

ISWG Refugee Response Coordination & Coronavirus Monthly Updates

February 2022

This ISWG monthly update is a coordination tool that aims to improve communication between refugee sectors and provide information on progress towards implementation of the objectives of the Jordan Contingency & Response Plan in response to COVID-19. It is available through the Inter-Agency Operational Data Portal at: COVID-19 Inter-Agency Coordination Interface at: https://iacu.tools/

A. General Updates

- Representing Jordan during an accreditation ceremony held in Paris, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), signed the Convention on the Recognition of Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education institutions in the Arab and European States Bordering on the Mediterranean, which was prepared by UNESCO. It aims to strengthen international cooperation and student mobility in higher education and ease recognition of qualifications.
- The MoHE announced that teaching will begin in public universities and colleges on 27 February, and on 6 March in private universities and colleges. In addition, the MoHE announced that integrating e-learning in higher education institutions will be implemented in the second semester and emphasized that all mid-term and final exams for all degrees, specializations and programmes will be held on campus.
- The Jordan Ministry of Labour (MoL) Inspection Department developed the platform Hemayeh (Protection) to receive complaints from workers, including refugees. The platform serves to preserve the rights and obligations of the worker with the employer and to ensure the continuity and sustainability of working in the private sector.

B. Sectors' Updates



BASIC NEEDS

- COVID-19 Vaccination Facilitation Compensation: the 27,000 individuals who received two doses of the COVID-19 Vaccine and were not compensated before will be provided with the compensation in March 2022. This makes the total number of individuals outside of camp who received two doses of the vaccine 155,000 individuals.
- Economical Inclusion and Livelihood opportunities: 2,047 individuals from the UNHCR Jordan waitlist were referred to UNICEF for potential inclusion in training and link to the livelihood opportunities.
- Planning: the Basic Needs sector will continue engagement of the basic needs' beneficiaries in the gradual transition from virtual accounts to refugee-owned mobile wallets.



EDUCATION

- From 28 February to 3 March, a National Diagnostic Assessment (NDA) in Maths and Arabic, that UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education (MoE) to develop, was implemented across all public schools in Jordan with Grades 4-11. The aim of the NDA is to find out (or diagnose) what children know and can do. This will help teachers target their support for the students' catch up based on identifying specific areas of the curriculum that they may have difficulty in.
- In February, UNICEF supported 32,808 children (54% female) in Makani Centres with in-person Learning Support Services. In addition, UNICEF supported the transportation of 1,357 students (51% female) from Informal Tented Settlements to school.
- In February, UNICEF supported 11,224 school-aged children (50% female; 14% with disabilities) from 3,462 households in host communities through the Hajati programme. Hajati provides vulnerable families in Jordan

- with cash transfers to the amount of JOD 25 per child/per month for the full school year. Hajati cash transfers support to increase school attendance and enrolment and reduce drop out and negative coping strategies.
- Mercy Corps with support from UNICEF continued to provide access to education for vulnerable children and adolescents through direct support for 2,541 children with disabilities (53% female; 59% in camps) across 65 schools.
- With UNHCR support, JOHUD provided 156 non-Syrian students (50% female: 56% Iraqi, 19% Somali, 14% Sudanese, and 11% Yemeni) with second semester textbooks. In addition, Tawjihi exam fees for 29 students in Grade 12 (66% female; 87% Iraqi, 10% Somali, and 3% Yemeni) were supported.
- UNHCR with JOHUD provided ten Ministry of Youth staff (60% female) working in four youth centres in Mafraq Governorate with a training session on connected learning and the Kolibri digital learning platform.
- The Kolibri digital learning platform was integrated in UNHCR's connected learning hubs in three juvenile centres (resources available on the platform were integrated into the provided educational sessions).
- UNESCO, with support from the Government of the Republic of Korea and through its partnership with Luminus Technical University College, supports Syrian refugee and vulnerable Jordanian youth with scholarships to access BTEC-level II Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes in three training disciplines (Business, Information Technology, and Creative Media Production), as well as on-the-job training opportunities. In February, 115 students (60% female, 50% Syrian) from the IT and Business disciplines completed their third trimester and 51 students (45% female, 31% Syrian) from the Creative Media Production discipline started on-the-job training.
- World Vision International (WVI) provides KG2 services to children aged 5-6 in two Early Childhood Development centres in Azraq refugee camp. In February, 321 children (45% female) were supported.
- Humanity and Inclusion (HI) supported 26 children with disabilities (46% female) to enrol in KG1 and KG2 centres and conducted trainings on disability inclusion and inclusive education for 19 female teachers and 21 Early Intervention Unit staff (67% female). In addition, HI conducted two awareness raising sessions on inclusive education with 47 parents (85% female).
- COOPI provides cash assistance to support children aged 12-17 years who have dropped out or are at risk of dropping out of school due to engagement in child labour. In February, 61 students (42% female) benefited from the cash assistance support.
- Save the Children continues to provide children aged 0-5 with inclusive Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) services. In February, 416 children (50% female) in Za'atari and 157 children (45% female) in Azraq camps were supported to enrol in the third cycle of the ECCD service in Early Learning Centres.
- In February, the Save the Children Consortium Syria Crisis Response in Jordan project conducted replacement tests for 163 children (56% female) in Za'atari refugee camp and 140 children (69% female; 60% Syrian) in the host community. The aim of the replacement test is to identify students' level in Arabic and Mathematics and respectfully to provide the appropriate inclusive educational support.



