

Historical Developmental Plans of the Jordan River Basin			
Year	Plan	Commission	Main Aspects
1901			Abraham Burkart develops proposals for the use of the regional water resources
1913	Frangia Plan	Ottoman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transferring Yarmouk River flows to Tiberias Storage of 100 MCM in Tiberias Generating electricity
1919			Pinhas Rutenberg works on the regional water development
1922-1948			<p>British Mandate commences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change of the northern borders of Palestine, through which the Zionist movement was given potential access to the Jordan River headwaters Agreement reached between the Zionists and the British Authority regarding water resources 70 year concession to the Rutenberg Co. to exploit the Jordan and Yarmouk Rivers and generate electricity Concessions to Jewish companies to exploit the inland rivers of Palestine and drain Lake Huleh
1922	Mavromatis	British	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transferring Yarmouk River flows to Lake Tiberias Transferring water to the east and west banks to the south of Tiberias Generating electricity
1926	Rutenberg Concession	British	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generating electricity
1928	Henrique	British	In addition to the Mavromatis proposals, the plan proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the irrigation of the Yarmouk Triangle; transferring Yarmouk River flows to Tiberias
1939	Ionides Plan	British	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversion of a portion of the Yarmouk flow to irrigate 45,300 dunums in the East Ghor area Storage of surplus water from the Yarmouk River in Lake Tiberias, and pumping to irrigate 300,000 dunums of the East Ghor area The secured irrigation waters of the Jordan River System, estimated at 742 MCM, were to be used primarily within the Jordan Valley Basin
1943-1944	Walter Clay Lowdermilk	USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversion of the waters of the Litani River and the Upper Jordan catchment in Lebanon to historical southern Palestine Use of the Jordan and Yarmouk Rivers to create hydroelectric power Construction of a canal to connect the Mediterranean Sea with the Dead Sea Development of an authority similar to the Tennessee Valley Authority to control all activities concerning water resources Control over the proposed project should be solely in the hands of Israel, with limited input from the United Nations
1947-1948	Hays (The World Zionist Organization)	Zionist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of the water resources in Jordan River Basin, ignoring Arab water rights Diversion of Yarmouk River flows into Lake Tiberias to replace water diverted from upper Jordan River
1947	United Nations Partition Plan	UN General Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Palestine to be divided into two States, one Jewish and one Arab Jews own less than 7% of the land; make up 30% of the population Jews are to receive 55% of the land The State of Israel will receive the upper Jordan in the north and thereby the opportunity to carry out the basic concepts of the Lowdermilk-Hays project.
1948			<p>End of the British Mandate</p> <p>Jews launched the 1948 war; Israel was created</p>
1948	James B. Hays	Israeli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TVA on the Jordan; proposals for irrigation and hydro-electric development in Palestine
1949			<p>Armistice Agreements with Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria</p>
1950	Murdoch MacDonald	Jordan/UNRWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of the Jordan River for irrigation (435,000 dunums on the east side; 60,000 dunums in Syria) Storage of Yarmouk waters in Lake Tiberias Constructing canals on both banks of the lower Jordan River
1951			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 January: The Jewish National Fund of the World Zionist Organization agrees to help finance a \$250 million development project that includes drainage of the 15,000 acre Huleh Marshes. The drainage channels would impinge on Syrian territory within the central demilitarized zone Israel closes the gates of an existing dam south of Tiberias Lake and begins draining the Huleh Swamp. An attempt commences to divert the river to irrigate the Negev desert and the coastal area 18 May: UN Security Council Resolution 92 calls on Israel to stop draining the marshes of Lake Huleh and allow the return of the Palestinians; Israel prevents all but 350 from returning Jordan announces a plan to irrigate the East Ghor area of the Jordan Valley by tapping the Yarmouk June: Syria and Jordan agree to share the Yarmouk, but Israel protests that its riparian rights were not recognized
