

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE EASTERN DESERT - JORDAN

RURAL FAMILY SOCIETY - JORDAN

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Acknowledgement

Special thanks to:

- The Rural Family Society -



- USAID and FHI360



- SuSanA -

- KAFD -



- Dhulail Youth Group

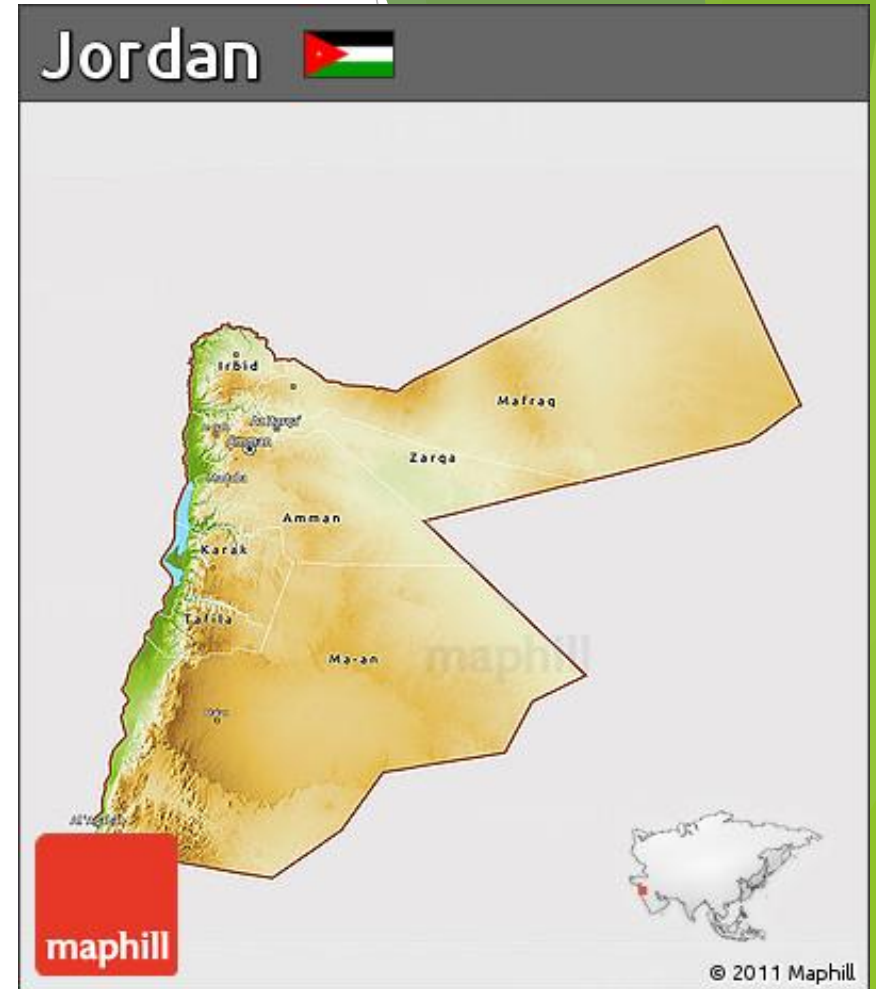
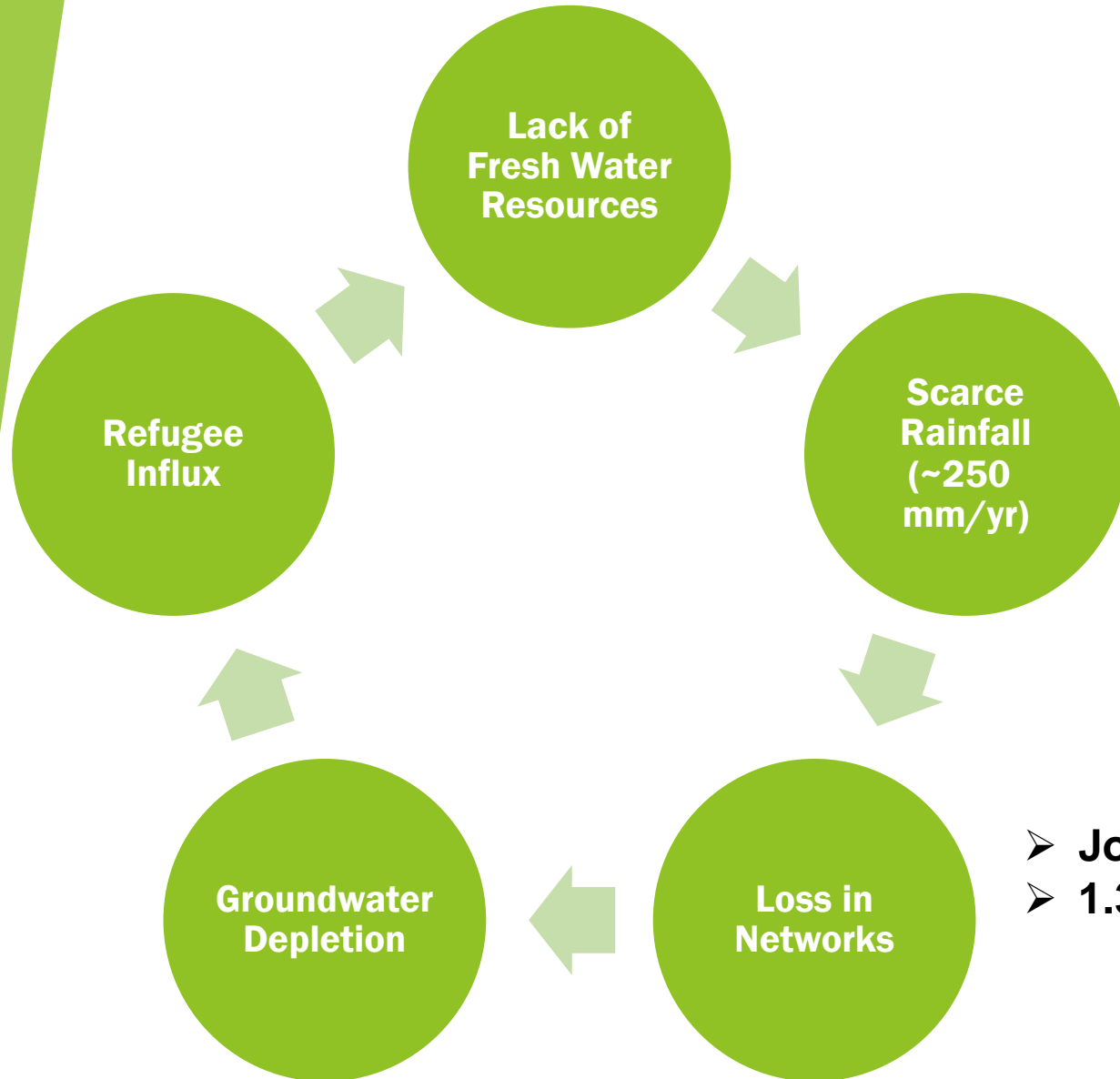


