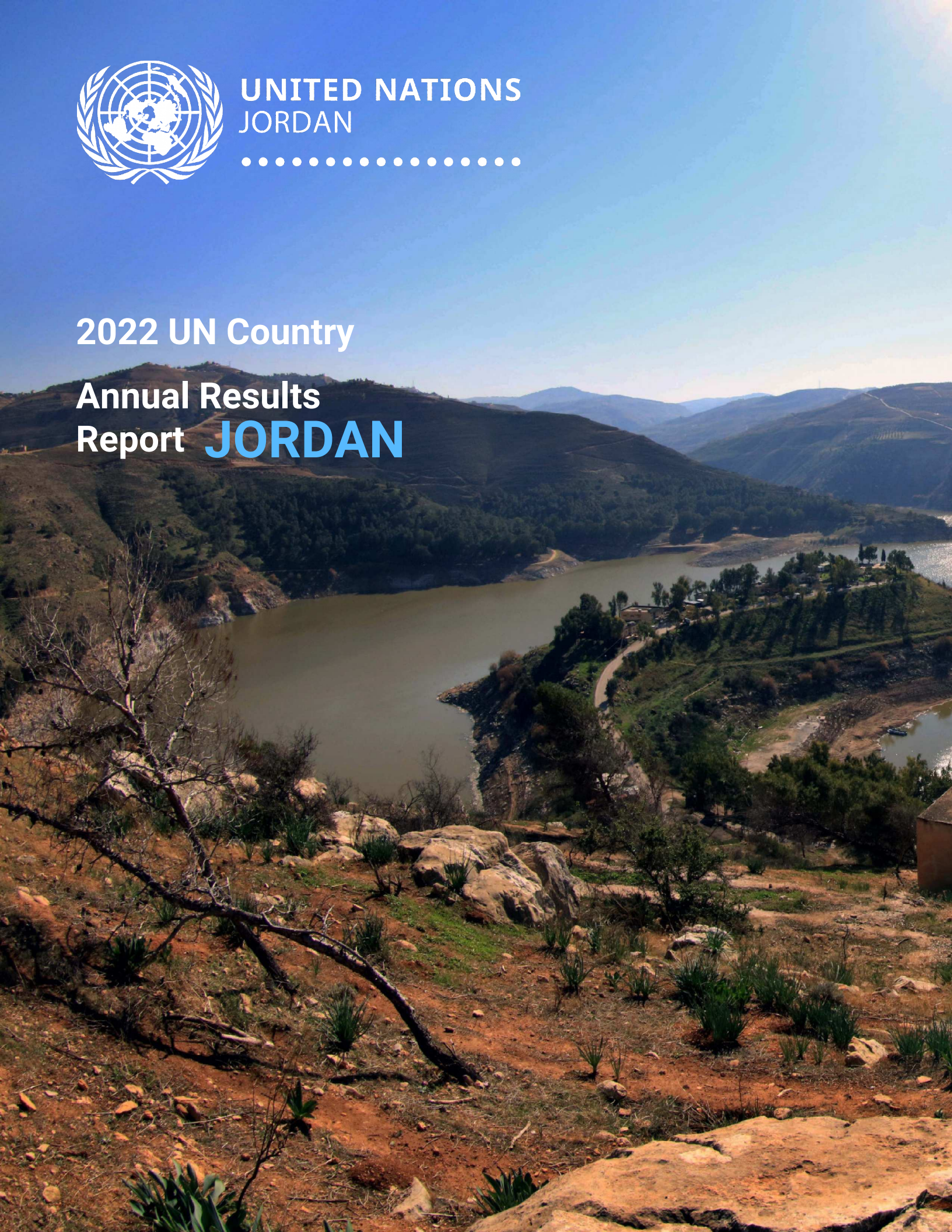




UNITED NATIONS
JORDAN



2022 UN Country
Annual Results
Report **JORDAN**





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**2022 UN Country
Annual Results Report
JORDAN**

Photo (right): Um Omar is one of the smallholder farmers who benefited from a WFP innovation activity that helped them promote their products. ©WFP/ Mohammad Batah

Photo (cover): King Talal Dam in North of Jordan, is one of 10 major dams in the Kingdom. ©UNJordan/ Abu Ghoush



Acronyms and Abbreviations

ASE	Amman Stock Exchange	MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
AYSRHR	Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights	MoDEE	Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship
CBAs	Collective Bargaining Agreements	MoE	Ministry of Education
CBOs	Community Based Organizations	MoH	Ministry of Health
CCA	Common Country Analysis	MoLA	Ministry of Local Administration
CF	Cooperation Framework	MoL	Ministry of Labour
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education	MoPIC	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
EU	European Union	MoWI	Ministry of Water and Irrigation
GAM	Greater Amman Municipality	NAF	National Aid Fund
GBV	Gender-based Violence	NCFA	National Centre for Family Affairs
GoJ	Government of Jordan	NFE	Non-formal Education
GFP	Generations for Peace	NSW	National Strategy for Women
GMP	Gender Mainstreaming Plan	NUR	National Unified Registry
GRB	Gender-Responsive Budgeting	PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
HCCs	Healthy Community Clinics	PRI	Palestine Refugees from Iraq
HRCRT	Human Rights, Conflict Resolution and Tolerance	PRJ	Palestine Refugees registered in Jordan
IMF	International Monetary Fund	PRS	Palestine Refugees from Syria
ITSS	Informal Tented Settlements	PSD	Public Security Directorate
JAF	Jordanian Armed Forces	RHAS	Royal Health Awareness Society
JNCW	Jordan National Commission for Women	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
JP	Joint Programme	SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
LSS	Learning Support Services	SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
MIL	Media and Information Literacy	SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
MIS	Management Information System	SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Acronyms and Abbreviations

SWM	Solid Waste Management	VAC	Violence against Children
UNCT-SWAP	United Nations Country Team System Wide Action Plan	VTCs	Vocational Training Centres
UNCT	United Nations Country Team	WB	World Bank
UNCG	United Nations Communication Group	YPS	Youth, Peace and Security
UNSD	Common Country Analysis		



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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Foreword

With great pleasure, we present the UN Jordan 2022 Annual Report, marking the culmination of the UN Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF) five-year cycle, implemented from 2018 to 2022.

Within this report, we capture notable results achieved in collaboration with the Government of Jordan and the UN Country Team's (UNCT) key partners, reflecting the impact of our collective work across the three strategic priorities of the UNSDF. These priorities include strengthening institutions, empowering people and enhancing opportunities.

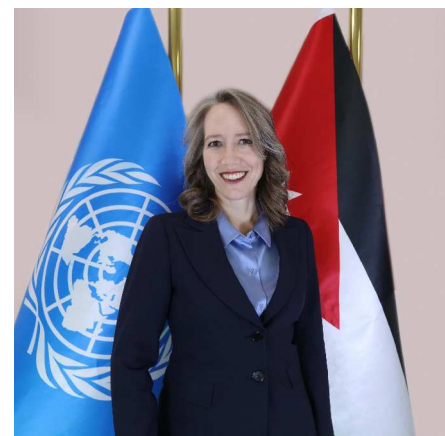
Our shared endeavors have yielded remarkable milestones. From advancing inclusive education and healthcare to promoting sustainable economic growth, our collaborative efforts have positively impacted countless lives in Jordan. By empowering women and youth, strengthening resilience, and fostering social cohesion, we have paved the way for progress and prosperity.

However, our work is far from complete. The challenges we face are complex and call for innovative solutions. The UN remains steadfast in supporting Jordan's development journey, guided by principles of partnership, inclusivity, and sustainability.

As we embark on a new phase, we are invigorated by the potential of our collective efforts. By working hand in hand with the government, civil society, international partners and the private sector, we can drive positive change and unlock opportunities for all. Our path forward aligns with the visionary guidance of His Majesty King Abdullah II and the development priorities of the Government of Jordan.

In this regard, we are in the final stages of crafting a new United Nations Cooperation Framework (UNCF), which will guide our transformative development path forward. The timely establishment of the UNCF coincides with the halfway point of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Amid global challenges such as global conflicts and recovery from pandemic, which affected development gains in Jordan as in the case in the rest of the globe, we are determined to enhance collaboration to accelerate actions and get back on track towards achieving sustainable development.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our partners and stakeholders for their unwavering support throughout this journey.



Sheri Ritsema-Anderson

UN Resident Coordinator

United Nations Country Team in Jordan

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT)¹ is composed of representatives of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and other United Nations entities working in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to support the country in the achievement of its national development priorities and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The UNCT is chaired by the United Nations Resident Coordinator, who reports to, and is the designated representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for development operations in the country.

The UNCT membership has steadily increased over the years and is currently comprised of 28 entities with specific mandates, but all operating in a coordinated and unified fashion.

The UNCT conducts its work in the country in line with the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF 2018-2022), which set out the strategic framework for the support provided by the UN to Jordan, structured under the three strategic priorities:

- **Strengthened Institutions;**
- **Empowered People; and**
- **Enhanced Opportunities.**

The fundamental principles of leaving no one behind, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, sustainability and resilience and accountability are cross-cutting and inter-related principles that are integrated in all priority areas, with a special emphasis placed on supporting and lifting up the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

The work of the UNCT is facilitated by several inter-agency working groups and task forces, which contributed to the effective implementation of the UNSDF, as well as their associated joint workplans.



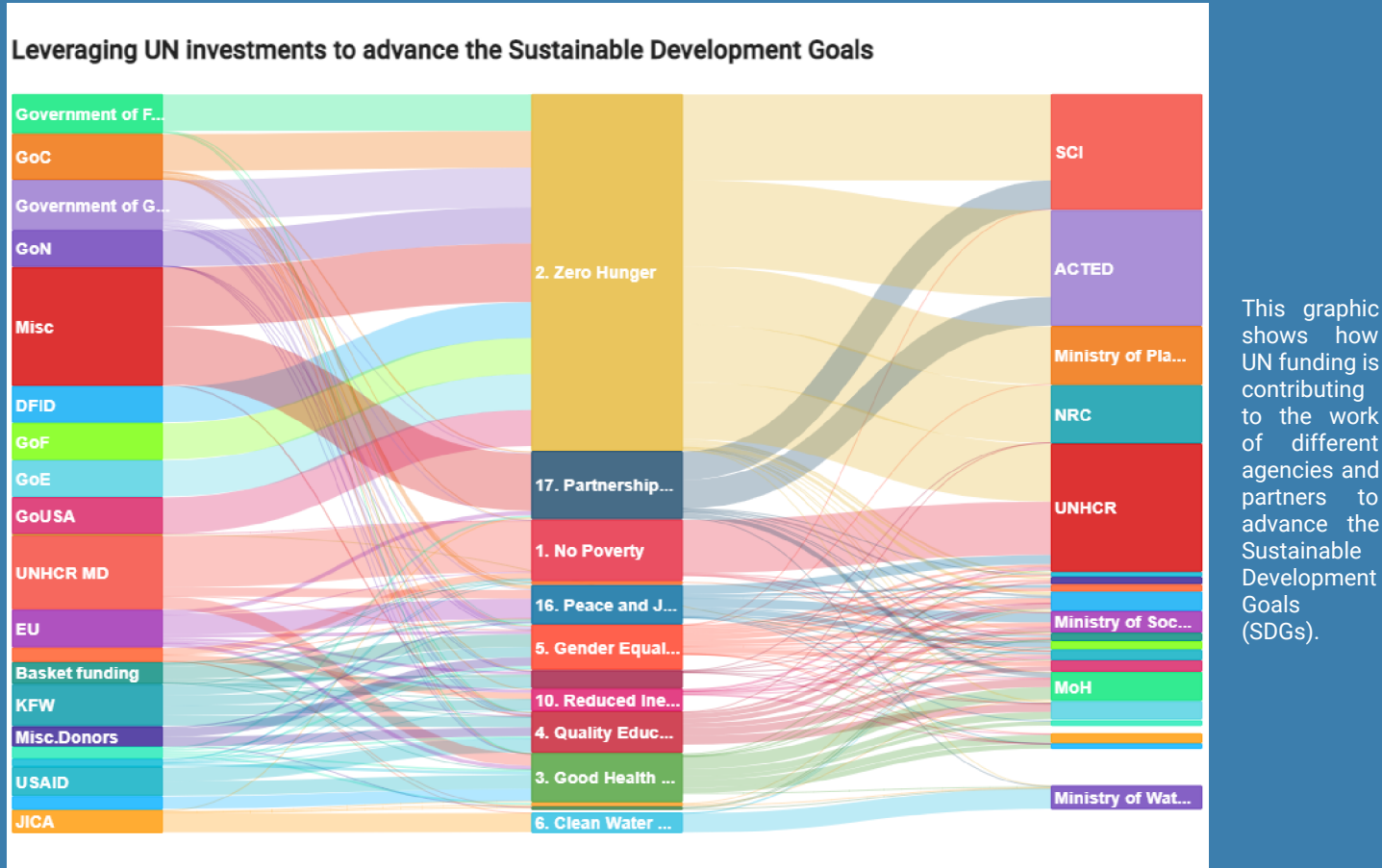
¹ UNCT entities with physical presence in the country: FAO, ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNODC, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN Women, WFP, WHO, UNDSS and UNV. UNCT entities without physical presence in the country: UNEP, UNDRR, ESCWA, IFAD, OHCHR (with SHRA in RCO), UNIC, UNCTAD, ITC, UNICRI and ITU.

Key Development Partners

The UN in Jordan supports the Government of Jordan in improving the lives of all Jordanians and those whom Jordan seeks to protect, especially the most vulnerable, ensuring that no one is left behind. During 2022, the UN continued to work closely with all stakeholders to ensure the relevance and impact of its actions for the people in Jordan, and to support the Government to serving all people, and to enable them to live in an inclusive, equal, green and resilient society and enjoy a more prosperous and sustainable economy.

