



*This ISWG monthly update is a coordination tool that aims to improve communication between refugee 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 Data Portal at:*

*COVID-19 Inter-Agency Coordination through the Inter-Agency Coordination Interface at: <https://iacu.tools/>*

## A. General Updates

- The outcomes, the level of participation, the statements, and the pledges of Brussels VI Conference on Syria demonstrated the continued global focus on Syria and the region. The international community reaffirmed its commitment to host countries, host communities and refugees. This has become a key reference for the Livelihoods Sector advocacy to maintain protection space for refugees in Jordan.
- The ministry of Education (MoE) has begun updating their Education Strategic Plan's (ESP) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework. The ESP's M&E Framework will be a roadmap for how the MoE monitors and evaluates the implementation of the ESP throughout 2022-2025. Through a series of UNESCO/IIEP technical workshops, the MoE is working on refining the ESP results chain of indicators, as well as defining the ESP calendar and key annual planning, monitoring, and reporting tasks, in addition to clarifying roles and responsibilities in relation to these tasks. The MoE is also developing key tools and templates for each task and will automate different M&E steps in the OpenEMIS Monitoring Tool. An ad-hoc Policy, Planning and Coordination Committee (PPCC) meeting to consult with partners on the ESP M&E Framework was held on 15 May.
- UNESCO, in partnership with Luminous College and with support from the Government of the Republic of Korea, continues to support Syrian refugee and vulnerable Jordanian youth with scholarships to access BTEC-level II-TVET programmes in three disciplines (Business, and Creative Media Production, and Information Technology), as well as on-the-job-training opportunities. 166 students (55% female; 45% Syrian), who completed the courses and a one-month on-the-job training, received laptops, which will support them to work as freelancers or on individual business projects.

## B. Sectors' Updates



### BASIC NEEDS

- As of May 2022, 7,051 families received their monthly basic needs assistance through the refugee-owned mobile wallet accounts.
- In May, the last round of COVID-19 Vaccination Facilitation Compensation has been paid to the PoCs outside of camps that have received at least two-doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. To be noted, that the monthly cash recipients will receive their compensation jointly with their June basic needs assistance to reduce the number of trips the PoCs will take to cash out their assistance.
- In May, the total number of individuals who received COVID-19 Compensation is 12,612 individuals., of which 9,828 are Syrians and 538 are non-Syrians, for a total assistance value of 117,175 JODs.
- Post the COVID-19 Vaccination campaign 166,000 individuals have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.



### EDUCATION

- Mercy Corps, with support from UNICEF, continued to provide access to education for vulnerable children and adolescents through direct support for 2,487 children with disabilities (51% female; 57% in camps) across 65

schools. In addition, Mercy Corps, with UNICEF support, launched an interactive and inclusive playground in Azraq refugee camp. The playground is created from the recycled materials.

