

Rolling Plan for the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

As of September 2023

Basic Policy of Assistance	Enhancement of Region Stability and Development of Industrial Infrastructure for Economic Growth
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Priority Area 1	Development of infrastructure for sustainable economic growth
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Development Issue 1-1 Development of Infrastructure for Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth	[Background and current situation] Jordan has a limited number of matured industries, and the country has a strong tendency to depend on remittances from migrant workers abroad and support from donor countries. Jordan has a high unemployment rate of 22.9% (as of late 2022), and securing employment for young people under the age of 29, who account for nearly 60% of the population, is a major challenge. In the "Economic Modernization Vision" announced by King Abdullah II in June 2022, promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth and creating 1 million new jobs over the next ten years are listed goals. In this situation, the Government of Jordan has high expectations towards the tourism industry, as it contributes to the country's foreign exchange earnings; and the digital industry, which has abundant human resources within the country. Additionally, the Jordanian Government has a significant fiscal deficit as a result of slow revenue growth brought on by the lack of mature industries and an increase in government spending as a result of the influx of Syrian refugees. The public debt has increased recently as the government has been forced to borrow money from the market and from donors to make up for the shortfall. Although the tourism industry and other sectors are gradually recovering from the impact of COVID-19, inflation and the uncertainties of global economies still affect the country, therefore, Jordan must revive its economy.			[Strategy] In order to achieve inclusive and sustainable economic growth, Japan will focus particularly on promoting tourism and digital industries; support the structural transformation of knowledge-intensive and export-oriented industries; and contribute to the creation of employment opportunities. With regards to creating employment opportunities, Japan will consider ways to improve working environments, including decent work, the development of high-quality human resources that meets industry needs, employment support, and the improvement of the labor market's matching function. Moreover, since urban areas are expected to play a central role in economic development, Japan will support sustainable urban development and industrial development. Additionally, Japan will work to eliminate the fiscal deficit through sustainable, self-reliant economic growth and facilitate appropriate public debt management.										
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDGs	Note	
					Before JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025	JFY 2026	JFY 2027				
		Aiming for inclusive and sustainable industrial development, the program supports the promotion of industries such as tourism and digital, as well as the development of a decent work environments, the development of high-quality human resources that meet the needs of the industry, employment support, and the creation of employment opportunities through the improvement of the labor market's matching function. In addition, since urban areas are expected to play a central role in economic development, the program supports sustainable urban and industrial development.	Industry and Trade Promotion Advisor	EXP		■							8	
			Training of Trainers for Improving Technical Education in HV/EV□	ICT		■						2.40	7, 4, 8, 13	
			The Project for Formulating Tourism Development Master Plan in Petra Region	TCDP		■						4.90	5, 8, 10, 12, 17	
			Industrial Human Resources Development and Employment Expansion	JOCV		■							8	
			Issue-based Training in Tourism and Economic Policy	TR		■							9	
			Sustainable Tourism Development(JFY 2021-2023)	TR		■							12, 17	
			The Project for Promotion of Artificial Intelligence Ecosystem	TCP		■							8, 9, 17	
			AI use cases in Japan	CTR		■							8, 9, 17	
			The Project for Updating ASEZ Master Plan	TCDP		■							11	
	Issue-based Training in ICT and City Planning		TR		■							11		
	Local Governance with Community Participation(FY2021-2023)		TR		■							16		

[Background and current situation]
 Jordan's national territory is classified as dry land or semi-arid land relatively vulnerable to the impact of climate change. Annual precipitation is less than 200 mm in more than 90% of the country and the annual amount of water resources per capita is very low at 60 m3. In addition to the natural increase in population, the influx of refugees and displaced persons from neighboring countries including Syria has led to an impending shortage in water resources. For these reasons, the development, efficient and equitable use and distribution of water resources are among the most important issues in Jordan. As water resources are unevenly distributed, a large amount of energy is required to convey and distribute water. The ratio of non-revenue water (NRW) is high in Jordan; this prevents the water resources from being utilized effectively and worsens the financial situation of three water utilities.

Regarding the energy sector, Jordan imports 97% of its primary energy from foreign countries, mainly cheap natural gas supply from Egypt. However, due to repeated explosions of gas supply pipelines from the Egyptian Sinai Peninsula in 2011, Jordan was forced to switch to importing alternative energy for a higher price. Unlike the cheap natural gas coming from Egypt, this switch resulted in the accumulated debt of NEPCO. Even though the energy security situation has partially improved as a result of countermeasures like the introduction of renewable energy (RE), diversification of power source, and gas imports from Egypt resumed in 2019 and from Israel since 2020, the accumulated debt is still a burden on NEPCO. In addition, Jordan faces problems with underutilized RE, particularly the surplus during the daytime, and unstable grids due to aging facilities as a result of the integration of mass renewable energy, which reached about 29% of domestic generation capacity.