In addition to the strong partnership with the Government of Jordan, including line ministries and local government, the UN continued to foster partnerships with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Development Partners, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), the Private Sector as well as National and International non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

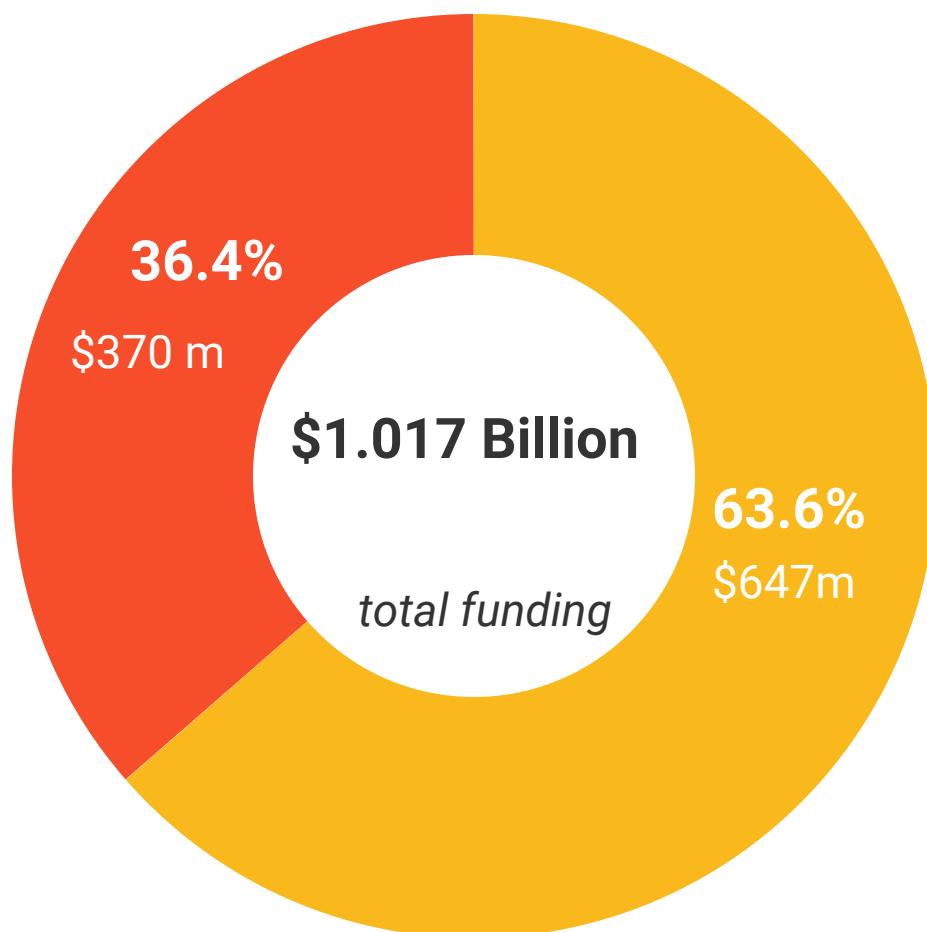
Strategic partnership and coordination were maintained through the engagement and leadership in coordination fora, such as the Jordan Strategic Humanitarian Committee (JoSH), the primary strategic coordination forum for humanitarian partners, the revitalized joint working group on Accountable Institutions and Human Rights, where all EU member states, the UN and members of International NGOs are represented, the National Migration Working Group in Jordan with the participation of government, CSOs, NGOs, private sector and other UN partners, the Health Development Partners' Forum, the Gender Working Group and the Policy, Planning and Coordination Committee for the Education Sector.



Financial Overview

UN Funding in Jordan in 2022

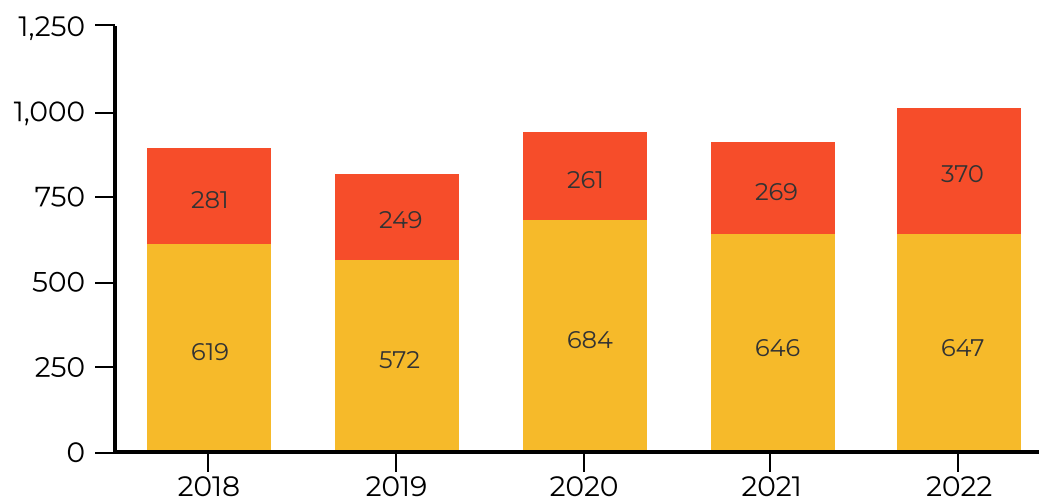
The United Nations funding for programs, projects, and initiatives implemented in Jordan in 2022 amounted to USD 1.017 billion, reflecting an 11.5 percent increase compared to the previous year's funding of USD 914.1 million.



- Humanitarian Funding
- Development Funding

Financial Overview

UN Funding in Jordan for the UNSDF (2018-2022)



*Figures are per Million USD



Humanitarian Funding



Development Funding

Total funding for the UNSDF Cycle: (4.596 Billion USD)

Jordan At a Glance

Population 11,337,052 * DoS (As of April 2023)

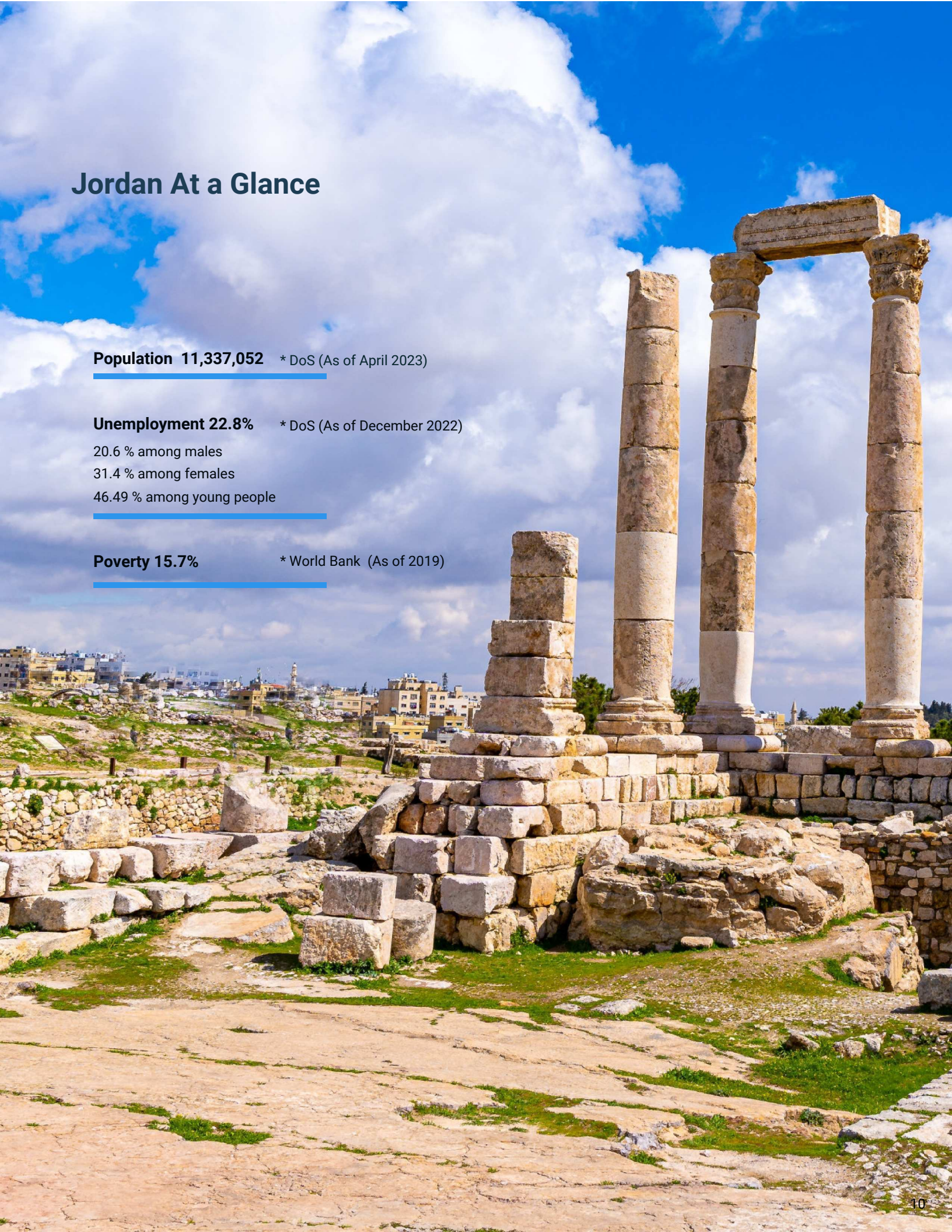
Unemployment 22.8% * DoS (As of December 2022)

20.6 % among males

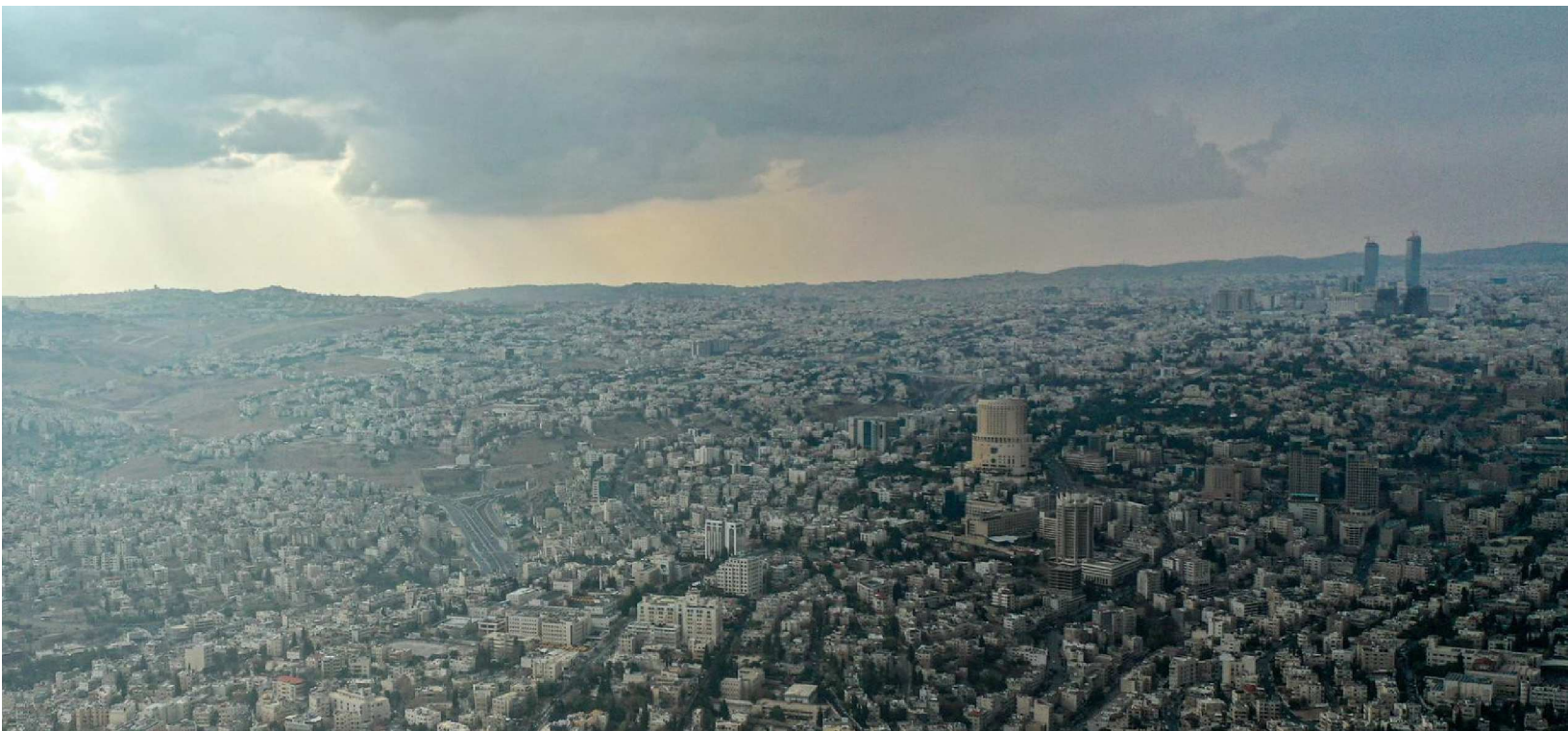
31.4 % among females

46.49 % among young people

Poverty 15.7% * World Bank (As of 2019)



Key Development Trends



Jordan is a small, upper-middle-income strategically located Middle Eastern country with a population of 11 million people. Jordan has a well-educated, youthful population, and has maintained relative peace and stability in a turbulent region. However, the country is facing various domestic challenges, including a slow-growing economy, high unemployment rates, water scarcity and calls for economic, political and public administrative reforms. With scarce resources, the country's economic stability has been adversely affected by, inter alia, COVID-19 and the increase in commodity prices. Yet Jordan has generously welcomed refugees through the years facilitating access to key services such as health and education.

Though Jordan continued gradual recovery from the COVID-19 shock, the war in Ukraine showed a rise in the level of challenges faced by the country, particularly on energy and food sectors. **In the first three quarters of 2022, the economic growth rate increased to 2.7 per cent** ³**(2.1 per cent for the same period of 2021), while unemployment rates decreased to 22.8 per cent** ⁴**(1.5 percentage points lower than 2021)**. Though these figures imply positive progress, both economic growth and unemployment rates are still below their long-term potential. In line with this, unemployment rates remain highest among young people aged 15-24 years (46.9 per cent) and women (33.1 per cent compared to 20.5 per cent for men). Female labor force participation rate is the fourth lowest in the world. ⁵

On the other hand, **annual inflation rate more than tripled (4.2 per cent)** ⁶**and the Government's debt-GDP ratio has stayed at high levels (110.7 per cent as of October 2022)** ⁷. In addition, rising inflation and interest rates in global economy together with uncertainties in global energy and food markets have negatively affected Jordan's economy. The result has inevitably deteriorated the purchasing power and cost of living of poor households, especially vulnerable groups. It is expected that this trend may continue in the coming period mainly due to rising recessionary risks and tight monetary policies in developed economies.

