



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES



## WFP Jordan Country Brief March 2022

## In Numbers

**686,920** total number of beneficiaries reached in March 2022

**464,000** refugees assisted through cash-based transfers

**1,445** beneficiaries benefited from livelihood activities

**USD 83.6 m** six months net funding requirements (April - September 2022)

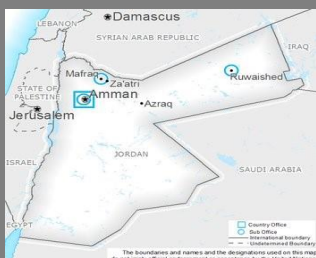


## Operational Context

Jordan is an upper-middle-income country, with a population of 11 million, 74 percent of whom are below the age of 30. Jordan is also a resource-poor, food-deficit country with dwindling energy and water resources and limited agricultural land. It carries the social, economic and environmental burden of hosting around 674,150 Syrian and 86,740 refugees of other nationalities registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as February 2022.

The results of WFP's Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM) of quarter four 2021 showed that 78 percent of refugees in communities and 85 percent of refugees in camps are either food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity. Female-headed households, small households, and households with disabilities have disproportionately poor food consumption. Without WFP assistance, abject poverty would likely double and if all assistance stopped, more than 80 percent of households would not meet their survival needs (food, housing, hygiene). According to the Department of Statistics, Jordan's unemployment rate was 23.3 percent during the fourth quarter of 2021; a decrease of 1.4 percentage points from the fourth quarter of 2020. Unemployment is 21.4 percent among men compared to 30.7 percent among women. Youth unemployment rates are still 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.



Population: **11.12 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 March, WFP provided food assistance to around 464,600 vulnerable refugees residing in camps and host communities through cash-based transfers. Most refugees come from Syria, with a minority from Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, and Somalia.
- As part of the preparation for the joint-targeting model for non-Syrian refugees, WFP and UNHCR conducted community consultations to help fine-tune the retargeting model before its rollout in the summer of 2022.
- WFP completed the focus group discussions and household interviews in camps and communities as part of its formative research on "nutrition habits of women of reproductive age and pregnant and lactating women". The report will form a base for developing the social and behaviour change communication campaigns to be rolled out in the summer of 2022.
- King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSrelief) donated packs of dates to be distributed to vulnerable refugees and Jordanians during April. WFP supported all preparations with its various partners for this Ramadan distribution.
- From 28 February to 3 March, WFP organized the second visit for KSRelief to Jordan to follow up on their contribution to support 112,000 refugees in camps. The donation covered over three months from December 2021 to March 2022.
- School feeding in communities and camps continued in March with the distribution of date bars for over 200,000 students in 18 directorates and 35,000 students in the camps. WFP will suspend the assistance in April during Ramadan and will resume in May until the end of scholastic year.
- In March, WFP launched a new school feeding pilot model providing healthy meals for school students in two directorates (South Shoneh and Madaba). An additional 26,000 students to those listed above received a cheese sandwich, fruit and a vegetable four days per week with date bars on the fifth day.
- The long-term partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture supporting small-holder farmers continued in March. Sixty-five new small-holder farmers received access to finance for constructing water harvesting reservoirs to increase water-use efficiency and increase production from their farms.
- WFP and the World Bank continued to support the Ministry of Social Development in its newly established Case Management Information System and ensure its effective linkages to the Ministry's social protection service programmes and Modules.

**Photo caption:** WFP is supporting the Jordanian Ministry of Education with its national school feeding programme in camps and communities.  
WFP/Mohammad Battah

**Contact info:** Noor Al-Baik ([noor.albaik@wfp.org](mailto:noor.albaik@wfp.org))

**Country Director:** Alberto Mendes ([alberto.mendes@wfp.org](mailto:alberto.mendes@wfp.org))

Further information: [www1.wfp.org/countries/jordan](http://www1.wfp.org/countries/jordan)

