Jordan

November 2022

UNHCR announced the distribution of **winter cash assistance** to some 90,000 vulnerable refugees in and out of camps. The assistance, while less than previous years, aims at supporting families with the increasing needs of winter months.

In November, UNHCR and partners held workshops focusing on **financial inclusion and self-reliance programming** for refugees. The two workshops brought key stakeholders together to discuss best practices and next steps in these areas.

The third quarter results of the analysis of the **socio-economic situation of refugees** found that some indicators, such as refugee household income and the use of negative food-based coping strategies, worsened compared to Q2, while others remained stable.

KEY INDICATORS

752,753

Refugees in Jordan as of 1 December 2022

82.1%

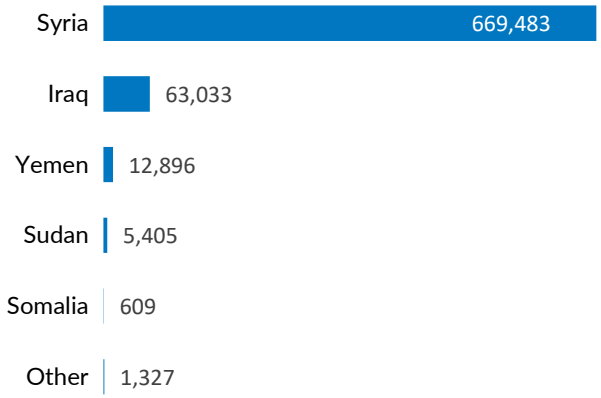
Refugees living outside camps in **communities**

46.4%

Refugee **children** (under 18 years)

REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS*

Countries of Origin



** Registered with UNHCR*

PRM Assistant Secretary Julietta Noyes joined a painting class with refugee girls at the community centre in Zaatari camp. © UNHCR/Shawkat Alharfoush

PROTECTION

- In November, over 55,000 refugees were interviewed by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, for registration purposes, including renewal of documentation. The majority came to 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, remote processing was available. The RCs also continued to receive refugees for protection and counselling appointments.
- In November, an increase was noted in complaints from refugees visiting UNHCR RCs regarding the need for more cash support and resettlement opportunities.
- The data verification and document renewal in camps reached about 65 per cent of the targeted families. The aim of the outreach was 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 close to 18,000 visitors on the Help site and close to 270,000 calls handled on the Helpline.
- During November, UNHCR's child protection/gender-based violence teams counselled and supported close to 270 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 November, over 2,500 refugees participated in various CSC-organized activities, including self-development and learning opportunities.
- In November, close to 900 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. Throughout the month, UNHCR supported over 120 refugee families with urgent cash assistance.
- UNHCR held several consultations across the country with over 110 refugee community representatives, to provide updates and hear their concerns. Among other issues, refugees expressed concerns relating to the need for continued cash support and the impact of increased economic hardship this year.
- In early November, UNHCR, ILO, UNICEF, and the EU Delegation in Jordan, co-hosted a one-day workshop, in the framework of the overarching strategic objective of the partnership with the EU, aiming to empower unemployed and economically inactive Jordanians and Syrian refugees who rely on cash assistance so they can transition into decent employment and livelihoods. The event was attended by 90 people, including representatives from the hosting partners, government counterparts, as well as stakeholders from the civil society and relevant working groups.
- Later in the month, UNHCR, WFP, and GIZ co-hosted a one-day workshop on financial inclusion for refugees in Jordan, which was attended by a number of stakeholders, including civil society, academia, and the Central Bank of Jordan. One of the outcomes of the conference was a joint communication, which highlights the importance for refugees in Jordan to be increasingly financially resilient and independent, with access to financial services. Read the communication here.
- The Q3 results of the quarterly assessment "Situation of refugees in Jordan" found that refugee household income decreased by 7 per cent from Q2, and the use of negative food-based coping strategies, such as reducing the number of meals per day, increased. This series of analyses take a multi-sectoral approach in monitoring the socio-economic hardships facing refugees by assessing the same refugee households each quarter, throughout the year. Read the results here.

CASH ASSISTANCE AND SELF-RELIANCE

- In November, UNHCR's regular cash assistance for basic needs reached over 115,000 refugee women, men and children living in host communities. Cash assistance 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 10,000 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 initiated the distribution of winter cash assistance to vulnerable refugees in Jordan. While the appeal for winter cash assistance was for $46 million, UNHCR in Jordan by early December had only received $8 million. The winter assistance distribution therefore will prioritize reaching as many refugee households as possible with winter assistance, meaning that households receive less assistance than in past years. The winter assistance programme was adapted to reach 70,000 households in host communities and some 24,000 households in the camps, with a standardized reduced winter package.

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 conducted more health awareness sessions in CSCs and UNHCR offices to better inform refugees on how to access healthcare through UNHCR and the MoH. The two actors also finalised a service guide designed to complement the recently developed policy manual and mobilise refugee access to public health facilities.
- No cholera cases have been identified at time of reporting. UNHCR, together with MoH and health partners are conducting ongoing surveillance and screening in refugee camps to monitor the situation.
- Funding challenges of health actors caused disruptions in health services for refugees living in host communities, who need regular treatment for medical conditions, and who are at risk of not receiving critical life-saving care.

