

Jordan

July 2020

In July, UNHCR Jordan continued to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation and implement all precautionary health measures, in coordination with health and other partners, as well as the Ministry of Health (MoH).

As a result of extensive UNHCR advocacy, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) issued two important decisions to facilitate refugees' access to healthcare services: the first decision outlined that Asylum-Seeker and Refugee Certificates issued by UNHCR to refugees in Jordan will be considered valid until the

end of 2020, regardless of the date of expiry, while the second decision lowered healthcare access costs for non-Syrian refugees, allowing all refugees in Jordan to pay the rate that uninsured Jordanian citizens pay.

The COVID-19 situation continues to have a major impact on returns, given the suspension of passenger movements at the Jaber border crossing. As of 31 July, just over 2,400 individuals have returned to Syria in 2020, a number significantly lower than 2019.

748,729

Refugees in Jordan as of 31 July 2020

83.2%

Refugees living outside camps in urban areas

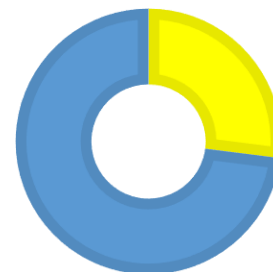
16.8%

Refugees living in three camps in Jordan – Azraq, Zaatari and The Emirati Jordanian

FUNDING (AS OF 11 AUGUST 2020)

