Jordan

September 2022

Refugees are increasingly raising concerns about the worsening economic challenges, the recent reductions in WFP assistance, and the **declining humanitarian situation**. UNHCR teams are closely engaging with communities to address concerns.

The designation of **Humanitarian Coordinator** in Jordan has been discontinued, following the appointment of the new Resident Coordinator.

With the winter season approaching fast, funding for UNHCR's US$ 46 million appeal for **winter cash assistance** is becoming more and more critical. The aim is to reach 120,000 of the most vulnerable refugee families in Jordan.

KEY INDICATORS

762,877

Refugees in Jordan as of 15 October 2022

82.4%

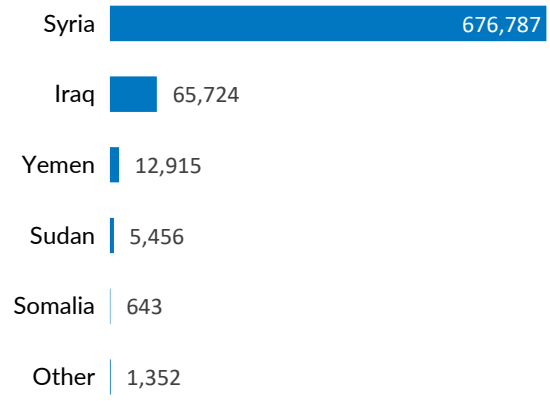
Refugees living outside camps in **communities**

46%

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

REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS*

Countries of Origin



** Registered with UNHCR*

When forced to flee Syria, Abdul rebuilt his kitchenware factory in Amman and now employees both refugees and host communities. High Commissioner Grandi met him during his mission to Jordan. © UNHCR/Roland Schoenbauer

PROTECTION

- In September, over 50,000 refugees were interviewed by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, for registration purposes, including renewal of documentation. The majority participated in-person at UNHCR's Registration Centres (RCs) in Amman, Mafraq, Irbid, and Zaatari and Azraq camps. For those who were not able to reach RCs in person, UNHCR also conducted mobile missions, while remote processing remains available. The RCs also continue to receive refugees for protection and counselling appointments.
- The annual data updates and document renewal in camps continued in September, reaching about 50 per cent of the targeted families. The aim of the outreach is to ensure accurate and reliable registration data on refugees living in camps.
- UNHCR continued to share information with refugees and asylum-seekers through different means, including the Helpline and social media, with some 21,000 visitors on the Help site and over 170,000 calls handled on the Helpline. The rehaul of the UNHCR Helpline continues, in efforts to be able to provide essential and more effective assistance to more refugees.
- During September, UNHCR's child protection/gender-based violence teams counselled and supported close to 220 individuals, who benefited from case management, legal, psychosocial services and mental health, resettlement, and cash services through UNHCR or implementing partners.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- UNHCR works closely with Community Support Committees (CSCs) to coordinate activity plans, referral mechanisms, and communication with refugee communities. In September, over 3,700 refugees participated in various CSC-organized activities, including self-development and learning opportunities.
- In September, close to 1,000 refugees reached UNHCR's Community-Based Protection teams through different channels, including CSCs, social media, and in-person counselling at UNHCR premises or helpdesks, and were provided with case management services. The main concerns raised include the need for cash assistance, the lack of livelihood opportunities, documentation, or legal issues. Refugees continue to raise concerns about the surge in electricity bills and high prices of food and other items, and the difficult economic situation. Throughout the month, UNHCR supported close to 190 refugee families with urgent cash assistance.
- During recent months, and especially in September following the reduction of assistance from WFP, UNHCR has noted an increase in incidents of threatening or aggressive behaviour from refugees, reportedly related to economic hardship, difficult living conditions, and the reduction in assistance. In September, UNHCR tried to address this, including through training of relevant staff, monitoring, analysis, and continued engagement with refugees through different communication channels.
- In September, during a monitoring mission in Jordan, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disability, Mr. Gerard Quinn, visited Zaatari camp and UNHCR-partner projects in Amman, where challenges of refugees with disabilities were discussed, and ways how UNHCR and partners could improve accessibility.

CASH ASSISTANCE FOR BASIC NEEDS

- In September, UNHCR's regular cash assistance reached over a quarter of a million refugee women, men and children, including the quarterly assistance for basic needs for refugees in camps and the monthly assistance for basic needs for refugees out of camps. 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 regular cash assistance, some 12,000 families living out of camps are on the waitlist, meaning that they are eligible but unable to receive monthly cash assistance due to limited funding.

- UNHCR's continues to provide more and more refugees with regular cash assistance through mobile wallets. Over 30 per cent of refugees living out of camps and 95 per cent of refugees in Azraq and Zaatari camps are now using mobile wallets for basic needs.

HEALTH

- UNHCR continues to work closely with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and other partners to support access for refugees to health facilities. In this context, UNHCR is conducting health awareness sessions in CSCs to better inform refugees on how to access healthcare through UNHCR and the Ministry of Health. UNHCR is also working with partners and MoH to address challenges faced by refugees when accessing public facilities.

