
1.1 This Regional Master Plan

WEDO/EcoPeace Middle East assigned Royal HaskoningDHV on the 27th of August 2012 to develop national NGO Master Plans for sustainable development of the Jordan Valley for Jordan and Palestine, and one Regional Master Plan for the Jordan Valley, located between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. WEDO/EcoPeace view this final Master Plan as an advocacy tool to engage with national stakeholders and the international community for the full or partial adoption of the proposed interventions.

The future scenarios and strategic objectives for the Jordan Valley Master Plan presented in this report reflect the vision of WEDO/EcoPeace Middle East and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union or the individual consultants and their sub-consultants.

This Regional NGO Master Plan describes the current land and water-related issues in the Jordan Valley, and the projections in the valley for the years 2025 and 2050. It presents the major challenges in the valley towards creating sustainable development conditions, including environmental flows provided through natural resources a healthy eco-system, equitable sharing of water resources, and a list of prioritized interventions that will restore the valley's environmental and ecological values within a realistic financial and economic framework. The Jordan Valley is part of the wider Jordan Basin, which includes catchment areas in Lebanon and Syria as well. The upper part of the Jordan River Basin is connected to the Lower part of the Jordan River Basin through Sea of Galilee and the Yarmouk River. This study does not address analysis of the wider Jordan River Basin as a whole, but assumes the hydrological characteristics of the Sea of Galilee and the Yarmouk River as boundary conditions for this study.

An extensive baseline report of the trans-boundary Jordan Valley has been prepared by the Consultant in March 2014, which provides the base for this NGO Master Plan.

1.2 The Consultants

Royal HaskoningDHV B.V. is WEDO/EcoPeace's main contractor for this study, and has established sub-contracts with CORE Associates in Palestine, MASAR Center from Jordan and DHVMED from Israel. Key experts from these organizations form the core study team, headed by DHV's project manager. The study team represents an excellent track record in the areas of development of river basin master plans around the world, as well as in water and environmental management projects in Jordan, Israel and Palestine. They have provided a wide range of services, from strategy and policy development and feasibility studies to designs and construction supervision in the Middle East and in different river basins around the world.

RHDHV BV from the Netherlands is part of Royal HaskoningDHV, which is one of the largest independent consultancy groups, employing currently around 8,000 employees world-wide. The firm is a merger between DHV Group and Royal Haskoning Group established on the 1st of July 2012. DHV was founded in 1917 and has gained a world-wide reputation from many projects in a wide range of sectors implemented in more than 70 countries, including river basin and water resources management. Royal HaskoningDHV is registered with the major Financial Institutions and International Agencies, and regularly carries out projects financed by them. See also www.royalhaskoningdhv.com.

CORE Associates is a specialized provider of high-end professional services in Economic and Trade Policy, International Trade, Planning and Business Development Services with its headquarters in Ramallah. CORE provides timely, pragmatic and cost-efficient advice and training in the context of economic and trade policy and negotiations, the formulation and implementation of national policy, and private sector development. CORE's clients include

