

JORDAN

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

July 2015

KEY FIGURES

686,501

Persons of concern (all nationalities) registered by UNHCR

629,883

Syrians registered by UNHCR

56,618

Iraqis, Somalis, Sudanese, Yemenis and others registered by UNHCR

80,704

Syrians in Zaatari Camp

20,975

Syrians in Azraq Camp

6,433

Syrians in Emirati-Jordanian Camp

SYRIAN REFUGEES HIT THE 4 MILLION MARK



A Syrian refugee from Homs stands outside the house in Karak, Jordan, where she, her husband and their four young children have found temporary safety. ©UNHCR / J. Kohler

The number of refugees fleeing the conflict in Syria to neighbouring countries passed the 4 million mark in July, making it the largest refugee population from a single conflict in a generation.

Jordan is host to some 630,000 Syrian refugees and now has the second highest refugee per capita rate in the world.

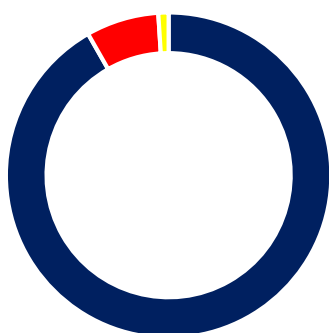
The majority of Syrians who fled for Jordan are now facing a second exile - marginalized by poverty, reliant on desperate survival strategies and bearing the brunt of reduced international humanitarian funding.

This further emphasizes the urgency of UNHCR's cash assistance programme in preventing recourse to begging, child labour, early marriage, reduced food intake and the dangerous strategy of returning to Syria.

The Lifeline Appeal in support of the programme, launched on World Refugee Day, 20 June, has so far (by the end of July) raised over US\$ 4.6 million but over nine thousand families still on the cash assistance waiting list remain in need.

In Arabic: <http://donate.unhcr.org/ar/lifeline>

In English: <http://donate.unhcr.org/international/lifeline>



■ Syrian

■ Iraqi

■ Others including Somalis, Sudanese and Yemenis.

AZRAQ CAMP: INCREASE IN MOVEMENT FROM URBAN AREAS



A Syrian refugee with her child at Azraq refugee camp in July 2015, now home to some 21,000 Syrian refugees. ©UNHCR/Christopher Herwig

A recent [inter-agency vulnerability survey](#) found 86 per cent of Syrian refugees live below the Jordanian poverty line of US\$ 96 per capita per month, and with average debt per capita at US\$ 221, larger numbers of refugees are finding it increasingly difficult to survive independently.

Faced with such pressures, increasing numbers are moving from urban areas to refugee camps. The number of urban refugees seeking shelter in Jordan's second largest camp, Azraq, increased fourfold in the first six months of this year with 3,658 people moving there from urban areas, compared to just 738 in the second half of 2014.

Four years into the conflict, urban refugees in Jordan are increasingly vulnerable with their savings depleted and the overwhelming majority unable to access work legally. Those living in Amman, in particular, are trying to survive in one of the most expensive cities in the Middle East. The recent reduction of World Food Programme (WFP) assistance will exacerbate their difficulties.

FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES: REDUCED BY HALF

WFP announced further cuts to food assistance in late July, leading to growing concerns about the impact of funding cuts on those displaced by the Syrian conflict living in Jordan.

WFP had announced a halt to all assistance to out of camp refugees in August but a last-minute reprieve of US\$ 21.3 million from the U.S. to the WFP operation in Jordan ensured that assistance for the most vulnerable would continue, albeit at reduced levels.

Some 211,000 individuals identified as severely vulnerable living outside of camps will receive US\$ 14 per capita per month until November 2015, whilst another 229,000 individuals identified as highly vulnerable will receive US\$ 7 per capita per month only for August 2015.

MALALA AT AZRAQ: “INCREASE FUNDING FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN”



Malala speaks at a press conference at the end of her visit to Azraq refugee camp on 13 July 2015. ©UNHCR/Mohammed Hawari

The education activist, Malala Yousafzai, visited Azraq refugee camp in Jordan's eastern desert on 13 July to appeal for more international funding for refugee children. The Nobel Peace Prize winner was in the Kingdom as part of a two day visit to Lebanon and Jordan coinciding with her 18th birthday.

"Education is a basic human right for every child. Being a refugee should not be used as an excuse for saying that we cannot afford this child's education," Malala told a news conference in Azraq camp, which is currently host to more than 20,000 Syrian refugees.

UNHCR's Representative to Jordan, Andrew Harper, said funding shortages have already had a negative effect on school enrollment among Syrian refugees in Jordan.

"What we're seeing at the moment, because we're having to cut back on assistance because of the lack of donor support, is that some 20 per cent of the children who were previously going to school are now not going," he said.

