NEEDS ANALYSIS

Food expenditure constitutes more than one-third of all expenditure for both Syrian refugees and Jordanians. The income versus expenditure gap, caused by limited livelihood opportunities, rising rent, food and service prices, induces increased use of negative coping strategies as the Syrian crisis becomes more protracted, increasing the financial pressure on vulnerable refugees and Jordanians alike.

Syrian refugees are highly reliant on food assistance as their main food source, and thus food assistance remains a high priority to prevent the deterioration of refugees’ food security status, particularly in camp settings where there are very few income opportunities. The WFP/REACH Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME), launched in July 2014, showed that WFP food vouchers are the main source of income and food for 74% of Syrian refugee households in Jordan. Increased food, rent and service prices, combined with the refugee competition for informal unskilled labour has aggravated the food security and livelihood conditions of poor Jordanians living in host communities.

Assessments and monitoring have shown that beneficiaries prefer to go to shops on a regular basis (multiple times per week), given that many households have limited food storage capacity. In addition, beneficiaries have expressed dissatisfaction in having to attend monthly distributions due to expensive transportation costs, compounded by difficult weather conditions in the winter months. E-cards bring several important benefits to the beneficiaries, including the possibility of spending their monthly entitlements in multiple visits to the shops. This offers beneficiaries much more flexibility in their food purchases, as well as a greater sense of normality. As they resemble debit cards, e-cards also provide a more discreet assistance modality.

Spotlight on School Feeding

Total number of students reached in Zaatri and Azraq camps in September

Boys  Girls

17,999  7,520

*The figure to the right reflects yearly targets, however, progress is reported on a monthly basis, rather than a sum of monthly figures, to avoid duplication and over-reporting.