Operational Context

Jordan is an upper middle-income country, with a population of 10.5 million, of which 2.9 million are non-citizens, including refugees. Jordan is also a resource-poor, food-deficit country with limited agricultural land, no energy resources and a scarce water supply. Nationally, 0.5 percent of Jordanian households are considered food insecure and an additional 5.7 percent are vulnerable to food insecurity. Over 15.7 percent of the population lives below the poverty line and a third is considered transient poor. Analysis from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) further shows that poverty over the life cycle is concentrated among children in Jordan, particularly among those between the ages of 5 and 12, the proportion reaching 20 percent for this age group. WFP’s 2018 Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment shows a worsening food security situation among Syrian refugees in Jordan. According to the Department of Statistics, unemployment stood at 19.2 percent during the second quarter of 2019 - an increase by 0.5 percent compared to the second quarter of 2018. The unemployment rate among men stood at 17.1 percent compared to 27.2 percent among women.

In addition to that, Jordan burdens the social, economic and environmental impacts of hosting the 650,000 Syrian and 90,000 refugees of other nationalities registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. WFP has been present in Jordan since 1964.

Operational Updates

- WFP presented its Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2020 – 2022 at the November Executive Board with the presence of its main partner, the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC). WFP’s main donors reinforced their commitment to supporting Jordan and WFP’s operation in the country. Through this CSP, WFP will adopt a more integrated humanitarian-development approach. This means providing humanitarian assistance for existing and future crisis, while increasing focus on the medium to longer-term needs and priorities of Jordan by transitioning towards resilience building through social protection and livelihoods. There will be a particular emphasis on empowering women, youth and people with disabilities.

- In November, WFP and the National Aid Fund (NAF) started the preparatory work for the 2020 Takaful Programme expansion. Beneficiary validation, payments, M&E and complaints and feedback mechanisms will continue to be the main workstream for WFP’s technical and financial assistance to NAF.

- Thus far, 89 percent of refugees residing in communities and receiving WFP’s unconditional food assistance confirmed their presence in the country through the biometric validation process. The first quarterly validation exercise, conducted in collaboration with IrisGuard and the Post Office, will be completed by mid-December 2019.

- Under its commitment to nutrition sensitive programming, WFP held a results workshop for the assessment of the Social Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) initiative. The initiative, which will inform the development of a strategy, aims at improving healthy eating habits among school aged children. The workshop introduced to multi-stakeholders in the health and nutrition sector the outcomes of the formative research conducted in camps and communities, which paves the way for identifying behavioural change interventions in
WFP Country Strategy

Jordan Transitional ICSP (January 2018 - December 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (in US$)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in US$)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>505 m</td>
<td>419 m</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Requirements (in US$)</td>
<td>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US$) (January - June 2020)</td>
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<td>265 m</td>
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</tbody>
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**Strategic Result 1:** Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food-insecure refugees, including school-aged children have access to safe, adequate and nutritious food.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

**Activities:**
- Provide unconditional resource transfers to Syrian refugees.
- Provide school meals and nutrition related communication and behavioural change activities to refugee children.

**Strategic Result 1:** Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable Jordanians, including school-aged children are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition needs.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**
- Provide unconditional resource transfers to vulnerable Jordanians.
- Provide school meals and nutrition related communication and behavioural change activities to children in host communities.

**Strategic Result 3:** Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes.

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable women and men in targeted refugee and Jordanian communities sustainably improve their skills, capacities, and livelihood opportunities.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**
- Provide asset creation and livelihood support activities including through individual capacity strengthening to vulnerable Syrians and Jordanians.

Prioritised areas of Jordan. The results were discussed internally and with external stakeholders, including the ministries of Education and Health, UN and NGO counterparts.

- WFP developed a disability inclusion guide assessment to identify challenges faced by people living with disability and elderly in the camps. The assessment guide documented good practices with dedicated actions to be incorporated into the programme cycle through specialized partners. The results will inform the design of future activities under the General Food Assistance.

- WFP Jordan’s “H2Grow” hydroponics project was presented at the Paris Peace Forum, which brought together world leaders, international organisations, NGOs, companies, universities and many others to focus on collective solutions to some of the world’s greatest challenges, including climate change, migration, economic inequality and conflict. Jordan is one of seven countries where WFP has introduced H2Grow. A short video is available to find out more about the project.

- WFP marked the 16 Days of Activism campaign during an all staff event where global and national themes were highlighted marking WFP’s firm position against Gender Based Violence (GBV). In line with WFP’s goal of Zero Hunger by the year 2030, the importance of even greater emphasis on GBV was recognized given the correlation between ending GBV to reach zero hunger. A video is available to learn more about the linkages between food security and GBV.

**Monitoring**

- WFP signed an agreement with IMPACT/REACH to contribute for the assessment of informal tented settlements (ITS). The assessment will start with data collection in early December 2019, and will provide WFP with the updated data on vulnerabilities, needs, movements, intentions and service gaps faced by communities in ITS for relevant and effective programming.

**Partnerships**

- WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together in support of Jordan efforts in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2. The agreement will promote joint programming between WFP and FAO in support of vulnerable populations in Jordan.

- The Rome-based agencies including WFP, FAO and IFAD have launched the joint partnership with the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis (Madad Trust Fund) to enhance resilient livelihoods and food security of host communities and Syrian refugees through the promotion of sustainable agricultural development.

- WFP, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, organized the 20th National Olive Festival. The festival brings hundreds of smallholders to Amman to sell their olives and olive oil. For some, it is their main source of income for the year. Among those coming to sell their produce were smallholders that WFP has supported through its livelihoods programmes. WFP’s support of the event marked its longstanding partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, which goes back to 1964. The planting of olive trees has always been a major part of WFP’s livelihoods programmes in Jordan. Over 70 percent of the Jordan’s olive trees were planted through WFP projects. This video was made to celebrate that achievement.

**Donors**

Germany, USAID, Ireland, Norway, Canada, Australia, Italy, Republic of Korea, Japan, France and Private Sector donors.