



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



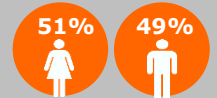
## WFP Jordan Country Brief April 2021

## In Numbers

**523,500** refugees assisted through cash-based transfers in April 2021 (estimate)

**7,500** Jordanians and refugees benefited from livelihood activities (estimate)

**US\$ 118.1 million** six month net funding requirements (June – November 2021)

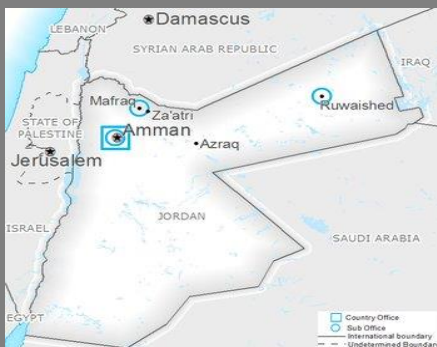


## Operational Context

Jordan is an upper-middle-income country, with a population of 10.8 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 a vulnerability analysis (mVAM) implemented in March 2021 showed that 8.4% of Jordanian households and 21% of refugees are considered food insecure, an additional 51% of Jordanian and 67% of refugees are vulnerable to food insecurity. Female-headed households, small households, and households with disabilities have disproportionately poor food consumption. According to the Department of Statistics, the unemployment rate reached 25 percent during the fourth quarter of 2020, an increase of 5.7 percent compared to the same period in 2019, again attributed to the COVID pandemic. The unemployment rate among men reached 22.6 percent compared to 32.8 percent among women. In addition, Jordan carries the social, economic and environmental burden of hosting over 664,400 Syrian and 88,900 refugees of other nationalities registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Through the Country Strategic Plan (2020-2022), WFP in Jordan, in line with the country's priorities linked to the 2030 Agenda, is strengthening the capacities of national institutions, strategies and programmes, while providing livelihoods support. The CSP further aims to deliver transformative and equitable results for Jordanians bypassed by socio-economic opportunities. WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.



Population: **10.8 million**  
Source: Jordan Department of Statistics

Human Development Index (2019): **0.729**  
Source: UNDP Human Development Reports

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

Gender Inequality Index (2019): **-0.450**  
Source: UNDP Human Development Reports

## Operational Updates

- In April, 523,500 refugees residing in camps and host communities received WFP's monthly food assistance in the form of cash-based transfers. This includes about 40,000 refugees integrated in response to the COVID-19 pandemic using dedicated funds from the United States of America. Most refugees come from Syria, with a minority from Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, and Somalia.
- In Za'atari and Azraq camps, WFP continued providing in-kind food assistance to beneficiaries quarantined in the isolation compounds. However, after April, WFP used an alternative approach relying on direct delivery to beneficiaries by the camp shops using biometrics. The total number of COVID-19 cases in both camps has reached over 3,200 since August 2020.
- After receiving a last-minute contribution, WFP postponed the beneficiary reprioritisation and associated cuts in assistance expected in May. In preparation for the planned beneficiary retargeting, WFP has conducted data checks, engaged in technical discussions with UNCHR and is currently undertaking physical verification of the targeting model. All preparations will be finalized in May including communication with beneficiaries.
- WFP presented its job profiling and graduation approach to key donors in April in line with the sustainable solutions agenda (SSA) to provide refugees with work opportunities. The graduation approach, combined with a two-way referral mechanism, will allow other agencies to enrol productive refugee households in their projects, reducing their dependence on WFP assistance. WFP also presented the approach to UNCHR.
- Following an online launch event on 12 April, the Cash Learning Partnership (CALP) published a report on "[Adapting humanitarian cash assistance in times of COVID-19](#)". The report provides an overview of the main corrective actions that were taken as well as the lessons learned by the different cash assistance players in Jordan (including WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF and others) in adapting their cash operations to the COVID-19 context.
- In April, the Government of Jordan decided to include an additional 60,000 families severely impacted by the pandemic into the National Aid Fund's (NAF) Takaful 3 programme. WFP, through its service provider, has so far completed physical home visits to 57,600 of these households as part of the validation process. NAF's Takaful 3 programme already provides cash assistance to 100,000 vulnerable families of daily informal workers.
- Under the mapping exercise to define the technical assistance package for the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD), WFP has coordinated with UN agencies, INGOs and donors who support MoSD to clarify the priority areas of support, contributions of partners and the gaps that need further attention. Currently, WFP and MoSD are in the process of drafting a Memorandum of Understanding to frame the areas of collaboration.