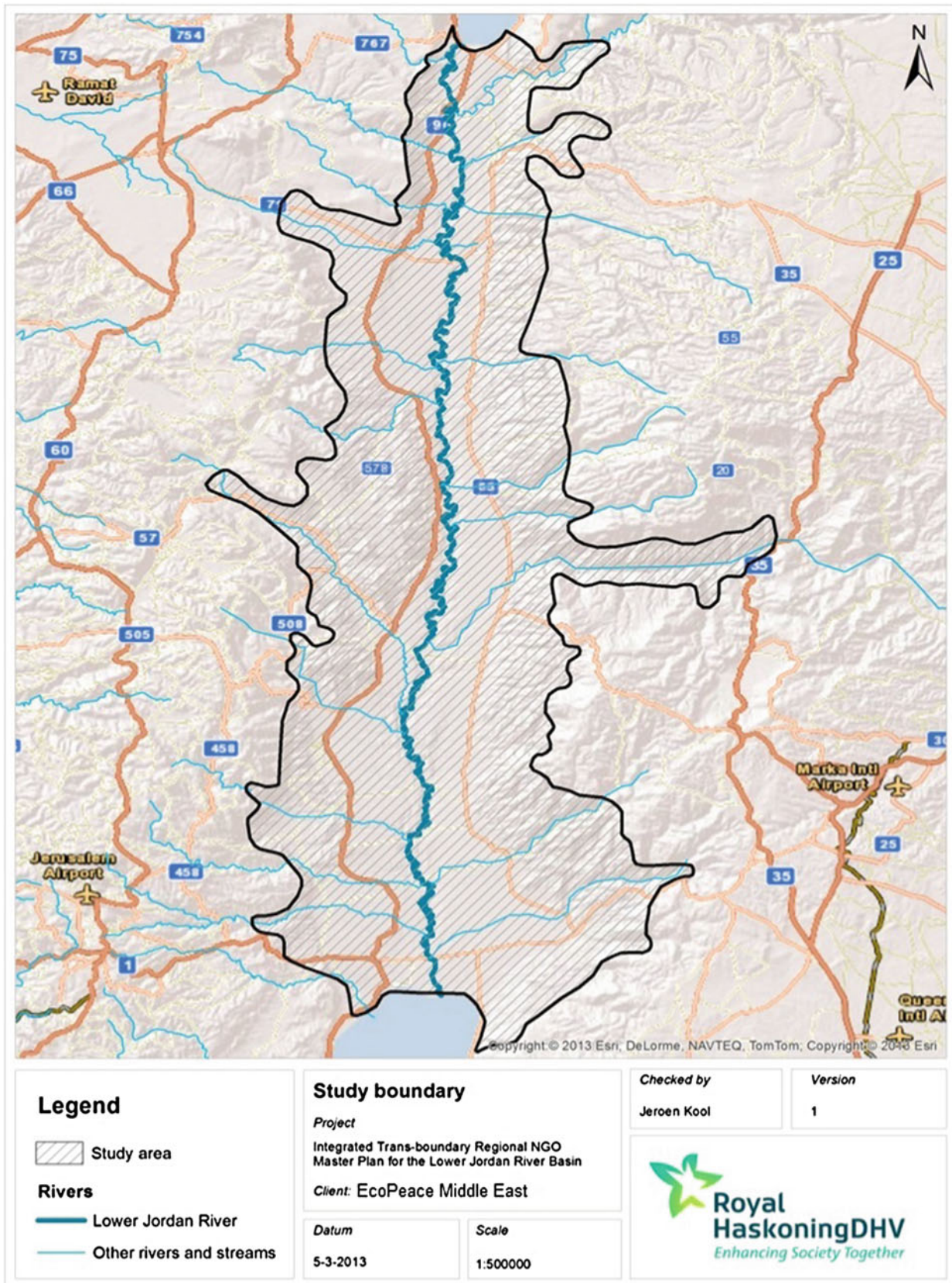


Fig. 1.1 Jordan Valley

governments, international governmental organizations, as well as NGOs, trade associations, and private businesses. See www.core.ps.

MASAR has been established since 1994 as a regional non-government, not-for-profit organization focusing on training projects involving about 12 countries from the MENA region and Europe. MASAR implemented projects in the fields of environment, democracy education, peace and conflict resolution, human rights, gender, interfaith dialogue, youth employment and entrepreneurship. Besides projects in these fields, Masar has also been engaged in providing consulting and expertise to local, regional, and international beneficiaries on matters related to Euro-Med cooperation. See also www.masarcenter.org.

DHV MED was founded in Israel in 1996 as a subsidiary of DHV Group. The company provides consulting engineering services in water, environment, and related infrastructure and counts 30 professional staff. DHV MED specialized in master planning and overall engineering from concept and feasibility studies all the way to general and detailed design. The company provides consulting and design work in WTP (water treatment plants), WWTP (wastewater treatment plants), river basin management, air emission treatment, alternative energy, solid waste management, polluted soil treatment, and more to both the industrial and public sectors. See also www.dhvmed.com (Fig. 1.1).

EcoPeace Staff

JORDAN

Munqeth Mehyar	EcoPeace Amman	Director Jordan
Mrs. Yana Abu Taleb	EcoPeace Amman	Assistant Director Projects
Adnan Budieri	EcoPeace Amman	Assistant Director Amman
Mrs. Nancy Haddaden	EcoPeace Amman	Assistant Projects Manager
Eshak Al-Guza'a	EcoPeace Amman	Assistant Project Coordinator

PALESTINE

Dr. Nader Khateeb	WEDO/EcoPeace Bethlehem	Director Palestine
Mrs. Samiramis Kutlo	WEDO/EcoPeace Bethlehem	PR officer EcoPeace Bethlehem
Nassar Abu Jalal	WEDO/EcoPeace Bethlehem	LJR project director
Marina Djernaes	WEDO/EcoPeace Regional	Executive Operations Officer

ISRAEL

Gidon Bromberg	EcoPeace Tel Aviv	Director Israel
Mrs. Elizabeth Ya'ari	EcoPeace Tel Aviv	Israel Project coordinator
Uri Ginot	EcoPeace Tel Aviv	Government Relations

1.3 The Project Team

This technical analysis for this Master Plan has been performed by an international team of renowned Jordanian, Palestinian, Israeli and Dutch experts, who have co-operated with the staff of WEDO/EcoPeace to prepare this Regional NGO Master Plan for the Jordan Valley as presented in this report.

Consultant's Team

KOOL, Jeroen, Project Manager
 Al KHATIB, Saad, Economist
 AL MASRI, Dr. Mohammad, GIS Expert
 AL SHEIKH, Banan, Environmental Expert
 BAMYA, Saeb, Geo-political Expert and Palestinian Team Leader
 Bany Hany, Lobna, Agricultural Expert
 DE GROOT, Mark, Pollution Control Expert
 ELRON, Eldad, Ecological Expert and Israeli Team Leader
 HARTVELD, Dr. Aard, Sociologist
 HUNTJENS, Dr. Patrick, Governance Expert
 JAYYOUSI, Anan, Water Management Expert
 KAPLAN, Moti, Land Use Expert
 KWAKKEL, Jeroen, Information Management Support
 SAFIER, Gilad, Water Modeling Expert
 SHARIF, Dr. Walid, archeological Expert
 TALOZI, Dr. Samer, Water Expert and Jordanian Team Leader, Jordan University of Science and Technology

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