USD 426.7 million

UNHCR Jordan's financial requirements in 2020

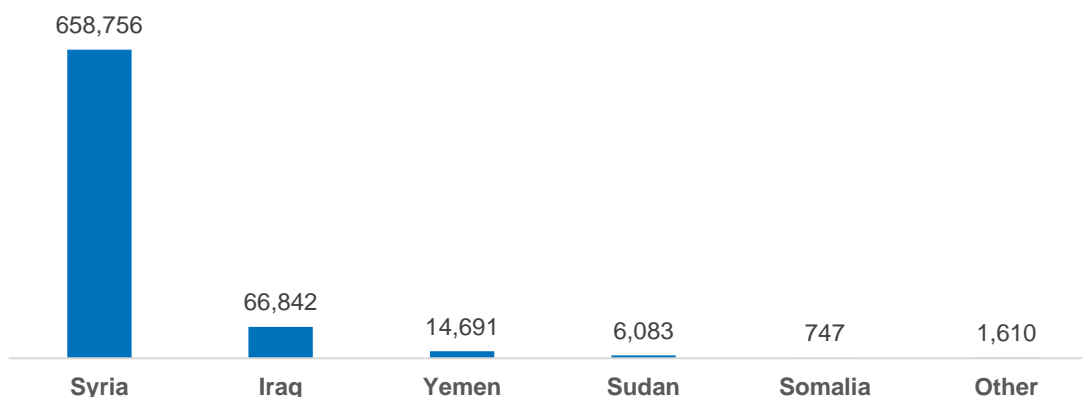


Funded 43%
\$ 183.5 million

Unfunded 57%
\$ 243.2 million

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Countries of Origin



PROTECTION

- As a result of direct UNHCR advocacy, and with the support of the Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate (SRAD), the MoI announced that expired service cards and Asylum Seeker Certificates (ASCs) will be considered valid through the end of 2020, enabling Syrian persons of concern (PoCs), who were unable to renew, to continue to access services provided by UNHCR, partners, and governmental parties. The decision came in an effort to limit large in-person gatherings as part of COVID-19 prevention measures and will support refugees' access to healthcare and other services. Prior to the crisis, an average of 50,000 refugees approached UNHCR's registration centres every month to renew their certificates.
- In July, registration activities, including renewal interviews and delivery of certificates for urgent cases, and other legal and protection activities continued through remote modalities. Information on remote registration and certificates renewal services through phone calls was shared with PoCs through different platforms. UNHCR and legal partners provided legal assistance – in the form of counselling, mediation, representation, and protection follow up and advocacy – to 4,371 cases, totalling 26,996 since January 2020.
- Challenges related to mobility restrictions continue to result in many persons of concern facing increased financial hardship, being unable to meet, thus becoming more vulnerable, with increased protection risks.
- An increase of child labour cases was observed through an assessment exercise, indicating that, even though families are receiving multipurpose financial assistance (MFA), children are working to support their families due to the challenging financial situation caused by COVID-19.
- During July, Child Protection/SGBV sub-units counselled and supported a total of 245 individuals who benefited from case management, legal, Psycho-Social Services and mental health, Resettlement and Cash-Based intervention services through UNHCR or implementing partners in the field.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- In July, Community Support Committees (CSCs) resumed implementation of activities at the community support centres in the field, adhering to the precautionary health measures and social distancing between beneficiaries, while continuing with online sessions at the same time. Dissemination of updates and awareness materials about COVID-19 for refugees in urban areas continued different channels, including social media, the Bridges of Communications refugees group, CSCs and the online magazine "Working with refugees".
- Refugee movements in and out of camps resumed during the month of July. In line with UNHCR's key advocacy point with the MoI, the SRAD started re-activating the use of the work permits to allow refugees to exit the camps for work, in addition to re-issuing leave permits for refugees to allow them to leave the camp. The duration of permits for Zaatari residents depends on the needs of the refugees to leave the camp at the minimum level. All refugees returning to Zaatari, Azraq, and King Abdullah Park (KAP) have their temperature screened before they proceed to their respective shelters, and are no longer held in quarantine.
- In an effort to increase support to elderly communities and enable them to access the mobile wallet system, UNHCR Jordan counselled more than 50 PoCs on the E-Wallet application and Mahfazati, by conducting urgent home visits to unaccompanied older persons, as well as over the phone.
- The COVID-19 crisis continues to have a multidimensional effect on refugees' livelihoods, due to market interruptions, opportunity loss and restricted movement during the crisis. UNHCR Jordan continues to coordinate partners' efforts to support the government-led response to the ongoing

COVID-19 crisis and to best determine how to support refugee access to livelihoods in the current environment.

- In July, UNHCR Jordan provided Urgent Cash Assistance to 169 refugee families, including 36 non-Syrian families.

CASH ASSISTANCE FOR BASIC NEEDS

- The COVID-19 Emergency Cash Assistance response continued to reach a total of 33,000 refugee families, including 3,000 non-Syrian families. A total of 701 families that had transitioned to mobile wallets, along with 232 new cases who opened their wallets using online registration, have been asked to onboard at Uminah shops. The onboarding process uses iris authentication to confirm the identity of persons of concern. Validation using iris authentication will be required on a monthly basis as way to reduce issues of potential fraud. As of the end of July, 546 PoCs have onboarded using Uminah.
- The Helpline answered 245,565 calls in July on enquiries mainly related to monthly cash for basic needs, registration, resettlement, and other protection issues.

HEALTH

- As per the decision of the MoH, all non-Syrian asylum seekers and refugees across the Kingdom will now be able to access healthcare at hospitals and medical facilities run by the Ministry of Health at the non-insured Jordanian rate by presenting their UNHCR-issued Asylum Seeker/Refugee certificates. The MoH is in the process of informing all relevant health facilities accordingly and UNHCR stands ready with its helpline to assist refugees should they experience difficulties in accessing the health care at non-insured Jordanian rate.
- During the month of July, UNHCR health partners continued activities in camps and clinics, operation in partial capacity, with all necessary health precautions in place. UNHCR Jordan continues to monitor the implementation of health partners' activities through field visits, while maintaining a focus on surveillance, procurement of PPE, and creating isolation spaces and treatment centres.
- In July, some 349 severely vulnerable beneficiaries received cash for health assistance for emergency healthcare, reproductive health, and blood disorder cases.

EDUCATION

- The Ministry of Education (MoE) approved the school calendar for the academic year 2021/2020, with a total of 200 school days. The school academic year is set to begin on 1 September, with children attending schools in person, taking the necessary precautions.
- The first batch of university stipends for DAFI students, consisting of 250 students registered for the summer semester, was approved and processed. Additionally, two DAFI students were selected to complete a master's degree in Mexico under the Habisha scholarship. The students will be provided with an intensive Spanish language training, visas, full scholarships in Mexican universities, health insurance, accommodation, and a monthly stipend during their studies.
- The ASU Certified English Language Course program was launched virtually on 15 July, with the participation of UNHCR, ASU, and the implementing partners (Johud, Blumont, and CARE International). Project implementation began shortly after the launch.
- The operationalisation of the Al-Ghurair Young Thinkers Program (YTP) career readiness online program was finalised. The YTP is a free-of-charge platform that provides university and career-readiness courses to the Arab youth. UNHCR Jordan is conducting outreach and providing relevant information through social media platforms and the Help Site.

