This month in numbers

**EMOP beneficiaries:** 526,077
Including **17,876** children also benefitting from the school feeding programme in camps

**EMOP funding shortfall:** NIL (December 2015)
Since July 2012, the EMOP voucher programme has injected over **USD 428 million** into the Jordanian economy.

**PRRO beneficiaries:** 3,500

**PRRO funding shortfall:**
USD 288,000 (December 2015)

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**Highlights**

- Thanks to additional funding from various donors, including an extremely generous contribution from Germany, EMOP operations are funded at their current levels through May 2016.

- Following the global launch of WFP’s school feeding app ShareTheMeal on 12 November, over 250,000 users shared more than 1 million school meals with Syrian children in refugee camps in Jordan. Download the app now at: [https://sharethemmeal.org/en/](https://sharethemmeal.org/en/)

- On 10 November, WFP and UN Women launched an Oasis centre for girls and women in Za’atri camp, providing a number of services including cash-for-work opportunities for refugee women using recycled materials. One of the project goals is to ensure better household food security, as data from UN Women’s other similar centres in the camp shows women spend 70 percent of their income on fresh food and hygiene products.

- As part of WFP capacity development activities, a workshop was held targeting all Ministry of Education field staff for the purpose of developing an online monitoring tool in support of data collection. The model will be integrated in the existing Education Management Information System.

- UNDP and WFP’s joint employment project for vulnerable Jordanians concluded by end of October. A total of 450 men and women in Mafraq received incentives for their participation, resulting in an increase of almost 54 percent in their household income. Activities fostered community awareness and civil responsibility through rehabilitation of community assets (parks, schools, libraries, WASH facilities) and establishment of tourist bazars and welcoming centres. Thanks to additional contributions, the project will now be extended and a new phase is expected to start early 2016.
Context

- Jordan is a resource-poor, food-deficient country with limited agricultural land, no energy resources and scarce water supply.

- By November 2015, over 632,000 Syrian refugees were registered with UNHCR, stretching Jordan’s resources and exacerbating the protracted economic crisis in the Kingdom. Around 82 percent of registered Syrian refugees live in communities, with the rest living in two camps (Azraq and Za’atri) and two transit centres (Cyber City and King Abdullah Park). While refugees are provided with essential services such as housing and health care in camps, they mostly have to fend for themselves in communities, paying rent, transportation and medical treatment. Refugees are not officially allowed to work and are thus largely dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their needs.

- While Jordan has made progress in socio-economic development and poverty alleviation, inflation remains a fundamental problem, as does unemployment, which stood at 11.9 percent in the second quarter of 2015. The PRRO addresses the needs of vulnerable and food insecure Jordanians living in refugee-hosting communities affected by the economic crisis and the Syrian conflict. It includes three major components: Food for Work (FFW)/Food for Training (FFT) for rural vulnerable households, Targeted Food Assistance for urban vulnerable people, and capacity augmentation for the Government in the fields of food security and social safety nets.

PRRO

- FFW/FFT activities using cash transfers targeting vulnerable Jordanians continued, mainly in forestry maintenance and harvesting.

- Vocational training graduates under FFT concluded the on-the-job training in November where they were deployed in relevant businesses such as pottery, sewing workshops, turnery, beauty shops and other areas.

Food Security Sector

- The Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO) distributed food parcels to 2,145 Syrian households in Ajloun, Amman, Jerash, Karak, Mafraq, and Zarqa. Food parcels were also distributed to 135 Jordanian households in Ajloun and Zarqa. All distributions were held in coordination with Helping Hand for Relief and Development, with additional coordination from Aman Volunteer Group in Mafraq and Near East Council of Churches Committee for Refugee Work in Zarqa.

- JHCO also distributed food coupons valued at JOD 60 (USD 85) to 21 Syrian households in Irbid, in coordination with Arab Center for Consulting and Training Services.

- In Azraq camp, through the Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH)—WVI Jordan project, 31,983 boxes of juice were distributed to students in the formal school.

WFP Response

EMOP

- In camps and transit centres, WFP reached 90,827 refugees with vouchers valued at JOD 20 (USD 28) per person; camp residents also received almost 20 mt of fresh bread every day.

- In communities, 208,983 extremely vulnerable beneficiaries received JOD 15 (USD 21), 75 percent of the planned assistance. The 226,267 refugees categorised as vulnerable received JOD 10 (USD 14) as planned. In order to ensure predictability and consistency for the coming months, WFP will maintain these levels of assistance.

- In camps, 17,876 students (9,087 girls and 8,789 boys) were reached with daily nutritious snacks in both formal and informal schools.

Partnerships

- Under the Jordan Response Plan, WFP acts as secretariat for the Livelihoods and Food Security Task Force, chaired by the Ministry of Labour.

- WFP has partnerships and agreements with:

Resourcing Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WFP Operation</th>
<th>Project Duration</th>
<th>December requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>December shortfall (in USD)</th>
<th>December Shortfall (%)</th>
<th>People Assisted in November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMOP 200433</td>
<td>Jul 2012 — Dec 2015</td>
<td>15 million</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>526,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRRO 200357</td>
<td>Aug 2013 — Dec 2015</td>
<td>1 million</td>
<td>288,000</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Requirements according to actualized figures
Though the brutal conflict in Syria has created countless human tragedies, it also created examples of strength and resilience in the midst of all the despair. One such example is that of Abu Sultan, a 53-year-old Syrian teacher from Homs.

After a bomb exploded near his house two years ago, Abu Sultan and his family set out on a harrowing journey to Jordan with nothing but the clothes on their back. With no source of income whatsoever, the family had no option but to settle in a tent in the northern governorate of Mafraq, Jordan. Hope however was restored when the family was registered in WFP’s voucher programme one month later, which to this day remains to be their primary source of sustenance. “If it wasn’t for the kindness of strangers, we would have starved to death in the beginning. Now we’re living, we’re eating. Food is life” he says. Once he could put food for his family on the table, Abu Sultan felt it was time to think about others.

Having been a teacher for 25 years, the most unsettling sight for Abu Sultan when he first arrived to Jordan was that of the children of the families living in the tents nearby who were roaming around the neighborhood aimlessly with nothing better to do. For most of these families, school was simply beyond their means. In a bid to salvage the situation, Abu Sultan embarked on a mission to set up a makeshift school. He started with reaching out to local charity organizations to donate a tent that would serve as a classroom where he would volunteer as a teacher. Once the tent was procured, the next obstacle was to convince the parents to send their children to the classes. “Many of the families did not see the point of their children learning when the future was so vague,” Abu Sultan says. Twigs and sand were initially used for the children to write and draw the alphabet. As time passed, more families became interested in Abu Sultan’s initiative which in turn attracted more donations. Today, the project has evolved from that of a tent into two caravans where almost 50 Syrian children receive basic education. It has also pushed many of the families to reconsider their initial attitude and find ways to afford enrolling their children in official schools. Most importantly, it gave the children an opportunity to dream. “When children dream, they develop a vision,” Abu Sultan says. “This is where hope for a better Syria lies.”

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Jordan: PRRO and EMOP

https://www.wfp.org/countries/jordan
http://cdw.wfp.org/syriainfo/jordan.html

https://sharethemeal.org/en/