

**Front Page of the IRs Report**  
**On the 4<sup>th</sup> Biannual Report**

**INDEPENDENT REVIEWERS TECHNICAL REVIEW OF THE FORTH BIANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE JORDAN FOCAL POINT (JNFP)  
BADIA RESTORATION PROJECT  
PROJECT 5000304**

**REPORT REVIEW**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Biannual Report of the Jordan NFP has been reviewed and reported in the following project reviews corresponding to the *FIVE Chapters of this Report*.

**OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF PROJECT STATUS IN CURRENT REPORTING PERIOD**

The IRs are satisfied in principle, with the overall appropriateness of the use of the award funds allocated for the Jordan Badia Restoration, under the GC decision 258. However, the IRs are still concerned about the non-adequacy of the financial internal control system. The IRs under-score the fact that the scope of the External Auditor assignment is limited to accounting, financial reporting and internal control structure which is the normal scope of work of “financial audit.” In addition, the IRs believe that the presence of a Technical Back-stopping Officer is essential for proper follow-up and monitoring of the project work progress.

**KEY ISSUES**

The following significant issues are reported for the UNCC consideration:

1. In the current 4<sup>th</sup>. Biannual Report, a revised Phasing Plan was presented to take into account the Community Action Plan (CAP), which represents the framework designed to accelerate implementation of the Badia Restoration Project (BRP). The current revision made to the Phasing Plan is appropriate; however, NFP has to provide technical and financial justification prior to approval of funds release for activities within future sub-phases.
2. The CAP provides the overall framework for the Badia Restoration Project. The IRs believe that the CAP document is a step forward for implementing the overall framework. The IRs have noted that this proposed plan represents an appropriate and reasonable expenditure of funds and is consistent with the purpose of the award. In light of that, the IRs recommend that the funding request submitted to the Seventy-first Governing Council session be authorized by the Governing Council. The IRs however, recommend that the release of fund be divided in two installments for the CAP request. Furthermore before the release of any of the CAP funds, IRs request to review the contracts and Terms of Reference (TORs) between NFP and the implementing institution (s) and the draft contracts between the implementing institutions and the livestock owners regarding the use of incentives before the signature of those contracts. After this review, the IRs will submit a report to the Secretariat indicating whether the 1<sup>st</sup> installment of the release should be initiated. The use of these funds will be then reviewed to verify that the incentive process functions properly and a report will be prepared accordingly indicating whether the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment of the release should be initiated. In addition, the IRs request that the CAP plan for July 2012 and beyond be revised by a qualified professional consultant/institution to verify and amend certain figures, cost estimates and the suggested approaches taken into account:
  - Planning and scheduling of CAP interventions should consider the capacity and ability of

local contractors in the implementation of the plan.

- Because community participation and commitment to the Project interventions is the “true guarantee” for its future sustainability and success; a broad national dialogue is called for to enhance community awareness on the Badia Restoration importance and on the most feasible technical and economic management options. The IRs stress the need for establishing cooperative rangeland organizations responsible for the management and restoration activities of Badia damaged ecosystems.
3. The IRs are concerned about the low delivery rates of contracted works and the efficiency of follow-up procedures established by NFP for gauging the work progress; including issues related to the Base Line Studies, both the quality of data and the delay in submission of final reports by implementing institutions. The IRs believe that the presence of a *technical back-stopping* is essential for proper follow-up and monitoring.
  4. Recalling that Jordan NFP had previously submitted a proposal for an irrigated *Fodder Production Project* and that the IRs had requested an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and an Economic Feasibility (EF) study; the requested studies were not submitted on time. The IRs note that the delay in the submission of these reports is hindering progress of this project and urge the NFP to closely follow-up on this matter for a timely submission of these studies.
  5. Finance Management:
    - The IRs are concerned with the lack of financial system which hinders the proper control and follow-up over the financial and contractual side of the project. Such system involves establishing a financial unit that will be responsible for policies, procedures, comprehensive financial software, staff and reporting, in addition to control financially the contracts implemented by the different institutions.
    - The IRs noted with concern the un-reconciled items in the fund account amounting to US \$ 894,861. Out of this amount US \$ 423,729 were advanced to *Jerash project* which is out of the Badia Restoration project scope and, therefore, the NFP has to justify the disbursement of such advance. The remaining un-reconciled amount of US \$ 471,132 has to be justified also by the Jordan NFP.

