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Connective Cities Urban Practitioners' Workshop

Towards Resilient and Liveable Urban District Development
14 - 16 November 2017 in Amman, Jordan

Partners of Connective Cities



In cooperation with

Municipal know-how
for host communities
in the Middle East
PROGRAMME



Disclaimer

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CONNECTIVE CITIES

International Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development

Cities are gaining increasing importance globally, and urban actors all over the world are facing similar urban development issues. Although local solutions are required, these issues are becoming increasingly relevant at the global level. While many innovative solutions for sustainable urban development exist at local level, for example in energy efficiency, mobility or municipal services, frequently these are not widely known. Often there is a lack of systematic access to these practical solutions. The pressing challenges posed by worldwide urbanisation call for efficient and innovative approaches, especially in the areas of good urban governance, integrated urban development, local economic development and municipal service provision – our four focal themes.

Connective Cities, the International Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development, is a joint venture between the Association of German Cities (Deutscher Städtetag), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the Service Agency Communities in One World (a division of Engagement Global). Connective Cities is supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Connective Cities provides demand-based services designed to improve cooperation among urban practitioners at global level. The platform enhances the sharing of good practice examples, expert knowledge and solution-oriented peer-to-peer consulting, and creates opportunities for partnerships among different stakeholders. Connective Cities creates a base for knowledge sharing and the development of transformative solutions in local contexts that are customised to local requirements for sustainable urban development.

By conducting dialogue events and project workshops, Connective Cities facilitates exchange among urban practitioners on relevant themes, and functions as a platform for a networking strategy. To implement the strategy Connective Cities also organises trainings, study tours, virtual discussion forums and webinars. Working within Connective Cities can result in new forms of cooperation among the actors involved. The platform also aims to facilitate the initiation of joint projects among urban practitioners from various local settings, in order to disseminate innovative solutions in sustainable urban development.

Background & Objectives



Jordan is a small country with a populated area mainly consisting of a narrow strip of highlands. About 50 % of the total population is concentrated in the Amman Zarqa Basin (ZAB), with over 2.5 million inhabitants. Especially the northern cities of Jordan have expanded rapidly inter alia due to the refugee influx over the last few years of about 1.4 million people. This situation exerts pressure on green spaces, municipal service supplies as well as social interaction.

Classified as one of the driest countries in the world, Jordan carries additional great burdens when dealing with climate change impacts. Along with population growth, the impacts of climate change, are creating a profound challenge for Jordanian cities. Water resources per capita are drastically decreasing because of both population growth and mismanagement. The integrated urban district development approach is a suitable way to meet the challenges and requirements for liveable cities. It creates meaningful linkages between social, ecological

and economic goals and involves the important actors from different departments of city administration, civil society and private sector, helping to realise a coherent and integrated concept.

Connective Cities, in cooperation with the four GIZ projects in Jordan “Improvement of Green Infrastructure in Jordan through Labour Intensive Measures”, “Protection of Environment and Biodiversity in Jordan II (PROTEB II)”, “Improving Living Conditions in Poverty stricken areas of Amman by implementing green infrastructure (ILCA)” and “Sustainable Use of Ecosystem Services in Jordan (EFK-ESS)“, organized this workshop. Aim of this event was to facilitate cities from Jordan and Germany to exchange experiences regarding integrated urban district development approaches which incorporate concepts of renewable energy, green infrastructure and public spaces and sustainable water management as pillars of resilient and liveable urban district development.

Methodology

The workshop was structured into three steps during the three workshop days, each building upon the other.

1. Firstly, two keynote speeches summarized the present situation on Urban Development in Jordan and Germany presenting the example of Munich. In the afternoon, a number of participants presented good practices from Jordan and German cities, in the topics urban district development, social and educational development, energetic restoration, open and green space management and decentralized water management. The excursion to the medical neighbourhood gave a first practical insight into urban renewal processes on district level.

2. On the second day, the practitioners identified and discussed actual challenges from their cities. Working in small groups, all participants contributed in a peer-to-peer advisory session to discuss and advise one another on the cases identified by the participants. The second day ended with an excursion to an Urban touristic area development at Sweimeh (Dead Sea), where questions of the interrelations to surrounding communities were discussed.

3. The third day of the workshop consisted primarily of the action planning session, where the practitioners developed outlines of potential actions in integrated urban planning, energy efficiency and solar power, waste water and water harvesting.

