



UNITED NATIONS  
JORDAN



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# ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

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JORDAN - 2025



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# CHAPTER 1

## KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN JORDAN

The United Nations development system works in close partnership with the Government of Jordan to support nationally led development priorities and advance inclusive and sustainable development outcomes. Through structured engagement with government institutions, the UN contributes to policy dialogue, coordination, and implementation across priority sectors, with a focus on strengthening national systems and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations.

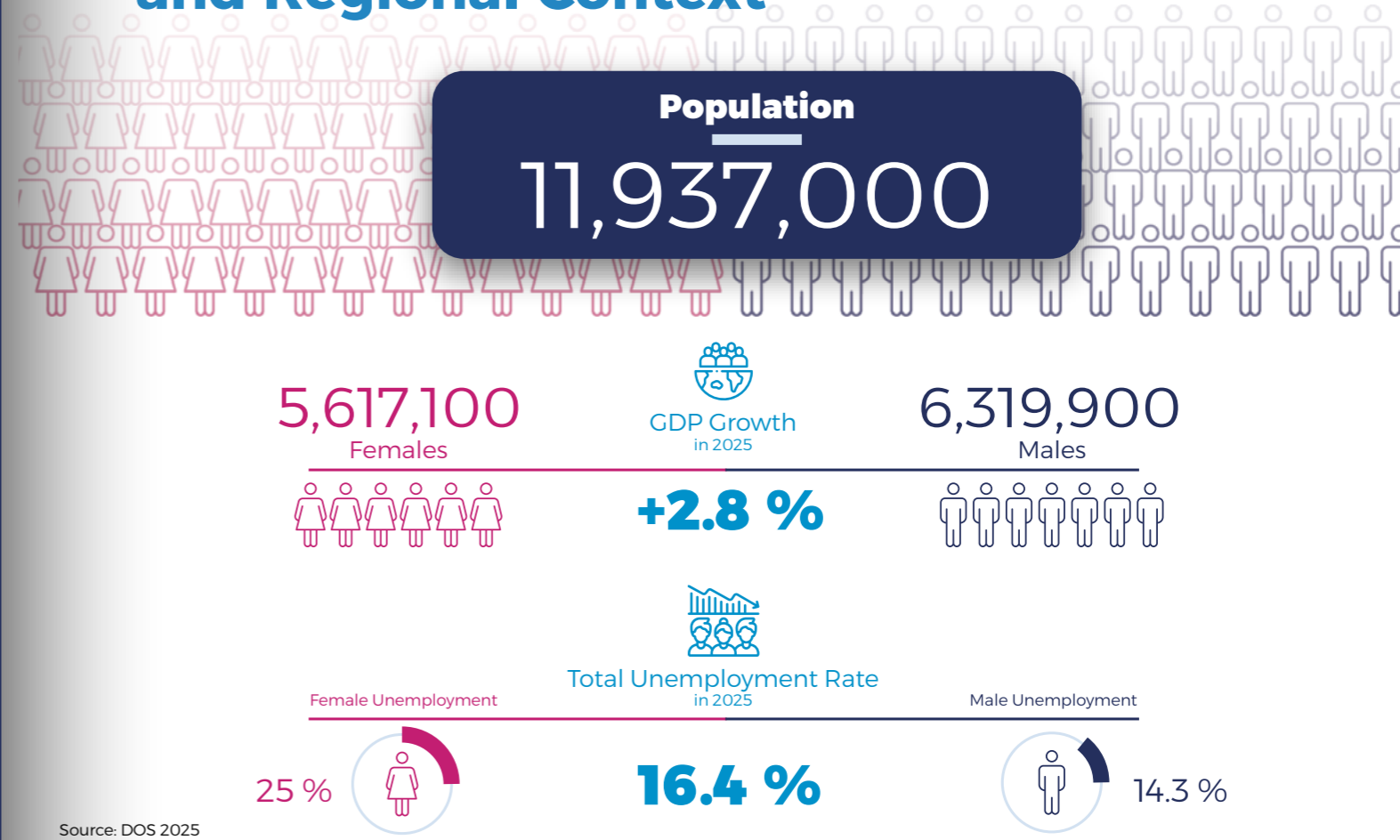
A cornerstone of this collaboration is the UN's close partnership with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, alongside relevant line ministries, to promote alignment with national strategies and enhance coherence across development efforts. In this context, the UN continues to play an active role in increasing coordination among international partners, including through its function as a founder and co-chair of the Jordan Development Partners Group, which serves as the principal forum for dialogue, information sharing, and alignment among development actors operating in the country.

At the sectoral level, the UN supports and convenes coordination platforms that bring together government counterparts, international partners, and other stakeholders to foster collaboration and complementarity. These include the Health Development Partners' Forum, the Gender Partners' Coordination Group, and the Policy, Planning and Coordination Committee for the Education Sector, which facilitate joint engagement, technical exchange, and alignment in their respective sectors. The UN also participates in the National Migrant Working Group, supporting coordinated approaches to migration-related issues in line with national priorities.

In addition, the UN plays an important role in refugee coordination structures, working closely with government counterparts mainly the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as relevant stakeholders under national frameworks to support planning, coordination, and ensure that responses are aligned with Jordan's broader development objectives.

Through these partnerships and coordination mechanisms, the UN contributes to a well-coordinated development environment, strengthens collaboration among diverse actors, and reinforces its role as a trusted partner in support of sustainable development outcomes in Jordan.

## Key Developments in the Country and Regional Context



Source: DOS 2025

The regional landscape in 2025 remained highly volatile, yet Jordan continued to position itself as a stable anchor within a turbulent neighbourhood. While a ceasefire in Gaza marked an important development, its implementation remained fragile, with reconstruction limited. In Syria, the post-Assad transition unfolded unevenly, with persistent insecurity and uncertain prospects for large-scale refugee return. Mid-year escalation between Israel and Iran, including projectiles crossing Jordanian airspace, underscored the country's exposure to regional spillover while testing its carefully calibrated posture of neutrality and diplomatic balance.

Against this backdrop, Jordan maintained a steady focus on advancing domestic development priorities. Parliament approved the 2025 state budget emphasizing fiscal consolidation through enhanced tax compliance rather than new taxation on basic goods.

The government also moved to resolve long-standing fiscal disputes, approving settlements for over 1,500 pending tax cases to improve revenue predictability and investor confidence. In parallel, incremental progress was recorded in governance and integrity frameworks. Jordan's score in the Corruption Perceptions Index (2025) rose modestly, yielding rankings of 56th globally and 5th among Arab states, reflecting gradual improvements in judicial performance, anti-corruption enforcement, and oversight of public fund management.

