



# The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Ministry of Water and Irrigation Water Authority of Jordan

Sukhneh Wastewater networks extension project

**Tender No. 34/2025** 

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Consulting Services for the feasibility study, update of preliminary studies, detailed design, and tender documents preparation for works supervision

# **Selection of Consultants**

**Request for Expressions of interest** 

November, 2025

A project financed by



## Invitation

Consulting Services for the feasibility study, update of preliminary studies, detailed design, and tender documents preparation for works supervision / Sukhneh Wastewater networks extension project

#### Tender number 34/2025

The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) has received a financing from *Agence Française de Développement* ("**AFD**"), and intends to use part of the funds thereof for payments under the following project: *Sukhneh wastewater project, Jordan.* 

The objective of the Project is to provide sanitation services to over 100,000 people and thus addressing urgent social, economic and environmental needs of the local population in the Project Area. The associated improvements are expected to circumvent health issues and related economic losses in the Project Area.

In order to achieve this objective, the Consultant is expected to perform the Services that include primarily the following tasks:

- Review of existing studies and update of the detailed design of the network
- Detailed design for the final flow destination, a new hydraulic connection to Wadi Zarqa through a new gravity arrangement to be confirmed, incorporating the most effective alternatives identified.
- Review and update of the environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) for the project.
- Assessment of Biodiversity and Climate Impacts, including the carbon footprint assessment, Social Inclusion, and Gender Dimensions of the Project
- Update of the tender documents for Works and preparation of the tender documents for the supervision of Works contract(s)

To align with the project financing appraisal schedule, and subject to a successful tender process, the study is planned to begin between Q4 2025 and Q1 2026, depending on the progress of the procurement process. The total duration of the Services is expected to be between 10 and 12 months (to be confirmed in the ToRs).

The WAJ hereby invites Applicants to show their interest in delivering the Services described above.

This Request for Expressions of Interest is open to Consulting firms only.

Eligibility criteria to AFD financing are specified in sub-clause 1.3 of the "*Procurement Guidelines for AFD-Financed Contracts in Foreign Countries*", available online on AFD's website: <a href="http://www.afd.fr">http://www.afd.fr</a>.

The Applicant shall submit only one application, either in its own name or as a member of a Joint Venture (JV). If an Applicant (including any JV member) submits or participates in more than one application, those applications shall be all rejected. However, the same Subconsultant may participate in several applications.

If the Applicant is a JV, the expression of interest shall include:

a copy of the JV Agreement entered into by all members,

or

 a letter of intent to execute a JV Agreement, signed by all members together with a copy of the Agreement proposal,

In the absence of this document, the other members will be considered as Subconsultants.

The JV shall be limited to (2) members.

Experiences and qualifications of Subconsultants are not taken into account in the evaluation of the applications, except for criterion 3 and criterion 4.

If the Applicant wishes to subcontract the ESIA scope, the Applicant shall declare this Subconsultant at this stage and provide evidence that the Subconsultant is accredited by the Jordanian Ministry of Environment to perform this scope and has experience in similar wastewater projects.

Interested Applicants must provide information evidencing that they are qualified and experienced to perform those Services. For that purpose, documented evidence of recent (10 years or less) and similar services shall be submitted.

- 1. Professional registration certificates and equivalent qualifications as follows:
  - a) For Jordanian Consultants submitting an application as a single entity or lead of the joint venture:
- A valid classification certificates issued by the Government Tenders Department, certifying minimum grade (1A) in Water and Wastewater.

## b) For Non-Jordanian Consultants submitting an application as a single entity or lead of the joint venture:

To be eligible for participation, non-Jordanian Consultants submitting an application as a single entity or lead of the joint venture must meet the following requirements:

- **Project Experience**: Completion of at least <u>six projects</u> demonstrating comprehensive, diverse, and high-quality work in the water and sanitation sector.
- **Staff Expertise**: The Consultant must have a sufficient number (at least 3) of highly experienced senior engineers specialized in the water and sanitation sector.
- **Quality Management System**: The Consultant must have an implemented and recognized quality management system, such as ISO 9001.
- **Financial Capacity**: The Consultant must demonstrate adequate financial capacity by fulfilling the following conditions:
- o A minimum capital of one hundred thousand (100,000) Jordanian Dinars; and Submission of a bank-issued proof of financial solvency, along with the most recent audited financial statement.

