



This monthly 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

May saw a sharp increase in vaccination rates in camps. Two thirds (8,282) of the 12,007 refugees who have now received one or both doses got vaccinated during May in Za'atari. In Azraq, the number of individuals vaccinated during May corresponds with 3,656 individuals to three quarters of the total individuals vaccinated. In Azraq (in total 4,408 individuals have taken one or two doses), 2,146 individuals, almost all 2,264 individuals vaccinated by the end of May got vaccinated in May. In KAP 11 refugees received first dose bringing the total to 55. by end May 13 received their second dose.

In May, in collaboration with MoH of Jordan and UNHCR, UAE started COVID-19 vaccination campaign in camps, having vaccinated 9,520 Syrian refugees in Za'atari, Azraq and EJC.

As part of ongoing outreach efforts, UNHCR and CSC volunteers facilitated COVID-19 vaccination awareness sessions in Irbid, Ajloun, and Jarash governorates, including KAP, where volunteers joined JHAS staff in home visits.

As of end of May, over 24,500 refugees in EJC, Za'atari and Azraq camps have registered for vaccination on the MOH Platform. This corresponds to 19% of the total camp populations have registered to receive the vaccine, compared to the national average of 24%.

II. Sector Update



HEALTH

Activities

- In May, decline in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases continued in the refugee camps. In Zaatari camp, a total of 89 confirmed cases were reported compared to 502 confirmed cases in April, and in Azraq camp, 46 cases were reported as compared to 253 cases reported in April. KAP witnessed a significant decrease of new positive COVID-19 cases from 18 in April to two in May, which made total number of positive cases diagnosed in the camp since beginning of the pandemic 70.
- To maintain the essential capacity for treatment of COVID-19 cases at Za'atari camp after the decision of MSF to exit from the COVID-19 treatment centre in May, International Medical Corps (IMC) was identified as the potential organization with the desired capacity to continue the service delivery for COVID-19 cases should there be an escalation in COVID-19 situation in future. IMC and UNHCR are collaborating to establish a COVID-19 treatment center at the site of the ex-Moroccan hospital.
- In May, there has been a decrease in number of PCR tests in KAP reaching 146, compared to 176 collected in April. Medical screening for COVID-19 at the KAP main gate continues with an average of 20 persons per day.



BASIC NEEDS

Activities

- Since the beginning of the COVID-19 emergency response, 68,093 cases have been assisted under the COVID-19 emergency cash assistance scheme. 72% of the assisted population (70% Syrian and 85% Non-Syrians) have been provided with assistance for three months or more, 13% (14% Syrian and 6% Non-Syrians) for two months and

14% (15% Syrian and 9% Non-Syrians) for one month.

- In May, UNHCR received additional funding for COVID-19 emergency response amounting to USD. 2.4million. Totally, UNHCR assisted 11,215 unique cases (8,909 Syrian and 2,306 Non-Syrians) with one, two or three payments.
- Currently, the number of families eligible for COVID-19 Emergency Response reduced from the previous month to 6,617 cases in need of at least one more month of COVID-19 ER assistance, 3,187 cases in need of at least two months of assistance, and 442 cases in need of three months of assistance.
- In May 2021, 71 cases were booked by Care International and INTERSOS to be assisted with COVID-19 Emergency Response.

Challenges

- Despite the national gradual plan to open all sectors, challenges of economic slowdown due to COVID-19 restrictions continue to impact refugees' access to income generating opportunities. Funding for COVID-19 assistance continues to reduce, while the need for a longer-term assistance of six months approved by the COVID-19 Response Task Force is growing.



FOOD SECURITY

Activities

- In May, WFP has been delivering its monthly cash assistance to 525,139 individuals in camps and host communities. This included assistance to 40,129 individuals targeted as a result of the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.
- Special food distributions were arranged throughout May in camps for refugees and in host communities for refugees and vulnerable Jordanians and completed before the end of Ramadan.
- In Azraq and Za'atari Camps, WFP continuously provided in-kind food assistance to COVID-19 affected households under quarantine as well as to refugees in self-isolation in their own shelters. However, since the introduction of the latest 'food parcel in self-isolation' procedures, the requests for food parcels sharply decreased. Over the Eid holidays at the end of Ramadan, service provision in Camps remained fully operational to ensure the necessary food assistance to COVID-19 affected beneficiaries.
- Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM) data demonstrates a further deterioration in food security, compared to November 2020. For 16% of households, WFP assistance is the only source of income. Emergency coping strategies (household member accepting degrading/exploitative work, begging and child marriage) are also rising.
- WFP has developed a new targeting model for Syrian refugees. It builds on previous FSOM results and other data to identify the most vulnerable people. The new model will come into effect on 01 July. All beneficiaries were informed about their future status of assistance on 01 June. WFP's funding challenges continue. Hence, starting July, at the same time of rolling out the new targeting model, WFP will also enact a prioritization plan. Due to the resource shortfall, not all vulnerable refugees can be supported, but only the most vulnerable people will be prioritized. WFP has rolled out an online appeal mechanism for beneficiaries. At the same time, WFP together with its partners ACTED and Save the Children is operating hotlines that beneficiaries can contact.

