Jordan

June 2022

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, celebrated this year's **World Refugee Day** with a big event, together with refugees, partners, government officials, and the Jordanian public. A summer bazaar featuring refugee-made products was also held.

UNHCR's **Pathways to Success** dialogue provided a platform to strengthen existing and build new opportunities for refugees to access employment and education pathways to third countries that pave their way for self-reliance abroad.

UNHCR published the findings of the **2022 Vulnerability Assessment Framework** (VAF). While affirming the resilience of refugees, especially in urban areas, the reports also indicates growing humanitarian needs following economic shocks at the household level.

KEY INDICATORS

762,269

Refugees in Jordan as of 15 July 2022

82.6%

Refugees living outside camps in **urban areas**

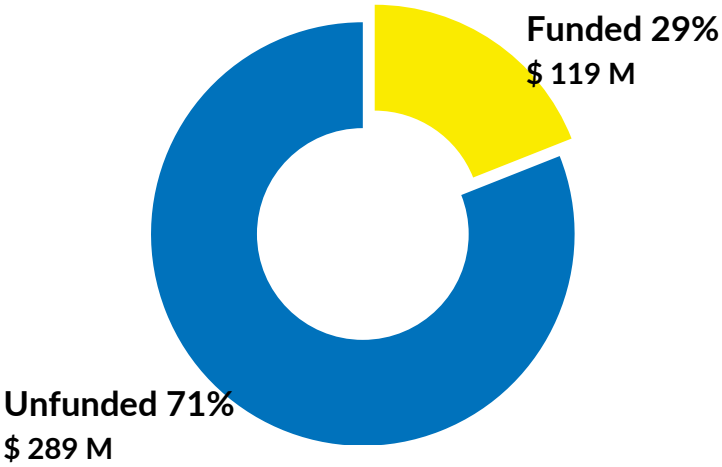
46%

Refugees are **children** (under 18 years)

2022 FUNDING (AS OF 5 JULY 2022)

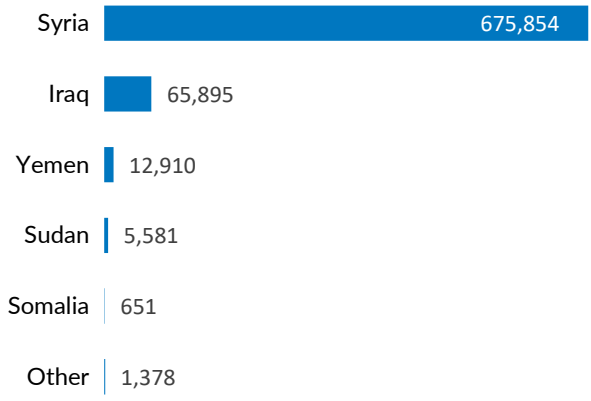
USD 408 M

UNHCR Jordan's financial requirements in 2022



REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS*

Countries of Origin



** Registered with UNHCR*

UNHCR celebrated World Refugee Day, together with refugees, partners, government, and the Jordanian public, at the Ras Al Ain Hangar in Amman.

