

# Jordan

## February 2020

UNHCR has been closely monitoring the evolution of the Covid19 situation in Jordan and has been scaling up its preparedness plans, particularly for refugee camps, together with WHO and partners and under the leadership of the Ministry of Health.

WHO-approved hygiene-promotion measures and hygiene-awareness messages have been enhanced for staff and persons of concerns all around the Kingdom and in refugee camps.

181,843 work permits have been issued for Syrian refugees from 2016 until Mid-February 2020, including 4,921 permits since the beginning of the year.

A team of refugees from Zaatari camp won the 2020 Jordan Energy Hackathon, offering innovative solutions to energy challenges in Jordan, including in refugee camps.

## 746,506

Refugees in Jordan as of 29 February 2020

## 83.4%

Refugees living outside camps in urban areas

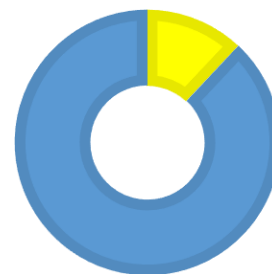
## 16.6%

Refugees living in three camps in Jordan – Azraq, Zaatari and The Emirati Jordanian

FUNDING (AS OF 6 MARCH 2020)

## USD 356.4 million

UNHCR Jordan's financial requirements in 2020



**Funded 12%**

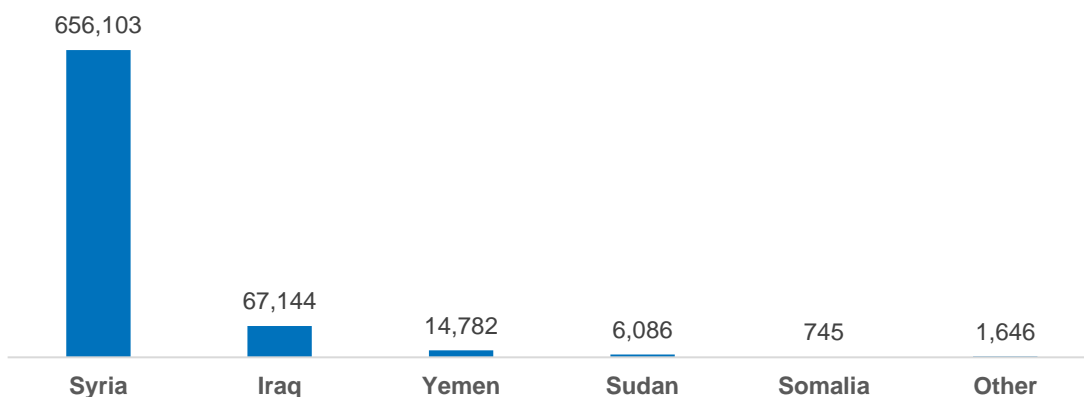
**\$ 43,32 million**

**Unfunded 88%**

**\$ 313 million**

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

### Countries of Origin



**PROTECTION**

- During the month of February, a total of 15,537 individuals underwent renewal of their asylum seeker/refugee certificates at UNHCR Registration centers in Amman, Mafrqa and Irbid. In order to ensure access to continue registration and accompanying services, the registration units in all locations carried out mobile registration missions and home and hospital visits for persons of concern who are unable to reach UNHCR's urban Registration Centres. 722 cases were supported through mobile registration missions to Zarqa, Ma'an and Aqaba. 190 cases were renewed in Nuzha CSC while 42 families were renewed at homes and hospitals as part of Amman's outreach activities. 56 cases were supported in Mafrqa Governorate and 25 in Irbid Governorate.
- During the reporting period, the Social Protection unit counselled and supported 94 cases survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence who benefited from case management, legal, and mental health, as well as Cash-Based intervention services through UNHCR or implementing partners in the field.
- 491 children were provided with Case Management Services in February, and 924 birth certificates were issued during the reporting time.

**COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE**

- The Council of Ministers approved an amended Labour Law, with changes designed to support Jordanian employment and increase the percentage of women working in the local market. At the same time, the amendments have broadened the protection sphere under the Labour law for both Jordanian and non-Jordanian migrant and refugee workers, by tackling informal employment activities which are often at the detriment of worker's interest. The Grace Period for Syrian refugee Work Permits fees waiver has been extended for the ninth time, until end of 2020.
- In Zaatari camp, 13,406 active work permits (77% male, 23% female) are recorded at the end of February. Work permit-holders currently represent approximately 29 % of Zaatari Camp's working-age active population between the age of 18 to 60. An additional 154 refugees recorded their newly issued work permits.
- At the end of February, a total of 3,803 active work permits are registered in Azraq camp, out of which 2,473 are males and 1,330 are females. In addition, 158 work permits have been renewed during the reporting period. Additionally, some 1,802 refugees (55% male and 45 % female) are engaged in the Incentive-Based Volunteers scheme, providing basic opportunities to enhance their resilience and self-reliance.

**CASH ASSISTANCE FOR BASIC NEEDS**

- During the reporting period a total of USD 5,787,496 were distributed to 133,876 individuals for Basic Needs assistance, Urgent Cash Assistance (UCA) and Health assistance.
- 30,000 Syrian and 2,800 non-Syrian refugee families received cash for Basic Needs Assistance, while 356 Syrian refugee families who live in urban areas received cash for Health Assistance
- The Helpline answered 212,696 calls in February on enquiries for monthly cash for basic needs, winterization, registrations and other questions asked by refugees.