Challenges

- Continued advocacy for funding to support the food security of refugees.



PROTECTION

Activities

- Aligned with the "Whole Society Inclusion", "Leaving No One Behind" or "One Refugee Approach", Protection Working Group launched consultations on non-Syrians in Jordan aiming to develop recommendations to ensure a comprehensive approach to all refugees in the country. The PWG has been mapping services of 35 partners

who are providing services to non-Syrians including case management, cash assistance, MHPSS, engagement with communities, training and capacity building, awareness raising, legal aid and assistance, counselling, and medical assistance.

- In May, the Jordan Humanitarian Fund (JHF) first Standard Allocation 2021 was launched, with Child Protection and Health as selected priority sectors. Child Protection WG closely coordinated with OCHA, arranged for consultation session with sector members and sector leads and prepared for Technical Review Committee to allow for decision making on child protection proposals to be put forward.
- The GBV Sub-Working Group developed a guidance note on “COVID-19 vaccination and implications for gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response” aiming to ensure equitable and safe access to COVID-19 vaccination for everyone, with specific focus on women and other marginalized groups and to strengthen GBV response and risk mitigation in vaccination centers in Jordan.
- GBV Sub-WG collaborated with National Campaign for COVID-19 “Elak o Feed”, which endorsed relevant key messages from above guidance note to be broadly disseminated including by IOM on behalf of the GBV Sub-WG in all locations with specific focus on CBOs and vaccination centers.
- The GBV Sub-WG delivered two virtual trainings on Amaali application for 36 new and existing GBV referral pathway partners.
- 18 Disability and Age Focal Points have been appointed by different sectors. On 26/27 May, in partnership with HelpAge International, Disability and Age task Force (DATF) conducted a training on Age Inclusion in Humanitarian Action for 29 humanitarian actors (18 women and 11 men) focusing on healthy ageing and rights-based approach to including older people.



- In May, UNICEF continues supplying all 112,855 refugees in three camps (Za’atari, Azraq and King Abdullah Park) with an uninterrupted supply of clean water.
- In the month of May, the transit area of Za’atari Refugee Camp was supplied with 89 cleaning kits, 91 hygiene kits and 89 hand sanitizers that were distributed to 137 beneficiaries. Also, 90 households, including 34 men, 35 women and 85 children benefited from the distribution of 88 cleaning kits, 154 hygiene kits and 177 hand sanitizers. UNICEF maintains supply of clean and safe water; however, external water trucking is needed due to increasing temperatures to cover the water demand the internal boreholes cannot cover. Current daily water supply is about 4,554 m³ with external trucking covering around 1500 m³, one third. Lastly, 4 more schools were connected to the water network and 12 private latrines were installed at household level for vulnerable families.
- In Azraq camp, 18 cleaning kits, 13 hand sanitizers, 59 jerry cans and 13 hygiene kits were distributed among 178 beneficiaries to reach the most vulnerable cases.
- In KAP refugee camp, a camp-wide distribution took place in May, providing 175 hand sanitizers to 115 households, reaching 511 beneficiaries. On top of that, 6 cleaning kits and 11 hygiene kits were distributed to families in self-isolation. UNICEF is providing WASH services to the camp as needed.



- The Ministry of Education (MOE) has planned for an educational loss recovery programme to be held from 15 August - 25 September and advanced by a support teachers’ training. It will focus on Mathematics, Science, Arabic and English languages.
- From 23 May - 7 June, through the Darsak platform MOE holds mock exams for high school Tawjihi students. UNICEF supports refugee students residing in camps in requesting Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate (SRAD) permits for students to leave camps and sit their exams. UNICEF also supports these students with transportation to and from the exam halls.

