



This update aims to provide information on progress towards implementation of the objectives of the Jordan Contingency & Response Plan in response to COVID-19. It is available through UNHCR's Operational Portal at [COVID-19 Response Page](#)

I. General Update

As per decision of the Ministry of Interior (MoI), all expired UNHCR-issued Asylum Seeker/Refugee certificates are to be considered valid until the end of 2020. This decision comes into effect in an effort to facilitate access to rights and services while limiting large gatherings and to avoid exposing refugees and asylum seekers at risk of COVID 19. Refugees and asylum seekers in Jordan may still access the available services (health, education, etc.) as per the regular procedures, even if their certificate has expired.

As per the decision of the Ministry of Health (MoH), all non-Syrian asylum seekers and refugees across the Kingdom will now be able to access healthcare at hospitals and medical facilities run by the Ministry of Health at the non-insured Jordanian rate by presenting their UNHCR-issued Asylum Seeker/Refugee certificates. The MoH is already in the process of informing all relevant health facilities accordingly and UNHCR stands ready with its helpline to assist refugees should they experience difficulties in accessing the health care at non-insured Jordanian rate.

II. Sector Update



HEALTH

Key Activities:

- Zarqa health directorate nominated 2 ENT specialists to facilitate a training on PCR sampling in Azraq camp; A total of 22 medical staff including doctors and nurses from UNHCR partners have been trained by the Ministry of Health team.
- Surveillance activities in Za'atari camp continue: one case was suspected on 30 of June at the affiliated hospital, and the result was negative for RT-PCR selective/random tests at the Moroccan Hospital and IMC; a total of 203 tests were conducted. All random tests were negative.
- The HAV vaccine has been introduced to the EPI as of 1 July. A training was conducted for all vaccination centres in Za'atari camp by MoH and EMPHNET in coordination with UNHCR.
- MSF has completed the construction of the inpatient COVID treatment center in Za'atari camp. MSF recruited the minimum medical team needed and most of medical materials as well as essential medicines are in place. The COVID-19 in-patient treatment center is on standby for inpatient - admission for moderate – severe (noncritical cases) in case of COVID-19 outbreak in the camp.
- WHO regional office is modeling the Oxford international application in collaboration with the Jordanian national authorities, for the second round.



BASIC NEEDS

Key Activities:

- In July, 4,710 cases (60% Syrian, 30% Non-Syrian) in urban areas have been booked to be assisted under COVID-19 emergency assistance by CRTF partners.

- UNHCR cash assistance covering the needs of gas cooking, baby diapers, and sanitary napkins was completed between 28 June and 9 July in Za’atari camp. The distribution also included a cleaning kit provided by LWF and SIDA in addition to soap bars provided by UNICEF.

Challenges:

- Funding to meet the needs for the unassisted families identified under the COVID-19 emergency response with at least 1-month assistance remains a critical gap.



FOOD SECURITY

Key Activities:

- On July 6th WFP completed its July cash assistance of almost USD 13.5 million to 480,000 refugees living in communities across the 12 governorates and to refugees living in both Azraq and Za’atari camps. A staggered approach is still being used to transfer assistance to refugees living in camps to avoid overcrowding.
- More than 3,000 new refugees of other nationalities have received their e-cards during June and will receive first cash assistance in July. Card distribution by cooperating partners which was seriously curtailed due to travel restrictions imposed during COVID has resumed in earnest as partners follow a house to house distribution protocol developed by WFP in order to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
- Third Beneficiary Contact Monitoring report in camps and communities has been completed and will be circulated early/mid-July.
- [Market Price Bulletins](#): The weekly price monitoring bulletin was published. The report details the monitoring and analyses of food prices in camp shops in Za’atari and Azraq refugee camps in Jordan. Key highlights from the most recent report finds that prices of vegetables in both camps fell unanimously continuing downward trend from the beginning of June due to increase of supply of vegetables in the national market. While prices for most of the cheapest available staple commodities remained unchanged/displayed decrease, price for protein-rich foods continue to fluctuate.



PROTECTION

Key Activities:

- The PWG TF will further enhance coordination with the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) regarding protection risks and related interventions, as well as to provide technical and policy support to strengthen and extend Jordan’s social protection system. PWG TF’s primary responsibilities include a) improving coordination on vulnerability and impact assessments for both Jordanians and non-Jordanians, including exploring options for joint assessments; b) strengthening the NSPS to include refugees, allowing for needs-based programming across all populations and ensuring all vulnerable people have access to adequate social protection services; c) improving aid effectiveness and minimizing protection gaps by ensuring complementarity and harmonization with MoSD engagements and promoting data collection and data sharing; and d) providing technical and policy support on other issues as required related to the inclusion of refugees in national systems, including supporting the development of protection related policy frameworks and development strategies.
- Lack of access to livelihood leads people to harmful coping mechanisms and PWG partners are actively delivering cash assistance for the most vulnerable beneficiaries. One payment for protection emergency needs is ongoing following the government modalities and regulation during the COVID 19 lockdown. UN Women is offering cash assistance to GBV survivors and women at risk in different locations across the kingdom. Contacts details for referral are available on the COVID 19 section on Amaali app. UNFPA distributed 3,000 dignity kits in Za’atari camp, providing basic hygiene items together with information on where to seek help for GBV survivors and mobile credit to reach hotlines.
- High level of stress and shortage of income increased child labor which is expected to further grow due to economic challenges. CP Sub-WG has focused on the possibility of increased numbers of child labor cases after removing the movement restrictions and taking into consideration the financial difficulties resulting

from COVID-19. Main actors to prevent and respond to child labor such as the Ministry of Labor, ILO and NCFCA attended the meeting in addition to CP WG members. The focus will be on two themes: the interaction between CP and Education WGs and parenting skills.

