



Photo: WFP/Jordan SHERKO



World Food Programme

## Jordan Country Office: PRRO and EMOP\*

\*PRRO: Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation / EMOP: Emergency Operation



Both the PRRO and the EMOP projects cover all 12 governorates in the country, with a higher concentration of beneficiaries in Amman and the northern governorates

### Highlights

- Generous donations were received from the United States/Food For Peace (USD 21.3 million to the EMOP and USD 2 million to the PRRO), allowing WFP to continue vital programmes. In addition to this contribution, others from France and private donors will allow WFP to provide reduced assistance to Syrian refugees in the communities and full assistance in camps through November 2015. Targeted Food Assistance (TFA) for vulnerable Jordanians will now be resumed in September 2015.
- Available funding is still not sufficient to continue assisting all WFP beneficiaries; as of September 2015, 229,000 vulnerable refugees in communities will no longer receive WFP assistance.
- Australian WFP Youth Ambassador Jessica Watson visited Jordan on 14–15 July. She spent the day with a female community leader and her family in Azraq, and visited a Save the Children youth centre in Amman. Watson, the youngest person to sail solo non-stop unassisted around the world, described her experience in Azraq as “certainly one of the best days” she has ever had.

### This month in numbers

**EMOP beneficiaries: 535,075**

Including **4,081** children also benefitting from the school feeding programme in camp informal schools (formal schools are on summer break).

**EMOP funding shortfall: USD 45 million (August–December 2015)**

Since July 2012, the EMOP voucher programme has injected over **USD 396 million** into the Jordanian economy.

**PRRO beneficiaries: 1,890**

**PRRO funding shortfall: USD 32.9 million (August–December 2015)**



Photo: WFP/Shaza MOGHRABY

- Graduates from intensive vocational courses under the food for training activity will be enrolled in on-the-job training starting from September, helping participants acquire new professional skills and enter the job market thereby earning a sustainable income.

## Context

- Jordan is a resource-poor, food-deficient country with limited agricultural land, no energy resources and scarce water supply.
- By July 2015, nearly 630,000 Syrian refugees were registered with UNHCR, stretching Jordan's resources and exacerbating the protracted economic crisis in the Kingdom. Over 85 percent of registered Syrian refugees live in communities, with the rest living in two camps (Azraq and Za'atri) and two transit centres (Cyber City and King Abdullah Park). While refugees are provided with essential services such as housing and health care in camps, they mostly have to fend for themselves in communities, paying rent, transportation and medical treatment. Refugees are not officially allowed to work and are thus largely dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their needs.
- While Jordan has made progress in socio-economic development and poverty alleviation, unemployment and inflation remain fundamental problems. The PRRO addresses the needs of vulnerable and food insecure Jordanians living in refugee-hosting communities affected by the economic crises and the Syrian conflict. It includes three major components: Food for Work/Training for rural vulnerable households, Targeted Food Assistance for urban vulnerable people, and capacity augmentation for the Government in the different areas of food security and social safety nets.
- In July, the Iraqi government announced the closure of their border with Jordan. The main Jordanian-Syrian border crossing has been closed since April. The country is therefore increasingly isolated with the closure of many trade routes.
- Over the past month, 25 shells from the fighting in Syria fell in the Jordanian border town of Ramtha.

## WFP Response

- In camps and transit centres, 95,425 refugees received monthly vouchers valued at JOD 20 (USD 28) per person; camp residents also received fresh bread every day.
- In communities, 227,695 vulnerable beneficiaries received JOD 10 (USD 14). 211,955 extremely vulnerable beneficiaries who should have received JOD 20 (USD 28), instead received JOD 15 (USD 21) due to funding shortfalls.
- In camps, formal schools were on summer break. However, informal schools still held classes, and

WFP reached 4,081 students with daily nutritious snacks.

- WFP and UNHCR conducted a rapid survey to assess possible reactions to voucher cuts for refugees; 24 percent of respondents said they would go back to Syria, with only 11 percent considering relocating to a camp inside Jordan and 30 percent not knowing what they would do. Amid assistance reductions from multiple agencies, only 50 percent of parents are sending children to school, with 59 percent of those whose children are out of school citing financial constraints as a reason.
- After resuming the food-for-work project for vulnerable Jordanians in June, July activities included conservation of planted forest mainly focusing on irrigation and protection against wild fires.

## Food Security Sector

- Other assistance provided in July during the Holy month of Ramadan included in-kind food parcels in Azraq and Za'atri camps donated by the Government of Kuwait. In communities, Caritas distributed JOD 60 (USD 85) food vouchers to 2,400 Syrian and Jordanian households across Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Karak, Madaba, Mafraq and Zarqa.
- The Regional Food Security Analysis Network (RFSAN) conducted two workshops in Amman, on 7 July and 27–30 July, to which members of the Food Security Sector were invited. Participants included government representatives, UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and research institutions. Topics covered included providing essential guidance on how best to address the common gaps in food security information systems (including a planned national stakeholder mapping and capacity assessment) and issues experienced by the regional food security community.

## Partnerships

- Under the Jordan Response Plan, WFP acts as secretariat for the Livelihoods and Food Security Task Force, chaired by the Ministry of Labour.
- WFP has partnerships and agreements with:



WFP Operation					
	Project Duration	August–December requirements (in USD)	August–December shortfall (in USD)	August–December Shortfall (%)	People Assisted in July
EMOP 200433	Jul 2012 — Dec 2015	75 million	45 million	60%	535,075
PRRO 200357	Aug 2013 — Dec	40.9 million	32.9 million	81%	1,890

Requirements according to operational figures



## Resourcing Update

- For August–December, the EMOP requires **over USD 45 million** to cover voucher assistance for both camps and communities, of which **60 percent is currently unfunded**.
- For the same period, the PRRO requires **over USD 32.9 million** to cover food and cash assistance to vulnerable Jordanians in host communities, of which **81 percent is currently unfunded**.

## Meet the Beneficiaries



Photo: WFP/Abdullah Ibrahim

WFP, in collaboration with Jordanian NGO NAJMAH as well as vocational training centres in different areas of northern Jordan (Ramtha, Mafraq and Irbid cities), supported a vocational training programme under the food-for-training project that boosted the technical skills of hundreds of participants, many of whom were women.

Nadia, 41 years of age, is from Mafraq. She has ten kids, but struggled to find a job due to the economic situation in Jordan. Through WFP's vocational training programme, she has now become an assistant baker so that she could help her family. Nadia picked up the skills of the trade quickly, gathering 26 of her colleagues at the center to open their own business in Mafraq. They called it the "Sister's Gathering."

"I received valuable training on the secret of baking good pastries and thought of creating a business with my training mates. We put the skills and information we got from the WFP-NAJMAH vocational training programme to very good use."

Nadia is becoming well-known in her field. She received many requests for her date bars and desserts for the occasion of Eid al-Fitr, the celebration following the Muslim Holy month of Ramadan. The expansion of her business will help provide financial support for her young children and those of her colleagues.

## Contacts

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