

A guide · The $500 trillion PPP infrastructure opportunity

Launch a PPP program for Engineering and Consulting Firms in Jordan

WHAT THIS GUIDE IS FOR

Your firm launches a PPP advisory and technical practice that advises governments and lenders on public-private partnership (PPP) projects and prepares direct proposals with AI-native tools, starting with Jordan's $86 billion and Aqaba's $46 billion of projects.

PREPARED FOR
Engineering and consulting firms in Jordan

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INTRODUCTION

A century of infrastructure reaches the end of its useful life

Most of the roads, bridges, power plants, water networks, ports and airports the world runs on were built in the last hundred years, and much of that stock is wearing out at the same time.

The infrastructure of the twentieth century was designed, poured and left to age. It carried the growth of every modern economy, and it was built for a world with fewer people, far less data and a different climate. Pipes leak, grids strain under new demand, and assets designed for one purpose are asked to carry several. Replacing them is the largest building program in human history, and it has already begun.

Rebuilding and running the world's infrastructure will take about $500 trillion over the next fifty years. It is the largest investment humanity will make in that time. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) will carry a large share of it, because governments cannot fund, build and run the rebuild alone, and the private sector cannot do it without them.

How the $500 trillion adds up

	$300T	to build the physical assets: roads, rail, ports, grids, water, cities, schools and hospitals
+	$150T	to operate and maintain them across the life of each concession
+	$50T	for the sensors, compute and robotics that will sit inside them, the share of the rebuild that venture capital can fund
=	$500T	**in total to rebuild and run the world's infrastructure over the next fifty years**

INTRODUCTION

The next hundred years will build Earth's largest computer

For thousands of years the method has stayed the same: design it, pour it, forget it, and repair it when it fails. The next generation of infrastructure will carry a software layer specified alongside the concrete. Assets will monitor their own condition, predict their own failures and schedule their own maintenance, and fleets of machines will raise them with very few human hands involved.

The larger change is the connection between assets. When a port knows what the rail line is carrying before it arrives, a water utility prices its pumping energy against the grid in real time, and every contract and drawing on every project sits in one connected record, the built world starts to behave as one system. Joined across borders, the world's roads, grids, ports, water networks, data centers and satellites become one globally connected, superintelligent computer.

Future infrastructure will be self-building, self-monitoring and self-healing. A road that senses its own cracks can schedule its own repair and use the savings to fund the next stretch. A water network that finds its own leaks can put the recovered water into meters on the next street. Each asset leaves behind the money, the data and the proof for the asset that follows it, so each new project starts further ahead than the last.

The point where the built world starts improving itself faster than anyone can direct it is the infrastructure singularity. Three technologies bring it closer: artificial intelligence designs and runs the assets, robotics builds and maintains them, and tokenization finances them and opens their ownership to everyone. Each of the three changes how infrastructure is designed, prepared and checked, and engineering firms do that work today.

Every PPP rests on engineering judgment from the first feasibility study to the final handback, and governments, lenders and sponsors each appoint engineers to protect their side of the deal. Firms that build a PPP practice now will advise on the projects of the next fifty years. This guide invites engineering and consulting firms in Jordan to launch that practice, starting with the projects at home.

THE GUIDE

Engineer the $500 trillion PPP infrastructure opportunity

Your firm launches a dedicated PPP practice, a team and a set of services that advise governments, lenders and sponsors from the first study to handback and prepare projects with AI-native tools, starting with Jordan's $86 billion of projects and the $46 billion anchored in Aqaba.

01 **Transaction and technical advisory.** The practice advises contracting authorities from the first idea to financial close, with feasibility and options studies, value-for-money tests, output specifications, risk allocation and the technical parts of the tender.

02 **Lenders' and owner's engineer.** Lenders appoint a technical advisor to check the design, cost and schedule before they commit and to certify progress during the build. Owners keep their own engineers on through operation, which can hold a firm on a single project for years.

03 **Direct proposals prepared for clients.** Jordan's PPP Law No. 19 of 2023 accepts direct private proposals under Article 15, and PPP Regulation No. 9 of 2024 defines small-scale PPPs below $14.1 million, which can be bundled into one feasibility report and one tender. Your firm can prepare these proposals for developers, contractors and operators, and bring projects of its own to government.