Strategic investments continued across infrastructure and services. The signing of the National Water Carrier project marked a major step toward long-term water security, while efforts to position Jordan as a regional logistics hub advanced through modernization of border crossings, including Karama, and continued development of Aqaba as a gateway for trade.



and industry. Integrated Border Management capacities were strengthened through infrastructure and institutional upgrades. In the health sector, investments in new infrastructure like the Madaba hospital, alongside digitalization, national medical stockpiling, and a stronger emphasis on primary health care, reflect a shift toward more resilient, integrated systems, while policy efforts increasingly focus on expanding equitable access—particularly to costly services such as cancer care—in line with universal health coverage principles.

Economic reform efforts were anchored in the continued implementation of the Economic Modernization Vision, with 2025 marking both the culmination of the first executive programme (2023–2025) and the launch of the second (2026–2029). This phase represents a scaled and more operationally mature phase of

the reform agenda, comprising approximately 180 initiatives implemented through nearly 400 projects across priority sectors. It signals a shift toward structured execution, with greater emphasis on implementation discipline, investment pipelines, and measurable results. Complementary efforts to develop a national financing strategy, establish a blended finance investment platform, and deepen partnerships with the financial sector underscore a broader shift from funding to financing as a driver of development.

Across social and human development sectors, 2025 was characterized by the consolidation of national systems and policy frameworks. The updated National Social Protection Strategy (2025–2033) was launched as a central pillar of inclusive growth, complemented by a Social Security Reform White Paper. In education,

the Government advanced a comprehensive reform agenda through the development of the Education Strategic Plan (2026–2030), supported by the launch of the National Framework for Inclusion and Diversity in Education. Labour market participation and care economy constraints were addressed through the development of a National Childcare Policy, while broader inclusion was reinforced through the National Action Plan for Older Persons (2024–2028).

At the same time, a new generation of national action plans and forward-looking strategies emerged, reflecting both domestic priorities and alignment with global frameworks. These included the endorsement of the National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security (JoNAP), the initiation of the National Youth Survey informing the forthcoming Youth Strategy (2026–2030), and the finalization of a costed National Action Plan on Child Protection, GBV, and Domestic Violence (2026–2030). In parallel, the Government advanced emerging governance domains through the development of a National Charter for Ethics of Artificial Intelligence and the endorsement, in November 2025, of the Second National Media and Information Literacy Strategy (2026–2029), signaling adaptation to evolving digital and information environments.

A defining feature of 2025 was the strengthening of the institutional infrastructure for implementation. This included the operationalization of a National Labour Market Information System, the updating of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, and the deployment of a national drought monitoring platform to support climate risk management. Urban governance also advanced through implementation of the National Urban Policy, alignment with planning legislation, and the development of integrated urban planning tools, including the Mafraq Spatial Profile and associated area and resilience plans. Similarly, national systems for addressing transnational risks were reinforced through the development of a National Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy and Referral Mechanism.

Taken together, these developments point to a broader structural shift in Jordan’s reform trajectory from discrete policy initiatives toward the construction of interconnected national systems — spanning social protection, labour, education, climate, and governance — under a coherent framework anchored in the Economic Modernization Vision. This reflects a growing emphasis on operational tools, data systems, regulatory frameworks, and financing mechanisms designed to translate strategy into measurable outcomes.

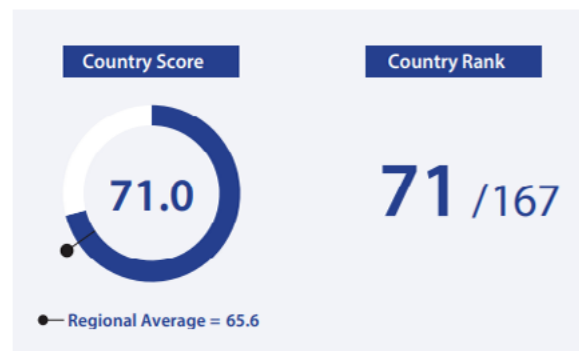
At the international level, Jordan participated in the Second World Summit for Social Development, the Third UN Ocean Conference, and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, demonstrating its commitment to align national reforms with renewed global commitments on poverty reduction, employment, and social inclusion, contribute to strengthened international obligations on marine protection and sustainable ocean economies, and engage in global efforts to reform development finance, including increasing concessional funding and addressing debt vulnerabilities. Jordan also co-convened with Germany the Fourth Global Disability Summit, underscoring the Kingdom’s leadership in advancing disability inclusion and rights at national and global levels.

These efforts contributed to measurable development gains. Jordan’s ranking in the 2025 Sustainable Development Report rose to 71 out of 166 countries, an improvement of 14 places year-on-year, with notable progress across education, energy, economic growth, infrastructure, sustainable consumption, climate action, and partnerships. However, the cumulative impact of regional instability continues to weigh on the nation, while sustained international support remains essential as Jordan continues to host over 3 million refugees.

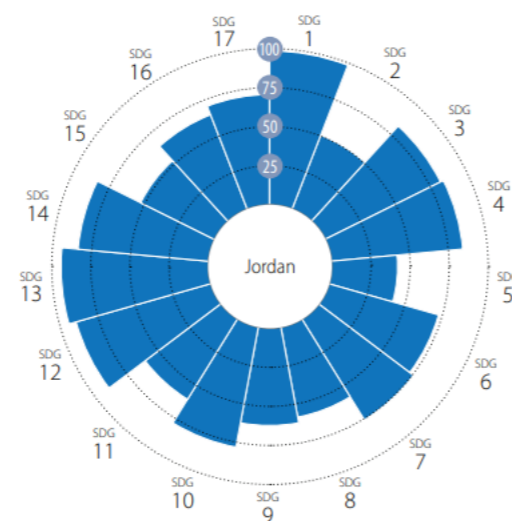
## Jordan SDG Progress in 2025

71<sup>st</sup> out of 167 Countries on 2025 SDG Global Index

### Overall Performance



### Average Performance by SDG



<https://dashboards.sdgindex.org>

## Economic Development in 2025



Jordan's economy maintained macroeconomic stability in 2025 despite regional conflict, global trade disruptions, and reduced external assistance. Real GDP growth reached 2.8 percent in 2025, up from 2.5 percent in 2024, driven by strong performance in tourism and export revenues. Low inflation—around 1.6 percent in 2024 and 1.8 percent in 2025—reflects a stable exchange rate-anchored monetary policy and subdued global energy prices.

Tourism continued to boost foreign exchange earnings, with revenues increasing by 7.6 percent in 2025 to approximately US\$ 7.8 billion, driven primarily by higher visitor numbers.<sup>1</sup> Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows reached US\$ 1.6 billion in 2024 and rose by 25.1 percent in 2025 to approximately US\$ 2.2 billion, supported by investment climate reforms, including the National Investment Roadmap

(2024–2027), expanded digital investor services, and growing investor confidence.<sup>2,3</sup> Overall, Jordan demonstrates strong macroeconomic management and continues to meet programme benchmarks under the IMF Extended Fund Facility, reinforcing investor confidence.

