

WFP Jordan Country Brief

Highlights

- Following the successful roll-out of “choice” modality in Madaba governorate in August, WFP expanded the modality to two additional governorates, Balqa and Zarqa.
- Given the promising results of the blockchain pilot, WFP started the preparatory work to expand the use of the innovative technology in Azraq and Za’atri camps in early 2018. WFP is working with UNHCR on finalising the revised agreement on sharing personal data of persons of concern between the two organizations.
- At the end of December, WFP Jordan concluded all of its activities under the Regional PRRO 200987 in preparation for the new Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) effective 01 January 2018.

WFP Assistance

Jordan, Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) (January - December 2018)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	260.6 m	82 m
		*February - July 2018

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 implements 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, when access is permitted, WFP supports 50,000 Syrians stranded at the Berm via in-kind food distribution.

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

During 2017, WFP is expanding 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.

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), 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 (TICSP) for 2018 that will be replacing the current Regional PRRO 200987 starting in January 2018. The TICSP is aligned to the Jordan Response Plan (2017-2019), its associated plans, including those of the UN and 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 TICSP 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 (SDG) 2 (Zero Hunger).

In Numbers

489,700 Syrian refugees assisted

78,000 Jordanian and Syrian schoolchildren assisted through the School Meals Programme

44,000 Jordanians and Syrians assisted through several resilience activities

People Assisted
December 2017



Main Photo Credit: WFP/Mohammad Batah
Caption: Osama is one of thousands of Syrian schoolchildren who receive healthy meals prepared by Syrian men and women working in the healthy kitchen.



December 2017

Operational Updates

Choice Modality Expansion

Following the successful roll-out of “choice” modality in Madaba governorate in August, WFP expanded the modality into two additional governorates, Balqa and Zarqa, reaching 60,000 Syrian refugees with a total amount of USD 1.2 million.

In line with previous redemption trends, 46.8 percent continued to use their entitlements as vouchers, 41.5 percent as cash, while 11.1 percent used both. “Choice” is an innovative modality introduced by WFP Jordan, allowing beneficiaries to redeem the assistance they receive from WFP through food-restricted vouchers or unrestricted cash, or both as per their preferred choice based on their personal circumstances.

Jordan Zero Hunger Strategic Review

His Royal Highness Prince Hassan launched the “Jordan Zero Hunger Strategic Review” that will help Jordan assess its progress towards the SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) by 2030. The Strategic Review will also include recommended prioritised actions to address remaining challenges in this realm.

The Strategic Review, which is expected to be finalised by July 2018, will engage a wide range of national stakeholders including government institutions, academia, the private sector, civil society organisations, affected communities as well as the UN. WFP will be providing technical capacity to the lead convenor and the research team with the review process.

OneCard Platform

UNRWA will continue to partner with WFP within the framework of the OneCard Platform for 2018 to support 59,000 Palestinian refugees living in Jordan.

The Healthy Kitchen Initiative

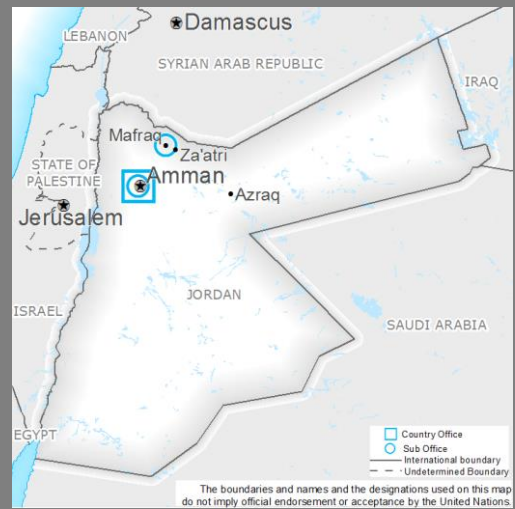
WFP continued supporting 50,000 schoolchildren in communities through the provision of healthy baked meals produced in 10 kitchens. WFP also provided 27,000 Syrian children attending formal schools in camps with healthy baked meals prepared by vulnerable Syrian women and men working in 6 kitchens.

The main complaints and feedback mechanism, the Hotline, was activated for the healthy kitchen workers, allowing for open interactions with beneficiaries.

Resilience Activities

WFP supported over 44,000 vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees, half of which were women, through several resilience activities. Under food assistance for assets (FFA) focusing on forestry and rehabilitation, WFP reached 10,000 people. Under food assistance for training (FFT), 34,000 people were involved in on-the-job training and vocational trainings focused on carpentry, sewing, electrical work and food processing.

Activities were implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, National Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition (NAJMAH), and Save the Children Jordan.



Jordan is a lower middle-income country, with a population of 9.5 million, 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: 655,624 (02 January)

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

GNI per capita: USD 5,160 (2014)

Top 10 Donors (in alphabetical order)

Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, USAID/Food For Peace (FFP)