Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

الجَمعيّة العِلميّة المَلكيّة
Royal Scientific Society



Achieving land degradation neutrality targets

Through restoration and sustainable management of degraded land in northern governorates Jordan







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ABOUT THE PROJECT

The project aims at achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets through restoration and sustainable management of degraded land in Northern Governorates Jordan, it is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), under the supervision of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The project started on March 2023 and will continue until January 2027.

The project targets **16** landscape or watersheds, with an average watershed area of **6 723** hectares, resulting in a total targeted area of **107 571** hectares.



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) project is considered the first on the theme in Jordan, it aims at:



Support efforts to implement national objectives for achieving land degradation neutrality and contribute to improve forest management and rehabilitation, increase the productivity of rangelands and barren lands through the promotion of sustainable land management/sustainable forest management practices and agricultural value chains within a landscape restoration approach to meet the voluntary commitments of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for land degradation neutrality.



Contribute in achieving the Global Sustainable Development Goals 15.2 and 15.3, and support the realisation of voluntary national targets under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) goals 1, 2, 3 and 5.



Improve forest management, rehabilitation, and enhance forests, rangelands and barren lands productivity through Drought, Land Degradation andDesertification (DLDD) activities.



Enhance value chains of vegetables, olives, dairy and beekeeping, and improve access to markets.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

Component one: Enabling Environment for LDN Planning and Monitoring

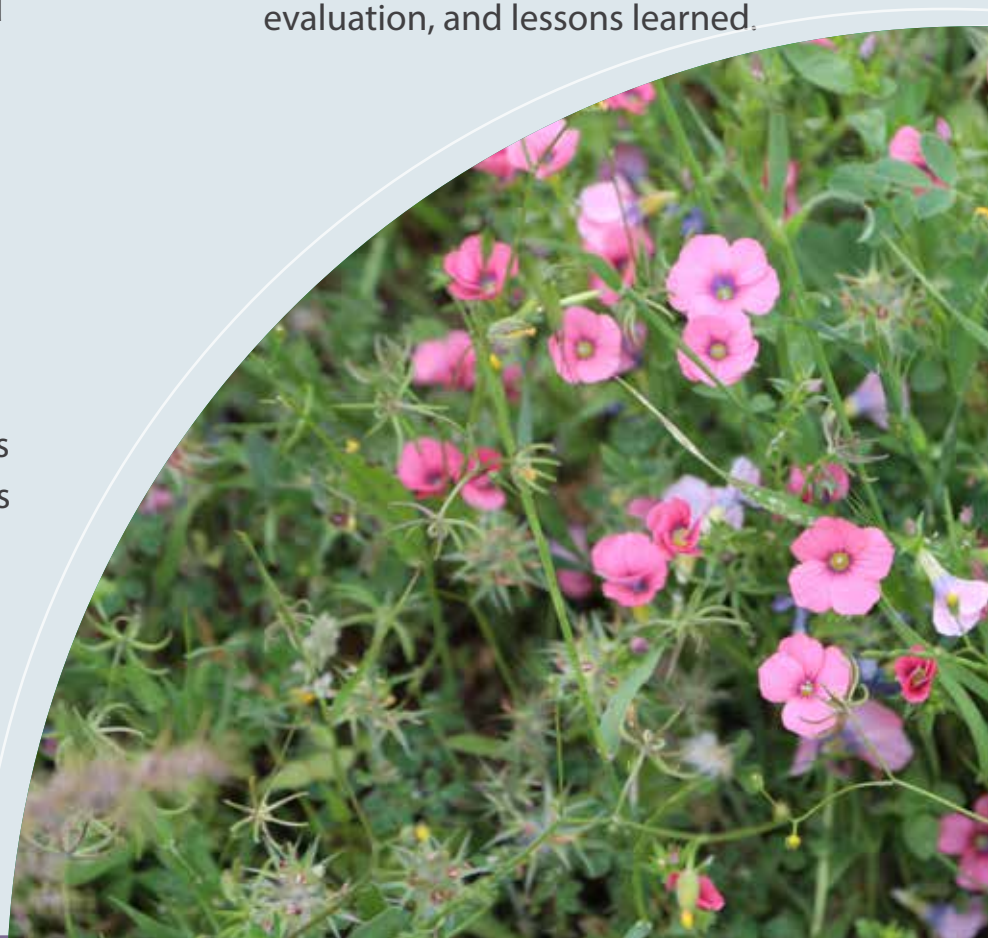
- Strengthening land use planning and monitoring frameworks at the national and local levels to support land degradation neutrality approach.
- Integrating land degradation neutrality into national policies/regulatory and institutional frameworks and land use planning processes.
- Building capacities at both national and local levels to support achieving land degradation neutrality in the target governorates.

