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Jordan: Defence Budget and US Military Aid

القوات المسلحة الأردنية - الجيش العربي
JORDAN ARMED FORCES - ARAB ARMY

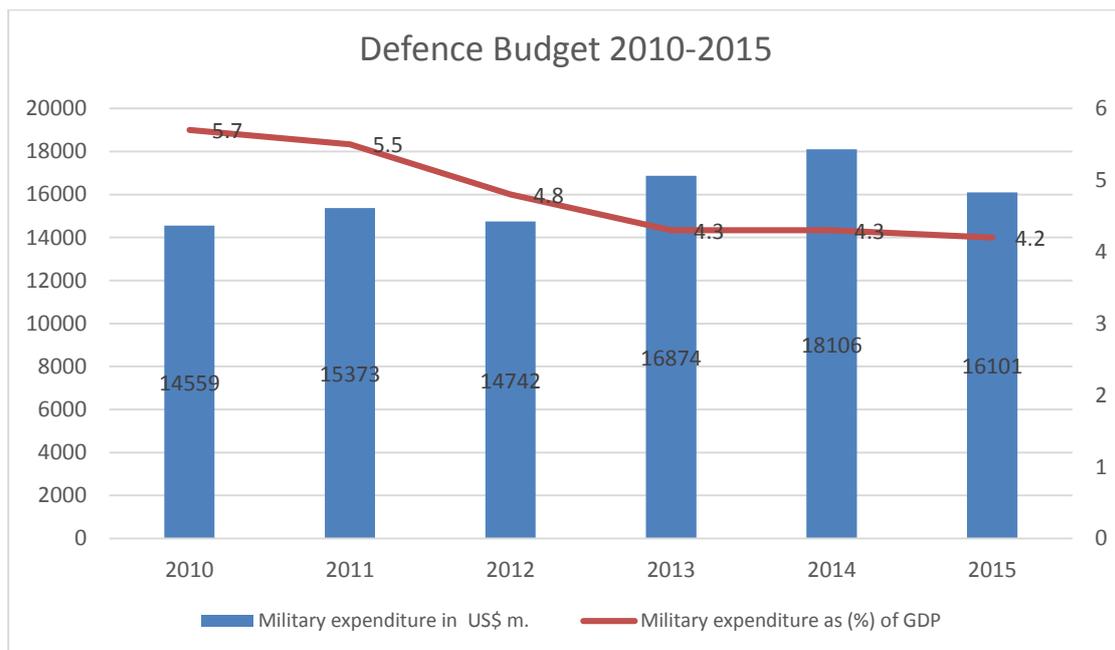


Jordan has found itself in the middle of an international humanitarian crisis that cannot be ignored anymore. As of January 2015, there were 621,937 registered Syrian refugees in the country. Additionally, Jordan, historically a heaven of peace in the middle of a rather turbulent area, is facing the threat of the Islamic state.

Jordan is already one of the four Arab countries taking part in airstrikes against the Islamic State as part of the US-led international coalition. In order to help Jordan, as of January 22, 2015, the United States provided nearly \$467 million in assistance to respond to the Syria humanitarian crisis. Additionally, the US have been providing to the Middle East-country, economic aid since 1951, and military aid since 1957. Total US aid to Jordan through FY2015 amounted to approximately \$15.83 billion. For 2016 it is expected that U.S. will provide \$450 million of military support to the country.

Likewise, the UK decided to grant a £2.5 million package to Jordan, of non-lethal equipment including transport vehicles, body armour, communications and IT equipment. Moreover, the UK has shaped throughout the years, a strong relationship with the Middle East country, providing a full spectrum of military assistance including training courses, deployment of short-term training teams and finally, execution of a number of major military exercises.

Jordan's defence budget is relatively high in terms of percentage of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reaching 5%, in 2015. Nevertheless, the actual size of the Jordanian defence budget is relatively low. According to SIPRI (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute), in 2015 it was around 1.1 billion Dinars (approximately \$1.6 billion), leaving little room for major military acquisitions.



Source: SIPRI Database

Nevertheless, Jordanian army is well equipped, something that can be partly attributed to the fact that US is selling and donating, in a regular basis, defence equipment to Jordan. Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grants to the country have enabled its Air Force to maintain a modest fleet of F-16 fighters, as well as to purchase Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM) and Blackhawks. Additionally, through FMF grants Jordan acquired Javelin missiles, Hellfire missiles, High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems, and night-vision devices.

