

#### MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### الصندوق الائتماني متعدد المانحين للنمو في الأردن المانحين للنمو في الأردن



وحـــــدة دعم تنفـــيذ الإصلاحــات الاقتصــادية

June - July 2025



#### **Reforms Catalysts**

Tourism Reform in Action: Strengthening Cultural Heritage and Modernizing Hospitality Standards in Jordan



Jordan is advancing a comprehensive tourism reform agenda to enhance service quality, attract investment, and promote inclusive, sustainable growth. This effort is guided by the Reform Matrix and aligned with the Economic Modernization Vision (EMV).

As part of the Program-for-Results on Inclusive, Transparent, and Climate-Responsive Investments, the government is developing six site management plans for key heritage locations with support from the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund. One such site is the Amman Citadel, where a pilot plan is underway to

promote sustainable tourism, preserve cultural heritage, and ensure inclusive access for women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

In parallel, Jordan is reforming its national hotel classification system to elevate hospitality standards and align with international best practices. Led by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and the Department of Antiquities, with support from the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC and the World Bank, the updated classification framework proposes over 400 detailed criteria, including the use of smart technologies and tailored benchmarks for different hotel types.

To complement these efforts, the Council of Ministers approved two key bylaws on July 20, 2025, the Hotel and Tourism Establishments and the Tourism Restaurants Bylaws for 2025. These bylaws aim to simplify licensing procedures, introduce inclusive and climate-friendly standards, and support new tourism categories such as boutique hotels and heritage villages, while enhancing the visibility of Jordanian cuisine in licensed restaurants.

These reforms reflect Jordan's commitment to building a competitive, resilient, and inclusive tourism sector that supports local communities and enhances the visitor experience.





#### Stakeholder Consultation on Draft Instructions for Good Regulatory Practices and Impact Assessment



On July 2, 2025, the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, in collaboration with SIGMA/OECD and the inter-ministerial Task Force, organized a stakeholder consultation workshop to discuss the draft Instructions for implementing the 2025 Bylaw on Good Regulatory Practices and Impact Assessment.

The session brought together representatives from government entities' legal departments, and independent institutions to review the draft and share feedback to ensure the Instructions are practical, inclusive, and aligned with international best practices. This workshop builds on a prior technical session held in May 2025 and forms part of ongoing efforts to institutionalize evidence-based, transparent, and participatory policymaking across government.

The draft is <u>available for public review and</u> <u>feedback in Arabic until 19 August 2025.</u>

# Advancing Women's Safety in Public Transport



As part of the Enhancing Women's Economic Opportunities (EWEO) Project and partnership with the World Bank through the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund, the Reform Secretariat at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC), in coordination with the Ministry of Transport and the Land Transport Regulatory Commission, supported two national consultation sessions held in June and July 2025. These sessions brought together representatives from government, municipalities, civil society organizations, and international partners to review Jordan's current design standards and guidelines for public transport infrastructure, including bus stops. The session also focused on reviewing the draft national framework to enhance women's access to safe, accessible, and equitable public transport, particularly at bus stops.

Additionally, as part of the implementation of the draft framework, a field visit was conducted on July 3 to two pilot bus stops in Naour and Um Albasateen to assess safety, infrastructure, and accessibility gaps on the ground, especially for women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Findings from the visit informed ongoing discussions on creating safer, more inclusive, and climate-resilient public transport infrastructure.



The framework was developed based on a comprehensive technical assessment that identified key infrastructure gaps affecting women and vulnerable groups, particularly at bus stops. It outlines practical, actionable strategies to improve safety, accessibility, and the overall user experience, and supports the



development of inclusive, resilient, and genderresponsive transport systems in line with national transport strategies (2024–2028).

## Partnering with Civil Society to Expand Quality Childcare Services



As part of ongoing efforts to advance early childhood services and empower women, a consultative session was held on July 15, 2025, with representatives of nurseries affiliated with community associations and institutions, in close coordination between the Reform Secretariat at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Social Development, and the World Bank. This session is part of the Enhancing Women's Economic Opportunities (EWEO) Project.

The session provided a platform to discuss challenges faced by associations in establishing nurseries and introduced key tools under the EWEO Project, including draft environmental and social standards, a Code of Conduct for childcare workers, and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) aimed at ensuring quality, safety, and accountability in service delivery. These tools will guide future implementation by grant recipients following targeted training. **Participants** also discussed proposed mechanisms to strengthen community and home-based childcare services, supporting early childhood development and enabling women's greater participation in the workforce.

The EWEO Project, implemented by the Government of Jordan with support from the World Bank, aims to increase women's labor

force participation by addressing four key constraints: workplace conditions, access to childcare. financial inclusion. and safe transportation. The project supports the expansion of the childcare sector -particularly non-serviced areas through development of a national childcare policy, strengthened regulatory frameworks, capacitybuilding for childcare providers, and efforts to increase awareness and uptake of childcare services among working mothers.

