



SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Jordan Country Brief September 2021



In Numbers

474,921 Total number of beneficiaries reached in September 2021

474,065 beneficiaries assisted through cash-based transfers

925 beneficiaries benefited from livelihood activities

USD 112.7 million six months net funding requirements (October 2021 - March 2022)

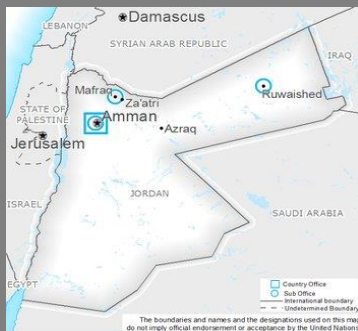


Operational Context

Jordan is an upper-middle-income country, with a population of 11 million; 74 percent below the age of 30. It is also a resource-poor, food-deficit country with dwindling energy and water resources and limited agricultural land and carries the social, economic and environmental burden of hosting over 670,000 Syrian and 87,700 refugees of other nationalities registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The results of WFP's June 2021 mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping (mVAM) showed 23.4 percent of refugees are food insecure, with an additional 60 percent vulnerable to food insecurity. Female-headed households, small households, and households with disabilities have disproportionately poor food consumption. 93 percent of refugee households are below the refugee poverty line with 35 percent below the abject poverty line. According to the Department of Statistics, Jordan's unemployment rate reached 25 percent during the first quarter of 2021, an increase from 19 percent in the fourth quarter of 2019, attributed to the COVID pandemic; 22.6 percent among men compared to 32.8 percent among women. Youth unemployment rates reached an unprecedented 50.0 percent as indicated in the World Bank Performance and Learning Review of Jordan in May 2021.

Through the Country Strategic Plan (2020-2022), WFP Jordan is rebalancing its portfolio more towards Jordan itself, in line with priorities linked to the 2030 Agenda. The focus is on strengthening capacities of national institutions, strategies and programmes, in addition to providing support for livelihoods to deliver transformative and equitable results for Jordanians and refugees bypassed by socio-economic opportunities. WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.



Operational Updates

- In September, WFP received a strong contribution indication from donors in support of general food assistance. This generous contribution enabled WFP to avoid an assistance cut and continue providing its monthly food assistance to those beneficiaries in October. WFP sent updated SMSs to beneficiaries informing them about the continuity to receive their monthly food assistance based on the funding situation.
- WFP provided food assistance to 473,400 very vulnerable refugees. This includes about 40,000 refugees registered under the COVID-19 pandemic response using dedicated funding which allowed their assistance to be continued. Most of the assisted refugees come from Syria, with a minority from Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, and Somalia.
- On 8 September, WFP and UNHCR organized a series of live sessions on Facebook for refugees to explain the ongoing assistance change due to funding shortages. More than 35,000 people watched the live session and more than 2,000 questions were raised during the session.
- WFP continued to provide technical assistance to the National Aid Fund (NAF), the main social assistance provider in Jordan. WFP, through its contracted service provider, has completed verifications of around 19,000 home visits out of 28,000 targeted home visits.
- WFP and the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) have signed the agreement to provide technical assistance to the Ministry. The Signing ceremony between the H.E the Minister and WFP Country Director took place during the first week of September. WFP's technical support will include enhanced shock responsiveness for MoSD programmes, livelihoods and resilience-building programmes, systems building (M&E, management information system-MIS) and community feedback mechanism-CFM).
- In September, WFP's school feeding activities have started in Za'atari and Azraq camps with distributions over 27 metric tonne of date bars to around 25,000 students.
- Under the EU-MADAD funded project enhancing resilient livelihoods and food security of host communities and Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon, the implementation of the first phase of seedling production activity was concluded in September. Over 200 participants were supported with livelihood opportunities to produce 200,000 seedlings per month.

Population: **11 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)

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Photo Caption: WFP's flexible cash based assistance enables beneficiaries to buy a variety of food items of their own choice.
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WFP Country Strategy

Jordan Country Strategic Plan (January 2020 - December 2022)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
753 m	363 m
2021 Requirements	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements in USD (October 2021 - March 2022)
265 m	112.7 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.

- The human capital development project, in partnership with the local NGO Dar Abu Abdallah (DAA) continued in September. A 10-day technical training was provided to 60 participants who were then linked with employers in the retail sector.
- The joint project between WFP and the National Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition (NAJMAH) to improve access to economic opportunities was concluded in September and a lessons-learned workshop was conducted. Around 1,500 participants (30 percent refugees and 70 percent Jordanians) were trained in market-driven professions and matched with jobs in several fields.
- WFP continued to support 300 smallholder farmers with cash transfers to establish water-harvesting tanks, fencing, and plantations on selected farms to increase water-use efficiency, decrease soil erosion and increase production under the joint WFP-MoA (Ministry of Agriculture) project.
- In September, the Government has approved the National Food Security Strategy document. The development of the action plan should continue until mid-October. The action plan will provide an acceleration framework for relevant sectoral strategies and policies linked directly or indirectly to the set objectives in the food security strategy. The official launching of the strategy will take place during October.
- After the initial entrepreneurship training for youth under the WFP-UNICEF partnership, WFP in collaboration with Jordan River Foundation initiated mentoring sessions to help the 25 participants further develop their projects. This programme will create a combined food security innovation for youth and adolescents in Jordan in 2021. The training was about: Food security and food security innovation, Conducting market research, Design thinking and developing a viable product, aimed at offering youth the opportunity to develop skills as social innovators and independent thinkers with the ability to conceive homegrown solutions regarding food security

Funding

- WFP urgently requires USD 40 million to maintain assistance to all eligible targeted refugees until the end of the year. WFP is extremely concerned about the serious impact of such cuts on refugee households, particularly children, women and people with disabilities.
- WFP Jordan continued its efforts in advocating for [ShareTheMeal](#) fundraising campaign in support of Refugees in Jordan. Until now, the campaign has reached more than 75 percent of its target.

Donors

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