Kyriazis Vasileios

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Jordan: Defence Industry



The main focus of the defence industry in Jordan, is the King Abdullah II Design & Development Bureau (KADDB). KADDB is an independent government entity within the Jordan Armed Forces (JAF); its Board of Directors reports to the Private Office of the King of Jordan, through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. KADDB's operations are

funded through earned income and by the Ministry of Defence budget. The Bureau's scope of work includes, among others, the design and development of new products, as well as the incubation of defence and dual-use technologies. KADDB also supplies the Jordan Armed Forces with high-quality, efficient, and cost-effective scientific and technical services.

Following the creation of the KADDB, the KADDB Industrial Park was established, in 2006. The Park is a "specialized environment" that provides high-level support to defence and military industries. Within the main objectives of the Park, is to attract investments, and encourage the development of new and innovative technologies.

Even though the defence industry is considered as one of the major pillars for the development of the national economy, Jordan currently does not have an official offset policy. Nevertheless, foreign defence contractors are usually involved in industrial cooperation projects when selling armament to the country. The King Abdullah II Design & Development Bureau is most frequently the beneficiary of such projects.

The Bureau has also established joint ventures and/or strategic partnerships with international companies from the region and around the world.

One of the outcomes of these cooperative schemes, is the company Jordan Light Vehicles Manufacturing LLC (JLVM). JLVM was created in partnership with the UK based Jankel Group Limited (JGL) in order to develop, manufacture and market special and protected vehicles, for national and international customers.

Another such company is ASELSAN MIDDLE EAST PSC LTD (AME), a joint cooperation between ASELSAN and KADDB. AME is a high technology, multi-product business entity that designs, develops and produces state-of-the-art Night Vision and Thermal Imaging Systems for military and dual-use applications.

Kyriazis Vasileios

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Epicos “Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects”

Epicos “Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects” provides a unique set of online tools enabling the structure, identification and implementation of comprehensive Offsets programs, through a searchable database. By introducing different offset projects and ideas proposed by local A&D industry it ensures the optimum cost for Prime Contractors and reassures that the priorities of local industry are fully met...

[For Further Information Press Here](#)

Design and prototyping of wrist-top/wearable computer for specialized Future Soldier applications

A leading technology provider, designer and manufacturer of hands-free communication solutions for demanding use, is proposing the design and prototyping of a unique and energy efficient wrist-top/wearable computer that can be used in several Future Soldier (FS) applications.

[For Further Information Contact our ICO Department](#)

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Development of a compact NBC filtering unit to be installed on tactical Military vehicles

A company with long standing experience in the design, manufacturing and installation of specialized air-conditioning equipment and NBC filtering solutions, is proposing the customization of a compact lightweight NBC filtration unit that will be integrated in the air-conditioning system of various tactical military trucks, providing complete NBC protection for the cabin crew. The same system can be utilized to fulfill related civilian vehicle protection requirements (e.g. VIP cars).

[For Further Information Contact our ICO Department](#)

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Australian Government Selects DCNS for the Sea 1000 Future Submarine Program



The Australian Government has selected DCNS as its preferred international partner for the design of 12 Future submarines for the Royal Australian Navy. The announcement was made by the Australian Prime Minister the Hon. Malcolm Turnbull, the Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon. Marise Payne, The Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, the Hon. Christopher Pyne and The Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Tim Barrett.

The Australian Government stated: "The decision was driven by DCNS's ability to best meet all of the Australian Government's requirements. These included superior sensor performance and stealth characteristics, as well as range and endurance similar to the Collins Class submarine. The Government's considerations also included cost, schedule, program execution, through-life support and Australian industry involvement."

"This success has been made possible thanks to the strong teamwork between the French Authorities, DCNS and our industrial partners," said DCNS Chairman and CEO, Mr Herve Guillou.

"France and Australia have been allies for more than 100 years and we look forward to further strengthening this time honoured relationship and honouring the trust the Australian Commonwealth Government is placing in us for this ground breaking project," Mr Guillou said.

Subject to discussions on commercial matters, the design of the Future Submarine with DCNS will begin this year.

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BAE Systems Awarded \$109 Million to Convert M88 Recovery Vehicles for U.S. Army



The U.S. Army has awarded BAE Systems a contract modification worth \$109.7 million to convert 36 M88A1 recovery vehicles to the M88A2 Heavy Equipment Recovery Combat Utility Lift Evacuation Systems (HERCULES) configuration. The conversions allow the M88A2s to recover the Army's heaviest vehicles, such as tanks, without the assistance of another vehicle. "The HERCULES is an integral part of the Army's Armored Brigade Combat Team and is essential to its recovery missions," said John Tile, director of Recovery Programs at BAE Systems. "The ability to provide single-vehicle recovery for even the heaviest vehicles in today's fleet increases troop safety and provides significant cost savings to the Army."