Fiscal pressures remain the principal macroeconomic constraint. Public debt increased to 108.2 percent of GDP by end of 2025<sup>4</sup>, while interest payments grew by 4.9 percent, accounting for 17.8 percent of total public expenditure. The budget deficit, including grants, slightly widened to 5.2 percent of GDP in 2025, up from 5 percent in 2024.<sup>5</sup>

Revenue mobilization remains dependent on consumption taxation. Taxes on goods and services represented more than 68 percent of total tax revenue<sup>6,7</sup> in 2025, placing disproportionate

pressure on lower-income households and constraining domestic demand. While sovereign risk remains manageable, reflected in the 2025 sovereign rating upgrade to BB-, high debt servicing costs continue to limit fiscal space for social and development expenditure.

The composition of official development assistance (ODA) has shifted significantly from grants to concessional loans since 2000.<sup>8</sup> More specifically, the grants-to-total ODA ratio declined from 85 percent over the period 2000–2019 to 72 percent in the most recent 5-year period. This compositional shift in official financial flows is likely to have implications for Jordan's development financing structure in the coming years.

Although external trade conditions tightened following the introduction of additional U.S. tariffs on Jordanian exports in August 2025, exports increased by 10.1 percent in 2025 reaching US\$ 15 billion. It is observed that only exports of clothing and related accessories declined by 0.9 percent reflecting the impact of U.S. tariff increases.<sup>9</sup> At the same time, global supply-chain diversification and regional reopening, particularly in Syria (with exports rising from US\$ 78 million in 2024 to US\$ 356 million in 2025), present opportunities to expand exports and logistics services over the medium term.

Labor market indicators remain a key development challenge. Overall unemployment among Jordanians decreased by 1.5 percentage points over the past 3 years, reaching 21.3 percent in 2025. Female labor force participation remained persistently low at

15.4 percent, while unemployment among Jordanian women remained high (33.2 percent in 2025), as did youth unemployment.<sup>10</sup> Labor market dynamics reflect structural obstacles, and several policy measures have been initiated to address these challenges. In this context, the minimum wage increased by 11.5 percent and will rise to JD 290 (US\$ 409) over the next three years, effective 1 January 2025. In addition, the Ministry of Labor suspended the recruitment of new foreign workers as of 29 May 2025, following a three-month hiring window. Furthermore, Ministry launched a pilot Labor Market Information System in December 2025 to provide data-driven insights into labor market dynamics, including employment trends, labor demand and workforce statistics. The government also accelerated technical and vocational education and training (TVET) reforms in 2025 by strengthening governance, increasing private sector involvement and enhancing curriculum relevance.

Jordan also improved its performance in the Women, Business and the Law index following labor law reforms that prohibit workplace discrimination and strengthen protections against harassment.

Despite reforms, the labor market faces persistent structural challenges, such as high youth unemployment, low female participation, and uneven job quality. In this context, targeted, evidence-based policies are needed to improve job creation and inclusion, and to constrain skill mismatches.<sup>11</sup>

1 Central Bank of Jordan, Monthly Statistical Bulletin, Main Economic Indicators, April 2026

2 International Monetary Fund (IMF), Jordan Extended Fund Facility Reviews (2024–2025)

3 [https://petra.gov.jo/Include/InnerPage.jsp?ID=82932&lang=en&name=en\\_news](https://petra.gov.jo/Include/InnerPage.jsp?ID=82932&lang=en&name=en_news)

4 Ministry of Finance (MoF), *General Government Finance Bulletins*, January 2026, Table 34, p.46 .

5 Ministry of Finance (MoF), *General Government Finance Bulletins*, January 2026, Table 27, p.39

6 International Monetary Fund (IMF), *Jordan Extended Fund Facility Reviews (2024–2025)*

7 *General Government Finance Bulletins*, January 2026, Table 28, p.40.

8 OECD Data Explorer, DAC2A: ODA Disbursement to countries and regions, 9 April 2026

9 Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), *U.S.-Jordan Trade and Tariff Measures 2025*

10 Department of Statistics (DoS), *Labour Force Survey & CPI Reports (2024–2025)*

11 <http://www.theigc.org/sites/default/files/2026-03/Al-Masaaid-Final-Report-March-2026.pdf>

# CHAPTER 2

## UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES THROUGH THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

Throughout 2025, the United Nations Country Team continued to advance its collective development response in close alignment with Jordan's national priorities, operating in one of the most challenging regional environments the country has faced. All UN work was guided by the draft Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027, which structures the UNCT's joint programming around four strategic priorities firmly anchored in Jordan's overarching national roadmap, the Economic Modernization Vision 2033.

The Economic Modernization Vision, built on two strategic pillars of accelerated economic growth and improved quality of life, is being implemented through eight economic growth drivers – High-Value Industries, Future Services, Destination Jordan, Smart Jordan, Sustainable Jordan, Vibrant Jordan, Green Jordan, and Invest Jordan – encompassing 35 priority sectors and more than 360 national initiatives.

The UN's work in 2025 was calibrated to directly support the Government's delivery of these drivers, with the second phase of the Economic Modernization Vision Executive Programme (2026-2029) providing the operational reference for all joint planning. The UN Country Team's work was organized through its Results Groups, which coordinate joint work planning across the four UNSDCF priority areas and whose work will be presented in greater detail in coming sections.

In 2025, joint achievements were noted particularly in the areas of food systems transformation, social protection, youth, and environment.

The UN anchored its Food Systems Transformations work within the National Food Security Strategy 2021-2030, advancing progress across two of its core strategic objectives: ensuring food availability through value chain development and post-harvest infrastructure, and strengthening governance

through evidence-based planning and investment frameworks. The UN mobilised US\$ 3 million from the Joint SDG Fund to support agri-food system transformation aligned with the Strategy's sub-objective of maximising local food production potential. Feasibility studies for post-harvest centres—a direct investment in the Strategy's food loss reduction target—are complete, with projected benefits for over 3,150 smallholder farmers. Eight national off-take agreements are in the pipeline for the fruit and vegetable sector and a blended financing mechanism combining grant, concessional, and private equity financing has been developed to crowd in investment beyond donor cycles. On the governance side, value chain diagnostics and the integration of climate and water risks into agri-food investment planning strengthened the evidence base the Strategy identifies as essential to coherent, cross-sectoral decision-making.

In **Social Protection**, 2025 marked a landmark year with the official launch of the National Social Protection Strategy 2025-2033, developed through consultations with over 900 participants and supported by the UN, in collaboration with the World Bank and the European Union. The new strategy seeks to bolster social protection coverage, equity, and resilience through shock-responsive, child-focused and gender and disability sensitive provisions. It is a high level strategic commitment to provide the best social care to those in need while providing opportunities to those seeking employment. The UN's Makani programme provided services for over 105,000 beneficiaries across all governorates, including more than 87,000 vulnerable children while with UN support social insurance coverage was extended to over 22,000 low-income and non-standard workers, with 37 percent transitioning into regular social security schemes.