04 **AI-native project preparation.** AI tools let the practice produce feasibility studies, cost plans, risk matrices and tender documents in days, so your firm can take on more projects and prepare each one more thoroughly.

05 **Digital twins from day one.** The practice specifies each asset's sensors and digital twin alongside its design and runs the twin for owners and lenders through operation, which turns a design commission into a service for the life of the concession.

JORDAN AND AQABA

An $86 billion pipeline to start with

Jordan has 243 PPP and infrastructure projects in development, worth about $86 billion, of which $46 billion is anchored in Aqaba. Every one of them will need studies, designs and independent engineers.

$86 billion
of PPP and infrastructure projects in development across Jordan

$46 billion
anchored in Aqaba, Jordan's only port and its gateway to the Red Sea

SECTOR	PROJECTS	VALUE	WHAT THE PROJECTS WILL BUY
Energy	33	**$28.3 billion**	Grid and demand forecasting, solar and storage analytics, robotic panel cleaning, predictive maintenance
Tourism	40	**$13.8 billion**	Visitor flow and demand forecasting, resort and heritage-site operations, booking and payment rails
Urban development	17	**$13.8 billion**	Digital twins of new districts, digital permitting, modular construction, district operations
Transport	33	**$11.7 billion**	Traffic and fleet AI, tolling and payments, inspection drones for roads and rail
Industry	31	**$8.1 billion**	Factory automation, quality verification, industrial sensors and energy management
Water	29	**$7.6 billion**	Leak detection, pressure management, smart metering, pipe-inspection robots
Mining	15	**$1.2 billion**	Autonomous drilling and haulage, drone surveying, ore sorting
Health	12	**$1.0 billion**	Hospital operations AI, patient flow, equipment monitoring
Agriculture	10	**$310 million**	Precision irrigation, farm robotics, crop and soil monitoring
Environment	15	**$270 million**	Waste-sorting robotics, emissions monitoring, circular materials
Digital	6	**$270 million**	Data centers, connectivity, sovereign compute
Education	2	**$20 million**	School and training campus PPPs, digital learning, building operations and energy retrofits

A Jordanian firm that advises on one project at home can carry the same method and team to the next one across the region. Aqaba concentrates ports and terminals, logistics, rail to the port, industry, energy, water and tourism inside the Aqaba Special Economic Zone, which makes it a single place to test port automation, logistics software, desalination and energy technology on assets that connect Jordan to the world.

SECTOR GUIDES

Jordan's $86 billion, sector by sector

Jordan is investing in and advancing 23 sectors at once, and together their projects make up the $86 billion. A sector guide for each lists every project in it, its link to the infrastructure singularity and the ways a partner can take part.

The sectors closest to engineering firms

Water	Engicon leads the Ministry of Water non-revenue water contract with ILF and Sachsen Wasser. 29 projects, $6.7bn of forward investment. www.JordanPPP.com/sectors/water
Wastewater and Reuse	Engicon designed the West Irbid wastewater project for the Water Authority of Jordan. 20 projects, $946m of forward investment. www.JordanPPP.com/sectors/wastewater
Transport	WSP and Consolidated Consultants are independent engineers on the Queen Alia airport terminal. 32 projects, $8.1bn of forward investment. www.JordanPPP.com/sectors/transport
Nuclear Energy	Tractebel (with Arab Consultants Bureau) and WorleyParsons ran site and feasibility studies for Jordan's first nuclear plant. 6 projects, $835m of forward investment. www.JordanPPP.com/sectors/nuclear
Health	Hill International and Dar Al Omran manage construction of a $400 million university hospital in Amman. 20 projects, $986m of forward investment. www.JordanPPP.com/sectors/health