The HERCULES, which provides recovery support to soldiers in the field, is the only vehicle able to recover the M1 Abrams tank and all of the vehicles required to maneuver with the Armored Brigade Combat Team in a combat environment.

The M88 also plays a critical role in the company's efforts to maintain the Combat Vehicle Industrial Base by supporting a team of highly skilled professionals and protecting the affordability of the Army's combat vehicles. The support of Congress and the Army to protect these vital capabilities through M88 conversions helps sustain the workforce at BAE Systems' facilities and its suppliers, and ensures they will be available to support essential future programs. As the M1 Abrams tank and other combat vehicles become heavier, further modernization of the M88 will be required to continue to provide single-vehicle recovery capability.

Work on the contract is expected to begin in August by the existing workforce and will take place primarily at the company's York, Pennsylvania, and Aiken, South Carolina, facilities. Deliveries will begin in November 2017 and continue through August 2018.

For Further Information [Click Here](#)



Boeing, Xiamen Airlines Announce Order for 10 Next-Generation 737s

Boeing and Xiamen Airlines, China's only all-Boeing carrier, have finalized an order for 10 Next-Generation 737-800s.

The order, valued at \$960 million at list prices, will be posted on Boeing's Orders & Deliveries website once all contingencies are cleared.

"The 737-800 is the best-selling version of the highly successful Next-Generation 737 family," said Ihssane Mounir, senior vice president, Northeast Asia Sales, Boeing Commercial Airplanes. "We are pleased to see the 737-800 continues to play an important role in Xiamen Airlines' fleet expansion."

Formed in 1984 as China's first joint venture between the Civil Aviation Administration of China and a municipal government, Xiamen Airlines began flying passengers in 1985 with two 737-200s serving three cities.

Mirroring the rapid growth of China's air travel industry, the carrier now has expanded its fleet in service to 135 airplanes – 17 737-700s, 108 737-800s, 4 757-200s and 6 787-8 Dreamliners.

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Source: Epicos, Boeing

JetBlue receives A321 from Airbus team in Mobile, Alabama

The first ever delivery of an aircraft from the Airbus U.S. Manufacturing Facility took place today, April 25th, in Mobile, Alabama. The entire team of employees from the American assembly line gathered to present their very first completed product, an Airbus A321, to JetBlue. On hand for the occasion were executives from Airbus, JetBlue senior management, including President and CEO Robin Hayes, and a broad collection of dignitaries from the Gulf Coast region.

“I am immensely proud to be here to participate in this first delivery from Mobile,” said John Leahy, Airbus Chief Operating Officer – Customers. “Going from breaking ground on this facility three years ago to handing over the first Alabama-produced A321 today is an amazing accomplishment. It’s a testament to how well executed this project was and how strong the teamwork has been here in Mobile and throughout Airbus. The Airbus U.S. Manufacturing Facility has brought together all the best aspects of our other assembly lines around the world, and it shows how Airbus people work hand in hand with our partners to deliver great aircraft to our customers.”

Airbus announced its commitment to build a single-aisle assembly line in Mobile, Alabama in 2012, and less than one year later, broke ground on the \$600 million (U.S.) facility. The ceremonial inauguration of the plant came in September 2015. The aircraft delivered today, a JetBlue A321, successfully had its first flight on March 21st, 2016.

In addition to the JetBlue A321 delivered today, there are currently nine other A320 Family aircraft in production at the facility. Airbus anticipates delivering four aircraft per month from the Mobile plant by the end of 2017. The initial deliveries will all be A320 Family aircraft with the Current Engine Option (CEO), but will begin transitioning to New Engine Option (NEO) derivatives in late 2017.

In addition to hundreds of new Airbus jobs the project has brought to the local community, the Mobile area has seen many Airbus suppliers open new facilities in the region, providing even more employment and a parallel boost to the local economy. Airbus is proud to boast that 87 percent of its new employees are from the Gulf Coast region, with nearly one third being U.S. military veterans.

Demonstrating the adage “The Sun Never Sets on Airbus” – Airbus aircraft are now produced around the clock, 24 hours a day, at facilities in: Mobile, Alabama; Hamburg, Germany; Toulouse, France; and Tianjin, China.

For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Source: Epicos, Airbus

AUSTAL USA Awarded LCS Services Contract

Austal Limited (Austal) is pleased to announce it has been awarded a not-to-exceed US\$9,937,228 modification to a previously awarded Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) contract to provide procurement and engineering efforts in support of scope changes on fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2016 ships.

