



Highlights

- WFP continued to roll out the Choice delivery mechanism (beneficiaries to withdraw cash or redeem entitlements from contracted shops) in Madaba governorate for around 2,500 Syrian households, based on the positive results of August cycle.
- WFP partnered with the National Centre for Research and Development (NCRD) to lead the Country Strategic Review (CSR) under the umbrella of HRH Prince Al Hassan.
- WFP requires USD 51.2 m till March 2018 to continue food assistance to around 500,000 Syrian refugees benefiting from general food assistance.

WFP Jordan Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan	Total Requirements (In USD)	Total received (In USD)	Net Funding Requirements (In USD)*
PRRO 200987 (January 2017 - December 2018)	551 m		51.2 m

* October 2017-March 2018, including solid pledges and forecasts

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200987

The Regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (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 provides General Food Assistance (GFA) through e-vouchers to about 500,000 Syrian refugees vulnerable to food insecurity both in the camps and in host communities. In addition, WFP reaches as 50,000 Syrians stranded at the Berm via in-kind food distribution when access is permitted

Under the Regional PRRO 200987, WFP complements the National School Feeding Programme, which supports over 350,000 schoolchildren aged between 5 and 12 years attending government schools in Jordanian communities. WFP is also supporting around 25,000 Syrian children attending formal schools through the provision of fortified date bars in refugee camps.

During 2017, WFP will expand its home-grown school meals model, the Healthy Kitchen, in poverty pockets across the Kingdom and in refugee camps. This initiative provides Jordanian and Syrian women with income-generating activities, preparing fresh healthy meals for schoolchildren attending public schools both in camps and communities.

In response to the protracted nature of the Syrian conflict, WFP aims to transition from humanitarian assistance towards interventions to enhance resilience to shocks with scalable and sustainable solutions.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/ Mohammad Batah
Caption: HRH Prince Al Hassan during his last visit to WFP Jordan Country Office to discuss the progress towards the Country Strategic Review.

WFP also provides assistance to food insecure Jordanians and Syrian refugees affected by the economic crisis and the ongoing Syrian conflict through Food Assistance for Assets (FFA), providing cash assistance focusing on rangeland rehabilitation while creating economic opportunities; and Food Assistance for Training (FFT), offering vocational training opportunities and on-the-job training to develop human capital and improve employability for targeted Jordanians and Syrians.

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 Country Office has developed a transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (t-ICSP) for 2018 that will be replacing the current Regional PRRO 200987 starting in January 2018. The t-ICSP is aligned to the Jordan Response Plan (2017-2019), its associated plans, including those of the UN and to WFP's Vision 2020. It positions WFP as a partner of the Government of Jordan in its management of the refugee crisis and its implications for the Jordanian population.

The t-ICSP includes three strategic outcomes to address ongoing humanitarian crisis and its effect on the most vulnerable Jordanians, while also positioning WFP as a strategic partner of the Government of Jordan towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger).

In Numbers

489,782 Syrian refugees assisted

28,059 Syrian schoolchildren assisted through the School Meals Programme

People Assisted
September 2017

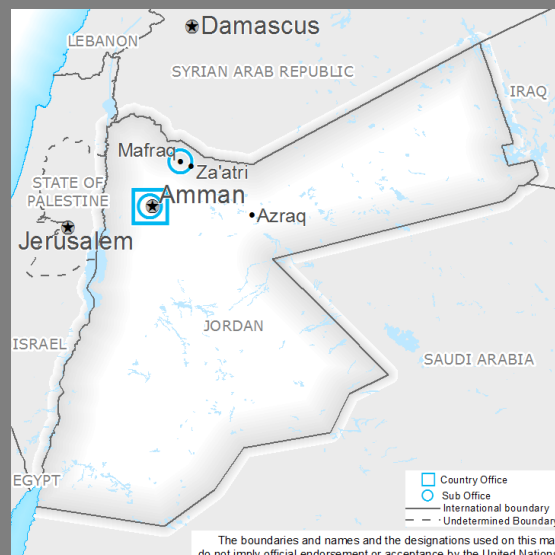


September 2017

Operational Updates

- The preparation for the Country Strategic Review is ongoing. This review will help Jordan assess its progress towards the SDG 2 of achieving Zero Hunger by 2030 and recommend prioritised actions to address remaining challenges in this realm.
- The “choice” roll-out continued in September in the governorate of Madaba. The “choice” mechanism enables Syrian refugees to use food assistance as unrestricted cash by withdrawing their assistance in cash from Jordan Ahli Bank ATMs, or as restricted food vouchers redeemable at WFP contracted shops only, or both restricted and in cash.
- Through the Triangulation database, WFP continued to monitor the redemption trends of choice beneficiaries. The same trends as of August cycle were observed in September; 45.5 percent continued to use their e-cards at WFP-contracted shops, 45.4 percent used their e-cards to withdraw cash, while the remaining withdrew some of their assistance in cash and redeemed the rest at WFP-contracted shops. WFP is currently reviewing results to decide whether to expand to additional governorates.
- WFP continued to pilot the Blockchain technology in Azraq camp. As of 31 August, 10,500 beneficiaries had successfully redeemed more than USD 1.1 million of entitlements through 140,000 transactions using Blockchain. WFP is planning to expand the new technology to the rest of the camp in November.
- WFP and other UN agencies continued to engage with the Jordanian Government to ensure the distribution of food assistance at the Berm can be resumed.
- WFP resumed its school meals programme in both Azraq and Za’atri camps, reaching around 28,059 schoolchildren attending formal education via date bar distribution.
- Preparatory work to resume several resilience activities targeting both Jordanians and Syrians is ongoing. Most activities are expected to resume in October.
- WFP continued its partnership with UNRWA within the framework of the OneCard Platform. Between July and August, around 59,000 Palestinian refugees received UNRWA assistance through the OneCard platform managed by WFP.
- In September, WFP held gender sensitisation sessions for cooperating partners and service providers. The sessions, which were facilitated by the gender focal point from Regional Bureau Cairo, focused on WFP gender policy and the organization commitments towards gender. It also focused on WFP’s commitment to zero tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and the protection of WFP beneficiaries.

Country Background & Strategy



Jordan is a lower middle income country, with a population of 9.5 million, out of which 2.9 million are non-citizens, including refugees. 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 Department of Statistics, unemployment soared to 18.2 percent during the first quarter of 2017 - the highest in 25 years - from 15.8 percent in the fourth quarter of 2016. The unemployment rate among men stood at 13.9 percent compared with 33 percent among 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: 654,582 (18 September)	Jordanians living in food insecurity: 5.7%
Income Level: Lower middle	GNI per capita: USD 5,160 (2014)

Top 5 Donors (in alphabetical order)

Canada, France, Germany, Japan, USAID/Food For Peace (FFP)