"Unfortunately we think that they are now working, or in some cases girls are being forced due to circumstances into early marriage. This is something which we should not allow to happen," he added.

Malala also used the visit to announce a US\$ 250,000 grant from her non-profit [Malala Fund](#) to provide tutoring and academic support for adolescent girls in the camp. The funding will be provided jointly to UNHCR and UNICEF, and among other initiatives will help young refugees prepare for their university entrance exams.

UNHCR LIFELINE APPEAL: DONATIONS REACH US\$ 4.6 MILLION



UNHCR's Lifeline Appeal helps prevent families from resorting to desperate measures to survive. ©UNHCR/Christopher Herwig

UNHCR's successful Lifeline Appeal campaign, launched during the holy month of Ramadan, raised \$4.6 million by the end of July. The Appeal provides urgent life-saving cash assistance to the most vulnerable Syrian refugee families living in Jordan's urban areas.

Exile is particularly worrying for the most vulnerable refugee population, including women, single heads of households and older refugees who live alone. Over one-third of urban refugee households in Jordan are headed by females, who often withdraw their children from school so that they may work and support the family.

The Lifeline Appeal campaign hopes to assist 12,000 refugee families who are waitlisted for cash assistance. The campaign is targeted at the general public, and seeks pledges of any amount. The cost to cover one family's basic needs for one year is US\$1,500.

The Lifeline Appeal is a package of support including helpline advice, home visits, and innovative cash assistance for the most vulnerable Syrian refugees in the country. Candidates go through a comprehensive eligibility and reassessment process that ensures refugees selected to receive cash assistance are the neediest.

Using state-of-the-art iris-scanning biometrics to prevent fraud, this cash assistance program empowers refugees, restores dignity, supports the local economy and fosters good relationships between the host community and the refugees. The system also has very low overheads, meaning that for every dollar donated to the cash assistance programme around 98 cents ends up in the pockets of refugees.

ZAATARI CAMP: THREE YEARS ON



Hundreds of shops and businesses on the “Champs-Élysées” street in Zaatari in July 2015. ©UNHCR/Christopher Herwig

29 July marked the third anniversary of the establishment of Zaatari amid huge inflows of refugees at the time from Syria. Now the largest refugee camp in the Middle East Zaatari is a sprawling, bustling home to around 81,000 Syrians.

Prefabricated shelters including family compounds have largely replaced the lines of tents that were initially there. More than half the population are children, presenting challenges not just on how to provide schooling and restore abruptly halted educations in Syria, but also in investing for the future.

1 in every 3 children in Zaatari does not attend school. There are also some 9,500 young people in the camp aged between 19-24 who need skills training and, like their older counterparts, need livelihood opportunities too. Some 5.2 percent of these were at university in Syria but had to drop out due to the conflict, while just 1.6 percent successfully graduated.

UNHCR are advocating for more opportunities for this generation of children - the future of Syria - and for millions of other refugees around the region in similar predicaments.

NEW IRAQI ARRIVALS: UNHCR PROVIDING EMERGENCY SUPPORT

Throughout June and July UNHCR has been providing emergency one-off cash assistance to Iraqis who arrived after intense fighting in northern Iraq a year ago. Some 1,400 Iraqis have been provided with a one-off emergency payment of US\$ 70 accessed with a temporary bank card, in addition to wider support provided by Caritas.

Close to 50,000 Iraqis are currently registered with UNHCR in Jordan with more than half of these registered since December 2013. The majority reside in the Amman Governorate. Over the past year 17,000 Iraqis have arrived seeking protection. The majority have come from areas affected most affected by fighting, including Anbar, Baghdad, Basra, Dahuk, Erbil and Ninewa.

CLOWNS WITHOUT BORDERS: PERFORMANCES ACROSS JORDAN

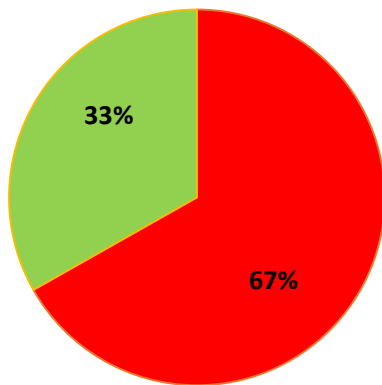


Jordanian and refugee children enjoy a Clowns Without Borders performance in Ajloun in July 2015. ©UNHCR

UNHCR facilitated a series of performances for refugee children and their families in urban and camp settings by Clowns Without Borders from 26 July – 6 August. The four Spanish clowns gave interactive performances in every major town across the country to Syrian, Iraqi, Somali and Sudanese refugee populations, as well as to Jordanians.