PROTECTION

- In June, over 53,000 people underwent registration interviews. Of those who were interviewed for documentation renewal purposes, close to 90% did so through in-person procedures at UNHCR's Registration Centres. Refugees are utilising the Protection Appointment System (PAS) to schedule appointments.
- The annual data updates and document renewal in camps continued in June. Close to 30 per cent of families targeted have been verified thus far, indicating significant progress from last month. The aim of the outreach is to ensure accurate and reliable registration data on refugees living in the camps.
- UNHCR continued to share information with refugees and asylum-seekers through different means, including the Helpline and social media, with some 20,000 visitors on the Help site and over 210,000 calls handled on the Helpline. The rehaul of the UNHCR Helpline continues, in efforts to be able to provide essential assistance to more refugees. Most recently, the Interactive Voice Recognition system has been updated to include assistance in Somali language.
- During June, UNHCR's child protection/gender-based violence teams counselled and supported over 200 individuals, who benefited from case management, legal, psychosocial services and mental health, resettlement, and cash services through UNHCR or implementing partners in the field.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- In June, close to 1,400 refugees reached UNHCR's Community-Based Protection teams through the different channels, including Community Support Committees (CSCs), social media, and in-person counselling at UNHCR premises or helpdesks, and were provided with case management services. The main concerns raised during counselling sessions include the need for basic needs or urgent cash assistance, the lack of livelihood opportunities, documentation or legal concerns. More and more frequently, refugees are raising concerns about the surge in electricity bills and high prices of food and other items. UNHCR supported close to 400 refugee families with urgent cash assistance, an increase compared to last month due to surge of eviction threats, overdue rent, rising utility bills, and more.
- UNHCR works closely with CSCs to coordinate activity plans, referral mechanisms, and communication with refugee communities. CSCs engage refugees through various activities, including self-development and learning opportunities. In June, over 4,200 participants joined self-development and recreational activities across Jordan.
- Continuing its efforts to serve people with disabilities, as well as the elderly, UNHCR facilitated workshops and webinars focusing on disability and age inclusion in Jordan. As a result, participants, including refugee community representatives and humanitarian partners, developed advocacy messages and shared them with key actors.
- As part of the World Refugee Day celebrations, UNHCR Jordan hosted its #WithRefugees Summer Bazaar for the last week of June. Hosted in Ras Al Ain – Hangar in downtown Amman, the bazaar showcased over 50 refugees and refugee-supporting initiatives from all around Jordan who sold their handmade products, such as art, soaps, food, home décor, accessories and more. All proceeds went directly to the vendors.
- In June, UNHCR Jordan has published the 2022 findings of the vulnerability radar on refugees (Vulnerability Assessment Framework/VAF). This bi-annual exercise is the fifth of its kind conducted by UNHCR to explore different types of vulnerability dimensions across multiple sectors from a representative sample of registered refugees in Jordan. In 2022, for the first time, non-Syrians and camp-based refugees have also been included in the assessment. By exploring relationships between vulnerability indicators and other data collected, the two reports (in and out of camps) outline key trends of the overall situation and impact of COVID-19 on refugees in Jordan. Together with the VAF studies,

UNHCR Jordan will also be assessing the vulnerability situation of refugees in Jordan on a quarterly basis, and sharing the findings externally. Visit the VAF Portal for more information.

CASH ASSISTANCE FOR BASIC NEEDS

- In June, UNHCR's regular cash assistance reached some 33,000 refugee families, including 3,000 non-Syrian families. Cash assistance for basic needs continues to provide a lifeline for many vulnerable refugees who are unable to make ends meet even if they work. In addition to families receiving UNHCR's monthly cash assistance, some 12,000 families are on the waitlist, meaning that they are eligible but unable to receive monthly cash assistance due to limited funding.
- UNHCR continues its efforts to gradually transition refugees receiving regular cash assistance for basic needs to the mobile wallet modality. A Facebook live session that was hosted in June, as part of the #AskUNHCR series, focused on mobile wallets as a modality for receiving cash assistance. The episode reached over 20,000 people with almost 3,000 engagements, and shared information about the modality's features and benefits. The session was well-received, with the audience asking questions regarding technical issues of opening and using a mobile wallet account.

HEALTH

- The COVID-19 epidemiological situation in Jordan remained stable through most of June, with an increase in infections noticeable as of end of June. This increase was not reflected in deaths or hospitalisations. Positivity rates in refugee camps remain low where COVID-19 cases remain well below the national average. Over 4.8 million people have been vaccinated as part of Jordan's COVID-19 vaccination programme since January 2021, including over 52,600 camp-based refugees.
- UNHCR continues to work closely with the Ministry of Health and other health partners to support access for refugees to health facilities. In this context, UNHCR conducted two health awareness sessions during June, targeting refugees in community centres around Amman to better inform refugees of UNHCR and Ministry of Health processes in terms of refugee access to healthcare.

EDUCATION

- UNHCR works continuously to support Jordan's ministries of education and youth in strengthening educational systems for primary and secondary schooling, as well as refugee access to education. Among those efforts, in June, UNHCR facilitated a training on gender mainstreaming tailored to the needs of field staff of the Ministry in Jordan's southern governorates.
- UNHCR-supported Connected Learning Hubs (CLH) are an additional important service for refugees across Jordan, to facilitate their access to educational resources. UNHCR works to improve the operation of the CLHs and build their capacity. In June, working with the Korean embassy, UNHCR hosted Korean language classes for interested refugee and Jordanian students.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- In June, UNHCR finalised submissions for resettlement for over 370 women, men, and children, with quotas already received by several countries including Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, and US. In addition, some 450 refugees departed to resettlement countries, reaching a total of over 3,300 departures so far in 2022.