On **Youth**, the UNCT supported the development of Jordan's first National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security, a first in the region, as well as the design of a forthcoming Government-led national youth survey. support to youth delivered progress across a wide spectrum, from employment and civic engagement to climate leadership and political participation. Over 200,000 young people passed through job search clubs and nearly 1,000 youth were placed in work-based learning programmes. The UN's adolescent development programming served over 34,000 young people across all governorates and helped engage 56,000 adolescents and youth as volunteers through the Nahno platform – more than double the 2014 rate.

**Environment** also emerged as a significant area of collective action, with the UNCT developing the One UN Strategy on Environment for Jordan (2026-2032), a unified framework to enhance coherence across UN agencies and support Jordan's green transition in alignment with the Economic Modernization Vision's Green Jordan and Sustainable Resources drivers. This framework will serve as the baseline for how the UN organizes its policy and programmatic engagement in the environmental sector for years to come.





at all levels of the education system. Shaped the country's national education commitments and was presented at the Global Disability Summit in Berlin April 2025. Also in education, the UN supported the Ministry of Education in institutionalizing Green School Standards, training 25 participants across four directorates and launching six Green School pilots.

Similarly, the UN advanced national education reform through the implementation of decentralized Gender Equality Action Plans nationwide, with 96 activities conducted across 42 developed plans. Throughout 2025, the Ministry conducted a comprehensive assessment of the decentralized gender equality plans, engaging more than 250 Gender Focal Points and rights-holders to measure results, identify operational challenges, and distill lessons learned. The findings confirm substantial progress in activity

implementation, strengthened institutional ownership at decentralized levels, and tangible advances in promoting gender-sensitive education and more diverse career choices for girls and boys. This assessment, together with substantial contributions to the Education Sector Analysis (ESA), provided clear guidance for integrating gender mainstreaming into the new Education Strategic Plan 2026-2030. To enhance accountability, the new accredited training Leading Change: Integrating Equity and Equality into Leadership Skills was rolled-out nationwide, reaching 131 Ministry of Education administrative staff (42 percent women and 58 percent men), strengthening leadership capacities for inclusive management. Further progress was also made with the completion of the TVET Gender Analysis, marking another step toward evidence-based gender-responsive planning.

## From Classroom to Career: Advancing Work-Based Learning in Jordan's TVET Schools

Location: Jordan (National Level)

For many vocational students in Jordan, education is increasingly extending beyond the classroom and into real workplaces. Through structured work-based learning, students are gaining practical experience, building confidence, and developing skills aligned with labour market needs.

Through the Transforming Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Jordan initiative, the UN worked closely with the Ministry of Education and national partners to support the development of a comprehensive national framework for work-based learning. As Dr. Abuswemeh from the Ministry of Education noted, "Work-based learning strengthens students' practical skills, bridges theory and practice, and builds confidence by exposing them early to the world of work."

The new guidelines clarify collaboration between schools and employers, enabling vocational institutions across Jordan to deliver consistent, high-quality workplace learning opportunities while also promoting inclusion, equal access and gender equality. In this way, Jordan is advancing sustainable TVET reform, connecting learning with decent work.



Gender equality, inclusion and diversity, as well as greening education have been also identified, among others, as cross-cutting priorities of the Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2026-2030 that the Ministry of Education developed across 2025 with the UN support the ESP defines the priorities and the evidence-driven education reform agenda for the next five years, towards an inclusive, high quality and future-ready education for all learners in Jordan.

In its goal to ensure decent work for all Jordanians, the UN in 2025 conducted 74 assessments and produced 110 quality assurance reports in the fields of public labour inspections and occupational safety and health systems, with national authorities leading inspections across export-linked industries.

In parallel, the UN strengthened national capacities to integrate just transition principles into climate and labour policy processes. Through targeted policy dialogues and technical engagement with line ministries, as well as workers' and employers' organizations, national stakeholders were supported to better understand the employment and decent work implications of climate action and green economic transformation. These efforts contributed to advancing structured social dialogue on just transition priorities and informed ongoing national policy processes, specifically the NDC revision process.

The UN continued its support to the Inter-ministerial Committee for Women's Empowerment through the deployment of legal and gender expertise in preparation for the review of the Labour and Social Security Law bills by relevant parliamentary committees in both Houses. The proposed amendments, such as the extension of maternity leave across all sectors to 90 days (up from 70 days), aim to enhance women's economic participation and promote decent work conditions. The UN also supported the Ministry of Labour, Jordan National Commission for Women (JNCW) and the National Committee for Pay Equity in implementing a nation-wide campaign reaching nearly 2 million individuals to enhance

the public's understanding of the recent Labour Law and Flexible Work Bylaw amendments, contributing to transparency and accountability for decent work environments.

In parallel, the UN supported the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) to develop the National Childcare Policy to promote family-friendly measures, reduce unpaid care constraints, and enable women to enter, remain, and progress in paid employment.

The National Committee for Pay Equity and the UN's 'Decent Work 4 Women' Programme successfully led the digitalization of approximately 60,000 employment contracts in the private education sector, establishing a transparent and traceable system hosted at the General Federation of Trade Union that strengthens the protection of women's wages, supports the assessment and reduction of the gender pay gap, and facilitates the transition of women workers from informal to formal employment.

The UN throughout 2025 engaged with municipalities and universities to conduct two city wide public space assessment reports (Al Salt City and Sahab), five site specific public space assessments (Al-Salt), a city-wide Public Space Strategy (Al-Salt) and a GIS-based public space inventory (Sahab). These activities advanced evidence-based, inclusive and climate responsive public space planning in urban areas and involved over 80 university students, youth research assistants and municipal focal points. In 2025, nearly 600 tons of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) were collected as part of supporting the circular economy approach across the informal and Hotel, Restaurant and Catering (HORECA) sectors.

The UN also supported market-oriented extension and institutional capacity strengthening through seven agri-fairs and seven scientific sessions, and operationalized Farmer Business Schools (FBS) to strengthen farm business skills, collective action, and structured market linkages.

In terms of healthcare, the UN supported the Ministry of Health to strengthen the Social and

BehaviourChange(SBC)andRiskCommunication and Community Engagement (RCCE), training 462 Community Health Committee members and laying the groundwork for the country's first SBC framework and integrating the RCCE principles into the Jordan Centre for Disease Control (JCDC) strategy with a focus on reaching vulnerable communities. The UN supported coordination, during the introduction of the Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) which contributed to the vaccination of over 97,120 children, of whom 75,430 were refugees.

The UN also expanded national medical storage capacity by 50 percent through the construction of 15 new warehouses and two walk-in cold rooms, and distributed 300 refrigerators to provide additional cold rooms for national vaccines and health centres, including in Zaatari and Azraq camps. The UN organized two MEDEVAC missions to evacuate almost 300 patients from Gaza.

The UN also supported the strengthening of mobility-sensitive health systems and border health preparedness. In 2025, national capacities to manage public health risks associated with population mobility were reinforced through

technical support to integrate migration health considerations into national strategies, including Universal Health Coverage and climate-sensitive health planning.

