

ANNEX C23: DISI AREA DEVELOPMENT PLAN¹

1 DISI AREA DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1.1 Introduction

The Disi Mudawarra-Amman Water Conveyance Project is proposed to be constructed to help alleviate the drinking water situation of greater Amman in Jordan. The proposed project consists of construction of a water pipeline from the Disi Mudawarra region of south Jordan to the capital city of Amman. Among the people living along the route of the proposed pipeline are the Bedouins of south Jordan.

The Bedouin of Jordan have deep ties to the land of their ancestors. Tribes in Jordan are constituted of groups of related families claiming descent from a founding ancestor. Within this overall framework, several levels of smaller groups within each tribe also are defined by descent from an intermediate ancestor.

While not distinguished from the rest of the population in religion, the Bedouin of Jordan differ to some extent in cultural habits, mode of life, and political aspirations. Tribal social structure, as described by tribal members, is based on the matrilineal ties among men. Matrilineal ties also are significant in providing access to material and social resources.

1.2 Baseline Information

There are an estimated 35,000 Bedouin in southern Jordan. The percentage of the Bedouin population that is nomadic dropped from 3.5 percent in 1960 to less than 1 percent in 1995. Within the portion of Bedouin society that is semi-nomadic, a subsistence-oriented economy exists on a very limited scale. Camel and sheep grazing is still the main source of income for families in this sub-group.

Tribes in Jordan have been mapped and classified since the 1940s. Scoping has identified three different Bedouin populations and information gathered from the Badia Forces in the area and mayors of major cities and governors indicated the following:

- *Central Bedouins* – South of Amman, Madaba, Al-Jiza to Qatraneh: Bani Sakhr. The Bani Sakhr has two branches: (a) the Tuwaqa Tribe, comprised of the following sub-tribes: Ghubein with 28 families (a family may include a number of households); Amir with 12 families; and Huqeish with 14 families; and (b) the Ka'abneh Tribe, comprised of the following sub-tribes: Kharshan with 9 families, and Jubur with 7 families.
- *Southern Bedouins* – Southern Bedouins normally live in Wadi Araba north of Aqaba city, Wadi Rum, Qa'a Al Disi, Al Jafr, Ma'an, Al Jurf, Al Hasa, Qatraneh and Husienieh. In general, their presence in these areas is governed by the availability of water and grazing land. Most recently the construction of the desert highway brought a variety of job opportunities to their localities. The Al Zawydeh Tribe, Muznah and Mara'beh live in Disi sub-district. The main villages in this area are Disih (the centre of the sub-district) Tuwaiseh, Mnaishir, Al Ghal and Al Tawil.

¹ This plan addresses the provisions of World Bank Operational Directive OD 4.20, "Indigenous Peoples"

- *Bedouins in the southern areas* are divided into two main tribes: Bani'Atiyya: comprised of 6 sub-tribes; and Huweitat (the biggest tribe in Jordan), which is divided into the following sub-tribes and families:

<u>Sub-tribe</u>	<u>Families</u>
Hajaya	16
Mana'in	5
Matalqa	10
Tuweiha	13
Sulimaniyin	11
Un'eiyamat	5
Muhalf	33

1.3 National Legal Framework

Jordan Tribal Customary Law historically recognized the Bedouin as a distinct group (the Law was cancelled in 1985). It is worth noting that some of the tribal norms and traditions with regard to “revenge crimes” have been incorporated into the Penal Code. To prevent any tribal disputes over grazing land, the Government of Jordan delineated the tribal grazing rights for each of the major tribes and has strictly implemented them over 60 years. Tribal Customary Law was cancelled in 1985; Civil Law provisions now prevailing are applied equally to all citizens irrespective of religion or ethnic composition.

Of the 110 seats in the Jordanian Lower House of Parliament, Bedouins are represented by 6 seats, divided equally among Bedouins in the north, centre and south of Jordan. These representatives have been active in defending Bedouin social, economic and political interests.

1.4 Assessment to Determine Effects

Settlement of nomadic tribes began in the mid-1930s and expanded rapidly in the late 1950s. This process of permanent settlement came about as a natural, if not always completely desirable, response to changing political and economic circumstances, particularly the formation and consolidation of the state. Government policies encouraged settlement by providing schools, medical services, and the development of water resources. Bedouin settlements established under the Bedouin Settlement Program have grown into major cities and villages, which have been provided with all services, including water, electricity, educational institutions, roads and communication facilities.