All 23 sector guides

Oil, Gas and Power	$15.1bn	Wastewater and Reuse	$946m
Tourism	$13.8bn	Nuclear Energy	$835m
Urban Development	$12.8bn	Agriculture and Food	$400m
Green Hydrogen	$10.6bn	Solar Power	$326m
Transport	$8.1bn	Digital and AI	$243m
Water	$6.7bn	Circular Economy	$189m
Fertilizers and Chemicals	$6.5bn	Wind Power	$186m
Ports and Logistics	$3.6bn	Pharmaceuticals	$128m
Manufacturing	$2.4bn	Creative Industries	$47m
Storage and Grids	$1.4bn	Defense	$10m
Mining and Minerals	$1.2bn	Education and Skills	$7m
Health	$986m		

Every sector guide can be read and downloaded at www.JordanPPP.com/sectors.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

AI designs, structures and runs it

A PPP takes about seven years from concept to financial close and costs roughly 10% of capex to structure. Almost all of that work is documents and models, which is the work AI does well.

What changes

When the cost of intelligence approaches zero, the cost of preparing a project falls with it. Feasibility studies, options appraisals, cost plans, risk matrices, financial models and tender documents can be produced and tested in days, and contracts can be drafted and stress-tested in hours. PPP projects will soon appoint an AI technical advisor alongside the human ones. Once an asset is running, the same intelligence operates it: a digital twin models the asset in real time, sensors report wear and faults early, and maintenance follows the data.

Jordan arrives late to PPP software, and that is an advantage. With few legacy systems to migrate off, AI-native tools can be built from the ground up, and the reasoning behind each decision can be captured inside the transactions being structured today.

What it means for engineering firms

AI changes the economics of engineering advice. A small team can now draft a feasibility study, test design options, price them and check a contractor's cost plan in days, and an AI technical advisor can sit beside the human one on every review. Firms that build these tools into their practice will prepare more projects with the same people and offer governments faster preparation at lower cost.

What will be built

Project preparation	Software that turns feasibility studies, cost plans and tender documents into a repeatable process, so the years spent before tender shrink to months.
Procurement	Tools that let ministries compare bids on whole-life cost and deliverability.
Cost estimation	A national benchmark database that prices every project against real Jordanian rates.
Contract intelligence	Assistants that read, compare and answer questions on every contract, drawing and instruction on a project in plain language.
Asset monitoring	Sensors and digital twins that tell an operator what will fail before it fails.
Permits and approvals	Digital workflows that replace the paper trail across ministries, municipalities and utilities.

ROBOTICS

Robots build it and keep it running

Most of the $500 trillion of infrastructure due over the next fifty years will be built by machines, and people will design, train and supervise those machines.

What changes

Autonomous software combined with autonomous machines produces autonomous infrastructure. Tunneling machines, construction robots, drones and modular factories already raise structures with far fewer people on site. The machines then stay with the asset: drones inspect bridges and power lines, robots travel inside pipes to find leaks, and cleaning robots keep solar fields at full output.

Robotics also changes who can compete. A small company with the right machines can build what once needed a thousand-person contractor, and it can prove its method on a pilot before anyone asks for a track record, which opens PPP work to new companies for the first time.

What it means for engineering firms

Robotics gives engineers better evidence. Drones, crawlers and sensors survey sites and inspect structures more often than field crews can, so a lenders' engineer can certify progress from verified data and an owner's engineer can track an asset's condition across its life. Firms that design for robotic construction and inspection from the first drawing will shape how the next generation of assets is built.

What will be built

Water networks	Robots and acoustic sensors that find leaks inside the network, in a country that still loses about 41% of its water to leaks, theft and faulty meters.
Construction	Modular methods, on-site automation and quality verification suited to Jordan's labor market.
Inspection	Drones and crawlers that survey roads, bridges, rail, power lines and pipelines and report defects automatically.
Energy	Robotic cleaning and maintenance for solar fields, and retrofit technology for public buildings, street lighting and water pumping.
Mining	Autonomous drilling, haulage and drone surveying for phosphate, potash and new mineral projects.
Ports and logistics	Automated handling, yard robotics and drone delivery for Aqaba's terminals and Jordan's dry ports and border crossings.

TOKENIZATION

Tokenization finances it and opens its ownership

A PPP absorbs capital over four years and releases it over thirty. Today's investors expect to enter and exit easily, and tokenization gives them that option.