In addition, support was provided to national health service providers, including the National TB Programme, the National AIDS Programme and Annour Sanitarium, to strengthen prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cross-border case management for communicable diseases affecting migrants and displaced populations.

In the refugee camps, the UN supported education initiatives to strengthen foundational learning and early literacy by improving teacher capacity and providing access to reading and math materials. Over 10,000 learners, 45 percent of whom were girls, underwent reading assessments in camp schools and 51 vulnerable host-community schools. Following completion of the Reading Recovery Programme, 73 percent of assessed learners achieved 70 percent or higher in reading, demonstrating measurable improvements in accuracy, fluency, and reading comprehension.



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**5,000**

women gained new jobs in companies that signed the Women's Empowerment Principles in 2025 – **with board representation of women rising by 48**

National priority sectors' capabilities are unlocked to increase their contribution to inclusive, sustainable and green growth including for MSMEs and social enterprises to boost decent work, productivity, innovation and export capacities

In 2025, 5,000 women gained new jobs in companies that signed the UN established Women's Empowerment Principles in 2025, with board representation of women rising by 48 percentage points.

The UN supported entrepreneurship by delivering market-tested business development services and start up support to 675 persons as

well as helping establish or expand 71 women owned businesses. In line with the Economic Modernization Vision, the UN mobilised 68 new companies to commit to the Women's Empowerment Principles in 2025, bringing Jordan's total to 265 signatory companies representing over 100,000 employees. Through targeted capacity building, 5,000 women gained

new jobs in WEPs-committed companies, board representation of women rose by 48 percentage points, and nearly half of signatories adopted new policies to enhance women's recruitment and retention.

In terms of green growth and work, the UN supported micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME's) with tailored mentorship, Impact Measurement and Management (IMM) training and ecosystem engagement, overall, 47 MSME's were supported, of which 36 percent were women led. This led to the creation of 132 green jobs in 2025, of which 70.5 percent went to women and 102 women and youth launched income-generating activities.

Complementing these activities, targeted technical assistance was provided to SMEs in textiles, services, and processed food improved productivity, sustainability, and market access. In textiles, 22 SMEs adopted cleaner production practices, saving US\$ 37,000 annually through reduced energy use, waste, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, while efficiency improvements generated US\$ 1.27 million in cumulative savings and supported digital transformation for 16 SMEs. Market access support produced US\$ 193,000 in immediate sales and 190 business leads. In services and processed food, 29 SMEs strengthened compliance, certification, digital marketing, financing readiness, and market linkages, resulting in 40 qualified leads, 132 business contacts, and an estimated US\$ 3.2 million in potential sales.

In the agri-food system, the UN supported evidence-based upgrading analyses for agricultural priority areas. The engagement saw the production of a technical study and two feasibility studies for post-harvest centres in Deir All and Mafraq. Over 100 agricultural associations

and MSME's, representing over 3,150 smallholder farmers, benefited from the UN's involvement in this area. With the support of the UN, Parliament approved amendments to the Cooperatives Law, establishing the foundations for a more inclusive and modernized cooperative sector.

In parallel, the UN advanced Just Energy Transition efforts through integrated policy support, stakeholder engagement, and capacity building. National stakeholders, including line ministries and social partners, were engaged through policy dialogues and technical consultations to identify sector-specific entry points for climate action, particularly in energy, agri-food systems, and industry. These efforts supported the integration of employment considerations into climate policy discussions, including the ongoing NDC revision process, while strengthening capacities for investment planning and facilitating a more coherent approach linking enterprise development, green jobs creation, and sustainable economic transformation.

The UN strengthened national institutional capacity to advance inclusive and sustainable green growth. 33 Ministry of Youth staff (58 percent were certified as climate trainers through structured Training of Trainers programme, establishing a national cadre of climate trainers and embedding climate programming within the Ministry of Youth centres. In parallel, 150 youth leaders (58 percent female; 92 percent Jordanians; 8 percent Syrian refugees; 2 percent persons with disabilities) were selected through the National Volunteering Platform (Nahno) and completed an advanced climate leadership training. Additionally, over 6,660 youth champions, of which 56 percent were female, were trained nationwide.

## Development financing and partnerships mechanisms are enhanced to facilitate investments in the SDGs

The UN continued to identify and develop partnership mechanisms with stakeholders in Jordan to secure investments in the SDGs. The UN also engaged the Association of Banks in Jordan to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to scale green and inclusive finance.

As part of ongoing support for agriculture, the UN continued to support system transformation through innovative blended financing mechanisms for post-harvest centres, combining 31 percent grant financing, 19 percent concessional lending, and 50 percent private equity.

The UN developed three investment-ready business and financing models to scale-up job creation for women in green, care and digital economies. The business model for green economy was adopted by the Islamic Development Bank (ISDB) for women's economic empowerment with ISDB and IFAD jointly bringing US\$ 30 million in financing for Jordan to implement the model with a target of creation of 26,000 new job opportunities within a period of four years, 50 percent of which are for women.

**US\$ 30 million**

jointly committed by the Islamic Development Bank and IFAD to scale a UN-developed business model for **women's economic empowerment, targeting 26,000 new job opportunities within four years.**

The UN also established partnerships with public works institutions, providing scaled demand-driven skilling and work-based learning while generating short term employment. In this manner, nearly 3,000 short term jobs and over 292,600 worker days were created with inclusive participation of women, refugees and persons with disabilities.

## People's skills are improved and access to quality education, life-long learning and knowledge are enhanced, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized ones, to contribute to Jordan's green growth agenda

In 2025, the UN supported numerous initiatives to improve market-relevant skills among Jordan's population, especially among youth and refugee populations and thus strengthening the national skills ecosystem by aligning vocational education pathways with labour market needs. This included inclusive Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) pathways, capacity development for teachers and mentors and career guidance systems training for 78 Ministry of Education representatives from all over Jordan.

The UN continued its focus on skills development, employability and economic empowerment through Vocational Training Centres and the Faculty of Educational Sciences and Arts. In 2025 this saw 5,333 TVET and Teachers College students enrolled, as well as 1,050 TVET graduates and 340 Teacher's College graduates, who enjoyed a 93 percent employment rate.

Learning to earning pathways were also strengthened for 34,343 adolescents and youth (57 percent female, 35 percent refugees)

equipped with life and employability skills as well as digital skills training which supported over 2,825 youth in graphic design, coding, and content creating, leading to 275 securing income generating opportunities. The UN supported life skills training for some 21,600 adolescents and youth as well as employability focused soft skills training for 712 youth.

Income generation activities were supported by the UN for over 74,800 household members, translating into 770,000 working days. The UN also disbursed 3,316 microcredit loans in 2025, with 64 percent going to women and 25 percent to youth. Microfinance-supported enterprises created 920 jobs, 728 of which were filled by women. The UN expanded Job Search Clubs (JSCs) and updated the JSC facilitator and participant manuals first introduced in 2022 to integrate digital job search skills. Green JSCs were also rolled out to equip Jordanian and Syrian youth to apply for and secure jobs.