Starting Situation



The two keynotes of Ms. Iman Zaki and Mr. Gerhard Gross provided basic information for the further discussions.

Ms. Iman Zaki, *Urban Planning Specialist, former head of Master planning and Minister's Advisor for Master Planning at Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Amman, Jordan: Towards Resilient and Livable Urban District Development*

Ms. Zaki started her speech by pointing out the issue of urbanization as a major trend for sustainability, although Cities are heavily vulnerable to climate change.

As one of the most urbanized countries, Jordan faces various notable impacts like the increased pressure on energy consumption, municipal infrastructure and services; increasing water, soil and air pollution; the rising tension due to competition over limited resources as well as the urban sprawl.

Ms. Zaki stressed that despite the competitive edge in the region, the challenge now is to integrate principles of sustainable development into urban management, including adopting comprehensive planning approaches, improving services and resource management.

Jordan faces various challenges like the significant increase in the urban population, poor coordination between governmental planning agencies, a low-density development and sprawl, poor urban, peri-urban and

rural linkages, climate change as well as the increasing gap between availability of financial resources and municipal expenditure needs. To meet these urban challenges the Ministry of Municipal Affairs started a Master Planning Project in 2006. The main aim of this project was the preparation and endorsement of the National Land Use Plan as well as of holistic schemes for greater salt areas.

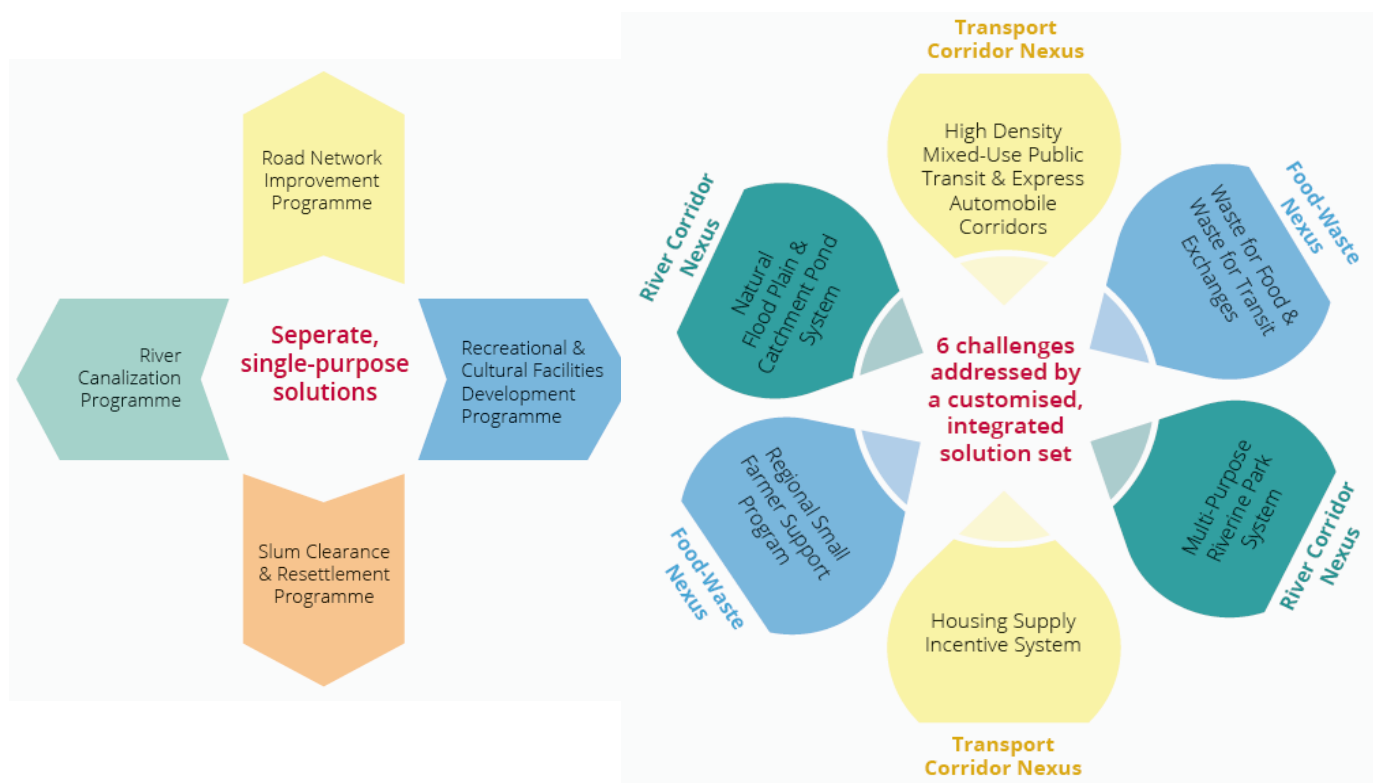
Concluding her speech Ms. Zaki determined that good planning practices are, by their nature, also climate smart planning practices.

