

Jordan Activities
Quarterly Report-VIII
Sustainable Development of Drylands Project
IALC-BRDP

Activities Summary (July 1 – September 30, 2004):

Bio-solid Analysis:

- The bio-solid characterization project with Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has concluded phase I, and the final report was submitted to the University of Arizona (UoA) for review and comment.
- The project was started June, 2003 and aims to perform detailed characterization of bio-solids generated at three wastewater treatment plants in Jordan as a fundamental step to set guidelines for the acceptability of using bio-solids in agricultural applications.
- The proposal for phase II of this project is prepared with focus on the application of bio-solids. The proposal is under final revision by both RSS and UoA.

Study Tour in Bio-solid analysis and application in Tucson, Arizona:

- Two people from RSS have been invited to participate in a two-week Scientific Study Tour at the University of Arizona in the field of bio-solid analysis and applications.

Wadi Mousa Visitors' Center

- Dr. Erin Addison, the Landscape Architecture graduate student, who is designing the landscape and interpreting materials for Wadi Mousa Visitor center, continued visiting the site to collect more information and field data including interviews with the local people, a BRDP staff member assisted her in translating interviews with local people.
- The concept design and the draft plan were presented to the Petra Regional Authority (PRA) and to the Department of Antiquities (DoA) for their comments and final approval.

Workshop with Hashemite University

- Dr Ramzi Touchan, from University of Arizona, conducted a workshop titled "Sustainable Water Resources Management: the Role of Proxy Records in Understanding Drought and its influence on Reclaimed Water Resources" in cooperation with the Hashemite University, during the third week of July, 2004.
- The workshop introduced techniques and applications of dendrochronology and other proxy records and described their roles in generating information on climatic trends and affected ecological resources of management-oriented decision-making.

Aqaba Water Conserving Garden

- Miss Karen Vitkey, the Landscape Architecture Master's student, who is designing the Water Conserving Garden, finished working on the plans and designs for the garden.

- The final design was presented to Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA) and their comments were considered. The final plans and design are ready to be submitted officially to ASEZA and USAID-Amman.

Activities Summary for the following period (October 1 – December 31, 2004):

Bio-solid Analysis:

- The contract between BRDP and RSS will be prepared and signed to implement the project,
- Preparations and initial steps for Phase II of the project will start.
- Dr Chris Choi, the technical advisor for the project from UoA, will visit Jordan and discuss the progress of the project with RSS.

Wadi Mousa Visitors' Center

- Final plans and the design will be finished by the end of the year.

Aqaba Water Conserving Garden

- The project will be concluded and the final design and plans will be submitted to ASEZA and USAID-Amman through BRDP.

Study Tour in Bio-solid analysis and application in Tucson, Arizona:

- A two-week Scientific Study Tour for two specialists in bio-solid analysis and applications from RSS will be held during the first half of December, 2004.

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