



المملكة العربية السعودية



The 23th MEETING OF THE COMCEC POVERTY ALLEVATION WORKING GROUP

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“Alleviating Adverse Effects of Natural Disasters on Poor Segments of Society in the OIC Member Countries”



Multidimensional Poverty Reduction

In Jordan, His Majesty King Abdullah II, May Allah protect him, has stated that Jordan, with its successful track record in responding to the impacts of climate change, is keen to be a regional hub for green development. The National Agenda, including royal economic, political, and administrative visions, emphasizes long-term goals for economic growth and social development.

Jordan submitted its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2016, focusing significantly on enhancing resilience and adaptation in the water and agriculture sectors as a priority response to the effects of climate change. This also aligns with the Paris Agreement's provisions, which call for increasing ambition in adaptation and mitigation efforts in a progressive manner.



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Additionally, Jordan launched its "National Climate Change Adaptation Plan" in 2021, which envisions a "more resilient Jordan" to ensure increased resilience of communities, institutions, natural ecosystems, water, and agricultural resources within a framework of sustainable and climate-resilient development. It is important to note that Jordan is not among the countries significantly impacted by natural disasters but rather adapts to them.

The Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) has aligned its strategic plan with this adaptation plan. This alignment aims to support and enhance the response of beneficiary groups to climate change policies, particularly in rural areas, as well as in shelters and centers for protection from violence.



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In this context, alternative energy has been utilized, and the following achievements have been made in the field of climate change response:

Regarding the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) 2015-2030, Jordan is committed to setting indicators for global targets and monitoring progress as outlined in the Sendai Framework. The National Center for Security and Crisis Management is responsible for tracking this system and reporting indicators in collaboration with all national agencies. The (MoSD) is tasked with reporting on the indicator related to people affected by disasters (Indicator B3), which measures the number of people whose housing has been damaged due to disasters. According to the (MoSD) data, the number of affected homes was 223 in 2022.



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Jordan has a long history of implementing programs designed to protect its citizens especially poor segments of society , enabling them to meet their basic needs and enhancing their ability to cope with risks that could lead to poverty.

In this context, a comprehensive National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) has been developed to outline the Jordanian government's commitments to breaking the cycle of poverty and preventing its transmission across generations.

This strategy provides a "social protection floor" within the framework of the Jordan's vision of a state governed by law, production, and solidarity.

The National Social Protection Strategy for 2019-2025

The NSPS is based on three main pillars that work comprehensively to ensure a decent life for all Jordanians by providing a comprehensive, transparent, and equitable social protection system.

In proactive planning to mitigate the adverse effects of natural disasters and other challenges, the (MoSD) leads this strategy. It includes the following pillars:

1. **Dignity: Social assistance programs.**
2. **Empowerment: Social services.**
3. **Opportunity: Decent work and social security.**
4. **A new pillar has been introduced to the strategy **Response to Shocks and Crises**: to enhance the resilience of vulnerable and marginalized groups in facing the impacts of climate change policies and resulting natural disasters.**



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The fourth pillar, **Resilience for the (NSPS) is focused on disaster and crisis response.**

Natural, human, and disasters crises lead to various impact that pose significant challenges to communities worldwide. Their negative effects impact individuals' daily lives and their families, with the most vulnerable groups suffering even more.

This necessitates the inclusion of these groups in a social protection system that provides a sustainable, effective response to disasters and crises, while taking into account gender-related needs.

In alignment with the royal visions emphasizing that "the social protection pillar should be an essential part of economic and administrative modernization paths, as a national priority to ensure better protection for the most affected groups by economic conditions," special attention must be given to vulnerable groups in guiding social protection policies to support their resilience and adaptation during crises.



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The Ministry of Social Development, as the main umbrella for social protection, is committed to developing operational plans to mitigate the impact of disasters, epidemics, earthquakes, and cholera. This aims to improve the response of vulnerable and at-risk groups to these crises, ensuring effective response, coverage, and a return to normalcy, as these groups are the most affected by risks and natural disasters. Additionally, Jordan, represented by the National Aid Fund, benefited from a cash transfer project supported by the World Bank during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The implementation of the Social Protection Strategy is supervised by a Steering Committee led by Minister of Social Development and consists of high-level representatives from relevant ministries and civil society organizations.



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Consequently, the government has introduced the Resilience pillar—disaster and crisis response—to complement the other pillars of the (NSPS) (Opportunity, Empowerment, Dignity).