### Consultative meeting to follow up on e-waste management plans

Building on the first meeting held in March 2025 at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC), which marked the first step toward developing an approved I e-waste management plan under the Jordan People-Centric Digital Government Program for Results, a follow-up consultation was held on 9 July 2025 to review institutional plans submitted by government entities. The adopted plan includes the design, consultation, and regular monitoring of the e-waste management framework and relevant SOPs, aligning with global best practices and national regulations.

During the meeting, the Department of Statistics' plan was adopted as a reference model, and all participating entities were asked to adapt and submit their own versions within one week. MoPIC will consolidate the submissions and share them with the Ministry of Environment for review and final feedback before formal adoption.

These efforts support Jordan's sustainable digital transformation, promote alignment with national and international standards, and enhance environmentally sound e-waste disposal practices to protect public health and advance sustainable living.

### **Green Taxonomy Development Gains Momentum in Jordan**

As part of its commitment to climate-responsive







investment and sustainable growth, the Government of Jordan is advancing the development of a National Green Taxonomy in close collaboration between the Ministry of Environment, the Central Bank of Jordan, and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC).

MoPIC plays an active role in the Technical Working Group, which includes over 15 experts from government and private institutions, tasked with aligning the taxonomy with Jordan's environmental and economic priorities.

In June 2025, a workshop was held to present the sector prioritization scheme, define the objectives of the taxonomy, and gather feedback from stakeholders across sector. The taxonomy will serve as a national classification system to identify environmentally sustainable activities, improve investment decision-making, and expand access to green finance.

Sector-specific consultations will be held in the coming weeks to further refine the framework. This initiative is part of the Program-for-Results on Inclusive, Transparent, and Climate-Responsive Investments.

# PRACTICE IN FOCUS: ADVANCING INCLUSIVE AND COLLABORATIVE REFORM



A core pillar of the Reform Secretariat's work at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation is its commitment to institutionalizing stakeholder engagement as a standard practice in the design and implementation of reform priorities. In line with the Government of Jordan's participatory policymaking approach and the principles of the Economic Modernization Vision, the Reform Secretariat ensures that reform processes are inclusive, transparent, and grounded in evidence.

close collaboration with ministries, institutions, and government departments, the Secretariat facilitates inclusive platforms for dialogue. These include national consultations, technical workshops, and field engagements that bring together government entities, civil society, the private sector, and development partners. Special attention is given to ensuring the inclusion of vulnerable and underrepresented groups. This collaborative approach fosters ownership and alignment across sectors and enhances the relevance and sustainability of reform outcomes.

As part of efforts to embed participatory approaches across government, the Reform Secretariat also invests in capacity building. In 2024, a specialized training was delivered on stakeholder engagement in collaboration with the World Bank, equipping focal points from across public institutions with tools and practical knowledge to design inclusive reform processes. This was an important step in strengthening institutional capacity and ensuring that engagement is embedded in the day-to-day work of reform. (read more)

In addition, the Reform Secretariat through the Growth **MDTF** Jordan supported development and promotion of the Tawasal econsultation portal, including awareness activities at national and regional levels. The portal contributes to Jordan's commitments under the Open Government Partnership and strengthens the use of digital tools to engage citizens and stakeholders in shaping public policy.

The Reform Secretariat promotes a dialoguedriven model of reform implementation that reflects the government's commitment to public



sector effectiveness, citizen-centered service delivery, and strategic partnerships. As reforms continue to progress under the Reform Matrix, this inclusive and collaborative model is helping translate Jordan's long-term development vision into tangible and lasting results.

The Reform Secretariat promotes a dialoguedriven model of reform implementation that reflects the government's commitment to public sector effectiveness, citizen-centered service delivery, and strategic partnerships. As part of broader efforts to embed participatory policymaking, the Secretariat also supported the development and promotion of the Tawasal electronic consultation portal. This included targeted awareness activities at the national and regional levels. The portal contributes to Jordan's commitments under the Government Partnership and strengthens the use of digital tools to engage citizens and stakeholders in shaping public policy.

As reforms continue to progress under the Reform Matrix, this inclusive and collaborative model is helping translate Jordan's long-term development vision into tangible and lasting results.

#### We value your feedback!

As part of our commitment to transparency, we encourage you to share your thoughts, whether you have a complaint or a suggestion. Your feedback helps us understand your concerns and improve our work. We are dedicated to reviewing each submission carefully, anonymously, and taking action. Please visit the section to share your feedback, and rest assured that your input will be acknowledged and considered.

#### **Complaints & Suggestions - Reform Secretariat**

We also invite you to <u>share your experiences</u> <u>and testimonials with us</u>. Your stories help us grow and make a positive impact.