In 2022, Jordan launched a new Economic Modernization Vision based on two strategic pillars targeting growth and opportunities over the next 10 years for the country as well as a Public Sector Modernization Plan and a Political Modernization Process. All processes will also guide inclusive and resilient growth and development efforts moving forward.

² <http://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/>

³ Department of Statistics, Quarterly GDP growth rates, http://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/nationalaccount/quarterly-estimates/tables_quarterly/

⁴ Department of Statistics, Quarterly Labor Force statistics, http://dos.gov.jo/dos_home_e/main/archive/Unemp/2022/Emp_Q32022.pdf

⁵ UNICEF, 'Youth transitions to adulthood in Jordan: High aspirations, challenging realities', <https://www.unicef.org/jordan/media/8361/file/Youth-Transitions-to-Adulthood-in-Jordan.pdf>, accessed 30 August 2022.

⁶ Department of Statistics, Monthly Consumer Price Index, <http://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/economic/price-indices/table-price-indices/>

⁷ Ministry of Finance, General Government Bulletin November 2022, http://mof.gov.jo/ebv4.0/root_storage/en/eb_list_page/eng_nov_2022.pdf

UN support to National Development Priorities

Overview of UN Sustainable Development Framework Results

In 2022, the UN in Jordan concluded the UN Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF) programme cycle (2018-2022) which represented the continued pledge to work in support of the Government of Jordan in improving the lives of all Jordanians and those whom Jordan seeks to protect, especially the weakest and most vulnerable, ensuring that no one is left behind.

During the UNSDF cycle, UN agencies provided support to a wide range of Government of Jordan ministries to develop laws and policies and strengthened individual ministries through technical assistance and training. There has been a number of important surveys and studies, helping to fill key data gaps on SDG challenges.

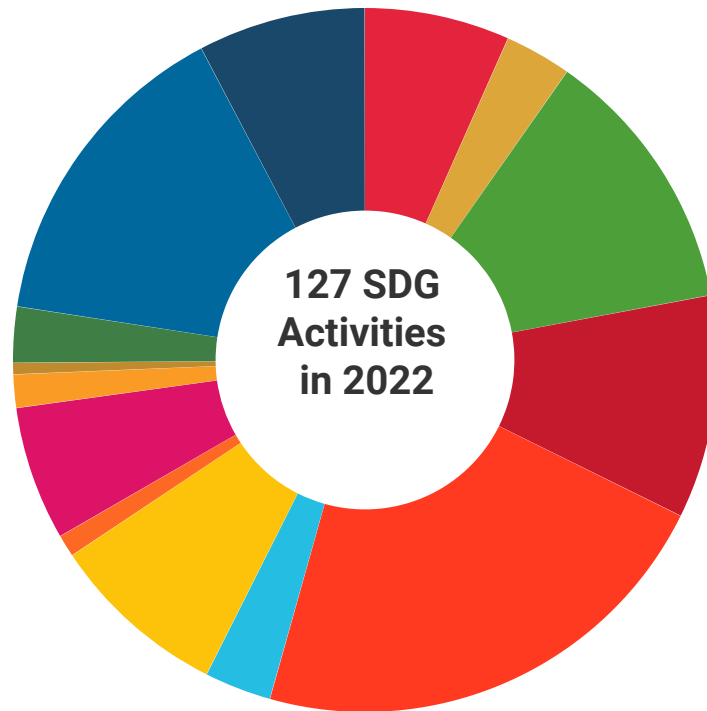
Combining their expertise, the UN has demonstrated a real commitment to more joint initiatives and has sought greater operational alignment in key areas. The UN exerted tangible efforts to link humanitarian responses and systems with the UN's development work, notably by supporting equal access to services for refugees in national health and education systems and supporting Government capacities for planning and policy making across humanitarian and development responses. As a result of ensuring more dialogue between humanitarian and development actors, a number of key initiatives have been placed on a more sustainable footing.

Overall, UN interventions contributed to help vulnerable people, both Jordanian and refugee, be more self-sufficient through the inclusion of livelihoods components within humanitarian programmes. The UN implemented initiatives in the country that contributed to reducing inequalities, promoting human rights and gender equality.

The UN's strong focus on vulnerability and inclusion made it uniquely well placed to support Jordan's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which in many ways demonstrated the UN system at its strongest. The agencies moved quickly to analyze the emerging needs and vulnerabilities, prepared a Socio-Economic Framework, and also played an important role in coordination and information sharing between government agencies and development partners. The agencies moved quickly to pivot their programming in response to the COVID-19 crisis and scale up support to the most vulnerable groups, including refugees, migrant workers, women, youth, vulnerable children and informal sector workers.

By end-2022, many flagship results were evidenced for each of the three UNSDF Outcomes in support of Jordan's development priorities and the achievement of the SDGs.

Cooperation Framework Priority Areas



Strengthened Institutions

UNSDF Outcome 1:

Institutions in Jordan at national and local levels are more responsive, inclusive, accountable, transparent and resilient.

Contributing Agencies:

UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN Women, FAO, ILO, IOM, WFP, WHO.

Results Group Lead: UNICEF.

Empowered People

UNSDF Outcome 2:

People especially the vulnerable proactively claim their rights and fulfil their responsibilities for improved human security and resilience.

Contributing Agencies:

UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, UNV, UN Women, ILO, IOM, FAO, WFP.

Results Group Lead: UNFPA.

Enhanced Opportunities

UNSDF Outcome 3:

Enhanced opportunities for inclusive engagement of all people living in Jordan within the social, economic, environmental, and political spheres.

Contributing Agencies:

UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNRWA, UNV, UN Women, FAO, ILO, IOM.

Results Group Lead: UNDP.

Strategic Priority 1: Strengthened Institutions

UNSDF Outcome 1: Institutions in Jordan at national and local levels are more responsive, inclusive, accountable, transparent and resilient.

Contributing Agencies: UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN Women, FAO, ILO, IOM, WFP, WHO.



Policy Support [Highlights]

- UN supported the government in the development and update of national policies in several areas including: nutrition, social education information management systems, women's empowerment, response to GBV, and domestic violence, and child protection, among others.
- UN contributed to mid-term reviews and progress reports for 3 national policies and, in the process of the VNR, supported the national SDF benchmarking process for SDG4.
- UN actively enriched the policy space by releasing 2 sets of guidelines for preventing and managing maternal mortality cases and for the promotion of women in leadership positions in the private sector.
- UN further accelerated progress towards the achievement of the SDGs through capacity development and technical assistance programs for key stakeholders. Some of the stakeholders involved include institutional actors, beneficiary populations, education and health programme staff, social workers, local and international organizations, and private sector representatives.
- UN supported the Ministry of Industry and Trade in the establishment of Industrial Intelligence Unit to raise the ministry's capacity on evidence based policy making.

Collectively, the UN has taken steps to ensure that institutions reflect greater responsiveness, inclusivity, accountability, and transparency in Jordan. This includes strategic support, targeting Jordanian government ministries for various critical national initiatives relating to health, education, child protection, justice, environmental security, public service, social protection, and refugees.

For example, WHO launched support for the National Nutrition Strategy for 2023-2030, UNFPA Jordan has developed guidelines for preventing and managing maternal mortality causes, UNODC has organized a national workshop to support the State Security Court, UN-Habitat has strengthened capacities for disaster-risk management and response and published the Amman and Irbid Spatial Profiles in Arabic and English languages, UNDP has worked on strengthening capacities for public service delivery and monitoring, FAO has established Jordan Integrated Agricultural Management Information System (JIAMIS) to support social protection programme within the agricultural sector, UNICEF has contributed to the National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS), the Ministry of Education (MOE) with UNESCO's support has launched the Educational Information Management System (EMIS) Policy.

In addition, UNESCO also supported the finalization of the mid-term review of the Education Strategic Plan, strengthening institutional capacities to assess progress of the Plan, including the impact of COVID-19. UNHCR has closely worked with the Government of Jordan and, in an important development, has observed increasing adherence by authorities to international protection principles.

IOM in collaboration with WHO has supported the Ministry of Health in the development of a National Tuberculosis Elimination Strategy 2023-2027.

WFP and the FAO collaborated to finalize and launch the national food security strategy and action plan in Jordan.

Strengthening National and Local Institutions:

In Jordan, the UNCT supported the strengthening of domestic institutions to improve performance, thereby streamlining service for vulnerable groups. This includes a focus on UN and public sector programmes which supported the needs of women, children, and refugees, highlighting social protection, child labor prevention, health and education. The UNCT, including UNDP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UN Women and IOM provided technical assistance for programmes on digitization, integration of climate change curriculum, access to healthcare, enhancing emergency response SOP, monitoring and evaluation with a focus on decentralization, institutions strengthening and the border Migration Health Information Management systems.

Improving Service Delivery for Human Capital Development and Poverty Reduction

UNCT in Jordan have assisted the Jordanian government in providing a range of essential public services. Agencies including UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNWRA, UN Women, ILO, WFP and WHO have collaboratively provided cross-sectoral support, targeting government capacity. This includes support for education and healthcare infrastructure, social protection, capacity building and training, e-government and digitalization, curriculum reform, and key national strategies.

Strengthening Rule of Law and Justice Sector:

In Jordan, the UN has taken steps to promote adherence to international standards by the judicial and security sectors. The UNCT, including UNICEF, UNHCR and UN Women, have undertaken a wide range of initiatives, including support for the Family Protection and Juvenile Department (FPJD) and the Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Unit at the Ministry of Justice (MOJ). Other areas of support by UNCT include training sessions for accountability in beneficiary populations, training for various ministries, and capacity building with Sharia Courts and judges on issues related to gender and civil status.

Implementing UN Conventions and the Global Development Agenda:

UN agencies in Jordan, including UNDP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA and WHO, have been engaged in various initiatives and programmes to support the country's development goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This includes provision of technical support for developing the WebGIS Smart School Maintenance Module and conducting a capacity assessment and gap analysis for the Ministry of Education Strategy on Crisis and Risk Management. The UNCT also provided training to education programme staff, health programme staff, and social workers to improve their skills and the quality of services they deliver.

Other initiatives include the drafting of a confidential report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) committee; support for the Ministry of Health (MOH) Annual report 2021 and the Voluntary National Review Report (VNR) including supporting the national SDF benchmarking process such as for SDG4; support for the localization of SDGs through the development of the first Voluntary Local Review (VLR) Report in the Arab Region for the City of Amman; support for the Housing and Urban Development Corporation in preparing the first national progress report on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda; facilitation of the launch of the Jordan Development Portal; collaboration on SDG taskforces; partnership with organizations to launch Seeds of Impact research on the sustainability journey of funds and businesses in Jordan and supporting the Government of Jordan and relevant non-governmental stakeholders in implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

In 2022, the UN collaborated with partners to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in Jordan. This included efforts to prevent and respond to Gender Based Violence (GBV), provision of psychosocial support to GBV

survivors, and facilitation of capacity building initiatives and trainings on GBV, child protection, and PSEA for local and international organizations.

The UNCT supported the development of the National Strategy for Women, conducted a gender reality assessment, and developed guidelines to promote women to leadership positions in the private sector. In addition, the UNCT provided support to the development, launch and implementation of the "Executive Plan for the National Priorities for strengthening the response to Gender-Based Violence, Domestic Violence, and Child Protection 2021-2023." led by the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA). The UNCT also provided technical support for the integration of a gender perspective in the annual budget of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and pilot ministries through the Gender Responsive Budgeting project. Support was also initiated for the mid-term review of the Gender Equality Action Plan of MOE and extension of the Gender Mainstreaming in Education Strategy.

Ensuring Environmental Sustainability:

UNCT have collaborated with the Government of Jordan to improve the country's reporting on climate change, supported the implementation of Jordan's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and introduced measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance disaster risk reduction. This includes work to enhance monitoring capabilities and promote universal access to WASH for all by collaborating with government ministries and universities, developing climate risk assessments and public expenditure reviews, and supporting the installation of solar panels in host communities and the maintenance of solar plants in the refugee camps.

The UN has also supported the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) in research and policies related to the reuse of biosolid, as well as on the rehabilitation and strengthening of all the MOA forests and rangeland nurseries in Jordan.

Fostering Partnerships and Innovation:

In Jordan, the UNCT supported the government to evaluate and select projects to boost local economic development, prioritize community engagement, and boost job creation. The development of an investor map and dialogue sessions on impact investment were also conducted to explore scalable solutions for promoting private sector investment towards the SDGs. Additionally, trainings were provided to the private sector on impact management and measurement, and the importance of job creation for local communities was emphasized in financing for development work.



"I'm happy and proud that the children can grow up and learn life skills in a safe environment. Before the rehabilitation of the toddlers and children with disabilities' sections, the caregivers' utmost concern was to protect the children from falling down and hurting themselves. This has changed; now they can invest more time in nurturing the children, while developing their communication and interpersonal skills for a better future." Amal Al-Rahani, Director of Al-Hussein Foundation for Orphans.

©UNOPS

'Modernization of the Social Protection Physical Environment', Project was implemented by UNOPS in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development. It aimed at contributing to supporting the social sector reform and the development of an equitable and inclusive society in Jordan through the improvement and modernization of the quality and performance of the social protection system.

The project included the rehabilitation of 105 social care centres and directorates and the development of the Monitoring and Evaluation-based Management Information System (MIS) as well as the provision of IT infrastructure to ensure that 7,600 persons (4,479 females, and 3,120 males) have improved access to social protection services across the country.

The development of the MIS and the training sessions on the system aims at strengthening the Ministry's capacity, supporting the decision making process, facilitating the daily operations, ensuring and monitoring the services that are provided to the beneficiaries as well as ensuring the system's sustainability. Automated services in 10 directorates were launched through the MIS. The system allows the Ministry to continuously expand the system to accommodate more services after it has been handed over. The project provided the National Aid Fund with 415 IT equipment to support the fund's expansion plan.

Strategic Priority 2: Empowered People

UNSDF Outcome 2:

People especially the vulnerable proactively claim their rights and fulfil their responsibilities for improved human security and resilience.

Contributing Agencies:

UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, UNV, UN Women, ILO, IOM, FAO, WFP.

Batool Muhiessn, one of 24 young men and women who participated in "Jordan in Figures" initiative led by UNDP and the Jordan Economic Forum.

The initiative brought together the development partners, including (policymakers, media, civil society organizations, and youth) in an open dialogue about key development priorities and challenges in Jordan, reflecting on the Decade of Action for the SDGs..

