



Country card
Jordan 2023

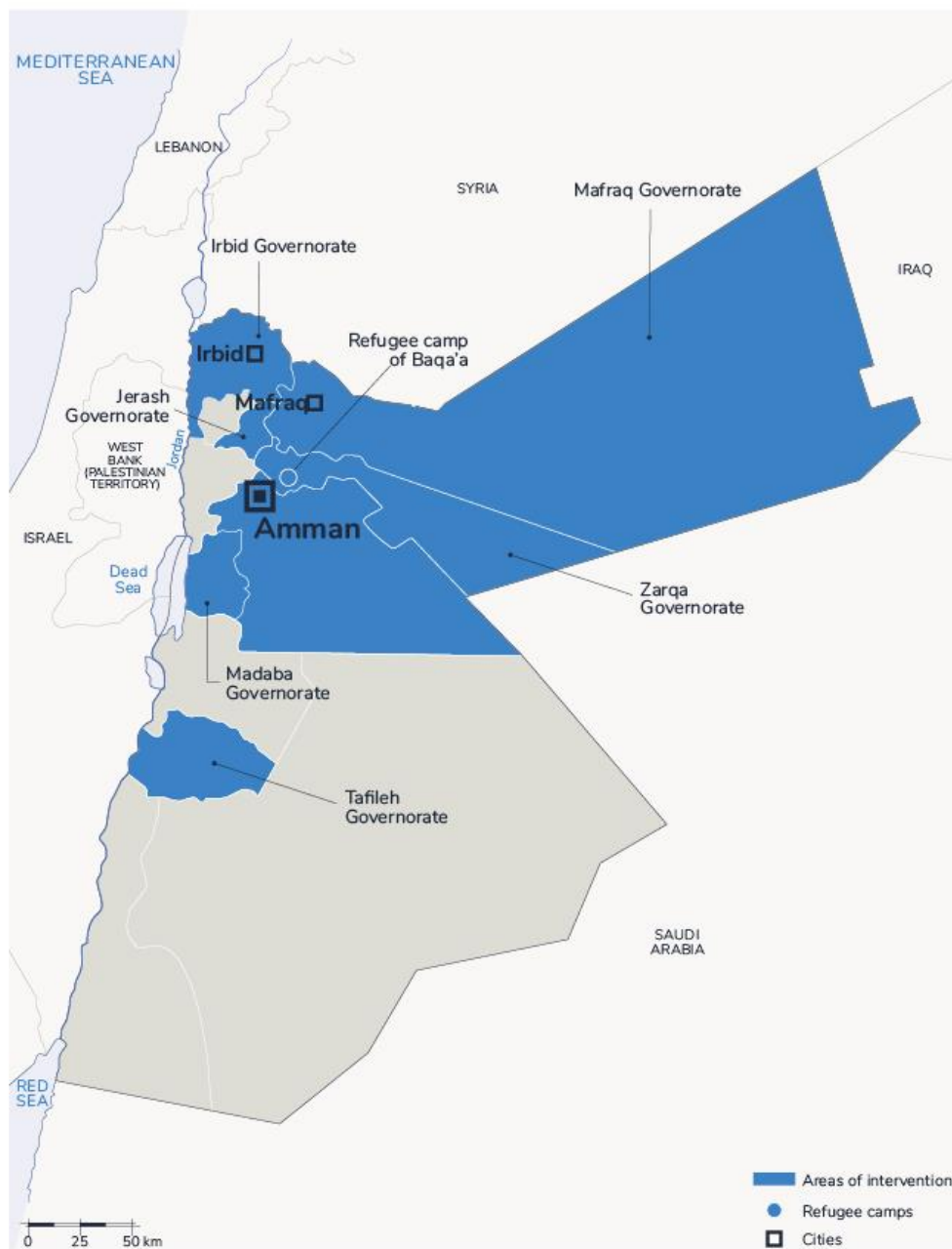




HI Team and intervention areas

HI has 46 staff members in Jordan.

Jordan





General data of the country

a. HI internal classifications of the country context

Level of violence	Operations Director Focus	Health Focus	Positioning Focus	Emergency Focus
	Yes	No	No	No

b. General data

DATA	Jordan	Neighbouring country (Egypt)	France
Population	11285869	109 546 720	68 521 974
IHDI	0.617	0.73	0.9
Gender-related Development Index	0.887	0.882	0.987
Maternal mortality	41	17	8
GINI Index	33.7	30.8	30.7
Population within UNHCR mandate	744387	403 000	458 919
INFORM index	4.2	4.9	2.4
Fragile State Index	75.7	81.6	28.8
Public social protection	26,6	11.2	32.6
Net official development assistance received (M USD)	3444,8	8 240	N/A

c. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty / Status	Ratified 13/11/1998
Convention on Cluster Munitions / Status	Not signed
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities / status	Ratified 31/03/2008



d. Geopolitical analysis

1. Social/cultural/demographic elements

Jordan is classified as a high-level country on the Human Development Index, ranking 102nd out of 191 countries, and as an upper-middle-income country by the World Bank. Nevertheless, significant socio-economic discrepancies and inequalities persist in terms of access to rights and services.