Mr. Gerhard Gross, *Urban Development Expert, Studio Karonga, Gräfelfing Munich, Germany: Towards resilient and livable urban district development – the experience of Germany and the City of Munich*

After presenting different approaches for urban development, Mr. Gross focused on the different levels of National Urban Development Policy Charta. Therefore, he split the goals into the City/ Metropolitan Level and the District/ Neighbourhood Level.

On the city level, the main aim is an integrated urban development policy approach. The district level should hence focus on the deprived neighbourhoods.

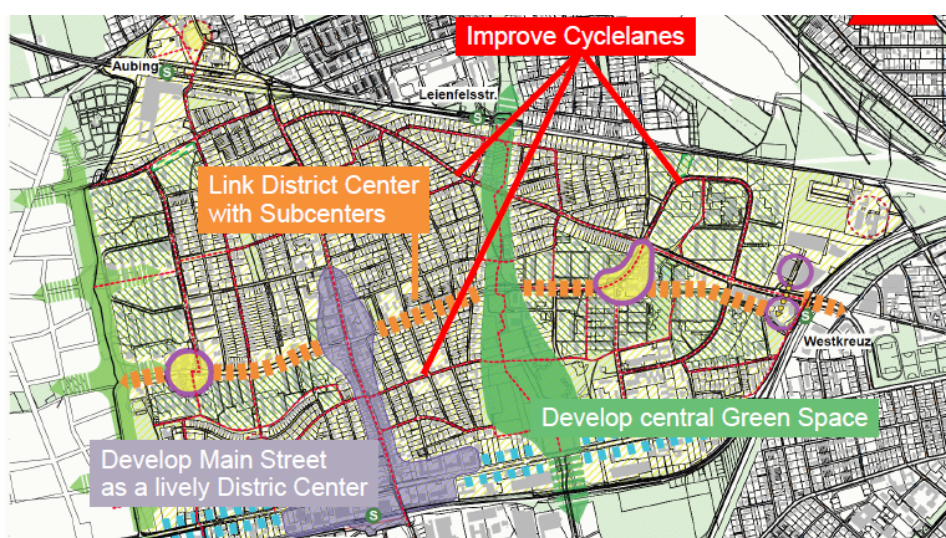
For Munich already exists a flexible framework for



Urban Nexus Approach © ICLEI, GIZ and TNP

future-oriented urban development. On the city level Munich already implemented an integrated planning approach (The Perspective Munich) which consists of four strategic and 16 thematic guidelines in the different sectors, one of it being the strengthening of individual parts of the city through district development. On the district level the integrated planning focuses on urban areas with special development needs involving a strong participation of the residents. Mr. Gross named the Social City Program Neuaubing as a good example (see picture).

To show the importance of integrated solutions Mr. Gross presented the Urban NEXUS Approach in comparison to the conventional approach. The last one implements separate, single-purpose solutions through administratively distinct units where the Urban NEXUS addresses multiple urban policy aims through integrated solutions and investments. The NEXUS approach guides stakeholders to identify and pursue possible synergies between sectors, jurisdictions and technical domains in order to increase institutional performance, optimize resource management as well as service quality.



Example: Development Concept of Neuaubing © Landeshauptstadt München / Dragomir Stadtplanung

Good Practices



After the keynote speeches, practitioners from Jordan and Germany presented their Good Practices of contemporary city-specific solutions on the four topics of:

- 1) Integrated district development,
- 2) Energy efficient and climate friendly districts,
- 3) Developing the space in-between,
- 4) Climate neutral and sustainable water management in urban districts.