EDUCATION

- UNHCR co-hosted the "High Level National Roundtable: Increase Refugee Enrolment in Higher Education in Jordan", an event focusing on the 15by30 goal towards more inclusive higher education. Several education partners, academic institutes, donor representatives and government agencies participated in the event, and discussed best practices and recommendations for relevant education actors.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- In November, UNHCR finalised submissions for resettlement for close to 800 women, men, and children, for several countries including Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, and US. In addition, almost 630 refugees left for resettlement countries, reaching a total of over 6,100 departures since the beginning of the year.

HIGH-PROFILE VISITS, PUBLIC EVENTS AND DONOR ENGAGEMENT

In November, UNHCR facilitated various high-level visits:

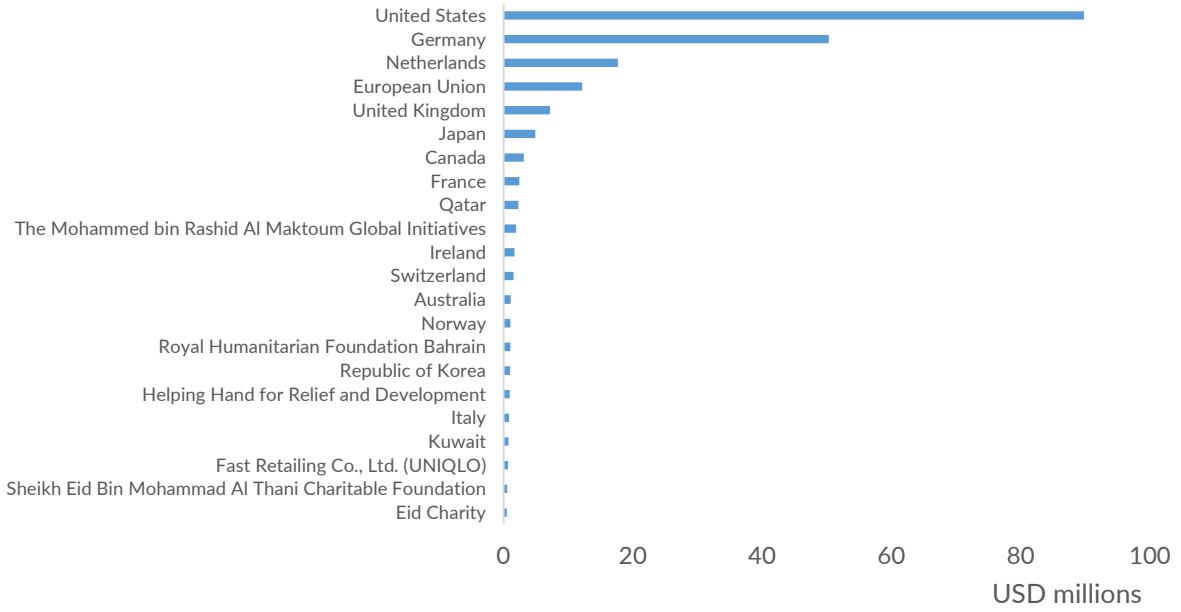
- UNHCR Jordan hosted a US delegation, led by PRM Assistant Secretary (A/S) Noyes and including Deputy A/S Turner, in Zaatari camp. The delegation was briefed by UNHCR, the Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate, and sister agencies, and visited several activities and projects. Discussions focused on the increasing vulnerabilities among refugees and the search for sustainable solutions.
- His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf and Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden visited Zaatari camp. They were briefed by UNHCR, the Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate, and sister agencies, and visited several activities and projects. They showed interest in different aspects of the response, including the longer trajectory of the camps and the response and existing challenges, and engaged with refugees. The visit captured the interest of both local and Swedish media.
- Representatives from the EU Delegation visited Zaatari and Azraq camps, and a Syrian family living in Mafraq city. Discussions focused on sustainability of the refugee response and the search for sustainable solutions. UNHCR also facilitated a monitoring mission from ECHO to Zaatari camp and UNHCR offices in Amman, with a focus on protection, registration and institutional capacity building.
- An Irish delegation, led by the Director of the Humanitarian Unit in the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and the Irish Ambassador to Jordan, visited Zaatari camp, received briefings by UNHCR and partners, and visited several activities and projects. The delegation also visited a Syrian home-based business owner in Mafraq city, with a keen interest in livelihoods and self-reliance programmes.
- A UK delegation of seven Members of Parliament, including the Shadow Minister for MENA, visited Zaatari camp, where they were briefed by UNHCR and partners, visited different projects in the camp and engaged enthusiastically with refugees. They showed interest in the challenges faced by refugees and the concept of maintaining a dignified life in the camp.
- UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Maya Ghazal, originally from Syria, visited Jordan and Azraq camp, where she received briefings and visited project sites and refugee homes. She also visited refugee families in Amman, with discussions mostly focusing on challenges around higher education and winter assistance.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation in 2022 amount to some $206million.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors, including those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

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



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

Private donors Germany (23.9M) | United States (14M) | Private donors Australia (10.6M) | Private donors USA (7.5M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (3.9M) | Denmark (3.6M) | 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 (72.1M) | Private donors Japan (58.3M) | United Kingdom (40.1M) | Netherlands (37.2M) | Denmark (35.6M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (34.4M) | Private donors USA (29.9M) | Germany (24.4M) | Japan (21.7M) | Private donors Italy (19.2M) | France (18.5M) | Switzerland (18.4M) | Private donors Canada (12.4M) | Belgium (11.9M) | Private donors Sweden (11.9M) | Ireland (11.8M) | Italy (10M)

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