## 2. Experience certificates as follows:

The Applicant shall provide certificates of satisfactory completion (or proof of ongoing implementation with at least 50% invoiced) for relevant projects carried out within the last 10 years prior to the application submission date (i.e., from 2015 to 2025), as described below:

**Criterion 1.** Contracts for conducting feasibility studies for water or wastewater projects financed by international donors, with a minimum project budget of €15 million euros and ideally including a technical assistance component.

A brief description of the activities performed by the Consultant under each reference is required for this criterion.

**Criterion 2.** Contracts for carrying out the detailed design services, preparation of tender documents and assistance to procurement of works including as a minimum:

- Wastewater network extensions above 70 km, ideally with house connections extending beyond 15 km
- End users' wastewater connections above 2000 units

Such works contracts should preferably use the FIDIC Red Book model or an equivalent contractual model.

A brief description of the activities performed by the Consultant under each reference is required for this criterion.

**Criterion 3.** Demonstrated experience in establishing a Gender Action Plan for public utilities or development projects.

**Criterion 4.** Demonstrated experience in establishing ESIA and ESMP following international standards (World Bank ESS) for water-related projects projects

*Criterion 5.* Experience in preparing Tender Documents for Consulting Services including supervsion of works (potable water or wastewater infrastructures) using FIDIC model.

**Criterion 6.** Experience in Tender Documents preparation of Construction works of networks (potable water or wastewater) using FIDIC" models ("Red Book" or "Yellow Book") still ongoing (at least 50% invoiced) or completed over the last 10 years preceding the date of submission of Application with a contract value of at least EUR 15,000,000, ideally including assistance to procurement

A brief description of the activities performed by the Consultant under each reference is required for this criterion.

*Criterion 7.* Experience in Wastewater networks Projects design & procurement, in Jordan or in MENA region.

## 3. General organization and proposed organization for carrying out the services

The Client will also take into account for the evaluation of the applications the following items:

**Criterion 8.** Presence of local representatives/partners in the JV, ideally with proven experience in working with the said representatives / partners;

### 4. Others requested documents

- A covering Letter, comprising the firm's name, address, contact person, telephone, fax and email, if applicable mention of the association with a letter of authorization to sign the Expression of Interest.
- Brief description of the Applicant's general organization, available technical and human resources (maximum 10 pages).
- Statement of Integrity, Eligibility and Environmental and Social Responsibility (Appendix to the Request for Expressions of Interest) must be also submitted with the Application, duly signed and unaltered. In case of association, the document shall be signed by each member of the proposed JV.

Among the submitted applications, WAJ will shortlist a maximum of six (6) Applicants, to whom the Request for Proposals to carry out the Services shall be sent.

#### 5. Submission of Applications

The Expressions of Interest must be submitted (only hard copy) to the address below no later than: [3<sup>rd</sup> of December, 2025], Time: [12:00 PM, Jordanian time], one (1) original copy, (1) hard copy and one (1) soft-copy USB Flash Drive.

Water Authority of Jordan

Shmeisani - Behind the Marriott Hotel

WAJ Tender Department, 6th Floor

PO Box 5012, Amman 11181

City: Amman 11181, Jordan

Attn: Eng. Rua Alsoub , Eng. Walla Al-smadi

Interested Applicants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours, No later than **16/11/2025** :Rua Alsoub@mwi.gov.jo and Walla Alsmadi@mwi.gov.jo.

interested companies can download and fill the Expression of Interest (EOI) which can be accessed online: <a href="https://www.mwi.gov.jo/AR/Modules/tenders">https://www.mwi.gov.jo/AR/Modules/tenders</a>

- The awarded Bidder shall bear the costs of the advertisement in the gazette for one time.