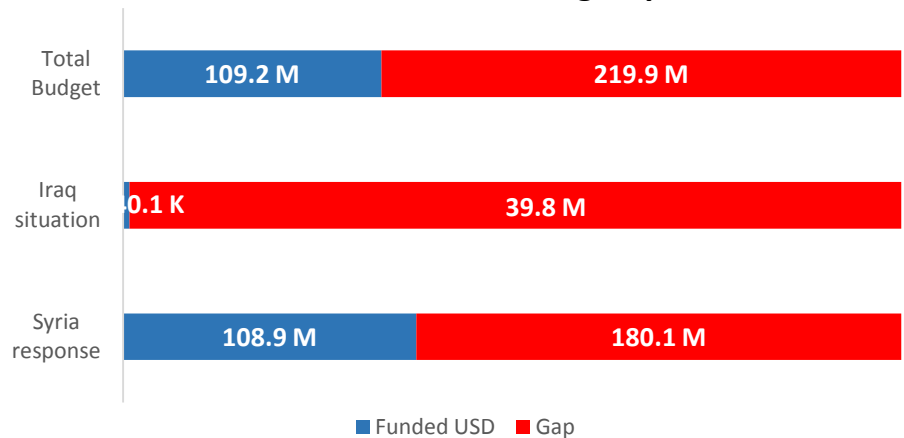
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR Jordan Funding Needs

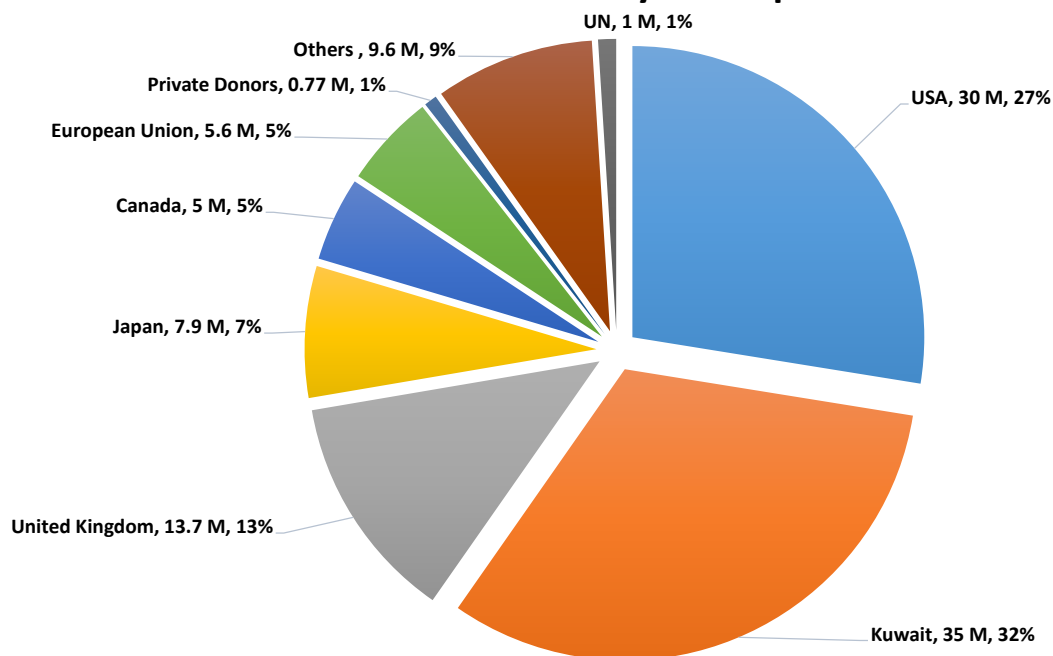


■ Gap USD ■ Funded USD

UNHCR Jordan Funding Gaps

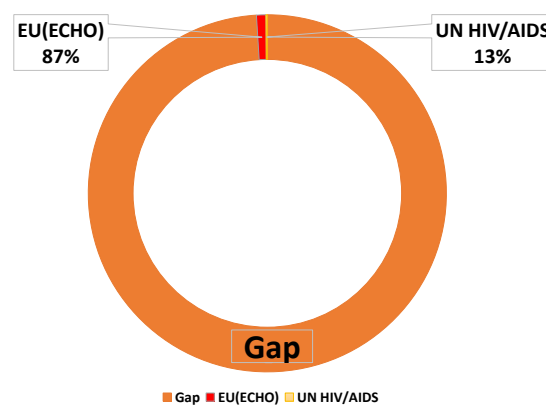


Donors to the Syria Response



■ USA ■ Kuwait ■ United Kingdom ■ Japan ■ Canada ■ European Union ■ Private Donors ■ Others ■ UN

Donors to the Iraq Situation



UNHCR PARTNERS

Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD-Legal Aid), Care International (CARE), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), International Relief and Development (IRD), Jordan Health Aid Society (JHAS), The Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD), Jordan River Foundation (JRF), Ministry of Interior (MOI), Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC) including the Civil Status Department, Family Protection Department & Ministry of Social Development, Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate (SRAD).

