

Baptism Site
Commission



دائرة الآثار العامة
Department of Antiquities
JORDAN | الأردن

State of Conservation Report
Baptism Site
“Bethany Beyond the Jordan”
(Al-Maghtas)

In response to Committee Decision 45 COM 7B.128

November 2024

Executive Summary of the State of Conservation Report

The State of Conservation Report for the Baptism Site (Bethany Beyond the Jordan) highlights significant progress in implementing measures in response to World Heritage Committee Decision 45 COM 7B.128. The integration of updated disaster response plans for earthquakes and flash floods into the site management plan ensures enhanced risk preparedness. Revised design and construction guidelines for new churches prioritize architectural harmony with the natural and cultural landscape. The report outlines a phased master planning approach, including detailed zoning within the buffer zone to support sustainable site development. Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) have been strengthened to ensure the protection of the site's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), with a focus on mitigating impacts from proposed developments. Conservation efforts have been advanced through targeted measures, such as flood risk interventions to protect archaeological features. A dedicated research center now consolidates documentation, supporting ongoing site studies and conservation. Drone-based documentation enhances monitoring and data collection, providing insights into the site's physical and environmental conditions. The report also addresses climate change mitigation initiatives, focusing on resilience strategies to counter environmental challenges. Collaborative agreements with stakeholders ensure compliance with conservation guidelines.