

February 2019 UPDATE

This monthly update is a coordination tool that aims to improve communication between sectors and up to the Humanitarian Partners Forum. It focuses on processes, rather than achievements. The latter are covered through separate monthly sector dashboards, available through the Inter-Agency Portal and at http://data.unhcr.org/jordan/sectors/

I. General / Inter-Sector Update

During the February HPF meeting, the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) presented a financial analysis of the 2018 JRP, including the status of the Inter-Agency Appeal. The presentation highlighted the same level of funding compared to the previous year and the unbalanced funding between the refugee component at 87% and the resilience component at 33%. The key massage was to maintain current level of funding in support of the humanitarian pillar and a collective action and collaboration for advocacy to address ongoing challenges from the previous years.

The Inter-Sector Coordinator updated in the ISWG meeting on the situation of 2019 JRP and on the plan of launching the first Jordan Humanitarian Fund (JHF) Strategic Allocation for 2019 to its members. Regarding the JHF, the sectors were requested to provide inputs on the JHF position paper and to share the sector priorities so that the JHF can respond to more appropriate needs of each sector. The 1st allocation of 2019 is expected to be launched in late March.

The Sector Gender Focal Point Network (SGFPN) discussed the process of the Gender with Age Marker implementation at the operational and strategic level in 2019. It was highlighted that understanding the rationale behind the gender mainstreaming is particularly important when SGFPs are providing the GAM trainings to sector members. The 2019 Work Plan of the network was also discussed, and several suggestions such as ensuring relevant trainings on gender in terms of their duration and content, and the importance of ensuring gender mainstreaming in the Jordan Response Plan (JRP) and the Jordan Humanitarian Funds (JHF).

II. Sector information



BASIC NEEDS

- UNHCR initiated the revision process of the Minimum Expenditure Basket reference points for the Basic Needs.
- Basic Need Working Group (BNWG) launched a new coordination module with the properties of uploading large bulks of assistance lists with less time and de-duplication of assistance.
- Topics of interest and priorities for gender in Basic Needs will be presented and discussed monthly, and a task force was created to conduct a gender analysis.
- BNWG and Protection WG are forming a task force to discuss standard definitions on cash for protection.

EDUCATION

In February, UNICEF and its partners readied 60 new Non Formal Education (NFE) Drop-Out centres in underserved areas, expected to serve 1,500 vulnerable adolescents within the first year of operation. The centres represent a concrete achievement in the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the sector's joint efforts to

scale-up access to NFE to reach more out-of-school children who have been out of education for 3 years or more.

The Nashatati programme, offering life skills, extracurricular, co-curricular and social cohesion building activities, has been expanded during the second year of its implementation as an in-school programme in 300 schools for grades 7-10.

The MOE is still rolling out the Education Strategic Plan (ESP) with technical working groups. The process is currently in the stage of nominating the working group members from both the MOE and external stakeholders.

During the month of February, the education sector in Jordan, including MOE, UN agencies and Education Donor Group members have contributed to the preparation of material for the Brussels Conference event with advocacy and knowledge products.



FOOD SECURITY

Around 490,000 Syrian refugees residing in camps and communities received monthly cash based transfers. Refugees living in camps and those categorized as extremely vulnerable in communities received USD 32 (JOD 23). Those in communities categorized as vulnerable received USD 21 (JOD 15) per person per month.

WFP, through the Norwegian Refugee Council, provided ready to eat meals to 60 Syrian refugees in Zaatari camp who were affected by the weather conditions and relocated to temporary shelter.

In host communities, Syrian refugees in 11 out of 12 governorates, continued to receive unrestricted cash transfers that can be withdrawn from ATMs or restricted food vouchers that are redeemable at WFP-contracted shops, or a combination of both. Monthly monitoring activities showed that 30 percent of beneficiaries redeemed their assistance as e-vouchers, 55 percent as cash, 13 percent as both, while the remaining have not redeemed their assistance yet. According to the Food Security Outcome Monitoring, dietary diversity of Syrian refugees receiving unconditional cash transfers increased. Refugees also reported higher purchasing power.



Community Health Platform:

- The members of the Community Health Platform (CHP) are in the process of updating the mapping sheet (4Ws sheet).
- It was agreed that the CHP members will meet every other month.
- Humanity & Inclusion (HI) will coordinate with the CHP members in order to arrange training session for CH volunteers about disability.

Reproductive Health:

Inter-Agency on Reproductive Health in Crisis (IAWG) will be conducting a regional Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop on Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health (ASRH) in emergencies in Jordan in mid-April for 4 days and has contacted the Reproductive Health Sub-Working Group (RHSWG) to nominate candidates among the members. The RHSWG identified interested candidates that fit the criteria and submitted their CVs.

Within its focus to bring improvement of adolescents' access to Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) care, UNFPA as the lead agency for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) presented and overview on "Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights". The aim was to mainstream adolescent and youth SRHR within the work of all RH actors.

