

# WALK THE TALK

## FOR THE JORDAN COMPACT

The 'Jordan Compact' presented at the 2016 London conference sets out a series of major commitments aimed at improving the resilience of refugee and host communities, focusing mainly on: **LIVELIHOODS** and **EDUCATION**.

### Challenges



**No formal plans** communicated for every school to offer a **safe, inclusive and tolerant environment** with **psychosocial support** available to refugee and Jordanian children.



**No comprehensive plan** for vocational training or tertiary/higher education opportunities for all vulnerable youth.

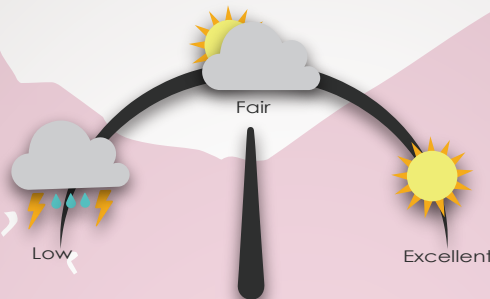


**Financial constraints**, lack of all necessary **documentation**, lack of **infrastructure** and long distances/**transportation** remain the **main barriers** to ensure every child will be in education.



**Not enough space or funding** for government-led initiatives to address education access and retention issues, especially for the **catch-up programme** to reach **25,000 Syrian children** aged 8-12 and **drop-out programmes** for children aged 13-21.

### Progress



### Barometer of success

### EDUCATION



Donors pledged **\$97.5m** to fund open and run **102 additional double shift public schools** (in addition to the 98 schools last year) for **50,000 Syrian refugee children**.

Provision of some **vocational training opportunities** for Syrian youth, donors fund some **scholarships**.



**1,000 Syrian** volunteers to support as **classroom assistants** once identified.



**165,000 Syrian refugee children** enrolled in public schools as of 5 October, including 45,000 already registered in 95 double shift schools (though not all are opened yet).

## WHAT WAS COMMITTED?

'[The GoJ committed] (...) to ensur[ing] that every child in Jordan will be in education in the 2016\17 school year.'

'Every school will offer a safe, inclusive and tolerant environment with psychosocial support available to refugee children.'

'Access to vocational training for Syrians and to tertiary/higher education opportunities for all vulnerable youth (Jordanian and Syrian) will be increased.'

(Predictable, multi-year funding (from donors) to meet the timeframes committed to by the Jordanian government.'

Quality and learning outcomes need to be the measure of success in education for all children

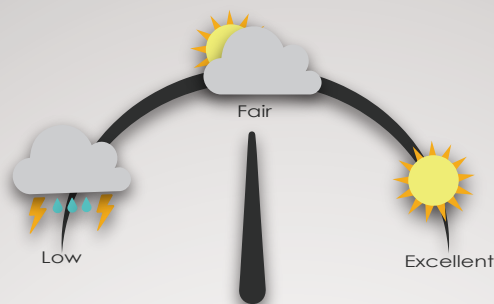
## WHAT IS NEEDED?

Children who are out of school also need access to quality education and support; i.e. informal and non-formal education catch-up programmes, alternative learning centers, remedial, homework support, life skills, and extracurricular activities

Remove barriers such as valid residency, evidence of last grade attended or birth registration for Syrian refugee children to access education and remain in schools

Address violence and social cohesion in and around schools, and offer psychosocial support services

## Challenges



Barometer of success

## LIVELIHOODS

## Progress



**EU-GOJ relaxation rules of origin imports** available to producers in 18 industrial areas and development zones which employ 15% of Syrian refugees, though little intake so far.



**Work permits linked to a specific employer**, discouraging seasonal or predominantly informal sectors uptake. Exceptions for ILO pilots through cooperatives within the agricultural sector.

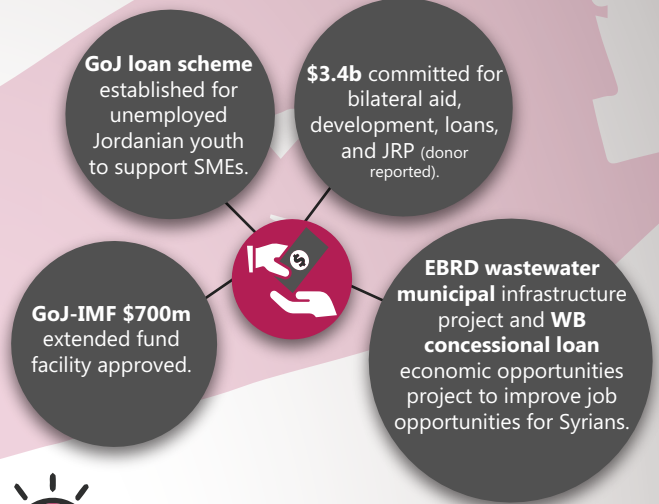


**Lack of clarity on social security payments, fear of losing asylum status, reduced humanitarian assistance or forced relocation** to camps remain major **barriers** to requesting a **work permit**.



**Refugees continue to lack access to formal financial and banking services** necessary to promote small business development.

**Processes** for Syrian refugees seeking to **formalise existing businesses** or set up **new small or home businesses** inside or outside the camps, remain **incompletely articulated**.



**Ongoing awareness-raising campaign** to increase the understanding of local authorities and Syrian refugees on the process to access work permits.



**29,411 work permits** issued to Syrian refugees (though only 1% to women) and extension of grace period for their issuance free of charge until december 2016.

## WHAT WAS COMMITTED?

'Turning the Syrian refugee crisis into a development opportunity that attracts new investments and opens up the EU market with simplified rules of origin, creating jobs for Jordanians and Syrian refugees.'

'Rebuilding Jordanian host communities by adequately financing through grants the Jordan Response Plan.'

'Mobilising sufficient grants and concessionary financing to support the macroeconomic framework (...) as part of Jordan entering into a new Extended Fund Facility program with the IMF.'

'The government will undertake the necessary administrative changes to allow for Syrian refugees to apply for work permits both inside and outside [development] zones.'

'Syrian refugees will be allowed to formalise their existing businesses and set up new, tax-generating businesses (...) by the summer [2016]'; The removal of 'any restrictions preventing small economic activities within the camps'.

## WHAT IS NEEDED?

Support Syrian refugee small business and entrepreneurship to drive job creation in Jordan

Allow skilled Syrian labour, not only semi-skilled labour to work

Develop employment creation policies for Syrian refugees and host communities based on the labour market review underway by MoL

Improve the protection environment of Syrian refugees to access livelihoods (legal status, freedom of movement, decent working conditions, including addressing GBV)

Access to work permits must be simplified: clearer procedures and removal of fees associated with their delivery

Address structural barriers for Syrian refugee women to access livelihoods (transport, child care, safe working environment, GBV and technical and vocational education)

Broaden the understanding of right-to-work for Syrian refugees which goes beyond access to work permits only