In smaller groups the Good Practices were presented in more detail. Subsequently, the different approaches were examined in terms of their preconditions, innovation and transferability.

The discussions resulted in a broad exchange on the different approaches in Jordan and Germany, as well as

first considerations of appropriate transfers.

The initial exchange of Good Practices laid the foundation and sparked the interest of practitioners for discussing detailed processes and challenges on the following day.



THEMATIC FOCUS	MUNICIPALITY	KEY ASPECTS
Integrated district development: A holistic perspective to multiple challenges	„Alte Samtweberei“ KREFELD, Germany	Housing project with social working hours by residents as initial point for community work and participation.
	Local Education Management MUNICH, Germany	Education centers in segregated neighborhoods as place for learning and exchange.
	Local Economic Development SHULEH, Jordan	Woman cooperative to support economic empowerment of women.
	Ecological Agriculture BAYYODHA, Jordan	Integrated approach to area planning linking social, economic and environmental sector.
Energy efficient and climate friendly districts: How to save energy and supply districts with sustainable energy	Integrated Climate Protection Concept and Energy Refurbishment Management WÜRZBURG, Germany	Incorporating energy efficiency, energy production, mobility and urban green in strategic concept developed in participative processes.
	GAM Strategy for Sustainability and Climate Change for 2025 GAM, Jordan	Strategic basis for the city incorporating green buildings, renewable energy, transport, waste, water and public awareness.
Developing the space in-between: public and green spaces and ecosystem services	Green Social District BERLIN- Schöneberg, Germany	Changing a car park into a public garden, playground area and urban gardening area involving residents.
	„Helle Oase“ BERLIN-Hellersdorf, Germany	Neighbourhood management as initiator and process guide for cooperative community garden with youth.
	Public Spaces in the Dead Sea Area JFDZ, Jordan	Creating new green space area for recreation and ecological conservation involving local partners.
	Jordan 's Biodiversity Conversation RSCN, Jordan	Establishing protected areas incorporating economic opportunities for local communities.
Climate neutral and sustainable water management in urban districts	Integrated Wastewater and Energy Management HAMBURG, Germany	Seperate collection of black, grey and rainwater and blackwater recycling for biogas production for decentral and climate neutral heat and power supply.
	Environmental Sustainability Strategy KARAK, Jordan	Land use planning involving multi-stakeholder dialogue platform to improve the waste water system.
	Sustainable Management of Water Resources and Water Security JERASH, Jordan	Local Water Security Action Plan including rehabilitation of the water and waste water network, water efficiency, community awareness and water resource conservation.

Peer-to-peer Advisory

The second day of the workshop was designed to analyse specific challenges of the participants cities and foster the exchange between the practitioners. Based on the previous discussions, working groups for peer-to-peer advice were formed on specific topics, such as integrated urban district development, energy production and

energy efficiency, open and green space management and water management in participating cities. To enable efficient peer-to-peer advisories, the small groups firstly posed a leading question, followed by a discussion on the current situation and lastly, offered recommendations and solution approaches.



City Planning - Irbid

How to initiate an integrated district planning process?

Solar Energy - Sarhan

How can solar energy production and storage of energy at night be approached?



Public Garden - Amman

How can open spaces and at the same time safe places be created?

Green Spaces - Sweimeh

How can green spaces be created in coordination with the different planning levels?



Wastewater - Karak

How can treated wastewater be reused?

Water Efficiency - Amman

How can the problem of water consumption/water saving be solved?