**Note:**

The IR Dr. Mohammad Alhamad is not of the same opinion of the remaining 4 members of the IR team and does not give his support for the release of fund for the issue below:

- *Key Issue no 2:*  
Mr. Alhamad is concerned about the appropriate use of funds giving that the suggested CAP activities are not in agreement with the F4-Panel Recommendations. Alhamad believes that the suggested activities are not cost effective. The suggested barely grain incentives lack robust mechanism for distribution. Although the suggested CAP activities are phased over 5 years of demonstration phase and 20 years of full implementation phase but the budget is only allocated for the demonstration phase. The CAP is not in agreement with F4-Panel to establish cooperative rangeland program that covers the whole Badia and the use of incentives to facilitate the natural recovery of damaged ecosystems, and use a cost effective scalable human interventions if needed.

## REQUESTED FUNDING RELEASE

The Jordan NFP has requested the following funding releases for the Project, which is supported by the IRs except Mr. Alhamad, as indicated below\*

### July 2011 – June 2012 CAP

	<u>\$US</u>
▪ Soil conservation and micro catchments water harvesting	336,500
▪ Macro catchments water harvesting techniques	2,175,000
▪ Improvement of vegetation	376,300
▪ Socio-economic activities and incentives	15,932,500
▪ Rehabilitation of groundwater wells	1,620,000
▪ Monitoring and evaluation of CAP	106,050
▪ Admin and Management Unit of CAP	626,950

### Total CAP

Note: the Funds for the CAP release is subjected to conditions in key issue 2

**US \$ 21,173,300**

### July 2011 – Dec 2011

▪ <b>DBIU (operational expenses)</b>	<b><u>\$51,260</u></b>
▪ Shaumari (completing fencing of the Reserve)	98,297
▪ Shaumari – Additional Fund (for Safari Vehicles)	80,000

Note: \$80,000 is an extra budget requested by NFP for Shaumari project. This amount is requested to be utilized from the interest earned on the 25% withheld by UNCC. The IRs (four of them) believe that this activity will help in providing sustainable funds to be used for future improvement of the reserve.

### Total Shaumari

**\$178,297**

- **JORDAN NFP Administration**

**\$250,000**

#### \* Footnote:

- IR Alhamad is not supporting the release of fund for the CAP due to his concerns over: high cost of restoration activities per ha; lack of detailed plan for incentives distribution in the CAP; lack of community guaranteed commitment and lack of mechanism to control livestock owners who have free access to the restored areas.

- IR Alhamad is not supporting the release of fund to DBIU until its roles in BRP is sufficiently clarified, including their provision of data to the BR Project and the use of modern techniques like remotes sensing and geographic information systems to delineated range sites and monitoring of vegetation

condition for the recovered Badia according to F4-panel recommendations.

- *Shaumari Project:*

Alhamad is concerned about the transparency of Shaumari project giving that the project is not clarifying pending issues on fence repair (actual cost and length of repaired part of the fence), safari vehicle (not seeking less alternatives, impact of cars on the reserve and animals, etc..) and not responding to the IRs request on core activities (reserve carrying capacity and minimum viable population size) which ensure successful captive program. Therefore, IR Alhamad is not recommending the release of fund at this stage until those pending issues is clarified and sufficiently verified to ensure an appropriate use of fund.

### IR REVIEW STATEMENT

The following Independent Reviewers team members certify that the review of the NFP report is complete.

