

# JORDAN

Program for Mainstreaming Gender  
in Climate Change Efforts in Jordan



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*We have worked to include gender mainstreaming as one of the adaptation priorities in the third National Communication on climate change, which will be submitted to the UNFCCC. This makes Jordan the first Arabic country to realize the importance of gender mainstreaming in climate change adaptation activities—acknowledging women’s effective role and allowing women’s empowerment to provide a vital springboard for addressing climate resilience. For this purpose, the Ministry has also engaged the Jordanian National Commission for Women to integrate the environmental sector, with a focus on climate change, in the next Strategic Plan of Jordanian Women for 2011-2015.”*

His Excellency Ahmad Qatarneh, Secretary General, Ministry of Environment, Government of Jordan

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**Participants:** 22 Participants from government, civil society, UN, donors, research institutions, international organizations and academia  
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The Kingdom of Jordan is an upper middle-income, developing country that has an urban population of over 70 percent, making the local population highly dependent on energy, in particular. Jordan also ranks as the fourth most water-poor country in the world, with dire consequences to agriculture, food security, sustainable livelihoods and a constant threat to regional political stability. Being both highly urbanized and extremely water scarce, the Kingdom also faces an additional challenge – waste.

In June 2010, the Ministry of Environment requested IUCN's assistance in developing a program for mainstreaming gender in climate change efforts in Jordan. Jordan was the first country globally to develop a gender and climate change strategy. The Royal Household endorsed the ccGAP in 2011, giving it the appropriate weight in a country where the monarchy yields tremendous influence politically and with the Jordanian people. Following the development of the ccGAP, the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW) launched a national dialogue campaign on the status of women in various governorates, and included environment and climate change in the National Women's Strategy 2012-2015. Gender was also expressed as a national priority in the context of climate change and as part of the enabling activities for the preparation of Jordan's third National Communication to the UNFCCC.

The efforts in Jordan revealed the value of building the capacity of women on gender and climate change in advance of the development of the ccGAP. Women engaged more confidently, were able to offer their experience on an equal footing, and were prepared with concrete actions they could implement themselves. Due to this success, a training session for women and women's organizations and networks was integrated into the methodology for all the subsequent countries involved in the development of ccGAPs.



### Overall Objective:

To ensure that national climate change efforts in Jordan mainstream gender considerations so that women and men can have access to, participate in, contribute to and hence optimally benefit from climate change initiatives, programs, policies and funds.

## Examples of Proposed Actions in Jordan

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Action Involving Women</i>
 <b>Water</b>	Monitor the amount of funding on water made available for gender activities at the local level
 <b>Energy</b>	Encourage families to increase energy efficiency through enforcement of construction codes
 <b>Agriculture and Food Security</b>	Promote women's participation in small-scale enterprises and food processing transformation industries
 <b>Waste Reduction and Management</b>	Conduct "Train the Trainers" sessions for community centre representatives, teachers at schools, and Imams and priests at mosques and churches