Jordan

July 2024

The Higher Education Alliance in Jordan – a network of philanthropic, education and business partners – **signed an agreement** to facilitate better access for refugees to higher education and job opportunities.

As part of community support activities, the **"Passion for Painting" initiative** was launched in Irbid to help refugees and host communities enhance their painting skills and to provide a platform for sharing their stories.

UNHCR **restored the transfer value** of its basic needs cash assistance in host communities to the original amount. The transfer value had been decreased by 25 per cent in May due to funding shortfall.

A special education specialist conducts a session with Mohammad who has hearing and speaking impairment . @UNHCR/ Shawkat Al harfoush

PROTECTION

- UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, interviewed over 49,000 refugees in July for **registration** to ensure that they have proper and updated documents and can access basic services and support.
- During the month, UNHCR and its partners counselled and provided support (cash assistance, legal advice, psychosocial support, etc.) to almost 180 individuals who faced **gender-based violence and/or had child protection issues.**

In July UNHCR conducted **25 Mobile Helpdesk** missions to provide counselling to almost **1,000 refugees** who cannot come to the UNHCR registration centres.

- The number of cases involving gender-based violence referred to UNHCR almost doubled this month compared to the previous period. During the counselling sessions with UNHCR, most survivors requested cash assistance or to be resettled to a third country.
- UNHCR upgraded **the appointment system** which now supports self-service booking for registration and documentation through Interactive Voice Response (IVR) for all offices. This allows refugees to schedule appointments for renewal of their documents and birth registration directly.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- UNHCR, in collaboration with the Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development, supported the **initiative "Passion for Painting"** in Irbid aimed at enhancing painting skills of refugees and host communities. The initiative launched as part of the Community Support Committees (CSCs) project also provides a platform for expressing participants' feelings and sharing their stories.
- Almost **2,500 refugees** participated in different activities and events organized by the CSCs. These include social cohesion initiatives, sport events, empowerment and resilience-building activities, and awareness-raising sessions on healthy lifestyle, communication, legal matters and business practices.

CASH ASSISTANCE AND SELF-RELIANCE

- Thanks to slightly increased donor funding, UNHCR **restored the transfer value of its cash assistance for basic needs** in communities to the original amount of $176 per household in average, effective as of July. The transfer value had been reduced by 25 per cent to $132 per household in average in May due to funding shortfalls. Some 23,000 families will retroactively receive an additional 25 per cent top up on their August cash assistance for July.
- The Incentive-Based Volunteering scheme in Azraq now provides opportunities for 1,572 refugees including **105 disabled individuals**. This represents an increase of 2 per cent compared to 1,538 in June.

In July **200,000 refugees** in host communities and camps benefitted from **cash assistance.**

HEALTH

- UNHCR, through its partners, provided support to over **900 people with specific needs**, including the elderly and individuals with disabilities. The support includes provision of assistive devices; community-based rehabilitation services; counselling and psychosocial support. Due to limited resources, the waiting period for an initial appointment ranges from 1 to 4 weeks depending on the complexity of the case.
- Some **1,390 refugees from Azraq and Zaatari camps** received emergency and/or vital function-saving health interventions at affiliated public healthcare facilities.

EDUCATION

- Following a pledge made at the Global Refugee Forum in 2023, the newly founded Higher Education Alliance in Jordan – a network of 17 stakeholders including UNHCR, philanthropic, education and business partners – **signed an agreement** on 10 July to facilitate better access for refugees to higher education, vocational trainings and job opportunities.

SOLUTIONS

- In July, some 420 individuals left Jordan through **resettlement** in third countries.
- UNHCR identified **20 refugees** with relevant experience who might be eligible for job opportunities in Canada, where large construction firms are aiming to hire qualified refugees.

Throughout 2024, over **350 refugees** received counselling and assistance with preparation of their documents for moving to third countries to pursue **education and job opportunities.**

SHELTER

- UNHCR provided 95 new shelters and supported maintenance works for 105 shelters in Azraq and Zaatari camps. Additionally, 228 families in Azraq participated in **a refugee empowerment project** so that they could fix their shelters on their own.
- UNHCR supported World Vision International in the installation of 470 private latrines for vulnerable refugees in Azraq. This project helped **improve sanitary conditions, while 200 refugees were employed in this project**.

