

## **URGENT IMPROVEMENT OF WATER SECTOR FOR THE HOST COMMUNITIES OF SYRIAN REFUGEES IN NORTHERN GOVERNORATES**

**By: Eng. Hani AL- Kurdi / Chief Deputy Program Officer – JICA Jordan Office**

The rapid rise in the number of Syrian refugees since the beginning of the crisis in March 2011 caused a huge challenge on water sector including a severe stress on public water supply systems and wastewater services. More than 600 thousands registered refugees were located in the northern part of the kingdom have put more pressure on the already limited water resources of Jordan. This requires international support and response. Accordingly, the Water Authority signed the Minutes of Discussions



**JICA Mission-WAJ Discussion on Project**

with the JICA on January 9, 2014 to conduct a comprehensive program to respond to the urgent needs of the sector, the objective of the Program is to assess the effect of the Syrian Refugees on water supply and wastewater services in the host communities.



**Signing Ceremony of the Grant Agreement and the Exchange of Notes at MOPIC**

Under the Program which will last for 3 years, an outline design of priority projects in the target areas to be financed by grant aid will be carried out, water supply and wastewater plan will be formulated, and pilot projects to improve the operational conditions of the water systems in the affected areas will be implemented. In this regard, the Exchange of Notes with a total amount of 24.5 million US\$ was signed on March 13, 2014 between the between Dr. Ibrahim Saif, the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation and Mr. Junichi Kosuge the Ambassador of Japan, while the Grant Agreement was signed by Dr. Saif and the Chief representative of JICA in Amman Mr. Toshiaki Tanaka.

# **THE PROJECT FOR IMPROVEMENT OF AIRPORT SECURITY EQUIPMENT AT QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

**By: Eng. Adel Zureikat / Senior Program Officer – JICA Jordan Office**



**H.E Prime Minister Dr. Abdullah Nsoor Inaugurating The Ceremony**

On January 20th, 2014, the inauguration ceremony of “The project for Improvement of Airport Security Equipment at Queen Alia International Airport” has been held under the patronage of H.E. The prime-minister, Dr. Abdullah Al-Nsour, who was accompanied by the transport minister Dr. lina Shbeeb, the public works & housing minister Engineer Sami Halaseh, the board chairman of the Royal Jordanian (RJ) Mr. Naser Al-louzi, the Ambassador of Japan Mr. Junichi kosuge and JICA Senior Representative Mr. Junji Wakui.

Provision of inspection equipment such as re-locatable X-ray, mobile cargo X-ray, mobile X-ray and explosive tomography detection will enhance the security measures by reducing the inspection time from hours to minuets.

The prime minister voiced thanks and appreciation for the Japanese support to the Kingdom which enabled it to implement developmental and services projects.

The Japanese Ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Junichi Kosuge, said the equipment used at the Center was a result of a \$14 million Japanese grant, stressing that this equipment will help raise the efficiency of the inspection process.

