

Introduction: Overview of Middle East Water Resources

Water is the most precious and valuable natural (and national) resource in the Middle East, vital for socioeconomic growth, sustainability of the environment, and—when considered to the extreme—for survival.

This publication presents an overview of Middle East water resources in areas of Israeli, Jordanian, and Palestinian interest. Areal and site-specific hydrologic, meteorologic, and geologic data provided by water-resources agencies of the region are presented to allow a broad depiction of the overall water conditions in the region.

This publication was developed as part of the Middle East Water Data Banks Project, which encourages management and protection of water resources on a regional basis. Work was completed as a cooperative effort among the three Core Parties and was coordinated under the umbrella of the Water Working Group of the Middle East Multilateral Peace Process. The participating water-resources institutions are the Palestinian Water Authority, Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation, and Israeli Hydrological Service.



Roman-era cistern at Amman



King Abdullah Canal at outflow of pipeline bringing water from Lake Tiberias

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