1952	Bunger	UNRWA/Jordan/Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage dam along the Yarmouk River at Maqarin (480 m³) Diversion dam at Addasiya: direct gravity flow along the East Ghor of the Jordan Valley Jordan agrees that Syria will receive 2/3 of the hydropower (28,300 kw/hr) in exchange for Jordan receiving 7/8 of the natural flow of the river offering resettlement for 100,000 refugees
1953			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Israel launches, on an urgent basis, a diversion project on a nine mile channel mid-way between the Huleh Marshes and Lake Tiberias in the central demilitarized zone. The plan was to divert enough water to help irrigate the coastal Sharon Plain and eventually the Negev desert. Syria claimed it would dry up 12,000 acres of Syrian land. The UNTSO Chief of Staff Major General Vagn Bennike of Denmark noted that the project was denying water to two Palestinian water mills; was drying up Palestinian farm land; and was of substantial military benefit to Israel against Syria. The US cut off aid to Israel. The Israeli response was to increase work UN Security Council Resolution 100 required Israel to stop work pending an investigation. Israel finally relented and for the next three years the US kept its economic sanctions in effect by insisting on tying aid to Israel's actions
1953	Main Plan	USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tennessee Valley Authority drafted the "Unified Development of the Water Resources of the Jordan Valley Region"
1953	Israeli Seven Year Plan	Israeli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drainage of Huleh Lake Northern Galilee schemes Jordan Valley schemes Western Galilee schemes Auja (Yarkon)-Western Negev scheme Auja (Yarkon)-Eastern Negev scheme
1953	Johnston Plan (commencement)	USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based initially on the Main Plan Proposed construction of a dam on the Hasbani River to irrigate Galilee lands Drainage of Huleh Lake Proposed construction of two dams on the Banias and Dan Rivers Proposed construction of the Maqarin dam on the Yarmouk River Proposed construction of a diversion dam near Addasiya Proposed dam construction at the outlet of Lake Tiberias to increase storage
1954	Arab League Plan	Arab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water usage for irrigation of Arab lands and generating electrical power Objection to Israel transferring Jordan River flows outside the Jordan Basin All riparian states have the right to irrigate their land inside their borders
1954	Cotton Plan	Israeli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive plan for all water resources in the Basin Irrigation of 260,000 dunums Included Litani River
1955	Baker-Harza Plan	Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Master plan for the development of the Jordan Valley Based on the use of the lateral valley flows and about 155 MCM from the upper Jordan to develop the Jordan Valley
1955	Johnston Plan (final)	USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19 February: Preliminary understanding concerning major elements of the proposed plan with Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt. Tentative agreement reached on a 300 MCM dam at Maqarin on the Yarmouk River and diversion at Addasiya. 10 March: Discussion with Israel on the agreement. Johnston reassures Israel about its main concern, the nature of the neutral authority which would be established to oversee the allocations of water 14 March: Meeting between Assistant Secretary of State Allen and Ambassador Eban of Israel. Eban reports that Allen threatened to withhold aid from Israel if the Israelis did not come to terms with Johnston June: Israel agrees to the basic elements of the Johnston Plan August: Johnston returns to Middle East for talks with representatives from the Arab States August: Lebanon expresses concern over allocation of the Hasbani flows August: Jordan states that it would accept the Johnston proposals on economic grounds given certain modifications, but that a political decision would have to be taken by a subcommittee of Arab states October: Johnston Plan fails to win approval by the Arab League
1956	Ten Year Plan	Israeli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversion point for the National Water Carrier shifted to Eshed Kinort at the northwest corner of Lake Tiberias Allegedly designed in accordance with Israel's water allocation in the Johnston Plan
1957	Soviet-Syrian Aid Agreement	Soviet Union/Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions for a hydroelectric project in the Yarmouk Basin
1958	Israeli National Water Carrier	Israeli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Israel begins construction of the National Water Carrier