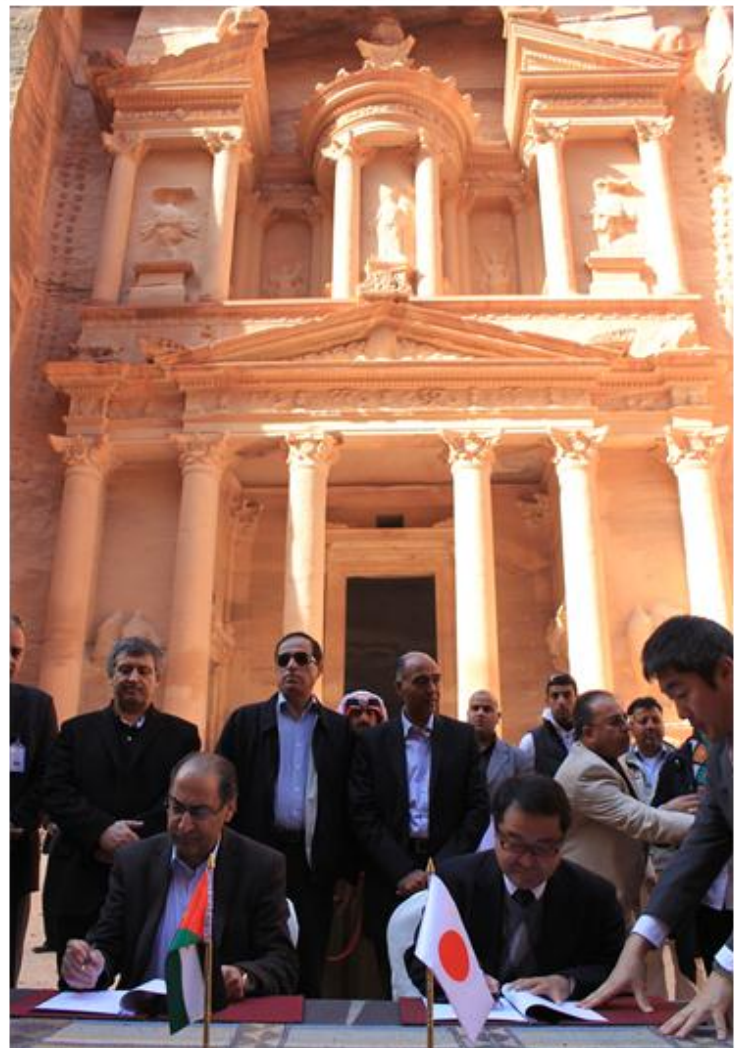
## **INAUGRATING CEREMONY ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF PETRA MUSEUM PROLECT**

*By: Eng. Adel Zureikat / Senior Program Officer – JICA Jordan Office*

In order to increase tourist length of stay and benefit the local community of Wadi Musa, the Government of Japan decided to construct a museum adjacent to the visitor center through a grant of 6.8 million US\$.

In this regard, an official ceremony has been held on March 1st, 2014 where an exchange of notes has been signed between Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Dr. Ibrahim Saif and the ambassador of Japan, Mr. Junichi Kosuge while the Grant Agreement has been signed between Dr. Saif and the Chief Representative of JICA Jordan Office, Mr. Toshiaki Tanaka. Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, PDTRA Chief Commissioner, DOA Director General and many other officials attended the signing ceremony.

The 1,800 m2 museum will showcase historical and archaeological artifacts discovered in the Petra region, and raise the local community's awareness on protecting both the tangible and intangible heritage of Petra.



**Mr. Tanaka the Chief Representative of JICA Jordan Office  
Signing the Grant Agreement**



**H.E Mr. Junichi Kosuge the ambassador of Japan signing  
the exchange of notes**

## **JICA NEW BUDGET-SUPPORT LOAN TO JORDAN AMOUNTING US \$ 120 MILLION**

**By: Rabah Al-Shanti / Program Officer - JICA Jordan Office**



**Loan Agreement signed by Mr. Tanaka Toshiaki – Chief of JICA Jordan Office, and Dr. Ibrahim Saif – Jordan's Minister of Planning and International Cooperation.**

As Expatriates' remittances and tourism receipts into Jordan declined in the wake of the Arab Spring, the disruption of the Egyptian gas supplies and the influx of more than 600,000 Syrian refugees into Jordan were the most important factors contributing in the increased trade deficit, current account deficit, budget deficit, and subsequently public debt.

Fueled by these pressing reasons, JICA Joined the World Bank in their Development Policy Lending (DPL) operation in a parallel financing scheme; where a common matrix of triggers was utilized by both.

JICA and the Government of Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan represented by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, signed on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014 the "Fiscal Consolidation and Development Policy" Loan Agreement. The loan amount is approx. US \$ 120 million, with 1.7% interest rate, 25 years repayment period with the first 7 years as grace period. Mr. Masayuki Magoshi—Charge d'affaires of Embassy of Japan in Amman, signed the Exchange of Notes, while Mr. Toshiaki Tanaka – Chief Representative of JICA Jordan Office signed the Loan Agreement with Dr. Ibrahim Saif – Jordan's Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, who signed on behalf of the Government of Jordan.

The whole loan amount was transferred to Jordan in one single tranche on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.



**Mr. Masayuki Magoshi signs Exchange of Notes with Dr. Ibrahim Saif – Minister of Planning and International Cooperation**