- In May, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) supported 1,461 children (44% female; 28% camps) with Learning Support Services.
- Relief International provided 730 students (63% female) in grades 7-11 in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps with remedial education covering English and science.
- In May, Caritas Jordan conducted awareness raising and self-relief sessions for 50 Syrian parents (50% female) of children with disabilities and provided peer-to-peer psychosocial activities benefitting 450 Syrian refugees (52% female) across three governorates. In addition, Caritas Jordan provided 600 children (48% female) with financial support through its Cash for Education programme.
- Care International provided Conditional Cash Assistance (CCA) to 816 students (51% female) who are out-of-school or at risk of dropping out. Through CCA, Care aims to protect children from child labour and early, child, and forced marriage, as well as support enrolment and re-enrolment in formal and non-formal education. Care also provided 389 students (53% female) with academic support services including career counselling and remedial education.
- In May, the Save the Children Consortium Syria Crisis Response in Jordan project provided inclusive education and socio-economic support to 282 children (41 per cent female; 75 per cent Syrian) in host communities and refugee camps.
- In May, UNICEF supported 10,694 school-aged children (50% female; 14% with disabilities) from 3,039 households (82% Syrian) in host communities through the Hajati programme. Hajati provides vulnerable families in Jordan with cash transfers to the amount of 25 JOD per child/per month for the full school year. Hajati cash transfers supported to increase school attendance and enrolment and reduced drop out and negative coping strategies.
- UNICEF supported 35,280 children (55% female) in Makani Centres with in-person Learning Support Services. This includes the introduction of a new curriculum linked accelerated learning programme in Maths and Arabic which is supporting children's learning recovery. In addition, UNICEF supported the transportation of 2,399 students (51% female) from Informal Tented Settlements to school.
- The call for application for the Learning Bridges<sup>1</sup> Competition closed on 10 May with a total of 892 schools (24% of public schools nationally) registering to participate. The competition aims to encourage public schools in Jordan to implement Learning Bridges (implemented by UNICEF and the MoE) and promote best practices to support teaching and learning. Winning schools will be announced in August.
- UNICEF trained 331 Syrian Assistant Teachers (55% female) on how to screen the reading levels of students in Grades 4-6 as well as students enrolled in non-formal education in camps. Screening will inform UNICEF's Reading Recovery programme which is being implemented in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps.
- UNICEF supported the registration of 2,639 KG2 aged children (50% female; 69% from Za'atari camp, 25% from Azraq camp and 6% from EJC) during May for enrolment in KG2 for the 2022/2023 academic year.
- UN Women supported 500 women through its Second Chance Education programme, with resources available on the Kolibri online learning platform. Women can join the self-paced learning courses on the topics including life skills, marketing, gender equality and gender-based violence.
- The MoE has started the preparation of the School and Directorate Development Programme (SDDP) annual monitoring report for the academic year 2021/2022. With UNESCO technical assistance, the MoE trained data collectors, and the data will be collected in June. The report will be based on a set of guidelines that UNESCO supported the MoE to develop, to help the Educational Planning and Research Managing Directorate (EPRMD) produce annual SDDP monitoring reports, with the aim of monitoring the implementation of the SDDP and providing decision makers with data for continuous improvement of SDDP policies and processes.
- The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MoHESR) announced that the Higher Education Council has approved the creation of new specialisations and study programmes at the diploma, bachelor, masters, and doctoral levels, to meet the needs of the local, regional, and international labour market. Jordanian public and private universities, as well as colleges, will offer these new programmes from the beginning of the 2022/2023 academic year. The new specializations can be found on the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) website: <https://mohe.gov.jo>.
- UNESCO/IIEP continues to provide the MoE with technical assistance for the development of the Crisis and Risk Management Plan. In May, a workshop was held in Aqaba, bringing the MoE staff from central and directorate level, as well as school principals from the South region of Jordan together. Participants identified risks, with a

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<sup>1</sup> Learning Bridges is a national blended learning programme, from the Ministry of Education (MOE) and UNICEF, that is enabling children from Grade 4 to 10 to recover and accelerate lost learning due to COVID-19.

focus on hazards facing the South region, existing and needed crisis preparedness and response strategies and capacities at central and sub-central levels, as well as the actions for crisis and risk management at field directorate and school levels.

- Under the leadership of the MoE and the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (HCD), the UNESCO and GIZ organised capacity development sessions. The sessions were held in Ajloun, Karak and Marqa from 22 May to 2 June, targeting 18 pilot schools and master trainers from the MoE central, HCD and education field directorates. The sessions covered topics including ADHD, reading and writing difficulties, and autism. Participants discussed practical strategies that teachers and school counsellors could use when interacting with children with special needs and learning difficulties.



## FOOD SECURITY

- In May, WFP provided food assistance to more than 464,272 vulnerable refugees residing in camps and host communities through cash-based transfers. Most refugees come from Syria, with a minority from Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, and Somalia.
- WFP continues to provide in-kind food assistance to the households under quarantine in the designated areas in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps due to COVID-19.



