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 673,000 Syrian and 87,000 refugees of other nationalities registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as of January 2022. The results of WFP’s Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM) of quarter four 2021 showed that almost 80 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 disproportionally 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.

**Operational Updates**

- In April, WFP provided food assistance to around 463,000 vulnerable refugees residing in camps and host communities through cash-based transfers. Most refugees come from Syria, with a minority from Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, Somalia and other countries.

- In April, school feeding activities were suspended due to the holy month of fasting, Ramadan. Feeding activities will resume from May in Za’atari and Azraq camps and in communities.

- King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief) donated 650 MT of dates for distribution to vulnerable refugees and Jordanians. WFP will start the distribution through partners once the Government of Jordan completes the testing and approval processes.

- WFP is exploring expanding the new school feeding model to Ma’an Governorate in the south. The model was launched in South Shoneh and Madaba directorates distributing cheese sandwich, fruit and a vegetable four days per week and date bars one day.

- WFP has finalized the first draft of the social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) research report. The detailed review will lead to an SBCC nutrition strategy for women of reproductive age as well as pregnant and lactating women.

- WFP continued to support the National Aid Fund (NAF), the Government programme that provides cash assistance to 120,000 vulnerable Jordanian families in 2022; WFP conducted 38,000 physical home visits and 20,000 virtual visits through its service providers, Mindset and IPSOS allowing NAF to validate the eligibility of 58,000 households in April. WFP also provided financial literacy information sessions on how to open and administer e-wallets and/or basic bank accounts to around 4,000 families.

- Jointly with the World Bank, WFP reviewed the complaints and handling mechanism (CHM) processes of the NAF cash assistance programme and modified the CHM tool to meet applicants’ needs.

**Photo caption:** The smile on Hazem’s face comes from the food his mother cooked using WFP’s Food Assistance to his family. WFP is providing monthly food assistance to vulnerable refugees in the camps. ©WFP/Mohammad

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**In Numbers**

- **464,117 people assisted** in April 2022
- **462,836** refugees assisted through cash-based transfers
- **1,685** beneficiaries benefited from livelihood activities
- **USD 116.1 m** six months net funding requirements (May - October 2022)
WFP Country Strategy

Jordan Country Strategic Plan (January 2020 - December 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Result</th>
<th>Total Requirements (in US$)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>216 m</td>
<td>116.1 m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 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 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 Result 5:** 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.
- **Act 8:** Provide on-demand cash-based transfer services to partners.

- Within the scope of the Memorandum of Understanding with MoSD on capacity strengthening support for the shock responsive social protection (SRSP) and emergency preparedness, WFP hosted a joint scoping mission of a multi-functional team from the Regional Bureau (RBC). The objectives of the joint exercise included assessments of the SRSP landscape in Jordan and the opportunities to enhance the SRSP.

- WFP recruited a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) specialist for the National Centre for Security and Crisis Management as part of its technical support. This specialist will assist in developing a risk monitoring and impact analysis platform based on WFP’s corporate tool, the Platform for Real-time Impact and Situation Monitoring.

- Under WFP’s support to small-holder farmers provided in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), 65 smallholder farmers have started the construction of water harvesting tanks to increase water-use efficiency and production in their farms.

- Funded by the European Union (EU-MADAD), WFP and the MoA, in cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), continued to enhance resilient livelihoods and food security of host communities and Syrian refugees in Jordan. In April, 186 participants (64 percent women and 31 percent refugees) were supported by increasing access to short-term employment opportunities in seedling activities, forestry and rangeland. Participants received their entitlements for April through e-wallets after receiving financial inclusion information sessions at the start of the project.

- WFP, in collaboration with MoA and UN WOMEN, launched a new short-term project to establish seedling stations in Zarqa, Madaba, Amman and Balqa cities. The project aims to increase access to short term jobs for over 160 Syrian women from Al-Azraq camp and 70 Jordanian women from the surrounding of this camp.

- WFP launched a study with its partner IPSOS to understand macro-economic and trade effects on Jordan due to the Ukraine emergency and other global supply chain issues.

**Funding**

- WFP requires USD 118.3 million to cover the basic needs of 465,000 refugees until the end of the year. This includes USD 113 million to maintain assistance to all eligible targeted refugees assisted under general food assistance, and USD 5.3 million to maintain assistance to 430,000 vulnerable Jordanian and refugee students.

**Donors**

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