



This ISWG monthly update is a coordination tool that aims to improve communication between sectors and provide information on progress towards implementation of the objectives of the Jordan Contingency & Response Plan in response to COVID-19. It is available through the Inter-Agency Operational Portal at [COVID-19 Response Page](#)

## I. General Updates

- At the end of July 2021, Jordan recorded 21 deaths 1,055 and new coronavirus cases, bringing the total number of cases since the beginning of the crisis to 768,382. The number of active COVID-19 cases in the Kingdom hovers around 9,036.
- As per the announcement of Interior Minister Mazen Faraiah, Jaber border crossing resumed full operations as of Sunday, August 1, 2021.

## II. Sector's Updates



### HEALTH

- In Za'atari camp, number of reported COVID-19 cases has continued to decrease in July, and the epidemiological curve has been moving downward since the last week of April. International Medical Corps (IMC) in collaboration with UNHCR has started establishment of a COVID-19 Treatment Centre which will standby to accommodate significant number of patients in case of an increased demand. UNHCR contributed with 13 caravans and IMC procured the required equipment. The COVID-19 Treatment Centre at Azraq camp operated by International medical Corps (IMC) will continue to admit COVID-19 cases according to the admission criteria.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) decision on expansion of the COVID-19 vaccine eligibility criteria to include children above 12 upon the consent of their father / sponsor and with no prior registration required was circulated in all COVID-19 vaccination centres.
- Administration of COVID-19 vaccine was continued in collaboration with MoH in refugee camps. As of 31 July, a total of 16,300 individuals have received the first dose and 13,557 have received the second dose of COVID-19 vaccines in Za'atari camp, while in Azraq camp a total of 5,601 individuals have received the first dose and 4,425 have received the two doses of vaccines.



### BASIC NEEDS

- Assistance: Since the beginning of the COVID-19 emergency response, 72,518 cases have been assisted under the COVID-19 emergency cash assistance scheme. 76% of the assisted population (78% Syrian and 67% Non-Syrian) have been provided with assistance for three months or more, 17% (18% Syrian and 5% Non-Syrian) for two months and 7% (9% Syrian and 3% Non-Syrian) for one month.



### FOOD SECURITY

- In July, WFP has been delivering its monthly cash assistance to 471,510 individuals in camps and host communities.
- Tkiyet Um Ali and Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO) conducted special food distributions of dates for vulnerable Jordanians in host communities.

- On 1 July, the new targeting model for Syrian refugees was implemented. Due to funding shortfall WFP had to cut 21,000 beneficiaries from its monthly cash programme. Appeals from the requests are being received and under review, and communication with communities is ongoing.
- The action plan for National Food Security Strategy has been completed and will be validated by the Higher Steering Committee and submitted for official endorsement by the Government of Jordan in August.
- Unpredictability of funding remains a challenge for WFP, while advocacy activities to mobilize support are ongoing.