Secretary General / WAJ Eng. Sufyan T. Bataineh

## Appendix to The Request for Expressions of Interest (To be sumitted with the application, signed and unaltered)

## Statement of Integrity, Eligibility and Environmental and Social Responsibility

Reference name of the Proposal: Sukhneh Wastewater Project - Wastewater Networks Extension - Consulting Services for the update of preliminary studies, detailed design and tender documents; assistance in the tendering process and preparation of the tender documents for works supervision

(the "Contract")

To: the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) (the "Contracting Authority")

- 1. We recognize and accept that Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") only finances the projects of the Contracting Authority subject to its own conditions, as set out in the Financing Agreement that directly or indirectly binds it to the Contracting Authority. The Contracting Authority retains exclusive responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the procurement process and performance of the Contract. Consequently, no legal exists between AFD and our company, our joint venture, and our subcontractors. The Contracting Authority may also mean the Client, Employer or Purchaser, as the case may be, for the procurement of works, goods, plants, equipment, consulting services, or non-consulting services.
- 2. We hereby certify that neither we, nor any person acting on our behalf,<sup>1</sup> nor any of the members of our joint venture, nor any of our subcontractors, are in any of the following situations:
  - 2.1 Being bankrupt, wound up or ceasing our activities, having our activities administered by the courts, having entered into receivership, or being in any analogous situation arising from any similar procedure;
  - 2.2 Having been, within the past five years, subject to a final administrative sanction, a final conviction issued by a competent authority, or any other non-court resolution<sup>2</sup> having notably an extinctive effect on public action, either (i) in the country where we are constituted, (ii) in the country of performance of the Contract, (iii) in the context of the procurement or performance of an AFD-financed Contract, (iv) pronounced by a European Union institution, or (v) pronounced by a competent authority in France, for:
    - a) Prohibited Practices, as defined in Article 6.1 below, or for any other offence committed in the context of the procurement or performance of a Contract (in the event of such sanction, conviction or non-court resolution, we may attach additional information to this Statement of Integrity, such as a compliance program, showing that we (or the person acting on our behalf, the member of our joint venture, or our subcontractor) consider that this sanction, judgement or non-court resolution is not relevant in the context of the Contract, where applicable);
    - b) Participation in a criminal organization, terrorist offences or offences related to terrorist activities, child labor, or other offences related to human trafficking;
    - Having created an entity in a different jurisdiction (i) with the the intention of avoiding tax or social obligations, or any other legal obligation applicable in the jurisdiction of its registered office, central administration or principal place of business, or (ii) for being an entity created with the intention of avoiding such obligations;
  - 2.3 Having been subject within the past five years to a Contract termination fully settled against us for significant or persistent breach of our contractual obligations during the performance of

Directors, (including any person who is a member of the administrative management or supervisory body, or with powers of representation, decision or control), employees, or agents (be them declared or not).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Including the Judicial Public Interest Agreement (CJIP), a decision following an Appearance on Prior Recognition of Guilt (CPRC), a negotiated resolution agreement, or any other similar form of transaction terminating criminal proceedings.

- the Contract, unless this termination was challenged and dispute resolution is still pending or has not confirmed a full settlement against us;
- 2.4 Having been declared ineligible by one of the multilateral development banks signatories to the Mutual Recognition Agreement of 9 April 2010<sup>3</sup> (in the event of such ineligibility, we may attach additional information to this Statement of Integrity showing that we consider that such ineligibility is not relevant in the context of the Contract, where applicable);
- 2.5 Not having fulfilled our fiscal obligations relating to the payments of our taxes or social contributions in accordance with the legal provisions of our country of incorporation or of the country of the Contracting Authority;
- 2.6 Having created falsified documents or committed misrepresentation when providing the information requested by the Contracting Authority in the context of the procurement and award process for this Contract.
- 3. We hereby certify that neither we, nor any party acting on our behalf<sup>4</sup>, nor any members of our joint venture, , , nor any of our subcontractors, nor any of our direct or indirect shareholders, nor any of our subsidiaries acting with our knowledge or consent:
  - Are directly or indirectly subject to, controlled by a person or an entity subject to, or acting in the name or on behalf of a person or entity subject to **individual sanctions measures** adopted by the United Nations, the European Union and/or France;
  - b. Are directly or indirectly subject to, controlled by a person or an entity subject to, or acting in the name or on behalf of a person or entity subject to **sectoral sanctions measures** adopted by the United Nations, the European Union and/or France;
  - c. Are ineligible for the implementation of the Project owing to any other international sanctions measures pronounced by the United Nations, the European Union or France.
- 4. We hereby certify that neither we, nor any party acting on our behalf,<sup>2</sup> nor any of the members of our joint venture, nor any of our subcontractors, are [nor have been *(in the case of refinancing for a Contract already awarded)*] in any of the following situations of conflict of interest:
  - 4.1 Being a shareholder controlling the Contracting Authority or a subsidiary controlled by the Contracting Authority, unless the resulting conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of AFD and resolved to its satisfaction.
  - 4.2 Having business or family relations with a member of the Contracting Authority's services involved in the procurement process or the supervision of the resulting Contract, unless the resulting conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of AFD and resolved to its satisfaction;
  - 4.3 Controlling or being controlled by another applicant, bidder or consultant, or being under common with another applicant, bidder or consultant, receiving subsidies from another applicant, bidder or consultant, or granting subsidies to another applicant, bidder or consultant, directly or indirectly, having the same legal representative as another applicant, bidder or consultant, maintaining direct or indirect contacts with another applicant, bidder or consultant allowing us to (i) have given and/or give access to information contained in our respective applications, bids or proposals likely to distort competition (ii) influence them, or (iii) influence the decisions of the Contracting Authority;
  - 4.4 Being engaged for a consulting services mission which, by its nature, is or may be in conflict with the mission envisaged for the Contracting Authority;
  - 4.5 Having prepared ourselves, being or having been associated with a natural or legal person who has prepared, specifications, terms of reference or other documents that have been used for the procurement process in question, and that contain provisions likely to favor an application, bid or proposal;