Rural Family Society

- Established in 2010 to serve the local community in one of the most environmentally rich, yet threatened areas of Jordan.
- RFS is concerned with environmental development in rural areas with regards to the livelihood of rural communities.
- RFS thinks globally but acts on the local community level where we believe we can have a significant impact on the lives of people.



Project Justification (why water?)



- Jordan Water Share per capita was 123m³ in 2016
 - 1.3 Million registered refugees in Jordan since 2011
- Jordan Times*

Project Approach

- Raise awareness among rural communities about Greywater reuse
 - Using an alternative water resource for irrigation
 - Decrease the amount of wastewater in septic tanks
 - Increase awareness on the importance of water reuse to fight climate change (surface water evaporation)
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- **Provide** Training for youth in rural communities in the field of Environmental Leadership
 - **Asses** community needs and come up with solutions
 - **Support** youth initiatives (technically and financially)
 - **Supervise** Implementation
 - **Create** a **Sustainability Plan**

Youth Training

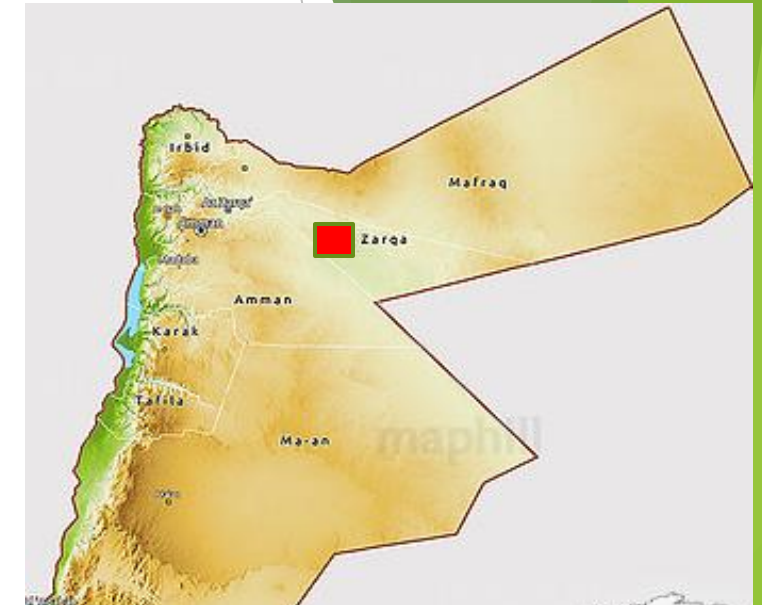
- **A comprehensive training program** was designed to provide 85 youth (48% females) with necessary tools to start their own initiatives.

- **The Training Program Included:**
 - Environmental Leadership
 - Communicating Environmental Issues Via Media
 - Advocacy for Environment
 - Proposal Writing



Community Needs Assessment

- The project took place in Dhulail; a small town in the eastern part of Jordan with **dry weather and mediocre rainfall** season
- Water **supply is intermittent** and **water contamination incidents** have been reported in the area
- Area schools have the highest demand for water (both For personal use and irrigation)
- One girls high school with **960 students** was selected for water re-use initiative implementation



Initiatives Support

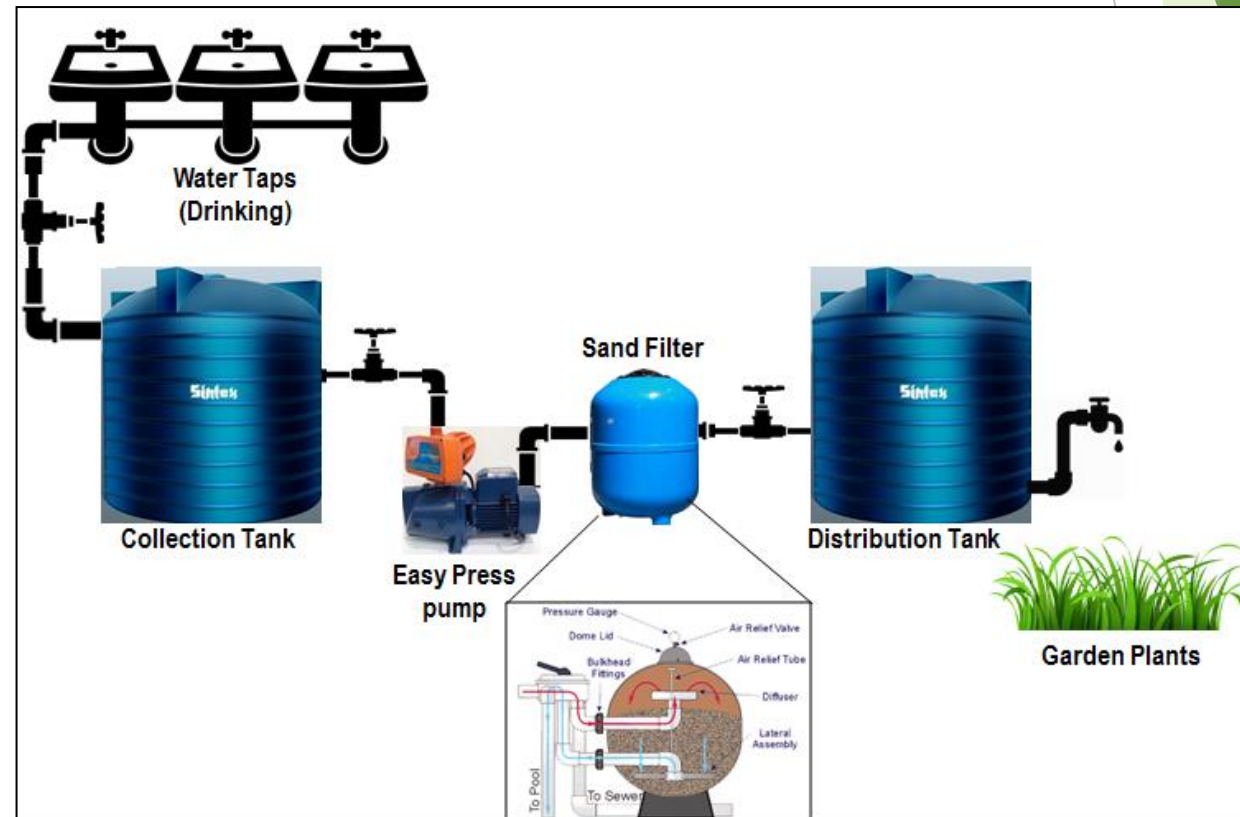
- Two youth teams were selected to implement initiatives
- Each team received \$3000 funding to conduct activities
- One team selected Grey Water Re-use
- The other selected School Garden Rehabilitation