**HEALTH**

- With regards to the Corona Virus preparedness, the Minister of Health (MoH) confirmed that refugees are included in the National Health Response Plan. Additionally, UNHCR is actively stepping up its preparedness, with a particular focus on refugee camps. In this regard, both Zaatari and Azraq Refugee Response Teams, comprising key operational partners in the camps, were activated in February to discuss and follow up on COVID-19. MoH/WHO guidance and instructions regarding COVID-19 response were shared with the partners and camp health facilities while MoH/WHO messages and awareness leaflets are being widely shared among refugees. While no refugee is among the confirmed cases in Jordan, surveillance and reporting mechanisms of any suspected cases in the camps are active according to MoH' case definition.
- UNHCR has also been participating in the latest rounds of the UNCT/Corona Management Team operational taskforce, to enhance the preparedness and response plan in Jordan, co-led by the Ministry of Health and WHO. An initial plan which includes procurement of medical items and awareness-raising communication material has been presented to the donor community, which has already stated its readiness to provide support.

**DURABLE SOLUTIONS**

- So far in 2020, UNHCR Jordan has received confirmation of 4,250 slots for refugee resettlement (quotas) from Canada, the UK, Sweden, Ireland, Germany, Italy, France, Norway and Portugal. UNHCR is awaiting additional pledges and quota distributions from several other countries.
- In February the resettlement unit completed the quota for the first Swedish mission (300 individuals) and France (100). The unit also referred cases for the second Swedish selection mission as well as for Canada and the UK.
- In the month of February, 597 refugees were submitted from Jordan to resettlement countries, bringing the total number of submissions during 2019 to 887 individuals.

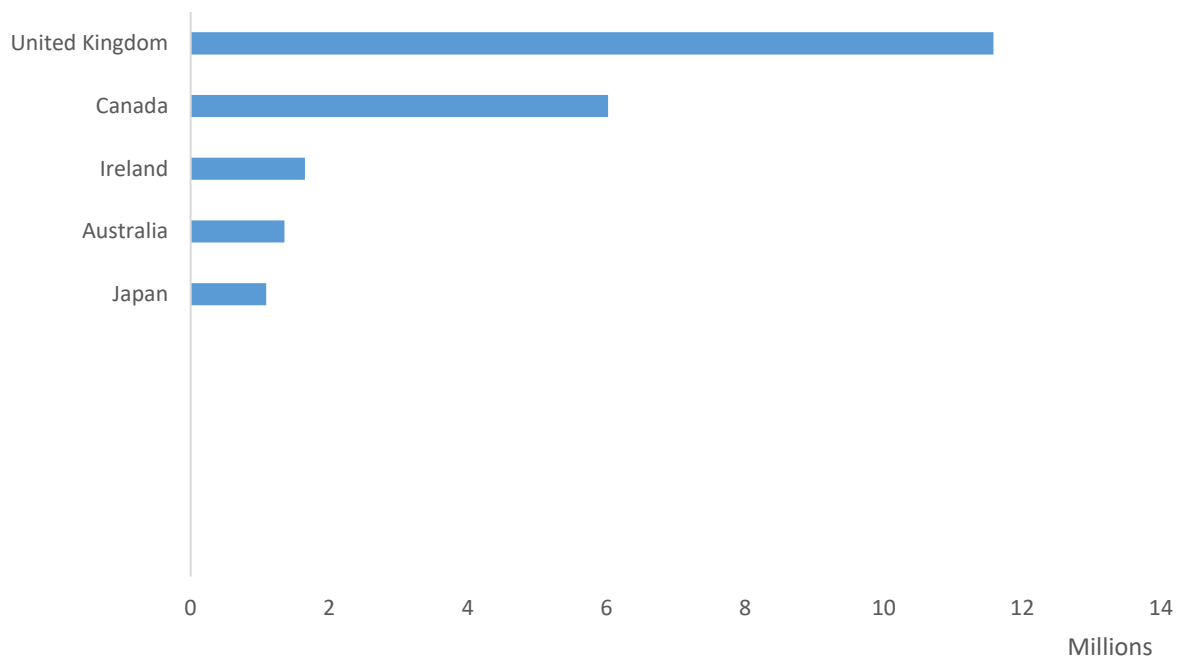
**Donor and High-Profile Visits to UNHCR Jordan**

- UNHCR Jordan attended the Jordan-Norway Business Forum on 2 March 2020 which was organized on occasion of the State visit by the Norwegian Royal couple by the Norwegian Minister of Trade and Industry H.E. Ms. Iselin Nybø, and the CEO of Innovation Norway, Mr. Håkon Haugli. During the Forum, the winners of the Jordan Energy Hackathon 2020, launched on 20 February 2020 to come up with innovative solutions to energy challenges, were awarded and amongst the winners was a group of refugees from Zaatari.
- UNHCR also engaged with the new head of OFPRA, the French Asylum Agency, Mr. Julien Boucher, during his visit to Jordan, including through a field visit to Zaatari camp and Mafraq on 2 March 2020. Amongst the priorities discussed is the strategic use of Refugee Status Determination, and the importance of Resettlement as a burden-sharing tool.

## Financial Information

Total contributions are over **\$43 million** as of 6 March 2020, covering **12%** of overall needs for refugees in Jordan.

### EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS to UNHCR Jordan in 2020 (over 1 million USD):



### OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

**Germany 55.8 million | Canada 2.3 million**

### UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

**Sweden 76.4 million | Norway 41.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 26.4 million | Switzerland 16.4 million**

## CONTACTS

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