World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Directors, (including any person who is a member of the administrative management or supervisory body, or with powers of representation, decision or control), employees or agents (be them declared or not).

- 4.6 Having or having had access to, having prepared ourselves, being or having been associated with a natural or legal person who has or has had access to or prepared, specifications, plans, calculations, studies, or other documents that have not been communicated to all the applicants, bidders or consultants in the context of the present procurement procedure, and which thereby confer us an unfair competitive advantage;
- 4.7 In the case of a procurement procedure for works, plants, equipment or goods, having been selected ourselves or proposed to be selected (or any of our subsidiary companies having been or being proposed to be selected) to carry out supervision or inspection of the services in the context of this Contract.
- 5. If we are a state-owned entity or a public enterprise, to participate in a competitive procurement process, we certify that we have legal and financial autonomy and that we operate under commercial laws and regulations.
- 6. In the context of the procurement and performance of the Contract:
  - 6.1 Neither we, nor any party acting on our behalf,<sup>2</sup> nor any members of our joint venture, nor any of our subcontractors, have committed or shall commit a Prohibited Practice as defined in the document entitled "AFD Group's Policy to Prevent and Combat Prohibited Practices" available on AFD's Website.<sup>5</sup>
  - 6.2 Neither we, nor or any party acting on our behalf,<sup>2</sup> nor any members of our joint venture, nor any of our subcontractors, shall acquire or provide [have acquired or provided (in the case of refinancing for a Contract already awarded)] in sectors subject to an embargo by the United Nations, the European Union or France.
- 7. We hereby undertake to, and we undertake to ensure that any party acting on our behalf,<sup>2</sup> any members of our joint venture, and any of our subcontractors undertake to:
  - 7.1 Comply with the environmental standards recognized by the international community, including the international conventions for the protection of the environment and, in particular, take all reasonable steps to avoid or limit negative effects on vegetation, biodiversity, soils, groundwater and surface water, and on persons and property resulting from pollution, noise, vibration, traffic and other effects resulting from our activities, in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable in the country of performance of the Contract.
  - 7.2 Implement measures to mitigate environmental and social risks when they are indicated in the environmental and social management plan provided by the Contracting Authority, and ensure that the emissions, surface discharge and effluents produced by our activities respect the limits, specifications or requirements applicable to the Contract.
  - 7.3 Respect the rights of workers related to wages, working hours, rest periods and vacations, overtime, minimum age, regular payments, compensation and benefits, in accordance with the standards recognized by the international community, including the fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO), in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable in the country of performance of the Contract; indicate these elements in a document annexed to the employment contracts of our employees and made available to the Contracting Authority; and respect and facilitate the rights of workers to organize themselves and set up a complaints management mechanism for direct or indirect workers.
  - 7.4 Implement practices for non-discrimination and equal opportunities, and ensure the prohibition of child labor and forced labor.
  - 7.5 Keep a record for each member of the local staff recording the hours worked by each person, the type of work, the wages paid and the training undertaken, and ensure that these records are available at all times to be inspected by the Contracting Authority and the authorized representatives of the government, in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable to the protection of personal data in the country of performance of the Contract.
- 8. We, any party acting on our behalf,<sup>2</sup> the members of our joint venture, our subcontractors, our direct or indirect shareholders, and our subsidiaries, authorize AFD to conduct investigations and, in particular, inspect the documents and accounting records relating to the procurement and performance of the Contract, including, but not limited to, our internal processes and rules related

