

# WASH

Jordan is one of the most water scarce countries in the world. The dramatic increase in population due to the influx of Syrian refugees has exacerbated this critical situation, especially in the north.



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## SITUATION FOR CHILDREN

As one of the most water scarce countries in the world, with an average annual rainfall of less than 200mm a year across over 90 per cent of the country, Jordan has been facing chronic challenges to ensure the provision of water and sanitation services for decades, particularly in rural areas. Owing to an increasing population (due to natural growth as well as regular influxes of refugees) and expanding industrial and agricultural capacity, the demands on the limited water reserves continue to increase. As a result, water scarcity is Jordan's most critical environmental concern, with significant potential economic and social implications including reduced competitiveness of industries, increased costs of basic food items and social unrest. Long term groundwater monitoring in the main aquifers suggests that water levels continues to fall, with annual declines in excess of 10m reported.

Ninety-seven per cent of the population have access to an improved water source with rates of 98 per cent in urban areas, and 92 per cent in rural areas. Although the rates of access to a water network are very high, compared to many other countries in the region, water is not continuously available in the network, ranging from once a week to once a month. The limited availability of water is further compounded by high levels of leakage, illegal connections and non-payment, estimated by Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI) to be almost 50 per cent.

Access rates for improved sanitation facilities have increased in both urban and rural areas, with a significantly higher increase reported in rural areas, and a corresponding dramatic reduction in open defecation. Ninety-nine per cent of the population now have access to an improved sanitation facility, in both urban and rural areas.

In host communities, strained urban infrastructure and services can no longer cope with the surge in population, requiring large-scale investments in water supply and wastewater infrastructure. Furthermore, an estimated 242,000 Syrian refugees living in camps and hard to reach areas continue to depend upon daily water and sanitation services from UNICEF and its partners.

## UNICEF WASH PROGRAMME

UNICEF is the lead agency in the WASH sector. In 2017, UNICEF will continue to provide Syrian refugees in camps and hard to reach areas with daily water and sanitation services, with infrastructure improvements (water and sewage networks) progressively improving long-term sustainability and cost efficiency. UNICEF is scaling up support to vulnerable Syrians in host

## The current situation:



### 135,000

Registered Syrian refugees in camps



### 97%

People have access to an improved water source

- 98% in urban areas
- 92% in rural areas



### 99%

People with access to an improved sanitation facility.



### 50%

Water lost through leakage and unauthorized connections



Funding required in 2017:  
**US\$ 84,200,000**

Funding received for 2017:  
**US\$ 3,200,000**

Unit cost per person reached  
with WASH services in camps:  
**US\$ 185**

communities and at schools hosting Syrian children through the rehabilitation of infrastructure, benefiting two million people (water infrastructure) and 457,000 people (sanitation infrastructure). UNICEF will also work with partners at household and school levels to promote water conservation and safe hygiene practices targeting 263,000 people.

2017 is shaping up to be a major year for the WASH sector in Jordan:

- Provision of WASH services to an estimated 120,000 people (over 65,000 children) in the camps using cost effective and equitable modes of delivery
- Completion of the water network in Azraq and cessation of water tankering, and gradual completion of the second phase of the water and wastewater networks in Za'atari and the cessation of tankering on a gradual district-by-district basis – all households will be connected to tanks
- Supply of water for the border from the Hadalat and Rukban boreholes
- Scaling-up of the water level monitoring programme and the commencement of the Groundwater Impact Assessment

## UNICEF & PARTNER KEY RESULTS IN 2016

**Emergency Response at the Northeastern Border:** As part of UNICEF's emergency response for the over 85,000 refugees estimated to be living at the northeast border, an average of 573 m<sup>3</sup> of water is being supplied daily to Rukban (401 m<sup>3</sup>) and Hadalat (172 m<sup>3</sup>) camps, or 6.45 and 22.9 litres per person per day respectively. To ensure the provision of adequate supply of water, UNICEF is drilling a borehole at Rukban, and has supported the drilling of a new borehole at the Ruwayshed Water Treatment Plant, as well as rehabilitating an existing borehole and the installation of a new pumping and treatment system at Hadalat.

**WASH in Camps:** UNICEF is responsible for the provision of WASH services to people living in Za'atari, Azraq and King Abdullah Park refugee camps. Each day, UNICEF and partners provide over 4 million litres of treated water (at least 35 litres per person per day) and collect and treat 1.5 million litres of wastewater. UNICEF also implements more sustainable infrastructure through the construction of water and wastewater networks in Za'atari (Phase II construction commenced in December 2016) and the expansion of the water network in Azraq (will be completed by mid-2017 after which, tankering will be eliminated).

**WASH in Informal Tented Settlements (Makani Plus):** The Makani Plus approach was implemented in 72 vulnerable communities (with a population of 5,713) in 2016 in Irbid, Ramtha, Ma'an, Karak, Mafraq, Amman and Azraq governorates, through a package of interventions comprising psychosocial support, outreach, WASH, informal education and life skills. WASH infrastructure has been installed in 70 locations, benefitting 4,573 people. The interventions to date have been the construction of latrines and the installation of water tanks and the distribution of water filters.

**Support in host communities and environmental sustainability:** UNICEF rehabilitated/constructed WASH facilities in 43 schools in 2016. UNICEF also supported the Water Authority of Jordan, to alleviate the pressure on the existing infrastructure through the rehabilitation of existing water and sewerage systems. Over 2016, UNICEF has implemented a number of measures to manage the water consumption, as well as the installation of water level monitoring equipment in Za'atari and Azraq refugee camp.

**National-level Policy Support:** UNICEF supported the development of the National Water Strategy 2016 – 2025 which is a key document to guide the priorities for the sector, including to update the Vulnerability Maps for Water and Wastewater.

## UNICEF & Partner Results 2016

 **225,348**  
Population with access to an adequate quantity of safe water (tankering)

 **237,362**  
Population with access to an adequate quantity of safe water (infrastructure)

 **260,207**  
People with access to appropriate sanitation facilities

 **122,320**  
People who have experienced a hygiene promotion session

 **64,093**  
children with access to improved WASH facilities in schools

 WASH Sector Coordination support

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## UNICEF KEY TARGETS FOR 2017

 **242,000**  
Population with access to an adequate quantity of safe water (tankering)

 **2,000,000**  
Population with access to an adequate quantity of safe water (infrastructure)

 **457,000**  
People with access to appropriate sanitation facilities

 **101,500**  
children with access to improved WASH facilities in schools

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