

WFP Jordan Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Jordan, Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
(January - December 2018)	261 m	47 m

*February - July 2018

The transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan includes three strategic outcomes to address the ongoing humanitarian crisis and its effects on the most vulnerable Jordanians, while also positioning WFP as a strategic partner of the Government of Jordan in its progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger).

Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure Syrian refugees have access to safe, adequate and nutritious food throughout the year.

Activity 1: Targeted Syrian refugee households with high food insecurity levels will receive cash-based transfers (CBTs) in the form of food-restricted vouchers as well as cash to maintain their food security. In addition, refugees in camps will continue to receive a daily bread entitlement while newly arrived refugees will receive a ready-to-eat entitlement upon registering in the camp.

Activity 2: WFP will provide healthy meals to refugee children aged 5 to 17 years who are enrolled in pre-primary, primary and secondary schools in camps, as an additional incentive for regular school attendance and to create a balanced environment for learning. The healthy meals comprise a baked pastry, a piece of fruit and vegetable prepared by refugees, both women and men. This activity will include targeted communication and education activities for school children, their parents and caregivers aimed at improving the nutrition of school children.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable Jordanians, including school-aged children are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition needs all year long.

Activity 3: WFP will provide unconditional food assistance to vulnerable Jordanians targeted by the government's social safety net in the form of in-kind food assistance through a local NGO. WFP will provide the NGO with a number of core commodities making up the food entitlement of 22 food items, to complement the NGO's efforts towards sustaining the food security of poor Jordanians. WFP will take steps to support national institutions to contribute to their efforts to improve the services and systems they offer to poor Jordanian households.

Activity 4: Supporting the national school meals programme, WFP will provide school snacks and healthy meals to children

Highlights

- Given the promising results of the blockchain pilot, WFP expanded the use of the innovative technology in Azraq and Za'atari camps.
- WFP continued the implementation of "Choice" modality in three governorates: Balqa, Zarqa and Madaba for about 60,000 Syrian refugees.

aged 5-12 enrolled in public pre-primary and primary schools in poverty pockets, as an additional incentive for regular school attendance and to create a balanced environment for learning and cohesion between refugees and host communities.

WFP and the Ministry of Education will continue the expansion of "Healthy Kitchen model", through which children will receive healthy meals locally baked and sourced by vulnerable Jordanians and refugees. At the same time, WFP will continue to provide biscuits for the school children not yet covered by the Healthy Kitchen programme. This activity will also include targeted communication and education activities for school children, their parents and caregivers aimed at improving the nutrition of school children.

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable women and men in targeted refugee and Jordanian communities sustainably improve their skills, capacities, and livelihood opportunities by 2018.

Activity 5: WFP will provide conditional food assistance for livelihood support activities including through individual capacity strengthening and economic opportunities for vulnerable Jordanians and Syrians. WFP will focus on public works programmes in the agricultural sector, rehabilitation of assets, and will further seek to provide training opportunities to vulnerable Syrian refugees by providing them with opportunities to build skills which are sustainable, forward-looking, transferable (across countries) and marketable in line with the Jordan Compact.

This transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan for 2018 is aligned to the Jordan Response Plan (2017-2019), its associated plans, including those of the United Nations and to WFP's Vision 2020.

In Numbers

491,600 Syrian refugees assisted

11,400 Jordanians and Syrians assisted through several resilience activities

People Assisted
January 2018

51%



49%



Operational Updates

Blockchain Expansion

Given the promising results of the blockchain pilot in Village 5 of Azraq camp, WFP expanded the use of the innovative technology to both Azraq and Za'atari camps.

Blockchain technology harnesses the power of an open-source blockchain technology to create and manage beneficiary accounts, complete assistance reloads, and authorizes transactions. Over 106,000 beneficiaries now redeem their monthly entitlements through the blockchain.

