



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



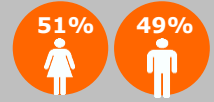
WFP Jordan Country Brief December 2020

In Numbers

499,251 Refugees assisted through cash-based transfers in December 2020

7,687 Jordanians and refugees benefited from livelihood activities

USD 53.6 million six months net funding requirements (January - June 2021)

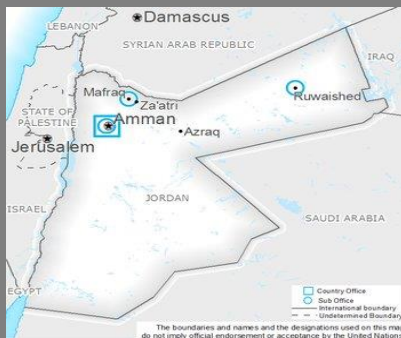


Operational Context

Jordan is an upper-middle-income country, with a population of 10.7 million, of which 2.9 million are non-citizens, including refugees. Jordan is also a resource-poor, food-deficit country with limited agricultural land, dwindling energy and water resources.

The results of mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping approach (mVAM) implemented in October 2020 showed that 8 percent of Jordanian households and 23 percent of refugees are considered food insecure. Female-headed households, small households, and households with disabilities have disproportionately poor food consumption. According to the Department of Statistics, the unemployment rate reached 24 percent during the third quarter of 2020, an increase of 5 percent compared to the third quarter of 2019, again attributed to the COVID pandemic. The unemployment rate among men reached 21.2 percent compared to 33.6 percent among women. In addition, Jordan carries the social, economic and environmental burden of hosting over 660,000 Syrian and 90,000 refugees of other nationalities registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Through the Country Strategic Plan (2020-2022), WFP Jordan rebalances its portfolio towards Jordan itself, in line with the country's priorities linked to the 2030 Agenda. Strengthening the capacities of national institutions, strategies and programmes, in addition to providing support for livelihoods, will increasingly be prioritized to deliver transformative and equitable results for Jordanians bypassed by socio-economic opportunities. WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.



Operational Updates

- Under the General Food Assistance activity, WFP continued providing monthly food assistance through cash-based transfers to almost half a million refugees residing in camps and communities in December. Most refugees benefiting from this assistance come from Syria, with a minority from Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, and Somalia.
- As part of the response to COVID-19 and to address refugees increasing vulnerabilities, WFP has expanded its coverage in December to include 15,730 refugees (5,613 households) since August 2020.
- In Za'atari and Azraq camps, UNHCR has now installed cooking facilities for beneficiaries in quarantine enabling them to cook for themselves. WFP has adjusted its approach, distributing a mix of welcome meals and food parcels to beneficiaries in quarantine which better reflects beneficiary preferences. The total number of COVID-19 cases in both camps so far is around 1,500 cases.
- Discussions are ongoing between WFP, UNHCR and UNICEF to conduct a joint vulnerability assessment in 2021 together with the Government of Jordan.
- In respect to the technical support provided to the Government's National Aid Fund (NAF), WFP completed 50,500 beneficiary household visits out of the planned 70,000 as part of the recertification process. The overall process includes collecting and validating data on the current target caseload of 100,000 households.
- WFP finalized the NAF M&E capacity assessment and presented the final results and recommendations to NAF management and then to relevant donors. The assessment identified opportunities and challenges in NAF's M&E structure and will inform WFP's institutional support in this area.
- WFP continued to support the Ministry of Education in drafting the National School Feeding Strategy. Based on a consultative process with stakeholders forming the Strategy Formulation Steering Committee, WFP prepared the first draft of the document and presented it to the Minister of Education technical team. The technical team endorsed the draft and provided feedback to be incorporated into the document. The timeline for finalising the National School Feeding Strategy was agreed as early February (before the beginning of the next school semester). A workshop with all concerned partners is planned in mid-January to discuss the latest draft before formally submitting it to His Excellency the Minister of Education for final approval.
- Schools remained closed across the Kingdom including in the camps. There is no official news on reopening schools or return to physical schooling next semester.

