



EUROPEAN UNION



The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis
الصندوق الاستئماني الأوروبي 'مدد'

Project Factsheet

Providing Social Protection Assistance for Refugees in Jordan

OBJECTIVE

Contribute to the social protection and self-reliance of refugees in Jordan, so that:

- they will be able to meet their basic needs through social transfer and
- a referral system to livelihoods opportunities can be put in place.

BUDGET

EUR 45 million**

START DATE

01/08/2020

DURATION

36 months

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Refugees are provided with cash assistance through a vulnerability- and evidenced-based system.
- Refugees on the waiting list for cash assistance are able to benefit from the graduation system*.
- Graduation and refugee profiling systems are in place.
- Beneficiary referral to the graduation system is implemented.
- A system for disseminating lessons learnt is activated.

BENEFICIARIES

129,000

Syrian refugees & non-Syrian beneficiaries

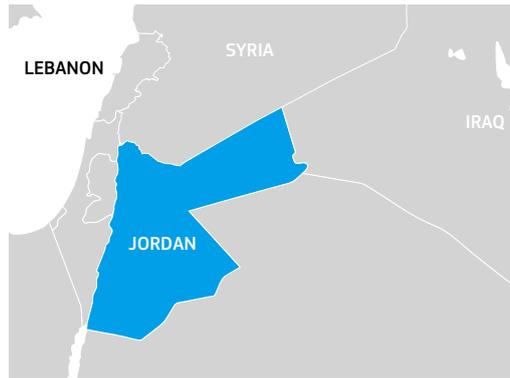
* The so-called "Graduation Approach" is a poverty-alleviation model used by the [Poverty Alleviation Coalition](#), which is led by UNHCR and includes more than 13 partners worldwide. This approach combines social protection and development assistance, and helps the extremely poor refugees and host communities become self-reliant.

** This is the EU Regional Trust Fund's contribution to an overall multi-donor project whose approximate anticipated budget amounts to EUR 197.5 million over a period of 3 years.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER



PROJECT LOCATION



IMPACT



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Huda, 36, is a Syrian refugee and single mother of five children. She fled her home in Homs, Syria in 2013 after her husband died and moved several times within Syria itself before crossing the border to Jordan. In Jordan she relies on UNHCR cash assistance to live and also cares for her elderly father Ezz El Dein who lives nearby.

“What I saw in Syria, the slaughtering, the miseries that the children faced, it has never left my mind. My son is still affected by what he saw, he is mentally traumatised.”

After joining her sister who had also fled to Jordan, Huda remarried and gave birth to her two youngest children, Suhaib and Youssef. Two years ago, however, she separated from her husband and has been the sole provider for her family ever since.

Living in one of the poorest neighbourhoods of East Amman, the six family members share a dilapidated two room apartment where rain regularly leaks through the ceiling.

Due to the difficulties the family face, her eldest daughter Rahaf, 16, stopped going to school to help her mother in house-chores. Her son Muheeb dropped out because of the traumatic experiences in Syria. Before the COVID-19 pandemic he used to attend a local community center to get support and informal education, but this has also now ceased. Nagham, 9, is the only one who is enrolled in school but since the COVID-19 pandemic this has stopped, and learning has been online since March 2020.

Huda says she doesn't have the money to take her children to school but that all she wants is to find somewhere where she and her children feel safe and settled.

For the last nine months, Huda and her family have received UNHCR cash assistance but due to the COVID-19 pandemic this has barely been enough to cover their basic needs. In the summer, they were forced to move to a new house after they were evicted by their previous landlord when they didn't have enough money to pay the rent.

The stress has also taken its toll and Huda says she has started to have migraines as a result. Huda says that at the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, her family couldn't even afford to buy bread. Due to this Muheeb was forced to start collecting tin cans from the streets which he could sell for recycling.

This winter, Huda was particularly worried about what would happen when it rained. Their ceiling and windows have many holes through which the water pours in and damages their few possessions. “For nine years in Jordan during the winter, it has been miserable. There is not enough heating for the children. Sometimes we have 4-5 days with no heating until someone gives us a gas cylinder.”

Huda and her family were among the vulnerable households that were determined eligible for winter assistance. In December 2020, they received a total of 275 Jordanian Dinar to help them cover their needs. After paying off some debts and a new gas heater, Huda was able to also make a proper meal for her family. “When I received the assistance, it felt like a holiday.”

UNHCR's [Vulnerability Assessment Framework \(VAF\)](#) is used as a core protection mechanism to identify refugee families in need and assess their economic vulnerability. Through this approach, UNHCR and partners target families like Huda's and enable them to meet, at a minimum, their most basic needs, by providing monthly cash assistance. Through the support of the Trust Fund, UNHCR is working, together with ILO and UNICEF, towards building an environment where refugees can eventually become self-reliant and productive members within their host communities.