



World Food  
Programme

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LIVES



## WFP Jordan Country Brief September 2019

### Operational Context

Jordan is an upper middle-income country, with a population of 10.5 million, of which 2.9 million are non-citizens, including refugees. Jordan is also a resource-poor, food-deficit country with limited agricultural land, no energy resources and a scarce water supply.

Nationwide, 0.5 percent of Jordanian households are considered food insecure and an additional 5.7 percent are vulnerable to food insecurity. Over 15.7 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 Jordan, particularly among those between the ages of 5 and 12, the proportion reaching 20 percent for this age group. WFP's 2018 Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment shows a worsening food security situation among Syrian refugees in Jordan.

According to the Department of Statistics, unemployment stood at 19.2 percent during the second quarter of 2019 - an increase by 0.5 percent compared to the second quarter of 2018. The unemployment rate among men stood at 17.1 percent compared to 27.2 percent among women.

WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.



Population: 10.5 million

2019 Human Development Index:  
0.735

Income Level: Upper Middle

2017 Gender Inequality Index: 108

### In Numbers



**634,021** people assisted  
in September 2019



**476,688** refugees assisted through cash-based transfers

**6,095** Jordanians and Syrians benefiting from asset creation and livelihood support

**US\$52 million** six month net funding requirements  
(November 2019 – April 2020)

### Operational Updates

- WFP held a final donor meeting to present the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2020 – 2022. The meeting was attended by WFP's main donors and potential future donors who reaffirmed their commitment to supporting WFP's operation in the country, in addition to providing comments on the CSP. The Jordan CSP will be presented to the Executive Board for approval in November and will be effective as of January 2020.
- WFP successfully concluded the validation of about 25,000 of the National Aid Fund (NAF) beneficiaries through home visits. In addition, WFP and its partner concluded the initial round of information sessions for about 15,000 beneficiaries, aimed at sensitizing the newly selected NAF's beneficiaries on the digital payments models through which they will receive NAF assistance (e-wallet and bank accounts).
- With the support of IrisGuard and the Jordan Post Offices, WFP started the roll-out of the validation stations for refugees living in host communities that receive WFP's unconditional food assistance. Through this new model, refugees can visit a post office on a quarterly basis to scan their Iris and swipe their e-cards to confirm their presence in the country. Validation posters and leaflets were distributed across all WFP helpdesks, contracted shops, and main partners such as UNHCR. Cooperating partners and WFP field staff were trained on the validation process and monitoring tools.
- School feeding (through the provision of baked snacks) was resumed in refugee camps. WFP rolled-out e-attendance tracking system for kitchens workers to enhance efficiency and accountability.

## Jordan Transitional ICSP (January 2018 - December 2019)

| Total Requirements<br>(in US\$) | Allocated Contributions<br>(in US\$)   |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>505.4 m</b>                  | <b>434.4 m</b>   |
| 2019 Requirements<br>(in US\$)  | Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)<br>(November 2019 – April 2020) |
| <b>265.3 m</b>                  | <b>52 m</b>  |

### 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.

## Partnerships

- WFP held a visibility ceremony with the German Ambassador to mark a new contribution of Euro 56 million (US\$61.7 million) from the German Government in support of 880,000 people every month during the difficult winter period. Germany is the largest single donor to WFP in Jordan. WFP also signed an agreement with the United Kingdom-Department of International Development (UK-DfID) to support refugees through cash-based transfers. A three-year funding agreement worth GBP 32 million (US\$39 million) makes UK-DfID the third largest donor in support of WFP's activities in Jordan.
- WFP established a new partnership with Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Knowledge Forum, laying the foundation to work together to promote sustainable development in Jordan by emphasising social and economic resilience.

- WFP received a visit from WFP Regional Director (Cairo). The visit included a trip to Zaatri refugee camp, a meeting with Mafrag field office team, a site visits to all WFP activities in the camp and a courtesy visit to Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate camp management.
- German Members of Parliament visited WFP's supermarket in Azraq camp and were briefed on WFP activities and how innovations including blockchain and iris scan has enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of its operation.
- USAID visited the help desk and met with refugee families supported by WFP to understand their challenges and the impact of WFP's assistance on their lives.
- WFP also received a visit from the Australian Embassy to the hydroponics project in Azraq in addition to one of WFP's help desks.

## Stories from the Field

As children in Jordan started in a new school year in September, WFP's 'Healthy Kitchens' were also up and running again, preparing school meals for the most vulnerable children.

Fatima (pictured above), is a Syrian refugee and a single mother of two children. She lives in the Azraq refugee camp and recently started working at one of WFP's healthy kitchens in the camp. She's part of a team of around 12 women working in the kitchen's packing room. Together, they fill around 5,000 paper bags every day with a freshly baked pastry, a cucumber and a piece of fruit. The meal bags are then distributed to the children at schools in the camp.

Fatima was excited by the prospect of receiving her first salary "I'm going to buy my children fruits; they always crave them but I cannot afford them. My son wants a bicycle too, so I will buy him one. Having money is important, it's the only way I can make sure my children are happy and that they get what they need and deserve." But it's not just the income from her new job that's making a difference. "It's nice to work and be around people rather than staying home alone. I am making new friends and learning new things."



Scan this QR code or [click here](#) to watch a short video about WFP's healthy kitchens in Azraq camp.

## Donors

Germany, USAID, Ireland, Norway, Canada, Australia, Italy, Republic of Korea, Japan, France and Private Sector donors.