

Jordan

February 2018

The Azraq Centre for Employment opened on 18 February, including a job fair with **24** companies and over **850** vacancies.

89 refugee students (Iraqis, Yemenis and Sudanese) received one off cash assistance for higher education, including **27** selected for DAFI scholarships in 2018

40 different companies met during the World Future Energy Summit, including energy suppliers and innovators

741,548

Refugees in Jordan as of 15 February 2018

81%

Refugees living outside camps in urban areas

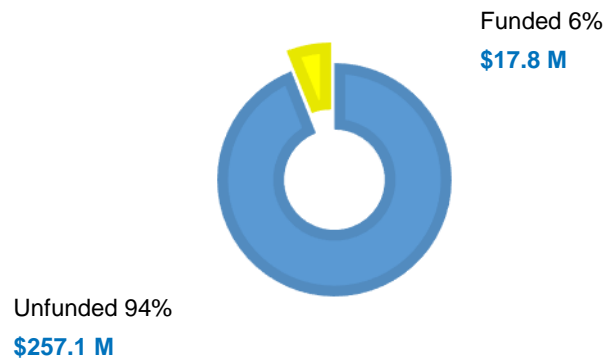
698

Number of students pursuing higher education in Jordan through the DAFI scholarship programme.

FUNDING (AS OF 15 FEBRUARY 2018)

USD 274.9 M

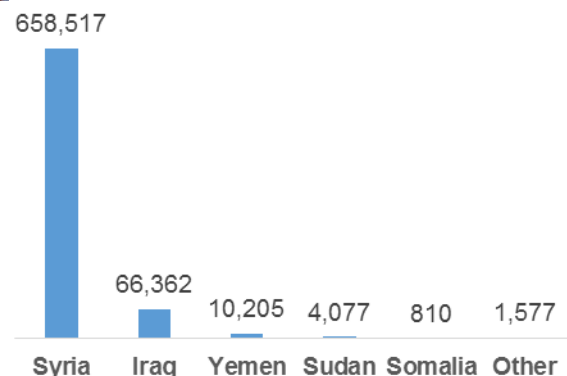
requested for the Jordan situation



UNHCR Special Envoy Angelina Jolie visits the Tiger Girls project in Zaatari camp © UNHCR/M.Hawari

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Countries of Origin



High profile visits

On 28 January, UNHCR Special Envoy Angelina Jolie visited Zaatari refugee camp to meet with Syrian refugees. She called on world leaders to end the conflict, impressing upon the UN Security Council members to visit the refugee camps and meet with urban refugees in Jordan to observe first-hand their plight seven years into the conflict. Special Envoy Jolie met with a Syrian family and visited the UNHCR-funded TIGER Girls (These Inspired Girls Enjoy Reading) program that empowers Syrian girls in Zaatari Refugee Camp through academic and social skills courses. Special Envoy Jolie held a press conference at the camp and called on the continued need for international support to Jordan. She concluded her visit with a meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Ayman Al-Safadi.

On 29 January, the German President Steinmeier and First Lady Elke BÜdenbender visited Azraq refugee camp, as part of a wider visit to the Kingdom acknowledging the ongoing support to Jordan by the German Government, including through humanitarian aid and the Jordanian German University partnership. The focus of the visit to Azraq included the use of innovative Iris Guard technology in delivery of assistance, and discussions with students benefitting from German funded DAFI scholarships. Germany has provided nearly \$68 million in assistance to refugees in Jordan since the onset of the Syrian crisis as one of the operation's main donor contributors.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi visited Jordan between 10 and 14 February to highlight the country's continued efforts in the Syrian refugee response and reaffirm his solidarity and support for the Kingdom seven years into the conflict in Syria. After his meetings with Government officials, including the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Interior and the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, High Commissioner Grandi spent a day in the field to meet refugees, starting by visiting a garment factory that employs 2,500 people, including 20 Syrian refugee women recently hired from both Zaatari camp and urban areas in Amman. He also visited Azraq camp speaking with DAFI scholars currently enrolled in Jordanian universities and with refugees who have participated in online blending learning courses through the University of Geneva/InZone. Following Azraq camp, Mr Grandi visited Zaatari camp where he spoke with refugees at the Zaatari Office of Employment and visited the site of the largest solar plant in a refugee settlement in the world. Overall, the High Commissioner highlighted the strong commitment to refugees shown by the Government of Jordan, noting in particular the positive steps in refugee employment and the potential of innovations such as solar energy which serve as a model in refugee response across the globe.