Batool's participation in this initiative was vital for her as it helped her develop her capacities.

"I can sum up Jordan in Figures initiative in two words a 'learning journey", Batool said.

"The initiative tackled numbers throughout the several boot camps convened for the participants, as well as touched base challenges facing young people and alternative approaches to finding solutions", she added.

"This initiative is distinctive as it comes from the youth themselves with a focus on interpersonal development, Economic Leadership, and Data-Born Insight," said Batool.



Improving Access to Information and Knowledge



In 2022, the UN in Jordan completed the design and implementation of 15 community-driven initiatives.



A total of 31,542 caregivers were reached through the "better parenting" program.



A total of 82,169 children were reached out through the Child protection activities.



A total of 56,803 children were reached out through the accelerated mathematics and Arabic program.

Many initiatives have been undertaken by the UN to assess the training requirements for all environment related sectors in order to ensure that relevant actors have the knowledge of policies and programmes needed. In its efforts to improve capacities for national reporting to bio-diversity-related conventions, the UN and the Ministry of Environment (MOEnv) organized a regional workshop for six countries from North Africa and West Asia to introduce the Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

During the reporting period, the UN continued supporting the Ministry of Environment through different programmes including an online dashboard hosted by the Ministry, a framework and workplan for the development of the 3rd state of environment report (SOER), guidance documents and presentations for future assessments, and two manuals - one for developing the SOER and another for adapting environmental data into UNEP World Environment Situation Room Data (WESR) template.

In 2022, the UN in Jordan worked closely with communities to complete the design and implementation of 15 community driven initiatives and mobilized the full activation of the first social entrepreneurship support centre in Jordan – the “Heart of Amman Hub”. The Hub, which was established by renovating a Greater Amman Municipality owned building in Ras Al Ain, is the first retrofitted building that is combined with energy efficiency and renewable energy interventions. It is providing services to support youth, entrepreneurs and social entrepreneurs in Jordan. A repository including all community-led initiatives, which were implemented under the different phases of the Heart of Amman Programme, was also developed to support resource mobilization efforts.

Access to information and increasing empowerment, primarily of children and youth, have always been a priority for the UN in Jordan. The UN partnered with the government, national partners and NGOs to improve access to information on child rights and protection, as well as on the situation of children in Jordan. Other partnerships focused on improving the knowledge and skills of children, parents and communities to prevent violence through the implementation of different programmes. For example, the "Better Parenting" programme that reached 31,542 (31,172 women, 370 men) caregivers in 2022, and the implementation of interactive community-based child protection activities (82,169 children: 45,149 female and 37,020 male) were reached with psychosocial support.

Furthermore, the UN has made significant efforts in providing child protection services, education, supporting learning and reading recovery as well as life skills training. Through the Makani programme, a comprehensive package of services was made available to school-aged children living in vulnerable communities. An accelerated mathematics and Arabic programme was introduced and reached 56,803 children (54 per cent female) from Grades 1 to 9 as part of Learning support services (LSS) and in all 137 Makani Centres.

A programme supporting reading recovery for adolescents was piloted in 15 Makani centres⁸ which was approved by the MOE to be included in the regular school timetable of formal schools in camps as an ‘in-school’ model. Similarly, the Reading Recovery Programme targeted Grade 5 and 6 students in 27 formal schools and 26 non-formal education (NFE) centres in Syrian refugee camps.

⁸ Makani (“My Space”) is a UNICEF programme that began in 2015 to respond to the urgent needs of children in Jordan during the Syrian refugee crisis and has since evolved into a comprehensive response for all vulnerable children, regardless of nationality, as part of the national social protection response under the leadership of the MOSD.

Improving Access to Information and Knowledge



"For the first time in my life, I started to feel a sense of responsibility, self-reliance and independence," said 21-year-old Sireen Khaled from Amman, who got her first job in data collection and entry after completing a digital skills course supported by UNICEF.

Sireen joined the Digital Skills for a Better Future programme at the encouragement of her mother, despite some initial reluctance on her part. "I was surprised how practical and engaging the course was and the access to freelance work opportunities really helped grow my self-confidence."

UNICEF's Digital Skills for A Better Future programme, in partnership with Jordan's Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship (MoDEE) and Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT), equips vulnerable youth with basic and advanced digital skills and links them with income generating opportunities in both the formal and gig economy.

"In the modern world, I think that learning English and digital skills are the most critical things we can do to improve our employment opportunities and our life in general," said Sireen.

UNICEF is committed to working with and for girls and young women to bridge the gap between the skills girls need to be competitive in the 21st century, versus those they traditionally had access to.

"My message to other girls and women is think beyond the traditional path of getting a university degree," said Sireen. "Digital skills are so important for girls in today's world and they are easy to learn! Be self-confident and persistent, regardless of the difficulties and challenges you face."

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Strengthening Skills and Capacities:



The capacity of 1,138 facility health workers, with 96% of them being female, was strengthened.



Through the UN's support, vaccination coverage reached 90% for all vaccines.



17,000 youth, including Jordanians and Syrian refugees, benefited from SRH and GBV awareness programs.



A total of 115,972 women, girls, boys, and men received 211,330 integrated SRH services through 16 supported clinics.



A total of 119,781 (57,767 girls, 62,014 boys) Palestine Refugees students in Jordan continued receiving education.

The UN continued to support the capacity of MOH in different domains to provide quality health services. As part of the Primary Health Care System strengthening, the UN supported MOH in the establishment of a digital health information reporting system and the procurement of computers to be distributed to primary healthcare centers. The UN also supported the rollout of a Baby Friend Hospitals Initiative (BFHI), which offers an evidence-based approach to supporting breastfeeding, early stimulation and good infant nutrition. Support was also provided to conduct focused micro-planning in 509 Primary health care facilities and strengthened the capacity of 1,138 facility health workers (96 per cent female). This has resulted in increased access and utilization reaching 90 per cent coverage for all vaccines and contributed to the reduction of zero-dose children.

The UN sustained its support to strengthen sexual reproductive health (SRH) and GBV awareness through trainings, providing learning programmes and courses to youth, as well as organizing specialized capacity building and trainings for educators (university professors and faculty members) and parents. Throughout 2022, more than 17,000 youth (Jordanians and Syrian refugees) benefitted from the programmes, in addition to a total of 46 faculty members and 1,200 parents. Additionally, the UN worked with partners to support sexual and reproductive health clinics to provide services for refugees and Jordanians, reaching a total of 115,972 women, girls, boys and men with 211,330 integrated SRH services through 16 supported clinics.

Through the Oasis programme⁹ in 2022, a total of 762 Syrian refugees and 8 Yemeni women increased their knowledge and experience about protection related issues, including human rights, child protection, gender-based violence and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse through 145 protection awareness raising sessions. Out of 762 Syrian women, 682 reside in refugee camps and other 80 in different areas in host communities. Remote protection services were supported through phone calls (574) and WhatsApp messages (377) including interagency messages (such as general announcements and specific announcements regarding job and educational opportunities).

During 2022, several initiatives targeted adolescent girls, including bridging the gender digital divide with "Me & My Mobile" courses, creating young mothers' clubs, launching the Adolescent Girls Empowerment Led (AGEL) Centre in Zaatari refugee camp, and developing the "Nour curriculum" with 40 modules to be used for training 600 adolescent girls in Karak on relevant issues like SRH, GBV and leadership.

UN agencies partnered to address child marriage in refugee camps and provided humanitarian cash assistance programmes to vulnerable households.

The UNCT also supported the National Taskforce on Child Marriage and the monitoring of the National Action Plan on Child Marriage led by NCFA.

⁹ UN Women has developed the Oasis model to respond to the urgent needs of Syrian refugee women and girls in the camps and host communities, and is managed in partnership with the MOSD. The Oasis model has evolved over the years and now is a center for building women's resilience and empowerment through access to multi-sectoral services.

The GBV sub-working group developed guidance notes and resources to improve the work of GBV actors, including a GBV M&E Toolkit and Cash and GBV Case Management guidelines. 29 organizations were trained on the resources to enhance safety net programming for GBV survivors and those at risk. Case managers (30) and clinicians (19) have been trained to improve the quality of GBV case management in Jordan and strengthen data collection systems. The Ministry of Health plans to replicate this training across the country in 2023. Support has been provided to the development and implementation of the "Executive Plan for the National Priorities for strengthening the response to Gender-Based Violence, Domestic Violence, and Child Protection 2021-2023."

Efforts by the UN are ongoing to promote gender responsiveness within Ministry of Labor (MOL) and the Social Security Councils' policy frameworks in Jordan. A gender reality assessment was conducted to identify gaps, which resulted in developing a draft policy framework for MOL that is expected to be finalized in 2023.

In 2022, the UN continued supporting women, youth, refugees, migrants and Jordanians through various initiatives to create an enabling environment, primarily, for women's economic empowerment by enhancing their participation in non-traditional sectors. The UN worked closely with the Ministry of Local Administration (MOLA) in the North of Jordan by supporting women engagement in solid waste management (SWM) and recycling. Other initiatives included strengthening gender-responsive Local Economic Development, in coordination with municipalities, and the development of gender-sensitive local SWM municipal plans. Four municipalities have endorsed and formally adopted those plans.

In addition, 48 women members of Ruwwad Al Aghwar Cooperative were supported to generate income through operationalizing a solid waste sorting facility. 80 women beneficiaries in the targeted municipalities were empowered and supported to develop short-term income-generating opportunities through targeted interventions that sought to respond to the COVID 19 pandemic and its consequence. 632 rural women from 5 targeted municipalities were heavily engaged in the ideation phase of their own green group businesses (totaling 11 group businesses).

Significant progress has been made to bridge disconnects between national development strategies and gender equality

plans and accelerate progress towards achieving gender equality.

The UN provided technical advice and support in engendering the triple modernization agenda; platforms for exchanging experiences, coordination and consultation between different stakeholder and actors were provided at both the regional and national levels to strengthen policy frameworks for gender mainstreaming in the triple modernization processes.

Simultaneously and under the economic modernization process, a women's empowerment strategy was developed and launched identifying priorities, enabling factors, and required actions to enhance women's opportunities. The UN was actively engaged in the consultations led by Inter-Ministerial Committee for Women's Empowerment (IMC-W) to develop the strategy and provided technical advice to the process.

Support to the National Conference on "Women's Paths in the Modernization Visions" was provided, which aimed at offering the opportunity for participants to discuss the draft plans on women's empowerment and build ownership and commitment towards their implementation by the government and other relevant stakeholders.

The launch of the innovative gamification platform, WeRise (developed in 2021), has taken place in July 2022 with the presence of young people from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, opinion leaders and representatives from governments and the UN. The app, which was developed by youth and for the youth with the efforts of more than 100 young volunteers from six MENA countries, has been created to challenge gender stereotypes, change attitudes about gender roles and promote positive behavior.

Towards enhancing youth engagement, the "Jordan in Figures" initiative was implemented, through cooperation between the UN and the Jordan Economic Forum (JEF), to create a space through which Jordanian youth engage with policy makers and experts to enhance the outreach of local communities' concerns and to shed light on challenges facing Jordan through the eyes of youth.

The UN has been working, as well, to ensure that the voices of marginalized and vulnerable communities are represented in the planning and development of their neighborhoods and public areas through implementing initiatives that respond to community needs, (47 startups supported) with a focus on refugees and host communities.

In addition, concrete opportunities were provided for children and people with disabilities in Souf Palestine refugee camp to design their park with a focus on engaging and building the capacities of the local authorities on methods to engage the local community in the decision-making process.

During the reporting period, the UN continued focusing its efforts on enhancing the skills of young people. More than 135,250 young people were reached through life skills, social innovation and leadership training, and volunteering. While 8,366 young people in refugee camps and host communities received TVET and digital skills training, career guidance and entrepreneurship support.

Moreover, and through the Makani centres, capacity building trainings focusing on life skills, financial literacy, innovation and digital literacy reached over 36,000 adolescents and youth (59 per cent females).

Further, the UN has organized many activities and workshops in collaboration with local partners to promote national volunteering among Jordanians which aimed at giving youth the ownership to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. Of which, around 50 young people from Youth Leadership Programme including student ambassadors from Jordan, national youth Volunteers from NAHNO programme and the UN Volunteers have benefited from the activities.

¹⁰ The UN's support to the MOE continued in 2022. The Registration Guidelines for Education data was finalized to improve the quality of education data collected at registration and better support the Ministry's information management system (OpenEMIS) and education programming. Moreover, cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and partners persisted to promote Technical Vocational and Educational Training (TVET) with an aim to achieve 15 per cent enrolment of young forcibly displaced people in tertiary education by 2030.

As part of its consistent support to ensure access to education and to mainstream inclusion and diversity in education, the UN continued working with MOE and Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (HCD). In June 2022, the UN supported the development of the 'Jordan Declaration on Inclusion and Diversity in Education', which was endorsed by MOE, HCD and partners through a high-level policy dialogue bringing together over 100 stakeholders.

The Declaration includes a list of children vulnerable to exclusion from and within education, and a common definition for inclusion and diversity in education for Jordan to be one key foundation for the work of any education stakeholders in Jordan SDG4 and the right to education for all as a chapeau. Capacity development sessions have been supported in 30 pilot MOE schools in Ajloun, Karak and Marka, reaching at least 178 teachers, school principals and counselors, as well as Ministry and Field Directorates officials. With the objective of mainstreaming inclusion and diversity through a whole-school approach, 17 MOE schools completed their cascade sessions by October 2022 reaching over 2,200 teachers, school staff, parents, students and planners from field directorates. 12 additional MOE schools will complete the capacity development sessions and cascading at school and community levels by April 2023, which should reach over 1,000 beneficiaries.

The UN successfully advocated and coordinated with the education donor's community and MOE the promotion of equal treatment of refugees for school enrollment. As part of these efforts, the use of technology to advance innovative approaches for learning recovery has been underlined and the promotion of higher education has been featured on social media.

¹¹

In 2022, basic education was provided to 119,781 (57,767 girls, 62,014 boys) Palestine Refugees students in Jordan (PRJ), including 913 Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS), and Syrian children (478 girls, 435 boys) through 161 UNRWA schools.

Simultaneously, school parliament elections were held in 2022 with the active participation of 113,485 students. More than 1,800 students were trained on peer mediation skills.

Given the risks associated with internet use, the UN initiated awareness sessions on cyberbullying. A total of 8,426 Palestine Refugees students (6,236 female and 2,190 male) and a total of 138 parents benefited from the specialized sessions.