FOOD SECURITY

- In February, WFP provided food assistance to around 463,920 vulnerable refugees residing in camps and host communities in the form of cash-based transfers. Most refugees come from Syria, with a minority from Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, and Somalia.
- WFP continues to provide in-kind food assistance to the households under quarantine due to COVID-19 in the designated areas in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps.
- WFP began the formative research around nutrition habits of Women of Reproductive Age and Pregnant and Lactating Women. Data collection began in late February and will end in late March, with results expected to be available in late April.

HEALTH



- In March, UNHCR in collaboration with Ministry of Health (MoH), in planning to conduct joint workshops on the policy manual at the Governorate level for the MoH staff aiming to facilitate the access of refugees to the subsidized health services at the public health facilities.
- The Health Sector conducted a meeting with the key donors to discuss findings of the Health Access and Utilization Survey (HAUS) conducted in the last quarter of 2021. The further sessions with the key donors and stakeholders have been scheduled in March 2022.

COVID-19 Updates from Refugee Camps:

- The tendency of decline of confirmed COVID-19 cases continued to be observed in the country, and as well at both Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps. The cumulatively recorded confirmed COVID-19 cases reached 1,891 in Azraq (92.4% recovery rate) and 3,808 in Za'atari (89% recovery rate). The cumulative case fatality rates are: 1.1% in Azraq and 0.9% in Za'atari (which is comparatively less than the national rate of 1.4%).
- The complicated COVID-19 cases are referred to the MoH hospital: reported 48 referrals from Azraq (2.5%) and 174 from Za'atari (4.5%).
- The community-based health teams are monitoring the COVID-19 positive patients who are under home care treatment. They provide health education and guide the patients on the case management, explaining the danger signs.
- Vaccination: in both camps, 2,292 individuals received two doses of vaccine, 1,910 one dose, and 190 received
 a booster dose. During COVID-19 community mobilization, 18,260 community members were reached by the
 COVID-19 outreach teams.
- The COVID-19 Centre in Za'atari refugee camp is ready to start functioning upon MoH approval.



