



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Jordan Country Brief June 2021

Operational Context

Jordan is an upper-middle-income country, with a population of 10.9 million with 74 percent below the age of 30. Jordan is also a resource-poor, food-deficit country with dwindling energy and water resources and limited agricultural land.

The results of WFP's mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping approach (mVAM) implemented in March 2021 showed that 8.4 percent of Jordanian households and 22 percent of refugees are considered food insecure, with an additional 51 percent of Jordanian and 66 percent of refugees 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 first quarter of 2021, an increase of 5.7 percent compared to the fourth quarter of 2019, again attributed to the COVID pandemic. The unemployment rate among men reached 22.6 percent compared to 32.8 percent among women and youth unemployment rates reached an unprecedented 50.0 percent as indicated in the World Bank report of Performance and Learning Review of Jordan. In addition, Jordan carries the social, economic and environmental burden of hosting over 666,700 Syrian and 88,500 refugees of other nationalities registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Through the Country Strategic Plan (2020-2022), WFP Jordan is rebalancing its portfolio more 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 is increasingly prioritized to deliver transformative and equitable results for Jordanians and refugees bypassed by socio-economic opportunities. WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.



Population: **10.9 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): **0.638**
Source: World Economic Forum (Global Gender Gap report 2021)

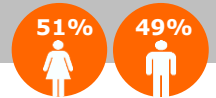
In Numbers

620,894 Total number of beneficiaries reached in June 2021

525,139 beneficiaries assisted through cash-based transfers

6,400 beneficiaries benefited from livelihood activities

USD 132.7 million six months net funding requirements (July - December 2021)



Operational Updates

- In June, WFP continued providing its monthly cash-based food assistance to over 525,000 refugees residing in camps and host communities; 51 percent of them are women. This includes an additional 40,000 refugees added in response to the COVID-19 pandemic using dedicated funding. Most refugees come from Syria, with a minority from Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, and Somalia.
- WFP will implement revised retargeting along with prioritisation of beneficiaries according to vulnerability in July. This ensures that assistance goes to those most in need. With the retargeting, while most of the caseload will continue to receive assistance, 21,000 beneficiaries will be excluded from assistance. This re-targeting exercise enables 7,000 beneficiaries who previously did not receive WFP assistance to be included in the new list of beneficiaries. Reflecting the increasing vulnerability of many households, 90,000 people were recategorized as extremely vulnerable while 50,000 were downgraded from extremely vulnerable to vulnerable. Beneficiaries were informed about their assistance status at the beginning of June. WFP has implemented an online appeal platform through which beneficiaries can submit their requests to review their status. By the end of June, WFP had already received around 30,000 appeal requests; 37 percent of them were from beneficiaries removed from assistance.
- The technical assistance provided to the National Aid Fund (NAF) continued in June. WFP's contracted service provider continued verifying beneficiaries for NAF's Takaful (solidarity) programmes through home visits as well as finalizing preparations for 30,000 home visits for NAF's old caseload which will start in July. In addition, WFP is preparing to provide virtual info-sessions to 2,300 beneficiaries enrolled under Takaful programmes. While implementing the home visits, WFP ensured a gender sensitive approach is followed with female staff in each team.
- WFP has finalized the National School Feeding Strategy which has been submitted for the Ministry of Education's (MoE) final review. WFP will present the strategy to the Minister during a high-level meeting in July through which the strategy should be endorsed. In addition, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide technical assistance to the MoE is also pending ministerial endorsement. The MoU will help operationalize the strategy and enable effective, efficient and sustainable implementation of the national school feeding programme.
- Based on a request from the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) to provide technical assistance, following a series of consultations with the Ministry, WFP has finalized and presented the MoU to the MoSD for endorsement. According to the MoU, the technical support will include enhanced shock responsiveness for MoSD programmes, livelihoods and resilience building programmes, and systems building (M&E, MIS and CFM). In addition, WFP has already started to support MoSD on their hydroponics project in partnership with the Ministry of Environment.

Photo Caption: Children playing around their resident in Azraq Camp. (Mohammad

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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 USD (July - December 2021)
235 m	132.7 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.

- WFP distributed 46 mt of date bars through local NGO Tikiyet Um Ali (TUA) to students in communities who benefit from TUA's monthly national in-kind food assistance. In addition, the assessment on the "impact of school feeding suspension during online education" was finalised. WFP is comparing the impact of the suspension on "students who used to receive date bars" and "students who used to receive healthy kitchen meals".

- Under the EU-MADAD funded project enhancing resilient livelihoods and food security of host communities and Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon, participants have continued producing seedlings at 16 of MoA's plant production stations; 50 percent of participants are women. Teams from WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Jordan and Lebanon presented the progress to the European Union delegations in both countries. A no-cost extension of the project until the end of 2022 was proposed to cater for the COVID-related delays.

- The human capital development project in partnership with Dar Abu Abdallah (DAA) continued, targeting 5,000 vulnerable Jordanians and refugees; 50 percent of them are women. In June, 61 participants (24.4 percent) were employed in sustainable jobs after completing the fundamental trainings and 128 (51.2 percent) participants received production kits, started creating assets and selling products.

- To support the participants and the business owners, many of whom have been affected by the economic implications of COVID-19, WFP extended its partnership with the National Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition (NAJMAH) until the end of August 2021 to provide a training on market-driven professions and job matching to 1,100 vulnerable Jordanians and refugees. In June, WFP and NAJMAH provided advanced technical training to 70 participants to improve their capacities and employability. In addition, a training session was provided to female participants and attended by female champions and leaders to discuss the challenges women are facing in the market.

- The partnership with MoA supporting small-holder farmers continued. In June, 300 participants have continued the on-farm activities including constructing water harvesting reservoirs, fences and plantation.

- Following the endorsement of the food security strategy by the higher steering committee, WFP and partners started working with MoA to develop the strategy action plan. The action plan will be finalized in August and will provide a detailed roadmap to achieve the objectives of the National Food Security Strategy.

- WFP and UNICEF have selected 197 participants, 60 percent of whom are women, to start working on the social innovation laboratories. The laboratories will create a combined food security innovation programme for youth and adolescents in Jordan in 2021.

Funding

- WFP in Jordan continues to face shortfalls in funding to support over half a million refugees in the country; under current planning, there will be a partial pipeline break in July 2021 forcing WFP to cut assistance for 21,000 beneficiaries in order to support the most vulnerable refugees as long as possible. Even with prioritization of the most vulnerable, the funding pipeline will be completely dry by the end of October. WFP needs USD 58 million to continue its full assistance to refugees as planned in 2021, this considers funds both confirmed and forecast.

- WFP Jordan, supported by a network of local Good will Ambassadors, celebrities and influencers, launched a fundraising campaign to support refugees in Jordan through [SharetheMeal app](#), the world's first app against global hunger. WFP's target is to raise one million meals; each meal costs USD 0.80 which contributes to funding WFP's programme to support the half million refugees in Jordan. Local celebrities and influencers such as actress Amal Dabbas, chef Maisa Miqdadi, TV anchor Randa Azar, Jordanian singer Zain Awad and chef Manal AlAlem have also joined WFP in raising meals to support this campaign. So far, WFP has raised around 37 percent of its target from 17,000 local, regional and international supporters, including private companies in Jordan.

Donors

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