Initiative Implementation

➤ The Greywater System design is a simple one. The design elements took into consideration the following:

- **Volume of collected water** – 960 students in school
- **Quality of collected water** – Handwashing/Drinking/Solid objects
- **Type of plants receiving treated water** - Rehabilitated garden
- **Access to the system** – Limited to prevent tampering/theft
- **Durability and Easy Operation**



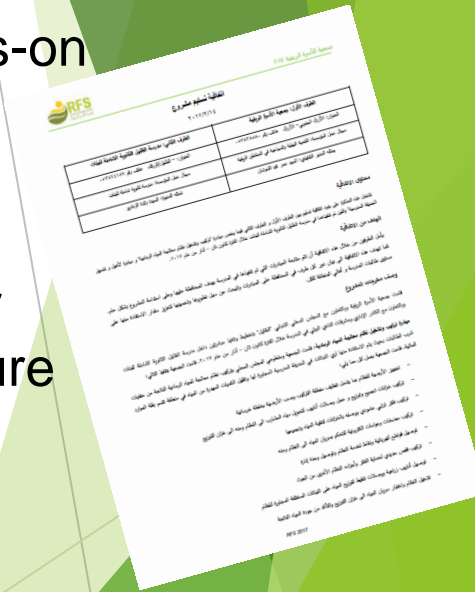
Initiative Implementation

- Installation and primary operation took around 4 weeks. The system was Officially opened on Feb, 14 2017 with invitees from the local community.



Sustainability Plan

- Goal: To Ensure the sustainability of the project by capitalizing on the School Resources.
- Actions:
 - Provide training for school girls on the importance of water re-use and hands-on training on the operation and maintenance of the system
 - Assign 2 teachers to mentor students and monitor the system
 - Provide protection, warning signs, and instructions of the system
 - Rehabilitate the school garden with non-edible plant to receive treated water
 - Sign a Memorandum of Understanding between RFS and the school to assure compliance



Impact on the Community

- The Community is now:
 - **Aware** of the importance of water rationing and re-use in response to climate change
 - **Possess** technical knowledge of modern water saving techniques
 - **Responsible** towards their own environment
 - **Value** team work and youth engagement

SuSanA Chapter in Jordan?

- At RFS, we believe that Sustainable Sanitation is a priority for communities living in Jordan, especially with the increasing pressure on water resources due to forced displacement of vulnerable communities.
- We believe that sustainability of water-related initiatives can only be valid via collective efforts that engages the local community members.
- We are confident that starting a Jordan SuSanA Chapter will not only provide an opportunity for cooperation, but will also be a platform for exchanging expertise



**Za'atari Refugee Camp in northern Jordan
(home to around 80,000 refugees)**

Thank you

The Rural Family Society

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