Jordan has welcomed refugees from Syria, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen, and Palestine. According to the UNHCR, as of July 2023, Jordan hosts 656,760 registered Syrian refugees. When accounting for both registered and unregistered Syrians, the total estimate reaches around 1,000,000, with refugees alone constituting approximately 10% of Jordan's population. This influx in population has placed significant pressure on local infrastructure, particularly resources like water, and essential services.

Many refugees, as well as Jordanians in vulnerable situations, live in substandard shelters and face challenges related to food security, hygiene, health, education, protection, and livelihood needs. Jordanians and refugees with disabilities encounter significant barriers to generating sufficient income for their livelihoods and accessing education, health, and other essential services.

Despite the vast refugee community in Jordan, Jordan is not a party to the 1951 Geneva Convention on the rights of refugees. The vast majority of Syrian refugees in Jordan live in urban centers in host communities mainly in the North of the country in Amman (29,5%), Mafraq (24,8%), Irbid (20,6%) and Zarqa (14,6%) governorates.

Jordan has been on the receiving end of vast bilateral assistance from the Gulf Monarchies, European Union and the United States among others, to withstand growing neighbouring instabilities in the region and provide assistance to Syrian refugees as well as to its already vulnerable - especially rural - Jordanian population.

2. Political context

Jordan is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system of government. King Abdullah II is Jordan's monarch since 1999 and enjoys broad public support. In early 2021, the country faced a political crisis, with Prince Hamzah accused of attempting to destabilize the country. Although following these accusations, the prince pledged allegiance to his half-brother, the reigning King Abdullah II, the event tarnished the country's reputation, which had previously been considered stable. This occurred against a backdrop of accusations of corruption and the vulnerability of the population to poverty.

The political system has run into another difficulty: at the last elections in November 2020, the turnout did not exceed 30%, and



Parliament remains dominated by deputies from outside political parties and loyalists to the King. Encouraged to carry out reforms, with Jordanians asking for greater transparency, accountability, and economic development, King Abdullah II appointed former Prime Minister Samir Rafai to head the Royal Committee tasked with drafting modern laws on organizing elections and political parties.

Jordan's pro-Western, pro-Gulf States stance will remain the cornerstone of its foreign policy for security and, increasingly, economic reasons. Jordan's central strategic position in the region should ensure continued logistical, financial and military support from the United States, its main ally.

The current security context remains globally quiet, with relatively low risk of armed clashes or terrorist attacks.

3. Economic elements

Classified as an emerging market economy, Jordan's economic resources base centers on phosphates, potash, fertilizer derivatives, tourism, overseas remittances, and foreign aid.

The unemployment rate is still above pre-pandemic levels (22.8% in 2022; 31.4% for women and 46.5 among young people), and the labor force participation remains low (33.5% in 2022, particularly for women (14.2%)), one of the lowest rates in the world. The refugee communities face extra challenges due to restrictive laws to get working permits (possible for specific sectors only such as agriculture, construction, and domestic work).

The Ukrainian war have shot up the prices of fuels and foodstuffs, creating significant inflation during 2022 (4.2%), and plunging thousands of additional families into poverty.

The tourism industry has fluctuated up and down in the past ten years, with a complete drop in 2020 due to Covid-19, a much-reduced tourist season in 2021, and then again a positive tourist season in 2022.

Poor Jordanians have officially access to a basic package of public health services, but specialized services are scarce or non-existent in rural areas and the less-populated areas of the south and east of the country. Access to healthcare for refugees is still a significant concern in Jordan where the average Syrian refugee family cannot afford the costs of healthcare, despite the reimposition of subsidies for Syrian refugees following pressure and financial support from certain foreign governments (through the Multi Donor Account).

Jordanian children with disabilities are facing many barriers in accessing education, such as lack of accessible structures and adapted educational materials, low teacher skills in inclusive education, resistance of some school principals, transportation challenges, stigma and bullying. Access to education for refugees is officially open to all children and free but in reality there are still many barriers that keep refugee families from sending their



children to school. Black refugees from Africa and non-Arab refugees also face the additional barriers of racism and language.

Jordanians and refugees with disabilities are facing significant barriers in generating enough income for their livelihoods. Formal employment in the private sector is hard to access due to lack of awareness and resistance of employers, lack of accessible workplaces, transportation challenges and stigma. Home-based businesses are hard to sustain in the challenging economic environment of Jordan, with high levels of unemployment.

Some economic sectors are open to refugees, including Syrians, and the Jordanian government did issue a significant number of work permits as part of the Jordan Compact (2016/2020) which saw Jordan benefit from increased access to European markets in return for the issuance of work permits for refugees. However, the government did not issue enough work permits as compared to the number of job-seeking Syrian refugees, the work permit process is still highly challenging, and in many instances not attractive neither to refugee workers or Jordanian employers. Finally, initial discussions on a 2nd Jordan Compact for the coming years have not yet reached a concrete conclusion.