## HEALTH

- In Za'atari and Azraq refugee camps, COVID-19 vaccine administration was continued in collaboration with MoH. The epidemiological situation is stable, and the epi cure shows continues stability and declining in number of identified cases. Thus, in May, four cases were identified in Za'atari and nine in Azraq camps. Most of the COVID-19 cases were asymptomatic; however, no COVID-19 cases were admitted to the hospitals during the month of May.
- The month of May brought cancellation of the PCR requirements for the returnees' case reactivation and for the in and out movements in the camps, change in PCR testing guideline from MoH which has become limited to the contacts and the suspected cases only.



## LIVELIHOODS

- According to MoPIC, progress of issuance of work permits for Syrians is as below. The report is uploaded at the Livelihoods page of the UNHCR Operational Data Portal here: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/working-group/49>.

Beneficiaries	Total work permits issued		Percentage of work permits issued (%)	
	Jan'16 – 15 May'22	Jan'22 – 15 May'22	Jan'16 – 15 May'22	Jan'22 – 15 May'22
Male	280,098	18,690	93.2	82.4
Female	20,456	3,991	6.8	17.6
Total	300,554	22,681	100.0	100.0

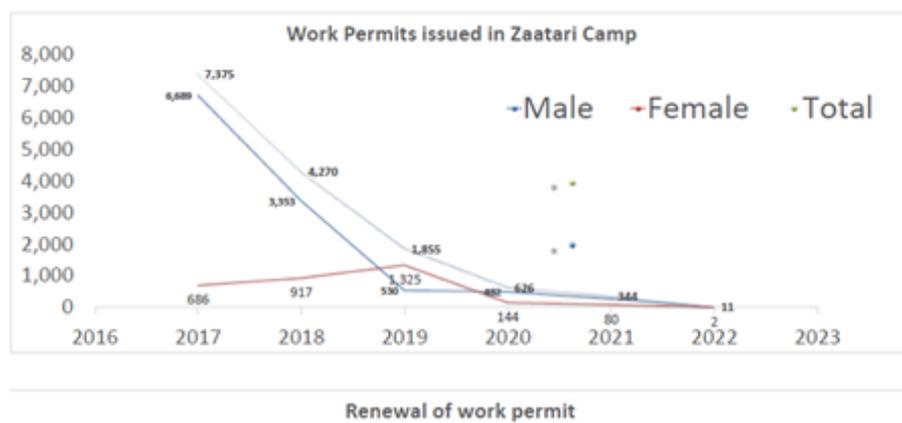
- The Livelihoods Working Group (LWG) meeting hosted presentations on a number of interesting topics, i.e., Financial inclusion in Jordan (by JOPACC and Digi#ances), Agriculture labour market assessment (by Luminus), Socio-economic impact of COVID-19 (by ARDD), Women's labour market participation (by University of Bath/Yarmouk University/ILO), Project end-line assessment (by Blumont), Unpaid care work assessment (by Oxfam), Multi-sectoral needs assessment (by AVSI).

