

## Embassy of Japan in Jordan Press Release



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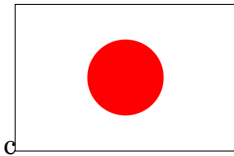
### **JAPAN PROVIDES JORDAN WITH A GRANT IN THE VALUE OF 22.9 MILLION US DOLLARS**

In response to the Government of Jordan's request, the Government of Japan has extended a new grant aid in the value of 2,379 million Japanese yen, approximately 22.9 million US Dollars at the current exchange rate, for the project titled "the Project for Improvement of the Zai Water Supply System".

The Exchange of Notes was signed between H.E. Mr. SHIMAZAKI Kaoru, Ambassador of Japan to Jordan and H.E. Mr. Nasser Shraideh, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation on Monday December 18, 2021 at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation. The Grant Agreement was also signed between Mr. MASUGI Noriharu, Senior Representative of JICA Jordan Office and H.E. Mr. Nasser Shraideh at the same time and place.

The new grant aid is extended mainly for upgrading pumps of the Zai Water Supply System, which was constructed in 1985 and currently covers more than half of Amman's water supply in order for the system to continue the provision of water and improve the efficiency.

H.E. Ambassador Mr. SHIMAZAKI said in his remarks at the ceremony that "Jordan has one of the lowest levels of water resource availability in the world, and the severe imbalance between demand and supply of water in the country is serious and urgent. In addition, the situation has been exacerbated further because of the large influx of Syrian refugees. Based on this situation, the Government of Japan has been long and continuously supporting the water sector of Jordan. Total amount of Japanese grant assistance in the water sector until today has reached to approximately 250 million USD. Today, we see additional water demand surge in Jordan reflecting the pandemic of



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COVID-19. Needless to say, water sector is important not only in terms of supplying drinking water, but also in terms of promoting public hygiene, the core of the fight against COVID-19. I strongly hope that the new grant aid will support Jordan's full-scale efforts to improve water supply system and water efficiency, and it will contribute to support the lives of many Jordanian people.”

Japan has been continuously supporting the water sector in Jordan for decades, including the previous grant aid to expand the Zai Water Supply System from 1996 to 2001, which in total amounted to 8,697 million Japanese yen, approximately 83.5 million US Dollars.



Exchange of Notes between

Ambassador SHIMAZAKI & Minister SHRIDEH



Group Photo with Mr. MASUGI

End