1964			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Arab leaders gathered in Cairo to issue a final communique. The National Water Carrier was considered an aggressive plan to divert the course of the River Jordan, endangering the riparian rights of the Arab nations. The Israelis completed the project on May 1964 In retaliation for Israeli projects the Arabs vowed to draw water from the Banias in Syria and send the water east through Syria and Jordan to the south of Lake Tiberias. They began construction, but the Israelis destroyed their equipment by artillery fire The concept of a dam on the Yarmouk River was reaffirmed at the First Arab Summit in Cairo, and again at subsequent summits. Construction begun on a lower dam at Mukheiba Israel laid claim to the River Dan, a reservoir, and all the springs in the area (the headwaters of the Jordan River) Syria claimed several of the springs and part of the reservoir, and pointed out that the road Israel had built to patrol the area intruded on Syrian territory
1965	Syrian diversion of Jordan River headwaters	Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of dams to divert water from the Banias and Dan Rivers Threatened reduction in Israel's ability to access Jordan River waters
1966			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Security Council Draft Resolution (S/757/Rev.1) supported by the USA requesting Syria "to strengthen its measures for preventing incidents that constitute a violation of the General Armistice Agreement" and "inviting" Israel to cooperate fully with the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission. The Soviets vetoed the Resolution on 4 November 1966 because it equated the actions of Syria to those of Israel
1967			<p>June 1967 War; UN Security Council Resolution 242</p>
1973			<p>UN Security Council Resolution 338</p>
1974			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separation of Forces Agreement between Israel and Egypt

1975	Jordanian Seven Year Plan	Jordan	•A dam at Maqarin with a storage capacity of 486 MCM which would generate 20MW of power
1978	Israel's invasion of Lebanon, giving Israel temporary control of the Wazzani spring/stream feeding the Jordan		
1980	•In the absence of an agreement, Syria begins construction of a series of small impoundment dams on the headwaters of the Yarmouk within Syrian territory. By August 1988, 20 dams were in place with a combined storage capacity of 156 MCM. That capacity has since grown to 27 dams with a combined capacity of approximately 250 MCM, and is projected to grow to a total storage of 366 MCM by 2010. Israel, meanwhile, increases its Yarmouk withdrawals from the 25 MCM allocated in the Johnston negotiations to 70-100 MCM/yr		
1987	•Syria and Jordan reaffirmed their mutual commitment to a dam at Maqarin in 1987, whereby Jordan would receive 75% of the water stored in the proposed reservoir and Syria would receive all of the hydropower generated		
1988	•Agreement signed by Jordan and Syria - Jordan will receive 75% of the stored water, while Syria will receive 25% of the flow and all 46 MW of hydropower to be generated. The World Bank insists that all riparians agree to project before funding is provided; Israel refuses		
1993	Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements (Israel/Palestine)		
1994	Israel/Jordan Peace Treaty	Israel/Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Water from the Yarmouk River ...Summer Period: May 15th to October 15th of each year, Israel pumps 12 MCM and Jordan gets the rest of the flow. ... Winter Period: October 16th to May 14th of each year, Israel pumps 13 MCM and Jordan is entitled to the rest of the flow. •Water from the Jordan River ...Summer Period: May 15th to October 15th of each year, Israel concedes to transfer to Jordan in the summer period 20 MCM in return for the additional water that Jordan concedes to Israel in winter ... Winter Period: October 16th to May 14th of each year, Jordan is entitled to store for its use a minimum average of 20 MCM of the floods in the Jordan River. Jordan is entitled to an annual quantity of 10 MCM of desalinated water from the desalination of about 20 MCM of saline springs now diverted to the Jordan River. •Additional Water ...Israel and Jordan shall cooperate in finding sources for the supply to Jordan of an additional quantity of 50 MCM/yr of water of drinkable standards. •Storage ...Israel and Jordan shall cooperate to build a diversion/storage dam on the Yarmouk River directly downstream of the Adassiya Diversion ...Israel and Jordan shall cooperate to build a system of water storage on the Jordan River, along their common boundary
1995	Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip (Oslo II) Article 40: Does not include the Jordan River <i>Israel recognizes the Palestinian water rights in the West Bank. During the interim period, a quantity of 70-80 MCM should be made available to the Palestinians</i>		
2001	The Wazzani conflict between Lebanon and Israel		
2003	The Road Map to a Permanent Two-State Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict is released by the Quartet		