EDUCATION

- With the start of the academic year, UNHCR provided school kits and books to over 400 refugee students in September, while homework support classes in Arabic, English and Math were also available for over 150 students in UNHCR-supported community centres in Amman.
- The United Nations Youth Advisory Council (UNYAC) was launched in September. The overall goal of the UNYAC is to construct a more youth responsive and inclusive UN through meaningful and safe participation of youth in UN activities and programming in Jordan.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- In September, UNHCR finalised submissions for resettlement for close to 1,000 women, men, and children, for several countries including Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, and US. In addition, over 730 refugees departed to resettlement countries, reaching a total of over 4,700 departures in the first three quarters of the year.

HIGH-PROFILE VISITS, PUBLIC EVENTS AND DONOR ENGAGEMENT

In September, UNHCR facilitated various high-level visits:

- On a mission to Jordan and Syria, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi met with Jordanian government officials, including His Majesty King Abdallah II, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, and Prince Hassan, as well as the donor community in Amman. During the meetings, he expressed shared concerns over declining funding for the refugee response and stressed the importance of continued international support to Jordan. He also had an opportunity to see the positive impact of access to work for Syrian refugees through two site visits, one to a Syrian-owned plastics factory employing Syrian refugees and the other to the workshop of a Syrian artisan.
- A high-level mission of the Norwegian Parliament's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence visited Jordan. During a visit to Zaatari camp, the delegation engaged with Syrian refugee families in their shelters and later joined a focus-group discussion with Sudanese and Yemeni refugees in Mafraq.
- Delegations from the US and Austrian embassies visited Azraq camp, and were briefed on health, education, community services and water. Discussions focused on sustainable solutions and opportunities for refugees living in camps.

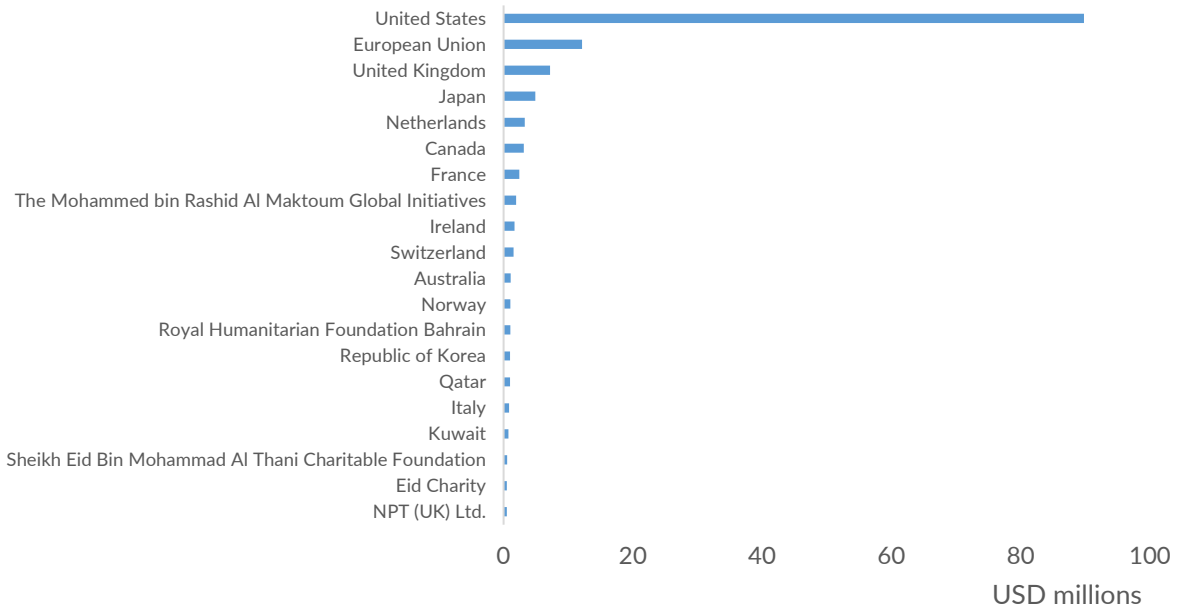
- UNHCR also facilitated field visits for two German delegations; one from the German Federal Foreign Office to the UNHCR Registration Centre in Amman, with a specific interest in protection and registration, and one from the Division for refugee support at the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), with a focus on socio-economic challenges, UNHCR's cash programme and livelihoods initiatives.
- The President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Dr. Thomas Bach, visited Zaatari camp. The NGO Generation for Peace, the Jordan Olympic Committee, and the Olympic Refugee Foundation also joined. The visit was accompanied by international and national media. The delegation was briefed by UNHCR and partners and included a site visit to the camp's market street. Key areas of interest throughout the visit included coordination among partners, security issues in the camp, and livelihood opportunities for refugees living in camps.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation in 2022 amount to some US$ 171million.

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 US$)

Germany (29.9M) | United States (14M) | Private donors Germany (10.4M) | Private donors Australia (9.5M) | Private donors USA (7.3M) | Denmark (3.6M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (3.3M) | Sweden (2.6M) | Finland (2.3M)

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

Sweden (99.3M) | Norway (72.5M) | Private donors Spain (56.9M) | Private donors Japan (40.9M) | UK (40.1M) | Netherlands (37.2M) | Denmark (35.6M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (28.6M) | Germany (27M) | Private donors USA (26.2M) | Japan (21.7M) | France (18.5M) | Switzerland (18.4M) | Private donors Italy (16M) | Belgium (11.9M) | Ireland (11.8M) | Private donors Canada (11.8M) | Private donors Sweden (11.4M) | Italy (10M)

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LINKS

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