as per existing legislation. This initiative is part of the broader reforms under the Reform Matrix aimed at improving regulatory efficiency and streamlining processes.

Approval of Standard Procurement Documents for Goods

On August 25, 2024, the government Procurement Policy Committee (PPC) has reviewed and approved the Standard Procurement Document (SPD) for goods. These documents align with the established procurement policies and procedures, contributing to more efficient purchasing processes while enhancing transparency and

integrity in government procurement. They also help standardize procedures and competition criteria in government tenders.

Collaborative Efforts Drive National Campaign for Early Childhood Development in Jordan



A national campaign to promote early childhood development and the importance of nurseries was launched on 13 August 2024, as part of the World Bank's support for the childcare sector in Jordan. Quality and affordable childcare brings multiple benefits: it supports child development, improves family wellbeing and women's participation in the labor market, and strengthens the human capital that drives our economy.

The collaboration among the members of the national team—comprising the ministry of planning and international cooperation (MoPIC), Ministry of Social Development (MOSD), Ministry of Education (MOE), National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA), Social Security Cooperation (SSC), Ministry of Local Administration (MOLA), and the Jordan National Commission for Women (JNCW)—has been exceptional. Each partner has demonstrated a deep commitment to the campaign's success, contributing their expertise to shape and refine the messages, all with a shared focus on the wellbeing of children and families.

The Reform Secretariat represents MoPIC in the national team for this impactful campaign.

Watch and spread the [main video for the campaign](#).





Enhancing Transparency and Accountability: Our Complaint and Suggestions Window

At the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, we are committed to maintaining the highest standards of transparency and accountability. As part of our ongoing efforts to improve our services and operations, we are pleased to introduce our dedicated Complaint and Suggestions Window on our website.

Why Use the Complaint and Suggestions Window?

- **Share Your Feedback:** Whether you have a complaint or a suggestion, our window provides a straightforward way to communicate your thoughts and concerns.
- **Accessible:** The window is easy to access through our website and available 24/7, allowing you to submit your feedback at your convenience.
- **Commitment to Action:** We value your input. Every submission is carefully reviewed and addressed to ensure an effective resolution.
- **Stay Informed:** In our commitment to transparency, you will receive updates on the progress and outcomes of your complaint or suggestion.

How to Access the Window:

Visit our [Complaint and Suggestions Window](#). Submit your feedback through our online form, and we will take it from there.