LIVELIHOODS

- In 2021, DRC Jordan conducted a labour market assessment in Azraq town to identify local livelihood opportunities, challenges, and current trends. The further analysis was based on a survey of local business owners, a survey of job seekers, and a series of key informant interviews with local stakeholders. For more info, please contact Hashem Al-Taany, hashem.altaany@drc.ngo, economic recovery specialist.
- The Livelihoods working group hosted a CARE presentation of the main findings of the Annual Needs Assessment, particularly related to Protection, Livelihoods, Education and durable solutions, as well the recommendations on the national policy reforms, to donors and international community, to national and international humanitarian and development actors.
- The Durable Solutions Platform (DSP) presented its engagement in livelihoods engagement in Jordan: updates on the research projects and next steps including Aspirations Versus Reality (AVR) research project and the Research project on the graduation approach.
- The Graduation Approach Coordination and Advocacy Taskforce members presented key insights of its members'
 Graduation Approach programmes, exchanged knowledge and experiences, and agreed on the most viable
 approaches for budgeting and mentorship in Jordan context.
- The regular meeting of the Home-Based Businesses (HBB) Task Force introduced several topics and encouraged exchange of opinions. Upon presenting the HBB TF evaluation exercise, the BluMont highlighted the areas of focus for2022 and presented the Jordan Livelihood Project's End-line Evaluation. The HBB partners discussed the businesses formalization in addition to the handcraft's projects marketing channels. Near East Foundation presented the Development Impact Bond project.
- In the upcoming CfW/EIIP (Cash-for-Work / Employment-Incentive Investment Programmes) coordination meeting, the CfW/EIIP Programme Support Unit (PSU) will explain the CfW work permit procedure and its requirements, which will follow up with an introduction of Ewallets by the GIZ Digi#ances project.
- The Vocational Training visual tool is updated. The Vocational Training task force hosted the Technical and Vocational Skills Development Commission TVSDC to introduce the list of accredited training centres in Jordan.

TVSDC is reviewing the vocational and training policies and will start updating the list of VT service providers with group members.



PROTECTION

- The PSEA Network provided training and coaching sessions (in Arabic and English) to their staff and beneficiaries aiming to reinforce the culture of accountability in Jordan and mainstream PSEA awareness at all sectors, using UNHCR training package of 'Say No to Misconduct'. The PSEA partners contributed to production of materials and tools simplifying and popularizing communication on PSEA for communities, for the public and children and supporting partners' approaches to sensitize the local population and refugees on the importance of PSEA. The communication materials produced in various formats (flyers, videos, training guides) were provided to the front liners and decision makers.
- At its regular sector meeting, the PWG (Protection Working Group) partners reviewed the sector's strategy and a Work Plan. The PWG agreed to prioritize strengthening of protection monitoring and analysis, support Inter-Agency assessments and explore options to establish Inter-Agency protection monitoring information management system.
- The PWG intends to establish a Task Force on community mobilization and participatory approaches and to conduct capacity building interventions on disability inclusion, protection of LGBTI refugees and on safe referrals.
- The PWG Legal partners continue focusing on legal counselling and legal assistance following the 'One Refugee Approach'.
- Multiple PWG partners are providing socio-economic empowerment activities for women and youth, including women with disabilities. The targeted women are supported with grants to start micro-businesses to improve their dignified livelihoods. As well, in different locations the PWG partners offer such services as case management and psycho-social support through group and individual counselling, parental care and elderly club; rehabilitation services including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy.
- The NCFA and UNHCR are working together to conduct a brief situation analysis on the custodial measure implementation at the MoSD, FPJD, Juvenile Court judges and Judges with the responsibility to execute court orders and all institutions involved in the implementation of the custodial measures.
- The 'Refugee Families in Jordan Situation Report 2022' project will be implemented in East Amman, Irbid, Mafraq, Ma'an, Aqaba and at Azraq refugee camp. It will cover case management (CP, GBV and protection case management including cash for protection), individual PSS counseling, GBV and CP prevention programming.
- The Disability and Age Task Force (DATF) developed its key priorities for 2022, among which is to enhance engagement of organizations with persons with disabilities and disability actors in the DATF and in the refugee response; to conduct gap analysis of services for persons with disabilities and older people; to continue building capacity of humanitarian and development staff on disability and age; to support the work of the DATF sector focal points; to organize joint awareness raising activities on disability and age inclusion; to enhance the disability data.
- The Gender-Based Violence Sub-Working Group (GBV SWG) is organizing on the occasion of the International Women's Day under the global theme "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow" a learning dialogue with experts and women leaders and contributors from the community to tackle the interlinkages between climate change in Jordan and the exacerbation of violence against women and girls. The event will be held virtually on Zoom Webinar to allow for broad participation in light of the COVID-19 restrictions. The panel discussion will be live streamed from the office of the Institute for Family Health in Jubeiha. The event will be shared on UNHCR social media accounts.
- On the same occasion, the GBV SWG is launching a recycling competition to allow adolescent girls and young women in Jordan from the age (15 35 years old) living in host and refugee communities to submit their recycling products and initiatives. The competition will be shared at UNHCR Website during 1- 7 March. The winners will receive prizes (arranged with the support of Zain Jordan).
- The Child Protection Sub-Working group (CP SWG) held its regular meeting having tackled the following subjects:
 Presentation of Gap Analysis in detail which is now available for members' comments; Update of the referral

