Jordan
June 2018

To celebrate World Refugee Day, the #withrefugees summer bazaar hosted 35 stalls of refugee vendors over two days. 4,255 patients were received in Rukban clinic on the North East border during the month of May, with 60 referrals to Jordanian hospitals.

The Government extended the grace period for work permits to be issued to Syrian workers for free until 31 December 2018.

751,746
Refugees in Jordan as of 15 June 2018

83%
Refugees living outside camps in urban areas

125,976
Refugees living in three camps in Jordan – Azraq, The Emirati Jordanian Camp and Zaatari

FUNDING (AS OF 15 JUNE 2018)
USD 274.9 M
requested for the Jordan situation

POPULATION OF CONCERN
Countries of Origin
To mark World Refugee Day, UNHCR in Jordan hosted its first ever #WithRefugees Summer Bazaar in Ras Al Ain Hangar in Amman. The Bazaar had more than 35 different stalls of refugee vendors, selling their handmade items of handicrafts, paintings, desserts, foods, clothes, accessories, home décor and many more. The sellers were refugees of different nationalities from in and outside the camps and organizations that work with refugees in all settings around the Kingdom. The 2-day Bazaar gave the refugees the opportunity to earn money, promote their work and mingle and communicate with different communities. The #WithRefugees Summer Bazaar was generously sponsored by the Embassy of Canada in Jordan, Cairo Amman Bank, IrisGuard, Landmark Amman Hotel & Conference Centre and Zain Jordan.

On 4 June, UNHCR held an evening ceremony and ifthar under the patronage of HRH Princess Basma bint Talal, together with a national community-based partner, and attended by key diplomatic representatives, to mark the upgrade of the al-Nuzha Community Support Committee (CSC) in Amman to that of a Community Support Centre, marking a transition from nationality-specific CSCs to one that integrates refugees of all nationalities, in line with UNHCR’s ‘One Refugee’ approach. Jordan’s CSCs have been recognized as a model of best practice in contributing to peaceful coexistence between refugees and their Jordanian community members, both of whom comprise the CSC advisory committees.

UNHCR runs helpdesks across the country as part of community outreach, where refugees are able to approach UNHCR with any legal or protection issues they may have – they can also approach our registration centre in Amman. In May, 24 mobile help desk activities were conducted in Aqaba, Balqa, Karak, Maan, Madaba, Tafila, Zarqa, Jordan Valley and Sahab. Over 660 refugees were assisted with issues ranging from lack of documentation, gender based violence, regularization of status, and resettlement. During May 658 cases were also followed up by UNHCR Legal Unit’s staff and legal counselling was provided through protection interviews, document verification and residency interviews.

Many families have been affected as result of the flash flooding that occurred in April in Aldafianah, Umaljimal, Zaatari and surrounding areas within Mafraq governorate. The UNHCR Mafraq Field Unit Team conducted a quick field assessment to the affected areas, and provided NFI assistance to the identified affected families. 136 families benefited from this distribution, out of which 131 were Syrian families.

Ramadan Iftars were organized in many of the Community Support Committee (CSC) centres across Jordan to celebrate the Holy Month of Ramadan and provide refugees and host communities with a possibility to gather and exchange on this joyful occasion. For the non-Syrian CSCs alone, 6 iftars were organised at the Sudanese, Somali and Iraqi CSS in Sweileh, attended by refugees from various different nationalities (including Eritrean and Yemeni refugees). The CSCs conducted around 126 activities attended by approximately 6969 participants; from refugees and host community.

22 refugees (12 female and 10 male) participated in the second Spirit of Football workshop at the UNHCR/CARE community centre in Village 6 in Azraq camp. The workshop concluded by presentation of the Olympic World Cup Ball journey to Russia through 16 countries, and the signing of the ball by refugees in Azraq on 20 May 2018.
In May UNHCR’s Helpline responded to over 130,000 calls - the decrease in number of calls for the month of May is related to the shorter working hours of UNHCR during the month of Ramadan (9AM to 3PM). In order to answer the largest number of calls and to accommodate shorter working hours, the Interactive Voice Recognition (IVR) system was utilized 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during this month. Overall, the Helpline saw a decrease of 5,759 calls (or 4%) in May compared to the previous month.

