



WFP Jordan

COUNTRY BRIEF
March 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In February, WFP continued to provide reduced monthly food assistance of JOD 15 (USD 21) per person to 220,000 refugees in camps and host communities, covering only basic needs. Due to funding shortfalls, from 1 April, 135,000 refugees in host communities will no longer receive WFP assistance due to funding shortfalls, increasing their already dire food security.
- Under the National School Feeding Programme, WFP and the Ministry of Education distributed date bars to 400,000 students in communities and healthy school meals to 109,000 students in camps and host communities.

IN NUMBERS

	520,000 people assisted in February (estimate)
	50% Male
	50% Female
	USD 5M cash transferred
	USD 60.4M (March – August 2026) net funding requirements

Photo Caption & Credit: Through WFP Jordan's Healthy School Meals Programme, students receive the nutrition they need to learn, grow, and thrive. WFP/Mohammad Batah

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Jordan is a low-middle-income country with a population of 11.9 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 remains one of the world's largest refugee-hosting countries, accommodating approximately 3.5 million refugees. This includes more than 2 million Palestinian refugees and an estimated 1.3 million Syrian refugees (of whom around 404,000 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR as of March), in addition to smaller numbers of other nationalities.
- Ongoing regional conflict, including the recent escalation in the Middle East, have significantly impacted Jordan, exacerbating pre-existing economic challenges. Beyond security risks, the escalation is impacting economic growth, increasing energy import costs, and placing additional pressure on the Kingdom's trade and logistics routes. Unemployment remains a structural issue in Jordan, particularly among youth and women. In the third quarter of 2025, the unemployment rate was 21.4 percent among Jordanians (16.2 percent among population), with women accounting for 34 percent of those unemployed.
- Building on its achievements under its [Country Strategic Plan \(2023–2027\)](#) in previous years, WFP continues providing unconditional food assistance to vulnerable refugees, alongside technical assistance to strengthen national social protection programmes and systems. WFP continues to prioritize education and nutrition activities while advancing resilience interventions. In parallel, WFP Jordan, together with the Government continues to play a pivotal role in coordinating and facilitating the delivery of food assistance into Gaza.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

General Food Assistance (GFA)

- In February, WFP continued to provide monthly food assistance to 220,000 refugees in camps and host communities. However, the monthly transfer value remained reduced at JOD 15 (USD 21) per person, allowing refugees to meet only the bare minimum of their essential food needs.
- Due to limited resources and the projected funding outlook, **WFP will be compelled to gradually phase out food assistance for refugees in Jordan. As of 1 April, approximately 135,000 refugees living in host communities will no longer receive WFP GFA cash assistance.**
- During February, preparations were undertaken to inform partners of the upcoming phase out and to prepare communications for affected families. Refugees were formally notified on 4 March.
- Despite the phase-out in host communities, urgent funding is still required to sustain reduced assistance for refugees in camps.
- The loss of assistance will have serious food security implications, as vulnerable refugees - after nearly three years of scaled-down support - have largely exhausted coping strategies and are increasingly unable to meet basic food needs.

The National School Feeding Programme

- In February, WFP and the Ministry of Education resumed the school feeding activity after the winter holiday. **Around 400,000 students in host communities received date bars and 109,000 refugee and Jordanian students in camps and host communities received healthy school meals.**
- **WFP Jordan requires USD 9 million** to ensure uninterrupted school feeding provision across Jordan until the end of the year. Funding shortfalls are expected to begin by the end of March, which would affect 40,000 students and 100 women workers preparing the meals in community kitchens.

Social Protection

- WFP continued supporting the Sumoud (Resilience) Pillar of the National Social Protection Strategy. In February, WFP, together with the World Bank, organized a national workshop to launch the Pillar's action plan and contribute to the design of the Ministry of Social Development's (MoSD) Early Warning System for shock responsiveness. The workshop was attended by MoSD, the National Centre for Security and Crises Management as

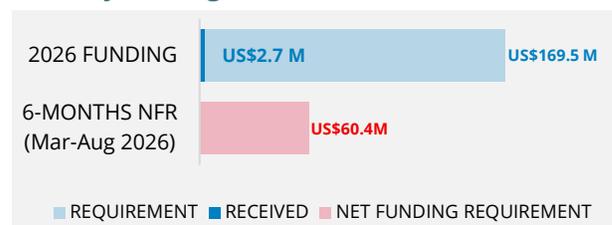
government leads for the Pillar, and other government entities. The workshop facilitated consensus on stakeholder roles and responsibilities, generated technical inputs for the early warning system, and identified priority actions to support the Pillar's operationalization.

Resilience and Livelihood Support

- Under the Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator project, WFP supported the installation of innovative solutions including foldable fabric water tanks, responsive drip irrigation systems, and Agri-Symbiotic products in Irbid, Jarash, and the Jordan Valley. To date, **these solutions have benefited more than 400 farms and public institutions**, strengthening their productivity and contributing to long-term food security.
- WFP, in partnership with the Jordan River Foundation, held an information session at the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) in Mafraq to address bottlenecks in lending to livestock producers and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and to promote financial products better tailored to the needs of the most vulnerable. The session is part of a programme that strengthens the technical capacity of ACC loan officers and guides smallholder farmers in adopting climate-smart agriculture technologies and practices.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)



DONORS

China, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy (AICS), Japan, Ministry of Education/GoJ, Switzerland, Sweden, UK/FCDO, USA, World Bank and the private sector (Astra, Choithrams, Japanese private sector, US private sector and Talabat).