What changes

A concession is a long-dated, contracted, inflation-linked cash flow, the kind of asset a token represents well and an ordinary investor has rarely been able to hold directly. Tokenization lets a small pilot be funded by a few hundred investors, with returns paid automatically from the asset's own revenue and no lender between them.

The rails already exist in the region. ADGM regulates tokenized securities, the Dubai Land Department records tokenized title deeds on its own register, and Jordan adopted a national Blockchain Technology Policy in December 2024. Tokenized concession revenues are still rare, so the first tokenized PPP in Jordan is open to whoever builds it.

PPP companies will be tokenized before PPP projects, because a developer already gathers projects, risks and revenues into one entity. People will own the builders first, then the portfolios, then the projects, and at the end of that sequence sits a stock exchange for the physical world.

What it means for engineering firms

Tokenized infrastructure needs trusted data. Investors who hold a token in a PPP rely on independent reports of progress, performance and condition, and an engineering firm can feed those reports into the registries and smart contracts that pay holders. Your firm can also advise governments on which projects suit tokenization and how to prepare them for it.

What will be built

Issuance	Compliant token issuance for PPP companies, infrastructure funds and small pilots.
Investor onboarding	Identity checks, suitability and custody built for Jordanian and regional investors.
Revenue distribution	Smart contracts that pay holders from tolls, tariffs and availability payments as the money arrives.
Registries	Shared records of contracts, milestones and asset performance that every party can trust.
Secondary markets	Venues where holders can buy and sell stakes in operating infrastructure.
Citizen participation	Tools for citizens to propose projects, vote them up and invest small amounts in what gets built.

SMALL PPPS IN PARALLEL

A thousand small PPPs teach more than one large one

The World Bank counted 315 private infrastructure projects reaching financial close across all low- and middle-income countries in 2024, only a few per country. No country can learn quickly at that pace, and each lesson arrives years after the technology behind it has moved on.

Each of those projects is too large, too slow and too expensive to try anything new on, and every approval, guarantee and stakeholder on a $1 billion project pulls it toward the way things were done before. Small projects are where a new idea can afford to be wrong, because the downside is small, the learning cycle is fast and the bureaucracy is thin.

Run them in parallel

Software has already moved from building one idea at a time to building ten at once, and infrastructure can follow. Picture 100 small schools built within six months, each delivered through its own PPP and each testing a slightly different legal structure, financing model, construction method and operating approach. Performance data arrives quickly, the models that work are copied, the weak ones are retired early and policy improves with every round, so a thousand small projects teach a country tens of thousands of lessons where one large project teaches a few.

$10M	spent preparing a single $100 million PPP, enough to build 100 pilots at $100,000 each
780	small PPPs a year in Jordan at $100,000 each, from 1% of the budgets of its 40 contracting authorities, about $78 million, in a country that closes only a handful of PPPs a year today
97,500	small PPPs a year if every country ran 500 at $100,000 each, for $9.75 billion, less than the price of one metro line

The PPP singularity

The PPP singularity is the point at which it becomes cheaper to build the pilot than to conduct the study. One feasibility study can make a project look feasible, another can make it look unfeasible, and the decision still comes down to judgment, while a pilot settles the argument with evidence. Governments that work this way become portfolio managers of experimentation: they set the objectives and the guardrails, standardize contracts that can adapt, collect the data and publish every pilot, every cost and every failure on one public website.

PPP RESEARCH LABS

Pilots need somewhere to live

PPP innovation needs the public and private sectors working together, so each lab is built the way a PPP is built: the public sector spearheads it and the private sector designs, finances, builds and operates it.

One lab per sector	Water, power, transport, aviation, health, education, agriculture, digital, tourism and urban development each get a lab inside the ministry or authority that runs the sector.
A one-line brief	Run ten small PPP projects a year at up to $100,000 each, testing new technologies, new PPP frameworks, new construction methods and new financing structures.
A PPP itself	The ministry tenders the lab, and private companies bid to design, finance, build and operate it with their own capital, effort and technology.
Funding	About $1 million a year per lab, found by moving 1% of an authority's budget away from inefficient spending. Ten labs can run a hundred experiments a year on a modest budget.
Open results	Every result is published as it happens, including the failures: what worked, what failed and what the contract should have said. The lessons go straight into the large PPPs already running and the ones still to come.
Room to explore	Labs carry no fixed deliverables, because predetermined outputs defeat the purpose of research, and they are judged on engineering results.