The UN strengthened private sector engagement to expand employment opportunities for refugees, supported market relevant skills development in partnership with the private sector and civil society, and enhanced refugees' economic participation by linking home based businesses to markets and integrating them into value chains. In 2025, the UN helped create 13,136 employment opportunities through Cash for Work (CfW) activities, benefiting 6,394 Syrian refugees and 6,742 Jordanians, of which 3,928 were youth and 759 were persons with disabilities. The UN also supported the maintenance of 462 schools, directly benefitting 281,956 students, 20,251 of whom are Syrian refugees.

Support to youth extended beyond employment and skills development, with the UN continuing

to advance Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and strengthen service delivery systems and institutional capacities nationwide. In Zaatari Camp, youth mentors were certified as Youth Trainers in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), successfully engaging 628 young people. In Azraq Camp and Azraq Village, 30 educators, CBO staff, and service providers were trained on SRHR and Gender-Based Violence (GBV), enhancing frontline response and referral pathways. As a result of these Training of Trainers (TOT) efforts, a total of 34,152 students were reached nationwide.

The UN continued to offer lifelong learning programmes to Syrian female refugees and vulnerable Jordanian women. Some 2,290 beneficiaries increased their knowledge on financial literacy, digital skills, health, nutrition and personal development, supporting their access to entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.

Through the Dare to Care programme, the UN engaged men, boys, and families to shift social norms on unpaid care and gender equality, with 45 percent of participating boys reporting greater belief in household equality, a 25-minute reduction in the gender gap in unpaid care time, and a 17 percent improvement in attitudes toward gender equality among participating families.

Women refugees in camps enhanced their capacities in digital and financial literacy, including in e-marketing. In Za'atari camp, 54 Syrian refugee women gained digital skills to help establish their own business and market their products using technology facilitated tools in partnership with Nokia.

## Makani Centers Open Doors to Education

Location: Amman, Jordan

Thirteen-year-old Ghazala smiles as she adds bright colours to her latest painting. At the UN-supported Makani Centre in Amman, art has become her way of expressing feelings she once struggled to put into words.

Just a few years ago, learning felt out of reach. Born into the marginalized Dom community, Ghazala grew up speaking Turkman at home and struggled to follow lessons in Arabic. Seasonal migration disrupted her education, and she left school in Grade 2, spending years without a stable place to learn or belong.

Makani — meaning “My Space” — changed that. At the centre, Ghazala began rebuilding her academic skills while discovering confidence she had never felt before.

Supported by dedicated facilitators and surrounded by peers, she found a safe environment where she could express herself, make friends, and regain her love of learning.

“Here, I feel comfortable and happy,” she says, dreaming of returning to formal school

Across Jordan, Makani centres provide safe and inclusive learning spaces for vulnerable children, including more than 2,500 children from the Dom community each year, helping them reconnect with education and build pathways toward brighter futures.



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People's access to and use of technologies, digital services and platforms is improved to facilitate an inclusive and green economic transition

In governance and livelihoods, the UN supported Jordan Development Portal (JDP) SDG Dashboard improved public access to disaggregated national data, allowing better understanding of issues at all levels as well as opportunities and gaps that exist. The UN also supported Jordan in developing a national study on readiness for immersive technologies to advance national development objectives as well as supporting improvements to regulatory and administrative frameworks linked to AI Investment and responsible generative AI governance, with national consultations underway.

The UN's commitment to improving access to new technologies and digital services and platforms continued in 2025. These centres will feature the latest technologies that will facilitate access for workers, MSME's and producers as well as providing gender-responsive infrastructure, safe and equitable access arrangements and provisions for continuous capacity development. 600 farmers have been engaged in the process.

The UN also sought to improve working conditions by expanding digital compliance and wage protection in education and care sectors through a unified electronic contract platform

which records most contracts and enabling real time monitoring of pay and working conditions, seeing approximately 60,000 contracts being recorded. The sector wide digital worker database is now operational for about 75,000 workers, and 500 individual and 20 collective grievances have been recorded.

In the healthcare system, the UN supported the strengthening of a routine health information system via capacity building trainings on DHIS2 and data entry across all health directorates and selected hospitals. Some 11 health directorates were digitalized for improved health information and data management.

In terms of youth engagement, the UN focused on youth health literacy, providing training to 50 youth across seven Ministry of Youth centres which led to the development of 38 youth-led projects, and provide funding for the three top projects. Similarly, the Shababna Initiative established a model that allowed young people to act as peer educators and social innovators across the country in areas such as SRHR, GBV, health lifestyles and digital safety. The initiative reached 820 youth. The UN also provided financial and technical support to the Local Conference of Youth which enabled the participation of over 2,300 young people to discuss national climate policy dialogues.



## Priority 2: Social Protection and Quality Basic Services

### UN Agency Reporting:



### SDGs



## Highlights



➤ Supported national social protection reform through the launch of the National Social Protection Strategy 2025-2033, built through extensive national consultations and analytical work.



➤ Strengthened access to healthcare through expanded consultations, referrals, and improved immunization coverage for vulnerable and refugee populations.



➤ Improved food security and learning outcomes through the National School Feeding Programme reaching hundreds of thousands of children and supporting local supply chains.



➤ Expanded education support through procurement of IT equipment for schools and school rehabilitation through cash-for-work programming.

## Outcome 2: Enhanced access to quality social services, protection, and self-reliance opportunities for all people living in vulnerable situations in the country

### Coverage and equitable access for the most vulnerable to basic services and social protection is enhanced

In 2025, the UN supported the redesign, expansion, and official launch of the National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) 2025-2033. The update was the result of intensive analytical work and national consultations in all governorates and across relevant sectors that involved over 900 people. The new strategy aims to strengthen social protection coverage, equity, and resilience through shock-responsive, child-focused and gender and disability sensitive

provisions. The strategy has three pillars, dignity, empowerment and opportunity, with a strategic commitment to provide the best social care to those in need while providing a chance to those seeking employment. The launch of the NSPS was followed by a national communication and awareness campaign, receiving feedback from key stakeholders and ensuring that strategic level direction of the document is clear to all.

The UN completed the development of the Social Protection Landscape and Perspectives: Comprehensive National Review of System and Reforms of Jordan, strengthening the foundation for evidence based social protection reforms in the future. It also supported the development of a national Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) for Jordan and the formulation of an optimization plan to inform an integrated poverty reduction strategy, providing technical assistance for MPI computation and validation. The UN also supported the Ministry of Social Development on shock-responsive social protection through simulation exercises, international study visits, and training for 150 government staff, while helping the National Aid Fund design a nutrition-sensitive cash-plus programme for potential roll-out in 2026. Finally, the UN provided technical support for the development of a tool for forecasting social assistance budget needs, including needs assessment, prototype application presentations, and technical consultations to integrate the tool into the Ministry of Social Development and National Aid Fund management information systems.