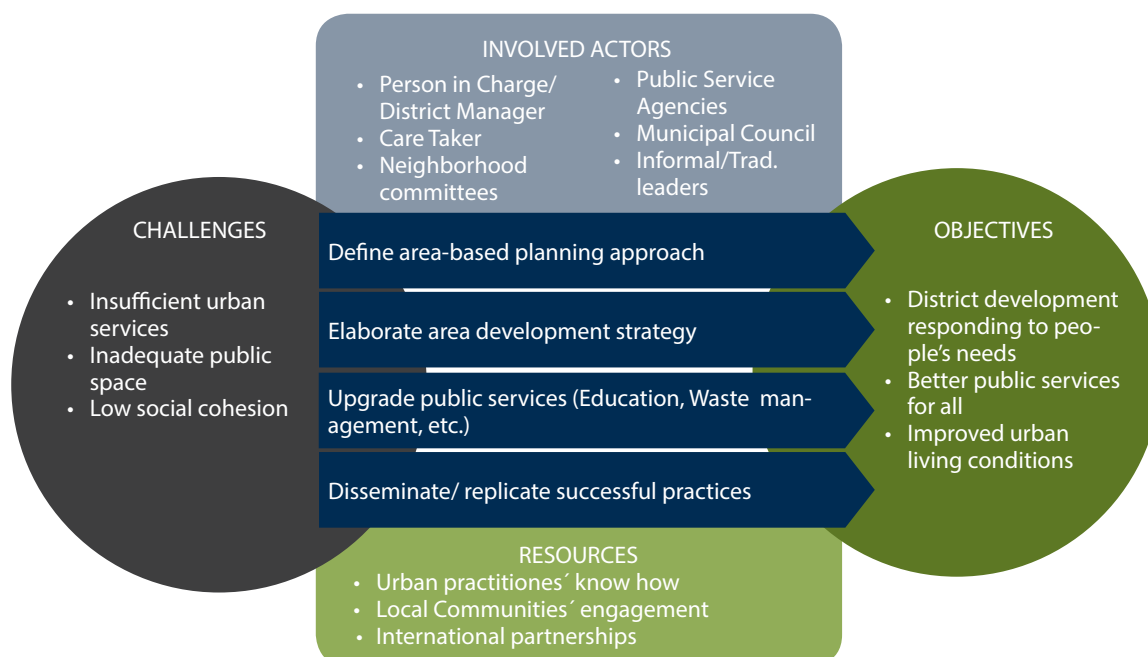


Action Planning

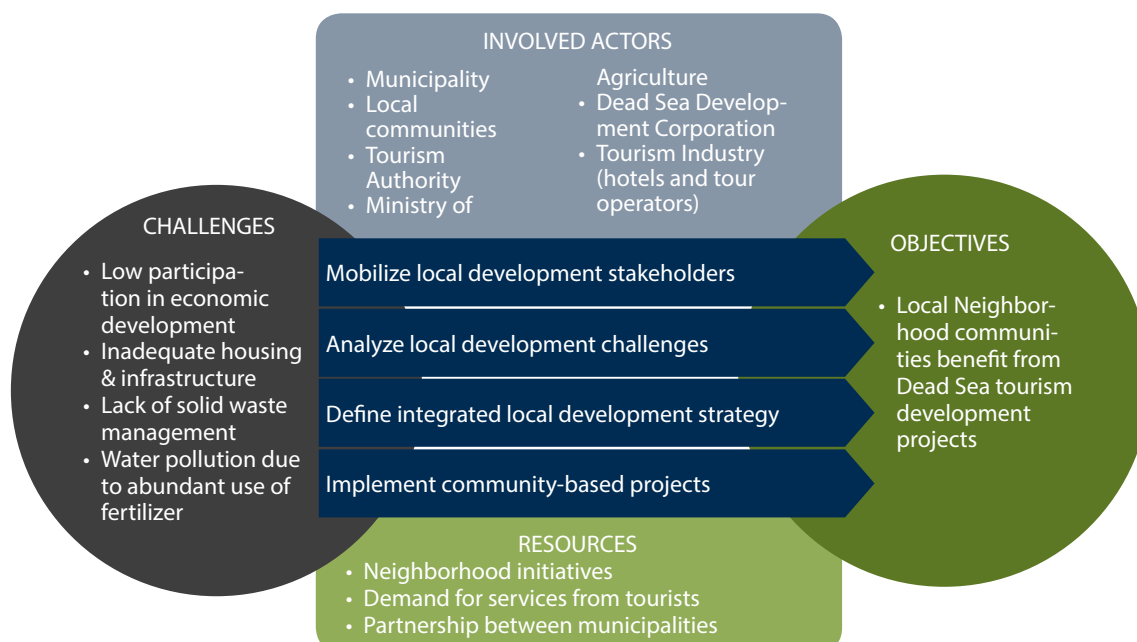
On the last day of the workshop, the participants developed some further visions and project ideas based on their exchange during the workshop.

Using the action-planning method, the experts defined six project ideas in the fields of integrated Urban planning, energy production and efficiency and water.