Who builds and who funds

Small projects open PPPs to founders and small companies. On a large concession a bid costs 3% to 5% of capex, prequalification asks for a decade of comparable projects and performance bonds run to tens of millions. AI cuts the bid cost, robotics cuts the crew a project needs and tokenization lets a few hundred investors fund a pilot, so a small PPP moves at the speed of the founders running it. Venture capital funds the technology, infrastructure funds finance the assets, and a $10 billion fund raised by both, deploying $2 billion in its first year, could back 20,000 small PPPs, about 100 in every country.

What it means for engineering firms

Every lab needs designers, cost planners, technical advisors and people who can turn a pilot's results into a contract the next project can reuse. An engineering firm that designs and monitors small PPPs builds the evidence, the templates and the benchmarks that Jordan's ministries and lenders will ask for on the large projects.

UNSOLICITED PROPOSALS

Jordanian law accepts unsolicited PPP proposals

Any private company can take its own PPP idea to government. Article 15 of PPP Law No. 19 of 2023 lets a proposer submit a direct proposal to the Ministry of Investment or a public authority, and PPP Regulation No. 9 of 2024 sets out how it is assessed.

How a direct proposal works

Conditions	The proposal offers an innovative solution for a public service, is prepared on the proposer's own initiative, gives value for money, fits government programs, covers the government's obligations from project revenues and discloses any conflict of interest.
Contents	The scope, the proposer and its experience, a pre-feasibility study with the innovation and intellectual property behind it, the fiscal implications and any support or guarantees sought, and the cost of preparing the study.
Review	A public authority or municipality that receives a proposal refers it to the Ministry, which has 60 days to take it up for study or return it unopened, and can charge a study fee of at least $7,050.
Registry	A qualifying proposal is listed as a PPP project in the national registry of public investment projects, and one that falls short is rejected.
Tender	If the project goes to tender, the proposer can match the best offer, and if another bidder wins, the winner repays the proposer's direct study costs.
Small projects	Projects with a capital cost below $14.1 million are small-scale PPPs, and similar ones can be bundled into one feasibility report and one tender under simpler procedures.

Limitless ideas

This is the Swiss Challenge approach: the proposer brings the idea, the market competes on it and the proposer keeps the right to match the best offer. Many of the projects in Jordan's $86 billion pipeline are still early enough for a partner to shape the deal or bring its own idea, and a direct proposal can be as large as a mini city built and operated under one contract or as small as a $100,000 pilot. The PPP research labs can be proposed the same way, and every company with an idea for a public service becomes a possible project sponsor.

What it means for engineering firms

Every direct proposal needs a pre-feasibility study, a technical scope and a cost estimate before the Ministry will study it. An engineering firm can prepare those for proposers or bring proposals of its own with partners, and AI-native tools let it prepare many proposals for the cost of one.

WHY ENGINEERING FIRMS

Engineers carry a PPP from first study to handback

Every party to a PPP relies on engineers. Governments hire them to prepare a project, lenders hire them to test it, sponsors hire them to design it, and owners keep them on for as long as the concession runs.

Where engineering firms fit in a PPP

Preparation	Feasibility, options and value-for-money studies, output specifications and the technical parts of the tender for the contracting authority.
Bid	Concept designs, cost plans and technical proposals that make a consortium's offer credible and compliant.
Financial close	Technical due diligence for the lenders on the design, the cost, the schedule and the operating plan.
Construction	Detailed design, the owner's and lenders' engineer roles, progress certification and quality checks.
Operation	Performance monitoring, condition surveys, digital twins and the handback inspection at the end of the concession.

What changes for engineers

AI, robotics and tokenization change what clients buy from an engineering firm. Studies and designs that once took months can be prepared and tested in days, so the value of a firm moves toward judgment, assurance and the data an asset produces. Drones and sensors give engineers verified evidence for every certificate, and tokenized projects need independent reports that investors can trust, which gives firms a role for as long as each concession runs.