- Designed to meet the needs of local, regional and international labour markets, the Higher Education Council has approved the creation of qualitative and new academic specializations and programmes at Bachelor and Master levels.
- Islamic Relief Jordan provided remedial classes in Arabic, Mathematics and English for 70 students (50% female; 70% Syrian, 30% Jordanian) aged 7-14 in Ramtha, and 300 students (50% female; 70 % Syrian, 30 % Jordanian) in Mafraq. Relief International (RI) provided remedial education classes. A total of 1,920 students (50% female) in Grade 7-12 participated in remedial classes for main subjects (Arabic, Math, Science and English) from 17 public schools in four governorates (Amman, Zarqa, Irbid and Mafraq). A total of 1,350 students (50% female) in Grade 9-12 participated in the classes at six educational centres in Azraq and Za'atari Camps. RI also provided structured 21st century skills and psychosocial support (PSS) sessions, anti-violence and anti-bullying awareness sessions using the behavioral change programme.
- In May, Mercy Corps provided remote sessions for 1,386 students with disabilities (47% female) in refugee camps and host communities. Shadow teachers conducted these sessions using different communication platforms including live video calls, recorded videos, and instant messages.
- For the second time, Mercy Corp and the MOE directorates' focal point personnel jointly visited the partners' Non-Formal Education (NFE) centres to train NFE facilitators on inclusive education, Response to Intervention (RTI), and teaching strategies.
- RI provided university preparatory courses for 50 Syrian youth (50% female), who completed Tawjihi exams, to help them prepare for higher education and increase their chances of finding scholarship or job opportunities. These courses include basic and advanced digital skills, basic and advanced English language skills, Mathematics (Calculus), General Science and Humanities (21st Century Skills).
- In May, Middle East Children Institute (MECI) supported 116 children (53% female) in host communities with certified Non-Formal Education (Drop-Out programme).
- As a part of the Second Chance Education programme, Arab Women's Organization (AWO), a partner of UN Women, completed two training workshops in refugee camps (50 female trainees). The first workshop focused on project management in Za'atari Camp, while the second covered public health and safety in Azraq Camp.
- UNHCR provided education cash assistance to 256 non-Syrian refugee students (54% female) in grades 8-12 designed to benefit the students' retention in school.
- Noor Al Hussein Establishment, with the support of UNHCR, established Virtual Reality Labs for Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) scholarship students in Amman and Irbid. In May, a total of 10 refugee students (70% female) have completed 18 training hours on 360° photography.
- UNHCR operations (Jordan, Italy, and Morocco) co-sponsored with 'Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli (LUISS)' and 'Fondazione Terzo Pilastro – Internazionale', launched a Progetto Mediterraneo Scholarship Programme, which aims to offer Bachelor and Master degrees for refugees and disadvantaged students from all nationalities in the Mediterranean region.
- UNESCO-IIEP provided MOE with technical support in leading six Technical Working Groups (TWG) covering six domains of the Education Strategic Plan (ESP). Over the past 2.5 years, TWGs have worked on the steps 1 and 2 of the ESP mid-term review focusing on progress against ESP targets to achieve the strategic objectives and to assess the effectiveness and relevance of policies, strategies and implemented programmes. In the consultations and working sessions held in May, three TWGs on costing and financing, Monitoring and Evaluation, and partnership and coordination were activated.
- UNESCO, with support of the Government of the Republic of Korea and through its partnership with Luminus Technical University College, continues its support to 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. Training on the Creative Media Production started in May and 55 students (45% female) were provided with laptops and internet bundles to support their online learning.
- UNICEF continues the distribution of learning materials for children in refugee camps to ensure learning continuity. In May, it provided 109 families with family activity packs in Za'atari and Azraq Camps.
- On 27 May, UNICEF handed over the Nashatati programme to MOE. As one of UNICEF's Life Skills and Citizenship Education (LSCE) initiatives for the Middle East and North Africa, Nashatati focuses on integrating life skills into

education systems. UNICEF worked with MOE and 'Generations for Peace' on a mechanism to expanding the programme to reach more schools and children than in previous years. More than 3,000 teachers have been trained to conduct weekly interactive sessions during extracurricular activity classes and 42 liaison officers on how to provide technical support to ensure the quality of the programme's activities. 185,000 students in 1,000 public schools have partaken in Nashatati to date.



LIVELIHOODS

- Efforts are ongoing to support implementation of the new flexible work permits, which will allow refugees to move between jobs under the same permit. Starting from July 2021 onward, flexible work permits will be issued within one of the ISCO Major Groups of occupations (one of the nine big group of occupations) and across all sectors. An MoU was signed between the Ministry of Labour and the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions, who will support work permit application and issuance across all open sectors. UNHCR is engaged with the MoL and GFJTU to support an awareness campaign focused on the flexible work permits to help increase uptake.
- Retroactively applied work permit reviewing fees are waived as of 16th May 2021, with an agreement that no more than a 10 JOD fee will be applied, irrespective of the length of time the applicant has been in Jordan. UNHCR will support a campaign to encourage all refugees having unsettled receipts (reviewing fees that are not paid yet) to re-apply for a work permit to clear their arrears.
- Access to employment for camp refugees remains highly restricted, and in both Azraq and Za'atari camps, the employment offices are predominantly closed.



SHELTER

- In Azraq Camp, shelter repair and maintenance have been ongoing through the Quick Fix Team for both vacant and allocated shelters. The target is based on the need and reached 132 shelters in May.
- UNHCR through NRC installed four RHU at Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) sites in villages 2 and 5 of Azraq camp.
- As part of COVID-19 response, UNHCR through NRC erected two shelters in public /quarantine areas, to be used for NFI stores in Azraq camp.
- UNHCR through NRC completed maintenance of drainage system in all villages of Azraq camp. The works included regular maintenance of the ditches of the roads and cleaning of entrances and exits of culverts, re-shaping of big wades to guide water to run through these ditches to be released out of the camp.

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>