Component two: Demonstrating the LDN

- Approach and Scaling out SLM Practices and Approaches in Selected Landscapes in the Ajloun, Irbid and Mafraq Governorates
- Improving land cover/management, land productivity, and soil carbon content through the applying of sustainable land management/ (DLDD) practices and approaches in selected natural systems in Ajloun, Irbid, and Mafraq governorates.
- Increasing investments in sustainable land management to achieve land degradation neutrality.

Component three: Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Lesson Learned

- Disseminating knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation, and lessons learned.



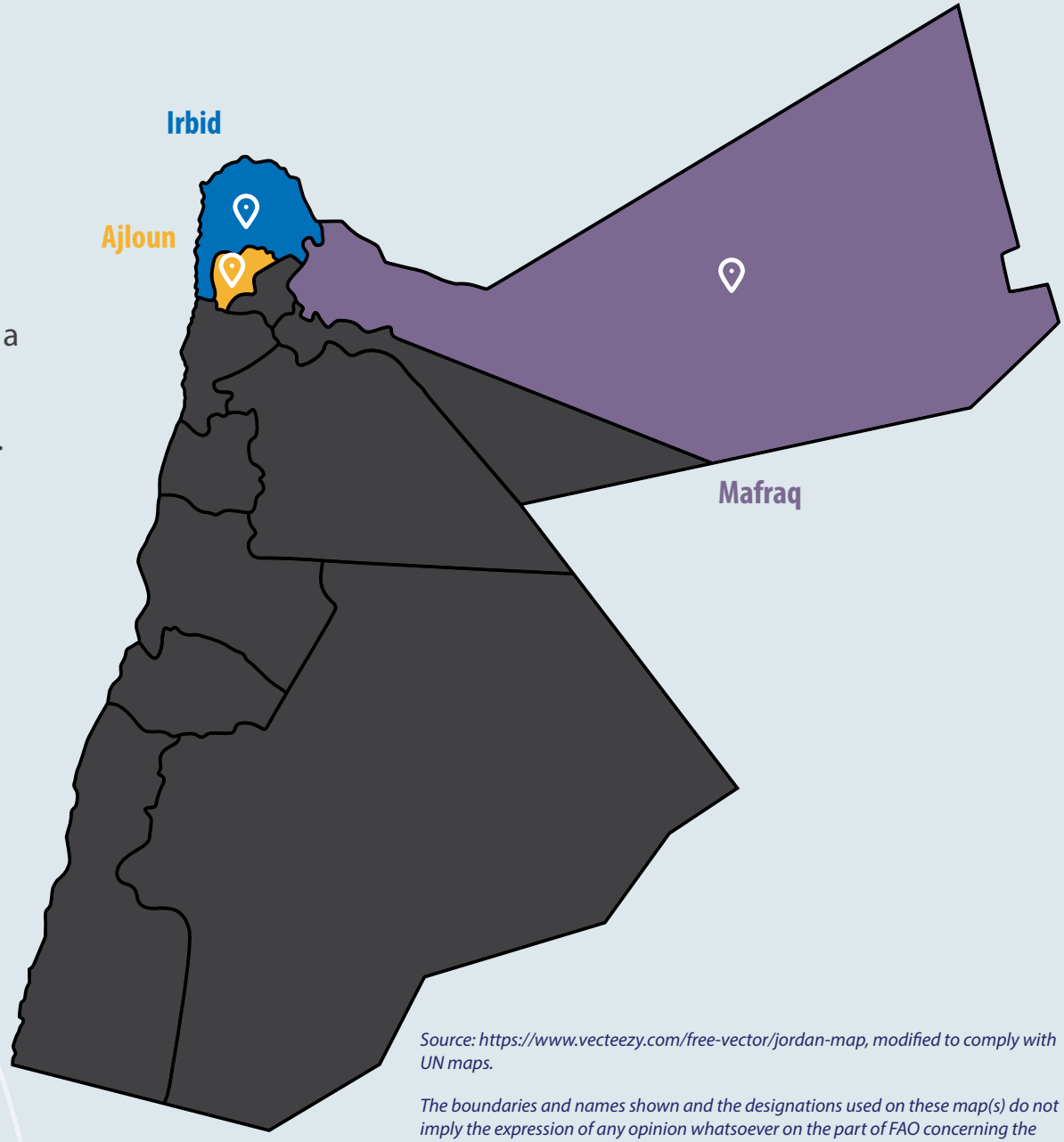
TARGETED GOVERNORATES

Fifty-seven sites have been selected within the 16 landscapes for project interventions and activities, covering a total area of 9 480 hectares.

The targeted governorates are Ajloun, Irbid and Mafraq.



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Source: https://www.vecteezy.com/free-vector/jordan-map, modified to comply with UN maps.

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PROJECT INTERVENTIONS



Land use monitoring programme

The programem aims to assess land uses in the target governorates in accordance with local regulations and analyse gaps between regulations and current land uses. This is to provide policymakers with recommendations for incorporation into local legislation to achieve land degradation neutrality.

Sustainable rangeland management

Address the needs of livestock owners in accordance with the concept of sustainable rangeland management without compromising the needs of future generations. Additionally, involve local communities in sustainable rangeland management and apply practices that are related to exploiting rangeland resources.

Sustainable forestry and agroforestry management

Applying practices related to forest sustainability in accordance with the concept of sustainable forest and woodlands management. Also, involve local communities in sustainable forest and rangeland management.



