

# Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) 2013

## Draft Results



**World Food Programme**

# BACKGROUND

The purpose of JAM is to understand the situation, needs, risks, capacities and vulnerabilities of the refugees with regard to their food security and nutrition, provide recommendations for specific objectives in addition to providing input for a strategic plan for food security and nutrition for the next 6-12 months.

Refugees March 2013	
Governorate/Camp	Number of beneficiaries
Camps	
Za'atari Camp	149,956
KAP	1,007
Cyber City	482
Registered	271,855
Awaiting Registration	57,037
Grand total	328,892

# JAM 2013



- Ten teams representing UN agencies (WFP, UNHCR and FAO) and NGO's (JHCO, IRW, CARE, IRD, NICCOD) and the Jordanian Department of Statistics participated in the JAM field work from 19-26 May 2013.
- All twelve Governorates in Jordan were covered, reaching hundreds of Syrian refugees who were involved in Focus Group Discussions and a number of key Government officials and CBO Presidents were interviewed in both urban and camp settings.
- Secondary data analysis conducted from 17 assessments in conjunction with the primary data collected from FGs/KIs.

# FOOD SECURITY IN THE REFUGEE CONTEXT

- Acute needs
- Loss of assets during displacement
- Food consumption/food sources
- Coping strategies used
- Protection issues

# KEY QUESTIONS FOR THE JAM

1. Assess the food security situation of the Syrian refugees living inside and outside the camps (access, availability and utilization of food)
2. Review the on-going food assistance operations and provision of related complementary assistance and services by WFP, UNHCR and their partners, identifying good practices, principle constraints, lessons learned and areas for improvement
3. Assess the potential for targeted food assistance and associated risks and identify potential target groups and criteria

# MAIN FINDINGS IN RELATION TO FOOD SECURITY

# FOOD SECURITY

## POSITIVE

Food is widely available and accessible to Syrians in the host community (vouchers) and camps (food rations/vouchers).

Voucher programme providing beneficiaries with their basic food and nutritional needs as many are highly or completely reliant on WFP food assistance.

Government providing safe environment to reach food.

The need for food was not mentioned as a priority for refugees. WFP quoted to represent a huge source of relief .

## NEGATIVE

Accessibility is limited (non-registered and awaiting registration refugees not entitled to receiving vouchers) and lack of variety is an issue (in camps).

Perception that shop owners abusing use of vouchers by selling at inconsistent prices and often increasing cost for Syrians using the voucher.

Crowding and long waiting times at distribution points.

Specialized baby food and infant milk not available in normal shops/supermarkets. GoJ require only pharmacies can sell these.

Lack of proper storage facilities (refrigerators).

# OTHER GENERAL OBSERVATIONS



# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

- Spending down savings and selling off assets such as jewelry
- Selling vouchers and exchanging voucher purchased items to pay for other more pressing needs.
- Unemployment: Regular work is difficult to find, most can only obtain short term employment



# COPING STRATEGIES

- Change in eating habits
  - less meals per day
  - less quality/diversity food consumed
- Child labor
- Selling assets and humanitarian assistance
- Borrowing/debt



# PROTECTION

- Unregistered and awaiting registration are more vulnerable.
- In situations of vulnerability, many resort to ignoring the problem out of fear from filing a complaint and the revenge that may follow.
- Children afraid of harassment/bullying in schools

# HEALTH

- Camp-based Syrians have access to health care services and registered refugees in local communities have free access to public health care centers (however cases of corruption have been reported where registered Syrians are requested to make payments).
- Unregistered Syrians face difficulty with expensive medical care and treatment.
- Syrians often feel vulnerable and unwelcomed when seeking medical attention in both camp and local community hospitals/medical centers.

# EDUCATION

- Schools are most often accessible to Syrian refugees.
- Majority choose to send their children (mainly sons) to work while the rest (mainly daughters) either attend to schools or stay home.

# MOST COMMON CASES OF VULNERABILITY

- Unregistered/those awaiting UNHCR registration
- Many dependents
- Illnesses /disabilities not covered by the free Primary Care
- Psychological distress.
- Geographic vulnerabilities/poverty pockets (rural and border areas)
- Illiteracy

# IMMEDIATE NEEDS

1. Expedite UNHCR registration and renewals
2. Expand UNHCR cash assistance coverage
3. Rent assistance
4. Increased medical assistance capacity and coverage
5. Infant formulas and specialized baby foods
6. Hygiene and other NFIs
7. Livelihood and income generating activities

WFP is meeting a majority of the food needs with 98% coverage of registered refugees in local communities with food vouchers.

# QUESTIONS?



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