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United Nations in Jordan



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The United Nations (UN) established its presence in Jordan in 1950 with the opening of UNRWA offices to support Palestine refugees. Jordan formally joined the organization on 14 December 1955, marking the start of an enduring and robust partnership that continues to this day.

Currently, 29 UN agencies operate in Jordan, with 19 of them maintaining staffed offices in the country. Together, these agencies form the **United Nations Country Team (UNCT)**, work collaboratively to address Jordan's development and humanitarian priorities.

The **UN Resident Coordinator** represents the United Nations Secretary-General and leads the UNCT in planning and delivering tangible results.

The UN's work supports Jordan's national priorities and plans and aligns with the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.

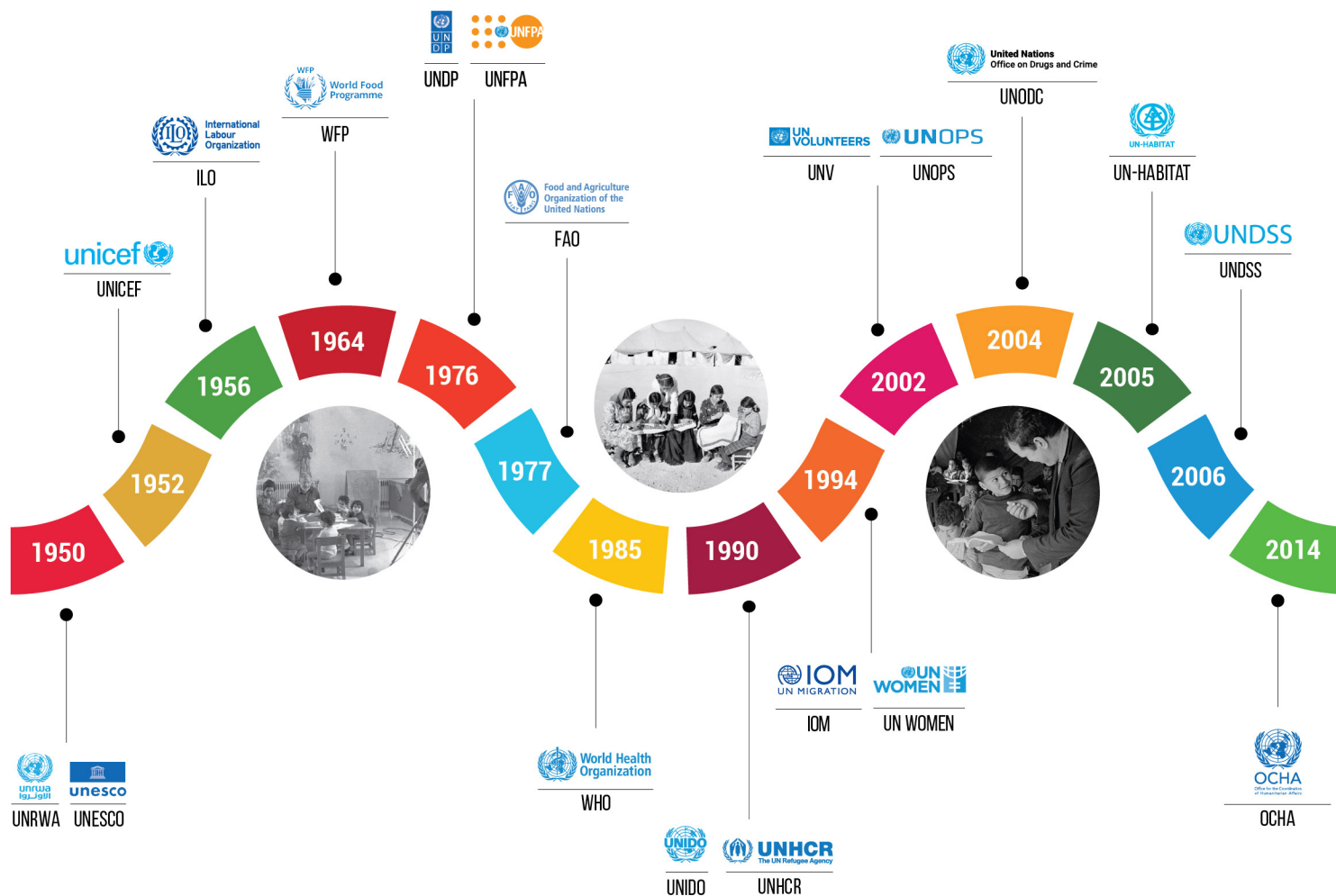
The UN provides world-class technical expertise, capacity-building support, and services to vulnerable populations, particularly refugees, guided by the principle of "leaving no one behind" to foster a more equal and sustainable society. Through partnerships and capacity-building initiatives, the UN promotes sustainable economic development, accountable governance, and meaningful reforms.

