



MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

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Reforms Catalysts

JORDAN IS SIGNIFICANTLY STRENGTHENING ITS REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

In June 2022, the Government of Jordan (GoJ) launched and circulated the updated [Regulatory Impact Assessment \(RIA\) Guidelines](#) among all GoJ entities. Furthermore, a dedicated RIA unit has been established at the Prime Ministry to ensure proper implementation of the guidelines across all government entities. This manual has been sponsored by the Jordan Inclusive Growth and Economic Opportunities Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) and supported by the Reform Secretariat (RS) at Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) in coordination with the Prime Ministry, World Bank, and other partners. GoJ is actively working to establish a unified public consultation portal, which will serve as a platform to communicate and consult on draft regulatory proposals across all government agencies. The portal is expected to become operational by the end of the year.

The Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) plays a crucial role in promoting legislative stability and

fostering engagement among relevant stakeholders, including individuals, companies, organizations, and government entities, in the legislative development and amendment process. The updated manual also includes a new mechanism for assessing the impact of such legislation. The manual takes into account the social and environmental impact of proposed or reviewed legislation, making it a comprehensive tool for informed decision-making.

During 2022, the Reform Secretariat organized a series of workshops and meetings as part of the essential role that it plays in supporting GoJ entities throughout the implementation of related reforms. These workshops came from the importance of improving the quality of regulatory processes and decisions as a key priority for the Government of Jordan starting with three pilot ministries which are Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Social Development, and Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.

To date, three RIAs have been published (*Arabic only*):

- Ministry of Labor: [Pre-assessment on Motivating Women to Enter the Labour Market](#)
- Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities: [Regulate hiking activities under adventure tourism](#)
- Ministry of Social Development: [Regulate home-based nurseries](#)

“ All the studies we are currently conducting in collaboration with the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC and the World Bank through the Multi-Donor Trust Fund are pilots to apply RIA guidelines whether pre or post assessment. We seek to draft a legislation on good regulatory practices in cooperation with the Legislative and Opinion Bureau, once it is issued, RIA will become mandatory with no legislation enacted or amended without going through RIA covering economic, social, environmental, and other aspects.

Mrs. Ghadeer Iskandarani, Head of Impact Assessment Studies /Legal Affairs Directorate, Prime Ministry ”

The development and implementation of high-quality legislation and Good Regulatory Practices (GRP), including Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA), public consultation, and ex-post evaluation of legislation, are crucial components of a

transparent and accountable government. These practices contribute to policy predictability and regulatory effectiveness, thereby enhancing the overall business and investment climate.

“ The government has committed to establishing a system of Regulatory Impact Assessment, which we think is highly commendable. The government is doing this step by step, whereby we first pilot the Impact Assessment in a number of ministries, three ministries have volunteered. The pilots will help analyse specific policy concern, but they will also imbed learning and capacity in the three ministries. So, the impact of these pilots, which we are very happy with the progress so far, is to have better policy solutions but more importantly the officials that have been working with us have learned a lot and they can use this going forward.

Mr. Peter Ladegaard, Senior Public Sector Expert at the World Bank’s Governance Global Practice ”

Next Steps

The Reform Secretariat, World Bank, and RIA unit have identified GoJ entities and legislations to participate in the second round of piloting RIA manual, which will consist of a series of capacity building and follow-up on the progress workshops, namely:

- Ministry of Energy: Renewable Energy bylaw number 13 for the year 2015.
- Ministry of Higher Education: Bylaw number 114 for the year 2018.
- Ministry of Interior: Passport Law number 2 for the year 1969.
- Ministry of Culture: Issue a new legislation about Cultural Industries for the year 2023.
- Ministry of social Development: Charity Fundraising bylaw number 1 for the year 1957.

Join the related Reform Working Group!

The Reform Secretariat (RS) is establishing coordination working groups with both Government of Jordan entities and international development agencies to align efforts and resources towards achieving targeted national goals in key reform areas. These areas include:

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| 1- Public procurement | 2- Investment promotion | 3- Business environment |
| 4- Trade facilitation | 5- Good Regulatory Practices | 6- Tourism sector |

These working groups will meet regularly to share updates, gather feedback, and inform RS of any necessary support, including stakeholder engagement activities.

If you are a GoJ entity or an international development agency and interested in participating in one or more of these working groups, please feel free to send an email to: info@reformjo.org with the name of the reform area.