## PROTECTION

- In July, the GBV WG organized a GBV Gap Analysis Workshop attended by 30 participants from 20 organizations with the objective of updating the existing gap analysis document (GBV SWG workplan 2021 mid year review 8 Aug.pdf) and identify difference between the actual state and the minimum standards of GBV in emergencies at field level and consider new emerging contextual risks driven in COVID-19 context in programming. Gaps' identification and priorities' setting was conducted in a participatory manner with the field actors and in consultation with refugees.
- Under the leadership of IOM and coordinating agencies, UNHCR and UNFPA the GBV WG conducted a risk assessment in Irbid Governorate. The overall aim of the assessment was to better understand risks of GBV faced by vulnerable groups and to provide recommendations on areas where GBV response and overall humanitarian response need to be enhanced. The report can be accessed here: [link](#).
- Recognizing that the COVID-19 outbreak and the accompanying isolation policies have led to the increased risk of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), and simultaneously created a unique set of challenges for survivors to access essential life-saving services, UNFPA and UNHCR launched a project seeking to support existing CRSV prevention and response services to adapt to the context-specific human security challenges of COVID-19 in Jordan. Benefitting from Japan funding, this UN Action project will be jointly implemented by UNFPA and UNHCR under the overall guidance of the UN Action Secretariat. It will focus on strengthening Gender Based Violence (GBV) service provision availability including clinical management of rape and supporting capacity of service providers during COVID-19 outbreak and response.
- The Child Protection sub-working group meeting conducted on 15 July updated counterparts on the JHF outcomes and on OCHA Capacity Assessment process.
- The concerted efforts of CP SWG, Child Labour taskforce, MoL, NCFA, other governmental entities, national and international organizations have been continuously made to update the national strategy of combat child labour.
- The MHPSS sub-working group has been collecting information on the mental health services, which will be introduced in the analytical report later in autumn. Important to flag that demand in MHPSS in urban has increased as an implication of COVID-19.
- The Cash for Protection (CfP) taskforce conducted training sessions on cash modality, voucher assistance, main tools used in monitoring, and shared new guidelines with the taskforce members.
- Intensive Inter-Agency consultations with counterparts indicated an interest to further strengthen coordination and enhance effectiveness of the working groups. For example, Za'atari camp agreed to focus on PSEA and conduct three awareness sessions every month. As well, discussions in Mafraq outlined social economic and social security topics to remain high on the agenda, particularly flagging the precedent of some business owners avoid hiring female for the alleged reasons of the women's limited physical abilities, stability to work long periods and exposure to social stigma.
- The GBV counterparts in Azraq camp finalized GBV gap analysis and conducted GBV safe referral training for the organizations and the IBVs; training for the community representatives will follow.
- Among its regular activities, in July JOHUD has been supporting school students to register on the MOE education platform, implementing the homework support sessions in Arabic, Math, and English for the Non-Syrian students of 8 - 11 grades (Iraqi, Sudanese and Somalis) and daily sessions for the students on Kolibri offline platform and in WhatsApp groups. providing cash-for-education services covering the monthly school transportation fees for students of 8 - 11 grades. As a part of the Mercy Corps programme, JOHUD has registered a group of children with mild to moderate disabilities in the MoE inclusive schools.

- In July, ARDD continued providing legal services to all PoC through its nine offices in urban and camps, in addition to conducting online legal awareness sessions in coordination with UNHCR's field teams. Within the "Design and Determine" project funded by RDPP, ARDD rolled out a specialized training for the youth of different nationalities in Amman.
- JRF continued its capacity building activities engaging beneficiaries in various locations of Jordan. In Amman, Mafrqa, Maan, Karak and Aqaba, through different projects funded by UNHCR, UNICEF and JHF-OCHA, JRF held case management and PSS sessions for CP and GBV counterparts and in Makani centres in 14 locations, as well as safe referral sessions for case managers and frontlines. The new JRF programme of child marriage is developed to reach out mothers and daughters of 12-17 years.
- IOCC have continued providing PSS and rehabilitation services in Amman, Zarqa, Rusaifa and Irbid, planning further expansion in the south of Jordan.



- In July, UNICEF continued provision of WASH services to all 122,789 refugees in three camps (Za'atari, Azraq and King Abdullah Park).
- In July, a camp-wide distribution of 193,824 soap bars and 5,752 cleaning kits reached all Za'atari residents. Moreover, five families in the transit area benefitted from distribution of five cleaning kits, five hygiene kits and five hand sanitizers; and two self-isolated households with five beneficiaries were supplied with two cleaning kits, two hygiene kits and two hand sanitizers. UNICEF maintained a daily supply of about 4,500 m3 of clean and safe water across the camp; however, external water trucking covering about 1500 m3 of the demand was needed due to high temperatures in the country.
- In Azraq camp, 20 cleaning kits, three hand sanitizers, three hygiene kits and 37 jerry cans were distributed among 101 beneficiaries, including 60 children, and thus reached the most vulnerable cases. In addition to that, 56 cleaning kits were distributed to WASH Community Representatives (WCR). UNICEF's partners in the camp continued providing trainings and disseminating messages to community representatives in relation to COVID-19. Also, in order to ensure equity in distribution and alleviate stress on water supply, a hoses removal campaign was conducted at several blocks and plot levels.
- In KAP refugee camp, a camp-wide distribution took place providing 200 cleaning kits and reaching 522 beneficiaries, including 292 children.
- Finally, in preparation for schools' reopening, UNICEF has been working with the Ministry of Education to select another 15 schools for the next round of WASH infrastructure improvements.



