



ALL ACROSS THE JORDAN: TRANS-BOUNDARY NGO MASTER PLAN OF THE LOWER Part of JORDAN RIVER BASIN

Supported by the
European Union's SWIM
Programme



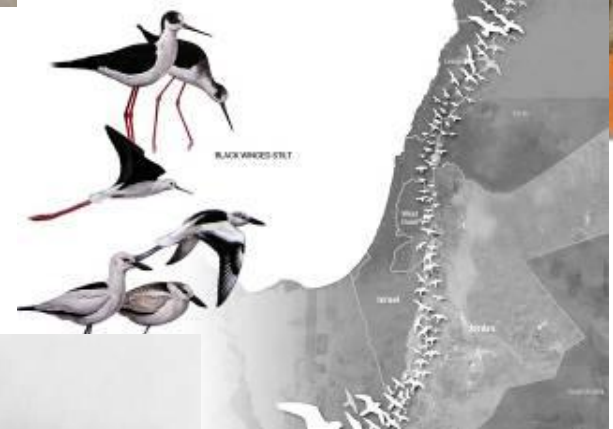
SWIM Steering Committee Meeting
December 15-16, 2014

FoEME's Strategic Pillars

- **Fair Share between People and Nature:** Master plans balance the needs of people and nature
- **Cross-border Water Justice:** Palestinian riparian rights and fair share of the benefits of a accessible and rehabilitated river central to the master planning process.
- **National Environmental Activism:** encourages the national adoption of Integrated Water Resource Management and other international best practices.

The Lower Jordan River

- Rich in Cultural, Historical Heritage, and Holy to Jews, Christians and Muslims
- Unique Eco-System
- Meeting point for flora and fauna of three continents, and Migratory flyway for 500 million birds twice annually
- Historic average annual flow of over **1.3 billion cubic meters** including:
 - Upper Jordan: 540 mcm
 - Yarmouk: 480 mcm
 - Side Wadis: 280 mcm



The Great Water Grab & Demise of the Jordan

Over 96% of the Jordan River's flow is diverted by Israel, Syria and Jordan.

- Resulting in ecological devastation of the Jordan River system.
- Loss of cultural heritage/ tourism revenue.



Vision for the Lower Jordan River

“The Lower Jordan River is Rehabilitated and Accessible to the Public: The Center of a healthy ecosystem, a regional symbol of peace, and source of prosperity for Palestinian, Jordanian and Israeli inhabitants”

Our Master Plan Objectives

- To create a **regional NGO master plan** for the Lower Part of Jordan River by developing and harmonizing national master plans into a single cohesive NGO transboundary master plan.
- Project will lay the groundwork for **effective transboundary water governance for integrated water resource management** of the Lower Part of Jordan River.
- Advance dialogue with decision makers and stakeholders from Jordan, Palestine and Israel to **strengthen regional cooperation and contribute to peace building**.

Target Groups and Beneficiaries

- Relevant Jordanian, Palestinian and Israeli government ministries and authorities, national level decision makers and local government leaders.
- The final beneficiaries include the 600,000 Palestinian, Jordanian and Israeli residents of the Jordan Valley as well as faith based communities, tourists etc.
- Wider public if project benefits peace building



Project Partners

- **WEDO/ Friends of the Earth Middle East (FoEME)** tri-lateral Jordanian, Palestinian, Israeli **environmental peacebuilding** organization.
- **Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)** knowledge hub and policy support organ - hosting UNDP Water Governance Facility.
- **Global Nature Fund (GNF)** – expertise on economic aspects of EU Water Framework Directive



Project Activities

- Consultant **RHDHV selected** through an international tender process to undertake the development of the FoEME Master Plan. Team led by RHDHV with leading regional experts from Jordan, Palestine and Israel.
- **First SWIM-JR SIWI Middle East Seminar held September 9-11, 2012 in Amman** bringing together approximately 80 high level officials from the region, including representatives of all key Jordanian, Palestinian and Israeli decision making bodies SWIM demo projects as well as numerous leading international experts on transboundary river management.



Project Activities

- RHDHV **inception report submitted January 2013:** includes detailed descriptions on the project's objectives and outputs, expert team, scope of work, background work to date, data collection, workplan, public consultation process and more.
- RHDHV **baseline report submitted July 2013.**



Project Activities

Public Hearings were held in Jordan and Palestine in March , April, and May 2014: where all public representatives attended and consulted, to assure the best outcome that reflects the vision of the locals, and enhance the ownership feeling.



Project Activities

2nd SWIM-JR SIWI Middle East international conference for the sustainable development for Jordan valley was held from 10-12 November 2014 in dead sea Jordan



Project Activities

Many leaders and decision makers from the 3 countries attended this conference



Many donors and international leaders also attended



Outcomes of Master Plan

The Master Plan Interventions address the following categories:

☐ Water Management



☐ Pollution Control and Environmental Management



☐ Ecological Restoration



Outcomes of Master Plan

- **Agriculture Improvement**



- **Urban and Infrastructure Development**



- **Tourism and Cultural Heritage Development**



Outcomes of Master Plan

- **International Co-operation and Institutional Development**



The Way Forward

- **Finalize Regional master plan 2014/2015**
- **Present final regional master plan in May 2015 Conference**
- **Ongoing:** Advocacy efforts to support the implementation of the master plan's recommendations including media tours, parliamentary visits, leveraging of international investment in region etc.

Thank you !

Working towards a Cooperative Future



For more information, please visit:
www.foeme.org