To enhance the capacities of MOEnv, the UN has undertaken many initiatives in 2022. Among these efforts is the technical support provided to regularly generate and use timely, accurate and accessible environmental data and information for evidence-based policy and decision-making.

¹⁰ Giving Jordanian youth the ownership to achieve Sustainable Development Goals | UNV

¹¹ Yarmouk University organizes a discussion workshop to increase refugees enrollment in higher education

Capacity building development support was also provided to the ministry on Food Waste Index monitoring as part of the regional working group initiatives within the Global Opportunities for SDGs.

Moreover, and through efforts that aim to build capacities of local communities to solve small scale food production problems through sustainable agriculture, the UN provided support to Ministry of Agriculture through the Farmer Field School Approach (FFS). This participatory approach offers space for hands-on group learning, enhancing skills for observation and critical analysis and improved decision making by local communities.

Furthermore, in 2022 the UN supported the implementation of an innovative waste management circular economy model in Zaatari refugee camp. The model focused on recycling waste in the camp through the creation of green jobs for refugees and using the waste and the biosolid for the production of compost, biogas and electricity that are subsequently used to produce tree seedlings and rehabilitate forest and rangelands in Jordan.

For Hosni Al-Rayahnah, a 63-year-old farmer in Northern Shouneh, Jordan, climate change and water scarcity is an everyday reality.

"Things have changed over the past few years, as the climate has become hotter with less rain, which affected the quality and quantity of my crops," says Al-Rayahnah, who started farming 20 years ago.

"For me and other farmers, we struggled to afford enough water to weather the impact of heat waves on our crops. Water pumping has been reduced to our farms due to the limited water supply. Some of us were about to quit the profession," he explains.

Jordan is one of the world's most water-scarce countries, with as little as 61 m3 of water available per person every year. In addition, limited water resources are fueling competition between the agriculture, domestic and industrial sectors. The agricultural sector, which consumes 51 per cent of the country's freshwater resources, is especially vulnerable to climate change and water scarcity.

Population growth affected by waves of refugees, economic and agricultural demands, and the adverse impacts of climate change have further compounded the water scarcity challenge.

Economically vulnerable communities like Al-Rayahnah's, particularly those in rural areas, are among those most heavily impacted by the decreasing water resources.

Hope has come in the form of new knowledge with the farmers learning new irrigation methods which have helped expand production, grow new varieties of fruits and vegetables, and use water efficiently.



Al-Rayahnah and other farmers in the Northern Shouneh, joined the Farmers Field Schools (FFS) supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), an initiative that has been running since 2018 in Jordan. The main goal of the schools is to improve farmers' skills and facilitate the adaptation of best farming practices for more sustainable water and food management.

So far, more than 1,500 farmers joined these schools.

"The primary goal of these schools was to help save water for irrigation. After implementing water efficiency methods including drip irrigation I increased the size of my farm as I started using almost the same quantity of water to water more crops and plant more varieties," said Al-Rayahnah.

These schools are among several projects and initiatives that FAO is implementing to improve sustainable agricultural water management and increase water efficiency for irrigation. Water harvesting is another technique that farmers in Northern Shouneh are being supported with, thanks to a collaboration between FAO and Jordan's Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

Providing Life-saving Services



A total of 13,033 individuals benefited from livelihood opportunities

A total of 58,862 beneficiaries under the Social Safety Net program, received cash transfers, totaling more than USD 7 million.



A total of 467,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees in camps and host communities, half of whom were women, were provided unconditional resource transfer in addition to provision of food restricted electronic vouchers to Syrian refugees residing in camps

A total of 19,553 Palestine refugees from Syria received unconditional cash transfers



A total of 64,833 beneficiaries were reached through GBV response and prevention services



A total of 1,109 children engaged in child labor received support through the child protection programme



Over 38,000 people received improved WASH services
WASH facilities in 11 schools were rehabilitated, benefiting 13,667 children

The UN continued its commitment to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups to access quality services and improve livelihoods. During the reporting period, 701,560 primary healthcare consultations were provided to Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS) and Palestine Refugees in Jordan (PRJ).

An inclusive financial service to low-income families (women, youth and refugees) was provided with livelihood opportunities through income-generating and household asset-building loans totaling USD 10.8 million benefiting 13,033 persons. Relief and Social Services Programme delivered cash transfers to 58,862 Social Safety Net beneficiaries (totaling US more than 7 million) and unconditional cash transfers to 19,553 PRS (10,252 F, 9,301 M and 537 PWD).

Community engagement for community-based protection reached 30,920 community members, mainly PRS, where it created conditions for multi-programmes initiatives to be performed by programmes with protection integrated/mainstreaming outputs rights.

On the other hand, almost 467,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees in camps and host communities, half of whom were women, were provided unconditional resource transfer in addition to provision of food restricted electronic vouchers to Syrian refugees residing in camps.

More specifically, by December 2022, the number of families assisted with monthly cash assistance were 31,400 (representing approximately 116,000 individuals), including 3,000 non-Syrians households. In addition, multi-purposed and winter cash assistance packages were provided to vulnerable Syrian and non-Syrian refugees.

Humanitarian cash assistance programme Hajati (My Needs)¹² provided monthly cash assistance to vulnerable households – regardless of nationality and status – covering 8,479 households including 28,000 children.

As of December 2022, 33 per cent of forcibly displaced households receiving cash assistance in communities and 97 per cent of Azraq and Zaatari camp-residing households received their quarterly cash assistance via refugee-owned mobile wallets.

In collaboration with partners, the UN promoted the usage of mobile wallets among cash beneficiaries to enhance financial inclusion. Refugee-owned mobile wallets improved the delivery of humanitarian cash assistance to refugees. This assistance modality builds a foundation for refugees' greater financial inclusion in the future, and thus represents an innovative global trend and promise to benefit all people at all income levels, particularly low resource populations with limited to no access to formal banking services and products, such as refugees in Jordan.

In 2022, the child protection programme provided support to 1,109 children engaged in child labor through multi sectoral services including management, education, skills building and scholarships.

Significant progress in 2022 entailed the commissioning of a national study on violence against children (VAC), and updating the nationwide monthly online survey on violence in school by MOE. The findings of the VAC study, which align with SDG5 and SDG16 goals, indicated that the incidence of violence against children, including domestic violence, remains elevated. 74.6 per cent of children have experienced at least one form of physical violence in their lifetime including harm from parents, siblings, peers and teachers.

The UN continued its efforts to enhance GBV service delivery through specialized services in camps and host communities, and provision of confidential access to response and prevention services. Through GBV response and prevention services, including virtual and in-person case management services, referrals, psychosocial support, and in-person and online awareness raising, a total of 64,833 beneficiaries were reached. Cash assistance continued to be provided as part of GBV case management services.

In addition, a youth friendly health clinic was launched at Jordan University of Science and Technology to provide awareness, advice, and guidance services for young people on various health concepts related to sexual reproductive health, gender-based violence, nutrition, chronic diseases, and mental health.

In 2022, a monthly average of 1,008 women from vulnerable socio-economic groups benefited from access to a comprehensive package of GBV essential services through the UN and Jordanian Women Union (JWU) in 10 safe spaces. A monthly average of 150 women survivors received specialized psychosocial and legal support through the hotline services, and 15 women survivors were placed in shelters.

Life-saving WASH services were provided for the estimated 127,000 Syrian refugees living in the Zaatari, Azraq, and King Abdullah Park (KAP) refugee camps.

Moreover, direct support of WASH services improved for over 38 thousand people, 9,479 of whom are living in the most vulnerable communities in Jordan. WASH interventions for vulnerable families were complemented with hygiene promotion and environmental awareness sessions. In addition, the UN supported the rehabilitation of WASH facilities in 11 schools, resulting in 13,667 children with improved access to WASH services.

¹² Hajati supports vulnerable families, most of whom are Syrian refugees, enabling parents to send their children to school and reducing reliance on negative coping strategies, such as child labour. By prioritizing the poorest and most vulnerable children – irrespective of their nationality or legal status – Hajati provides crucial support and ensures that no child is left behind. Hajati programme is one example of how UNICEF bridges the humanitarian-development divide.



"I promise you that I will share everything I have learned at the center, about self-esteem, respecting others and the information about sexual and reproductive health with every girl I meet", said Maha in her speech during the graduation event from sexual and reproductive health workshops..

200 girls from the UNFPA-supported Adolescent Girls Empowerment Led Center (AGEL) in Zaatari Refugee Camp celebrated the completion of their participation in this workshop.



According to the results of the four quarterly food security outcome monitoring (FSOM) exercises conducted in 2022, the food insecurity of refugee beneficiaries gradually decreased over the course of the year. By the end of the year, 65 per cent of refugees in host communities and camps benefiting from assistance were food insecure, compared to 76 per cent of the overall refugee population living in Jordan, which proves the effectiveness of the assistance.

The situation of beneficiary refugees significantly improved compared to a year ago (80 per cent in December 2021) and came back to pre-COVID-19 (68 per cent in September 2019). This amelioration is mainly due to the increased job opportunities for refugees as Jordan slowly recovers from the socio-economic impact of COVID-19. An extensive resort to debt was also observed during the same period. In general, the food consumption of refugee households in camps and communities has improved compared to 2021, and the overall adoption of livelihood coping strategies improved, with slightly less utilization of crises and emergency coping strategies, such as child labour, early marriage, and accepting degrading, exploitative, or illegal jobs to meet food and essential non-food needs.

However, households headed by women, large households, households including persons with disabilities and households with a lesser productive potential did not experience any improvement in their self-reliance, remained at higher levels of food insecurity and resorted to more severe coping strategies.



Fifty-one-year-old Hanan fled war-stricken Syria in 2013 with her three children in search of safety. She found refuge in Jordan, where she now lives in a modest apartment in Amman, raising her family by herself. Hanan dedicates all her time and resources to her 3 children. But with high living costs in Jordan and her inability to work because of her frail health condition, Hanan struggles to meet her family's basic needs, such as rent and food. She suffers from arthritis, disc problems, diabetes and high blood pressure, which makes it difficult to find a job and secure a steady income. She has had to take some difficult decisions to make ends meet over the years. "When we first found a home in Jordan, I had to buy less food to make sure we had a place to stay," said Hanan.

She pays 180 Jordanian Dinars (around US\$ 250) for a humble one-bedroom apartment with very little furniture. During the cold winter months in Amman, the mother of three relies on a single small heater to keep her children warm.

The multi-purpose cash assistance that Hanan receives from UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is a lifeline for her and her family. It helps, even if only partially, to put food on the table and a roof over their heads. "I spend all (the cash assistance) on the kids and the house," the loving mother said.

UNHCR runs one of its largest cash assistance programmes in Jordan to support vulnerable refugee households to cover their basic needs, giving them choice and dignity. It is also transitioning to distributing this cash assistance to refugees through mobile wallets, a modality that provides refugees with more independence in managing their finances and enhances their financial inclusion.

UNHCR's cash assistance programme reached over a quarter of a million refugees in Jordan throughout 2022.

Reflecting on the challenges they have faced in recent years and looking to what's next, Hanan places great importance on her children's education, which she believes is the path to a brighter future. Her children are currently enrolled in school, and she is adamant about doing her best to ensure they receive the quality education they need and deserve. "All I wish is for my kids to have a better future and to be educated. They would make me proud."

Strategic Priority 3: Enhanced Opportunities

UNSD Outcome 3:

Enhanced opportunities for inclusive engagement of all people living in Jordan within the social, economic, environmental, and political spheres.

Contributing Agencies:

UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNRWA, UNV, UN Women, FAO, ILO, IOM.



Strengthening Political Opportunities

On enhanced opportunities for inclusive engagement of people living in Jordan at the political level, the UN in Jordan worked with the Independent Elections Commission (IEC) to launch the online platform for political parties in line with the recommendations of the Electoral Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) Report. This action followed the Government of Jordan request for UN electoral assistance, and the visit of the DPPA's Electoral Assistance Division's official delegation to conduct an Electoral Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) on behalf of the USG for Political Affairs in 2022. The UN also facilitated the delivery of training for candidates for the 2022 local elections to enhance participation in political life. .

The UN in Jordan, in cooperation with the Greater Amman Municipality (GAM), conducted an interactive and artistic workshop for 20 youth (16 females and 6 males (2 of which are people with disabilities)) from the local community. The workshop fostered interaction between children, youth, and people with disabilities who participated through creative and entertaining activities. Participants included youth and people with disabilities from Jordanian, Iraqi, and Egyptian nationalities between the ages of 10-25.

The UN additionally strengthened governmental and community capacities to promote sustainable environment and nature-based solutions for disaster risk management and response. This has specifically been done in response to the flash flood challenges affecting Downtown Amman, through pilot projects which demonstrate sustainable, replicable, and scalable green solutions to reduce the impact of flash floods while simultaneously addressing water scarcity.

The UN continuously advocated for increasing female representation in the Government. In October 2022 Cabinet reshuffle, female representation in the Cabinet increased to 18 per cent. As for female representation in the Senate it increased to 15.3 per cent after the re-forming in October 2022. Furthermore, under the political modernization vision, the UN supported a Regional Conference on Women's Engagement in Political parties in the Arab region which resulted in a number of practical recommendations to inform the development of future plans to enhance women's access to information and opportunities to participate in political processes.

Strengthening Economic Opportunities



Over 135,255 young people reached out through life skills, social innovation, leadership training, and volunteering,



A total of 38,107 students in 87 schools benefited from an improved learning environment including 17,691 females, and 3,646 Syrian refugee students.



Around 1,900 farmers in Jordan were provided with grants supporting green job creation and home businesses for Syrian refugees and Jordanians.



A total of 4,267 jobs were created in the infrastructure and municipal works equally benefiting Jordanians and Syrian refugees

Under the Cash for Work (CfW) programme, a total number of 3,485 jobs were created

Strengthening Economic Opportunities

In the economic sphere, as part of support to the Decentralization Process in Jordan specifically towards increasing opportunities for employment through improving Local Economic Development efforts, Municipal Level capital investment projects for Local Economic Development were evaluated & selected in municipalities of Madaba, Tafileh and Deir Ala, in line with findings of an environmental study and area-based needs assessments. While the assessments and development of identification and selection criteria were extensively supported by the UN, the process of implementation of these projects is led by the Local Development Unit at the Ministry of Local Administration in close coordination with the Local Development Directorates of each of the selected Municipalities. These Capital Investment Projects prioritize local community engagement and job creation. Scalable solutions to promote private sector capital flows towards SDGs were also actively explored through the development of an Investor map, a dialogue session on Impact Investment with Social Security Investment Fund and trainings given to private sector on Impact Management and Measurement. The different aspects on financing for development work also highlighted the importance of job creation for local communities.