Why a practice, and why now

Without a practice, a firm meets each PPP as a separate commission and its engineers relearn the structure on every project. A practice gives your firm a team, a method and standard deliverables that make each new mandate faster than the last. Jordan's pipeline is large and early, and the firms that prepare its first projects will be the ones governments and lenders call for the rest.

THE PROGRAM

How the program could work

The program can sit inside the firm as a PPP practice, with a small advisory team at its center and the engineering disciplines the firm already has behind it.

PPP practice	A small team of engineers, economists, financial modelers and contract specialists that covers every PPP in the pipeline.
Advisory services	Transaction and technical advisory to contracting authorities, from the first feasibility study to financial close.
Engineer roles	Lenders' technical advisor, owner's engineer and independent engineer services through the build and operation.
Direct proposals	A service that prepares direct proposals under Article 15 and small-scale PPPs below $14.1 million for clients and for the firm.
AI tools	AI-native workflows for feasibility studies, cost plans, risk matrices, tender documents and design reviews.
Digital twins	Sensor and twin specifications written into each design, and a service that runs the twin through operation.
Partners	Working relationships with law firms, financial advisors, banks and developers who complete each mandate.

What the firm gains

The firm gains mandates that run for years, from the first study through decades of monitoring, and a seat beside the government, the lenders or the sponsors on every project it touches. Each advisory role builds the references that qualify the firm for the next one.

It also gains a position in the next form of engineering. The first firm in the region to prepare PPPs with AI-native tools and run digital twins for owners and lenders will become the advisor that governments call first.

ABOUT

Jordan PPP

Accelerate Jordan
Accelerate the infrastructure singularity
Accelerate the Jordan PPP singularity

AMMAN, JORDAN WWW.JORDANPPP.COM

Jordan PPP helps every kind of organization in Jordan launch a public-private partnership (PPP) program of its own. It publishes 96 guides, one for each kind of organization, from the Royal Hashemite Court and Parliament to banks, contractors, universities, humanitarian organizations, companies in twenty-one sectors and organizations in twelve governorates.

Its vision is the infrastructure singularity, when roads, grids, ports and water networks become one globally connected, superintelligent computer, built by robotics, run by artificial intelligence and financed by tokenization. Rebuilding and running the world's infrastructure will take about $500 trillion over the next fifty years.

Its method starts small: a PPP program for every organization, small PPPs run in parallel, a research lab in each sector and direct proposals under Article 15 of PPP Law No. 19 of 2023, starting with Jordan's $86 billion and Aqaba's $46 billion of projects.

JORDAN PPP

What Jordan PPP offers

The guides

One for every organization

96 guides, each with the case, the program and six first steps.

www.jordanppp.com/guides →

The summary

All guides in one document

Every guide, its organization and its ask, in one place.

www.jordanppp.com/summary →

Futureproofing

AI, robotics, tokenization

What the three technologies change for every organization.

www.jordanppp.com/futureproofing →

The opportunity

$500 trillion

The $500 trillion PPP infrastructure opportunity, from the crisis to the exchanges.

www.jordanppp.com/opportunity →

NEXT STEPS

How an engineering firm can start

Any engineering or consulting firm in Jordan can take this guide forward. The first steps use the engineers, methods and clients the firm already has.

Mandate	Partner approval for a PPP practice, with its services, its target clients and its first-year goals.
Team	A named practice lead, with engineers, cost planners, financial modelers and contract specialists drawn from the firm's existing teams.
Pipeline	A map of Jordan's $86 billion of projects by sector and stage, and early meetings with the contracting authorities, sponsors and lenders behind them.
Tools	AI-native tools for feasibility studies, cost plans, financial models and tender documents, built on the firm's own project records.
Partners	Teaming agreements with law firms, financial advisors, developers and contractors.
Pilot	A first pre-feasibility study for a direct proposal, or a first small-scale PPP, taken from idea to submission.

Jordan has the projects and a law that accepts unsolicited proposals, and every one of those projects needs engineers to prepare it. A PPP practice gives your firm a role at every stage and a head start in engineering the superintelligent infrastructure future.

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