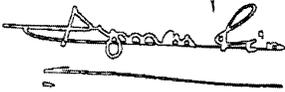
Dr. Mahmud Ayed Duwayri



Dr. Ghassan M. Hamdallah



Mr. Ayman R. Al Asmar



Dr. Mohammad Noor Alhamad



Dr. Walid Abed Rabboh



<b>REVIEW OF KEY ISSUES FROM PREVIOUS IR REPORT</b>	
<b>NFP ACTIONS TO ADDRESS KEY ISSUES RAISED LAST SESSION</b>	<b>IRs COMMENT ON NFP ACTIONS TO ADDRESS KEY ISSUES</b>
<p>1. With regard to contracts monitoring and tracking system financed and or conducted by JNFP. The PMU would like to emphasize that current contracts were structured to allow verification and validation of accomplishing the tasks prior to full payments. Contractors are requested to submit reports that were reviewed by the BRP-PMU. The BRP-PMU has rejected some reports and delayed payments to contracts and that forced the contractors to enhance their performance.</p>	<p>1. The IRs believe that: NFP made these relevant steps to improve their Finance Control by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruited a Chief Finance Officer, as PMU staff;</li> <li>• Concluded an agreement with Ernst&amp; Young, as External Auditors;</li> <li>• PMU is in the process of creating an accounting system.</li> <li>• Combined the Special Accounts and a new "Operation Account" was opened at the Central Bank of Jordan.</li> </ul>
<p>2. As for the procurement, it is administered by the Ministry of Environment through the Special Tenders Committee (STC) and according to the applicable laws and regulations of the Government of Jordan (as mentioned in Annex 3 in the 3rd JNFP biannual report and Table 1 in the 4th biannual report. The BRP-PMU aims to control future procurements through incorporating in the contract a clause that the STC of JORDAN NFP will handle the procurements. A good example will be the latest and so far largest contract signed with the Ministry of Agriculture, where the STC is in charge of all the procurement.</p>	<p>The IRs believe that authorizing Special Tendering Committee (STC) of JORDAN NFP to handle the procurements, in addition to the examples given regarding the procurement processes applied on the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) and the Feasibility Study (FS) and the MOA contracts, constitute a good progress in this regard.</p>

<p>3. As for the establishment of independent financial unit in the JNFP, the PMU is in the process of establishing a Financial Unit, a CFO was hired and an External Auditor was contracted, the special account was combined and there is work in progress toward a comprehensive financial system. We expect the system to be completed by the end of April or June at the latest, there is little delay as the Ministry of Finance has to approve for us various steps and we are working on getting authorization to establish the operation account which is a crucial step toward independence, further more we still have a balance with the Ministry of Finance and we want to use it completely before we shift to the operation account.</p>	<p>The IRs believe that the progress achieved so far is satisfactory. However, major steps are not in place yet, NFP need to expedite establishing Financial Control Unit, in co-operation with the External Auditor and report on the progress in the coming report, since Ernst &amp; Young first report is due in few months.</p>
<p>4. With regard to the Audit Reports from independent auditors, the PMU contracted Ernst &amp; Young to Audit the books starting 2010, it is expected to get a report by the end of March 2011.</p>	<p>The IRs believe that hiring Ernst &amp; Young, and taking steps for development of a “comprehensive operation manual”, are good achievements. Submission of the first report and the findings of the External Auditor will be good indicators of the progress.</p>
<p>5. To strengthen the capacity of the BRP-PMU in the follow up and monitoring and evaluation of the restoration projects, the following experts have signed their contracts with the PMU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rangeland Management Expert</li> <li>• Chief Financial Officer (CFO)</li> <li>• External Financial Auditor (EFA)</li> <li>• IT support specialist.</li> </ul>	<p>IRs are satisfied with the progress achieved so far, particularly that NFP is now in agreement with the proposal for out-sourcing certain consultancies required through some part time experts which will have positive impact in this regard.</p>