The UN in Jordan worked to enhance the recognition of the connection between food security, agriculture, climate adaptation, and urbanization, specifically through the development of a community garden in Amman to help address the growing socioeconomic and environmental challenges communities are facing.

In conjunction, a scoping review has started to map the climate change adaptation mechanisms needed for the northern governorates, which have high numbers of migrants and refugees, in order to mitigate the impact of climate change.

The UN's support aiming to improve livelihoods and enhance the labour market through improving the economic opportunities and diversification focused, on capacity building, trainings, access to decent work, economic strategies, among others.

To facilitate access to employment opportunities and improve livelihoods, the UN supported the provision of access to internationally accredited TVET courses (in Business, Information Technology and Creative Media Production) and entrepreneurship courses; followed up with conditional small seed funding grants to launch home-based business ideas.

The UN also supported job creation in the cultural heritage development sector promoting culture a source of economic development and resilience.

The UN has reached over 135,255 young people through life skills, social innovation, leadership training, and volunteering, and 8,366 young people in refugee camps and host communities, through TVET training and digital skills training, career guidance, and entrepreneurship support. Additional support has been provided to 2,092 Palestinian refugee students and a significant percentage of whom were then employed.

In 2022, the UN worked with international and local partners, donors and refugee communities to promote the long-term inclusion of vulnerable forcibly displaced people in line with the priorities established by the Government of Jordan, and engaged in sustained advocacy to increase alignment with national systems. The UN collaborated with partners, under the PROSPECTS partnership, to enhance access to formal labour market, education, skills, financial inclusion and social protection for forcibly displaced people and host communities.

Based on the UN's commitment to contribute to job creation, around 1,900 farmers in Jordan were provided with grants supporting green job creation and home businesses for Syrian refugees and Jordanians.

In addition, 4,267 jobs were created in the infrastructure and municipal works equally benefiting Jordanians and Syrian refugees (31 per cent of Syrians are women, and 5 per cent persons with disabilities). Workers were provided with skills and capacity building programmes to enhance their access to decent work opportunities, and to provide for a dignified shift from cash-for-work to employment.

Through the creation of labor-intensive employment opportunities, the UN contributed to improving the livelihoods of vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees (women and men) primarily in the Irbid and Mafrq governorates. Under the Cash for Work (CfW) programme, a total number of 3,485 jobs were created (of whom 1,065 (31%) were females and 1,494 (43%) were Syrians).

Simultaneously, the UN also contributed to improving the learning environment in public schools in Jordan. A total of 38,107 students in 87 schools benefited from an improved learning environment including 17,691 females, and 3,646 Syrian refugee students.

Strengthening Social Opportunities:



Over 200 young people across Jordan were reached through media and information literacy competences.



A total of 163 UN Volunteers were deployed in 2022, hosted by 16 UN agencies.

Volunteering opportunities were matched to 25,239 adolescents and youth (68% female) through the NAHNO.

The skills of 942 female beneficiaries of the Second Chance Education (SCE) program were enhanced through online learning platforms.



Community network platforms were created for 45 municipalities in six governorates, contributing to improved resilience, enhanced social cohesion, and a strengthened social contract.

Strengthening Social Opportunities

Through capacity-building, policy advice, assessment and foresight in the fields of freedom of expression, access to information, media and information literacy, and digital transformation, the UN in Jordan continued to empower key actors with a view to ensuring that fundamental freedoms are guaranteed online and offline, in line with international standards. In terms of advocacy for law reform, issues brought to the forefront by the UN have led to additional pressure on the government to introduce amendments to the Access to Information Law. The government held further consultations in 2022 with various stakeholders about law reform needs. The UN in Jordan has supported rebuilding a stronger media system considering the economic pressures facing the news media industry in Jordan.

The UN supported the government of Jordan in advancing, promoting and implementing its national plan on Media and Information Literacy (MIL) through technical assistance and capacity-building for MIL multi-stakeholders, and in partnership with the Jordan Media Institute. The UN was actively involved in providing media literacy for young people and the broader community in recognition of the distinct challenges of the current complex digital era. The UN reached more than 200 young people across Jordan, through media and information literacy competencies, aiming at sharpening their critical thinking, facilitate the expression of their voices, and enhance their engagement in democratic discourse.

The UN also supported Jordan Media Institute training for spokespersons, providing capacity support in media and strategic communications to the Government of Jordan by establishing and institutionalizing a professional standard for the role of spokesperson within the government and encouraging inter-community contacts and dialogue and promoting refugee engagement in arts/cultural activities as means to boost social cohesion.

Strengthening Social Opportunities:



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The UN supported the government of Jordan in advancing, promoting and implementing its national plan on Media and Information Literacy (MIL) through technical assistance and capacity-building for MIL multi-stakeholders, and in partnership with the Jordan Media Institute. The UN was actively involved in providing media literacy for young people and the broader community in recognition of the distinct challenges of the current complex digital era. The UN reached more than 200 young people across Jordan, through media and information literacy competencies, aiming at sharpening their critical thinking, facilitate the expression of their voices, and enhance their engagement in democratic discourse.

UNESCO Jordan, through the support of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), has launched two Podcast initiatives, one focusing on MIL, and how the media can be utilized to fight misinformation, in addition to youth sharing stories about the challenges and difficulties they have faced during the pandemic.

The two podcast initiatives targeted 40 young people either with a journalism and media background or activist in media and information literacy and freedom of expression.

Wisam Khalifeh was one of the first podcasters ever to cover stories from marginalized segments in the Arab region, he worked on a podcast that covered the stories of young men from the Arab region who had joined violent extremist groups to fight for the sake of religion, identity and other reasons. Those young men got lucky to get back to their homes after realizing that they do not want to be part of these groups anymore and their experience was a result of others convincing them to join these groups.

Wisam's podcast had reached more than 100,000 listeners, and what he did is very important, giving space to people to share their stories, while ignoring the fact that they are social outcasts.

Believing in freedom of expression and equality are cornerstones to telling stories of people in the Arab region and representing different segments of the population in a fair manner, making their voices being heard.

Strengthening Social Opportunities:

Building on the UN's commitment to integrate volunteerism strategically and meaningfully into the implementation and delivery of UN agencies' mandates ensuring inclusion of refugees and PWDs. A total of 163 UN Volunteers were deployed in 2022 and were hosted by 16 UN agencies. Of these, there were 32 national UN Youth Volunteers, 56 national females, 12 Refugees and 1 Person with Disability. The UN Volunteer programme is considered by many agencies as a window for national empowerment providing opportunities for youth to build their careers, engage with the local community and participate in the labor market. ¹³

The UN matched volunteering opportunities to 25,239 adolescents and youth (68 per cent female) through the National Youth Engagement and Volunteering Movement Platform, NAHNO. Subsequently, the MOY adopted NAHNO as the national volunteering platform for the Kingdom to be rolled out in youth centres, public schools and universities. Key achievements of 2022 included the institutionalization of the Life Skills Programme under MOY and the technical assistance the UN provided to the Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) to upgrade their curricula and integrate life skills and social innovation skills (UPSHIFT).

A total of 942 female Second Chance Education (SCE) programme beneficiaries enhanced their skills through online learning on the platforms Kolibri and EdApp supported by 31 local female SCE facilitators on new content developed by UN's partner Arab Women Organization.

Community Network platforms were created for the 45 municipalities located in six governorates. The platforms used digital engagement to improve resilience, contribute to social cohesion and strengthen the social contract by improving relationship between the state and citizens. With UN support, Madrasati initiative continued to mobilize gender-sensitive dialogue within the community at large, empowering women, men, girls and boys to contribute to efforts to strengthen tolerance and prevent violent extremism (PVE).

In addition, participants increased their knowledge of harmful gender stereotypes and discriminatory social norms and -

strengthened their skills to communicate these concepts to their students through orientation sessions on mobilizing and facilitating community dialogues.

With UN support, through the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW), under the "Concepts of Tolerance and Acceptance" media campaign, three videos were produced and posted on Facebook receiving more than 222,800 impressions, 147,600 engagements, 126,700 views, and a 56.8 per cent View Through Rate (VTR). The videos showed societal views through images of men and women covered with descriptive phrases about their age, beliefs, attire, profession and other social judgments. In addition, banners with the awareness campaign's main message "Your Judgments Erase Me, so Please Erase Them...Differences are not Divisions" were posted for one month on nine bridges in Amman, with an approximate viewership of 650,000 per day.

This media campaign was launched to increase community support for women and peace issues, as well as support for 'Implementing the Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) on UN Security Council resolution 1325, among key partners and the main audience by leveraging messages about accepting others and their diversity, combating hate speech and extremist ideas in the local community, and on the effective role of women in social cohesion and fostering tolerance and acceptance within society, as part of PVE efforts.

The UN has supported in enhancing the coordination among women-led CBOs through existing coordination and advocacy platforms: 4 national events, forums, and roundtables were held (2 in 2021 and 2 in 2022) and a video was produced identifying human-centred stories and case studies and highlighting women's experiences and daily challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in increasing the capacities and skills of 11 women from women-led CBOs in identifying and responding to gender-specific vulnerabilities associated with COVID-19 and implementing 11 research initiatives in their communities to support the development of action reports in a participatory and inclusive manner.

¹³ [Engaging Refugee UN Volunteers as agents of change in Jordan | UNV](#)

Concurrently, the UN worked with national partners to advocate for the rights of women. Joint efforts resulted in: 1) the inclusion of gender equality provisions in the constitution for Jordanian nationals and also clauses protecting mothers and children and safeguarding their rights; 2) the expansion of the Maternity Insurance under the Social Security Law to include additional benefits comprising subsidizing the cost of childcare, and providing operational cost including wages and social security contributions for workers in the sector; 3) aligning the article on the protection from violence and harassment in the bylaws of companies with the International Labour Standard on “Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190)”



Ayat Shhadeh, a 29-year-old mother of two, became a facilitator for the Renewing Hope project in order to support other women who have shared her own experience of undergoing early marriage. Through the project implemented by the Family and Childhood Protection Society (FCPS), supported by the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF).

©FCPS

Under the UN supported JONAP programme, 12,094 women from vulnerable socio-economic groups benefitted from access to a comprehensive package of GBV essential services provided by the Jordanian Women’s Union (JWU) with UN support in 10 Safe Spaces operated in Madaba, Deiralla, Salt, Baqa’a, Zarqa, Amman, Ajlun, Karak, Hitten Camp and Wehdat Camp. UN support to functioning of the GBV essential services have contributed to increased access to the gender-sensitive humanitarian services – including safe spaces, shelters, hotlines and psychosocial and legal support services for most marginalized women’s groups including vulnerable Jordanians, refugees and migrants.

14

Through the UN led Oasis programme, a total of 1,959 women and 169 men vulnerable Jordanian and Syrian refugees benefitted from economic resilience, protection and empowerment services. Of these, 101 are persons with disabilities (PwDs). Furthermore, UN strengthened the capacity of seven local CSOs in Jordan with total number of direct 4,182 beneficiaries (3,104 women, 583 men, 343 girls and 152 boys) within context of Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund in issues related to UNSCR 1325, vocational training and addressing early marriage issues.

In line with the UN’s commitment to address child labour, the UN supported the establishment of child labour steering committees with the aim of the withdrawal of children from work, an initiative which has led to the withdrawal of 1,020 at-risk children engaged in child labour from the streets and their referral to case management.

The UN continued its work to improve the students’ learning environment with the objective of maintaining delivery of quality education through supporting the maintenance and restoration of school facilities, which is in alignment with SDG4 and SDG5 .

15



14 The Jordanian National Action Plan for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

15 SDG4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, and SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



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Strengthening Environmental Opportunities:

In partnership with several NGOs, and in consultation with the Ministry of Environment, the UN assessed various past and current projects that contain circular elements within the humanitarian sector under the Jordan Response Plan (JRP). The assessment aimed at identifying key stakeholders, current gaps/limitations that impede the integration of Circular Economy (CE) activities as well as highlighting opportunities and sectorial recommendations for integrating CE in future programming. A toolkit has been produced to self-assess the contribution to circularity, and to support implementing partners in addressing circularity in their operations.

UN Fulfilment of the promise to “leave no one behind”:

The UN in Jordan maintained its commitment to promote and advocate for the fundamental values, standards and principles of the Charter of the UN including the principle of “Leave No One Behind” (LNOB). The UN consistently applies the LNOB principle across its programmatic interventions and ensures the full engagement of vulnerable groups.

Efforts focused on ensuring that the most vulnerable young people have equal access to opportunities, regardless of their background, gender, or socio-economic status. In pursuit of this, the UN continued implementing various programmes and initiatives aimed at empowering young people. These initiatives include the Life Skills programme, Social Innovation programme, National Volunteering Platform, Self-employment programme, Job Search Clubs methodology, Digital Skills programme and Youth Engagement in Climate Action programme, among others.

The UN worked to keep young people engaged in their communities through multiple initiatives in both Azraq and Za’atari refugee camps and host communities. The Life Skills Programme was institutionalized under the Ministry of Youth and the UN provided technical assistance to vocational training centres by incorporating the Life Skills and Social Innovation programmes into their curricula. The Council of Ministers endorsed the Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action and the Crown Prince endorsed the National Volunteering Charter, with “Nahno.org” being adopted as the national volunteering platform.

The UN also helped young people through its Learning to Earning portfolio. The UN supported the Ministry of Labor in its technical and vocational education reform, endorsed the national commitments of UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA and ILO.

For young people in the refugee camps, the UN and partners provided education and training opportunities, mentoring and mental health support through its three youth centres in the camps. A total of 1,539 young people (48 per cent female) accessed these services, including career guidance, leadership and social innovation training, and access to courses offered by the Ministry of Education.

As part of the UN’s commitment to improve quality of education and ensure access, a partnership with the Ministry of Education was reached to develop a National Diagnostic Assessment in mathematics and Arabic for Grades 4 to 11 to help identify learning loss and, thus, inform efforts to recover and accelerate children’s learning. The Education Management Information System (EMIS) was further supported to reflect disaggregated data, particularly for evidence-based planning related to vulnerable groups such as students with disabilities or refugee students.



