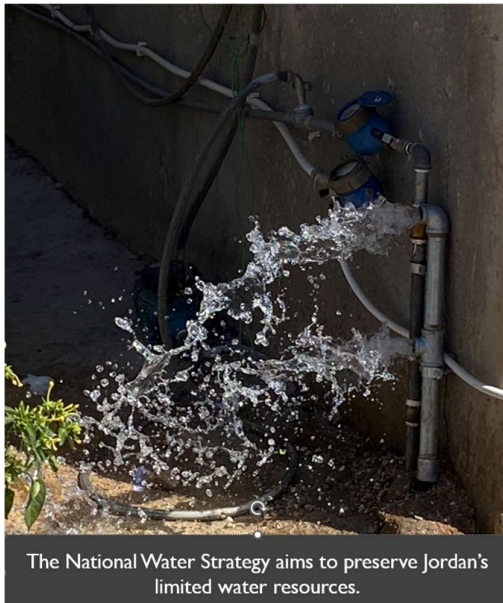




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## Water Governance Activity مشروع حوكمة قطاع المياه

### Newsletter – Issue I



The National Water Strategy aims to preserve Jordan's limited water resources.

#### Updating the National Water Strategy

The USAID Water Governance Activity (WGA) continues its support to the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI) to prioritize and expedite the updating of the National Water Strategy in close collaboration and consultation with the water sector. An advisory group comprised of the sector's leadership approved the final framework of the National Water Strategy that included four pillar goals with targets and indicators. Furthermore, the advisory group requested some clarifications on the context of the detailed goals where the Minister increased the targets for some of the goals like cost recovery. USAID WGA will continue to finalize the draft chapters based on the agreed framework and goals, which are expected to be completed by the end of September 2022 and shared with the water sector for internal review and finalization. Following this, a visual summary (infographic) of the National Water Strategy and its translation into Arabic will be developed to be presented for public feedback.

#### Launching the National Non-Revenue Water Reduction Strategy

The National Non-Revenue Water (NRW) Reduction Strategy was launched under the patronage of His Excellency the Minister of Water and Irrigation, Eng. Mohammad Al-Najjar, and USAID Jordan Mission Director, Sherry F. Carlin. NRW is defined as the difference between the water supplied into the system and the water billed. This new definition aims to reduce NRW to 25% by 2040. The launch of this strategy, supported by USAID Water Governance Activity (WGA), is aligned with His Majesty King Abdullah II's directives to develop a long-term strategy to face the pressing challenges in the water sector. During the upcoming period, USAID WGA will support the water utilities to develop each governorate's NRW reduction action plan.



The Minister of Water and Irrigation delivering his opening remarks at the launch event.



Practical coaching session in Aqaba Water Company.

### **X7 Software: Innovative and Sustainable Solutions for the Billing and Collection System**

During August 7 – 11, 2022, USAID Water Governance Activity (WGA) facilitated an assessment and training workshop on the X7 billing and collection system, database management, and e-payment services. This training was conducted by IT professionals at Jordan Water Company (Miyahuna) for Aqaba Water Company (AWC) who will in turn transfer the knowledge they acquired to the three (3) southern water administrations under AWC Management Contract. To foster sustainability and self-reliance, USAID WGA will continue providing the needed facilitation support.

### **Launching the National Water Internship Program in Celebration of the International Youth Day**

On August 11, 2022, USAID Jordan Mission Director, Sherry F. Carlin, joined His Excellency the Minister of Water and Irrigation, Eng. Mohammad Al-Najjar, at USAID Water Governance Activity's (WGA) celebration of the International Youth Day. Held in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI), the event launched the National Water Internship Program. The event hosted fifty-nine (59) youth who have commenced their six-month internship with their assigned mentors at different water entities. Selected companies from the water engineering and technology sectors shared their experiences and employment advice with the youth interns. The National Water Internship Program aims to train three hundred (300) youth across the country within the next four years. Watch video



USAID Mission Director delivering her remarks at the International Youth Day Celebration.



H.E. Dr. Jihad Al-Mahameed providing his remarks at the water-academia taskforce meeting.

### First Taskforce Meeting between Water Sector and Academia

USAID Water Governance Activity (WGA) is facilitating a partnership between the water sector, universities, and water research centers to support water resources management, conservation, use, and reuse. Accordingly, USAID WGA conducted the first taskforce collaboration meeting on August 29, 2022. This meeting aims to strengthen the involvement in the water sector and study possible mitigation actions to the water resources challenges. Decision-makers at all levels of the government will need to make informed choices among often conflicting and uncertain alternative actions. These choices are best made with the full benefit of research and analysis. To this end, the meeting was the first of a series of upcoming meetings and workshops to build the ownership and modalities of cooperation among the water sector, universities, and research centers to institutionalize the relationship, the operational procedures for implementation, as well as the list of priority topics for the Ministry of Water and Irrigation

### Ministry of Water Utilizes Facebook Live to Expand Public Dialogue

USAID Water Governance Activity (WGA) is supporting the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI) to upgrade the knowledge and capabilities of its communication teams to master social media. To this end, the MWI held its two (2) live Facebook sessions with the support of USAID WGA on July 5, 2022, and August 16, 2022. During the live sessions, MWI Spokesperson, Omar Salameh, communicated Jordan's water challenges and solutions. To date, the sessions have reached a total of 2.7 million Jordanian residents.



Promotional static post for the second live session.

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