<p>6. The RSCN accomplished a good portion of the activities related to the removal and replacement of the old fence and it initiated the bidding process for the replacement of the priority areas of the old fence due to the fact that the allocated fund is much less than the estimated cost of replacing the entire fence. The RSCN requested the BRP-PMU to extend the duration of the project for additional six months in order to complete the remaining activities, and there is no objection by the BRP-PMU for the request of the RSCN. Moreover, the BRP-PMU and the Project Coordination Unit (PCN) at RSCN met and discussed the project plan and reached to recommendation to transfer the remaining balance (98,297 US\$) of the allocated budget to the replacement of the remaining priority areas of the old fence and recommended the allocation of additional (80,000 US\$) from the interest money for the Safari vehicles.</p>	<p>Four IRs believe that the progress achieved is limited. However, we support the request of NFP to allocate the US \$ 80,000 from the interest money to expedite the project work progress.</p> <p>The IRs realized that the budget allocated for this project was “<i>grossly under-estimated</i>” and was short of meeting the improvements required in this Reserve. Evidently the budget of JD 47,000 ear-marked for the fencing job was not adequate for such a large area (total length of the fence is 180,000 linear meters). The IRs took note of the explanations given by NFP regarding the cost for renovation of the 2 Safari Vehicles and deemed that as reasonable. However, a more important job is ahead of all of us for appropriate utilization of this Reserve as a presentable Eco-tourism Center.</p> <p>However, IR Alhamad is not satisfied with the project activities and the inappropriate use of fund. He is for the opinion that it is much important to allocate money for conducting proper study on reserve carrying capacity and finding out minimum viable population size to ensure successful captive breeding program at Shaumari. Still the fence issue (actual length and cost) was not resolved.</p>
<p>7. As for the special account balance there was a concern about why the funds were split in two accounts and not combined in the special account at the Central Bank of Jordan, the PMU worked with the Ministry of Finance and other parties until the funds were consolidated in the special account with a balance of \$104,022,597, and the matter was cleared with the UNCC &amp; the IRs.</p>	<p>The IRs are satisfied with the transfer of the award funds under the Ministry of Finance account to the special account, which is hoped to reflect positively on the Finance Control and Governance of the BR project.</p>



**CHAPTER I: MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION  
BADIA RESTORATION PROJECT**

<p>with contractual obligations? to ensure transparency?</p>			<p>different contracts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NFP contracted in October 2010 an external auditor (<i>Ernst &amp; Young</i>) and reading through this <u>Agreement (page 5 of Annex 6)</u>, regarding the auditor's scope of work sounds quite "appropriate and much-needed" as it includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accounting internal control;</li> <li>• Transactions testing and review to validate the compensations received from UNCC are being used for the intended purpose;</li> <li>• Review the procedures for the procurement process;</li> <li>• Review the accounting closing process;</li> <li>• Review the reporting process; and</li> <li>• Review the compliance to UNCC Decisions: and requirements.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>d. Database &amp; Information Unit Is the DBIU well established to respond to the need of the project?</p>			<p>d. The IRs noted the relevance of DBIU role to BR Project and recommend NFP to liaise with DB Unit to continue their work focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilizing modern tools like Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS) in delineation, mapping, and large scale monitoring of range sites before and after the project interventions to set some measurable parameters for scoring the Badia restoration and natural recovery.</li> <li>• Elaborating on the DBIU role (providing digitized data and other info tools) in supporting implementation of the CAP activities.</li> </ul>
<p>C. Special Issues</p> <p>a. Any special issues reported? If so, are they to be reported to the GC and is adequate detail available to do so?</p>		X	<p>IRs believes that DBIU can play a role in implementation As well, it is suggested that DBIU to delineate and monitor the vegetation recovery of restored ecosystems.</p>

