

# Green Infrastructure in Amman

## Improving Living Conditions of disadvantaged areas in Amman Green Infrastructure (ILCA)

### The challenge

The continuous growth of cities globally and in middle income countries accelerates economic and environmental challenges and puts pressure on public open spaces (POS) in densely populated and often disadvantaged urban neighborhoods. The population of Amman doubled since 2004 due to the influx of refugees fleeing from neighboring countries, and overburdened municipal infrastructure can hardly cover the needs of the population. Networks connecting POS to walkable sidewalks, stair networks and streets through to major roads and access to transportation are often cut-off, hampering the possibility to circulate within and between neighborhoods and condoning the systematic resort to motorized transport. The scarcity of POS and lack of greenery negatively affect social cohesion and integration, it also leads to environmental hazards such as flooding and soil pollution, hence the value and contribution of participatory green infrastructure in achieving national and global development targets needs to be further exemplified.

### Our approach

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH implements a pilot project set up to develop elements of green infrastructure at selected sites in East Amman, improve access to services and help address the disruption of the social fabric. 'Improving Living Conditions of disadvantaged Areas in Amman' (ILCA) also intends to raise awareness on the potentials of green infrastructure to mitigate/adapt to climate change, and support Jordan to

achieve their commitments to global and national agendas such as SDGs and NDCs. The project contributes to SDG 11 and 13, and is locally integrated into GAM's wider strategy to develop walkability, access to public transport with developments such as the BRT (supported by AFD), and address the effects of Climate Change with the C40 and 100RC initiatives. ILCA promotes community ownership through a participatory approach in the design, planning and management processes of the newly created or revived POS, it also plays a prominent role in improving urban well-being - with particular attention given to women and girls' specific needs - through increased access to public space for all.

### The benefits

The participatory process applied in the development of green infrastructure networks promotes and further develops relations between the involved partners, Ministry of Environment, Greater Amman Municipality, local communities and stakeholders. 'ILCA' project also supports capacity development measures to enable the replication and adaptation of the approach to other urban areas within the Municipality, with a special focus placed on maintenance capacities of the actors involved.

Project name	Improving Living Conditions of disadvantaged areas in Amman - Green Infrastructure (ILCA)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Amman, Jordan
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Environment & Greater Amman Municipality (GAM)
Duration	July 2017 to July 2022



Left : Children participating in Co-Design Workshop in Badr District  
Right: Community workshop on 7th Stairs , Badr District



Rawan Attour  
rawan.attour@giz.de

Left : 7th stairs in Badr

Right: GAM participants in a capacity building workshop

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GIZ Office Jordan  
Mohamed Baseem Al Kammash St. 13, Sweifieh,  
Amman 11190 Jordan  
rawan.attour@giz.de  
www.giz.de/Jordan

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Photo credits

Sajida Alnsour, Rasha Othman: page 1  
Dina Al Najjar, Katharina Manecke: page 2

Text

Rahel Hermann, Katharina Manecke, Razan Khalaf

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