- In July, Caritas Jordan, in adherence with public safety measures, conducted face-to-face literacy and numeracy classes for 240 Syrian and Jordanian mothers with school-aged children, to support a strengthened home educational environment.
- In July, 116 children (61% female; 84% Syrian) were enrolled for remedial classes organized by Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), to commence in July 2021. The remedial classes cover Arabic, English, Mathematics, Science, Computers and Recreational Activities.
- In July, Middle East Children's Institute (MECI) supported 103 adolescents (52% female) with access to certified Non-Formal Education (Drop-Out programme) in host communities.
- Relief International (RI) provided 1,358 (51% female; 70% Syrian) students with tablets to support their access to distance learning. This activity is part of RI's Remedial Education Assistance for Children and Tawjihi students (REACT) programme.
- In July, Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD) provided early intervention home sessions to 121 children with mild disabilities (54% female) and parental group counselling sessions benefitting seven parents (86% female) of children with disabilities. JOHUD also provided 111 students (58% female; 59% Iraqi; 41% Jordanian) with homework support classes covering the subjects of Arabic, Mathematics and English.
- In refugee camps, UNICEF continued distribution of learning materials for children to ensure learning continuity. In July, nine families received family activity packs in Za'atari and Azraq refugee camps.
- UNICEF provided transportation to 1,136 students (50% female; 784 students from Za'atari; 235 students from Azraq; and 117 students from EJC) to facilitate them in taking Tawjihi exams, which ran from 24 June to 15 July.

- In July, twenty Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) graduates (60% female) were selected to provide learning support services to 300 refugee school students in Grades 11 and 12, from the beginning of the 2021/2022 school year, for four months.
- In July, 1,495 learners (59% female; 61% Syrian) accessed the UNHCR-supported digital learning platform, Kolibri.
- The Technical and Vocational Skills Development Commission (TVSDC), in cooperation with the Jordanian Accreditation and Quality Assurance Commission for Higher Education Institutions (AQACHEI), started to register TVSDC training service providers, according to the National Qualification Framework. An action plan for all Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) training service providers with guidance on registration and competences/qualification identification was also developed, and a Technical Committee for TVET qualifications and competences standards development was established.
- UNESCO, with support from the Government of the Republic of Korea and through its partnership with Luminus Technical University College (LTUC), assisted Syrian refugee and vulnerable Jordanian youth with scholarships to access BTEC-level II Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes in three training disciplines (Business, Information Technology, and Creative Media Production), as well as on-the-job training opportunities. On 11 July, 127 students (57% female; 47% Syrian) started their first trimester at LTUC in two disciplines - Business and IT - using blended learning approaches, in view of the Government new instructions to resume face-to-face learning for practical-oriented studies at higher education institutions.



## LIVELIHOODS

- In July, the Vocational Training Taskforce meeting hosted several informative presentations and engaged counterparts in the Inter-Agency discussions. Among those, Al-Hussein Technical University presented a professional apprenticeship programme and innovation entrepreneurship and acceleration programmes related to the Higher National Certificate (HNC). The Middle East University introduced the Jordanian Digital and Dual Vocational Training Hub and the Capacity building courses accredited by TVSD. During the conversation, emphasis was made on importance of providing refugees with the English Language courses which facilitate engagement in the complementary pathways programmes to access education opportunities, acquire labour mobility and seek for the third country solutions. UNHCR indicated the channels available to communicate with communities. Mercy Corps flagged challenges of youth unemployment identifying MS4DE and comparing traditional employment programs with the demanded programmes and focusing on engagement with private sector and donors.
- The Home-Based Businesses Taskforce discussed its Terms of Reference, the partners' updates and the mapping results of the survey conducted to identify the services provided by the Taskforce members.
- In collaboration with the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Union (GFJTU), UNHCR provided information sessions at the camps employment centres on the new regulations related to flexible work permits.
- The technical errors at the online system at the Ministry of Industry and Trade keep challenging registration of Home-Based Businesses' beneficiaries in Amman. As well, the need of standardization of professions between the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Local Administration remains acute.



## SHELTER

- As a result of the prevalent heat wave across Jordan, refugees reduced usage of COVID-19 protective equipment (i.e., masks) in shelters and communal spaces, which may negatively affect the overall health situation and increase the burden on the health facilities.
- The adverse weather conditions contributed to the COVID-19 triggered strains over the health infrastructure and led to the emerging maintenance and renovation aimed to cover the cause of overuse and pressure on the physical facilities.
- The growing demand for household relief items (i.e., cooling systems) and the additionally established power schedules in the camps have magnified pressure in the energy supply network and the grid and led to substantial billing and use of more consumable / spare parts for the increased operation and maintenance. This development has an outstanding impact is especially in the case of recommended physical/social distancing and isolation demands at homes and households.

### III. Contacts and links

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- Jordan Refugee Response portal page at <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/working-group/251?sv=4&geo=36>