



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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WFP Jordan Country Brief

July 2018

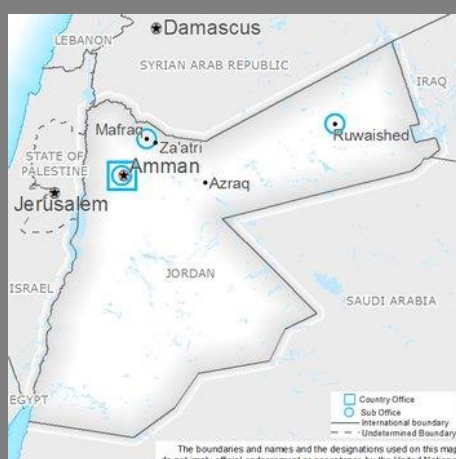


Operational Context

Jordan is a lower middle-income country, with a population of 9.5 million, of which 2.9 million are non-citizens, including refugees. 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 18.4 percent during the first quarter of 2018 - the highest in 25 years. Unemployment rate among men stood at 15.3 percent compared to 30 percent among women.

Nationwide, 0.5 percent of Jordanian households are considered food insecure and an additional 13 percent are vulnerable to food insecurity. Over 14 percent of the population lives below the poverty line and a third is considered transient poor. Analysis from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) further shows that poverty over the life cycle is concentrated among children, in particular those between the ages of 5 and 12, with proportions reaching 20 percent for this age group. The 2016 WFP Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise revealed that the majority of Syrian refugee households living in host communities continue to be either food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity.

WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.



Population: **9.5 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **86 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower Middle**

2015 Gender Inequality Index: 11

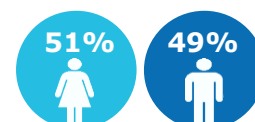
In Numbers

487,727 Syrian refugees assisted through cash-based transfers

7,125 Vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees assisted through livelihood support

US\$ 114.3 m six months (August 2018 - January 2019) net funding requirements, representing 44% of total

650,078 people assisted
in July 2018



Operational Updates

- Following the successful roll-out of the choice modality in four governorates – allowing beneficiaries to redeem their assistance in WFP-contracted shops or cash out their entitlements at ATMs or both – the type of assistance will expand to three additional governorates in August: Irbid, Jarash and Ajloun. Information sessions were held to ensure Syrians were aware of the expansion, their entitlements and how to use ATMs.
- Home visits to elderly and disabled cases were finalized for the joint WFP and UNHCR validation exercise. The exercise successfully validated 98 percent of Syrian refugees benefiting from WFP cash-based transfers (CBT) programme. Those who were not validated were removed from WFP's General Food Assistance.
- WFP signed an agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on the use of the OneCard platform to provide cash assistance to vulnerable Syrians and Jordanians who will benefit from small income generating activities. Selection of beneficiaries will be done in collaboration with WFP.
- In partnership with Tkiyet Um Ali (TUA), WFP distributed 60 mt of vegetable oil to 158,892 vulnerable Jordanians complementing TUA's food basket.
- WFP continued to produce fresh green fodder under the hydroponics pilot project. The produce is marketed locally at subsidised prices to livestock owners. This model uses 80 percent less space and 90 percent less water. WFP also continued the implementation of its livelihood activities providing around 700 work opportunities in forestry, plantation and animal production for vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture.
- WFP, in partnership with the National Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition, started the rehabilitation and maintenance of public assets in four governorates: Mafrqa, Irbid, Zarqa and Balqa. The project targets 4,350 people (2,175 vulnerable Syrians and 2,175 vulnerable Jordanians).
- Following the 2017 individual capacity strengthening component that targeted students at Vocational Training Centres (VTCs), WFP equipped 32 centres with theoretical training rooms with data projectors and computers. Equipment was handed over to centres through the NGO partner; Save the Children Jordan.

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Further information: www1.wfp.org/countries/jordan

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018 - 2019)

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Months (August-January 2019) Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 259.3 m | 133.3 m | 114.3 m |

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food-insecure Syrian refugees, including school-aged children have access to safe, adequate and nutritious food.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide unconditional resource transfers to Syrian refugees.
- Provide school meals and nutrition related communication and behavioural change activities to refugee children.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food.

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

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide unconditional resource transfers to vulnerable Jordanians.
- Provide school meals and nutrition related communication and behavioural change activities to children in host communities.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes.

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

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide asset creation and livelihood support activities including through individual capacity strengthening to vulnerable Syrians and Jordanians.

- WFP Jordan hosted a mission from Headquarters to explore the potential of cash transfers in contributing to women's empowerment and gender equality, in light of the increasing significance of CBT as a type of assistance as well as of the centrality of gender to WFP's mandate.
- The new Country Director and Representative of WFP in Jordan, Sarah Gordon-Gibson, presented her credentials to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Sarah brings with her a wealth of experience and is committed to strengthening the partnership with the Government and building national capacity.

Monitoring

- To better understand the impact of contextual changes on the food security and broader welfare of Syrian refugees, WFP partnered with REACH to conduct the fourth edition of the Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME), to be published in September. Findings showed that:
 - Food security for Syrian refugees in host communities worsened since 2016. Only 22 percent of households are food secure, compared with 28 percent in 2016. The use of consumption-based coping strategies such as reducing the number of meals and restricting adult consumption increased. The use of emergency livelihood coping strategies also increased with a higher proportion of households engaged in degrading/exploitative work to better meet their food needs compared to 2016.

- The proportion of food secure households in Za'atari camp dropped from 26 percent in 2016 to 11 percent in 2018. The proportion of households that became vulnerable to food insecurity increased from 65 percent to 81 percent. The food security situation in Azraq camp also declined drastically, with the proportion of food secure households decreasing from 32 percent to 3 percent. Households vulnerable to food insecurity significantly increased from 59 percent to 92 percent.

Challenges

- Recent challenges in the supply chain of the school meals programme promoted WFP and the Ministry of Education (MoE) to work together on optimising the school meals supply chain. A comprehensive supply chain review of the school meals programme was conducted with the aim of identifying strengths and challenges, as well as areas of improvement. WFP is working jointly with MoE on taking forward the results of the review to optimise stock management, transport, distribution and monitoring.

For the Love of Music

- Against a backdrop of war and siege, Mustafa Alsagheer fled his home in Aleppo in 2012 with his beloved family they sought refuge in Jordan. The 47-year-old Syrian musician brought one prized possession with him—his vintage *qanun*—worth USD 4,000. The *qanun*, similar to the harp, is a Middle Eastern string instrument that features in traditional Arabic music. Read about Mustafa Alsagheer story [here](#).

Donors

Germany, USAID, Canada, Norway, Australia, Kuwait, ROK, Japan, KSA, France and Private Sector.