Choice Modality

In January, WFP continued the implementation of "choice" modality in three governorates: Balqa, Zarqa and Madaba for about 60,000 Syrian refugees. During January, 50 percent of "choice" beneficiaries chose to redeem assistance as e-voucher, 39 percent as cash, 7 percent as both, while the remaining did not redeem their assistance.

"Choice" is an innovative modality introduced by WFP in Jordan, allowing beneficiaries to redeem their assistance either as food-restricted vouchers or unrestricted cash, or both as per their preferred choice.

School Meals Supply chain workshop

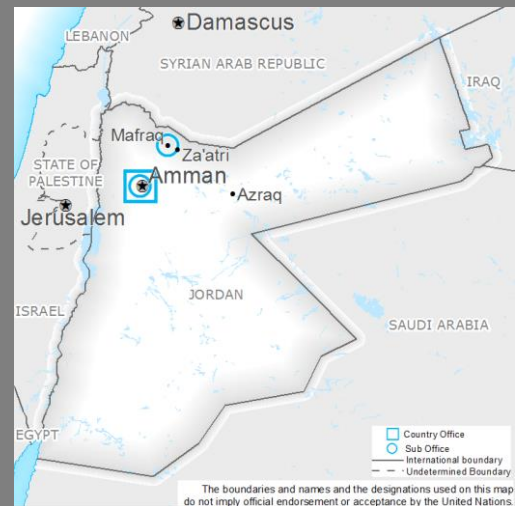
Following the supply chain review conducted in 2017, WFP presented a supply chain capacity-strengthening project with the aim of optimizing the supply chain of the School Meals Program to the Ministry of Education. As part of this project, WFP in partnership with the Ministry of Education conducted a joint workshop to present the main operational challenges and identify priorities related to the implementation of the next phase.

Livelihood Support Activities

WFP continued to support 1,600 participants (11,400 vulnerable Syrians and Jordanians), half of which are women with short-term employment opportunities. Activities not only supported people's livelihoods, but also focused on developing public and municipal infrastructure. It also aimed at reinforcing social cohesion between Syrians and Jordanians. Activities included rehabilitation of schools, health centers and municipal assets, forestry and training at WFP contracted shops.

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier visit to Azraq

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier visited Azraq refugee camp accompanied by his wife and a delegation of German diplomats. During his visit to one of WFP contracted shops inside the camp the President was briefed by WFP on the "blockchain" technology used to support over 106,000 Syrian refugees in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps.



Jordan is a lower middle-income country, with a population of 9.5 million, of which 2.9 million are non-citizens, including refugees. Despite this classification, it is a resource-poor, food-deficit country with limited agricultural land, no energy resources and scarce water supply. According to the Department of Statistics, unemployment soared to 18.2 percent during the first quarter of 2017 - the highest in 25 years - from 15.8 percent in the fourth quarter of 2016. The unemployment rate among men stood at 13.9 percent compared with 33 percent among women.

Nationwide, 0.5 percent of all Jordanian households suffer from food insecurity, while 5.7 percent are vulnerable to food insecurity. The 2016 WFP Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise revealed that a majority of Syrian refugee households living in host communities continue to be either food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity, at 72 percent, while showing an improvement over 2015 levels which peaked at 85 percent.

In line with the Jordan Poverty Reduction Strategy, which put in place a series of social programmes aimed at increasing employment opportunities, curbing unemployment, combating poverty and offering in-kind and cash assistance for the poor and marginalized groups within Jordanian society, WFP introduced innovative and sustainable solutions by developing resilience-based approaches.

WFP's programmes are in line with the Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17 and the Government strategies and policies such as Jordan 2025, the National Food Security Strategy (2014-2019), Jordan Response Plan for the Syria Crisis (2016-2018), and the United Nations Assistance Framework (2015-2017).

WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.

Syrians refugees registered by UNHCR: 657,628 (04 February)

Jordanians living in food insecurity: **5.7%**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

GNI per capita: USD 5,160 (2014)

Top 10 Donors

Germany, USAID, Canada, Australia, France, Norway, Japan, Kuwait, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and China.