1.4.1 Social and Cultural Characteristics

The Bedouin of Jordan have deep ties to the land of their ancestors. Tribes in Jordan are constituted of groups of related families claiming descent from a founding ancestor. Within this overall framework, several levels of smaller groups within each tribe also are defined by descent from an intermediate ancestor. While not distinguished from the rest of the population in religion, the Bedouin of Jordan differ to some extent in cultural habits, mode of life, and political aspirations. Tribal social structure, as described by tribal members, is based on the matrilineal ties

among men. Matrilineal ties also are significant in providing access to material and social resources.

1.4.2 Land and Natural Resources

Some Bedouin, mainly the Sheikhs, have settled on agricultural land where they have been licensed to dig groundwater wells and to practice agriculture. Those Bedouin who have benefited from such situations wish to maintain their privileges. They have depended on government aid particularly in years of drought or other calamities.

1.4.3 Institutional Framework for Project Implementation

It should be borne in mind that the evolution of Bedouin social and cultural life in the project area will continue to be influenced by Government economic and social policy whether the Disi Project is constructed or not. Government departments and institutions that have been active in the area for a long time include:

- Disi Agricultural Centre: This centre provides agricultural extension, agricultural and veterinary services to all farmers in the region.
- Disi Comprehensive Medical Centre: In addition to routine medical services, this centre provides dental health services, laboratory tests, X-ray and pharmacy. Medical services are almost free of charge.
- Disi Water Office.
- Disi Local Development Centre: It provides social and financial assistance to the least privileged families in the region including vocational rehabilitation to the young and the establishment of family productive projects.
- Disi Post Office.
- Disi Village Agglomeration Municipality: This provides all municipal services to the region.
- The Ministry of Education: The first secondary school in the area was established in 1962. At present, there are six primary and two secondary schools in the region, with a total enrolment of 1,306 students, both male and female.
- Public Societies and Clubs: There are five public societies and sports clubs in the region.
- Rum Agricultural Company: The Company is at present exploiting 5,000 hectares of Disi land for the production of vegetables and fodder, and 600 hectares for the production of fruits. About 100 persons of the area's labour force are employed by this company.
- Tourist Camps: There are seven tourist camps in Wadi Rum which provide full accommodation for tourists in the area.

1.5 Project Impacts on Bedouin Population

Land acquisition for the project has been carried out by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and compensation for private land has been paid in accordance with the provisions of Land Acquisition Law No. (12). It is not expected that significant additional private land would be expropriated since the policy of the MWI is to avoid expropriation as much as possible. It is most probable that the pipeline construction will mainly utilize the right-of-way in all phases.

Most of the Bedouin settlement areas are to the west and along the project line. No physical displacement of the Bedouin population in the Disi area will occur as a result of the construction of the conveyance system. However, two possible effects should be anticipated:

- First, it is expected that the project will have direct impact on the employment level in the Disi area by alleviating the high level of unemployment at least temporarily during the construction phase. However, in the long run, a small number of Bedouin (up to 50) who work as guards and seasonal employees in Disi irrigated farm projects may lose their employment.
- Second, the livestock at the Disi farm area is limited to a small number of camels, sheep and goats owned by the Bedouin and used for local consumption. At present water is provided to the livestock from five groundwater wells owned by the Water Authority.

1.6 Implementation Plan

1.6.1 Development Opportunities in the Project Area

Social aspects in the project's direct and indirect zone of influence are complementary and interwoven. Although improvement in water quantity and quality in Amman is the main objective of the Disi Project, local people, including the Bedouin population, should have the opportunity to improve their way of life as a result of project, either through job opportunities in the construction stages or through allocation of agricultural land. Socio-economic impacts on the population may include the following:

- *Employment:* In addition to the aggregates of the project cost analysis presented in the feasibility study, a detailed description and analysis of job-opportunities that the project may create during and after construction phases, including skilled and non-skilled workers should have been prepared. However, since the majority of work is electro-mechanical, both during and after construction, it would be difficult to find the skills required in the direct zone of influence except in south Amman. Each contractor usually maintains his own team of engineers and technicians on a permanent basis. Therefore any increase in local employment in the small towns and villages along the pipeline route will be in unskilled positions for male workers, for digging, trenching, and services and as camp guards.

