



WORK PERMITS AND ECONOMIC INCLUSION OF SYRIAN REFUGEES IN JORDAN



656,512

Syrian Refugees registered
with UNHCR in Jordan



300,468

In working age
(or 45.7% of the population)



22.5%

Men mostly work in agriculture & construction

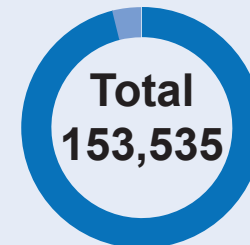


23.3%

Women prefer home-based activities

Cumulative number of work permits issued:

146,473



7,262

- Syrian Refugees' work is regulated by Jordanian Labour Law as it applies to migrant workers
- Syrian Refugees can work in the occupations open to foreigners; many sectors of work are not available to them including health, teaching, engineering and technical professions
- Syrian Refugees can register and operate a business



**Zaatari Office for Employment
12,835 Work Permit**



**Azraq Centre for Employment
6,172 Work Permit**



'Supporting
Syria & the
Region
Conference'
London
February 2016

**Jobs and economic
opportunities**
Better trade conditions
(including EU rules of
origin)
Support programmes -
bilateral & concessional
funding



**Agricultural
Cooperative
facilitates access
to work permits**



**Ministry of Labour
adjusted the skilled
occupations open for
foreigners in manu-
facturing**



**Regulations
restricting
home-based
businesses**



**Ministry of Labour
issued circular
allowing Syrian
refugees to move
freely between
employers & sectors**

June 2019
Number of valid
work permits
decreased due to
new Ministry of
Labour internal
instructions



**Issuance of work permits
for Syrian Refugees made
easier by the government**
One year renewable
Ministry of Interior card
Free of Charge



**Refugees in
camps allowed to
work outside**



**'Freelance' work permits
in construction through
the General Federation
of Jordanian Trade
Unions**



**'Supporting Syria
and the Region
Conference'
Brussels I & II
2017 & 2018**



**New decision
issued to allow
Syrian refugees
to register &
operate
home-based
businesses**
November 2018



WHAT DOES UNHCR DO?

Coordination, Information Sharing and Advocacy

Chair the Livelihoods Working Group with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) as part of the Inter-Sector Coordination.

Implement Livelihoods Projects

Alternative pathways to cash assistance project, in partnership with Jordan River Foundation (JRF) and Danish Refugee Council (DRC). UNHCR refers Syrian refugees to employment services, business coaching, training and apprenticeships, including training for IKEA production.

Annual Survey on Work Permits

Run by UNHCR, World Bank (WB) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), to better understand trends and motivations, targeting employers and working Syrians.

Financial inclusion project

A joint programme developed by UNHCR and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) to facilitate access to credit for income-generating activities and consumption for the refugees and host communities. Grameen Crédit Agricole Foundation (GCAF) has been selected by the parties as partner for this initiative. Microfinanza has been selected by GCAF to conduct a country assessment on the needs of refugees for financial and non-financial services.

Mobility for Employment

Zaatari Office for Employment (ZOE) and Azraq Centre for Employment (ACE) run with the International Labour Organization increase mobility of camps residents to work outside camps, and provide information on employment.

Support to Artisanal Work

Promote MADE51 initiative and direct implementation with SEP Jordan.
Train Syrian refugee women to become part of the SEP production with Palestinians refugee.

Cash for Work

Monitoring and standardizing Cash for Work (C4W) in camps.
Help refugees to earn and gain work experience in selected sectors through volunteering.

Communicating with Communities

Outreach and information sharing, FAQs, town hall meetings, participatory assessments, consultations on specific themes, SMS for information, referrals through UNHCR Helpline.
Ensure policies are understood by all.

Capacity Building

Support Ministry of Labour's Syria Refugee Unit.

Outreach, referral, and jobs

Dialogue with private sector & outreach through community-based job fairs.
Support to livelihoods partners, using UNHCR data to identify Syrian refugees by geographical location, skill, occupation, age and gender. Linking cash assistance to livelihoods programmes.

Protection Mainstreaming

Guidance and training to livelihoods actors in Jordan, provide legal services/guidance to refugees' in-need.