- In May, the Livelihoods Sector presented by some key Sector actors (i.e., AVSI, Blumont, FAO, JRF, UNDP, WFP) joined the mission to the southern region of Jordan. They contributed to the discussions at the South Urban Coordination fora (cochaired by UNHCR and DRC) with the refugees, host community members, Community Support Committees and Government actors on the subjects related to addressing needs of persons with vulnerabilities, on the opportunities of refugee and host community in this region.
- Resilient Youth Socially and Economically (RYSE) in cooperation with PARACHUTE16 organized ‘Unveiling a Remote Work Curricula for Syrian Refugees and Vulnerable Jordanians in Host Communities’ event. Both have developed a new market-oriented curriculum that covers five promising job profiles in the remote work field that will enable vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees to successfully take part in the gig economy, carry out remote work and generate income. The development of the curriculum was a result of an extensive market analysis and private sector, I/NGO, and governmental engagement.
- The REACH Livelihoods Study is running, tackling the impact of COVID-19 on livelihoods, with a focus on micro-businesses and labourers.
- ACTED has recently relaunched its livelihoods project ‘Support Economic Growth and Sustainable, Diversified Income Creation in Jordan’ funded by the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM) and targeting vulnerable Jordanian and Syrian households and CSOs in Mafraq, Irbid and Mafraq governorates. The key Livelihoods partners are included in the Advisory Committee, that discusses key issues within the project, and general themes as well.
- The adjustment of the Cash for Work (CFW) SOPs processed via the CFW SOPs workshop with the co-chairs of the thematic sub-working groups and revision of the CFW SOPs by the PSU and co-chairs of the thematic sub-working groups. Partners are requested to provide input/feedback to the SOPs. Complete PPA for Cash for Work programme.

### Challenges:

- There has been a marked decrease observed in uptake of work permits in the refugee camps, with informal feedback indicating two main reasons for this trend:
  1. The inclusion of a perceived ‘costly’ Social Security Contribution
  2. Work Permit is no longer a ‘de facto’ leave permit as SRAD in both camps request a leave permit on top of the work permit.

The trend for Za’atari refugee camp is presented below:



- Within the context of rising unemployment and costs and shrinking job opportunities, there has been a significant increase of debts with the refugee households, who struggle to cover basic needs.
- The Livelihoods Sector encourages to shift from seeing refugees as a captive and passive audience, towards recognizing refugees bearing ideas, skills and positive coping mechanisms.



PROTECTION

### Child Protection:

- The updated gap analysis and referral pathways have been completed.

- The CP Sub-Working Group (SWG) updated its Workplan for 2022. In the July meeting, the activities, and interventions for the remainder of 2022 will be updated and agreed upon
- UNICEF and UNHCR worked with the CP SWG to develop and implement standardized interventions on activation of the Child Labour task force led by NCFA and Plan International.
- The Early Marriage committee formalized the Committee's responsibility to prevent marriages for the under-18 years old. Considering this achievement, the joint CP/GBV coordination meeting has been conducted to enhance coordination of the national service providers
- In 2022, aiming to enhance national coordination, the CP SWG intends to extend provision of the SWG platform and expertise to more national ministries and committees.

#### **PWG:**

- Protection Working Group partners are contributing to the implementation "One Refugee Approach" Aligned with the "Whole Society Inclusion", "Leaving No One Behind" or, and aims to improve quality of the protection services at the country level. PWG partners at the National Level are working in addressing the identified gaps of services among non-Syrians refugees triggered by different underlying causes and launched consultations on non-Syrians in Jordan aiming to develop recommendations to ensure a comprehensive approach to all refugees in the country. The PWG partners in the South through the coordination in the South led by UNHCR continue coordinating services in the South to decrease the gap of services in the region: During the month of May, UNHCR coordinated a meeting with development and livelihoods actors (i.e. UNDP, FAO, and WFP) to kick-off discussions to identify ways to strengthen the humanitarian-development nexus, a three-day mission to the South was organized from 29 to 31 May. CBP, LHU, UNDP, FAO, and WFP met with refugees and host community members in Karak, Tafilah, Ma'an, and Aqaba CSCs to discuss their challenges as well as suggested approaches to enhance the nexus between humanitarian and development work. The findings of the coordination meeting will be shared with the PWG Partners for comprehensive implementation. UNHCR's engagement with the Governors in the southern region, in camps and urban is continuing resulting in synergies and complementarities to support persons of concern.

#### **CfP TF:**

- The CfP TF is coordinating with Care and Women Refugee Commission to hold a training session on mainstreaming GBV in cash-based interventions. The training will be in September 2022 and will be shared the cash for protection TF and GBV SWG.
- CfP TF and GBV SWG are working together on CfP guidelines by developing specific annex for GBV.
- CfP TF developed a referral pathway for CfP service providers. services will be integrated in the referral pathways of the different sectors.

