



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Jordan Country Brief October 2024

### Operational Context

Jordan is a low-middle-income country with a population of 11.7 million, 63 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. Jordan hosts the world's second-highest share of refugees per capita with 3.5 million refugees residing in the country. This includes over 2 million Palestinian refugees, 1.3 million Syrian refugees (of whom 625,000 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR as of September), in addition to refugees from other countries. This large number of refugees adds unprecedented pressure on Jordan's budgetary and natural resources, infrastructure, and labour market. Nevertheless, Jordan has linked the attainment of its own national goals with a progressive approach to hosting refugees.

Jordan has shown commendable resilience in maintaining its stability due to its strategic geopolitical positioning and relevant recent political reforms that effectively enhanced the resilience of its economy. However, the ongoing conflict in Gaza has significantly impacted the country, particularly in sectors such as tourism, while exacerbating existing economic challenges. Unemployment remained a structural challenge in Jordan as there is still a pressing need to enhance job creation for the young population and to bring more women into the labour market. Jordan's Department of Statistics announced an unemployment rate of 21.4 percent in the second quarter of 2024, with women making up 34.7 percent. On a positive note, food prices, after two consecutive months of increases since July, eased by 1.6 percent in September compared to August.

Under its five-year Country Strategic Plan-CSP (2023-2027), WFP continues providing unconditional food assistance for vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, and technical assistance for national social protection programmes and systems. WFP focuses on education, and nutrition activities and expands its climate action in Jordan. Additionally, WFP and the Government of Jordan have been playing a pivotal role in coordinating and delivering food aid to Gaza and most recently to Lebanon.

Income Level: **low-middle income**

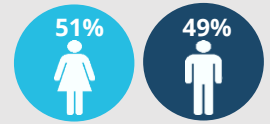
Population: **11.7 million**

2022 Human Development Index: **0.74 (98 out of 204 countries)**

Chronic malnutrition: **7.4% of children between 0-59 months in refugee camps**



### In Numbers



**310,000 people** assisted in October

**USD 6.5 m** cash-based transfers

**USD 107 m** (November 2024 - April 2025) net funding requirements

### WFP Operations in Jordan

- In October, **WFP continued to prioritize food assistance for 310,000 refugees** in camps and communities, although at reduced levels (USD 21 per person per month).
- Under its cash assurance framework, in October WFP concluded the annual verification process for refugees in camps receiving assistance through mobile money, with 97 percent of camp beneficiaries verified. In parallel, WFP has launched a new verification process for beneficiaries receiving WFP assistance in communities. The process verifies the physical location and custodianship of the payment modalities.
- WFP launched nutrition awareness sessions for refugees in Zaatari camp targeting 600 Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women and caregivers of children under two. The sessions, which will last until April 2025, encourage early initiation of breastfeeding, and exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months, and provide infants of six months and older with appropriate complementary foods.
- WFP, in partnership with the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), hosted a dialogue with 30 public and private stakeholders to discuss increasing access to agricultural finance for refugees. The meeting focused on sharing current practices on agricultural partnerships and financing and identifying possible solutions to bridge humanitarian assistance and sustainable development goals. The dialogue will inform report, conducted jointly with CIAT to be released in December, and the future programming in WFP's climate portfolio.

**Jordan's Food Security Council, in collaboration with WFP and the Department of Statistics, launched Jordan's first national Food Security Management Information System (FSMIS). This system will track progress toward Sustainable Development Goals, supporting data-driven decisions in food security.**

[Press release link](#)

- The [Regional Forum on Accelerating Food Systems Transformation in the Arab Region](#) took place in Jordan in October and was organized in partnership with WFP and hosted by Jordan's Ministry of Agriculture and the Jordan Food Security Council. The event brought together UN partners and public officials from 20 Arab countries and focused on strengthening governance, fostering regional cooperation, and advancing effective food systems strategies.

