

Press Release

The EU funded twinning project of "Enhancement of the Cadastral System in Jordan for the Department of Lands and Survey" was officially closed on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of April with a ceremony attended by the Director General of DLS, the Swedish Ambassador to Jordan, the Polish Ambassador to Jordan and EU Delegation representatives.

The project which commenced on 9 October 2011 has been implemented as a joint action between the Department of Lands and Survey and EU Member States consortium comprised of Lantmäteriet of Sweden and GUGiK of Poland and funded by EU from the bilateral coopretaion funds.

Over a period of just 18 months, the project has successfully updated the land registration process, improved overall security of analogue and digital land information and adopted a new approach to accurate land valuation. The results provide a solid basis for the Jordanian authorities to continue the work on modern land management.

This was a highly successful project and is a concrete example of what can be achieved in a short period of time with commitment and ownership, when likeminded highly qualified professionals come together to learn from each other.

**Background:** Twinning is a unique instrument for the cooperation between Public Administrations of EU Member States (MS) and countries potential candidates to EU membership, as well as countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy. It strives to share good practices developed within the EU with beneficiary public administrations and to foster long-term relationships between administrations.

Twinning projects are built around shared policy objectives agreed between the public authorities of the beneficiary country and the Member States. They include a broad variety of activities implemented by experts from Member States, leading to the achievement of mandatory results.

Two Project Leaders (one on behalf of the Member State leading the project, the other of the beneficiary administration) and a Resident Twinning Adviser (RTA) are the backbone of Twinning projects. The RTA coordinates the project and is seconded to the beneficiary administration for a minimum of 12 months. The work plan of a Twinning project usually foresees expert missions, training events and awareness raising visits.

The EU is funding the twinning programme in Jordan since 2005, and has eleven twinning contracts in various stages of implementation or preparation in areas such as statistics,

gendarmerie, traffic safety, civil aviation, consumer product standards, tourism, anticorruption, telecoms regulatory etc.