#### **GBV IMS TF:**

- GBV IMS TF is finalizing the GBV IMS annual report of 2021.

#### **PSEA:**

- Most the PSEA partners activities on PSEA in Jordan are conducting in consultation with the Network and involve the right actors PSEA trainings and messaging at community level. Some of the PSEA Network partners including UNHCR have produced of materials and tools simplifying and popularizing communication on PSEA for communities, the public, and children. These communications are available in English and Arabic to address the lack of understanding of SEA and equip different sectors to sensitize the local population on the importance of PSEA. UNHCR and its partners at the camp level have communication packages put at the disposal of front liners and was produced in various formats (flyers, videos, training guides). These communications were important to reinforce a culture of accountability and commitment to compact SEA. UNHCR training package of "Say No to Misconduct" was made available to all partners to mainstream PSEA awareness-raising in all sectors in both English and Arabic language. The upcoming PSEA Network activities for the rest of the year, including the need to further expand outreach of the Network beyond the humanitarian sector; to mainstream PSEA across all sectors, and to ensure a holistic inclusion of gender, PSEA and protection as one package in the Jordan Refugee Response Plan.

#### **MHPSS:**

- MHPSS are contributing to the implementation of the National Mental Health and Substance Use of the Action Plan (2022-2026) led by WHO. The Plan focuses on four main domains (Governance, Health Care, Promotion and Prevention and Surveillance, Monitoring and Research) and aims to improve quality of the mental health care at

the country level. MHPSS partners are working in addressing the identified number of cases of anxiety and depression among refugees triggered by different underlying causes.

### **Disability and Age Task Force (DATF):**

- On 11 May, the monthly Disability and Age Task Force (DATF) meeting took place with the participation of 27 humanitarian actors and civil society members working on disability and age. AIDO's presented their joint guidelines together with IFH and HCD on disability, sexual and gender-based violence and COVID-19 emergency in Jordan, the Jordanian Autism Society CBO presented their services, DATF co-chairs introduced the DATF Gap Analysis concept note, and members shared their updates.
- On 21-22 May, UNHCR as co-chair of the DATF facilitated the organization of a training in Aqaba for 20 persons (10 males, 10 females), including 14 staff from the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, two JOHUD staff, and four Syrian and non-Syrian refugees with disabilities/caregivers of refugees with disabilities. The training focused on UNHCR mandate, international and national protection of refugees, disability and forced displacement, solutions to protection risks/challenges faced by persons with disabilities, as well as services for persons with disabilities in Jordan.
- On 31 May, a multifunctional team conducted a "Disability Walk Through" of UNHCR's premises in Khalda to identify key barriers preventing access to people with disabilities and key enablers that are required to support accessibility for all. The MFT included different UNHCR units, eight refugees (five with disabilities and three caregivers), three Community-Based Rehabilitation refugee volunteers, and one NHF partner staff. A video about the exercise was published on UNHCR Jordan's twitter page.



## **SHELTER**

### **Urban:**

- According to the VAF'21 report (the exercise conducted through UNHCR and World Bank for urban/out-of-camp refugees), more than 50% refugees have no written lease/rental agreement for housing, which demonstrates a 11% increase; 18% Syrian and 19% non-Syrian families received verbal or written threats of eviction in 2021, compared to 8% of Syrians in 2018. In response to these urgent shelter needs, a number of organizations, including International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), Habitat for Humanity (HFH) Jordan, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), and Caritas reported implementing rental assistance programming, targeting vulnerable groups, such as vulnerable Jordanians, Syrians, non-Syrians, and/or unregistered refugees.
- Targeting vulnerable groups (i.e., female-headed households, households with persons with disabilities and with elderly), Shelter partners are exercising awareness raising on the rights and responsibilities under rental contracts, signing trilateral agreements between the organization, landlord, establishing tenancy for a set period, etc. The emergency cash assistance or multipurpose cash payments are provided as well.
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) continues implementation of the "flex" modality of addressing shelter needs by providing a mix of rental assistance and shelter rehabilitation, along with inclusion kits, when needed. NRC has also expanded programming to the "flex plus", which includes energy and water efficiencies in rehabilitation.
- In addition to constructing six new, safe, resilient, and energy-efficient homes in East Amman, HFH Jordan and HFH Netherland are continuing the project of 'Promoting Green, 40 Sustainable Households in Low-Income, Vulnerable Households & Communities across Jordan'. HFH is also working on activities to "green" houses along with rehabilitation of shelters and of community spaces/projects (i.e., schools, medical centers, and CBOs).