For informational purposes, this policy can be accessed via the following link: <a href="https://www.afd.fr/en/combating-corruption">https://www.afd.fr/en/combating-corruption</a>.

to the respect of international sanctions pronounced by the United Nations, the European Union and/or France, and to have them verified auditors appointed by AFD.

9. We declare that we have paid, or that we shall pay, the commissions, benefits, fees, gratuities or charges relating to the procurement procedure or the performance of the Contract to the following third party/parties (for example, an intermediary/agent)(\*):

Name of beneficiary	Contact details	Purpose	Amount (indicate the currency)

10. We undertake to promptly inform the Contracting Authority, which shall inform AFD, of any change of circumstance regarding the sections above, including in case of any sanctions or embargo measures adopted by the United Nations, the European Union and/or France, after we have signed the present Statement.

Name:	In the capacity of:
	nd on behalf of:6
Signature:	
Dated:	

<sup>(\*):</sup> If no amount has been paid or is to be paid, indicate "None".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> In the case of a joint venture, insert the name of the joint venture. The person signing the bid, proposal or application on behalf of the bidder, consultant or applicant, shall attach a power of attorney from such bidder, consultant or applicant.

## **Matrix for Evaluating Expressions of Interest**

The table below will be used to establish the shortlist of Applicants.

One table must be completed for each Applicant. For each experience submitted by the Applicant, check the boxes of the criteria which are met by the experience.

Name of the Applicant:	

No.	Criteria	Requirement
Professional registration certificates and	For Jordanian Consultants submitting an application as a single entity or lead of the joint venture:  - A valid classification certificates issued by the Government Tenders Department, certifying minimum grade (1A) in Water and Wastewater.	Pass/Fail
equivalent qualifications	For Non-Jordanian Consultants submitting an application as a single entity or lead of the joint venture  To be eligible for participation, non-Jordanian Consultants submitting an application as a single entity or lead of the joint venture must meet the following requirements:  - Project Experience: Completion of at least six projects demonstrating comprehensive, diverse, and high-quality work in the water and sanitation sector.  - Staff Expertise: The Consultant must have a sufficient number (at least 3) of highly experienced senior engineers specialized in the water and sanitation sector.  - Quality Management System: The Consultant must have an implemented and recognized quality management system, such as ISO 9001. Financial Capacity: The Consultant must demonstrate adequate financial capacity by fulfilling the following conditions:  - A minimum capital of one hundred thousand (100,000) Jordanian Dinars; and - Submission of a bank-issued proof of financial solvency, along with the most recent audited financial statement from the year preceding the classification application.	Pass/Fail

Name of the Applicant:

No.	Criteria	Relevant references				
		[Experience A] <sup>1</sup>	[Experience B]	[Experience C]	[Etc.]	Total <sup>2</sup>
1.	Contracts for conducting feasibility studies for water or wastewater projects financed by international donors, with a minimum value of €15 million euros and ideally including a technical assistance component.					
	A brief description of the activities performed by the Consultant under each reference is required for this criterion.					
	Scoring System: - 0 reference: Fail - Maximum number of references: 5 within the last 10 years (2015–2025) Five (5) points awarded per reference Maximum score for this criterion: 25 points.					
2.	Contracts for carrying out the detailed design services, preparation of tender documents and assistance to procurement of works including as a minimum: Wastewater network extensions above 70 km, ideally with house connections extending beyond 15 kmEnd users' wastewater connections above 2000 unitsSuch works contracts should preferably use the FIDIC Red Book model or an equivalent contractual model.  A brief description of the activities performed by the Consultant under each reference is required for this criterion.					
	Scoring System:  - 0 reference: Fail - Maximum number of references: 5 within the last 10 years (2015–2025) Five (5) points awarded per reference Maximum score for this criterion: 25 points.					
3.	Demonstrated experience in establishing a Gender Action Plan for public utilities or development projects.					
	Scoring System: - No reference: 0					

Each row will be a separate experience which is listed in the application.
 The "total" for each column indicates the number of experiences which meet the criterion.

