Regional NGO Master Plan for Sustainable Development in the Jordan Valley

Governance

by

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Jordan Valley – Current Governance Dynamics

First: Jordanian part of the Jordan Valley

- The Jordan Valley Authority JVA is the most influential organization in the Jordanian part of the Jordan Valley.
- Its mandate area stretches throughout the valley (Ghor) areas, up to the 300 m contour line north of the Dead Sea and up to the 500 m contour line south of the Dead Sea.
- JVA was created to take up development in the Jordan Valley, with an emphasis on irrigation development, tourism and industrial development.
- All technical ministries are represented in its management board.
- At present, JVA operates largely as a regulatory body rather than as a planning organization due to the fact that many plans have been developed during the previous years.
Jordan Valley – Current Governance Dynamics

First: Jordanian part of the Jordan Valley … cont 1

- JVA controls all new development initiatives and approves on these on the basis of the Land Use Master Plan, prepared in 2004.
- Water Authority of Jordan deals with water resources development and focuses on water for domestic and industrial use.
- The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) supports the agricultural sector and governs the natural forests in Jordan.
- The local municipalities are responsible for providing most of the local public services.
Jordan Valley – Current Governance Dynamics

Second: Palestinian part of the Jordan Valley

- Despite being a riparian to the Jordan River, the Palestinian Authority (PA) has de facto no direct control over the Lower part of the Jordan River itself and little over the surrounding riparian zone.
- As a result of the Interim (Oslo I and II) Agreements, and the agreement on the handover of responsibilities between the Palestine Liberation Organization and the government of Israel, the Jordan Valley was divided to 3 different categories of land, security and civil administration (A, B and C).
- Whereas: Area A, under full Palestinian Authority control; Area B, under Palestinian civil control but joint Israeli-Palestinian security; and Area C, under full Israeli control.
- Area C comprises of more than 90% of the study area land.
- This division has resulted in a serious problem for the enforcement of laws and Palestinian development potential in the Jordan Valley.
- Furthermore, access to the river by Palestinians is limited, and thus, there is little domestic Palestinian tourism or other use of the river.
Jordan Valley – Current Governance Dynamics

Second: Palestinian part of the Jordan Valley … cont 2
Jordan Valley – Current Governance Dynamics

Third: Israeli part of the Jordan Valley

(20 bodies)

• Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
• Israeli Water Authority
• Mekorot, Israel’s national water company
• Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MOAG)
• Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP)
• Israeli Meteorological Service (IMS)
• Israel Nature and Parks Authority (INPA)
• Lower Jordan River Drainage Authority
• Kinneret Drainage Authority
• Ministry of Tourism
• Ministry of Economy and Trade
Jordan Valley – Current Governance Dynamics

Third: Israeli part of the Jordan Valley … cont 1

- Ministry of Regional Co-operation
- Ministry for Development of the Negev and the Galilee
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Defense
- The Antiquities Authority
- Beit Shean Municipality (Largest Israeli city in the Jordan Valley)
- Jordan Valley Regional Council
- The Valley of Springs Regional Council
Way Forward - Governance Interventions

• Setting up a Palestinian Jordan Valley Authority – which is a proposed single Palestinian entity to be responsible for development planning and regulation of the Palestinian part of the Jordan Valley, similar to the JVA on the Jordanian side. This authority shall also address political, economic and environmental sustainability management issues. *Intervention I1 PAL.*

• Strengthening the Jordan Valley Authority.

• Establishing a trans-national Jordan River Basin Organization <RBO> (Israel, Jordan, Palestine) *intervention IC01 REG.*

• Setting up a regional coordination structure, or steering committee/s to implement the proposed national and regional interventions in the Jordan Valley of the regional Master Plan. These steering committees shall consist of the key Jordanian, Israeli and Palestinian governmental stakeholders.
Jordan River Basin Organization - Structure

Steering Committee for Pollution Control and Sanitation
Steering Committee for Sustainable Water Management and River Rehabilitation
Steering Committee for Sustainable Urban, Energy and Infrastructure Development
Steering Committee for Ecologic Rehabilitation
Steering Committee for Sustainable Tourism and CH Development
Steering Committee for Sustainable Agriculture

Jordan River Basin Organization
## Interventions

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<th>Subtotal (USD)</th>
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