<b>CHAPTER II: GENERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BADIA RESTORATION PROJECT</b>			
<b>I. REVIEW &amp; EVALUATION</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Notes/Issues</b>
<p>A. Introduction (General Financial Management)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. Are the overall figures reasonable for the reporting period and activities planned?</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. Are there any items to be addressed in general? If so, what?</p>	<p></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">X</p>	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">X</p>	<p>a. In the detailed report, many expenses were not included such as the personnel expenses, etc...</p> <p>b. The financial report does not reflect the real disbursing of money during the reported period.</p>
<p>B. Accounting Systems and Procedures</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. Are there any changes or deviations reported?</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. If so, are they adequately explained?</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">c. Is the statement of compliance included?</p>	<p></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">X</p>	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">X</p>	<p>a. As reported, the NFP lacks a comprehensive accounting system that involves policies, procedures, reporting schemes, manuals, staff and software.</p> <p>b. NA</p>
<p>C. Procurement</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. Is the statement of application of regulations and policies included?</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. Are there any reported changes or deviations from the applicable laws?</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">o If so, are they adequately explained?</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">o Are they reasonable?</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">c. Has appropriate information been provided in regards contract tendering processes and numbers of signed contracts, etc.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">d. Are the overall numbers related to procurement reasonable for the implementation in progress?</p>	<p></p>	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">X</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">X</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">X</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">X</p>	<p>a. Just stating that the “”governmental laws and regulations were applied.”</p> <p>c. Upon previous IRs request, the NFP reported that IRs would contribute to the contracting process and in review of contracts before bidding starts. This would ensure more transparency and adherence to Governmental rules and regulations.</p> <p>d. To answer this question, one has to make field visits to assess the work progress against money spent as per the allocated budget for each task or activity. An External Controller could possibly help in the over-sight needed..</p>

<b>CHAPTER II: GENERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BADIA RESTORATION PROJECT</b>			
e. Overall, are there sufficient controls in place to ensure transparency?			e. Not really. NFP is in the process of establishing a finance control system and an Operation Manual. (as referred to above). It seems that the only control tool is through the Governmental Audit Bureau, if those procedures are considered adequate.
D. Audit Systems and Procedures			
a. Are external auditors in place?	X		a. A contract was signed (October 2010) with Ernst & Young for the auditing of the year 2010.
b. Are there any reported changes or deviations from the applicable laws?		X	
c. Are recommendations being addressed adequately?		X	
d. Is the scope of the audits sufficient to ensure all financial aspects of the Awards are covered?	X		d. The scope of the External Auditor is described under Chapter I, page 7)
E. Special Account and Cash Reporting			
a. Are the beginning and ending balances reconciled with statements?		X	a. The financial report does not show how beginning and ending balances are matched.
b. Are all adjusting items sufficiently explained and documented?		X	b. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The report has to show how ending balance from the 03<sup>rd</sup> biannual report match the ending balance in this reporting period. A proper reconciliation that contains adjusting entries must show how beginning and ending balances are matched and to trace these balances to the actual bank balances properly;</li> <li>• The un reconciled amount of US \$ 894,861 in the special account reconciliation has to be justified and documented;</li> <li>• The US \$ 544,835 in the special account reconciliation representing the UNCC expenses has to be documented;</li> <li>• Interest amount of \$ 8,508,992 and the dispute amount between UNCC and the Jordan Government amounting to US \$ 12,224,992 has to be documented.</li> </ul>
F. Special Issues			F. Special Issues
Any special issues reported?			
a. If so, are they to be reported to the GC and is adequate detail available to do so?			a. The channeling of funding to an outsider project (i.e Jerash Project) occurred for the second time. This irregular expenditure was brought to the attention of NFP in the IRs 3 <sup>rd</sup> . Biannual Report.

