



SUCCESS STORY

USAID Improves Government of Jordan's Cross-Agency Collaboration and Data Exchange

The Government of Jordan entities join efforts to achieve national goals and shared organizational



Snapshot from the ESMP-facilitated Meeting between MoE, MPWH and DLS

In Jordan, one of the issues that the public education sector suffers from is land management. Whether it is the lack of land-related data or the lack of land plots altogether, this hinders the ways in which the government seeks to improve public infrastructural services. Land-related data is critical for governmental planning as it provides valuable insights that aid decision-making processes. Accurate and up-to-date land-related data helps governments to identify suitable land for various purposes. It also enables tracking land patterns and changes over time and to align existing land resources with the different demand variables in each area.

USAID's Enhancing Schools Management and Planning (ESMP) Activity in Jordan is aimed at improving the country's school infrastructure scene. Placing data as the key enabler for achieving the government's strategic goals, and considering the gap in land-related data, ESMP advocated for and facilitated cross-agency collaboration between the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, and the Department of Lands and Survey.

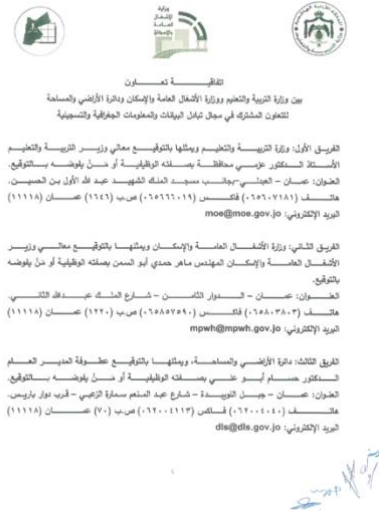
Through the introduction of a data exchange methodology, the three entities acknowledged that lands could be transformed from being perceived as obstacles to the actual resources they are. This data exchange methodology allows them to have live access to all government lands' data, including data related to land, schools' land survey results, roads, and governmental buildings. In addition, the Department of Lands and Survey data will allow the two ministries to digitally inquire about lands, and identify privately owned lands in case they seek to procure lands for public use. As a result, the Ministers of Education and Public Works and Housing, and the Director of the Department of Lands and Survey signed an agreement to share data at no cost, replacing a previous agreement that had an annual fee paid by the Ministry of Education.

One of the other benefits of the agreement is that the Ministry of Education will be able to access the updated land layer, which allows for identifying suitable land plots for schools and increasing the efficiency of school infrastructure planning. In March, technical personnel from the three entities participated in a meeting facilitated by ESMP to discuss the next steps for actioning the agreement. Each identified the data exchange mechanisms they would use and the areas that require engaging with the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship to host the APIs using the Secure Government Network.



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Snapshot of the Signed Data Exchange Agreement between MoE, MPWH and DLS

Furthermore, in the meeting, ESMP observed the technical personnel from the three government entities discuss a national collaboration project for the three entities to join efforts in, where they build a single source that compiles verified, accurate and up-to-date data on government-owned properties.

USAID will continue to encourage the Government of Jordan institutions to collaborate and share data and knowledge to achieve national goals, especially those related to better educational experiences for children and youth. With more of these agreements, the Government of Jordan will be better equipped to plan and manage the country's infrastructure, which will ultimately benefit all segments of society.