Mercy Corps presented their project: WISE GIRLS implemented in Zaatari which focus on Youth and adolescents as active agents of change rather than passive recipients of SRH services. The project amplifies girls' voices to share with practitioners working with them and ensure that girls represent themselves in the field of development when it comes to disseminating SRH information and health awareness.

Nutrition:

- Caritas opened a new clinic in Ajloun governorate and will be doing nutrition assessment.
- The nutrition workplan for 2019 and the nutrition matrix updating process is in progress.
- The implementation phase of the national micronutrient deficiency survey has started with the training of surveyors and data collectors, and the field data collection is expected to be completed by the 3rd week of April.
- Towards maximizing the use of resources USAID-ABT Associate gave presented their project 'Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition' that aims to improve the health outcomes of women in reproductive age and children under five, including Syrian refugees living in Jordanian communities.



Child Protection Sub- Working Group:

During the reporting period, the review of agency Child Protection (CP) activities and programs for 2019 and planning for sector gap analysis were completed; Review and presentation of prioritization exercise; 33 CP member agencies participated selecting four main priorities for the Child Protection Sector Working Group (CPSWG):

- 1. Strategizing the inclusion and involvement of national actors and governmental actors to the CPSWG and critical CP prevention and response activities;
- 2. Developing a capacity building plan for CP actors addressing the transition to national partners;
- 3. Addressing school violence and child labor as well as children in conflict with the law;
- 4. Enhance Information Management Systems for the CPSWG;

The Terms of Reference (TOR) were updated with inputs from CPSWG member agencies; Information management of CP sector was discussed and the sector taxonomy was revised; training on the Service Advisor was provided to the CPSWG by the Information Management team at the Inter Agency Coordination Unit (ISWG); members agreed to add all agencies' activities on the tool; to be reviewed in March 2019.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence Sub- working Group

The Sexual and Gender Based Violence Working Group (SGBV WG) met regularly in February 2019. The Gender Justice report for Jordan prepared by UNDP, UNFPA and UN-women was presented. Highlights in February were the field testing of the application for safe referrals as well as preparation for the celebration of International Women's Day with common messages and development of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials. The sub-working group agreed on gaps and prioritization and it has been advocating for the OCHA humanitarian fund allocation.

Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS)

The MHPSS monthly meeting was held last month on the third Wednesday of February 2019.

As part of knowledge sharing, Action Against Hunger provided a presentation on their MHPSS work, the group discussed the way to coordinate the different Mental Health GAP training taking place and carried by different agencies, by the end the members discussed ways to improve referrals among agencies.



Za'atari camp:

The UNHCR Site Planning Unit has coordinated with UNICEF and partners on ground for support on draining and dewatering rainwater during the storm. Around 600 cubic meters of water was drained from the camp. And has been closely coordinating with OXFAM on water drainage system upgrade in District 3 and 4.

23 shelters were upgraded and repaired in the camp during February.

Azraq camp:

Waterproofing of shelters: UNHCR through NRC has started installing plastic sheet over the shelter roof, which is targeting 9.000 occupied shelters.

Shelter repairs and maintenance are ongoing through the Quick Fix Team for both vacant and allocated shelters. The target of fixing shelters is based on need for both the vacant and the allocated, over 150 shelters have been fixed during February.

180 shelters were upgraded and repaired in the camp during February.



Za'atari camp:

In February, the operation of the water and wastewater networks in Za'atari camp reached 79,000 beneficiaries while responding to the needs to the community during the adaptation phase. The Za'atari wastewater treatment received, on average, 5 wastewater trucks per day from surrounding communities where excess wastewater, approximately 10 per cent, is still being transferred to Akaider plant.

Host communities:

During February, UNICEF initiated a comprehensive assessment for 25 schools identified for rolling out of National WASH in Schools standards in 2019.

Progress was achieved in the preparation of several activities in the Jordan University for Science and Technology "Innovation Hub" including a Design Thinking Workshop and a Hackathon to be conducted in March.



In February 2019, the number of work permits issued for Syrian refugees by the Ministry of Labour was 3,046, out of which 6% were issued for female Syrian refugees. The total number of work permits issued since Jan 2016 is 135,386.

Following the Council of Ministers approval on the automatic renewal of Syrians work permits issued on 10 January 2019, related mechanism and procedures for work permits renewal are currently under development.

UNHCR maintains the Services Advisor by continually contacting and encouraging service providers on updating their projects. Services Advisor is a service mapping platform for all service providers in Jordan accessed by all beneficiaries in Jordan (refugees and host communities)

III. Contacts and links

For more information, please contact:

- Susana Boudon, Inter-Sector Coordinator: <u>boudon@unhcr.org</u> +962(0)79 256 11 98
- Jordan Refugee Response portal page at <u>http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=107</u>
- Sector Dash-boards: <u>http://scs.raisunhcr.org/</u>