Population: **10.75 million**
Source: Jordan Department of Statistics

Human Development Index (2019): **0.723**
Source: UNDP Human Development Reports

Income Level: **Upper Middle**
Source: World Bank Data

Gender Inequality Index (2018): **0.469**
Source: UNDP Human Development Reports

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Photo Caption: Due to the COVID-19, 45 percent of the families living in refugee camps are limiting the number of meals they have each day putting refugees food security at risk. ©WFP/Mohammad Batah

WFP Country Strategy

Jordan Country Strategic Plan (January 2020 - December 2022)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
700 m	286 m
2021 Requirements	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (January – June 2021)
235 m	53.6 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:

- **Act 1:** Provide nutrition-sensitive food assistance to refugees and other crisis-affected populations.
- **Act 2:** 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:

- **Act 3:** Support the Government in reforming and expanding national social protection schemes.
- **Act 4:** 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:

- **Act 5:** 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:

- **Act 6:** With other actors, develop a comprehensive food security and nutrition sector plan linked to other sectors and supported by a coordination structure.
- **Act 7:** Facilitate knowledge exchange between partners and the Government to promote piloting and scaling of innovative approaches to achieving the SDGs.

- Given the uncertainty about when schools will reopen, no instructions were given on dispatching date bars for the upcoming semester. However, it was agreed with the Ministry of Education that if schools reopen next semester, WFP and the Ministry will cover the date bars needs from the 260 mt available in WFP warehouses in order to avoid any risk of food loss or expiry.

- WFP finalized the term of reference to launch an assessment on "Impact of school feeding suspension during online education" to measure the need to continue the School Feeding Programme and inform potential alternative delivery mechanisms while schools remain closed. This assessment will be implemented by mid-January.
- WFP continued to work with the Ministry of Agriculture on various activities targeting around 200 participants (70 percent Jordanian, 30 percent Syrian refugee). Moreover, WFP started supporting 250 smallholder farmers with establishing water tanks to harvest rainwater for use in the summer. Participants will receive monthly cash assistance to help them meet their food needs.
- In partnership with the National Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition (NAJMAH), WFP continued to support 1,500 vulnerable Jordanians and refugees with training in professions required in the market. This was carried out using job matching based on identification of vacancies in the communities of recent graduates to generate sustainable livelihoods.
- WFP's human capital development program in partnership with the local NGO partner Dar Abu Abdallah (DAA) continued in December. The program supports 1,000 vulnerable Jordanians and refugees with sustainable economic opportunities through cash for work. DAA provided participants with foundational skills training while their monthly cash assistance helps participants meet their food needs.
- In partnership with FAO and IFAD, WFP continued preparation for the agricultural activities funded by MADAD related to forestry, rangeland, seedlings and water harvesting. The activities will start in January 2021.
- WFP is discussing a social innovation labs initiative with UNICEF to create a combined food security innovation program for youth and adolescents in Jordan in 2021.
- WFP launched the "Decapolis" pilot by onboarding 100 small farmers across Jordan and is currently providing a training for all involved. "Decapolis" is a traceability platform that will support the regulatory agencies and improve the livelihoods of food producers and smallholder farmers by providing premium goods through the end-to-end supply and production chains in compliance with quality control standards.
- In collaboration with UNICEF, International Medical Corps (IMC) and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), WFP facilitated a training on child protection case management and safer referrals. The training resulted in endorsed referral lines, guidelines and an agreed way forward for protection coordination between the various organizations in the camps.
- WFP initiated a referral line with UNHCR's legal partner Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD). ARDD will share legal communication materials with WFP regularly including legal sensitization materials for beneficiaries which will help WFP's call centre and partners address legal inquiries.
- WFP conducted the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) self-assessment for the country office. The exercise highlighted the efforts taken by the office to implement the Executive Director's circular on protection from harassment, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination in the workplace. Furthermore, the exercise put forward additional action points that need to be taken by the partners in order to further improve the work on PSEA.

Funding

WFP requires an additional USD53.6 million to ensure continuity of WFP's assistance until end of June 2021 to respond to the needs of one million Jordanians and refugees.

Donors

Australia, Canada, EU MADAD, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Norway, ROK, Russia, KSA, UNWOMEN, UK, USA and private sector (Cartier, Choithrams and Seven Circles).