



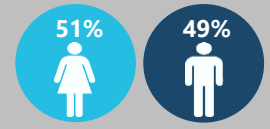
World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Jordan Country Brief May 2020

In Numbers



476,096 refugees assisted in May 2020

US\$ 148 million six months net funding requirements (July 2020 – December 2020)

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 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 19.03 percent during the first quarter of 2020 - an increase by 0.3 percent compared to the fourth quarter of 2019. The unemployment rate among men stood at 18.1 percent compared to 24.4 percent among women.

In addition to that, Jordan burdens the social, economic and environmental impacts of hosting the 650,000 Syrian and 90,000 refugees of other nationalities registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.



Population: **10.5 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **0.735**

Income Level: **Upper Middle**

2018 Gender Inequality Index: **113**

Operational Updates

- In May, WFP provided general food assistance (GFA) to 476,000 refugees living in camps and communities. To avoid overcrowding and to meet COVID-19 precautionary measures, all refugees received their monthly food entitlements following a staggered approach, especially in camps.
- During the month of May, WFP rolled-out its unrestricted cash modality to Mafraq governorate hosting 70,000 Syrian refugees benefiting from WFP's GFA Programme. The modality which was first piloted in 2017, allows refugees to redeem their monthly food assistance either as cash through ATM withdrawal, shop at contracted supermarkets or a combination of both to meet their needs. Initial findings from the redemption analysis indicates a similar trend compared to other governorates in terms of the options used with around 80 percent of people withdrawing their assistance from ATMs and 20 percent using it at contracted shops. In Mafraq alone, WFP has a network of 25 contracted shops and 18 ATMs available for the use of refugees.
- Door to door distribution of cards is ongoing through partners. A protocol was developed and shared with partners to guide the distributions in order to limit the spread of COVID-19.
- WFP, in collaboration with the Norwegian Refugee Council, provided a one-off cash distribution via money exchange companies for around 1,000 Syrian refugees who are camp residents but were in communities when the curfew was imposed and had no access to their WFP's assistance, facilitated through blockchain technology and can be only redeemed at WFP's shops in camps.
- WFP continued to deploy mobile ATMs to rural areas to address accessibility issues facing refugees in redeeming their cash assistance in communities (with a focus on people with disability and those residing in remote areas).

Jordan Country Strategic Plan (January 2020 - December 2022)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
700 m	142 m
2020 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (July - Dec 2020)
238 m	148 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis affected populations in Jordan, including refugees, meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide nutrition-sensitive food assistance to refugees and other crisis-affected populations.
- Provide tools, systems and training to the Government to enhance its emergency preparedness and response capabilities.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in Jordan, including children, are covered by adequate social protection schemes by 2022.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Support the Government in reforming and expanding national social protection schemes.
- Provide nutrition-sensitive school feeding to targeted children.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food.

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable populations in Jordan, with a focus on women and young people, are more self-reliant and have better livelihood opportunities by 2022.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide livelihood support (training, income-generating opportunities, asset creation) to vulnerable people in rural and urban settings, with a focus on women and young people.

Strategic Result 4: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: Partnerships in support of the Sustainable Development Goals in Jordan are strengthened through effective and innovative solutions from WFP and its partners by 2022.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- With other actors, develop a comprehensive food security and nutrition sector plan linked to other sectors and supported by a coordination structure.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange between partners and the Government to promote piloting and scaling of innovative approaches to achieving the SDGs.

- WFP, jointly with the World Bank and UNICEF, is providing technical assistance to the National Aid Fund (NAF) on the emergency cash assistance to vulnerable Jordanians. WFP and its contracted service providers have completed the virtual financial literacy information sessions for around 20,000 Jordanian households newly added to the national programme. The sessions were conducted virtually to limit the transmission of the virus and focused on equipping NAF beneficiaries with the need financial knowledge to first choose their preferred modality; either e-wallets or basic bank accounts, training on the use of modalities and signing up for modalities. Following the completion of the sessions, about 17,000 households were able to open e-wallets and started receiving cash assistance from NAF.
- In addition to the technical assistance provided to NAF, WFP is working with the Ministry of Social Development to provide emergency cash assistance to 35,600 vulnerable Jordanians identified by the Ministry across the country. The assistance is part of the national plan and will be channelled through the existing NAF systems.
- To address the economic impact of the crisis, WFP is expanding its livelihood support targeting 40,000 vulnerable Jordanians through asset creation, income generating activities and individual capacity strengthening. The support, with a planned budget of USD 27.3 million, is done in close coordination with key national ministries including the Ministry of Agriculture and local organizations with a focus on enterprise and market development; smallholder agricultural support; and disaster risk reduction and environmental management. The support also focuses on promoting the engagement of youth, women and people with disabilities. The activities will provide short, medium and long-term support in order to contribute to addressing the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 as well as the root causes of food insecurity, vulnerability and poverty among targeted populations in both urban and rural settings.

Monitoring

- WFP finalized the second round of the Covid-19 Remote Monitoring Exercise for refugees receiving WFP's food assistance in camps and communities. The assessment highlighted that food continued to be among the most urgent needs for households. The majority of households indicated that COVID-19 has affected their ability to access food as well as employment opportunities. When asked about the early reload that WFP has adapted since the outbreak in Jordan, the majority found it very useful.

Donors

Australia, Canada, EU, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Saudi Arabia, UK, USA, Cartier Philanthropy, MAF Carrefour Jordan.