



## REFUGEE POPULATION IN JORDAN



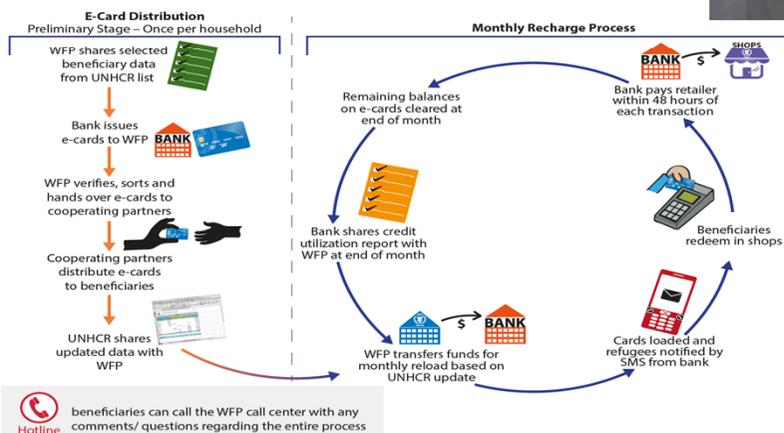
## FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

**Bread Distribution:** In the last two weeks of February, there was an increase in the number of Syrian refugees crossing the border into Jordan. On average, 600 refugees arrived per day, peaking at over 800. Due to the recent influx of new arrivals, WFP increased the daily distribution of bread at Za'atari camp by half a ton, to 22.5 metric tonnes.

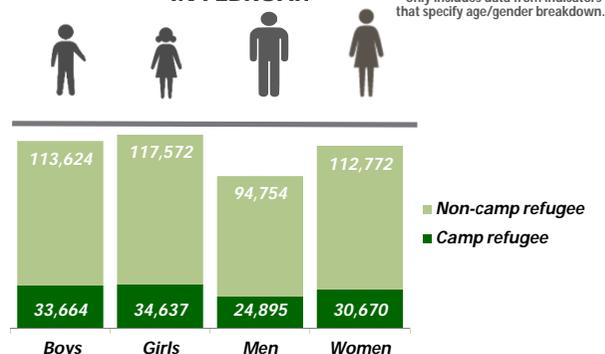
**Nutrition:** WFP implementing partner Save the Jordan officially launched the treatment for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) programme in Za'atari refugee camp. There was a screening period from 3 - 19 February, followed by an enrolment period of three days. The first distribution of SuperCereal Plus took place at the NRC distribution site on 26 February, and was attended by 94 children under 5 years of age, as well as 21 pregnant and lactating women.

**E-vouchers:** The second tranche of the e-voucher rollout began on 23 February (to be loaded in March) with plans to reach 47,691 beneficiaries (13,696 households) with e-cards in four governorates: Ramtha district in Irbid, Karak, Ma'an and Tafila. In the second half of February, WFP's partner bank uploaded the February entitlement to e-cards distributed as part of the e-voucher pilot as well as the first phase of e-voucher rollout. A total of 35,244 beneficiaries (9302 households) were assisted through e-cards.

## HOW E-CARDS WORK



## POPULATION ASSISTED\* BY FOOD SECURITY SECTOR IN FEBRUARY



## RRP6 OBJECTIVES

Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies in order to:

- Maintain food security and improve food availability, access and utilization for Syrian refugees in Jordan through appropriate and consistent food assistance.
- Improve food security including food availability, access and utilization for vulnerable Jordanian populations through targeted food production and livelihood interventions.
- Improve the nutritional status of Syrian refugees, particularly malnourished girls and boys under the age of five and pregnant and lactating mothers.
- Ensure effective and coordinated sectoral response through evidence-based food security and livelihood interventions.

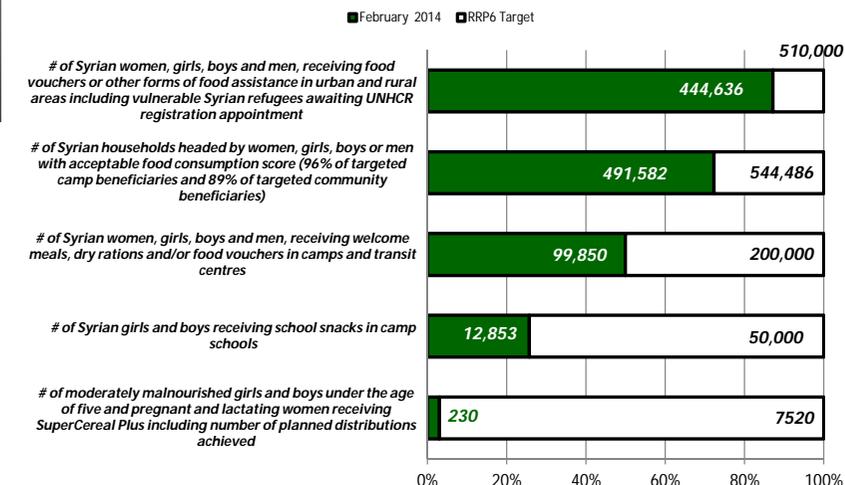
## NEEDS ANALYSIS

Food expenditure constitutes more than one-third of all expenditure for both Syrian refugees and Jordanians. The income versus expenditure gap, caused by limited livelihood opportunities, rising rent, food and service prices, induces increased use of negative coping strategies as the Syrian crisis becomes more protracted, increasing the financial pressure on vulnerable refugees and Jordanians alike.

Syrian refugees are highly reliant on food assistance as their main food source, and thus food assistance remains a high priority to prevent the deterioration of refugees' food security status, particularly in camp settings where there are very few income opportunities. Increased food, rent and service prices, combined with the refugee competition for informal unskilled labour has aggravated the food security and livelihood conditions of poor Jordanians living in host communities.

Recent assessments and monitoring have shown that beneficiaries prefer to go to shops on a regular basis (multiple times per week), given that many households have limited food storage capacity. In addition, beneficiaries have expressed dissatisfaction in having to attend monthly distributions due to expensive transportation costs, compounded by difficult weather conditions in the winter months. E-cards bring several important benefits to the beneficiaries, including the possibility of spending their monthly entitlements in multiple visits to the shops. This offers beneficiaries much more flexibility in their food purchases, as well as a greater sense of normalcy. As they resemble debit cards, e-cards also provide a more discrete assistance modality.

## PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS\*



\*The first three indicators are measured against monthly targets while the last two are measured against the annual targets