UNHCR provides cash for education to university students who are awarded DAFI scholarships. The cash assistance covers students’ stipends only (excluding the university fees). UNHCR intends to change the transfer modality to mobile money transfers. UNHCR in cooperation with the Jubilee Center for Excellence in Education (JCEE is UNHCR’s implementing partner for the DAFI scholarships’ program) plans to facilitate the students’ registration process by hosting a two-day registration event. During the event 570 students signed up for mobile wallets.

**HEALTH**

4,255 patients were received at Rukban clinic on the North East border of Jordan during the month of May. Acute health conditions accounted for almost 94% of the total consultations, and 60 secondary and tertiary referrals to Jordanian hospitals were made; 63.3% of the referrals were for obstetrics and gynaecology. Upper respiratory tract infections constituted the majority of acute health conditions during May (38%). The watery diarrhoea proportion has increased compared to April. Skin infections and urinary tract infections proportions showed steady state in the last four months. Hypertension constituted 37% of all chronic consultations and increased compared to March and April, while diabetes consultations has increased compared to April. Trends in chronic health conditions varies due to clinic accessibility challenges. Management of chronic diseases requires regular periodic visits to monitor diseases and evaluate therapeutic outcomes which necessitates enhanced accessibility of those morbid diseases to the health care facility.

**ACCESS TO ENERGY**

In the month of May, Azraq renewable energy produced from the current 2mW solar plant was 300MWh. This is equivalent to 223 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, or 880,000 kilometres driven by an average passenger vehicle, while the solar plant also saved over $100,000 in energy bills. Outputs are measured and monitored through Azraq Sunny Portal.

**COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE**

The Government once again extended the grace period for work permits to be issued to Syrian workers for free until 31 December 2018. With a Cabinet decision, the Government also excluded Syrians from the reduction of foreign workers in the manufacturing sector. This decision falls under the National Empowerment and Employment Programme NEEP - which aims to limiting the recruitment of non-nationals through a system of closed sectors, closed occupations, quotas, and permit fees – from which Syrian refugees are now confirmed to be excluded.
The number of refugees resident in Azraq camp registering for a work permit increased from 3,575 in April to 3,731 in May, out of which 1,904 were approved by SRAD to date. A total of 725 work permits, out of the 1,904, were issued through the Azraq Centre for Employment itself - as the majority is in agriculture (total is 602, 215 male and 387 female), and construction, 123 (all male). In Zaatari camp, there were 9,605 work permits registered at the Zaatari Office of Employment; over 100,000 check-in check-out instances were recorded overall at the gate indicating that work permits continue to be important to mobility. The system works well and refugees are informed by sms when work permits are ready. The number of work permits in agriculture issued to women has increased thanks to the International Labour Organization’s (ILO) campaign sponsoring health insurance for workers in the agricultural sector.

UNHCR Artisan Value Chain staff visited Jordan in May to further develop links with organizations in Jordan under the umbrella of MADE51. MADE51 is a platform to help refugees harness the skills they have and participate in the growing global economy around artisanal work; it links refugees with the international market through working with a series of organizations. The mission also served to prepare the work of CBI - the Center for Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries, a consultancy linked to the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign affairs, which will support building capacity of identified MADE51 social enterprises. The mission visited the Jordan River Foundation, SEP, Turquoise Mountain, Joria/Tribology and More than Shelters in Zaatari camp. These current and prospective Made51 affiliated social entreprises will receive expert coaching, capacity building and marketing support from CBI.

The Economic Research Forum and the Jordan Centre for Social Research released a publication on Employment, Education and Housing in Jordan: The Impacts of the Syrian Refugee Influx. The study launch including the Labour market longitudinal study was attended by 3 ministers. An estimated 117,000 Syrians are working both formally and informally in Jordan, the research says.

Donor and High Profile Visits

The United Nations Foundation Board of Directors met in Jordan from 21 to 25 April. The meeting was hosted by Her Majesty Queen Rania, who has been a member of the Board since 2006. The meeting focused on how the UN is dealing with the challenges presented by the refugee situation in Jordan, its impact on the people of Jordan, and the collaboration between the private, public, and government sectors. On 24 and 25 April selected board members, including Chief Executive of the Board Cathy Calvin, visited refugees in the urban at one of UNHCR’s Community Support Centres, with a visit to Zaatari the following day including the solar plant.

