



RIJ

国際難民支援会

Building a
Future for
Refugees

Jordan



Courtesy: UNHCR

Reasons for Displacement:

Jordan is a major hub for refugees in the Middle East. Its policy of open borders has proven instrumental in recent years, resulting in large number of refugees from Syria, Iraq, and Palestine. However, despite its open doors policy, rising number of refugees add further strain on the country's already fragile socio-economic system and infrastructure.

Refugee Communities:

As a result of the Syrian conflict, Syrian refugees continue to enter Jordan, with an estimated 747,000 refugees having arrived since the conflict began. As the number of Syrian refugees entering Jordan continues to grow, new refugee camps are being established to manage the influx. The largest camp in Jordan, the Za-atari camp, is now recognized as the fourth largest 'city' in Jordan.

Due to high rates of unemployment in Jordan and the overburdening arrival of refugees, both groups are competing for limited jobs. With competition between the groups on the rise for employment, commodities and basic services, tensions are increasing.

Other refugees in Jordan are from Iraq and are considered guests or visitors by the Jordanian government. Jordan has also been housing Palestinian refugees since the late 1940's. Palestinian refugees, who mostly enjoy full citizenship rights, have access to ten official camps in Jordan provided by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. The camp facilities include 172 schools, 24 health care centres, vocational training schools, rehabilitation centres, and women's program centres.

Number of refugees:

654,141 residing in Jordan;
1,716 originating from Jordan
[source: UNHCR]

Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):

0
[source: UNHCR]

History:

1946—The UN recognizes Jordan as an independent sovereign kingdom

1948—Palestinians flee to Jordan to escape fighting in newly formed Israel

1967—Six Day War creates massive influx of refugees into Jordan

1970—Black September, thousands of Palestinians killed as martial law is declared

1986—Hussein severs ties with Palestine Liberation Organization

1994—Peace treaty signed between Jordan and Israel ends 46 year long war

1999—King Hussein dies of cancer and is succeeded by Prince Abdullah al-Hussein

2005—60 people killed in suicide bombings in Amman

2011—Refugees from Syrian Civil War enter Jordan

2012—UNHCR opens Za'atri camp in northern Jordan

2015—ISIS publishes video of Jordanian pilot being burned alive; government brings forth anti-IS campaign and executes prisoners

Assistance:

- In 2012, RIJ provided 240 children of Syrian refugees in Jordan with both uniforms and books so they could attend school
- World Food Programme introduced a voucher system to those in the Zadari camp
- World Vision is setting up water and sanitation facilities in the Azraq camp

