



WFP Jordan Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200987 (Jan. 2017-Dec. 2018)	549 m	157 m	127.5 m (89%)

* May – October 2017, includes solid pledges and forecasts

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200987

The Regional PRRO 200987 focuses on providing sustainable solutions through human capital and self-reliance support to refugees and host communities in Jordan, while providing life-saving food assistance when needed. The PRRO responds to the needs of refugees and members of host communities through different programmes.

WFP will continue to provide General Food Assistance (GFA) through e-vouchers to more than 500,000 Syrian refugees vulnerable to food insecurity in both the camps and in host communities. Assistance for new arrivals provided through temporary paper vouchers will continue, until they are enrolled in WFP's regular e-voucher programme. In-kind GFA is the most effective modality of assistance in this context, and it will be used at the Jordanian-Syrian border (Berm).

WFP will expand its home-grown school meals model, the Healthy Kitchen, in poverty pockets across the Kingdom and in refugee camps. The plan is to replace WFP's current school meals programme – distribution of date bars – with healthy meals. This initiative provides Jordanian and Syrian women with income generating activities, preparing fresh healthy meals for school children attending public schools both in and outside of camps.

WFP will continue to enhance the self-reliance of Jordanians vulnerable to food insecurity and Syrians, to reduce dependency on humanitarian assistance. WFP will increase its livelihood activities under the PRRO:

Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) – emergency employment through cash-based transfers (CBT-cash): WFP jointly with UNDP will continue implementing the delivery of the emergency employment activity which aims to build on short-term employment through conditional cash assistance for the rapid improvement of community infrastructure and basic service deliveries.

Food Assistance for Training (FFT) – skills exchange through CBT-cash: WFP will continue its partnership with UNDP on the joint skills exchange activity. The aim is to invest in income generating activities and knowledge transfer initiatives for Syrian refugees. The investment plans to

Main Credit: WFP/ Faten Al-Hindi

Photo Caption: Schoolchildren in Madaba enjoy a break at school to snack on fresh pastries and vegetables provided by WFP's Healthy Kitchens Programme.

Highlights

- In April, WFP Jordan submitted the transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (t-ICSP) to headquarters for review. The t-ICSP for 2018 will bridge the gap until the Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023) is developed.
- In support of the National School Feeding Programme, WFP supported over 338,600 schoolchildren aged between 5 to 12 years attending government schools in Jordanian communities. WFP is providing 80 g of fortified date bar per child for each day of attendance through the Directorates of Education.

achieve improved employability skills and microbusiness development for Jordanians in host communities, while strengthening social cohesion through skills exchange and mentoring between Syrians and Jordanians.

Food Assistance for Training (FFT) – vocation training through CBT-cash: WFP will maintain its vocational training activity, targeting Jordanians and Syrians vulnerable to food insecurity in Zarqa, Amman, Irbid and Aqaba, providing occupational trainings. Training focus areas will include electricity, motor mechanics, air conditioning, renewable energy, welding, plumbing, carpentry, pottery, hairdressing, beauty, sewing, baking sweets and pastries, making crafts and jewellery, and training on renewable energy.

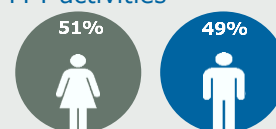
According to WFP assessment data, households led by women, children, the elderly or people living with disabilities lacking regular income are among the most vulnerable to food insecurity. Across Jordan, some of the most vulnerable groups are widows and households headed by women with 89 percent of widow households classified as food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity.

The PRRO is fully aligned with national and regional response plans and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 and 17. Activities are aligned with WFP's Strategic Plan (2017-2021) through the provision of conditional, restricted food assistance to end hunger (Strategic Objective 1) and improve nutrition (Strategic Objective 2). Resilience-based approaches will enhance self-reliance, human capital and livelihoods. Broader actions for food security will include national social safety nets (Strategic Objective 3) and support to SDG results (Strategic Objectives 4 and 5).

In Numbers

659,246 Registered refugees from Syria (UNHCR)
533,943 Syrian refugees assisted with E-Cards and Paper Vouchers
375,400 Jordanian and Syrian schoolchildren assisted through the School Meals Programme
14,560 Vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees assisted through FFA and FFT activities

Syrian refugees assisted with E-Cards
 April 2017



April 2017

Operational Updates

Validation Exercise

To ensure transparency and accountability towards people and donors, WFP started a validation exercise during April in all governorates of Jordan for refugees benefiting from its relief assistance in communities. The validation exercise is an activity that verifies that each WFP card is owned and utilized by the right household. All Syrian refugees entitled to WFP assistance were informed about the validation exercise purpose, date and location through SMS messages, posters and leaflets earlier to the start date. WFP's partners, ACTED and Save the Children – Jordan, are verifying all refugees entitled to WFP assistance by checking and comparing the information on the e-card and the asylum seeker certificate. One member of each household is expected to attend the validation exercise at the time and place mentioned in the SMS. By the end of April, WFP has achieved 61 percent of the plan in six governorates. WFP and its partners will be holding catch up days for refugees who missed the original days towards the beginning of June.