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI has been present in Jordan since 2002. HI response to the Syrian crisis started in Jordan during the summer of 2012 and from 2012 to 2014 the focus was on the provision of direct rehabilitation services to vulnerable populations with a strong focus on Syrian refugees.

In 2017, HI changed its approach from providing direct rehabilitation services to building the capacities of local actors and system strengthening of the Ministry of Health.

Today, HI is implementing a diverse portfolio of health, livelihoods, inclusive education and de-institutionalisation programmes. HI works with authorities, service providers, communities, employers and persons with disabilities to improve access to qualitative rehabilitation services in Jordan and to improve the economic and societal inclusion of persons with disabilities in Jordan.

The main successes are among:

- The development alongside WHO and the Jordanian Ministry of Health of the national Rehabilitation Strategy 2020-2024 which has been launched in 2021.
- HI and UNHCR established the Disability Task Force in 2015 to support humanitarian and development actors to ensure the inclusion of affected populations in their programs.
- The launch of HI's first inclusive education project in Jordan, supporting children with disabilities from 4 to 6 years to access



Kindergarten and the first year of primary school. This pilot project is running from September 2021 until Sept 2025.

- The launch of HI's first project on the socio-economic inclusion of Palestinian Refugees in Jordan.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Project name and Main sector(s) of intervention	Objective of project in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project and donors funding it
Rehabilitation and early childhood development services Inclusive Education	Contribute to the development of more inclusive communities by providing crisis-affected Syrians and the most vulnerable Jordanians with access to high-quality and inclusive services, educational opportunities, and economic prospects.	<p>Enhance the capacity of Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) volunteers to reinforce the participation and inclusion of vulnerable girls, boys, women, and men with disabilities in their communities to reach their full potential;</p> <p>Comprehensive, inclusive, and high-quality rehabilitation and Early Child Development (ECD) services to vulnerable girls, boys, women and men with disabilities are improved and aligned with the national rehabilitation and ECD strategies, guidelines, and pathways;</p> <p>The functional abilities and knowledge of vulnerable girls, boys, women, and men with and without disabilities and their caregivers are improved through increased access and provision of home and center-based rehabilitation/ECD services;</p>	10,508		Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Education, Community Development Centres	Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, Mafraq, Madaba	BPRM September 2023 - August 2025



		<p>Beneficiaries of comprehensive rehabilitation services define and accomplish personalized pathways to improve their participation in the socio-economic life of their communities, thanks to enhanced CBR networks and empowered local CBR committees.</p> <p>Out-of-school children with disabilities have improved access to early learning by strengthening the connection between EI and inclusive education programs.</p>					
Improve access to quality comprehensive rehabilitation services	<p>Contribute to build more inclusive communities, allowing crisis-affected Syrians and most vulnerable Jordanians to reach their potential</p>	<p>Consolidate and expanding the role of the established CBR network;</p> <p>Consolidate and extend the capacity-strengthening component to the Ministry of Health hospitals;</p> <p>Maintaining the provision of rehabilitation services to vulnerable Syrian refugees and Jordanians who struggle to afford and access quality health care;</p> <p>Support the integration of rehab services in 7 MoH PHCCs</p> <p>Expanding the scope of the program to testing abilities, following HI' Standard Rehabilitation Pathway.</p>	2700		Ministry of Health	Whole of Jordan	FCDO (through DRC) January 2022 - December 2024
Early Childhood Development (ECD) project	<p>Improve access to quality comprehensive ECD services for girls, boys, women, and men affected by the Syrian crisis</p>	<p>Enhance the capacity of Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) volunteers to identify, refer, follow-up, and conduct home-based intervention programs, supporting vulnerable</p>	1000		Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Development	Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Mafrag	FCDO (through DRC) January 2022 - December 2024



		<p>women, men, girls, and boys with disabilities to improve their functionality</p> <p>Enhance the capacity and quality of primary and secondary healthcare providers to provide comprehensive, inclusive, and qualitative Early Detection Early Intervention</p>					
<p>Economic Inclusion</p>	<p>Community members including persons with disabilities and women improve their social participation through economic inclusion activities.</p>	<p>Young Community members are empowered to build their own vision to influence their socioeconomic situation.</p> <p>88 participants build assets towards the realization of the identified project</p> <p>An enabling and accessible ecosystem is created</p> <p>GIZ partners are trained in Disability Inclusion</p>	<p>72</p>			<p>Gaza/Jerash and Wehdat refugee camps, in Jerash and Amman governorates , Jordan</p>	<p>GIZ Oct 2023 - Dec 2024 (14 months to be extended)</p>



De-institutionalisation project	Support the implementation of the Jordan De-Institutionalisation (DI) strategy by improving the quality and the effectiveness of home-based family services, of community approaches and of daily care centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- support women with disabilities will be supported to transition from the institution towards family and community-based care- avoid institutionalisation for persons with disabilities in waiting lists- prevent future institutionalisation of children with disability by providing early childhood development services- ensure greater inclusion of adults with disabilities in their homes and/or communities in target areas	40 300		Ministry of Social Development, High Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Whole of Jordan	EU June 2022 - Feb 2025
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