Aya, 9 years, in her Grade 3 classroom in Za’atari Refugee Camp. “I became so frustrated with my learning during COVID when schools were closed and we had to learn from home. I felt like I was falling behind. When we came back, I was excited but also nervous because I wasn’t able to read or write well. My teachers were so nice and understanding. They told me not to worry and started teaching from the beginning, including how to read and write. They even gave us extra activities to make it more fun! I really want to finish school and go to university.”

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The UNCT in Jordan supported Jordan preparations to the Transforming Education Summit (TES) conveyed by the UN Secretary General in response to the global learning crisis. It was a key milestone not only to renew Jordan's commitment to the right to education, but to place learners' inclusion and diversity at the heart of the Transforming Education Agenda in Jordan in line with SDG4. The endorsed 'Jordan Declaration on Inclusion and Diversity in Education' was highlighted in His Majesty National Statement of Commitment for the TES.¹⁶

Progress has been made in supporting marginalized groups, such as trafficking victims, through the development of a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and implementation of several programmes to improve mental health services, support families of children with developmental disorders, support women and girls with disabilities, address perinatal depression and support vaccine distribution. Many of the interventions included awareness raising, recreational and empowerment activities.

The UN worked closely with different partners, namely the National Coalition for Persons with Disabilities, the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and women with disabilities, and actively engaged in efforts to ensure that the modernization vision is gender mainstreamed through a disability focused lens.

This intervention has resulted in a set of recommendations presented by those organizations to protect the rights of people with disabilities and the promise to "leave no one behind" and to strengthen the responsiveness of different actors to those specific needs and leverage their opportunities in the triple modernization visions.

Specific measures were, also, taken to enhance women's engagement in the agricultural sector, and women's inclusion was attributed to gender inclusion measures in the design and targeting of activities. The development of the Country Gender Equality Profile (CGEP) ensured participation of the national statistical office and marginalized groups most at risk of being left behind.

As it pertains to refugees, UNCT have appealed to the Government of Jordan to uphold the principle of equal treatment for all refugees. Advocacy has also focused on the temporary access to state services for Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS), who face restricted access to services and the constant threat of detention and possible forcible return.

The UN continued to support vulnerable refugees, migrants and asylum seekers to access healthcare primarily to tuberculosis diagnostic and treatment services and HIV voluntary counselling, testing and antiretroviral treatment.

Other initiatives include efforts to address drugs, crime, corruption, and terrorism challenges in the region and, strengthen the capacity of partners in protection to ensure the safety, dignity, and empowerment of assisted communities. The UN supported the establishment of a 34 million Dollars fund for the extension of social security coverage to 32,000 vulnerable workers to access social security via subsidized contributions, with a focus on Syrian refugees and women, thereby contributing to the reduction of informality in Jordan.

¹⁶ Endorsement of the Jordan Declaration on Inclusion and Diversity in Education | United Nations in Jordan.

UN Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

The Joint Programme (JP) “Accelerating Jordan’s Progress towards SDGs by Establishing Building Blocks of an Integrated Financing Framework” aims to strengthen the evidence base and inform key building blocks of an Integrated National Finance Framework (INFF) with an initial focus on climate change and gender equality. The JP, implemented by UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women, through using the Development Emergency Modality (DEM Top-up Fund), adapted initial building blocks with new analyses to inform the Government’s response to global crises affecting the fiscal space and national priorities and stressed the relevance for an integrated financing strategy to address the financing challenges laid out in the newly released Economic Modernization Vision.

Major achievements of the JP

- **A climate public expenditure review (CPEP)**, the first of its kind in the region, has been developed and will contribute to set out recommendations to support institutionalization and integration of climate change into national budgeting and planning systems, thus improving responses to climate vulnerabilities.
- **The Development Finance Assessment (DFA)** methodology have been applied to map climate-related financing flows, with a specific emphasis on private flows and opportunities for public-private partnerships to deliver on Jordan’s climate commitments. To support further progress towards the SDGs with stronger linkages between planning, budgeting and financing, the JP has started collecting data to extend the DFA to other sectors and to produce analyses on the impacts of multiple crises on Jordan’s development financing landscape.
- To support businesses and investors in aligning investment and business strategies to the SDGs, the JP rolled out an **impact management and measurement (IMM)** curriculum based on the SDG Impact Practice Standards and the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEP). The number of WEP signatories increased by 71 per cent, making Jordan the first country in the Arab region. A new platform for financing for gender equality, hosted by Amam Ventures, is being established.

- Following-up on the trainings on IMM, the JP advocated for integrating environmental, social and governance and sustainability within the strategy of the Social Security Investment Fund, Jordan’s largest domestic investor.
- The JP also supported the drafting of reporting guidelines for the Amman Stock Exchange (ASE)’s sustainability reporting, made mandatory for the top 20 companies.
- The JP maintained the momentum generated by policy dialogue on improving the impact investment ecosystem, creating a taskforce with national stakeholders, and engaging with the Global Steering Group for Impact Investing (GSG) to establish a **National Advisory Board (NAB)**.

Partnerships

- UN agencies have taken steps to support and finance the 2030 Agenda through cross-sectoral collaboration on education, judicial reform, healthcare, environmental sustainability, food security, and women’s empowerment.
- UNFPA has formed partnerships with private sector companies to improve access to healthcare services, maternal and child health and gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. UNFPA also partnered with government, civil society organizations and communities to address poverty, inequality and lack of access to basic services.
- UNRWA signed a regional cooperation agreement with the British Council, which provides for cooperation pertaining to education, skills development for young people and joint business development. Through the cooperation agreement, the British Council launched Community Language Support Project. UNRWA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NRC Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) for a vulnerability assessment, legal support and employment-related advocacy.

- WFP and UNICEF collaborated to provide social protection technical assistance to the National Aid Fund. WFP partnered with FAO to promote sustainable agricultural development to the Ministry of Agriculture through supporting smallholder farmers under the livelihood and resilience activity and developed a food security strategy. WFP supported the Ministry of Education's national school feeding programme by providing healthy meals to vulnerable students and contracted an innovative start-up to ensure traceability, safety and quality assurance of fruit and vegetables.
- UNESCO is supporting national and local educational institutions and stakeholders in Jordan to coordinate, transform and strengthen the education system to be more inclusive, responsive, resilient and innovative to protect the right to education for all, while building strong governance and management tools and mechanisms for evidence-based policy, planning, budgeting and monitoring. UNESCO has supported the establishment of the first policy dialogue forum led by the MOE, the Policy, Planning and Coordination Committee-PPCC, and that brings together MOE, UN, donors and representatives of NGOs towards achieving the same educational goals. Among key priorities for partnership as a follow-up to the Transforming Education Summit is the financing of education to accelerate progress towards SDG4. UNESCO has also brought together the Ministry of Education, donors, UN agencies, civil society organizations, disabled people's organizations (DPOs) and representatives of teachers, students and youth to discuss the inclusion and diversity in education agenda in Jordan, which led to a collective consensus and endorsement of the Jordan Declaration. UNESCO also encouraged partnership with the private sector through entrepreneurship course and on-the-job training opportunities for TVET students to improve employability prospects for vulnerable Jordanian youth and refugees.
- In the area of cultural heritage, UNESCO has been working closely with the relevant authorities, bringing technical support for the development and implementation of sustainable conservation plans and strategies to ensure the preservation of cultural heritage sites, while also making sure to include local communities in the process through the -
 - implementation of awareness-raising and capacity-building programmes.
- UNESCO is also working in close collaboration with ILO to ensure sustainable livelihoods and create decent job opportunities for vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees, through the implementation of Employment Intensive methods applied to the safeguarding and rehabilitation of cultural heritage in northern Jordan (Mafraq and Irbid).
- UNESCO in cooperation with national and international media partners has invested in building the capacity to bring media and information literacy concepts to Jordan with a higher level of quality through designed programmes and projects focusing on policy and strategy articulation and implementation, and to promote the adoption and application of relevant policies and normative frameworks to strengthen the environment for freedom of expression and media freedom, to enhance the safety of journalists, and to foster sustainable and independent media institutions.
- UNICEF is working to support education reforms and learning recovery through building capacities and systems strengthening; UNICEF also engages in partnerships in the WASH, climate and environment and social policy sectors to deliver results for children and women. ness-raising and capacity-building programmes.
- UNICEF collaborated with local NGOs and government entities such as the MOY and MOL to improve capacity and reinforce systems through provision of technical assistance for the creation of evidence-based strategies, programme design and implementation, monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and communication.
 UNICEF took a leading role in bringing together multiple stakeholders, including the government, private sector, civil society organizations, donors and other UN agencies, to address issues related to adolescents and youth. The focus was on promoting volunteering and civic engagement, climate action, and employability, with special attention to the most vulnerable young people, such as young women, refugees, and those in remote areas.

- UNICEF Life Skills programme was carried out in conjunction with Generations for Peace in 201 Ministry of Youth centres. The Social Innovation programme was implemented in partnership with MOY, Shamal Start, Jordan River Foundation, and implementing partners of Makani centres including the Islamic Centre Charity Society (ICCS) and Jordan River Foundation (JRF), which UNICEF is helping to renew through its Social Innovation incubators.
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- UNICEF partnered with the Crown Prince Foundation and brought together private sector organizations through the Nahno platform to increase volunteering opportunities for young people and provide upskilling incentives to those who volunteer.
- For TVET, UNICEF worked with Luminus Technical University College, Norwegian Refugee Council, Saru Fashion, Turquoise Mountain, and the Business Development Centre (BDC). The self-employment programme was delivered through partnerships with Dar Abu Abdallah (DAA) and BDC, as well as local municipalities in Al-Salt, Karak, and Zaatari that provided facilities for training and greenhouses. The Job Search Clubs methodology was developed by ILO and delivered with the support of ILO and BDC, and MOY staff were trained. The digital skills programme was carried out with Digital Opportunity Trust/Jordan (DOT) and Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship (MODEE), whose staff received training to deliver the programme in MODEE Knowledge Stations.
- The Youth Engagement in Climate Action programme was implemented through partnerships with the MOEnv, MOY, Generations for Peace and Nahno, who were all heavily involved in advocacy efforts and delivered training sessions in MOY centres. Generations for Peace supported UNICEF with content development and training delivery, while MOY provided staff and venues. Holding sessions in MOY centres has helped to build community trust, especially for the participation of girls and young women.
- The UNV Programme, UNICEF MENA and the center for women's studies at University of Jordan have cooperated and signed an action plan in December 2022, which will be implemented in 2023, to support the gender mainstreaming as well as gender transformative programming through the deployment of talented and highly qualified students. This would help in instilling a generation of young people with the skills and capacities required to realize their full potential, positively engage in their communities and become partners for innovative change to create systemic impact.
- ILO signed an agreement with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MPWH) for the implementation of road and community maintenance works, an initiative which allowed for the inclusion of the Government and local communities in the development cooperation projects and, hence, for their ownership of the process and results. Coordination with the Ministry of Local Administration has been maintained at all times which facilitated the implementation of works considerably.
- An MoU between UN-Habitat, the Greater Amman Municipality, the Greater Irbid Municipality and the Ministry of Local Administration was signed on activities related to climate and gender-responsive planning and setting up Urban Observatories.

Working Together: Coherence, Effectiveness, and Efficiency

Cooperation Framework

The Jordan UN Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF) programme cycle ended in 2022. The background work and process for the development of the new Cooperation Framework started in the second half of 2021.

The process for the development of the Cooperation Framework was initiated through several United Nations Country Team retreats in 2021¹⁷ to reflect on what had been achieved in the past, and to set collective strategic priorities to renew efforts in Jordan to build forward better and to accelerate progress towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. These retreats were informed by a United Nations internal survey, a mapping of United Nations human rights recommendations addressed to Jordan, and consultations held with more than 200 persons from the Government, partners and stakeholders. The reflection on the UN's development role was also informed by the evaluation of the 2018-2022 Cooperation Framework, which was finalized in September 2021.

At an internal retreat in November 2021, the UN Country Team proposed four major priorities for the Cooperation Framework, which were endorsed by the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation in December 2021.

In 2022 and based on the four priorities, the UN established four priority groups composed of colleagues from across the UN system to develop potential results for each priority and strategic approaches, based on its comparative advantages. The suggested responses were then discussed in Government facilitated retreats between the Government and the UN on 27 March, 29 May and 6 June 2022 and mutually agreed upon four priorities and outcomes were adopted on 7 June 2022 and posted at the United Nations Sustainable Development website.

Subsequently, work continued to refine the Cooperation Framework Results Matrix with more than 50 colleagues including 12 M&E experts from across agencies. Work on finalizing the governance structure, UNCT configuration exercise, the narrative part of the CF and the Joint Workplan proceeded concurrently, cumulating in a wrap-up UNCT retreat held on 23 June 2022. Between May and June, the UN Country Team organized a series of internal configuration discussions¹⁸ based on UN DCO guidance, to define its implementation approach.



The UN Country Team organized consultation sessions with more than 200 persons from the Government, partners, stakeholders and youth to inform the new Cooperation Framework.

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17 UNCT retreats were held on 16 and 17 February, 31 March, 22 November 2021

18 UNCT configuration meetings were held on 19 May/ Session 1: UN roles and skills set required; on 2 June/ Session 2: Coordination & Outreach mechanisms: Internal & External; 13 June/ Session 3: Engagement of Non-Resident Agencies/ Footprint across Jordan; on 14 June/ Session 4: Business models

Communication

In 2022, the UN Communication Group (UNCG) successfully implemented multiple joint events, activities, and campaigns in support of the UNCT/UNSDF priorities.

16 Days of Activism annual campaign: UNCG jointly supported the annual campaign and organized a series of events which brought together the UN Country Team with the Jordanian public, national partners, the private sector and the international community.

The United Nations Day joint event: UNCG organized a UN Day public event, bringing together, for the first time in Jordan, 18 resident agencies under one roof in a public event to present their work, which also received massive media coverage. The event was inclusive with the participation of Jordanians, refugees, women, youth, children, persons with disabilities, and attended by more than 1,000 people. UNCG reached out to new audience through the collaboration with the media. They partnered with several media outlets including [The Jordan Times, Radio Al balad, Hawa Amman Radio to reach out to more audience with sponsored advertisements about the Open Day].

Social media campaign: In October 2022, UNCG activated a social media campaign that introduces the UN work in Jordan to audience. The campaign resulted in increasing engagement on the UNCT social media channels, including by (+301.3 per cent) on Instagram, (+184.8 per cent) on Facebook and (+4.3 per cent) on Twitter, during the campaign activation period, and increased engagement with influencers and social media activists.