Blockchain Pilot

In April, WFP started the preparatory work for launching the Block Chain technology pilot in Azraq camp. The new technology which will be piloted in May, if proven successful, will replace the financial service provider WFP to cut costs. Blockchain is a way of organizing data through a digital distributed ledger that multiple actors hold copies of. The ledger records transactions in an immutable and secure manner and its peer-to-peer nature removes the need for verification from intermediaries such as banks.

Healthy Kitchen Project

In partnership with the Royal Health Awareness Society (RHAS), WFP resumed its Healthy Kitchen Project in communities, reaching a total of 11,400 school children attending schools in the governorates of Irbid, Madaba, Ajloun, Azraq and Mafraq, which are identified as the most food insecure governorates according to the Department of Statistics report. The Healthy Kitchen Project provides nutritious meals to schoolchildren attending public schools. Meals consist of freshly baked foods (cheese, za'atar, or healthy pizza pastry), a fresh vegetable and a seasonal fruit, providing children with 330 kilocalories daily. By the end of April, WFP also resumed the project in Za'atri camp reaching around 18,000 schoolchildren attending formal schools.

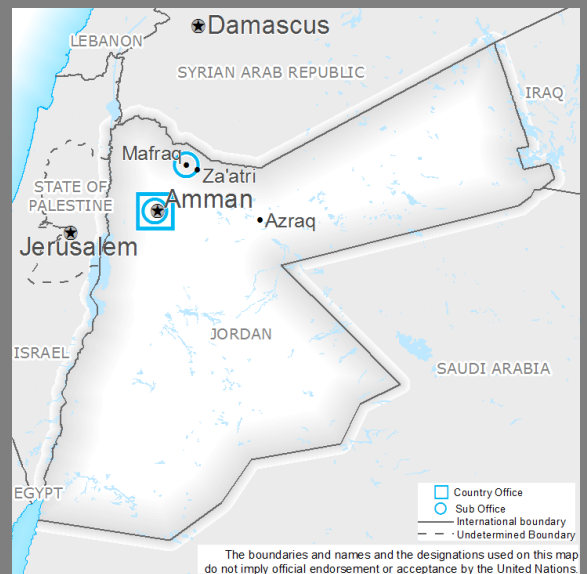
Challenges

Access to the Berm remains one of the main challenges facing WFP. Since January, WFP was not able to reach over 60,000 Syrians stranded at the Berm who were living in difficult conditions and relying mostly on humanitarian agencies for life-saving assistance. WFP and all relevant agencies are working with the Jordanian Government to resume the provision of life-saving assistance.

Partnerships

WFP partners with UNDP, IOM, ACTED, NRC, Save the Children International, World Vision International, Ministry of Education Ministry of Agriculture, the Royal Health Awareness Society and UN Women for: CBT, welcome meals distribution, resilience activities, and the school meals programme. WFP partners with Jordan Ahli Bank to implement the OneCard system. Since 2016, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), also partnered with WFP to use WFP's OneCard System.

Country Background & Strategy



Jordan is an upper middle income country, with a population of 9.5 million, out of which 2.9 million are considered guests. Despite this classification, it is a resource-poor, food-deficit country with limited agricultural land, no energy resources and scarce water supply. According to the 2016 third quarter report released by the Department of Statistics, the unemployment rate reached 15.8 percent, an increase from 13 percent during the same period in 2015. The unemployment rate for men was 13.8 percent compared to 25.2 percent for women.

Nationwide, 0.5 percent of all Jordanian households suffer from food insecurity, while 5.7 percent are vulnerable to food insecurity. The 2016 WFP Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise revealed that a majority of Syrian refugee households living in host communities continue to be either food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity, at 72 percent, while showing an improvement over 2015 levels which peaked at 85 percent.

In line with the Jordan Poverty Reduction Strategy, which put in place a series of social programmes aimed at increasing employment opportunities, curbing unemployment, combating poverty and offering in-kind and cash assistance for the poor and marginalized groups within Jordanian society, WFP introduced innovative and sustainable solutions by developing resilience-based approaches.

WFP's programmes are in line with the Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17 and the Government strategies and policies such as Jordan 2025, the National Food Security Strategy (2014–2019), Jordan Response Plan for the Syria Crisis (2016–2018), and the United Nations Assistance Framework (2015–2017).

WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.

Syrians refugees registered by UNHCR: **659,246** (01 May)

Jordanians living in food insecurity: **5.7%**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

GNI per capita: **USD 5,160 (2014)**

Top 10 Donors (in alphabetical order)

Canada, European Economic Community/European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), Germany, Japan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, UK/Department for International Development, and USAID/Food For Peace (FFP)