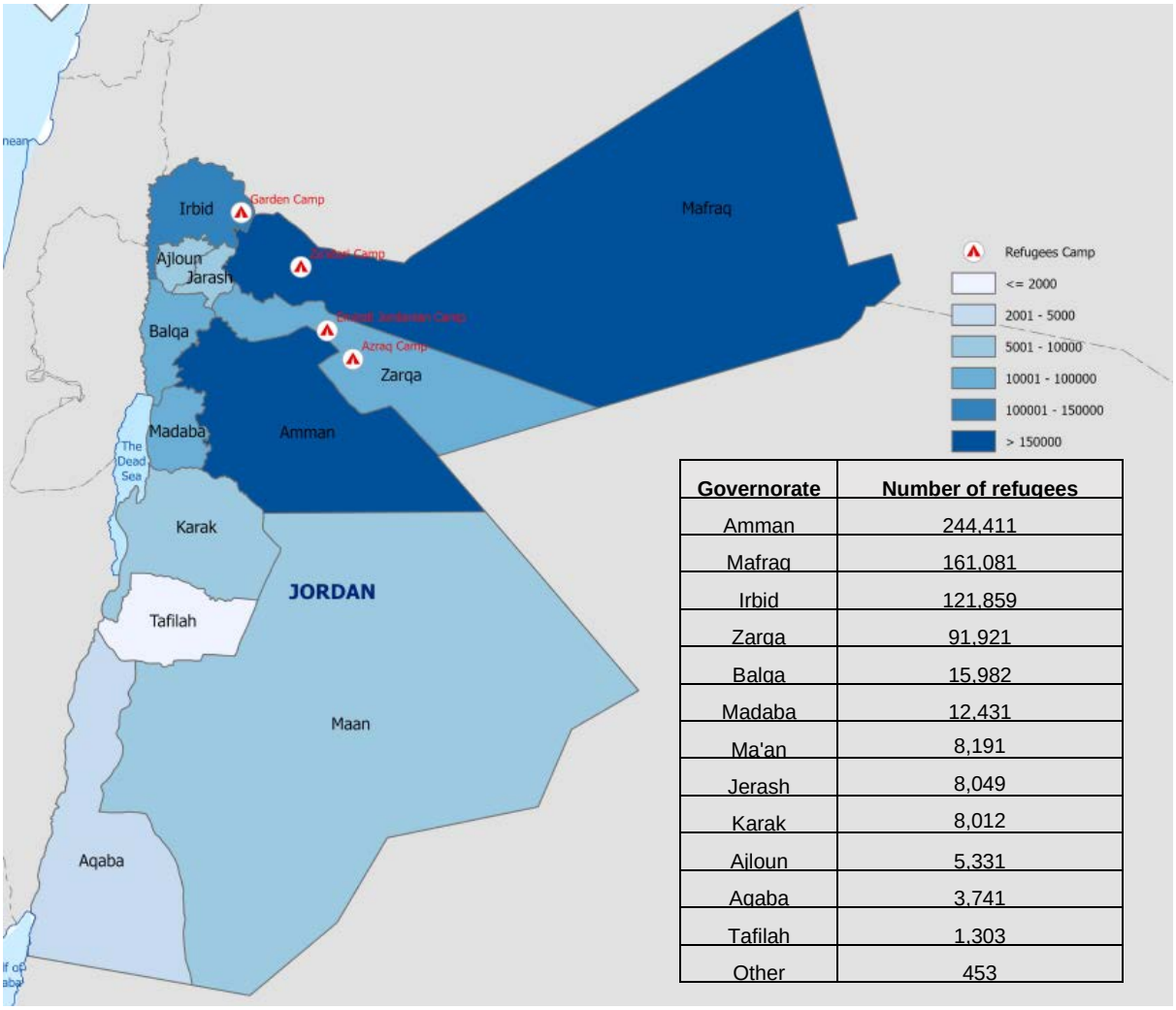
INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

- At the monthly Inter-Sector Working Group meeting UNHCR presented **2024 Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Jordan – VAF**, highlighting an overall worsening in the refugee situation in terms of food security, shelter, and income.

HIGH-PROFILE VISITS, PUBLIC EVENTS AND DONOR ENGAGEMENT

- UNHCR hosted high-level meetings and visits for representatives from the European Union, Germany, Japan, Qatar, the United Kingdom, and the International Finance Corporation. The visitors held consultations with UNHCR and met refugees in communities and/or camps to hear first-hand about their challenges and achievements. UNHCR also organized a visit of the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship, the World Bank, and Orange to Azraq and Zaatari to explore opportunities for engaging refugees in **the project on digital transformation and jobs for youth.**

Key Refugee Figures (as of 31 July 2024)



Governorate	Number of refugees
Amman	244,411
Mafraq	161,081
Irbid	121,859
Zarqa	91,921
Balqa	15,982
Madaba	12,431
Ma'an	8,191
Jerash	8,049
Karak	8,012
Ajloun	5,331
Aqaba	3,741
Tafilah	1,303
Other	453

** The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.*

- 81.5% refugees live outside camps **in communities**

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation in 2024 amount to some $98.3 million. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors, including those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and softly earmarked funds.

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