- In-person case management and group activities have resumed in camps and urban areas in most women and girls' safe spaces considering risk mitigation and social distancing measures, with the presence of up to 30% of beneficiaries for group activities.
- UNFPA, Plan International and IFH conducted a discussion on the impact of COVID 19 on women and girls with different stakeholders including the Government recording of the event is available here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgr4KdW_lyA
- The Za'atari Sharia Court since its reopening after the lockdown continues to process pending marriage contracts to prevent refugees' marriages from converting into illegal out-of-court weddings. Protection in coordination with Health ensured that the needed medical tests can be completed in the camp.



Key Activities:

- UNICEF continued supplying an average of 6.5 million litres of safe water daily in Azraq, Za'atari, and KAP Camps and 675,000 litres of water per day to more than 8,000 children and their families in Rukban in order to meet higher water demand due to rising temperatures as well as COVID-19 response.
- UNICEF supported the MSF hospital in Za'atari camp by installing one prefab unit for housekeeping personnel, connected to the water and wastewater networks; UNICEF has also distributed 500 soap bars to staff and patients at the hospital.
- A blanket distribution of soap, cleaning kits and financial assistance is being delivered in Za'atari camp (76,200 individuals) and Azraq camp (36,055 individuals) by UNICEF, in coordination with LWF, NRC and in KAP Camp, UNICEF has concluded a blanket distribution of soap bars targeting 600 individuals.
- UNICEF has additionally moved two WASH units, both gender-separated and disability accessible, to the quarantine area in KAP, and ensured their connection to water and wastewater services. There are now two quarantine areas in KAP Camp, each with two WASH blocks, meeting the higher capacity needs for individuals returning to the camp.



Key Activities:

- Ahead of the new academic year starting in August, the UN agencies and NGOs have been working on preparation for the Safely Back to School campaign, in line with the MOE-MOH school reopening guidance. The campaign consists of i) a national media campaign; ii) outreach and referral for at risk children; iii) preparation for safe reopening of schools; and iv) continued support to children's learning recovery through formal, non-formal and informal education.
- Several organizations including Save the Children, World Vision, Seenaryo, the Jordanian Hashemite Fund, and Vento Di Terra continue to provide Early Childhood Education through various platforms such as SMS and WhatsApp. 3,064 boys and girls were reached across Azraq camp, Za'atari camp, Amman Qasabah, Hashim Al Shamali, and Jabal al Qusur.
- UNICEF distributed learning materials to nearly 20,000 vulnerable Grade 4–6 students (50% female) in refugee camps and temporary settlements, and provided 10,000 families with school-aged children in refugee camps with 10GB of free internet data per month to enable access to online learning to ensure continued learning for the most vulnerable populations in Jordan.

- 849 children with disabilities (44% female) in refugee camps benefitted from UNICEF’s rehabilitation home visits and customized learning materials to meet individual learning needs. UNICEF enabled nearly 4,000 students enrolled in non-formal education to continue learning online and through WhatsApp groups, including psychosocial support services provided to 200 adolescent girls.
- From 05-09 July a total of 724 learners accessed Kolibri platform for virtual classes, 425 from Za’atari Camp (Blumont), 109 from Azraq Camp (CARE) and 190 from out of camp locations (JOHUD) consisting of 366 males and 358 females. Learners this week focused on online exercises, which were developed by Jordanian and refugee coaches and coordinators. This week the learners concentrated on Mathematics and Arabic advanced lessons as these deem most challenging to them.



LIVELIHOODS

Key Activities:

- As the Jordanian Government has lifted most restrictions, and with the economic sector almost completely opened, partners in the Livelihoods sector are resuming some activities and adhering to the Health Ministry’s precautionary measures including wearing face masks and keeping social distancing, and continue to review and adjust programming for 2020.
- Work permit processing has resumed, with priority given to Cash for Work and renewals of expired work permits. New issuance for work permits in private sector and free-lancer work permits is still pending. Urban employment centers are expected to open in July.
- Livelihoods was the central theme for discussion during the Humanitarian Partners Forum, key messages about the impact of COVID on the Livelihood sector were conveyed during the meeting, as well as outlining the main sectoral issues and indicating some potential opportunities

Challenges:

- Although the economy has re-opened, forecasts anticipate that not all occupational sectors will return quickly and potentially some opportunities that were there before will be lost (e.g. informal labor market).
- Vocational centers are still closed and at the same time projects with vocational training components should be completed soon.



SHELTER

Key Activities:

- Shelter repairs project for vulnerable cases is under continuation, with the targeted 1000 cases. This was stopped during the lock down and repairs were limited to only urgent cases.
- RefuGIS team continued to update the address system in the camp using GIS co-ordinates to feed and update the master plan of the camp.
- The revision of the cash for rent guidelines 2020 started to include referrals from emergency cash assistance (Covid-19)

III. Contacts and links

For more information, please contact:

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- Jordan Refugee Response portal page at <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/working-group/251?sv=4&geo=36>