	- Maximum number of references: 2 within the last 7 years (2018–2025).		
	- Four (4) points awarded per reference.		
	- Maximum score for this criterion: 8 points.		
4.	Demonstrated experience in establishing ESIA and ESMP following international		
	standards (World Bank ESS) for water-related projects projects.		
	Scoring System:		
	- No reference: 0		
	- Maximum number of references 4 within the last 10 years (2015–2025).		
	- Two (2) points awarded per reference.		
	- Maximum score for this criterion: 8 points		
5.	Experience in preparing Tender Documents for Consulting Services including		
	supervsion of works (potable water or wastewater infrastructures) using FIDIC		
	model.		
	Scoring System:		
	- No reference: 0		
	- Maximum number of references: 4 within the last 10 years (2015–2025).		
	- Two (2.5) points awarded per reference.		
	- Maximum score for this criterion: 10 points.		
6.	Experience in Tender Documents preparation, of Construction works of networks		
0.	(potable water or wastewater) using FIDIC" models ("Red Book", "Pink Book" or		
	"Yellow Book") with a contract value of at least EUR 15,000,000, ideally including		
	assistance to procurement		
	addictance to production		
	A brief description of the activities performed by the Consultant under each		
	reference is required for this criterion.		
	reference is required for this chieffori.		
	Scoring System:		
	- No reference: 0		
	- Maximum number of references: 4 within the last 10 years (2015–2025).		
	- Two (2.5) points awarded per reference.		
	- Maximum score for this criterion: 10 points.		
7.	Experience in Wastewater networks Projects design & procurement, in Jordan		
/.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
	or in MENA region.		
	Sooring Systems		
	Scoring System:		

	<ul> <li>No reference: 0</li> <li>Maximum number of references: 4 within the last 10years (2015–2025).</li> <li>Two (2) points awarded per reference.</li> <li>Maximum score for this criterion: 8 points.</li> </ul>			
8	Presence of local representatives/partners in the JV, ideally withproven experience in working with the said representatives / partners			
	Scoring System:  - No reference: 0  - Maximum number of references: 2 within the last 10 years (2015–2025).  - Two (3) points awarded per reference.  - Maximum score for this criterion: 6 points.			

## Maximum Scoring: 100

The selection of Applicants to be shortlisted shall follow the rules as defined herebelow:

- The Applicant must have at least one compliant Contract in criteria 1 and 2; otherwise, the application will not be considered.
- The ranking of Applicants is based on the resulting number of points.
- For a Joint Venture, the experiences of all members will be added up for a combined total.
- If more than six candidates are prequalified based on the above scoring system, only the top six (6) candidates will be selected according to the number of references for Criterion 1. In case of a tie, the number of references for Criterion 2 will be used as a tiebreaker.

<sup>\*\*</sup> References concerning Criterion nbr 2 may also include references concerning criteria nbr. 5,6 a/o 7

## **ANNEX 1. Project Information**

#### **Context**

Sukhneh is located in the Zarqa governorate in Jordan about 23 km North East of Amman, and falls administratively within the Al-Hāshimiyah district. The Zarqa governorate has witnessed important population growth in the past 20 years. Migration and influx of refugees from Syria and Iraq in the 2010s have bolstered needs in terms of wastewater infrastructure (around 90,000 refugees in 2022 across the governorate registered with UNHCR, noting that the situation is volatile). The latest 2024 Jordanian population census by municipalities shows that Zarqa is the third most populous governorate in Jordan (after Amman and Irbid), with 1,664,287 inhabitants distributed across 8 districts. The Hāshimiyah district alone has 98,908 inhabitants, with a notable disparity between men and women (47,434 women and 51,474 men).

In 2024, Sukhneh had a population of 25,400 inhabitants, including 7,650 Palestinian refugees, housed in a Palestinian refugee's camp located within the city in a triangular area of 8 ha, managed by the Department of Palestinian Affairs with a support from UNRWA.