Sustainable agricultural land management

Implementing a set of strategies and practices that contribute to maintain agricultural lands fertility and enhancing agricultural productivity. This involves using natural resources in a sustainable and efficient manner to ensure long-term agricultural production without negatively impact the environment and soil.

Improving agricultural value chains

Developing value chains through implementing of activities and initiatives aiming at enhancing efficiency and effectiveness across all stages of agricultural product production and marketing, from crop production to marketing and distribution to consumers. The project targeted value chains are olives, vegetables, beekeeping and dairy products.

Knowledge management and lessons learned

Implement activities to collect, organize, and share knowledge and experiences related to land degradation neutrality, as well as document experiences and lessons learned, and share success stories from the target areas.

FORMS OF SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE PROJECT



Drip irrigation systems



Solar energy for water pumps



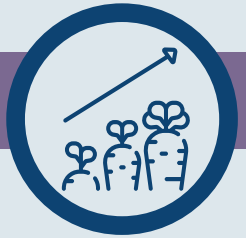
Composting bins



Livestock infrastructure and excursion materials, including fencing, shade, livestock watering and feeding materials, sheds, yards, etc



Improving water points and springs for livestock in rangeland



Support to enhance value chains in beekeeping, olives, dairy products and vegetables



Support to water harvesting activities at the farm level

PROJECT OUTPUTS

2 250

Number of beneficiaries from farmer field schools training



+2 500 000

Greenhouse gas emissions (metric tonnes of CO_{2e})



25 000

Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (ha)

15 215

Number of direct beneficiaries categorized by gender; direct beneficiaries will be individuals from agricultural and pastoral communities living in the project area

2 750

Area of land restored (ha)



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For more Information

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