



Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



MINISTRY OF
WATER AND IRRIGATION



**Second Learning Workshop for
GEF MENARID Project Managers
“Opportunities for Managed Aquifer Recharge”
11-13 December 2012
&
MENARID Planning Meeting 2013
14 December 2012**

**Amman Alcham Palace Hotel
Shmeisani Street, Amman**

[Information note to participants](#)

1. Accommodation

Arrangements have been made for participants to stay at the Amman Cham Palace "Jordan" which is situated in central Amman Shmeisani, tel: + (962-6) 5659270(the same as meeting venue).

2. Meeting venue

The workshop will be held on **Tuesday 11th, Thursday 13th and Friday 14th** at the

Amman Cham Palace "Jordan"
Shmeisani Street
P.O Box 942275 Amman 11194 - Jordan
Tel: + (962-6) 5659270
Fax: + (962-6) 5659271

3. Field trip

A one-day visit to a MAR is foreseen to take place on **Wednesday 12th** to the Wadi Wala dam. Time of departure with an organized transport from the hotel will be communicated in the course of the meeting.

4. Visa

Visas are issued from Jordanian diplomatic and consular missions abroad or from major ports of entry according to regulations based on reciprocity with the country of your nationality. For each nationality, please contact the Jordanian Consulate in your country for further guidelines.

In addition, please ensure that you have a valid passport, your invitation letter, and proof of return air ticket (print out your e-ticket) in order to get your visa upon arrival – if you haven't collected it in your country.

5. Airport transfers

Transport will be provided from Queen Alia International Airport to the Amman Cham Palace Hotel by ICARDA. A driver will be waiting for you at your arrival.

In case of any complications you might encounter during your travel please contact Ms. Lucilla Minelli (UNESCO-IHP) on +33 6 49 29 97 90.

For your reference, the time of airport transfer to the venue is approximately 45 minutes.

6. Meeting languages

The languages of the meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous interpretation is provided during the meeting.

7. Country Information

For the international traveler, Jordan (Arabic: الأردنّ al-Urdunn), officially known as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, is situated at the junction of the Levantine and Arabian areas of the Middle East. The country is bordered on the north by Syria, to the east by Iraq, and by Saudi Arabia on the east and south. To the west is Israel and the occupied West Bank, while Jordan's only outlet to the sea, the Gulf of Aqaba, is to the south. Jordan is a relatively small country spread over 91,971 sq km, making it similar in size to Austria or Portugal. Distances are short and you can drive from Ramtha in the north to Aqaba in the south (430 km) in six hours. However, Jordan's diverse terrain and landscape belie its actual size, demonstrating a variety usually found only in large countries. Jordan can be divided into three main geographic and climatic areas: the Jordan Valley, the Mountain Heights Plateau, and the eastern desert, or Badia region.

8. Climate

The climate tends to be dry, sunny and cloudless from May to November where temperature rises to about 32° C (90° F). Freezing temperatures are not unknown. Snowfall often occurs, however, the average temperature in winter is above 7.2° C (45° F). Spring is from March to May, while autumn comes in September, October and early November.

9. Health

A Yellow Fever certificate required if arriving from infected areas. Hepatitis A, tetanus, and typhoid immunizations are recommended (Please contact Jordanian Consulate in your country for more details).

10. Travel Expenses

For those participants whose travel expenses are being covered by the organizers we will provide a return air ticket as well as the accommodation (with breakfast) at the Amman Cham Palace Hotel, Amman. Lunch and coffee breaks will be provided as part of the workshop. A daily lump sum allowance will be granted to cover dinners and visa costs (visa costs will be reimbursed only upon presentation of supporting documents and official receipts).

11. Practical Information on Jordan

- **Time** Jordan is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) Daylight Savings Time occurs between April and October when it is three hours ahead of GMT

- **Electricity Voltage** Jordan's electricity supply is 220 volts/50 cycles AC. Sockets are generally of the two-pronged European variety, while a variety of other sockets and plugs—especially the 13 amp square three-pinned plug—are in use. American equipment requires both an adaptor and a transformer. Most varieties of adaptors and transformers are readily available in electrical shops throughout Jordan. Electricity supply in Jordan is reliable and uninterrupted.
- **Water** Jordan is one of the ten most water scarce countries in the world. It is not uncommon for water to be rationed during the summer months. Efforts are being made to improve the water system in Amman and avoid unnecessary waste from, for example, leaking pipes. Also, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation has developed and is implementing programmes to encourage more efficient water use. For drinking water, it is advisable to use a purifier or purchase bottled water.
- **Telephone Services** The Jordan prefix is 962. Pre paid sim-cards are readily available in all convenient stores.

Main mobile operators are:

- ZAIN (Mobile Telecommunications Company KSC) www.jo.zain.com
 - MobileCom (GSM) www.orange.jo/en/index.php
 - Xpress (iDen) Telecommunication Company LTD. www.xpress.jo
 - Umniah (GSM) Mobile Company www.umniah.jo/umniah/main.aspx
- **Currency** Foreign currencies can be exchanged easily in banks and bureaux de change. Most hotels also provide exchange facilities. The US Dollar is fixed at \$0.708 = JD1.00. The daily exchange rates for other currencies are published in the local newspapers.

12. Useful telephone numbers

Emergency Numbers

UN Field Security and Coordination Officer
Mr. Sherif Shahin
+962-79 541 7534

Traffic Police Operations Room
190

Police Emergency Room
191

Amman Metropolitan Police
192

Police Highway Patrol
194

Ambulance and Fire Department
199

24/7 Emergency number for all services in Amman
911

SOS Electricity
06 4750981

SOS Water
06 5679141

13. Hospitals

There are very good hospitals in large towns and cities, with clinics in many villages. The main hospitals in Amman frequented by the expatriate community are the following:

Al Khalidi Medical Centre

Ibn Khaldoun Street, between 3rd and 4th Circles
Tel. 06 4644281-86
UN Designated Hospital

Arab Medical Centre

33 Sulayman Al Hadeedi St., Abdoun
5th Circle, behind the Sheraton Hotel
Tel. 06 5921199
Emergency room ext: 750/1 direct line on 06 5925801

14. UN Designated Physicians

Dr Mohammad Barakat

General Practitioner and Gastrologist
Jordan Hospital, Queen Noor street
Tel. 06 5691500
Fax 06 5690700

Dr Sami Khurma

Gastro. Ent. &Hepat.
Prince Mahammad street, 3rd Circle
Tel. 06 4642229
Fax. 06 4642229

Dr Nidal Hamad

Cardiology

5th Circle, Al-Saudi Medical Building
near the Arab Medical Centre

Tel. 06 5920202

Fax. 06 5925202

solyan@go.com.jo

15. Taxis

Use of yellow taxis is highly recommended – they are generally reliable, available and inexpensive. Al Moumayaz Silver taxis is a dial-up service that is reliable it is marginally more expensive but very convenient -tel. 06 5799999.

Thank you. We look forward to receiving you in Amman.