The Disi / Saq transboundary aquifer agreement between Jordan and Saudi Arabia
➢ Jordan is an arid to semi arid country
➢ An area of about 90,000 km².
➢ A population of 10 million. Annual growth rate of about 2.2 %
➢ High influxes of refugees from the neighbouring countries adds burden to water supply system due to instability in the region.
➢ About 80% of the population lives in urban areas concentrated in the northern and middle parts of Jordan.
➢ More than 40% of Jordan’s sustainable water resources are transboundary
➢ Disi aquifer is a strategic water resource for Jordan
Disi/ Disi Project is

- A shared groundwater basin
- A non-renewable aquifer
- Pumping and transfer of Groundwater from an area that is 350 Km south of Amman
- A project with a heavy environmental impact and costly but necessary due to water scarcity
- Other upcoming projects are targeting non-renewable groundwater along with desalination projects
- An average of 2 m per year is the decline in Jordan’s renewable aquifers.
Disi Conveyance Map
Transboundary cooperation and agreement Disi-Saq Aquifer

- An Agreement was signed between Jordan and Saudi Arabia in 2014.
- Specifying the boundaries of the agreement / Aquifer
- Disi in Jordan and Saq in Saudi Arabia
- Management area and Prohibited / Protected area
- No groundwater investment projects in the Protected area
- Drilling in the management area should be according to the agreed standards
Transboundary cooperation and agreement Disi-Saq Aquifer

- Drilling in the protected area should be for the purpose of monitoring only.
- Protection against pollution
- Using groundwater for domestic purposes only
- The Joint water committee (to monitor implementation of the agreement, Discuss any issue that may appear because of investments, pollution, changes in water level), experts can be invited
- Monitoring data exchange
Disi / Dubayib Outcrop Area in Jordan
Major Wellfields in Southern Jordan and Northern Saudi Arabia
Management and Protected areas according to the agreement
Finally,,

This agreement, aims at achieving a long-term sustainable management of this non-renewable transboundary source of groundwater between Jordan and Saudi Arabia through integrating aspects of:

- Monitoring and protection
- Sustainability of the agreement implementation and development through the Joint committee
- Data exchange and dissemination
- Socio economic aspects through limiting the use of this GW to domestic purposes only.
Thank you!