

JORDAN

Amman, 2 December 2020

SITUATION

On the morning of Sunday the 15 March 2011, in the county of Syria, a multi-sided civil war arose. People were forced to flee their homes in search for refuge inside of Syria and in the neighbouring countries as Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan and beyond. This crisis has caused extensive violence and loss of lives. The conflict is now in its 9th year over 5.6 million people have fled Syria since 2011. Millions more are displaced inside Syria and, as war continues, hope is fading fast. In Jordan, over 655,000 men, women and children are currently trapped in exile. Approximately 85 per cent of them lives in the host communities, while more than 139,000 have found sanctuary at the camps of Za'atari and Azraq. Many have arrived with limited means to cover even basic needs, and those who could at first rely on savings or support from host families are now increasingly in need of help. It is estimated that 93 per cent of refugees in Jordan live below the poverty line. According to UNICEF, 86% of Syrian refugees outside camps in Jordan live below the poverty line. Most Syrian families rely on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs at a time of aid cuts and economic downturn compounded by the coronavirus pandemic. The total number of positive tested people in the country are 198 thousand, with 2442 associated deaths (November 25, 2020). While poverty and unemployment rates were already high prior to the onset of COVID-19, Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians face even greater challenges in earning a livelihood, covering basic needs such as food, protection and accessing key services as healthcare.

NEEDS

The conflict has put the county in a state of crisis. Due to COVID-19, many refugees and local Jordanian lost their jobs. This had impact on lack of food and make a high pressure on the families in Jordan, and many of the host communities lost their jobs so we need the help to these most vulnerable families.

Key findings of sector needs conducted by REACH in May 2020¹ are following:

For **livelihood** the three main reported sources of income were daily labour (80%), taking loans or borrowing money (53%), and cash assistance from charities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or United Nations (UN) agencies (53%). In 9% of HHs, child labour was also reported as an income source. Main reported reasons for debt were purchasing food (74%) and covering health expenses (67%). For **food security** the main key finding is that 85% of HHs reported using at least one coping strategy, meaning that only 15% of HHs managed to meet their food needs without adopting any livelihood-based coping strategies. Across all livelihood coping strategies, 51% of HHs reported using stress strategies, such as borrowing money or spending savings. For **health** the key findings were that 37% of HHs reported having at least one member with a chronic health condition. The main reported reasons for difficulties accessing healthcare were cost of healthcare (81%), cost of treatment/medication (47%), and cost of transportation (38%). For **safety and protection** the key findings were 18% of KI reported WASH facilities to be areas where women and girls did not feel safe. 82% of KI reported that environmental risks could lead to death or injury of children (below 18 years of age) in their settlements.

The Syrian conflict and COVID-19 affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sufficient food
<input type="checkbox"/>	safe shelter and basic non-food items
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	basic health services and facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	livelihood activities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	protection services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	adequate nutrition

¹ [REACH-Jordan-VOC-Assessment-Final-Report-May-2020.pdf \(reliefweb.int\)](#)

The dire situation is further compounded for the conflict affected people with vulnerabilities; more specifically for woman and girls, refugees and other vulnerable groups. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National government	Line Ministries are coordinating and supporting legal matter as MoPIC, MoL, MoE, MoSL and many other governmental entities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UN Agencies	UNHCR, UNOCHA, IOM, WFP and others coordinates the crisis in Jordan through working groups and programs. Beside responding through the Jordan Humanitarian fund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INGOs	Implement programs to meet the needs of the refugees and vulnerable host community
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Cross Red Crescent Movement	Coordinate the crisis in Jordan and implement programs to address the main needs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Military presence	Present
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National NGOs	Implement programs to meet the needs of the refugees and vulnerable host community
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Civil society groups	Implement programs to meet the needs of the refugees and vulnerable host community
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Faith based groups	Implement programs to meet the needs of the refugees and vulnerable host community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Philanthropy groups	NA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Host communities	Hosting refugees
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Affected communities	Present

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by UNHCR. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (UN working groups and regular meeting with governmental entities) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.

ACT Alliance

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance has been working in Jordan since 2012, now helping/planning to help people affected by the Syrian conflict and COVID-19 impact.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance works in areas affected by the conflict, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance is currently monitoring the situation to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT forum has identified a gap in health and nutrition, protection and livelihood and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ACT forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide food parcels, health kits, protection services and livelihood training to ensure that the conflict affected persons' basic needs are met with regards to Health, Nutrition, Livelihood and Protection.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance is ready to respond, providing hygiene kits, PSS sessions, medicine, trainings and food parcels to 42,466 affected persons in the coming months.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Furthermore, ACT Alliance will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the conflict are amplified.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Humanitarian Affairs, Alwynn Javier (alwynn.javier@actalliance.org) and Rachel Luce, (Rachel.Luce@actalliance.org).

For further information please contact:

Forum Convener/ Coordinator, Fares Swais (farisrswais@gmail.com)

ACT Regional Representative, Rachel Luce (Rachel.Luce@actalliance.org)

ACT Regional Humanitarian Programme Advisor, George Majaj (George.majaj@actalliance.org)

ACT Web Site address: <http://www.actalliance.org>