In addition to its development work, the UN collaborates with the Government of Jordan to facilitate access to services for the Palestine, Syrian, and other refugees that the Kingdom has generously hosted.

Grounded in human rights, the UN's work in Jordan encompasses civil, political, cultural, economic, and social rights.



A Timeline of the United Nations Presence in Jordan





United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Jordan

The UN Country Team consists of the UN Resident Coordinator, alongside the Representatives of the 29 United Nations System's agencies, funds, and programs operating in Jordan.

This includes:

• 19 agencies with a physical presence:



• 10 agencies operating from regional offices or headquarters:



In addition to the UN Country Team, Jordan also hosts eight UN regional offices (UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, DCO, OCHA, UNOPS, UNV and WHO CEHA), and the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen and UNRWA Headquarters.

United Nations Resident Coordinator in Jordan

The United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC) is the representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Jordan and carries the same rank as an Ambassador of a foreign state. The UNRC leads the UN Country Team (UNCT), fostering UN system wide collaboration and coherence to ensure the delivery of tangible results in support of national priorities. The UNRC oversees the implementation of the United Nations development initiatives and priorities and serves as the primary liaison between the UN, the government, civil society and other stakeholders.

The UNRC is also mandated with the functions of Humanitarian Coordinator, regardless of formal designation. Should Jordan require and request international humanitarian assistance for a non-refugee related crisis, the UNRC would mobilize, lead and coordinate the international response efforts, under the overall leadership of the host nation.



United Nations Work in Jordan

We focus on three main areas of engagement:

1. Advancing Jordan's progress toward sustainable development.
2. Supporting over 3 million refugees (Palestine, Syria, and others).
3. Deploying humanitarian supplies to emergency operations in the region.

We make difference through:

1. Strengthening domestic policies and partnerships.
2. Piloting innovative approaches to address emerging and long-term challenges.
3. Delivering direct support to communities, especially refugees.



Priority 1

Economic Growth and Empowerment

The UN promotes green, inclusive, and transformative economic development with a focus on job creation, public sector capacity, and access to technology.

Key Focus Areas:

- Aligning education with labor market needs through "Learning to Earning" programs.
- Enhancing youth entrepreneurial and digital skills.
- Increasing women's economic participation through gender-responsive laws and budgeting.
- Supporting public-private partnerships for green growth and microfinance opportunities.
- Promoting decent work.

SDGs:

SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).



Agencies Involved:





Priority 2

Social Protection and Quality Basic Services

The UN strengthens social protection systems, safety nets, and access to quality healthcare and education.

Key Focus Areas:

- Broadening social protection coverage and transparency through technical assistance.
- Implementing cash-for-work programs with digital tools for enhanced monitoring.
- Building capacity for government social workers.
- Promoting equitable access to quality health and education services for all people in Jordan.

SDGs:

SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



Agencies Involved:



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Priority 3

Sustainable Management of Water, Food, and Energy

The UN promotes equitable management of natural resources, focusing on water, food, and energy security.

Key Focus Areas:

- Transforming food systems for climate-resilient agriculture and job creation.
- Promoting water harvesting, waste management, and marine biodiversity conservation.
- Engaging the public in climate action, especially youth.

SDGs:

SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 13 (Climate Action).



Agencies Involved:



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Food
Programme



International
Labour
Organization



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



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Priority 4

Accountability, Transparency, and Participation

The UN supports governance reforms and civic participation through transparent governance structures.

Key Focus Areas:

- Enhancing women's and youth political participation.
- Supporting the modernization of national statistical systems to align with SDG indicators.
- Strengthening local and national administrative capacities.

SDGs:

SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



Agencies Involved:





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