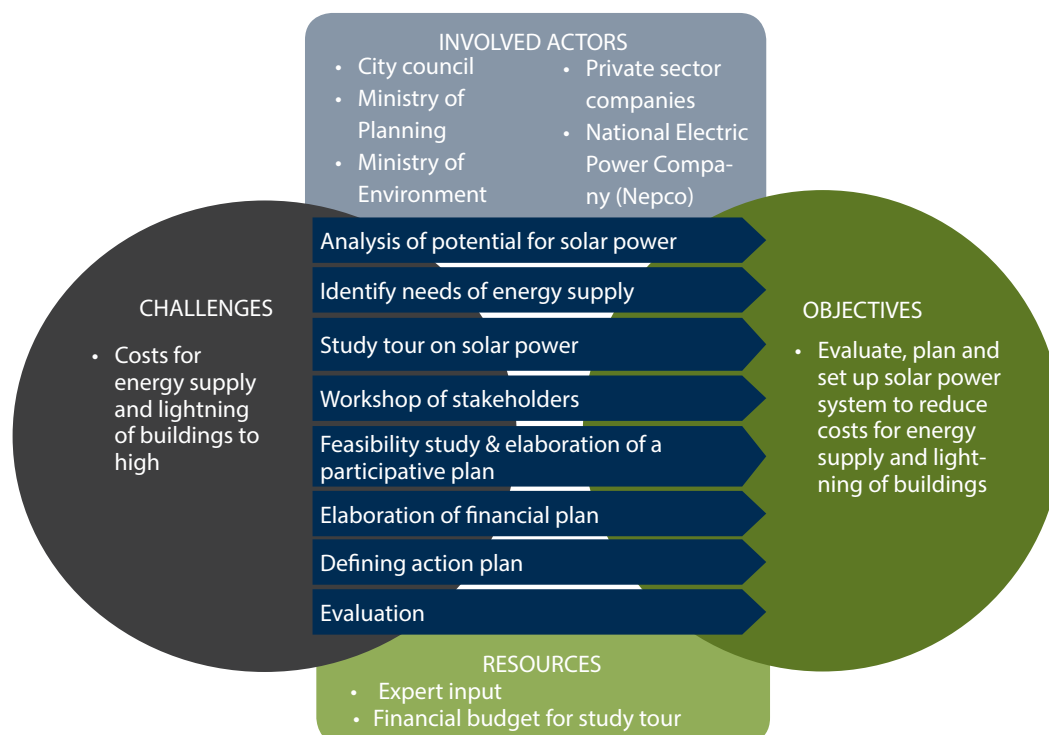
Project A) Planning: Integrated Urban Development Planning (Irbid)



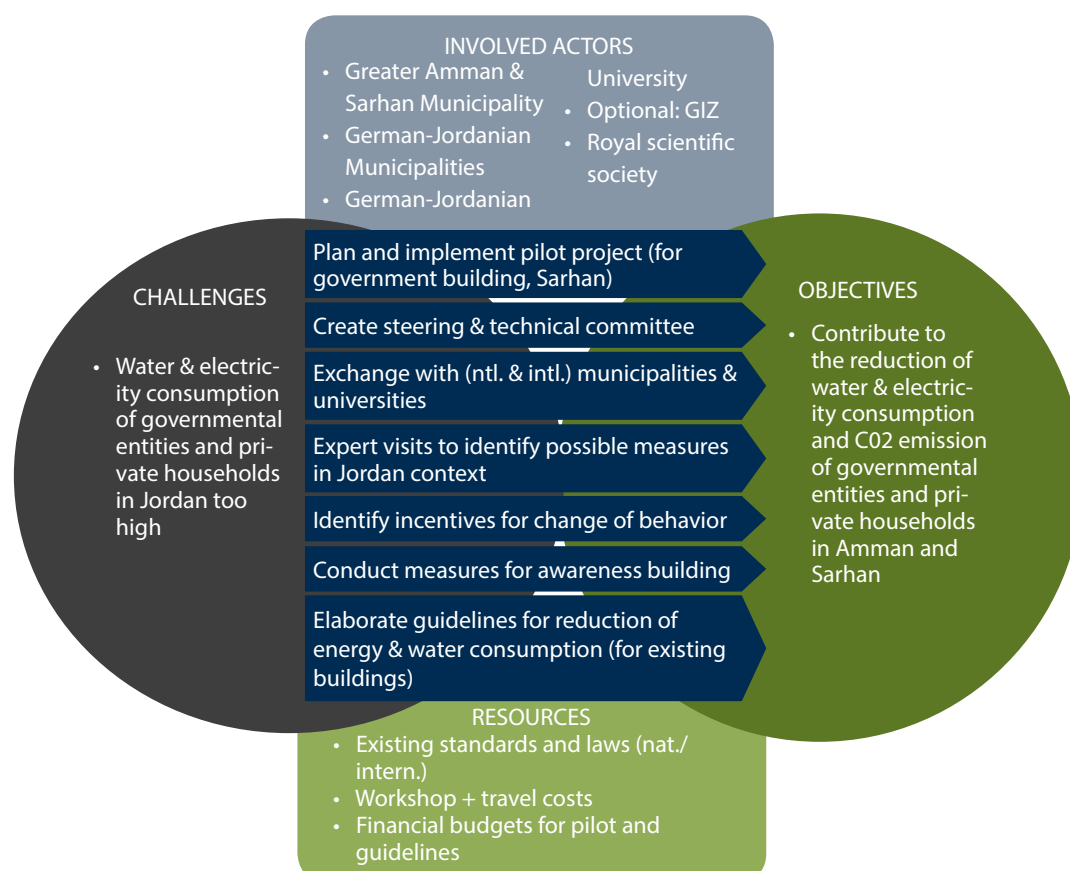
Project B) Planning: Integrated Urban Development (Swaimeh)



