

Prioritisation of Legal Entry Points for Water-related Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

Scoring Scale

H – High Priority

Strong strategic importance and high potential to enable, operationalise, or scale water-related NbS.

M – Medium Priority

Relevant and potentially useful, but may require further analysis, coordination, or enabling conditions.

L – Lower Priority

Limited strategic value, feasibility, or impact at the current stage.

Prioritisation criteria:

- Relevance to water-related Nature-based Solutions (NbS), national priorities, and sectoral strategies;
- Strength and legal clarity of the identified legal and institutional entry point;
- Practicality and feasibility within the Jordanian legal and institutional context;
- Strategic significance, including its potential to support cross-sectoral coordination and implementation;
- Potential impact for enabling, operationalising, and scaling water-related NbS; and
- Alignment with relevant national and international commitments.

1. Water Authority Law No. 18 of 1988 and Amendments

Overall Priority

H M L

Water Authority Law No. 18 of 1988 and Amendments ☐ ☐ ☐

Main reasons for the assigned priority level (select up to three):

- ☐ Relevance to water-related NbS and national priorities
- ☐ Strong legal mandate and clarity
- ☐ Practical and feasible within the Jordanian context
- ☐ Supports cross-sectoral coordination and implementation
- ☐ High potential impact for enabling and scaling NbS
- ☐ Strong alignment with national and international commitments
- ☐ Other: _____

Proposed Legal Entry Point**H M L**

Article 2 – Add definitions for water-related NbS

☐ ☐ ☐

Article 6 – Include NbS explicitly within WAJ responsibilities (watershed rehabilitation, recharge protection, flood retention, stormwater harvesting, soil and water conservation)

☐ ☐ ☐

Article 21 – Introduce stormwater and NbS development contribution requirements for new developments and redevelopments

☐ ☐ ☐

Article 24 – Enable ecological protection measures and NbS along main water lines and irrigation canals

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2. Jordan Valley Authority Law No. 3 of 2001

Overall Priority**H M L**Jordan Valley Authority Law No. 3 of 2001 ☐ ☐ ☐**Main reasons for the assigned priority level (select up to three):**

- ☐ Relevance to water-related NbS and national priorities
- ☐ Strong legal mandate and clarity
- ☐ Practical and feasible within the Jordanian context
- ☐ Supports cross-sectoral coordination and implementation
- ☐ High potential impact for enabling and scaling NbS
- ☐ Strong alignment with national and international commitments
- ☐ Other: _____

Proposed Legal Entry Point**H M L**

Article 2 – Add definitions for NbS

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Article 3 – Include NbS explicitly within JVA mandate and functions

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Article 18 – Enable allocation and use of water for ecosystem functions, recharge, wetlands and environmental flows

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Article 22 – Introduce obligations or incentives for farmers and landholders to apply soil and water conservation NbS

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Article 23 – Require residential and settlement planning to include NbS measures

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Article 24 – Include NbS criteria within water-use instructions for agricultural units

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Proposed Legal Entry Point**H M L**

Article 33 – Require development licences to incorporate sustainable drainage and NbS measures

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3. Environmental Protection Law No. 6 of 2017

Overall Priority**H M L**

Environmental Protection Law No. 6 of 2017 ☐ ☐ ☐

Main reasons for the assigned priority level (select up to three):

- ☐ Relevance to water-related NbS and national priorities
- ☐ Strong legal mandate and clarity
- ☐ Practical and feasible within the Jordanian context
- ☐ Supports cross-sectoral coordination and implementation
- ☐ High potential impact for enabling and scaling NbS
- ☐ Strong alignment with national and international commitments
- ☐ Other: _____

Proposed Legal Entry Point**H M L**

Article 2 – Add definitions for NbS

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Article 4 – Strengthen Ministry mandate for ecosystem restoration and water-related NbS

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Article 5 – Require assessment and consideration of NbS alternatives within EIAs and environmental audits

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Article 9 – Promote use of NbS for water-source and marine-environment protection and pollution prevention

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Article 12 – Integrate restoration-focused NbS within protected area and ecosystem management plans

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4. Agriculture Law No. 13 of 2015 and Amendments

Overall Priority**H M L**

Agriculture Law No. 13 of 2015 and Amendments ☐ ☐ ☐

Main reasons for the assigned priority level (select up to three):

- ☐ Relevance to water-related NbS and national priorities
- ☐ Strong legal mandate and clarity

- ☐ Practical and feasible within the Jordanian context
- ☐ Supports cross-sectoral coordination and implementation
- ☐ High potential impact for enabling and scaling NbS
- ☐ Strong alignment with national and international commitments
- ☐ Other: _____

Proposed Legal Entry Point

H M L

- | | |
|---|--|
| Article 2 – Add legal definitions for NbS | ☐ ☐ ☐ |
| Article 3 – Expand Ministry objectives and functions to include NbS and ecosystem restoration approaches | ☐ ☐ ☐ |
| Article 15 – Enable the use of constructed wetlands and nature-based treatment systems, subject to existing health and water-quality requirements | ☐ ☐ ☐ |
| Article 26 – Integrate ecological restoration, watershed restoration and nature-based land management in forests and rangelands | ☐ ☐ ☐ |
| Article 36 – Promote NbS for rangeland improvement and ecosystem restoration | ☐ ☐ ☐ |

5. Cities, Villages and Buildings Law No. 79 of 1966 and Amendments

Overall Priority

H M L

Cities, Villages and Buildings Law No. 79 of 1966 and Amendments ☐ ☐ ☐

Main reasons for the assigned priority level (select up to three):

- ☐ Relevance to water-related NbS and national priorities
- ☐ Strong legal mandate and clarity
- ☐ Practical and feasible within the Jordanian context
- ☐ Supports cross-sectoral coordination and implementation
- ☐ High potential impact for enabling and scaling NbS
- ☐ Strong alignment with national and international commitments
- ☐ Other: _____

Proposed Legal Entry Point

H M L

- | | |
|---|--|
| Article 2 – Add definitions for NbS | ☐ ☐ ☐ |
| Article 4 – Integrate NbS within planning duties and planning processes | ☐ ☐ ☐ |
| Article 7 – Develop technical guidance and model standards for urban NbS and sustainable drainage systems | ☐ ☐ ☐ |

Proposed Legal Entry Point**H M L**

Article 14 – Require assessment of flood pathways, wadis, recharge zones, ecosystem services and green infrastructure opportunities ☐ ☐ ☐

Article 15 – Integrate regional-scale NbS within planning schemes and spatial plans ☐ ☐ ☐

Article 19 – Incorporate blue-green infrastructure networks and sustainable urban drainage within master planning schemes ☐ ☐ ☐

Article 27 – Introduce minimum planning and development requirements for water-related NbS ☐ ☐ ☐

Articles 28–30 – Require subdivision plans to reserve land and easements for NbS and drainage corridors ☐ ☐ ☐

Article 34 – Make compliance with key NbS requirements a condition for development and building permits ☐ ☐ ☐