As part of its efforts at securing decent work for all, the UN expanded equitable access to social insurance through contribution subsidies and coverage rewards servicing over 22,260 low-income and non-standard workers. It delivered employment-intensive works that raised short-term incomes, rehabilitated green spaces, and advanced municipal projects and resulted in 99,389 work-months of contribution subsidy and 28,140 work-months of coverage reward, with 37.1 percent transitioning into regular schemes. The UN also strengthened national systems through a Social Security Reform White Paper, harmonized cash-for-work procedures across government, and centralized work-permit issuance to protect workers.

A new National Youth Survey 2025, the first of its kind in 8 years, led by the Ministry of Youth and supported by the UN was initiated in the latter part of the year. The survey provides comprehensive,

evidence-based insights into young people's aspirations, skills, and participation patterns, forming a critical foundation for the National Youth Strategy 2026-2030.

## Jordan's National Youth Survey 2025

has produced a comprehensive foundation for the National Youth Strategy 2026-2030

At the community level, in coordination with the Ministry of Social Development, the UN continued to support the Makani programme in 114 community-based centres, reaching over 105,000 beneficiaries, including 87,000 vulnerable children. Makani centres ("My Space") provide safe spaces for vulnerable children and youth, including Syrian refugees, offering integrated education, child protection, and psychosocial support.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development, the UN supported the Oasis programme targeting Jordanian women in poverty pockets and Syrian refugee women. Women's empowerment and sustainable development was advanced through four Oasis centres in camps and 18 centres in local community settings. Nearly 8,940 beneficiaries directly and indirectly benefitted from economic resilience, protection, and empowerment services.

In the area of health, the UN strengthened diagnostic capacity of the Royal Medical Services (RMS) by procuring modern radiology

equipment, including a pediatric MRI system that is expected to benefit over 4,500 children annually. The UN also strengthened the RMS's operational capacity, especially in relation to the situation in Gaza. Overall, 60 medical equipment items were delivered in 2025. Access to primary care, especially for marginalized populations, was another priority in 2025.

The UN supported the Ministry of Health in areas of drug addiction and prison health. It extended support to Correction and Rehabilitation Centres (CRCR) through capacity-building on communicable and non-communicable diseases, and supported the Drug Addiction Treatment Centre through capacity-building, medical materials, and equipment.

The UN supported an innovative intergenerational early childhood development initiative, training more than 100 grandparents to support positive parenting practices.

The UN supported equitable access to Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) services, supporting 109 primary health care centres and servicing 55,824 clients, including adolescents and persons with disabilities.

In terms of education, under the Equipment for Jordan (E4J) project, the UN supported the Ministry of Education through procurement and distribution of 500 desktops for 24 Jordanian schools, benefitting 5,177 students. The UN also provided maintenance and cleaning works for schools through Cash for Work opportunities, benefitting 155 schools.

The National School Feeding Programme fed

**513,000 children**

across 2,500 schools, sourcing from 300 smallholder farmers and 90 local bakeries, and employing 400 vulnerable women in community kitchens.

In partnership with the Ministry of Education, the UN supported the National School Feeding Programme which fed 513,000 children across 2,500 schools, combining fortified date bars with a home-grown healthy meals model.

## A School Meal That Nourishes Learning and Lives

Location: Mafraq – Zaatari Camp, Jordan

Each morning in Zaatari camp, Nadia prepares meals that will reach thousands of students before classes begin. Working in a community kitchen supported by the UN, she follows strict food safety and hygiene standards to ensure children receive meals that are both nutritious and safe. Implemented with the Ministry of Education, the National School Feeding initiative links education and children's wellbeing with safe food systems.

For students, safe daily meals mean arriving at school healthy, focused, and ready to learn. For families facing economic hardship, the initiative reduces food insecurity while supporting regular school attendance and improved learning outcomes.

Through training in food safety and preparation practices, Nadia and other kitchen workers gain valuable skills and stable income opportunities. "When I work, I feel productive and hopeful," she says.



Via the Employment Intensive Investment Programme, the UN supported municipalities to deliver employment intensive investments that created nearly 3,000 short term jobs and over 292,640 worker days while advancing local green assets. Municipal teams adopted standardized operating procedures, environmental and social safeguards, and on site checklists. Capacity was deepened through training for 334 officials, and certification of 100 new partners in local resource based technology.

The UN advanced evidence-based and inclusive urban planning in Mafrq through the launch of the first multi-sectoral Mafrq Spatial Profile, and translated this into planning products including Vision, Area Plan, and Action Plan development. It also supported integration of migration and displacement-related challenges into urban planning and application of the Degree of Urbanisation (DECURBA) approach.

In southern Jordan, nearly 1,400 people benefitted from access to safe water. In addition, 1,560 people in informal tented settlements were provided with cash assistance to improve access to WASH services. The UN also provided safe water and sanitation services to 125,554 people in camps.

In 2025, the UN delivered over 1.8 million medical consultations to refugees of all nationalities. Nearly 15,000 referrals to secondary care, including 3,250 obstetric cases, were made for Syrian and other (non-Palestine) refugees. Morbidity and mortality indicators in camps remained within international standards, with zero maternal deaths and almost 100 percent institutional deliveries. Nearly all Syrian and other (non-Palestine) refugee children received measles vaccinations, while 89 percent of Palestine refugee women with live births attended at least four antenatal care visits.

The UN also provided safe water and sanitation services to 125,554 people in camps and vulnerable communities in the north. In southern Jordan, nearly 1,400 people benefitted from safe water, and 1,560 people in informal tented settlements received cash assistance for WASH

access. Over 67,500 Palestine refugees also benefited from improved water and sanitation services across multiple camps.

The UN directly provided basic education to 100,210 Palestine refugee students and supported learning for over 36,700 refugee children in Syrian refugee camps, supported by 2,538 Syrian volunteer educators. Through Makani centres, accelerated learning programmes were expanded, while early literacy interventions improved outcomes for 5,445 children in Azraq and Za'atari camps. School operations and infrastructure improvements supported inclusive education, including for children with disabilities.

The UN ensured that 350,000 Syrian and other (non-Palestine) refugees and asylum-seekers renewed documentation, including over 30,000 through self-service kiosks and over 14,000 through mobile missions.

The UN provided multi-layered cash assistance: 223,000 Syrian refugees received multi-purpose cash assistance, while nearly 58,900 Palestine refugees in Jordan, 2,946 Palestine refugees from Syria, and 206 stranded Gazans received social safety net support. Food-specific assistance reached up to 294,000 Syrian refugees monthly through mobile money and electronic vouchers supported by blockchain and iris scan technology.

Palestine refugees benefited from essential income support through the Social Safety Net Programme, covering nearly 58,900 registered refugees in Jordan, 2,946 Palestine refugees from Syria, and 206 stranded Gazans experiencing chronic poverty or shocks.

