

Irrigation Consultants and Certification Body.		
Sector: Agriculture	Project Value: JD0.75M	Location: Mafraq, Amman
<p>Potential Opportunity</p> <p>There are many issues associated with water in the region, and the agricultural sector will soon be very much reliant on using reclaimed water. In 1995, Saudi Arabia banned all agricultural fruit and vegetables as it claimed they had been grown using waste water.</p> <p>Europe's Eurepgap standards require certification that not only refer to quality but also processing, so a perfectly satisfactory product tested free of contaminants may be rejected. Ten exporters had received Eurepgap certification (this time last year); one had avoided the issue by using well water.</p> <p>There are large irrigation projects in the upper lands and Jordan Valley where expertise is needed, and progress monitored.</p> <p>Irrigation technology is a promising approach to making a significant contribution to the agriculture sector. Low pressure irrigation (distinct from drip irrigation), in which plants are cultivated in a hydroponics (aquaponic) environment.</p> <p>Irrigation systems can be installed by farmers themselves, equipment is readily available. However, irrigation is a science and involves knowledge of the plant needs in conjunction with the appropriate equipment to satisfy those requirements.</p> <p>The low pressure irrigation process uses less energy and water. This isn't a high investment concept project however, with the support of government legislation for agricultural properties to be certified in terms of water efficiency, this will be a worthwhile investment.</p>		
<p>I. Description of the Business</p> <p>Knowledgeable irrigation consultant with the necessary facilities to, store, operate, test equipment. Part of the premises will be an office, suitable infrastructure, design facilities and training for users.</p>		