Country Snapshot

Population: 6.5 million
Life expectancy at birth: 73 years (men 71.6, women 74.4)
Adult literacy rate: 93.3%
Households connected to water network: 96.7%
GDP per capita (PPP): US$3,438.6
Infant mortality rate: 17 per 1,000 live births
Maternal mortality rate: 63 per 100,000 live births
Females in the labour force age 15+: 18.3%


Program Overview  CARE began its work in Jordan in 1948 to meet the needs of Palestinian refugees that have been displaced with the creation of Israel. Since then, Jordan’s central position and relative political stability have continued to contribute to its role as a safe haven for refugees, particularly from its neighboring countries Iraq and Syria. Since 2003 alone, Jordan has received between 450,000 and 750,000 Iraqis fleeing from the conflict in their country. More recently, the ongoing conflict in Syria has resulted in huge population movements across the border to Jordan. As of April 2015, approximately 630,000 Syrian refugees were registered in Jordan, with an estimated 83% of them living in non-camp urban areas. Syrian, Iraqi (the second largest group at 58,050), Somali, and Sudanese refugees in Jordan are projected by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to total over one million by the end of 2015. CARE has set up four refugee centers in East Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, and Ma’aloula. CARE is also working in partnership with two community based organizations in Azraq town, in addition to fully functioning community centers in Azraq camp. CARE volunteers, who are refugees themselves, assist in information dissemination and in organizing and preparing distributions of relief items. So far, CARE Jordan has reached more than 370,000 Syrians (74,000 families), providing cash assistance to pay for basic living costs, including rent, food and clothes as well as vital information on how to access further health care and social support.

During its 67 years of operation, CARE Jordan’s programs have been addressing the needs of both the host and refugee populations. Recognizing that women and children suffer disproportionately from poverty, CARE Jordan places special emphasis on working with women to create permanent social change. Our work in Jordan currently prioritizes the following program areas:

- Emergency Response for Refugees and Host Communities
- Women and Girls Empowerment
- Civil Society Strengthening

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE
CARE Jordan has a trusted reputation within Jordan, with a presence established since 1948, and extensive experience working with refugees; providing case management, livelihood opportunities, emergency cash and non-food items (NFIs) assistance, information sharing, and psychosocial support to Iraqi refugees since 2003. At present, CARE Jordan’s response includes managing a protection program through community centers in urban settings. The centers are located in areas with the greatest concentrations of urban refugees and offer a variety of targeted assistance, including information provision, winterization assistance, emergency cash assistance, case management, and psychosocial support. Up to 200 individuals visit each of the four centers every day (Amman, Zarqa, Mafraq, and Irbid). CARE staff members carry out rapid needs and more involved assessments looking at refugees’ particular capacities and needs. Those most vulnerable include female-headed households, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) survivors, people with disabilities, and the elderly.

The community center provides:
• A range of services to the most needy beneficiaries; targeting each family member and addressing all of their issues; protection, material assistance, wellbeing, and psychosocial needs.
• Expanded access to women and children through community centers where they feel safe and are able to report on immediate protection needs.
• Involvement for Jordanians which helps establish a safety network and break isolation, especially for women and the elderly.

Support to Syrians in Azraq Camp
In addition to the support to urban Syrian refugees, CARE has partnered with the UNHCR and other agencies to set up a new refugee camp in Azraq. Azraq camp opened on 30 April 2014. CARE is now providing community services in the two operational villages. In the future, CARE will provide community services in a total of six villages, with the capacity to accommodate potentially 50,000 refugees in the current camp setting, which can be expanded to host up to 130,000 refugees. CARE makes sure that vulnerable households are able to access appropriate humanitarian and social services within the camp. Services include information dissemination on camp structure, entitlements and responsibilities and much more.

To develop a well-functioning community, CARE organizes community committees that engage the camp population in decision-making and daily life.

WOMEN AND GIRLS EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM
To address gender inequality and discrimination, CARE Jordan is working at multiple levels: advocating for laws addressing GBV and providing services for survivors. We are also working to bring about changes in social norms; involving and strengthening activist movements, as well as engaging men and boys in efforts to address deep-rooted beliefs, attitudes and discriminatory practices such as early marriage and other forms of abuse and violence. In collaboration with women’s networks and social movements, we are advocating for legal frameworks to protect women and girls from GBV, including access to justice. We are working with governments and other actors to scale up models to facilitate access for survivors of GBV, including men, to health and economic services. CARE Jordan has built its work with Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) as a platform for women’s economic participation, as well as the advocacy work on women, peace and security, which advances women’s critical participation for sustainable peace. CARE Jordan will facilitate and support the voice of women by strengthening the capacity of women’s organizations and networks and their opportunity to take part in decision-making processes at all levels, building awareness about their rights and entitlements and their crucial role in decision-making. We will also work with men and power-holders to increase acceptance of the importance of giving space to women both as a rights entitlement, and for the contributions this makes to a better society.

CIVIL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING
CARE Jordan has established strong partnerships with key local NGOs such as the National Centre for Human Rights and the National Forum for Women, to ensure the relevance and sustainability of its programs and to foster knowledge transfer and capacity building with partners.

Major Donors
European Commission, Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), OCHA, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bureau of Population Refugees and Migration (BPRM), Department of Immigration and Citizenship in Australia (DIAC), Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and Olayan Foundation.

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