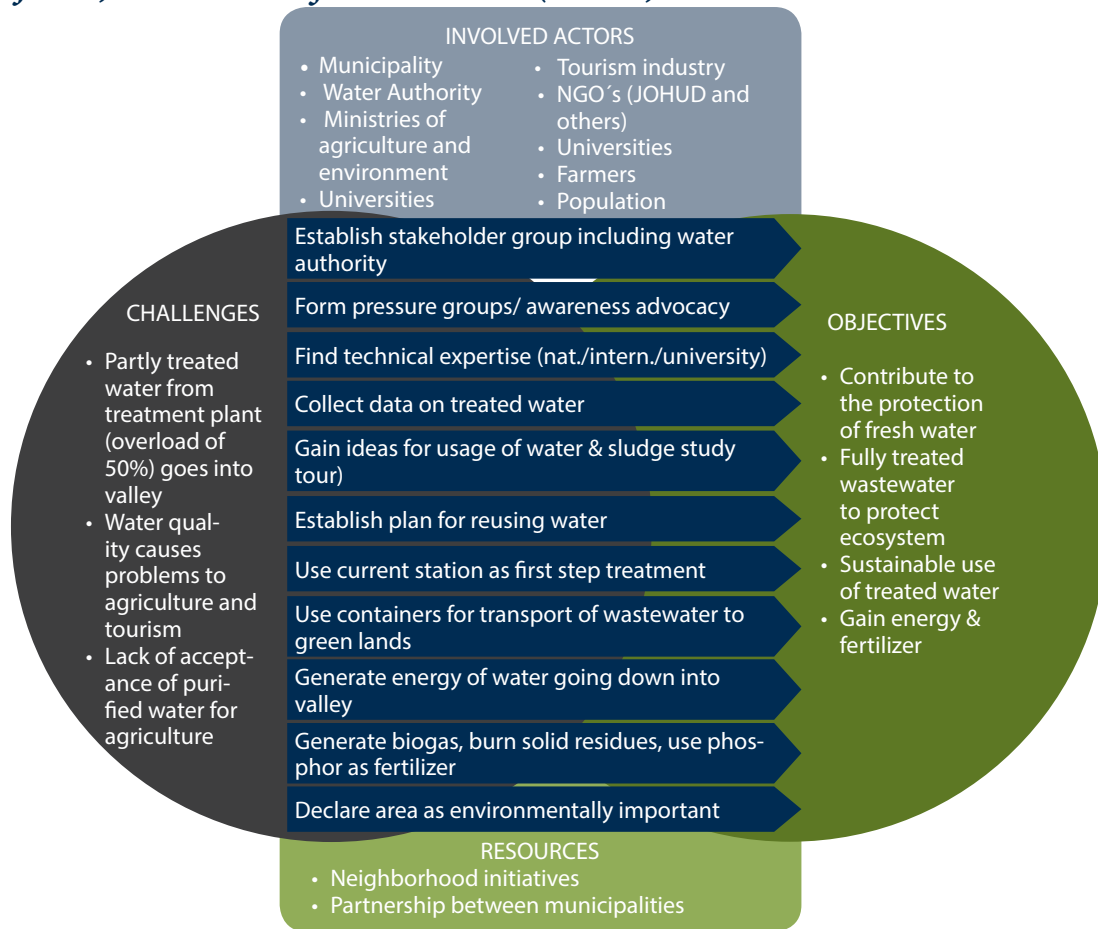
Project C) Energy: Solar Power (Al Sarhan)



