



SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Jordan Country Brief February 2023

In Numbers



573,850 people assisted in February 2023

US\$ 14.1 m cash-based transfers transferred (estimate)

US\$ 78.4 m six months (March-August 2023) net funding requirements

Operational Context

Jordan is an upper-middle-income country, with a population of 11.3 million, 63 percent of whom are below the age of 30. Jordan is also a resource-poor, food-deficit country with dwindling energy and water resources and limited agricultural land. It carries the social, economic and environmental burden of hosting around 662,000 Syrian and 82,000 refugees registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as of February 2023.

The preliminary results of WFP's Food Security Outcome Monitoring for Quarter1/2023 showed that the food insecurity of refugee beneficiaries decreased compared to Quarter1/2022. 62 percent of refugees in host communities and camps benefiting from WFP assistance were food insecure, compared to 72 percent in Quarter1/2022 thanks to the increased seasonal job opportunities. However, households headed by women, large households, and households with persons with disabilities disproportionately resort to crisis and emergency coping strategies. According to the Department of Statistics, Jordan's unemployment rate was 23 percent during the fourth quarter of 2022; with a slight decrease compared to the same quarter in 2021. Unemployment is 20.6 percent among men compared to 32 percent among women. The youth unemployment rate remained extremely high at 47 percent.

WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964. With launching the implementation of a new five-year CSP (2023-2027), WFP continues its large-scale provision of unconditional food assistance for vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, and its technical assistance for national social protection programmes and systems. It refocuses on education and nutrition activities and expands its climate action to strengthen adaptive livelihoods and sustainable management of natural resources and food systems.



Population: **11.34 million**

2021-2022 Human Development Index: **0.72 (102 out of 191 countries)**

Income Level: **middle income**

Chronic malnutrition: **7.4% of children between 0-59 months**

Operational Updates

- WFP continued to meet the food and nutrition needs of vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees. In February, WFP provided monthly food assistance to around 460,000 vulnerable refugees in camps and host communities through cash-based transfers. Most refugees assisted come from Syria (96 percent), with a minority from Iraq (3 percent), and the remaining from Yemen, Sudan, Somalia and other countries.
- In support the National Financial Inclusion Strategy, WFP is promoting financial inclusion among refugees by facilitating the transition from e-cards to refugee-owned mobile money accounts (e-wallets). In February, over 95,000 Syrian refugees in communities received assistance through this modality; almost 40 percent of the wallets are owned by women.
- In line with WFP's accountability to the affected population, WFP and UNHCR launched joint helpdesks in Azraq and Za'atari camps operated by their mutual cooperating partner, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). The joint helpdesks facilitate beneficiaries' inquiries, questions, and complaints regarding both agencies' programmes. The locations of the joint helpdesk were selected to improve accessibility and reduce travel time for beneficiaries.
- WFP is dedicating efforts to improve nutrition, habits and health for women with anaemia and high-risk pregnancies. In cooperation with Caritas and the International Medical Corps (IMC), WFP finalized the Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) awareness campaign for pregnant and lactating refugee women in host communities.
- As part of WFP's support to the National School Feeding Programme, WFP, through its cooperating partner ACTED, distributed date bars to over 62,700 refugee students in the camps. Furthermore, WFP provided healthy meals to more than 83,000 Jordanian and refugee students in communities. Almost one million healthy meals were produced by 300 women working in 11 kitchens, under the coordination of RHAS.
- Under its technical support to the National Aid Fund (NAF), WFP jointly with World Bank and UNICEF, organized a regional knowledge exchange exercise with the social protection Ministries of Iraq, Egypt and Jordan in Amman. The participants discussed cash transfers, economic empowerment and NAF's social protection programmes.

Photo Caption: WFP Jordan is integrating nutrition awareness with food assistance provided to vulnerable refugees. @Mohammad Battah

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Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)
997 m	110 m
2023 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (March-August 2023)
230 m	78.4 m

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable crisis-affected populations in Jordan, including refugees, meet their food and nutrition needs through the year.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- **Act 1:** Provide unconditional resource transfers to refugees and other vulnerable populations to support access to food.

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Extremely vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, are covered by adequate social protection schemes by 2027

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- **Act 2:** Provide capacity strengthening to national social protection institutions.
- **Act 3:** Support the Government with technical expertise for the operationalization of the national school feeding strategy to provide nutrition-sensitive school meals to targeted children.

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, have improved self-reliance, access to sustainable livelihood opportunities, and increased resilience to shocks by 2027

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- **Act 4:** Build an interagency two-way referral system and an evidence-based advocacy strategy for refugee self-reliance and provide a livelihood support package to targeted refugees and vulnerable Jordanians.
- **Act 5:** Provide tailored climate adaptive support to smallholder farmers, pastoral communities and institutions responsible for natural resources management.

Strategic Result 17: Capacity building

Strategic Outcome 4: National and subnational institutions in Jordan have increased capacity to coordinate, manage and monitor food security and nutrition programmes, and respond to shocks by 2027

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- **Act 6:** Provide technical expertise and capacity strengthening to the Government for the operationalization of the National Food Security Strategy
- **Act 7:** Provide technical expertise and capacity strengthening to national and local EPR/DRR institutions

Strategic Result 17: Global partnership

Strategic Outcome 5: Humanitarian and development actors have enhanced ability to support vulnerable populations in Jordan all year round through on-demand cash-based transfer services

Focus area: Resilience Building

- **Activity 8:** Provide on-demand cash-based transfer services to partners

- Under the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis 'MADAD' funded project, WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), in cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), continued the cash-for-asset activities during February. Over 450 participants have continued working in the established national forests and rangelands and another 100 participants continued working in canal cleaning activities under the supervision of MoA. In addition, 280 participants worked in seedling activities in 16 different seedling production nurseries across Jordan.
- WFP held three-day technical training for the National Centre for Security and Crises Management staff on the established platform for Real-time Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM). PRISM is a centralized risk monitoring and impact analysis platform for earthquakes and drought that was established based on a WFP-corporate tool.
- As part of its support to innovative youth, WFP concluded in February a pilot project in cooperation with the start-up Flowless. Flowless is an early-stage start-up that utilizes smart devices to collect real-time data to monitor and control water networks and provide insights for process automation and fault detection. The pilot targeted four farms in Jordan and validated that using Flowless' system saved between 30 to 40 percent of their water consumption.
- Furthermore, based on the successful results of the innovative project with Decapolis in 2022, WFP completed a six-month intervention to support 600 smallholder farmers under resilience and livelihoods activity. Farmers used Decapolis traceability and verification services to increase their revenue, reduce waste, eliminate pesticide residue, and create direct sales channels between with large retailers. The initial results showed an increase in the smallholder farmers' revenue by 82 percent and 99 percent pesticide-free results.

Challenges

- Between March and August 2023, WFP requires USD 74 million to cover the food requirement of 460,000 refugees in camps and communities with unconditional resource transfers maintaining the current transfer values.

Donors

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Cyprus, EU/MADAD, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, KSA/KSrelief, Luxemburg, Norway, ROK, Russia, Switzerland, UK/FCDO, USA/BHA, UAE/MBRGI, and private sector (BMGF, Cartier, Careem, Choithrams, Dubai Holding, Mastercard, Seven Circles and Talabat).