- In addition to resettlement, UNHCR is closely engaging with embassies and partners to explore additional opportunities for refugees to move to third countries through complementary pathways. So far in 2022, over 700 individuals have been assisted to access pathways, including through counselling, referral, exit facilitation, and cash assistance. Similarly, UNHCR is aware of around 150 refugees who have departed on complementary pathways this year. in June, following UNHCR's support for applications and interviews, three refugee students were accepted for university scholarship in Italy through LUISS University, to start their programs in September 2022.
- UNHCR convened the first "Pathways to Success" dialogue to showcase success stories and efforts to overcome administrative barriers faced by refugees to access employment and education pathways that pave the way for self-reliance. Attended by over 30 embassies and partners, the event aimed at sharing of good practices by countries that already offer complementary pathways and generating active engagement from other countries. In addition, the dialogue aimed to highlight the importance and extent of resettlement and complementary pathways as a responsibility sharing mechanism and signal of solidarity with the Government of Jordan, in line with the Global Compact on Refugees and New York Declaration.
- The findings of the 7th Regional Survey on Syrian refugee's Perception and Intentions on return to Syria, which was conducted in March 2022, were released. The overall hope to return to Syria one day has remained high through the years, and this survey did not present any significant shifts in perceptions and intentions. A sizeable number also expressed a hope to return in the next five years. However, immediate return intentions (within the next 12 months) remain low, at just 2 per cent of those surveyed in Jordan. Safety and security concerns continue to be the most significant concern, followed by livelihoods opportunities and inadequate basic services. UNHCR does not facilitate or encourage returns to Syria but is monitoring the border closely and offers protection counselling sessions to provide information to refugees who voluntarily choose to return. Close to 1,900 refugees from Jordan have returned to Syria in 2022.

HIGH-PROFILE VISITS, PUBLIC EVENTS AND DONOR ENGAGEMENT

In June, UNHCR facilitated a number of high-level visits and public events, including the following:

- Early in the month, **German Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action** Dr Robert Habeck, visited Azraq camp. After a briefing by the Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate (SRAD), UNHCR, and partners, on various aspects of the camp's operation, the Vice Chancellor visited different projects, engaged with refugees, and discussed potential opportunities to connect refugees through complementary pathways with economic opportunities and training initiatives in Germany. A delegation from the **German Federal Foreign Office** headed by Mr. Pit Koehler, Head of Division for International Humanitarian Organisations and Multilateral Policy on Humanitarian Assistance, also visited Zaatari camp. The delegation was briefed by SRAD, UNHCR, and partners on various aspects of the camp's operation and visited several sites, including the UNICEF Makani centre, the solar plant, and more, focusing on issues around gender-based violence, livelihoods, the future of the camp and sustainable energy solutions.
- A delegation from the **Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs** and the Permanent Mission in Geneva spent two days on mission in Jordan to discuss and observe UNHCR's cash programme. The delegation visited UNHCR's registration centre, as well as refugee families and a community centre in Amman.
- The **UK Minister for Middle Eastern Affairs** Amanda Milling visited Azraq camp, where she was briefed by SRAD and UNHCR Senior Management, and then saw different projects in the camp, focusing on livelihoods, food security, water scarcity challenges, and communication with communities.
- Mr. Jamal Abdul-Khaled Abdullah Al Nouri, Chairman of the **Sheikh Abdulah Al Nouri Charity Society** and Executive Director of the relief committee in the Kuwait Society for Relief, visited the UNHCR Registration Centre and Helpline, as well as two refugee families who benefit from UNHCR's cash assistance.

