



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

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WATER SHORTAGE IN JORDAN

VIDEO

MS. GOATS
WS. FARMERS TALKING, BY A
DRIED UP IRRIGATION CHANNEL.
CU. HAND TURNING FAUCET
MS. MAN AT CANAL STREAM
ARGUING AMONG THEMSELVES

HAREEM EL-NASER, FORMER
MINISTER OF WATER, ON
CAMERA

WS. WOMAN MAKING BREAD
CU. WOMAN TOSS BREAD INTO
FIRE
CU. FARMER PICKING BEANS

WS. RUINS IN DESERTED
VILLAGE

AUDIO

NARRATION

Farmers are preparing for another summer of water rationing in Jordan....already one of the world's top 10 water-poor countries.

Here every drop is precious.

And when there are shortages, tempers flares.

(12)

Hareem El-Naser is the former Minister of Water.

(2.10)

HAREEM EL-NASER (ENGLISH)

M

"Water is very important in this part of the world.

Without having enough water resources we will

not be able to continue with our economic

development." (8)

NARRATION

Unlike many of its neighbors, Jordan is not rich with oil. And although 80 percent of the country is desert...in the poorest rural communities,

agriculture is the principal source of employment.

(11)

Yet as water shortages grow, more and more rural communities are turning into ghost towns and

WS. ABANDONED TRACTOR/ DRY
LANDSCAPE.

AKEEF AL-ZOUBI, MINISTER OF
AGRICULTURE, ON CAMERA
CU. PAN UP ON DRIED UP EARTH

MS. PEOPLE WALKING/STREET
CU. MAN DRINKING TEA
CU. PAN OF PEOPLE/VAN
PASSING – AMMAN STREET
ZOOM-AMMAN CITYSCAPE

WS. FARMER WORKING ON AN
OLIVE TREE
CU. IRRIGATION TUBE

MOUNTAIN/ DESERT TERRAIN
MS. RAINING ON ROCKS
MS. WATER POURING INTO POOL
WS. DESERT LANDSCAPE

MS. BUCKET DROP INTO A WELL
CU. BUCKET/POURING WATER
WS. MAN DIGGING A HOLE
WS. LABOURER CEMENTING
CISTERN WALL.
WS. GREEN LANDSCAPE
CU. PAN- MOUNTAIN TO OLIVE
WS. MINI DAM / HERDER AND
SHEEP/DONKEY DRINKS

abandoned farm land into deserts. (8)

Akeef Al-Zoubi is the Minister of Agriculture.
(2.10)

AKEEF AL-ZOUBI (ENGLISH) **M**

*"If farmers don't work the land it becomes wasted
and over time it loses its fertility, eventually
becomes a desert."* (7.12)

NARRATION

This leads in turn to a steady migration of rural
people to cities...like Amman...where waves of
refugees from conflicts in the Middle east
contribute to overcrowding and to further migration
abroad. (14)

But, four years ago, with support from IFAD, the
UN agency devoted to fighting rural poverty, the
government began providing farmers with the tools
to help them remain on the land. (11)

In Jordan's arid south...what little water there is
comes from rainfall but 92 percent simply
evaporates unable to penetrate the sun baked
surface of the earth. (11)

The IFAD-supported program encouraged farmers
to collect rainwater by building cisterns...and
check dams, which not only reduces the damage
caused by flash floods but spreads water over
larger areas that could be used to grow crops.
(15.20)

Thirty mini dams have also been built giving these
Bedouin herders an inexpensive source of water

MS. DONKEY DRINKS WATER
MS. ISTAPEG PRUNING OLIVE
MS. ISTAPEG'S SON WORKING
WS. ISTAPEG HOEING
CU. HOSEPIPE WATERING AN
OLIVE TREE

ISTAPEG ABDALGABEAR, A
FARMER, TALKS ON CAMERA

CU. KETTLE ON A STOVE
WS. ISTAPEG IN HER KITCHEN
CU. OLIVES AND BREAD
WS. FAMILY SITS DOWN TO EAT

WS. FARMER WALKING BY A
WALL
CU. FARMER WALKS PAST
TAWFIQ EL ZABRI, IFAD, TALKS
ON CAMERA

LANDSCAPE.

UN LOGO

for their animals. (7.24)

Istapeg Abdalgabear is one of 5,000 farmers now taking part in the program. Last year, she built a cistern to capture and store water during the rainy season. Water she'll use this summer to keep her olive trees alive. (14)

ISTAPEG ABDALGABEAR (ARABIC) F

"Building the cistern really has made a difference and now the olive trees get enough water...I think it really has saved us." (7)

NARRATION

With a sustainable water supply and more than 100 olive trees, Istapeg believes she and her two children have a future here.// The kind of future that Tawfiq El Zabri of IFAD sees as a necessity. (13)

TAWFIQ EL ZABRI (ENGLISH) M

"If farmers are not supported and they find their only alternative is to move to the towns and cities, then all of Jordan will become a desert and that would make, of-course, also the water resources more vulnerable. It's not really an option for Jordan." (13)

NARRATION

This report was prepared by Declan McCormack for the United Nations. (4)