

Water User Associations (WUA)



Vision

Sustainable management of irrigation water resources in the Jordan Valley.

Goal

Farmers in the Jordan Valley (JV) organize themselves into Water User Associations (WUA) and into a federation in order to represent their interests in front of the Government and other institutions. Farmers take over the tasks of retail water distribution management according to a specific bylaw.

WUA Development Phases

1. Confidence Building

- Create trust between partners
- Convince farmers
- Identify problems
- Develop solutions

2001 - 2003

2. WUA Establish:

- Councils
- Committees
- Cooperatives

2003 - 2006

3. Task Transfer

Reach an agreement to transfer retail water distribution tasks from JVA to WUA

2006 - 2009

4. WUA Sustaining Phase

- Prepare a bylaw for the WUA
- Develop an institutional framework for WUA and a WUA federation
- Extend the Task Transfer areas
- Establish new WUA

2009 onwards.....

Achievements

As per April 2010, 22 WUA in the Jordan Valley have been established, which cover almost 80% of the irrigated area in the JV. This has led to:

- A more efficient and decentralized irrigation water distribution.
- A more stabilized network water pressure and water structure.
- A decreased percentage in penalties related to illegal water use and in maintenance cases.
- An increased trust and cooperation between JVA and farmers.
- The transfer of water distribution tasks from JVA to 11 WUA.