**The Housing and Urban Development Corporation**

**Human-based housing strategies and SDGs / goal 11**

By attending Habitat III 2016, Jordan has accepted the new Urban Agenda as a reference for the housing and urban policies and strategies. goal 11 of the SDGs being the main monitoring tool for the actions taken to make our cities inclusive , safe , resilient and sustainable..

As such Jordan in it's national habitat committee included the relevant stake holders of the sector. The Habitat III committee is chaired by H E the Minister of Public Works and Housing, with the following members:

* The Housing and Urban Development Corporation; Director General
* Mayor of Greater Amman Municipality (the capital)
* The Aqaba special Economic Authority; chairperson
* Ministry of Interior Affairs – Local Development Directorate; Governor
* Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation; Secretary General
* Ministry of Municipal Affairs; Secretary General
* Ministry of Environment; Secretary General
* Ministry of Water ; Secretary General
* Ministry of Finance ; Secretary General
* Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources; Secretary General
* Department of land and Survey: Director General
* Department of Statistics; Director General
* National Committee for the advancement of Women; Secretary General
* Higher Population Council; Secretary General
* Jordanian Engineers Association; President
* Jordanian Contractors Association; President
* Jordanian Housing Investors Association; President
* Jordan Banks Society: Director
* Public Security Department; deputy Director for Traffic
* Rapporteur ; Housing and Urban Development Corporation

The committee reflects Jordan's commitment to engage the main stakeholders of the sector in the policy making and future perspective.

Housing policies in Jordan were characterised by responding to the challenges of the social and economic changes that affected the housing need in general. The housing policies goal has always been to meet the demand for a adequate decent affordable housing to all groups of the society.

On the other hand, The housing market in Jordan has been severely impacted by the Syria crisis. By 2016, the 35%[[1]](#footnote-2) increase in the population of Jordan following the influx of Syrian refugees into the country and the stagnant housing market growth[[2]](#footnote-3), inevitably affected the availability and affordability of housing for Jordanians and Syrian refugees. Competition over access to housing has been consistently reported since the start of Syria crisis, to be one of the two main sources of social tension, particularly in the urban centers of Jordan.

As such, Jordan with its poor natural resources was facing a very complicated human problem; ensuring affordable adequate shelter to its citizens and its guests. though the ratio of marginal and mobile housing units in Jordan does not exceed %2 of the housing units, yet the government was always putting the effort to enhance the sector and sustain adequate living conditions to all. In a parallel issue, the Jordan Response Plan to respond to the Syrian influx adopted by the Jordanian government covering all sectors and all communities took into consideration the immense need for housing and urban resilience for all population in Jordan; assessment and several activities and/or projects were adopted by the government and international agencies and/or donors. the aim was primarily to enhance the living conditions of all people on the Jordanian land, and well importantly to ease the tension between the Jordanians and fellow refugees.

Moreover, the Housing and Urban Development Corporation , the government body responsible for the housing sector is sustaining a housing information system producing housing and urban indicators to guide policy makers on issues to that would enhance living conditions of all communities. Within this system goal 11 of the SDGs is being monitored wherever the data is being available. ( a list of housing and urban indicators is found on the official website: www.hudc.gov.jo)

Responding to the challenges facing the housing and urban sectors in Jordan, an evaluation is currently undergoing to take a deep look at all the issues that affect the access to affordable and adequate housing to all people across the country. The aim of the study is to support the development of a better functioning Housing System in Jordan, which responds to the needs of the different segments of the Jordanian population. In order to achieve this goal, the strategy will specify government policies and approaches to improve (a) the quantity and affordability of supply (particularly for lower-income households; and to improve household effective demand. The study will strengthen the institutional, regulatory and fiscal environment for the emergence of market-based solutions to the country's housing sector constraints and needs; and increase the access of low-income and severely disadvantaged households to more affordable and higher quality housing.The study is expected to come out with an action plan and several proceedings and/or amendments aiming at facilitating the accessibility of all to housing and urban facilities.

1. DOS, Population of the Kingdom, 2016 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. DOS, Building licenses census, 2006-2016 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)