PROTECTION

- 9,740 families living in Rukban, along the north-eastern border of Jordan with Syria, benefited from a one-off exceptional distribution of life-saving emergency assistance items delivered by a joint UN mission from 8 to 12 January 2018. Assistance included winterization kits (plastic sheets, blankets, and children's clothing), solar lamps and jerry cans, essential food items, and hygiene and dignity kits. Delivery was undertaken using a total of 96 trucks, facilitated by cranes transporting the items to trucks coming from Rukban to increase delivery capacity. The majority of the population at Rukban, consisting mainly of women and children, have been living in an unbearably challenging and insecure environment for over two years, having fled insecurity in other parts of Syria. They have been without regular access to adequate food, healthcare, education and living conditions.

Due to hostilities to the north of Rukban, the community has been occasionally cut off from the scant commercial traffic bringing in essential commodities. Prices have also fluctuated dramatically resulting in the population resorting to negative coping mechanisms to survive.

- On 30 January a launch event took place to promote a new guidance from the Government of Jordan Public Security Directorate (PSD) and Family Protection Department (FPD) with the support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee (UNHCR) on The Standards of The Best Interests of The Child in Accordance with Jordanian Legislations, Islamic Shari'ah, and International Standards. The launch event marked a positive example of collaboration and enhancement of child protection in the Kingdom. This will provide a reference to child protection service providers (judges, social workers and police officers) ensuring a survivor-centered approach and response mechanisms based on best interest principles that are acknowledged in international standards as well as Shariah law.
- The Swedish Migration Agency concluded a two week selection mission in early February 2018 to UNHCR Amman. During the mission, the Swedish team interviewed 220 refugees put forward for resettlement, predominantly Syrian, but also Iraqi, Yemeni and Libyan. During the selection mission, the H.E. Ms. Heléne Fritzson, Minister of Migration and Deputy Minister of Justice, as well as Mr. Mikael Ribbenvik, Director General, Swedish Migration Agency, whilst visiting the mission also toured the UNHCR Registration Centre in Amman. The Minister also visited Zaatari refugee camp on 29 January, with a particular focus on the experiences of women in the camp.



EDUCATION

- UNHCR's higher education scholarship programme, best known by its acronym DAFI and sponsored by the German Government and additional private donors, plays an integral role in enabling refugees worldwide to access higher education. In the DAFI scholarship announcement for Jordan for the academic year 2017-2018, 30 slots were generously made available for refugees from nationalities other than Syrian. There were 104 applications from across Jordan who were individually called for interview; 27 students were selected and nominated to gain the full DAFI scholarship. However, as the number of available seats was limited, UNHCR provided additional assistance to the unsuccessful candidates in order to encourage them to pursue their higher education by providing them with a onetime cash grant of 800 JDs. In total 89 students received the grant including 75 Iraqi, 11 Yemeni and 3 Sudanese students. Post Distribution Monitoring of all students highlighted that this assistance was necessary, needed and appreciated. UNHCR will continue to advocate that more slots are added for the full scholarship, and to continue with providing cash assistance for higher education in light of the vulnerability of the cases chosen and their financial challenges, while noting that the academic performance for most applicants was very good.



HEALTH

- In January 400 Syrian refugees benefitted from cash for essential health services, with 24% of cases under five years old and the majority for emergency life-saving interventions and reproductive health. Syrian refugees receive cash to pay for health services as part of a cost-saving initiative – by providing Syrians with cash to pay for health services directly, they can benefit from the uninsured Jordanian rate for healthcare. While this cash

assistance programme saved a notional \$270,000 in January, new directives in February 2018 to change the costs of healthcare for Syrians to 80% of the foreigner rate will have far reaching implications for the both the cost of healthcare and access to services for Syrian refugees in the Kingdom.