This pillar plays a crucial role in enhancing the flexibility and effectiveness of the social protection system's response to disasters and crises, reducing their risks to individuals and communities, and strengthening their resilience in facing such challenges.

This addition ensures the comprehensiveness of the strategy in addressing the needs of all citizens, **leaving no one behind, with more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable programs.**



National Efforts to Achieve Sustainable Development Goals

- **By 2030, the goal is to build the resilience of the poor and vulnerable groups, reducing their exposure to and impact from extreme climate-related phenomena, as well as other economic, social, and environmental shocks and disasters.**
- **The project for installing grid-connected solar systems for beneficiaries of national aid and poor families has alleviated the burden of electricity bills on these families.**
- **Additionally, more than 100,000 jobs in the private sector have been sustained through the social security programs developed in response to the pandemic. The response to the pandemic was unique in its speed, accuracy, and comprehensiveness across the country. The National Aid response to urgent needs during crises and disasters has included implementing responsive programs to ensure broad coverage through transparent and fair criteria, such as the Takaful 2 program and distributing aid through electronic wallets.**

Success Stories and Best Practices:

- **The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the leadership of the Social Security Corporation on both national and global levels, turning it into a success story studied worldwide. It managed to sustain over 100,000 jobs in the private sector through the suite of programs it developed. Its response to the pandemic was unique in terms of speed, accuracy, and comprehensiveness across the kingdom.**
- **The response of the Social Security Corporation during emergencies represents a comprehensive picture of the institution's success. It involves monitoring day laborers, national workers, and municipal employees under all circumstances affecting the kingdom. Most recently, this has included the diligent follow-up at both individual and institutional levels regarding the death caused by the slip of a vehicle belonging to the Greater Amman Municipality during the recent weather disturbance, and the allocation of a death benefit.**





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- **□ The Takaful 2 Program, introduced as part of the National Aid Fund's initiatives, is a success story and a lesson learned during crises and disasters, especially regarding the implementation of electronic wallets (payment cards). This innovation has alleviated the burden on vulnerable and poor groups by saving them time and effort, reducing transportation needs, and maintaining their privacy compared to visiting postal offices. This highlights the program's rapid response capability in emergency situations.**
- **□ The Solar Cells Project has contributed to reducing electricity bills for the most poor families and beneficiaries of the National Aid Fund.**



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- **The Unified National Registry, aims to create and utilize a consolidated database containing all relevant information about Jordanian families through electronic linkage with official entities. This initiative seeks to improve social safety net programs, develop effective communication mechanisms, ensure that support reaches those in need, and enhance efficiency in aid program expenditure. The project also incorporates digital economy and entrepreneurship, and the National Information Center to ensure the system's sustainability and stability. It maintains data confidentiality and security, reduces financial costs related to operations, license purchases, and infrastructure development by hosting the database and applications on the government cloud. The ESCWA and the World Bank have praised the social protection policies and strategies for vulnerable groups adopted by Jordan.**



Recommendations and Future Outlook 2022 – 2030 and Sustainability:



Phase One:

- 1. Develop a Unified Digital Platform for Social Protection:**
Create a comprehensive digital system to manage and unify social protection processes, ensuring more effective support delivery.
- 2. Establish a Unified Financial Window for Microloan Recipients Based on the Unified Digital Platform Database:**
Create a single source of financing that allows microloan recipients to access financial support through the digital platform database.
- 3. Expanding Programs to Empower the Poor and Transition from Aid Recipients to Producers:**
Expanding programs aimed at enabling impoverished individuals to become self-sufficient producers rather than relying on aid.

Phase Two:

- 1. Develop a Foresight Model for Variables Affecting Social Protection: Create a model to analyze trends and future changes that may impact social protection policies.**
- 2. Reduce Extreme Poverty by 15%: Achieve a 15% reduction in extreme poverty rates.**
- 3. Reducing the Proportion of People Experiencing Multidimensional Poverty in Half by the End of 2030: Decrease the number of individuals living in multidimensional poverty by 50% by the end of 2030.**
- 4. Transition Cash Assistance Recipients to Productivity Enhancement Programs: Shift cash assistance programs to focus on enhancing individuals' productivity and innovation capabilities.**



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- 5. Develop Cross-Cutting Programs and Projects Aligned with the (NSPs) Linked to Economic Modernization Vision: Create programs and projects that align with the (NSPs) and support the economic modernization vision to ensure the sustainability of social protection initiatives.**
- 6. Developing Early Social Warning System**

Thank you

