

Study case

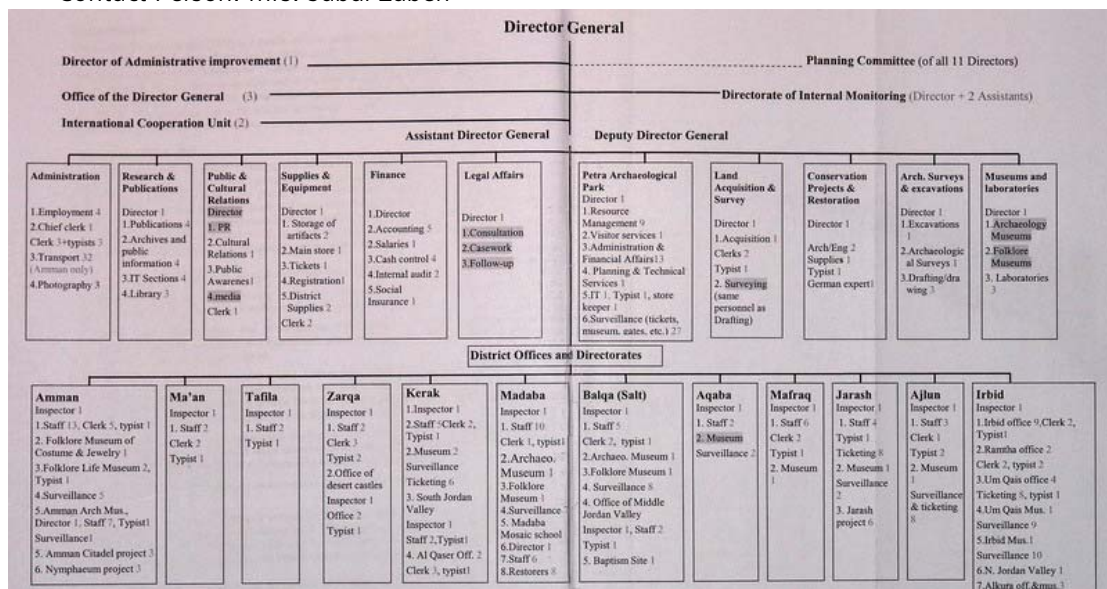
Preliminary Study on the case of Amman and Jarash

1) Project Location

City of Amman and Jarash – The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

2) Organizations and Institutes to be referred to

- CIM, Center of International Migration and Development, Mendelssohnstr. 75-77, D-60325 Frankfurt, Germany
www.cimonline.de
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- GTZ, German Technical Cooperation, P.O. Box 926 238, Amman 11190
<http://www.gtz.de>
Contact Person: Mr. Wolfgang Koellisch,
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- DOA, Department of Antiquities, P.O. Box 88, Amman 11118, HK o. Jordan
Contact Person: Mrs. Sabal Zaben



3) Intervention Area

- The old city of Amman and the Citadel
- Jarash historic site and the city within the ancient border wall

4) Project Framing (abstract of the PowerPoint presentation)

The paper is not yet an intervention programme but a wonderful opportunity to introduce the efforts of the Department of Antiquities in his new role to extent the crucial tasks of the future. The DoA Jordan could be one the best qualified agency to take responsibility for the preservation and conservation of the urban heritage and to make his contribution for a better urban development in historic cities.

The present role is to preserve the Jordanian cultural heritage according to the law. At the time the Law of Antiquities protects ancient monuments and sites only pre 1750. Therefore the protection of Heritage post 1750 is not given.

At the present time the local government, the Ministry of Tourism, the Department of Antiquities and other Ministries have to realize the value and the responsibility with regard to superficial economic interests. What has priority now is to start on many fronts at the same time.

- Amendments to the Law for heritage preservation
- Large scale inventories and documentation
- Identification of priorities
- Establishment of projects for revitalization of urban fabrics with the help of international organizations and institutes

Amman

Amman with his first civilization during the Neolithic period, around 6500 BC was named Philadelphia by the Hellenic ruler of Egypt, Ptolemy II Philadelphus. In 324 AD, Christianity became the religion of the Roman Empire. Philadelphia became the seat of a bishopric during the beginning of the Byzantine era. One of the churches of this period can be seen on the city's Citadel. In 1921 Abdullah the first chose Amman as seat of his new government and later as the capital of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Amman remained a small city until 1948, when the population expanded considerable due to an influx of Palestinian refugees. Amman has now an exceptionally rapid development under the leadership of two Hashemite Kings, their Majesties Hussein and Abdullah. The city's population continues to expand in an enormous speed. During the last 10 years the amount of new buildings within the city has increased dramatically. The visible ignorance to respect the ancient remains as well as the historic buildings and quarters causes dilapidation and decline of historic architecture. It seems that a good part of Amman's urban heritage was simply sacrificed economic interests.

Jarash

Jarash is one of the Decapolis cities with Hellenistic origin. The modern part of the city, within the ancient border wall, has particularly in the past ten years developed into a hustle and bustle city. The threat to the ancient setting is striking visible. The urban development presses the comparison of a sore, growing unstoppable. The pictures are self explaining.