The UNCG completed the 2023-2027 Joint Draft Strategy, which comes in line with the Cooperation Framework 2023-2027.

Business Operations

In 2022, Operations Management Team (OMT) continued its collective efforts towards the operational efficiency and quality enhancements of the five common service areas: Administration, Finance, Human Resources, ICT and Procurement. The Business Operations Strategy (BOS) that overarches those service areas was reviewed, and Jordan was the first country globally to sign off the BOS Annual Review of 2022. The OMT worked on bringing the Disabilities Inclusion Strategy to operations by conducting the whole-UN in Jordan Disability Inclusion Survey. OMT will proceed with implementing UN Disability Inclusion in line with survey results in 2023, along with the inclusion of new activities that bring Youth2030 and Gender Profile to operations.

Jordan was chosen as a pilot country for several global initiatives, such as the Common Back Office (CBO) - a part of the UN Efficiency Reform, which aims to reduce operational costs and increase business operations' efficiency. In 2022, UNCT reconfirmed its willingness to proceed with the CBO roll-out and with the support of the DCO, RCO, and OMT, the full launch of the CBO is planned for 2023.



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Performance by UNRWA's students at the UN Day public event in 2022



Human Rights

At the request of the Government, the UN in Jordan, in collaboration with the Danish Institute for Human Rights, supports the preparation of Jordan's fourth periodic State Universal Periodic Review (UPR) report.

To start the process of preparing this State report, a national workshop was conducted from 16-18 September for members of the permanent and recommendations committees of the Government to refresh knowledge on human rights and Jordan's engagement with the three major human rights mechanisms, dive into the more technical details of UPR reporting, and to look at how to further institutionalize engagement on human rights across all Ministries and in coordination and consultation with other Governmental and non-Governmental entities.

On 8 December, the Government Coordinator for Human Rights in the Prime Ministry and the Resident Coordinator a.i. published a joint Op-ed in the Jordan Times titled "Celebrating human rights day, a call for civic engagement", and on 11 December in Al-Rai. Among others, the article calls on new actors, such as development actors, to engage in the upcoming UPR process.

The UN in Jordan published a number of public and internal policy briefs around the right to food mainstreaming human rights therein, see Policy Brief: Towards the Implementation of Jordan's Food Security Strategy | United Nations in Jordan, Policy Brief: Healthy Diets for all in Jordan | United Nations in Jordan, and a series of papers to bring a "norms and standards" driven development agenda to the forefront, namely on how Jordan engages with the UN human rights, the ILO and the UNESCO mechanisms.

In 2022, Jordan prepared its second Voluntary National Review (VNR) while Amman was the first city in the Arab region to prepare a Voluntary Local Review (VLR). 17 resident and non-resident UN agencies jointly supported the Ministry of International Cooperation and Planning (MOPIC) as well as the Greater Amman Municipality (GAM) in both processes also to ensure coherence.

The VNR launch workshop was in January 2022, where the 15 SDG Task Forces plus the data committee met for the first time and started their work to identify key indicators to report on, and explore related data sources and gaps.

The UN participated in all 16 task forces established by MOPIC including a variety different stakeholders to elaborate the draft VNR and provided feedback at different stages. Several agencies (OHCHR, ILO, UNESCO, UNDP, UNODC) facilitated three webinars and made a resource tool available on the human rights-based approach to data collection for MOPIC, the Department of Statistics and SDG 16 task force members.

Across the year briefings were given to Government counterparts and civil society on the links between the 2030 Agenda and human rights. As outcomes, the availability percentage of data from national sources increased, and a national list of priority gender-specific SDG indicators related to Jordan was developed (67 indicators). The reports have good references and recommendations on the rights of PWD and for engaging people in decision-making processes with some specific references to the role of women, while more needs to be done to close data gaps around SDGs 1, 10 and 16. The Government advised that the SDGs that achieved the greatest progress were SDGs 2, 4, 6, 9, 12 and 14 with least progress made regarding SDGs 8 and 10.

UNITED NATIONS JORDAN

Jordan's Engagement with UNESCO Mechanisms

UNITED NATIONS JORDAN

LABOUR RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

Jordan's Engagement with the Supervisory Mechanisms of the ILO

Youth

In 2022, under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator ad interim, the UN in Jordan successfully established the UN Youth Advisory Council (UNYAC). The Council, composed of 13 young males and females aged 15-24 from different social, demographic, educational and economic backgrounds, as well as persons with disability and refugees from both urban and camp-settings, serves as an advisory board to the UNCT on youth affairs and on how to meaningfully engage with them. It ensures youth voices contribute to shaping the UN's work in the country to be more inclusive and more responsive to their needs and aspirations.



©UN Jordan photos

The Council is established in alignment with the UN Youth Strategy 2030, which seeks to strengthen the UN's capacity to engage young people and benefit from their views, insights and ideas. The Council is supported by several UN organizations, namely UNICEF, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNRWA, UNFPA, UNDP, WFP, FAO and UNV.

Under the overall coordination of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, the Council has been engaging with key stakeholders, including national counterparts, donors, civil society and their communities to advance critical issues, such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, food security, women's empowerment, disability inclusion, the fight against tobacco and implementation of Jordan's commitments following the Transforming Education Summit. This included taking part in several events, policy discussions, programmatic engagement and providing recommendations to ensure an enabling environment for youth to be agents of change and to actively and meaningfully contribute to their society.



Gender

The UN prioritizes gender across a wide range of programmes based on its strong commitment to tackling gender inequality. This has been pursued through programming in many areas, including economic empowerment of women, working to end violence against women and girls, increasing women’s political participation, strengthening women’s right to work and promoting the space for local women’s rights organizations and advocates.

There are strong examples of cooperation between agencies on targeted interventions to support gender equality. UNDP and UN Women have worked together on political reform and strengthening gender sensitive efforts on preventing violent extremism. UNFPA and UN Women are working more closely together on issues of ending violence against women and girls, including a joint UNFPA/ESCWA initiative to support the Department of Statistics in a survey to estimate the costs of violence against women in Jordan. On Women’s Economic Empowerment, ILO and UN Women have worked with the World Bank to access regional funding in support of the Jordan Women’s Economic Empowerment Plan developed and coordinated by the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW), which includes a strong gender perspective on Decent Work.

UN-Habitat, ILO and UNOPS completed a joint UN programme on The Socio-Economic Empowerment of Vulnerable Women in Ghor Al Safi through the provision of safe, inclusive and accessible public space and creation of livelihood opportunities, as a COVID-19 response.

The UN’s global Joint SDG Fund has financed one project in Jordan, which has encouraged agencies to work together. UNDP, UN Women and UNICEF are implementing a joint project on “Establishing Building Blocks of an Integrated National Financing Framework”. The joint programme, with a budget of \$1 million, started implementation in the third quarter of 2020 with an objective to establish key building blocks for an integrated, gender-responsive SDG financing framework. One of the project focus areas is to align public and private investments to the SDGs through providing capacity building on gender-smart impact measurement and management.

Moreover, as part of the UNCT-SWAP (System Wide Action Plan) Gender Equality Scorecard Annual Progress Assessment, the UNCT submitted its UNCT-SWAP Annual Report prepared through the interagency gender task team. In 2022, UNCT Jordan maintained notable achievements in meeting or exceeding gender mainstreaming requirements for 14 out of 15 performance indicators.

Disability

“Jordan stands out as a leader on disability rights in the region and was one of the first States to come to the table at the start of the process that resulted in the drafting of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Jordan was also among the first to ratify it”, said Gerard Quinn, Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, in a statement at the end of his visit. The expert said that while strong legislation on disability was necessary and important, it must be accompanied by systematic efforts to combat stigma, ensure accessibility and access to inclusive education, health, administration of justice, and social protection.

From 5-15 September, 12 members of the United Nations country team supported the visit of the Special Rapporteur on Persons with Disabilities and facilitated interaction with organizations and persons with disabilities through organizing thematic dialogues with different stakeholders including on access to inclusive education, on decent work and employment, women and girls’ rights, disability & age and facilitated field visits in Amman, Karak area, and to Jerash and Zaatari refugee camps.



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"They say one hand cannot clap, but I believe it can do lots of things", says Hammam Mohammad Sulaiman Rammah, a 34-year-old Palestine refugee from Syria in Jordan.

Hammam was born with a physical impairment in his left hand thus affecting his ability to fully participate in activities of daily living.

However, Hammam was able to overcome this physical impairment and started to work in agriculture from time to time. But he had to start over when he moved to Jordan.

"When we arrived at Irbid city in Jordan, with no shelter or a place to reside in, I had to rent an apartment that I could not afford to pay for months! This caused us a lot of problems with the owner of the house", he explained.

"I could not find a job not only because of the physical impairment but also due to the difficult economic situation here in Jordan, so the challenges were doubled for a person having my circumstances", he added.

"Most employers would not accept hiring a man with one hand... it is so devastating for me...I'm not able to earn a living and feed my family using my own hands".

After 13 years of trying to resettle and coexist in Jordan, Hammam's family has become bigger than when he came from Syria. As his 4 children grow up, the challenges and difficulties that are facing the family, especially financial ones, are growing even more rapidly, "we are able to cover a very small part of our expenses with the cash assistance of JD50-per person, that we receive from UNRWA every three months, but the living cost here is really high" he concluded in sorrow.

To support Hammam and his family's difficult situation, UNRWA has recently provided the family with one-time emergency cash assistance of JD141. However, this will also remain insufficient for the family due to the high cost of living and Hammam's accumulated debts.

2023 Agenda

On 23 October 2022, the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), launched the 2023–2030 National Nutrition Strategy and its executive framework. The development of the strategy benefitted from the collective policy support of the UN Country Team, through a timely and focused Policy Brief: Healthy Diets for all in Jordan. Developed under the overall coordination of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, and with contributions from several UN organizations, namely WHO, UNICEF, WFP, FAO and OHCHR, the policy brief provided a concise and solid analysis of the nutrition situation in the country and concrete policy recommendations to address existing challenges.

The National Nutrition Strategy 2022-2030 serves as a road map for government and partners to improve nutrition for all. The strategy seeks to involve the whole of society, individuals, families, communities, intergovernmental organizations and religious institutions, civil society, academia and the voluntary sector, in its implementation and is anchored in a human rights-based approach, which supports the integration of gender, equity and human rights in national policies. Reference is made that Jordan has ratified the United Nations Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and is therefore committed to the progressive realization of the right to food and the right to health.

The "UN Policy Brief on Healthy Diets for All" also informed discussions at the First Jordan Nutrition Innovation Lab National Scientific Symposium on "Diets, Nutrition and Health in Jordan: Promoting Science-Based Actions to Support Mothers, Infants, and Children" held in August 2022.

This was a successful and tangible example of the impact that the UN family can have on the ground to advance integrated policies towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda, when it comes together, it pulls its expertise and leverages its partnerships under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office.



Focus for 2023

In 2023, the UNCT in Jordan will start the implementation of the 2023-2027 Cooperation Framework (CF), which will guide the United Nations development activities in support of the 2030 Agenda. The CF will articulate, as well, the UN's contribution to Jordan's national development and its trajectory towards the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. It presents the priority areas where the UN will, collectively, invest its technical and financial resources over the coming five years. The areas of contributions are:

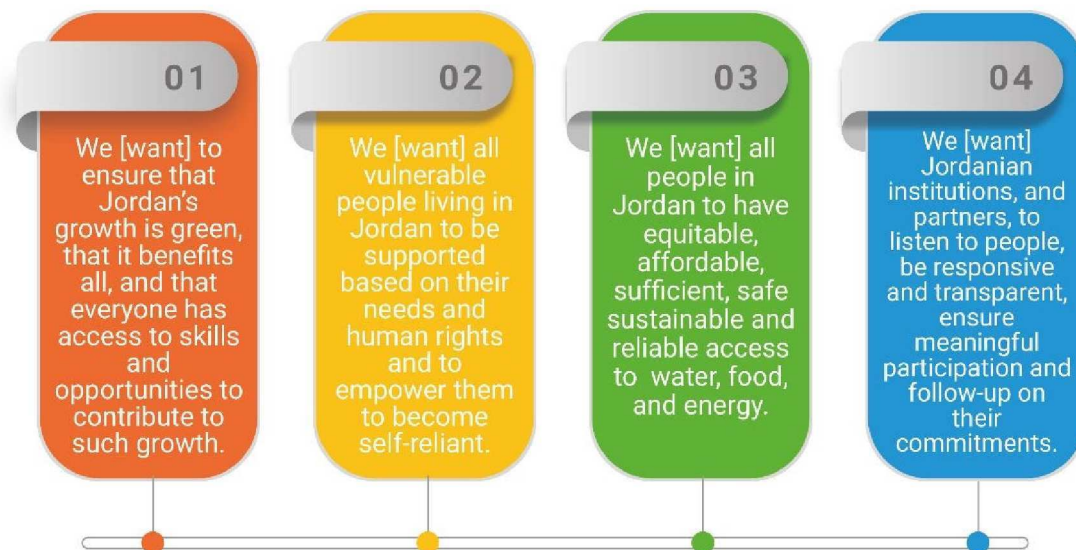
1. Providing support to growth policies and strategies, including financing pathways, that are green, inclusive and transformative;
2. Strengthening the human rights and self-reliance opportunities of the people living in the most vulnerable situations;
3. Securing Jordan's access to - and equitable and sustainable use of – resources, especially water, food, and energy;
4. Strengthening the links between institutions and populations, as an enabler for the success and sustainability of the first three priorities.

The UN will apply four lenses across all priorities: Leaving No One Behind, Climate, Prevention and Cross-pillar Collaboration.

The process of developing the Cooperation Framework started in 2021 with the finalization of the independent evaluation of the UN's Sustainable Development Framework for Jordan 2018-22 (UNSDf), followed by a UN independent analysis to reflect on the national and regional developments and completed by extensive process of consultations with stakeholders and partners.

During the new cycle (2023-2027), the UNCT will try to reposition the UN system in the country, in line with the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs, and in the spirit of the UN Charter, by playing a more strategic, influential and prominent role. Additionally, the UN considers that the Cooperation Framework constitutes an opportunity to reinvigorate the partnership between the UN and the Government at all levels, on the basis of mutual respect, active communication and transparency.

UN's Commitments to Jordan Collective Priorities 2023-2027



Across all priorities and all of our work in Jordan, the UN will Systematically apply the following four lenses: climate, prevention, leaving no one behind and cross-pillar collaboration.

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