### **Camps:**

- In **Azraq** camp, shelter repair and maintenance are ongoing through the Quick Fix Team for both vacant and allocated shelters, based on need, resulting in 66 fixed shelters during May. In addition, UNHCR and NRC coordinated on installation of concrete floors for 20 shelters.
- In addition, NRC is piloting an energy smart controller with select households in Azraq camp, aiming to more equitably address energy usage in the camp. The pilot is ongoing.
- In **Za'atari** camp, UNHCR, in coordination with NRC, finalized installation of 5,955 address plates throughout all of the camp's districts. Additionally, UNHCR and NRC completed the first phase of labelling market street shops.
- UNHCR, in collaboration with ACTED, is planning to implement a project for roads and rainwater drainage in Za'atari camp's D2 and D12. This project is scheduled to start by August 2022.



- As the Humanitarian WASH Sector Lead, UNICEF, continued ensuring the live-saving WASH interventions are provided to all 117,000 residents of Azraq and Za'atari camps and King Abdullah Park (KAP).
- In celebration of the International Menstrual Hygiene Awareness Day on the 28th of May, several sessions targeting women and adolescent girls were conducted in Syrian Refugee camps focusing on raising awareness in regard to proper menstrual hygiene management.

**Za'atari Camp:**

- While critical hygiene items distributions to families in the transit area and in self-isolation in Za'atari camp continued to be suspended due to low number of COVID-19 cases, UNICEF's hygiene promotion activities in partnership with OXFAM continued. Thus, 219 group sessions targeting 683 men and 796 women, 24 boys and 32 girls were conducted to raise the community awareness regarding water conservation, safe and proper use of water and wastewater network, as well as personal hygiene promotion.
- Furthermore, UNICEF maintained an aggregate supply of clean and safe water of roughly 4,300 m3 per day in the camp. Due to increased water demand combined with the inability to fulfil its full capacity from the internal boreholes, UNICEF arranged additional bulk water supply through water trucking to meet camp's summer water need and to ensure safe water availability in institutions and schools. The external water trucking provided in May 2022 reached 29,467 m3 whilst the supply from the Za'atari Pump Station was in total 10,073 m3.

**Azraq Camp:**

- In Azraq refugee camp, hygiene items' distributions were put on hold due to the low number of COVID-19 cases at the camp. Apart from this, UNICEF maintained an aggregate supply of clean and safe water of an average of 2,450 m3 per day. Follow-up sessions on health hygiene and sanitation awareness to the neighbouring mothers were held and reached in total 940 women through the 'Lead Mothers'. Also, 258 men were reached out through the follow up sessions organised by the 'WASH Plot' representatives.

**KAP:**

- In KAP, UNICEF distributed cleaning kits to all households. In total, 137 cleaning and hygiene kits containing soap bars, bleach and cloths for cleaning were distributed to 137 families, reaching 603 individuals.

## C. Contacts and Links

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**Refugee Response || Inter-Agency Coordination Operational Data Portal || Jordan:** <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/working-group/251?sv=4&geo=36>

**Refugee Response || Inter-Agency Coordination Interface || Jordan:** <https://iacu.tools/>