DONORS

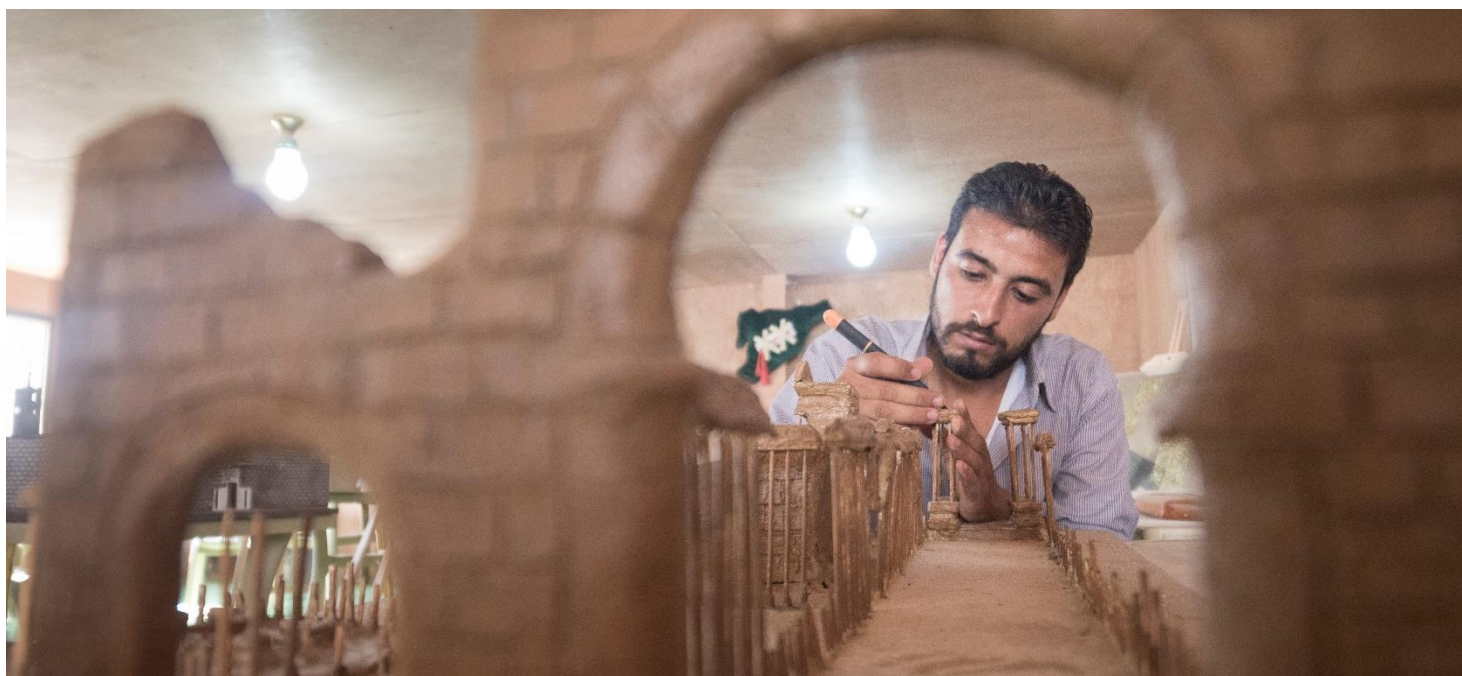
UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with earmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Major donors to UNHCR's refugee response in Jordan so far in 2015 (US\$):

Kuwait (35 M) | United States of America (30 M) | United Kingdom (13.7 M) | Japan (7.9 M) | European Union (6 M) | Canada (5 M) | Norway (2.6 M) | Czech Republic (1.8 M) | Switzerland (1.1 M) | CERF United Nations (1 M) |

Other donors of un-earmarked and regional funds to UNHCR:

Afghanistan | Algeria | Australia | Austria | Belgium | Costa Rica | Denmark | Estonia | Finland | France | Germany | Holy See | India | Italy | Kuwait | Latvia | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Morocco | Mozambique | New Zealand | Netherlands | Peru | Qatar | Rep. of Korea | Romania | Russia Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | South Africa | Sri Lanka | Sweden | Thailand | UAE | Uruguay



Mahmoud, an artist from Dara'a in southern Syria, works at a community centre run jointly by UNHCR and its NGO partner International Relief and Development (IRD) at Zaatari refugee camp. ©UNHCR/Christopher Herwig

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