Table 1: Expected number of workers needed by different components of the Project (Operational Phase)

Structure	Pump Stations (1 & 2)	Regulating Tank	Flow Control Stations	Well Field Pumps
Number of Workers	8	2	3	3

- *Services:* Taking into consideration the expected duration of pipeline construction of about four and a half years, and the number of workers and employees in the project, a temporary increase in business activities along the route including catering, restaurants, services, fuel sales, transportation and many other activities is anticipated. The increase in employment resulting from these activities will further enhance economic life in the area.

1.6.2 Measures to Avoid, Minimize or Mitigate Adverse Effects

A number of measures have been taken to avoid adverse impacts on the population in the Disi area that includes the Bedouin population. The location and design of the pipeline and other structures will minimize any adverse impacts related to land acquisition as the existing right of way is being used for project construction. Provision of water for irrigation to the agriculture farms located in the Disi area will be continued until the expiry of their lease period in order to minimize any disruption in their activities and to give them sufficient notice to make alternative plans.

The following measures are proposed to mitigate possible adverse impacts on the Bedouin population.

- Provision of preferential employment on project related activities: To mitigate the possible impact on employment of Bedouin workers in the agricultural farms in the Disi area, employment will be provided on a preferential basis to affected vulnerable workers, including Bedouin, in the Disi area. The project will prepare an inventory of skills of the Bedouin worker population and match the skills to available employment in project activities. Any training necessary to enhance the skills of the vulnerable worker population will also be provided.
- Water supply for the small number of livestock raised by the Bedouin population for local consumption will be continued during the project period and acceptable alternatives will be developed in consultation with the Bedouin population after project completion.

2 CONSULTATIONS WITH AFFECTED BEDOUIN POPULATIONS

For the purpose of the social assessment, the study team carried out an interview with the Sheikhs who are the leaders of their tribes (see **Annex C1**). Conversations with these Bedouin leaders suggest that there are no objections to any project implemented by the Government.

During the course of the ESA development and as requested by the Public Consultation and Communication Program, a set of communication and consultation activities has been conducted in order to ensure that stakeholders' views, issues of concern, foreseen impacts and worries are taken into consideration while assessing project related impacts. A summary of the scoping sessions carried out as part of this public communications and consultations has been prepared (see **Annexes C2 and C3** of the ESA).

2.1 Implementation Schedules

Detailed description and analysis of job-opportunities that the project may create during and after construction phases could not be identified at this stage, as the majority of work is electro-mechanical, and the contractor will choose to employ his permanent technical staff. Nevertheless, opportunities for an increase in local employment in the small towns and villages along the pipeline route for unskilled positions for digging, trenching, and services such as camp guards will occur. The contractor will opt for economic reasons to employ locals in unskilled positions and therefore, will be requested to prepare an implementation schedule to reflect employment of locals.

2.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

The project implementation unit will monitor progress regarding the implementation of the Disi Area Development Plan (DADP), especially with respect to consultations with the Bedouin population, implementation of proposed mitigation measures, provision of alternative employment to vulnerable workers including Bedouin, provision of water for livestock owned by Bedouin population, and the access of Bedouin population to project generated economic activities in the Disi area.

2.3 Financing Plan

The proposed mitigation measures for the Bedouin population include access to employment during the construction period and the continued provision of water from existing wells. The access to employment and continued use of existing water sources do not have investment costs. The only item that requires expenditure is the operation and maintenance costs for the water supply which is according to the current water tariff.

2.4 Grievance Redress

A project specific grievance redress mechanism will be established under which affected people with complaints related to implementation of the DADP or any other project related complaints can approach the manager of the land acquisition and resettlement program for redress of their claims. The claims will be settled within a period of one month from the date they are lodged. If the affected person is not satisfied with the results, he / she can approach the project coordination committee for a decision. The decision of the project coordination committee will be provided in one month. If the affected person is still not satisfied, they can lodge a case with the civil court of law.

2.5 Disclosure of DADP

The Arabic version of the DADP will be disclosed at the project offices in Amman, Disi, and other project offices along the route of the pipeline. Arabic as well as English versions of the DADP will also be available at the Bank's InfoShop.