Additionally, the water sector accounts for 16% of the country's electricity consumption, and the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) is NEPCO's largest customer. Furthermore, as Aqaba Amman Water Desalination and Conveyance Project (AAWDCP) is being under consideration, electricity consumption is expected to increase further.

In order to tackle those challenges, efforts must be made to strengthen the resilience of society's lifeline infrastructure while also taking into account measures against climate change and the water-energy nexus.

[Strategy]
 In order to strengthen the resilience of lifelines such as water and energy, which are the basis of a self-reliant national governance, and from the perspective of climate change measures and energy security, Japan will mainly implement its cooperation in the fields of water resources and energy. For the water resources sector, Japan will support the development of the water supply plan that corresponds to the increase in population due to the influx of refugees, water resource development, facility development and enhancement of operation capacities, and maintenance and distribution management for the efficient use of water resources. Also, Japan will address the technology transfer to reduce non-revenue water. Regarding the energy sector Japan will provide support for strengthening energy storage, the function of grid operations, strengthening electric power interchange with neighboring countries, diversifying energy sources and promoting EV adoption as a demand-side measure. Additionally, Japan will support strengthening the capabilities of organizational managements, including fundraising and management to improve financial status.

Development Issue 1-2 Strengthening Lifelines	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project	Scheme	Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDGs	Note		
					Before JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025	JFY 2026	JFY 2027					
Promotion of Green Transformation (GX)		From the perspective of counter measures for climate change and energy security, and in order to strengthen the resilience of the energy sector, the program supports decarbonization of whole of society.	The Project for Promotion of Zero Energy Building (ZEB) and Zero Energy House (ZEH)	TCP							3.30	7,13			
			Power Energy Sector Advisor for Regional Collaboration in Jordan, Iraq and Egypt	EXP									7		
			Baynouna Solar Energy Project / 200MW Solar PV at Al Muwaqqar	PSIF										7,13	
			Environment Education	JOCV										4,11,17	
			Issue-based Training in Electricity and Energy Sector and Adaptation of Climate Change	TR										7,13	
			Preparatory Survey for the Project for Digitalization of the Power System Protection Relay	GA										7	
			The Project for Strengthening Capacity of Power System Operation	GA									8.97	7	
			Electricity Sector Reform and Resilience Program Loan Phase2	LA									150.00	7, 13	
Sustainable Utilization and Management of Water Resources		With consideration of Water-Energy Nexus, the program provides cooperation on the development of new water resources, sustainable and efficient utilization, and distribuion of water resources.	The Project for Improvement of the Zai Water Supply System	GA							23.79	6			
			The Project for Enhancing Non-Revenue Water Management Capacity in Southern Governorates	TCP									3,6,13		
			The Project for the Establishment of Water Supply SCADA System in Ma'an Governorate	GA										6	
			Issue-based Training in Water	TR										6	
			Economic and Social Development Programme	GA										6	Water Supply Facilities