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**Photo Caption:** During the event of launching Jordan's first National Food Security Management Information System.  
[@Mohammad Batah](#)

# WFP Country Strategy

## Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD) 2024
<b>997 m</b>	<b>347 m</b>
2024 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (November 2024 – April 2025)
<b>213 m</b>	<b>107 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Vulnerable crisis-affected populations in Jordan, including refugees, meet their food and nutrition needs through the year.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

#### Activities:

- Act 1:** Provide unconditional resource transfers to refugees and other vulnerable populations to support access to food.

### Strategic Result 1: Access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Extremely vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, are covered by adequate social protection schemes by 2027

**Focus area:** *Resilience building*

#### Activities:

- Act 2:** Provide capacity strengthening to national social protection institutions.
- Act 3:** Support the Government with technical expertise for the operationalization of the national school feeding strategy to provide nutrition-sensitive school meals to targeted children.

### Strategic Result 1: Access to food

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, have improved self-reliance, access to sustainable livelihood opportunities, and increased resilience to shocks by 2027

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

#### Activities:

- Act 4:** Build an interagency two-way referral system and an evidence-based advocacy strategy for refugee self-reliance and provide a livelihood support package to targeted refugees and vulnerable Jordanians.
- Act 5:** Provide tailored climate adaptive support to smallholder farmers, pastoral communities and institutions responsible for natural resources management.

### Strategic Result 17: Capacity building

**Strategic Outcome 4:** National and subnational institutions in Jordan have increased capacity to coordinate, manage and monitor food security and nutrition programmes, and respond to shocks by 2027

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

#### Activities:

- Act 6:** Provide technical expertise and capacity strengthening to the Government for the operationalization of the National Food Security Strategy
- Act 7:** Provide technical expertise and capacity strengthening to national and local EPR/DRR institutions

### Strategic Result 17: Global partnerships

**Strategic Outcome 5:** Humanitarian and development actors have enhanced ability to support vulnerable populations in Jordan all year round through on-demand cash-based transfer services

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

- Activity 8:** Provide on-demand cash-based transfer services to partners

- Under the National School Feeding Programme, WFP distributed date bars to some 430,000 students in camps and communities in October. Furthermore, WFP distributed healthy meals to an additional 90,000 students in communities.
- To promote nutrition awareness and healthy eating habits among schoolchildren in Jordan, WFP launched a 'training-for-trainers' programme for over 200 schoolteachers. The nutrition awareness sessions were conducted in 100 schools within local communities, expanding the reach to a total of 250 schools across four directorates.
- As part of the technical support provided to the National Aid Fund (NAF), Jordan's primary social assistance provider, WFP completed 30,000 home visits to NAF beneficiaries to validate their eligibility data.
- WFP Jordan supported a knowledge exchange mission between the Palestine Ministries of Social Development (MoSD) and Jordans' on October 22-23. The mission aimed to help MoSD Palestine refine its emergency response and social protection strategy with the participation of UNICEF, the World Bank, and ILO.

## Monitoring

- The WFP's Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM) data collection has started for the fourth quarter. The results will be finalized in December.

## Support for Gaza Response

- The Jordan Corridor is still facing a major reduction of its capacity, with 43 percent of planned deliveries crossed into Gaza in October. This has slightly improved with more frequent convoys carried out towards the end of October. This reduced capacity is due to increased bureaucratic hurdles and customs clearance requirements. Additionally, Northern crossings into Gaza remained closed until mid-October, with limited cargo gradually received as of 20 October.
- Between November 2023 and October 2024, 2,340 trucks with around 33,000 MT of food and other humanitarian supplies have been transported by WFP and the Logistics Cluster from Jordan.

## Challenges

- WFP requires USD 5.3 million for its school feeding activity for the 2024/2025 scholastic year (December 2024 to June 2025). Unless new contributions are timely received, WFP will be forced to partially suspend its school feeding activities starting December 2024.

## Donors

Australia, Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, KSA/KSrelief, Norway, UK/FCDO, USA/BHA, and the private sector (Seattle Foundation, Khaled Masri, Imdad Co. and Talabat).