



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



JORDAN COUNTRY PROFILE

Over the past 75 years, the United States and Jordan have maintained a long-standing partnership to bolster Jordan’s economic stability and support a healthy, well-educated, and productive population that can forge a stable and prosperous future.

The U.S. Government has provided Jordan with more than \$17.3 billion in foreign aid since 1946. USAID has directly supported a 40 percent reduction in infant mortality in the last twenty years, expanded equitable access to education for Jordanian and refugee students, increased the availability of drinking water and improved sanitation for millions of Jordanians, and facilitated the Jordan-U.S. Free Trade Agreement to help businesses access new markets and grow.

OUR WORK

Jordan has a well-educated, youthful population, and a reputation for stability in a turbulent region. However, the economy has stagnated, unemployment is high, water demand outstrips supply, and civic participation remains low. The growing population, influx of refugees from regional crises, and COVID-19 strain the country’s resources, threatening economic stability and security. Through its strong partnership with the Government of Jordan, USAID is bolstering economic stability, improving water security, strengthening democratic governance, investing in health and education, and expanding opportunities for women and youth.

PHOTO CREDIT: MOHAMMAD MAGAYDA

GENERATING INCLUSIVE, PRIVATE SECTOR-LED GROWTH

A robust, inclusive private sector-led economy is essential for Jordan to create jobs and spur broader economic growth. USAID works with the Government of Jordan to improve fiscal stability, increase energy sector stability, and advance regulatory reforms that make it easier for Jordanians to invest in and grow their businesses. Our programs address the barriers that contribute to Jordan having one of the lowest female labor participation rates in the world, and facilitate investments to economic sectors with high growth potential, such as tourism, and encourage business formalization. With USAID support, the Government of Jordan enacted reforms that helped it advance 29 places on the 2020 Doing Business Ranking, the second highest improvement worldwide. Since 2016, more than 5,000 youth have completed professional training programs linked to full-time employment that USAID launched in partnership with the private sector.

STRENGTHENING WATER SECURITY

Jordan is one of the world's most water-scarce countries in the world. Its renewable water supply meets around two-thirds of the population's needs. USAID partners with the Government of Jordan and the private sector to improve water and wastewater infrastructure and to provide Jordanians with a sustainable water supply. Jordan loses up to half of its water to leaky pipes, theft, and underbilling. By strengthening water policies and reforming water utilities, replacing old water networks, and enabling rapid leak detection and repair, USAID is helping Jordan stem its water losses. Our programs also promote adoption of water-saving technologies and behaviors by farmers and households to promote more sustainable water use. USAID supported construction of the Zara Ma'an Water Plant, which provides drinking water to 1.7 million people and reduced water loss from 44 to 26 percent in eleven distribution zones around the country.

ADVANCING ACCOUNTABLE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

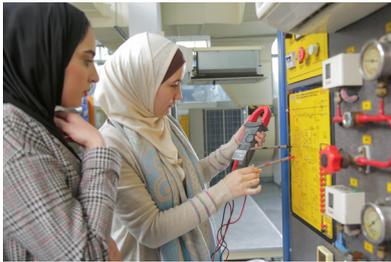
USAID works with the Government of Jordan to advance the King's vision for a more stable, democratic future by strengthening the partnership between the government and the people. USAID bolsters civil society's capacity to advocate for all members of society, improves service delivery at the municipal level so that the government can better meet citizen needs, and supports reforms that strengthen the public sector. Our civic literacy and engagement programs in schools and universities inspire and equip the next generation of Jordanians to be more engaged in the governance of their country, graduating more than 30,000 school-age youth since 2012. USAID promoted greater citizen participation in elections by reaching more than 2 million people through debates on social media and supporting the Independent Election Commission's voter education campaigns, mobilizing over 12,000 youth during the 2020 parliamentary elections as volunteers, election observers, and voters.

INVESTING IN PEOPLE

USAID builds and renovates public schools and hospitals, expanding access to education and health care throughout Jordan. We are improving the quality of healthcare by training health-care professionals and assisting the government to implement continuous professional development programs. USAID also ensures individuals and families have access to knowledge and resources about behaviors that help them live healthier lives. USAID programs strengthen Arabic and math instruction in Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2, and 3, prepare new teachers to enter the classroom, and support centers that give out-of-school youth the chance to complete their education and pursue employment. In response to COVID-19, USAID trained 16,500 health care workers on how to care for COVID-19 patients, launched awareness campaigns to encourage mask wearing, social distancing, and COVID-19 vaccination, trained 12,000 teachers on how to provide quality distance education, and delivered workbooks to children without digital access.

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF WOMEN AND YOUTH

Women and youth are an untapped resource for Jordan due to their limited participation in the economy and politics. USAID encourages and facilitates participation by women and youth in the economy and public life, which is essential for the country's political stability and future economic growth. USAID advances policy and institutional reforms that enable women and youth to assume leadership roles in their families, communities, and workplaces. Our training and advocacy campaigns raise awareness about social attitudes and values that hinder economic and leadership opportunities for women and youth, and our civic engagement and leadership training programs provide women and youth with the skills and pathways to contribute to public life. USAID supported the Government of Jordan to adopt and implement the Flexible Working Hours bylaw to encourage women's economic participation and helped more than 3,000 youth develop policy recommendations that were incorporated into the Ministry of Youth's strategy for 2019-2025.



USAID helps women enter and excel in non-traditional economic sectors.

PHOTO CREDIT: KIWI MEDIA SOLUTION



With USAID support water utilities improve infrastructure and reduce water losses.

PHOTO CREDIT: SALEEM FAKHOURY



USAID trained health care workers on how to care for COVID-19 patients.

PHOTO CREDIT: MOHAMMAD MAGAYDA

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