Priority Area 2	Promotion of Domestic and Regional Stabilization											
Development Issue 2-1 Promoting Domestic Stabilization	<p>[Background and current situation]</p> <p>In Jordan, empowerment of socially vulnerable people such as persons with disabilities (PWDs), refugees, and women is not progressing and domestic economic disparities are growing. Turning to the labor market, female labor participation in Jordan is 13%, which is one of the lowest in the world. Therefore, women's empowerment is important not only from the perspective of human development but also from the perspective of economic growth.</p> <p>While Jordan's 2018 Human Development Index places Jordan as high human development, the quality of education is low and needs to be improved. Due to the influx of Syrian refugees and high birth rates, the school-age population continues to grow. One of the challenges is to increase the number of schools and teachers, ensure the quality of education in order to provide equal educational opportunities to vulnerable groups and to realize preschool education. Problems such as corporal punishment, bullying, and violence have also arisen in schools; these problems are particularly prevalent among Syrian refugees although it is unclear that whether it is related to the influx of refugees. The out-of-school rate for Jordanians in grades one to six is 2.9%, compared with 31.4% for Syrians and 21.9% for children of other nationalities.</p> <p>Regarding disabilities, 10-15% of the population is considered to be disabled (most of them are elderly), and the proportion is particularly high among refugees, with approximately 30% of Syrian refugees said to have physical or mental disabilities. The rate of school absenteeism is particularly high among children with disabilities.</p> <p>Due to the above reasons, though Jordan is classified as a middle-income country, the poverty rate is 15.7%, and approximately 70% of the population has a monthly income of less than 500JOD, meaning there is a serious economic disparity. In addition, the influx of Syrian refugees since 2011 has placed a strain on the Jordanian host community in terms of the economy, finances, infrastructure, and social services. Jordan has maintained a relatively stable social order so far, but leaving such disparities alone could lead to domestic instability and the rise</p>					<p>[Strategy]</p> <p>Japan aims to reduce social disparities by providing support for the independence and labor market participation of socially vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, refugees, and women through improving livelihoods and skills, and by providing gender-sensitive education and services. Based on past consideration assets and achievements, Japan aims to expand cooperation by sharing knowledge with other regions.</p>						
	Japan's Assistance Program	Program Summary	Project		Schedule						Assistance Amount (100 Million Yen)	SDGs
Support for the Socially Vulnerable and Minimizing Social Disparities	Japan will provide support to reduce social disparities for socially vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, women, etc.), by promoting their participation in the labor market and society and providing support in the areas of education and health to improve their lives.	Issue-based Training in Support for Persons with Disabilities and Education	TR	Before JFY 2022	JFY 2023	JFY 2024	JFY 2025	JFY 2026	JFY 2027		4,10	
		Issue-based Training in Health	TR								3	
		Agriculture Studies Networks for Food Security (Agri-Net) (FY2021-2022)	TR								2	
		The Project for Promoting Positive Learning Environment for All Children	TCP							4.00	4,10	
		Grant Aid for Grassroots Human Security Projects for Provision of Medical Equipment	GGP							0.15	3	
		The Project for Supporting Implementation of Correctional Services Focused on Psychological Care at the Detention Centre in Russeifa	GANP							1.79 Million USD	10,16	支援額は第1年次～第3年次の総額
		The Project for Strengthening the Support System for Primary and Secondary Education Enrollment and Learning for Vulnerable Groups in Irbid	GANP							1.49 Million USD	4,10	

			Issue-based Training in Security	TR	████████						16	
			The Project For The Enhancement of Customs Security at Aqaba	GA	████████████████████					17.03	11	
			Economic and Social Development Programme	GA	██████████████					10.00	11	Strengthening security system
			Economic and Social Development Programme	GA	██████████████					5.00	11	Strengthening security system

Legend: [PS] = Preparatory Survey, [DD] = Detailed Design, [TCP] = Technical Cooperation Project, [TCDP] = Technical Cooperation for Development Planning, [EXP] = Expert, [EQ] = Equipment, [CTR] = Country-focused Training, [TR] = Issue-based Training / Training Program for Young Leaders, [JOCV] = Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, [TEXP] = Third-country Expert, [TTR] = Third-country Training, [ICT] = In-Country Training, [STC] = Science and Technology Cooperation on Global Issues, [JPP] = JICA Partnership Program, [xx-TA] = Technical Assistance implemented by organizations other than MOFA and JICA, [PCP-TC] = Private Companies Proposed-Technical Cooperation, [GA] = Grant Aid, [FA]=Food Aid, [CGA]=Cultural Grant Assistance, [GCGP]=Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects, [EGA]=Emergency Grant Aid, [GANP]=Grant Aid for Japanese NGOs Projects, [GGP]=Grant Aid for Grassroots Human Security Projects, [LA] = Loan Aid (ODA Loan), [DCS] = Data collection Survey, [ML] = Multilateral Cooperation, [SME PPS]=Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise (SME) Partnership Promotion Survey, [SDGs BMFS]=SDGs Business Model Formulation Survey with the Private Sector, [SDGs BVS]=SDGs Business Verification Survey with the Private Sector and SDGs Business Validation Survey, [SDGs BNCS]=SDGs Business Needs Confirmation Survey, Solid Line [—] = Schedule, Dash Line [- - -] = Tentative Schedule
[SDGs Goals Targets]: 1[No Poverty], 2[Zero Hunger], 3[Good Health and Well-Being], 4[Quality Education], 5[Gender Equality], 6[Clean Water and Sanitation], 7[Affordable and Clean Energy], 8[Decent Work and Economic Growth], 9[Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure], 10[Reduced Inequalities], 11[Sustainable Cities and Communities], 12[Responsible Consumption and Production], 13[Climate Action], 14[Life Below Water], 15[Life on Land], 16[Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions], 17[Partnerships for the Goals]
[Outline of SDGs]:https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/sdgs/index.html#about_sdgs