PROJECT 5000304: RANGELAND RESTORATION COMPONENT			
I. TECHNICAL REVIEW & EVALUATION	Yes	No	Notes/Issues
<p>1. Project Plans</p> <p>a. Is the project plan finalized? If so when was it submitted?</p> <hr/> <p>b. Have there been any changes to the project plan since the last report?</p> <p>-----</p> <p>c. Are there environmental indicators/criteria that can be used to track the progress and effectiveness of restoration measures? If so are they appropriate?</p>	X		<p>a. The current 4<sup>th</sup>. NFP Report stated the Phasing Plan on p.62, which includes 5 Sub-phases. At present we are in Sub-phase 2. IRs can only assume that this plan is endorsed, since funds are being released.</p> <hr/> <p>b. Significant changes occurred on some items such as the Incentives, macro catchments, wells rehabilitation and the irrigated fodder crops project.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>c. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was awarded to a Consulting Firm. It was expected in January 2011, but was submitted in February 2011. PNF gave the Consultants a 2-month extension period because the reports revision took some time. These 2 reports were not sent to the IRs yet.</p>
<p>2. Phasing Plans</p> <p>a. Has phasing plan been submitted and approved by the Governing Council?</p> <p>b. If so, when?</p> <p>c. Has the Phasing Plan been modified since that time?</p> <p>d. If so, is the revised phasing plan reasonable and appropriate?</p> <p>e. If not, does the phasing plan continue to be reasonable and appropriate?</p>	X	X	<p>a. IRs didn't see any official approval of the plan by GC.</p> <p>c. The current budget for the proposed phasing is shown as below:            -Sub-phase 1: \$ <b>2,176,000</b>            -Sub-phase 2: \$ <b>21,652,857</b>            - Sub-phase 3:\$ <b>8,624,150</b>            - Sub-phase 4:\$ <b>24,262,297</b>            d. This phasing and the allocated budget for each item is under discussion with NFP.</p>
<p>3. Project Status</p> <p>a. Have the projected activities for the current reporting period been conducted and verified? If not is there an explanation as to why?</p>	X		<p>3. Project Status</p> <p>a. In response to the IRs questions and clarifications raised on results of the Base Line Studies; NFP reported that IRS remarks were sent to the 5 Implementing Institutions to accommodate them and submit a "final version" of their reports. This revision and the new final reports were received in February, but the IRs haven't seen yet.</p>

**PROJECT 5000304: RANGELAND RESTORATION COMPONENT**

<p>b. Is the sufficiency of reporting and verification appropriate and reasonable?</p> <p>c. Are the activities consistent with the submitted phasing plan?</p>			<p>From the Summaries of Base Line Studies, included in the 4.th Report, which contained some valuable information, the IRs believe that it is very useful to CAP activities.</p> <p>IR Alhamad is recommending the GC to reject the reports on baseline studies and asked to the NFP to ask the implementer institutes to re-conduct and verified critical activities (i.e. carrying capacity and diversity measures) to better serve the CAP activities.</p> <p>b. There is no systematic follow up procedures. The verification process has to be put in an operational mode. Although the BR project commenced over two years ago; an internal financial and accounting system for control of expenditures and oversight is still expected soon.</p> <p>c. Yes they are.</p>
<p>4. Environmental Assessments</p> <p>a. Where any significant field demonstrations or assessments undertaken in the reporting period? If not should there have been? If so what was the outcome and .....?</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p>4. Environmental</p> <p>a. The EIA for the Fodder Crop Production is being prepared (due date <u>January 2011</u>) <u>And was submitted in February 2011.</u></p> <p>From the contract start, some demo assessment should have been conducted. The NFP Report did not elaborate on this issue.</p>