# WFP Country Strategy

Jordan Country Strategic Plan (January 2020 - December 2022)	
Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
767 m	514 m
2021 Requirements	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements in USD (April - September 2022)
261 m	83.6 m
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food	
<b>Strategic Outcome 1:</b> Crisis affected populations in Jordan, including refugees, meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year. <b>Focus area:</b> Crisis Response	
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Act 1:</b> Provide nutrition-sensitive food assistance to refugees and other crisis-affected populations.</li> <li><b>Act 2:</b> Provide tools, systems and training to the Government to enhance its emergency preparedness and response capabilities.</li> </ul>	
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food.	
<b>Strategic Outcome 2:</b> Vulnerable populations in Jordan, including children, are covered by adequate social protection schemes by 2022. <b>Focus area:</b> Resilience Building	
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Act 3:</b> Support the Government in reforming and expanding national social protection schemes.</li> <li><b>Act 4:</b> Provide nutrition-sensitive school feeding to targeted children.</li> </ul>	
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food.	
<b>Strategic Outcome 3:</b> Vulnerable populations in Jordan, with a focus on women and young people, are more self-reliant and have better livelihood opportunities by 2022. <b>Focus area:</b> Resilience Building	
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Act 5:</b> 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.</li> </ul>	
Strategic Result 4: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs	
<b>Strategic Outcome 4:</b> Partnerships in support of the Sustainable Development Goals in Jordan are strengthened through effective and innovative solutions from WFP and its partners by 2022. <b>Focus area:</b> Resilience Building	
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Act 6:</b> With other actors, develop a comprehensive food security and nutrition sector plan linked to other sectors and supported by a coordination structure.</li> <li><b>Act 7:</b> Facilitate knowledge exchange between partners and the Government to promote piloting and scaling of innovative approaches to achieving the SDGs.</li> <li><b>Act 8:</b> Provide on-demand cash-based transfer services to partners.</li> </ul>	

## Donors

Australia, Belgium, Canada, EU MADAD, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, KSA, Luxemburg, Norway, ROK, Russia, UAE/MBRGI, UK, USA, and private sector (Landmark, Cartier, Choithrams and Seven Circles, Talabat, Careem, Dubai Holding).

- WFP suspended its blockchain system used in camps' shops and at bread selling points from 25 to 30 March to allow technical updates and maintenance. This is the first suspension of the blockchain system since its inception in 2017. WFP distributed bread to refugees in camps in cooperation with its partner the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). WFP informed camp beneficiaries through short message service (SMS) and social media channels well in advance to provide ample preparation time.
- As part of WFP's continued support to the National Aid Fund (NAF), WFP and its collaborating partners (the research institutes Mindset and IPSOS) are planning to conduct physical and virtual validation visits to 100,000 households out of the 130,000 visits for households under consideration for NAF's Unified Cash Transfers (UCT) programme. In March, WFP completed around 30,000 physical home visits. WFP will continue with the visits in April 2022.
- Under a project funded by the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis (EU-MADAD), WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) supported around 500 participants (30 percent women) in March by increasing their access to short-term employment opportunities. Their entitlements were transferred through e-wallets as part of the mobile money pilot implemented with the support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Participants rehabilitated 150 hectares of forestry and rangeland in different governorates, producing over 500,000 seedlings and planting over 15,000 trees.
- The 'Youth in Food Security Innovation Programme' ended in March with a pitch competition. WFP and UNICEF awarded seed funding of USD 4,000 with mentorship to five young women and men among 22 finalists. The programme will help bring their ideas to life and will contribute to having reliable access to adequate and nutritious food in Jordan in the future.
- Under the partnership with the centre for water management services - CEWAS start-up programme, WFP launched two pilot projects. The first project, called Flowless, utilizes smart devices to collect real-time data to monitor and control water networks and provide insights for process automation and faults detection. The second project is an environmental and social enterprise called Sennara; the programme includes producing and installing rooftop hydroponic systems for families in underprivileged areas.
- In celebration of International Women's Day, WFP organized a field visit to a women's forestry station in Jerash implemented under the EU-MADAD funded project. Female staff from WFP with Manal Al Alem, WFP Goodwill Ambassador, met participants and planted trees together. Moreover, one of the participants from the forestry station participated in an interagency webinar on gender-based violence and climate change, sharing her experience participating in the activity.

## Funding

- WFP requires USD 83.6 million until the end of September 2022. This includes USD 79.5 million to maintain assistance to all eligible targeted refugees assisted under general food assistance, and USD 1.8 million to maintain assistance to 430,000 vulnerable Jordanian and refugee students.