



The Netherlands' Multi-Annual Country Strategy 2026-2029 for Jordan

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H.E. Mrs. Stella Kloth, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and H.E. Mr. Daifallah Al Fayez, SG of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the launch event of the 75 year celebrations.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Kingdom of The Netherlands share a long history of cooperation, with this year (2026) marking the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations. The relationship has come to encompass thematic areas such as economic development, water management, security, humanitarian aid and refugee response. The cooperation between the Netherlands and Jordan is underpinned by an excellent bilateral political partnership and a shared interest in promoting peace and security in the region. The Netherlands recognizes the important role Jordan plays in working towards regional peace and stability. In a context of increased volatility and instability in the Middle East, the Netherlands continues and steps up its investment in a stable Jordan in the years 2026-2029 by:

- Contributing to Jordan's **security and stability** and stepping up bilateral defense cooperation.
- Supporting the **refugee response** by increasing the resilience and self-reliance of refugees and host communities in Jordan and supporting sustainable, dignified and voluntary returns to Syria.
- Investing in Jordan's **business environment** and market development with a view to creating additional **trade and investment** opportunities, including for Dutch and Jordanian companies.
- Providing support and expertise in the area of **water management**.

The Dutch strategy has been developed in close consultation with many different stakeholders, including the Government of Jordan, local and international civil society organizations, knowledge institutions and the private sector. By aligning our efforts with the Government of Jordan's agenda and maintaining an open and continuous dialogue, we foster mutually beneficial partnerships that support Jordan's development objectives in areas where the Netherlands takes an active interest and is able to offer added value.

The Netherlands actively engages with (sub)national authorities and partners in Jordan through constant consultation at various levels to ensure alignment with local priorities and to strengthen mutual added value. As a result, our approach is firmly rooted in and aligned with Jordan's own priorities and vision documents, including the Economic Modernization Vision and the National Water Strategy. Stemming from the Netherlands' cross-cutting interest in sustainable approaches by working closely with Jordanian stakeholders, we endeavour to further strengthen local capacities wherever possible. Dutch support also aims to support and add value to the implementation of the EU – Jordan Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership signed in January 2025, e.g. by providing catalytic or complementary programming and sharing business insights.

SECURITY AND STABILITY

The Netherlands and Jordan continue to work together in the field of security and stability. This includes further expanding the close cooperation in the area of defense cooperation. Furthermore, Dutch programming in this field aims to support the Jordanian civil law enforcement and justice sectors and local communities affected by security challenges. The approach in the justice sector aligns with Jordan's legislative amendments to the Penal Code and focuses on strengthening the rule of law, such as the provision of alternative justice pathways.

REFUGEE RESPONSE

Supporting Jordan's continued hosting of refugees remains a cornerstone of the Netherlands' country strategy for 2026 – 2029. It consists of a holistic approach which includes a) supporting the sustainable, dignified, safe and voluntary returns of refugees, and b) continuing to support the self-reliance and resilience of refugees and host communities in Jordan. The Netherlands focuses on supporting the Government of Jordan in the areas of education, employment, protection of vulnerable groups and critical (water) infrastructure through our flagship instrument, the [Prospects Partnership](#). In addition, the Netherlands also makes funding available to the World Bank *Global Concessional Financing Facility* (GCFF), aimed at supporting the use of national systems by refugees, in the implementation of the Economic Modernisation Vision of the Government of Jordan. Finally, the Netherlands continues to build the capacity of Jordanian civil society in the area of the refugee response through the Subsidy Framework for Migration and Displacement and multi-donor settings like [the Regional Development and Protection Partnership](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

By strengthening links between aid, trade, and investment in our priority sectors of ICT, food processing and logistics, the Netherlands aims to leverage private sector development. The strategy aims to contribute to Jordan's sustainable economic growth and enhance Dutch-Jordanian trade and investment relations. Dutch support in the priority sectors focuses on four areas. Firstly, the Netherlands will enhance the competitiveness and market access of MSMEs, e.g. by strengthening value chains, promoting compliance with international standards, improving digital capabilities and export readiness, and by involving Dutch institutions such as CBI and the [Senior Experts Program \(PUM\)](#). Secondly, the Netherlands aims to further strengthen the start-up ecosystem by fostering entrepreneurship, innovation, incubation and acceleration, notably through a continuation of [Orange Corners](#). Thirdly, enhancing access to finance for MSMEs is pursued by mobilizing credit, equity, blended finance, and digital solutions, with a focus on green/blue finance and financial inclusion of women entrepreneurs. This will be done through FMO (the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank) and the Dutch Good Growth Fund (DGGF), complemented by a program on [Innovative approaches for the financial inclusion of MSMEs in Jordan](#). Finally, the Netherlands continues its support to the World Bank [Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Inclusive Growth](#) (MDTF) in order to support government-led economic reforms with a view to enhancing the overall business and investment environment.

WATER MANAGEMENT

Dutch support in the field of water focuses on alleviating the severe water stress in Jordan, with a geographic focus on the northern part of the country, based on identified needs and vulnerabilities. The Netherlands will focus on three priorities. When it comes to increasing water availability and integrated water resource management, the Netherlands is a key supporter of the Aqaba–Amman Water Desalination and Conveyance Project (AAWDCP) through a [EUR 31 mln grant from Invest International](#), channeled via the European Investment Bank (EIB), and a [USD 120 mln soft loan from FMO](#) to the project developer. Complementary programs in [rainwater harvesting](#) and wastewater treatment will strengthen water availability at the local level. In parallel, Dutch initiatives, including with [IHE Delft](#), the NDC Partnership and [WaterWorx](#), facilitate knowledge exchange and build institutional capacity for integrated water resource management. Secondly, the Netherlands supports climate resilience, including by enhancing the adaptive capacity of urban communities in Amman,

Irbid and Mafrq ([Smart Urban Water Management program](#), implemented by UN Habitat in cooperation with World Waternet) and by enhancing river basin management at King Talal Dam (implemented by IUCN). A third priority is water-smart agriculture. The Netherlands promotes water efficiency and innovation in the agriculture sector through programs such as [Water Productivity through Open Access of Remote Data \(WAPOR\)](#) and [Water and Energy for Food \(WE4F\)](#), complemented by a program on underground drainage in the Jordan Valley aimed at reducing waterlogging and salinization risks for farmers.

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