**PROJECT 5000304: RANGELAND RESTORATION COMPONENT**

<p>5. Periodic Technical Evaluation</p> <p>a. Is the project being implemented in a reasonable and appropriate way? Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is the plan reasonable and appropriate to achieve the purpose of the award?</li> <li>▪ Is the approach (procurement procedures and outcomes...) reasonable and appropriate for implementing the project plan? Are timelines appropriate?</li> <li>▪ Has new information come to light that raise questions about the approach etc?</li> <li>▪ Is there adequate progress being made.</li> </ul> <p>b. Are there any proposed changes to the project/phasing plan (e.g. modifications, adaptive management)?</p> <p>If so do you support these changes?</p>	<p align="center">X</p> <p align="center">X</p> <p align="center">X</p> <p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p> <p align="center">X</p>	<p>a. NFP staff are following-up contracted interventions, however some technical back stopping, related to gauging work progress, ought to be introduced for such significant project.</p> <p>It's variable from one activity to the other.</p> <p>b. A phasing plan was suggested for the CAP implementation</p> <p>Generally yes.</p>
<p>2. Projected Activities</p> <p>a. Are the projected activities for the next reporting period consistent with the project/phasing plan?</p> <p>b. Are the project activities reasonable and appropriate?</p>	<p align="center">X</p> <p align="center">X</p>		<p>2. Project Activities</p> <p>a. As the CAP is the main component of the BRP, therefore the following issues need to be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost of rangeland rehabilitation per unit area and NFP gave some figures on that..</li> <li>• Land tenure issue was raised and NFP gave justification for not addressing it, as most of the targeted areas are governmental lands, earmarked as "rangelands". More emphasis should be given to this issue.</li> <li>• Link between the incentives and the restoration project was elaborated on by NFP, with details of Incentives distribution systems, community leaders, establishing range cooperatives and rest grazing, etc.</li> <li>• The DBIU role in servicing the CAP activities was adequately</li> </ul>



<b>PROJECT 5000304: RANGELAND RESTORATION COMPONENT</b>			
<p>c. Are expenditures and obligations transparent and based on established policy as reported by the NFP?</p> <p>d. Are any deviations reported from established policies and if so, are they justified?</p> <p>e. Is there a request for release of funds? Is the request appropriate and reasonable?</p>		<p>X</p> <p>X</p>	<p>c. The detailed projects expenditures are not included.</p> <p>e. The request is reasonable, however the IRs recommends strengthening the NFP capacity, technical and financials and development of appropriate tools.</p>
<b>III. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Notes/Issues</b>
<p>1. Are there any significant issues/problems that you would like to bring to the attention of the Governing Council?</p> <p>2. Does the Council need to authorize the release of funds?</p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>		<p>1. The NFP should be strengthened by the proper technical and financial personnel and with the application of the appropriate tools to ensure smooth, transparent and efficient supervision of the project activities.</p> <p>2. Yes, taking into consideration the categories that the IRs presented for the funds release. First category meant to release funds immediately, which basically represent budget lines that are basically covering admin and operational matters. The second category, however, are to be disbursed into two installments and after receiving satisfactory clarifications/ answers from the NFP on all IRs issues been raised. (Ref. Key Issues on front page). In addition, the payments are linked with receiving satisfactory delivery rates reports.</p>

PROJECT 5000304: SHAUMARI COMPONENT			
I. TECHNICAL REVIEW & EVALUATION	Yes	No	Notes/Issues
<p>1. Project Plans</p> <p>a. Is the project plan finalized? If so when was it submitted?</p> <p>b. Have there been any changes to the project plan since the last report?</p> <p>c. Are there environmental indicators/criteria that can be used to track the progress and effectiveness of restoration measures? If so are they appropriate?</p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>1. Project Plans</p> <p>a. NFP stated that a detailed plan was submitted, reviewed technically by the UNCC and finalized in May 2009 (page 48 of 4<sup>th</sup> Biannual Report).</p> <p>b. Yes changes were reported.</p> <p>The IRs requested that Jordan NFP revise Shaumari project plan. In the 4<sup>th</sup> biannual report, NFP submitted a revised plan. The current plan option seems to be appropriate as more budget is allocated to the fence at the same time addresses the Safari Vehicles issues.</p> <p>However, IR Alhamad is requesting immediate submission of documents and explanations about current and future progress of the Shaumari Captive Reserve Project, including information on minimum viable population size of animals, the actual budget for fixing the fencing around the Reserve.</p> <p>c. Not identified.</p>
<p>2. Phasing Plans</p> <p>a. Has phasing plan been submitted and approved by the Governing Council?</p> <p>b. If so, when?</p> <p>c. Has the Phasing Plan been modified since that time?</p> <p>d. If so, is the revised phasing plan reasonable and appropriate?</p> <p>e. If not, does the phasing plan continue to be reasonable and appropriate?</p>			<p>2. Phasing Plans</p> <p>IRs don't really know.</p> <p>May 2009?</p> <p>A request for additional US \$ 80,000 is raised.</p> <p>Some clarifications and detailed information from PMU were requested by the IRs.</p>
<p>3. Project Status</p> <p>a. Have the projected activities for the current reporting period been conducted and verified? If not is there an explanation as to why?</p>		<p>X</p>	<p>a. Report states (on PP48-49) that all Project activities were 100% completed, with the exception of the</p>