- pathway (also available online for the CP members). The CP SWG intends to support the JFR in its situational study.
- The CP IM (Information Management) TF and its co-chairs have worked intensively throughout the month of February held assessment and technical meetings with several organizations (i.e., JOHUD, Caritas Jordan, Sanabel Al Khair, Qudrat, Naya) and the Global CPIMS Steering committee.



SHELTER

- At Za'atari camp, UNHCR completed new road design for about 12 km in two districts selected based on thorough criteria of the most urgent needs. With support of the local Infrastructural design consultancy firm, the roads will be reconstructed with flexible and rigid pavement design layers, water catchments and channels throughout the two districts. The works will be based on traffic and traffic loading calculations (mainly serving as low traffic, bicycle, horses, and carts), soil strength and level of dampness, climatic conditions, and drainage conditions.
- The IOCC finished its CfR (Cash-for-Rent) assistance which closed on 31 January. The remaining 336 vulnerable cases that the partner could no longer fund, were transferred to and coordinated with ICMC for their support.
- In east Amman, and Jordan valley, the Islamic Relief lunched a new project with the main objective of promoting green and sustainable households, particularly targeting the low-income households. This project has become a contribution to the current programme operational since 2017 and aiming to support the energy-efficient houses by: a) improving 41 houses by implementing energy-saving interventions for insulation, water, and electricity, b) building new greenhouses with an estimated budget of USD 200,000 through CBOs c) raise awareness of 50,000 households in relation to the best materials to be used and the advantageous interventions for the greenhouse's designs. The project also takes into consideration the climatic differences between regions in Jordan.
- The UNOPS joined the Shelter Working Group, and in particular within collaboration with UNHCR in the areas of shelter repairs and rehabilitation at Azraq and Za'atari camps.



WASH

■ In February, UNICEF continued the provision of WASH services to all 122,789 refugees in Za'atari and Azraq refugee camps and at King Abdullah Park (KAP).

Za'atari refugee camp:

- In February, aiming to ensure proper hygiene management at households, UNICEF continued the distribution of small hygiene kits and soap bars to reach 278 families / 516 individuals. UNICEF has also supported 178 families in quarantine with cleaning kits and soap bars. Distribution of soap bars also took place during February benefitting 732 individuals.
- UNICEF maintained an aggregate supply of clean and safe water of around 3,250 m3 per day as demand for water started to increase. Unable to fulfil the water demand from the existing boreholes, UNICEF arranged for additional bulk supply from nearby sources to meet the refugee needs on a household level and to ensure safe water in available in institutions, schools, and the transit area. External water trucking provided from the reporting period was approximately 6,000 m3.

Azraq refugee camp:

- A total of 77 hand sanitizers, 77 hygiene kits and 45 jerry cans were distributed among 340 beneficiaries, including 219 children, to reach the most vulnerable families.
- In February, UNICEF's partners in the camp continued disseminating messages in relation to COVID-19 through 291 Active Lead Mothers, 36 community and plot representatives and 36 youth community representatives, having reached 1,476 active participants.

• UNICEF has completed the feasibility study for the installation of a new borehole. A pilot project for the extension of the water network and increase the number of taps stands to each plot in the camp is ongoing.

King Abdullah Park (KAP):

• In February, a soap distribution took place benefitting all 587 individuals residing at KAP.

C. Contacts and Links

Inter-Sector Coordinator: Susana BOUDON | boudon@unhcr.org | +962(0)792561198

Refugee Response | Inter-Agency Coordination Operational Data Portal | Jordan: https://data2.unhcr.org/en/working-group/251?sv=4&geo=36

Refugee Response | Inter-Agency Coordination Interface | Jordan: https://iacu.tools/