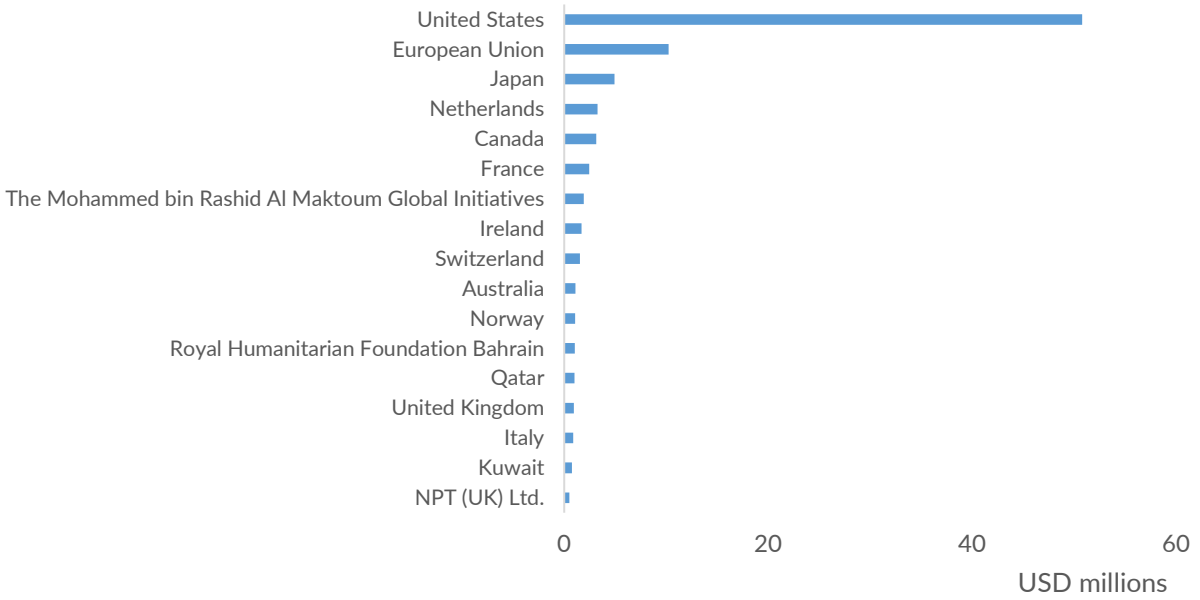
- Other field visits included the newly appointed **Deputy Assistant Secretary for Asia and the Near East of the U.S. Bureau for Population Refugees and Migration's Scott Turner**, who visited the UNHCR Registration Centre in Amman and met with refugee families; the **UK Special Envoy for Girls' Education** Helen Grant, who visited Zaatari camp to observe UNHCR, UNICEF, and other partner projects on education and women and girls' empowerment; the newly appointed **FCDO MENA Director**, Stephen Hickey, who met a Syrian family in Amman; the **Ambassador of Qatar**, H.E. Sheikh Saud bin Nasser Al Thani, who visited Azraq camp; and Ms. Asma Ahad, Director of Halal Market Development at IFANCA, and cash programming in Jordan, with UNHCR Dubai colleagues who briefed them on Islamic Philanthropy.
- To mark this year's World Refugee Day (WRD), UNHCR Jordan celebrated Jordan's continued hospitality in welcoming and hosting refugees in a public event at the Ras al Ain Hangar in Amman on 20 June. The event, which was attended by over 900 people, including Government of Jordan and donor country representatives, partners, refugees and Jordanians, featured refugees from different nationalities who shared their stories as well as music, dance, art, food, and different aspects of their cultures. The Minister of Interior spoke about Jordan's continued support to refugees until there are appropriate ways to return. A number of WRD events took place in UNHCR offices and camps across Jordan, in Irbid (face paintings and more), Azraq camp (football matches, etc.), and Zaatari camp (chef competitions, among others).

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation in 2022 amount to some US$ 117million, covering 29per cent of overall needs of refugees in Jordan.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have supported this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Earmarked contributions to UNHCR Jordan in 2022 (over 500,000 USD)



Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked contributions in 2022 (in USD)

Private donors Australia (4.9M) | Private donors USA (4.4M) | United States (3.7M) | Private donors Germany (2.9M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2022 (in USD)

Sweden (99.3M) | Norway (72.5M) | Private donors Spain (39M) | Netherlands (37.2M) | Denmark (35.6M) | UK (28.1M) | Germany (27M) | Private donors Japan (26.6M) | France (18.5M) | Switzerland (18.4M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (16.4M) | Private donors USA (15M) | Belgium (11.9M) | Ireland (11.8M) | Italy (10M)

CONTACTS

Roland Schoenbauer, Senior External Relations Officer, schoenb@unhcr.org
Evie Prastakou, Associate External Relations Officer, prastako@unhcr.org

LINKS

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: @UNHCRJordan
reporting.unhcr.org/jordan | https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria