



National Implementation Committee for Effective Integrated Wastewater Management in Jordan – NICE

Key findings

Establishment of the inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral committee NICE: National Implementation Committee for Effective Integrated Wastewater Management in Jordan

Establishment of the NICE "Implementation-Office"; in the Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

NICE regulation adopted by the Jordanian Cabinet:

The "National Framework for Decentralized Wastewater Management in Jordan", and

The Decentralized Wastewater Management Policy of Jordan - first policy of its kind in the Arab World.

NICE proposed:

Hot spots of groundwater contamination from domestic wastewater

Recommendations for urban wastewater

Site and technology selection methodology

Effluent standards for treatment plants serving less than 5000 population equivalents

National approach to operation and maintenance

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI) and the SMART joint research project, funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) jointly prepared and support the implementation process of integrated wastewater management systems across rural and urban settlement areas.

In 2013, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation has established an inter-ministerial National Implementation Committee for Effective Integrated Wastewater Management (NICE) in order to develop regulatory and administrative tools for implementing integrated wastewater management systems in Jordan.

The committee unites decision-makers from various Jordanian ministries and authorities as well as other important national stakeholders.

The NICE Implementation Office in the Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation is the committee's management unit. It facilitates and moderates the NICE work flow and framework setting process.

The NICE office supports the committee and the technical working groups by providing scientific and

NICE Steering Committee



technical advice, administrative support, and by moderating the inter-ministerial process from a neutral point of view.

The committee structures its thematic work in technical working groups on various aspects of sustainable wastewater management: groundwater protection, technology selection, urban planning, participatory planning, economic feasibility, standards & monitoring and operation & maintenance.

By 2016 NICE produced key elements for integrated wastewater solutions in Jordan incl. technology and reuse standards, procedures for site development, prioritized implementation areas in Jordan, operation & maintenance schemes which were compiled to the National Framework for Decentralized Wastewater Management in Jordan.

SMART - Sustainable Management of Available Water Resources with Innovative Technologies in the Lower Jordan Valley - A region, shared by Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinian Territories, that is characterized by severe water scarcity and has a long history of political tensions.

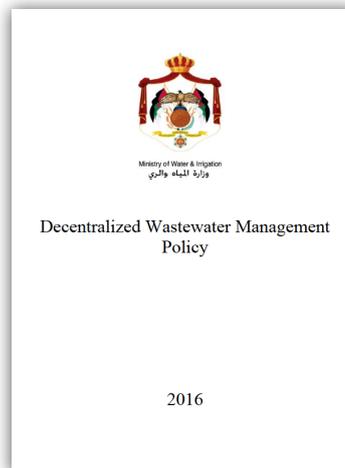


These contributions have enabled Jordan to take part in instruments of international development cooperation for integrated wastewater management systems focusing on rural and suburban areas.

Based on the National Framework a draft for a Decentralized Wastewater Management Policy was developed by the MWI with support from the NICE Implementation-Office.

In 2016, the Jordanian Cabinet adopted both, the „National Framework for Decentralized Wastewater Management in Jordan“ and the „Decentralized Wastewater Management Policy“ - the first policy for decentralized wastewater management in the Arab world.

UNDP rates the Jordanian Policy for Decentralized Wastewater Management as a „significant step“ of Jordan towards the use of wastewater as a resource.



Since 2017, the committee has taken over the coordination of investment projects targeting integrated wastewater infrastructure in Jordan and upon request of the National Committee, the NICE-Office continues its work (01.06.2017 – 30.11.2019).

Strategies will be developed and coordinated to further implement integrated wastewater management concepts in Jordan.

The current objectives of the National Committee are:

- (i) Development of a framework for certification of wastewater treatment plants (≤ 5000 PE) and for O&M personnel for integrated wastewater systems in Jordan.
- (ii) Recommendations for the use of integrated wastewater management concepts towards implementing the SDG 6 reuse target for Jordan (SDG 6).
- (iii) Development of a draft directive on the use of IWRM concepts in rural and suburban settlements with refugee influx (host communities).



References and further Reading

- The Decentralized Wastewater Management Policy and a summary of the National Framework for Decentralized Wastewater Management in Jordan can be found at the homepage of the Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation (www.mwi.gov.jo).
- Further Information about NICE and the Implementation-Office Amman can be found at: www.ufz.de/nice-jordan