In April, UNHCR facilitated a visit of the Director General of the Sweden International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), Ms Carin Jämtin, along with a senior delegation of SIDA representatives and the First Secretary of the Swedish Embassy in Jordan. The visit included a trip to a factory in Sahab industrial park which has benefitted from relaxed rules of origin to the EU under the Jordan Compact. The factory also currently employs refugees from a variety of nationalities, including women, and exports to Belgium and Hungary as well as the Middle Eastern Region. Sweden is one of UNHCR largest donors globally providing over $100 million, and the largest provider of unearmarked funds.

In late April, the Czech Ambassador to Jordan, H.E. Mr. Petr Hladík, accompanied by Czech Ministry of Interior representatives, visited Azraq refugee camp, which included the chance to view the impact of Czech funding for shelter improvements, while also announcing an additional funding allocation to UNHCR of $1.9 million to complete
all shelters in the camp.

As part of a five-day visit to the region in May, the Finnish Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, Ms. Anne-Mari Virolainen, and an accompanying delegation were briefed by the UNHCR Jordan Representative, received a tour of the Amman registration area, and visited Azraq refugee camp where they visited a community centre and were briefed on vocational training opportunities in the camp. Finland remains an important donor for UNCHR, with $4.3 million provided to UNHCR in 2018 as a broadly-earmarked contribution.

In May, Madame Aike Abe, wife of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, visited Zaatari camp accompanied by the UNHCR Representative, where she was able to see services specifically for children and women in the camp. The Japanese State Finance Minister, Mr Minoru Kihara, also visited Zaatari camp as part of a wider diplomatic trip to the country. Japan is a main donor to UNHCR globally and in Jordan, with nearly USD 5 million given in 2018, including to healthcare and community centres in Zaatari. They have given nearly USD 55 million since the onset of the crisis to refugees in Jordan to support health, cash assistance, winterization and NFIs.

In May, a delegation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), including Assistant Secretary General Ambassador Hesham Youssef, and UNHCR Regional Representative for the Gulf visited Zaatari camp following a two-day workshop on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) held in Jordan. OIC countries have provided UNHCR Jordan with over USD 160 million since the start of the Syria crisis – predominantly Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain and the UAE, and focusing on infrastructure and energy.

In late May, an Ikea Foundation delegation, including Ikea Foundation CEO Per Heggenes, returned to Jordan where they visited partner organizations in Azraq camp, including UNHCR, and met with refugees benefitting from Ikea funded solar energy and other projects. IKEA Foundation has been a reliable donor for UNHCR Jordan, having contributed up to $14 million since 2012.

In June, The Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Simon Coveney, visited Zaatari camp as part of a four-day working visit to Jordan, Israel, Palestine and Cyprus. Mr Coveney also announced a funding contribution of EUR 750,000 to support the work of UNHCR in Jordan.

In June, Jeremy Corbyn, United Kingdom Member of Parliament and Leader of the British Labour Party visited Zaatari camp to meet with refugees during his first overseas trip since becoming party leader in 2015. At a press conference after the visit, he praised Jordan for hosting large number of refugees and he strongly advocated for the United Kingdom to increase its refugees’ resettlement quota.

In June, the Dutch Minister for Development and Foreign Trade, H.E. Sigrid Kaag, visited Jordan, travelling to Zaatari with a focus on employment and education. The Netherlands is the second largest contributor of unearmarked funds (over $50 million in 2017) to UNHCR globally.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to $51.3 million as of June 2018, covering 19% 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.
The 2017 Annual Report of the Jordan Response Plan for the Syria Crisis (JRP), is finalized and can be downloaded through Syria Regional Refugee Response portal and JRPSC website. The report presents the main progress and achievements obtained jointly by the Government of Jordan and its partners in 2017 through the implementation of more than 500 JRP projects in support of Syrian refugees and Jordanian host communities and institutions. The achievements presented in the report could have not been obtained without the critical financial and technical support of the donor community, which has provided actual contracted funding to the JRP for about USD1.7 billion in 2017, corresponding to 65% of funding requirements.

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

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External / Donors Relations

**BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS**

Germany 45.4 million | Private Donors Australia 6.3 million | Denmark 5.7 million | Sweden 4.4 million | Finland 4.3 million | Norway 2.6 million | Private Donors Switzerland 2.8 million | Private Donors Republic of Korea 2 million

**UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS**

Switzerland 15.2 million | France 14 million | Italy 11.2 million |

Algeria | Argentina | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Canada | China | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Germany |

Iceland | India | Indonesia | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private Donors |

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