- Around 3,000 students remotely accessed the Kolibri learning platform, of which 60% of the students reside in camps, while 40% in urban areas, with 45% male and 55% female students.
- In support of the Global Refugee Forum, the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) organized a series of virtual refugee roundtables, where refugee students and teachers were able to share their experiences of education before and during COVID-19. UNHCR Jordan supported the INEE by disseminating the call for the teachers and students' participation in the roundtables through different government and other platforms.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- UNHCR Jordan has a target to submit 5,500 individuals for resettlement in 2020. In the month of July, UNHCR Jordan submitted a total of 39 refugees to resettlement countries, bringing the total number of submissions during 2020 to 1,600, representing 29% of the annual target. To date, a quote of 3,800 resettlement slots have been confirmed for 2020 for Australia, Canada, France, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Sweden and the UK.
- In July, UNHCR Jordan started remote resettlement interviews, and conducted interviews with 476 refugees by telephone and video, ensuring that integrity and identity verification safeguards are in place.

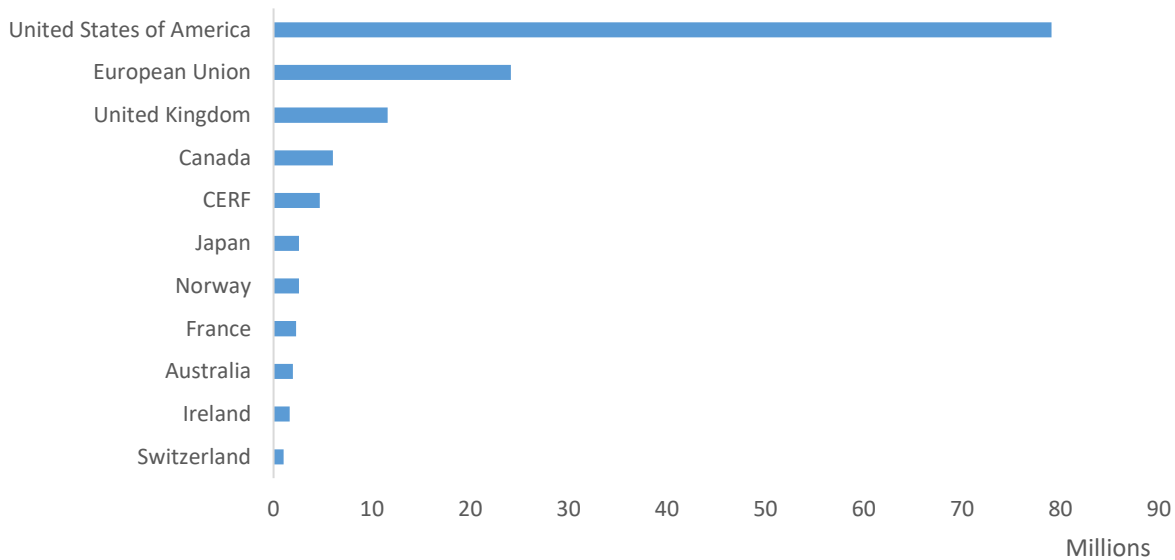
Donor and High-Profile Visits to UNHCR Jordan

- Due to COVID19 and under the Jordan government's guidance, UNHCR Jordan has postponed all external field missions to the operation. This is also in line with the flight and travel cancellations to and from the country. Donor missions and high-profile visits will resume once the situation with the pandemic improves and no longer poses a risk of exposure of UNHCR's People of Concern.

Financial Information

Total contributions are over \$183.5 million as of 11 August 2020, covering 43% of overall needs for refugees in Jordan.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS to UNHCR Jordan in 2020 (over 1 million USD):



OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Germany 95 million | United States of America 26.4 million | United Kingdom 24.8 million | Denmark 14.6 million | Canada 8.7 million | Private donors USA 8.3 million | Private donors Australia 6.1 million | Sweden 6.1 million | Finland 5.5 million | Private donors Germany 5.5 million | Private donors Japan 4.1 million | Spain 3.4 million | Ireland 3.3 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 3 million | Private donors United Kingdom 3 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Sweden 76.4 million | Private donors Spain 45.9 million | Norway 41.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 25.9 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 23.9 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Private donors Japan 15.2 million | France 14 million | Private donors Italy 10.8

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