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<p>b. Is the sufficiency of reporting and verification appropriate and reasonable?</p> <p>c. Are the activities consistent with the submitted phasing plan?</p>		X	<p>(Activity of Number and Sex of new Animals acquired), which was 70% completed; Fencing was only 50% completed and Safari Vehicles were 70% completed.</p> <p>The NFP is asked to provide some explanation for the delays.</p> <p>However, NFP is requested to clarify the reported percentages on fence repair.</p> <p>c. The RSCN started implementing the Action Plan after it was approved by UNCC in May 2009, (p.48 as above mentioned).</p>
<p>4. Environmental Assessments</p> <p>a. Where any significant field demonstrations or assessments undertaken in the reporting period?</p> <p>b. If not should there have been?</p> <p>c. If so what was the outcome and ...?</p>			<p>Nothing in the Report on this.</p>
<p>5. Periodic Technical Evaluation</p> <p>a. Is the project being implemented in a reasonable and appropriate way? Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is the plan reasonable and appropriate to achieve the purpose of the award?</li> <li>▪ Is the approach (procurement procedures and outcomes...) reasonable and appropriate for implementing the project plan? Are timelines appropriate?</li> <li>▪ Has new information come to light that raise questions about the approach etc?</li> <li>▪ Is there adequate progress</li> </ul>	X	X	<p>a. Some activities were reported to have 70-100 % delivery rates. It became clear from the NFP response to the IRs clarifications raised on this Project regarding the main two outstanding issues is summarized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fencing: the delays, and rather , failing to execute this job was basically due to a “grossly under-estimated budget” earmarked for erecting a fence for 18,000 m with a budget of 70,000 \$US?</li> </ul> <p>However, the actual costs for fixing the whole fence were not clear to IRs and NFP is asked to give more details from Shaumari Project Manager. For the Safari Vehicles: NFP gave an explanation for the costs for fixing</p>



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<p>6. Projected Activities</p> <p>a. Are the projected activities for the next reporting period consistent with the project/phasing plan?</p> <p>b. Are the projected activities reasonable and appropriate?</p>	X	X	<p>6. The NFP is called upon to watch implementing institution (RSCN) to finish completely all Project activities within the 6-months extension period. This is important for turning the attention to future Management of the Reserve for Oryx and Sand Gazalle, as well as to develop it as a qualified Captive Reserve for Eco-tourism. However, Alhamad think it's a premature to encourage the ecotourism activities at this stage where the other core captive breeding program activities were not done yet. Also, issues related to the impact of ecotourism and business plan are needed.</p>
<b>II. FINANCIAL REVIEW &amp; EVALUATION</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Notes/Issues</b>
<p>Periodic and Total Expenditure</p> <p>a. What were the total expenditures for this project?</p> <p>b. Is the actual expenditure consistent with the planned expenditure?</p>	X		<p>a. Total expenditure since the start is US \$ 148,576 Total reporting period expenditures US \$ 0</p> <p>b. Generally so.</p>
<b>III. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Notes/Issues</b>
<p>1. Are there any significant issues/problems that you would like to bring to the attention of the Governing Council?</p> <p>2. Does the Council need to authorize the release of funds?</p>	X	X	<p>1. See above comments.</p> <p>2. Yes, as per the payment installments suggested above. The IRs support the release except IR Alhamad is not recommending the release of fund.</p>