This modification will incorporate additional accommodations to increase crew size on the LCS Independence-variant ships. Under the contract Austal will provide supplies, services, labor and materials, which includes program management and subcontracting management. Work is expected to be completed by August 2019. Funding in the amount of US\$7,452,921 will be obligated at the time of award.

Austal has delivered three Independence-variant LCS to the U.S. Navy; two as subcontractor (LCS 2 and LCS 4) and one as prime contractor (LCS 6) under a separate 10 vessel, US\$3.5 billion contract awarded by the U.S. Navy in 2010. The program grew to 13 vessels when the U.S. Navy funded an additional ship, LCS 26, to Austal in April 2016. Austal has seven LCS under construction at its US shipyard in Mobile, Alabama, with Montgomery (LCS 8) scheduled for delivery later in the year.

Austal is also constructing ten 103-metre Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) vessels under a \$1.6 billion contract from the U.S. Navy, with six already delivered. USNS Carson City (EPF 7) is preparing for trials and is scheduled to be delivered later this year, while the two remaining vessels are under construction at Austal's US shipyard. Austal is also procuring long-lead materials for EPF 11 under an additional contract from the U.S. Navy.

About Austal

Austal is a global defence prime contractor and a designer and manufacturer of defence and commercial ships. For more than 27 years Austal has been a leader in the design, construction and maintenance of revolutionary ships for governments, navies and ferry operators around the world. More than 255 vessels have been delivered in that time.

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For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Source: Epicos, Austal

Saab and Atech Partner in Brazilian Gripen Programme

Defence and security company Saab has selected Atech Negocios em Tecnologia S/A as partner in the Brazilian Gripen NG programme. The partnership covers simulators, training systems and ground support systems.

The agreement with Atech is part of Saab's commitment to deliver industrial co-operation as part of the Brazilian Gripen NG programme, which was signed between Saab and the Brazilian Federal Government (Ministry of Defense through the Aeronautics Command, COMAER) in October 2014. Atech will undertake extensive on-the-job-training and work share in the Brazilian Gripen NG programme. During the month of May, a team of Atech engineers will relocate to Sweden to conduct initial training. The acquired skills and competence will subsequently be transferred to Brazil.

"Saab and Atech enter into a partnership regarding the development simulators, training systems and ground support systems for Gripen NG. We will provide technology transfer within these areas to Atech and we now welcome the first team of Atech engineers for training in developing the Gripen system", says Mikael Franzén, Programme Director for Gripen Brazil at Saab.

"Atech is proud to participate together with Saab in the Gripen NG Programme. Atech has a strong history in supporting the Brazilian Air Force in technology transfer programmes. Our participation represents a consolidation of Atech expertise in areas as Mission Planning and Simulation Systems. We are ready to join forces with Saab, working as an integrated team and to support the Brazilian Air Force on its long-term needs", says Edson Carlos Mallaco, President and CEO of Atech.

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Saab serves the global market with world-leading products, services and solutions within military defence and civil security. Saab has operations and employees on all continents around the world. Through innovative, collaborative and pragmatic thinking, Saab develops, adopts and improves new technology to meet customers' changing needs.

Source: Epicos, Saab

Australia – AIM-120D Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles

WASHINGTON, Apr. 25, 2016 - The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to Australia for AIM-120D Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles and associated equipment, training, and support. The estimated cost is \$1.22 billion. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale on April 21, 2016.

The Government of Australia requested a possible sale of:

- Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
- Up to 450 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AIM-120D)
- Up to 34 AIM-120D Air Vehicles Instrumented (AAVI)
- Up to 6 Instrumented Test Vehicles (ITVs)
- Up to 10 spare AIM-120 Guidance Sections (GSs)

This request also includes the following Non-MDE: containers, weapon system support equipment, support and test equipment, site survey, transportation, repair and return warranties, spare and repair parts, publications and technical data, maintenance, personnel training, and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representative engineering, logistics, and technical support services, and other related elements of logistics support.

The total estimated value of MDE is \$1.08 billion. The total overall estimated value is \$1.22 billion. This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner and major contributor to political stability, security, and economic development in the Pacific region and globally. This proposed sale is in support of the Royal Australian Air Force's (RAAF) F/A-18, E/A-18G, and F-35 aircraft. This proposed sale will provide the RAAF additional air-to-air intercept capability and increase interoperability with the U.S. Air Force. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing these missiles into its armed forces. The proposed sale of this equipment will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor for production is Raytheon in Tucson, Arizona. The principal contractor for integration is unknown and will be determined during contract negotiations. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale. Implementation of this sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. or contractor representatives to Australia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale. This notice of a potential sale is required by law and does not mean the sale has been concluded.

For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Source: Defense Security Cooperation Agency