ACCESS TO ENERGY

- The World Future Energy Summit (WFES) is an annual event organized as part of the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week. The WFES is also a platform dedicated to innovation and transformation through the use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean technology. In line with UNHCR's ambition to achieve universal access to safe and sustainable energy, UNHCR Jordan was present as an exhibitor in the WFES 2018 edition with a stand highlighting key projects across the globe and delivering two keynote speeches on climate change and displacement. Two of the highlighted projects were the solar plants constructed in 2017 in Jordan's Zaatar and Azraq camp thanks to the partnerships developed with KfW and the IKEA foundations respectively. Through a series of scheduled meetings, UNHCR intended to expand the network of renewable energy decision-makers and stakeholders from the private sector who could become key actors in the development of more comprehensive, cost-effective and sustainable solutions to refugee crises across the world. During the course of the week, UNHCR, through its Jordanian team, met with over 40 different companies present in the exhibition including manufacturers, energy providers, government officials and innovators.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

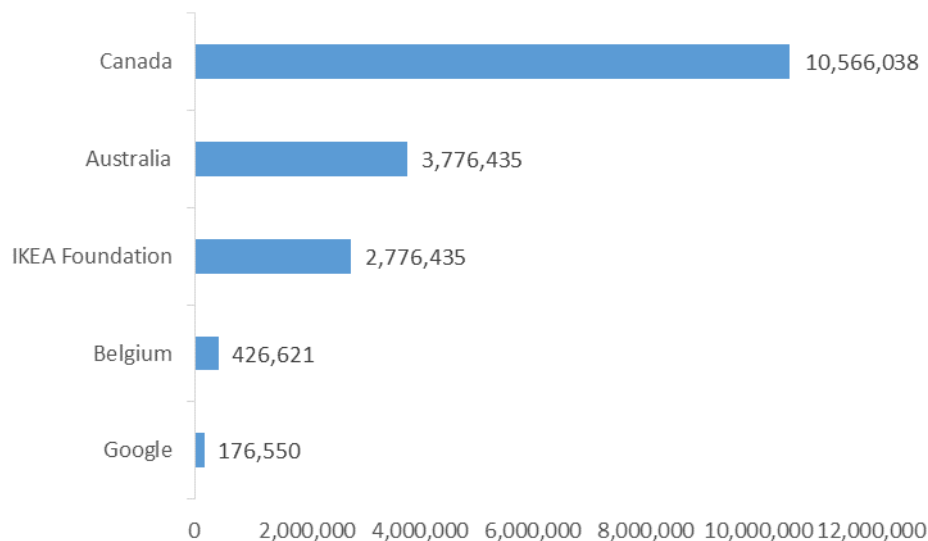
- On 18 February UNHCR and the International Labour Organization (ILO) inaugurated the first employment office in Azraq refugee camp, under the patronage of Jordan's Minister of Labour Ali Al-Ghezawi. The Azraq Centre for Employment (ACE), set up in coordination with the Government of Jordan and sponsored by the Dutch Government, aims to facilitate access to formal work opportunities across Jordan for refugees living in the camp. The employment centre will allow the ILO to facilitate access to work permits for refugees who have not received one yet. Once issued, UNHCR will record the work permit in a data base linked to the Jordanian authorities, facilitating movement in and out of the camp. Refugees who obtain these work permits will be able to leave the camp for up to one month at a time. This new leave system will provide refugees with increased protection and will allow them to take up job opportunities anywhere in the country, within specified sectors. The facility will also provide refugees with counselling services, information on labour rights, training opportunities and job matching services. The Azraq Centre for Employment will also hold a series of job fairs designed to bring employers from across the country closer to the available labour force in the camp. On the day of the inauguration, 24 companies took part in a job fair in the UNHCR-funded CARE community centre in Azraq camp, presenting over 850 vacancies available in manufacturing, agriculture and services.
- Artisanal products produced by women in Azraq camp were part of the Ambiente consumer goods Trade Fair which ran in Frankfurt, Germany from 9 to 13 February 2018. The goods were displayed under the umbrella of UNHCR's MADE51, an emerging platform to display products from refugee artisans from across the world, linking them with viable supply chains to market their crafts internationally. In this first exhibition of MADE51 products, products made by refugees in Jordan were displayed in coordination with SEP Jordan, a social enterprise dedicated to hand embroidered accessories that blend premium Middle-Eastern craftsmanship with

Italian style. SEP and the women weavers are working together to develop a product line, which is also available in Jordan currently. In addition to SEP, Jordanian social enterprises IKEA/Jordan River foundation and NGO More Than Shelter were also present at Ambiente, providing a strong representation of the skills and potential in Jordan.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to **US\$ 17.8 million** as of February 2018, covering **6%** of overall needs for refugees in Jordan. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Funding received (in USD) over \$100,000:



External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2018

Sweden (98 M) | Norway (43 M) | Netherlands (39 M) | United Kingdom (32 M) | Denmark (25 M) | Australia (19 M) | Switzerland (15 M) |

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2018

Algeria | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Canada | China | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Serbia | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | UN Peacebuilding Fund | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private Donors |

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