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**Photo Caption:** During the holy month of Ramadan, the availability of food is essential. The monthly food assistance provided by WFP is the only source of food for many refugees.

# WFP Country Strategy

## Jordan Country Strategic Plan (January 2020 - December 2022)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
<b>700 m</b>	<b>323 m</b>
2021 Requirements	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (June - November 2021)
<b>235 m</b>	<b>118.1 m</b>

### 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.

- WFP and the Ministry of Education (MoE) have finalized the log-frame and workplan of the National School Feeding Strategy. The strategy will be officially presented to the Minister in May, then sent to the Government for endorsement and subsequent launch. In addition, WFP and MoE are in the process of signing an agreement on technical assistance to support the implementation of the strategy. The agreement highlights the area of capacity strengthening as a key element for the work plan.

- In April, WFP distributed date bars to 13,000 children in Za'atari and Azraq camps through a general distribution to caregivers and parents. In communities, WFP distributed 197 mt of date bars through the local NGO, Tikiyet Um Ali (TUA), to students who benefit from TUA's national in-kind food assistance once per month.
- WFP finalized the data collection for an assessment of the impact of the suspension of school feeding during online schooling. Analysis of the final findings is ongoing and will be published shortly.
- Under the EU-MADAD funded project, WFP signed an implementation agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) to start seedlings production in May 2021.
- Resilience activities continued in April in partnership with MoA targeting 140 participants (700 beneficiaries) through forestry maintenance activities; the National Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition (NAJMAH) targeting 1,500 vulnerable Jordanians and refugees (7,500 beneficiaries) through training on market-driven professions and job matching; and local NGO, Dar Abu Abdallah (DAA) targeting 1,000 vulnerable Jordanians and refugees (5,000 beneficiaries) through skills training and income generating activities in sectors like food production, agriculture and crafts.
- WFP conducted focus group discussions (FGDs) with Jordanian and Syrian beneficiaries of MoA in three Governorates. The FGDs focused on the beneficiaries' current experience with the WFP e-card, and their perception of alternative delivery mechanisms such as mobile wallets and basic bank accounts. Final results will feed into WFP's overall assessment of mobile wallets and basic bank accounts as alternative delivery mechanisms for Resilience and General Food Assistance operations.
- In April, WFP and relevant stakeholders revised the third version of the Food Security Strategy and provided their final inputs during a dedicated meeting. Once completed, the strategy will be sent to the higher national committee for food security for their review. WFP will then work on the detailed action plan to implement the strategy which should be finalized in May.
- WFP and UNICEF have signed the agreement and launched the first social innovation laboratories, which aim to create a combined food security innovation programme for youth and adolescents in Jordan in 2021.
- The pilot programme for the Decapolis platform, which provides tracking of agricultural products through the end-to-end supply and production chains in compliance with quality control standards, is running smoothly with 100 smallholder farmers on boarded. WFP is preparing a proposal for potential expansion to 500 smallholders.
- WFP initiated a capacity assessment exercise with iPark, a leading start-up and entrepreneurship enabler, for potential collaboration on a food security innovation programme.

## Funding

WFP received a contribution enabling assistance to continue for all vulnerable refugees through May. WFP requires US\$ 118.1 million to ensure continuity of WFP's assistance to refugees for the next six months (June - November). However, following initial indications on future contributions from several donors, the expected net shortfall for the next six months is expected to decrease to US\$ 33 million. Unless there are additional donations to the indications mentioned above, WFP will be forced to cut the assistance after August.

## Donors

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