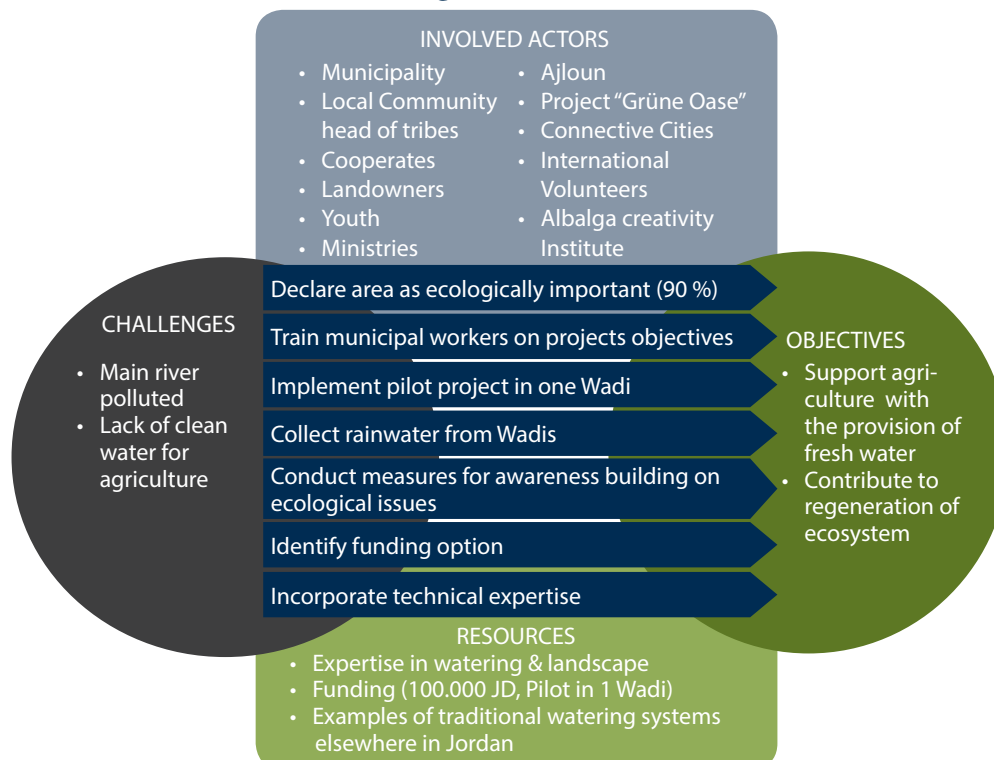
Project D) Energy: Energy Efficiency & Water Efficiency (Amman/Sarhan)



Project E) Water: Use of Waste Water (Karak)



Project F) Water: Water Harvesting (Al Arda)





Conclusions

After three days filled with fruitful discussion about successful yet diverse urban development practices, new ideas to support integrated urban districts and joint reflection of success factors and its proponents, this first Connective Cities practitioners' workshop on urban district development was reflected upon as a successful first step to initiate and continue the dialogue between Jordanian and German municipalities.

Furthermore, the substance discussed provided ample evidence that there are manifold reasons to intensify efforts for capacity development of urban experts and push forward the development of urban district projects to be jointly facilitated by Jordanian and German experts.

The project ideas developed in this dialogue event had different focal points, from the inter-connected approach to territorial development via sector-based infrastructure technologies to elaboration of technical guidelines.

These ideas for change projects shall be taken up in a second workshop planned for the second quarter of 2018 to refine and develop further the project planning.

Connective Cities will furthermore strive to provide support to emerging projects by linking projects with expertise and offering topic-related services to strengthen capacities among the participants as well as their cities.



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