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SUCCESS STORY

A Step Towards Sustainability

Launching the updated Non-Revenue Water Strategy: A major milestone in Jordan's journey towards sustainability



Mohammad Maghayda – June 2, 2022 (Iris Hall – Grand Hyatt Amman Hotel)

“The Ministry of Water and Irrigation strives to reduce water losses by accelerating the implementation of projects to replace networks, enhance their capacity, improve their performance, and search for new water sources”.

His Excellency Eng. Mohammad Al-Najjar, the Minister of Water and Irrigation

Non-Revenue Water (NRW) has been one of the most pressing issues in Jordan's water sector. It is defined as water lost before it reaches the customer. Losses are physical losses (for example through leaky pipes) or administrative losses (for example through metering inaccuracies). Non-revenue water causes major financial strain to the water sector amounting to at least US\$ 300 million per year.

As part of the Kingdom National Strategy, one of the water sector's priority goals is to reduce NRW from around 50% nationally to 25% of water supplied to urban systems by 2040.

The USAID Water Governance Activity (WGA) is partnered with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI) to roll-out the updated National NRW Strategy, a comprehensive approach of strategies and activities to achieving the reduction targets.

On June 2, 2022, MWI launched the updated National NRW Strategy with the support of USAID WGA through a workshop that was under the patronage of His Excellency Eng. Mohammad Al Najjar, Minister of Water and Irrigation, and with the attendance of Her Excellency Sherry F. Carlin, Mission Director of USAID. The workshop presented the purpose, objectives, and technical approach of the National NRW Strategy.

Two weeks following the launch and the Strategy is being institutionalized by MWI counterparts and the water utilities workforces. This strategy acts as an instrumental roadmap to prioritizing sector needs and chartering future developments amid an increasingly challenged sector.

Partners from the water sector reckon that the launch of this Strategy is crucial as it is aligned with His Majesty King Abdullah II's directives to develop a long-term strategy for the water sector to face mounting challenges

This effort is also in-line with USAID WGA long-term objective to support MWI and water utilities implement management reforms to build a sustainable and self-sufficient water sector in Jordan.