The northern outskirts of Zarqa city, where Sukhneh is located, are part of the Northern Zarqa Catchment Area (NZCA) which is currently not served by any sewerage network. In Sukhneh, properties are generally equipped with cesspits or septic tanks that are emptied by private desludging tankers. Inadequate maintenance of these septic tanks is posing risks to groundwater quality.

Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) is responsible for developing and ensuring the water and sanitation services in Jordan. The operation and maintenance is delegated to public operators across the country, including Miyahuna – Jordan Water Company in the Central governorates (Amman, Zarqa, Madaba, Balqa).

The National Wastewater Masterplan of 2021 has proposed to connect the Northern Zarqa Catchment Area to the future Wadi Zarqa WWTP (Located 4 Kms approximately north west Sukhneh) rather than As-Samra WWTP, as part of a new system of pumping and transmission to which the Sukhneh Wastewater Network project needs to connect. The Wadi Zarqa project will be the 2nd largest WWTP in Jordan. Phase 1 of the plant will have a capacity of 150,000m3/d to cover the needs for up to 2034, and Phase 2 will expand the capacity to 350,000m3/day to cover the needs to 2045. Phase 1 is expected to be financed by EIB and by USAID. The WWTP's execution schedule remains to be confirmed.

Furthermore, the Italian Cooperation (AICS) has decided in 2024 to extend a financing for the sanitation of the refugee camp located inside the city. This project will be implemented by the Department of Palestinian Affairs (DPA, part of the MoFA). The update of the feasibility study fir this project is to be launched in Q3 2025 under a UNICEF financing. Therefore, this area (the refugee camp) will be excluded from the scope of the AFD-financed project.

## Main Objectives of the project

The Sukhneh Wastewater Network Project aims to create a new sewerage system (networks, pumping station if required) to connect the population of Sukhneh to the projected Wadi Zarqa WWTP.

The project is expected to achieve the following objectives:

- 1. Contributing to the reduction of territorial and social inequalities in access to sanitation by increasing access to safely managed sanitation services in unserved areas of the Zarqa governorate;
- 2. Contributing to the preservation of water bodies potentially degraded by faulty individual sanitation installations;

- 3. Supporting climate change adaptation by allowing effluent to be treated up to reuse standard, and made available through Wadi Zarqa and the King Talal Dam;
- 4. Contributing to strengthening the capacity of the water institutions (WAJ and Miyahuna) in adressing gender inequalities, at the institutional and/or at project beneficiaries level.

The scope and activities of Sukhneh Wastewater Network Project will be confirmed by the updated feasibility study. It is expected to include:

#### 1) Works

The installation of sewer lines, house connections (public part up to the property line) and if required, pump station. The existing study (Dorsch 2017, without the camp) proposes a total of:

- 140 km of network,
- 2,400 house connections.

# Existing studies for a Sukhneh sanitation project and recent developments

A sanitation project in Sukhneh has been studied up to tender documents preparation (MWH, 2012 completed by Ruqn al Handasa, 2015). Dorsch has reviewed the documentation in 2017. The project relies on a connection towards the As Samra WWTP, and is based on 2010 population figures and projections, which need to be updated with the recent evolutions (organic growth and refugees). Engineering studies shared with AFD did not analyse the social fabric of the project area and its specific vulnerabilities. At this stage, the willingness to connect and to pay for the service remains unclear.

The National WW Masterplan of 2021 has proposed to connect the area of Sukhneh the Wadi Zarqa WWTP rather than As Samra, as part of a new system of pumping and transmission to which the project needs to connect.

The project therefore needs to take into account:

- Updated population numbers and projections, consistent with the time horizon of the WW Master plan.
- A new hydraulic connection to Wadi Zarqa through a new gravity arrangement to be confirmed,
- The latest potential developments on the construction of an AICS funded wastewater collection system for the Palestinian refugee camp in the city,
- An assessment of the social situation in the city, and potential support through the project to secure the actual connection of the population.
- Anassessment of social and gender vulnerabilities of the project area, with the aim to assess the financial capacity of the population to connect to the network, and explore the best approach to improve access to the future network. This assessment will also evaluate the needs of the WAJ and Miyahuna in terms of gender awareness, with the objective to explore possibilities for institutional capacity-building on this matter.