



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Jordan Country Brief December 2024



In Numbers



473,000 people assisted in December

USD 6.5 m cash-based transfers

USD 75.3 m (January-June 2025) net funding requirements

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 611,000 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR as of December), 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 the region has significantly impacted the country, particularly in sectors such as tourism, while exacerbating existing economic challenges. Unemployment remains 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 21.5 percent in the third quarter of 2024, with women making up 33.3 percent.

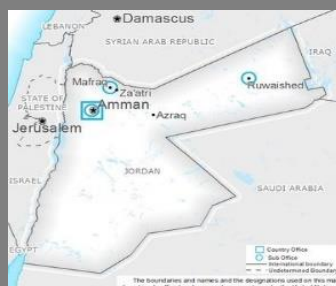
Under its five-year Country Strategic Plan-CSP (2023-2027), WFP continues providing unconditional food assistance for vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, and technical assistance for national social protection programmes and systems. WFP focuses on education, and nutrition activities 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 .

Income Level: **low-middle income**

Population: **11.7 million**

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

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



WFP Operations in Jordan

- In December, WFP provided monthly food assistance to 310,000 refugees in camps and communities, yet at reduced levels (USD 21 per person per month).
- Under its cash assurance framework, in December WFP concluded its annual verification process for refugees in camps and communities with a 95 percent positive verification rate. The process verified the physical presence in the country and custodianship of the payment instruments.
- WFP, with the Ministry of Education continued to implement the National School Feeding Programme in December through the distribution of date bars to around 430,000 students in the camps and communities. Furthermore, WFP distributed healthy meals to an additional 90,000 students in communities.
- Delegations from the Ministry of Education and WFP attended two important global forums in December: The [Global Child Nutrition Forum](#) and the [Global Impact Evaluation Forum](#). The forums focused on advancing strategies for improving child nutrition, enhancing the effectiveness of school feeding programmes, and leveraging impact evaluations to inform evidence-based policies and practices.
- In December, WFP Jordan launched its first joint pilot with the Agriculture Credit Corporation (ACC) to increase farmers' access to finance for climate-resilient agricultural practices. Climate-smart agriculture workshops were provided to around 200 smallholder farmers and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) participants in the agri-food sector from Jerash and Mafraq governorates.
- In partnership with the ACC and the global climate consulting firm Tetra Tech, WFP conducted a series of trainings on climate-resilient technologies and production practices for smallholder farmers and MSMEs. These efforts, with a new pilot programme, aim to enhance access to finance for climate adaptation within the agri-food system.

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Photo Caption: WFP and ACC concluded climate-smart agriculture training in Jerash and Mafraq, equipping nearly 200 farmers and small businesses to tackle climate challenges. @Mohammad Batah

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD) 2024
997 m	364 m
2025 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (January – June 2025)
213.8 m	75.3 m

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 its food security governance programme, WFP continued providing technical support to Jordan's Food Security Council (FSC). In December, WFP developed a monitoring and evaluation matrix to track progress on food security in Jordan as part of the National Food Security Indicator Improvement Plan.

- As part of WFP's Food Waste Management initiative, Jordan Country Office, in collaboration with the Food Security Council, held a meeting with union associations from all governorates to discuss the requirements for establishing Jordan's first Food Waste Management Union.

Support for Gaza Response

- The Jordan Corridor continued to face significant challenges in December mainly due to a lack of enabling environment in Gaza to receive the cargo. Around 70 percent of planned deliveries successfully crossed into Gaza in December 2024.
- Over one year, 2,916 trucks with around 40,339 MT of food and other humanitarian supplies have been transported by WFP and the Logistics Cluster from Jordan. In early 2024, WFP also carried out 10 airdrops in coordination with the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF) and the German Air Force.

Monitoring

- In December, data collection for the Quarter Four Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM) exercise was completed. The analysis and results will be available during the first quarter of 2025.
- As part of the School Feeding Programme monitoring, WFP conducted a second round of data collection to assess the impact of its Healthy School Meals model on women's empowerment and livelihoods. This monitoring is targeting women employed in the programme's healthy kitchens.

Donors

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