The UN supported resettlement, family reunification, and protection-sensitive assistance for Syrian and other refugees, including counselling, visa processing, documentation, and travel support. Pre-departure assistance included health and travel services.

In 2025, more than 173,000 Syrian refugees returned to Syria following the fall of the Assad government in December 2024.

## National capacities are strengthened to eliminate discriminatory and harmful practices, to promote autonomy, and to protect women and children from violence online and offline

On the institutional and strategic level, the UN made significant strides in strengthening the national policy and institutional framework for child protection and gender-based violence (GBV). A landmark National Action Plan on Child Protection, GBV, and Domestic Violence Against Women and Girls (2026-2030) was finalized, fully costed, and submitted to the Prime Ministry for endorsement. Complementing this, an evidence-based policy paper on the economic empowerment of domestic violence survivors was developed and launched at a high-level convening of government, parliament, and civil society partners. Legal accountability was also advanced through a comprehensive assessment of the Domestic Violence Protection Law, producing a Legal Gaps and Proposed Amendments Matrix, while an institutional review of the National Team for Family Protection, drawing on consultations with 41 stakeholders, generated practical recommendations to strengthen its mandate and performance. Furthermore, Ministry of Interior, in coordination with NCFCA and supported by the UN, endorsed the second edition of Ministry of Interior's Procedures Guide to manage GBV and domestic violence cases, embedding a survivor-centred and disability inclusion standards across all administrative units and institutionalizing unified protection protocols.

Significant system-level outcomes were achieved in workforce professionalization and service delivery. The approval of the Social Work Professionalization Bylaw, grounded in UN-supported workforce mapping, formally recognized social work as a profession and established pathways for capacity development. Complementary development of a 24-hour accredited in-service training module, lays the foundation for a national Roadmap to Enhance the Social Service Workforce and improve the quality of services for vulnerable children.

Overall, 94,200 individuals accessed essential child protection services, and 1,055 service

providers enhanced their professional skills. Additionally, 79,019 children, caregivers, and community members benefited from a range of prevention, mental health, and psychosocial support initiatives, significantly contributing to child safety nationwide.

The UN's commitment to eliminating discriminatory and harmful practices was on display again in 2025. It helped expand AMAN, a national digital family violence case management system, recording over 6,830 new cases. The UN introduced child- and woman-friendly One-Stop Shop facilities in Family Protection and Juvenile Departments of the Public Security Department in North Amman, Ajlun, and the Azraq and Za'atari camps, with 2,211 vulnerable women and children receiving protective, medical, psychosocial, legal, and social services.

The UN supported the mental health and psycho-social well-being of children, with 36,010 children, 62 percent of them girls, participating in LEGO-based mental health sessions and a further 9,261 children from refugee camps participating in structured mental health sessions.

On the service delivery and community engagement front, the UN provided services to nearly 50,000 women and girls with GBV prevention and response services through 11 Women and Girls Safe Spaces and a Safe Homes model, with over 2,500 survivors receiving specialized case management and 278 receiving risk-informed cash assistance. National GBV case management capacity was significantly strengthened through partnership with the Ministry of Social Development, resulting in the closure of more than 4,000 backlogged cases and a 33 percent reduction in active case files across Social Service Offices. Frontline capacity was further built through training programmes on GBV standard operating procedures, disability inclusion, and high-risk case management, reaching more than 240 service providers.

## From Survivor to Entrepreneur: a Mother of Children with Disabilities Reclaimed Her Strength in Jordan

Location: Karak Governorate, Jordan

Fatima\*, a 37-year-old mother of three children with disabilities, first visited the Institute for Family Health clinic in Karak seeking care for her children. Living far from family support, she endured ongoing verbal and psychological abuse, blamed for her children's disabilities and the family's financial hardship. Isolated and overwhelmed, she felt she had nowhere to turn.

Recognizing signs of abuse, clinic staff referred Fatima to a UN-supported Women and Girls Safe Space. There, she gradually rebuilt her confidence through survivor centred services, strengthening

her coping skills, and restoring her emotional wellbeing - "I realized I could rely on myself. I felt strong again—for myself and for my children."

With UN-supported cash assistance, Fatima launched a small home-based clothing business, allowing her to earn income while caring for her children. The business renewed her sense of independence and eased financial pressure.

Today, Fatima remains engaged in community activities, showing how integrated protection, health, and livelihood support can help survivors rebuild their lives with dignity.



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At the community level, over 28,500 individuals were engaged through social norms change interventions, including targeted sessions on child and early marriage prevention. Under the UN supported Jordan National Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 (JoNAP II), significant progress was made in strengthening the national institutions and service providers' capacities to effectively respond to violence against women. Nearly 6,000 women and girls accessed lifesaving, survivor-centred protection services. Moreover, 264 security sector personnel (71 women, 193 men) strengthened their capacity to deliver survivor centred, gender responsive services by effectively applying national procedures, coordinating across institutions, and responding to GBV, including cyber GBV, using rights based and evidence informed approaches.

The UN integrated mental health into labour inspection and workplace safety by updating assessment tools and guidance to identify psychosocial risks and strengthen prevention in 2025. A national workshop introduced the new tools, and 40 labour inspectors completed the National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health training, improving the consistency and depth of inspections.

In the labor sector, the UN scaled GBV prevention and harassment through multilingual training for workers and managers and issuing a

consultative grievance and referral procedure, reaching over 5,000 workers and managers. The UN also advanced disability inclusion with national endorsement of contextualized guidelines for employing persons with disabilities, increasing participation of workers with disabilities in factory committees to 4 and providing employment to 898 workers with disabilities sector wide, including 561 women.

The UN supported more than 21,000 refugees through individualized, needs-based case management, ensuring timely access to essential services, specialized care, and sustained advocacy while also providing legal assistance to 54,000 refugees, strengthening their access to justice through legal counselling, mediation, and representation on civil documentation, detention, housing, and personal status issues. The UN made notable progress in child protection support. Through targeted training, over 1,000 service providers were equipped to deliver consistent case management, resulting in 2,211 children receiving support for issues such as violence, family separation, child labor and child marriage. Additionally, 780 Palestine refugees received legal aid. In refugee camps, training for 1,034 teachers enabled 9,261 children to engage in MHPSS programs, enhancing resilience, fostering inclusion, and promoting protective behaviors.

# Creations that Empower the Community in Zaatari Camp

Location: Zaatari Camp, Mafraq, Jordan

When Humam Al-Salamat fled Syria, higher education seemed uncertain. Determined to continue learning, he studied software engineering at a Jordanian University and graduated in 2020. Instead of leaving his journey there, Humam returned to Zaatari camp's innovation lab with a new purpose: to equip others with the digital skills shaping today's economy. He began delivering training in programming, robotics, and web design to refugees of all ages.

"The innovation lab was my favourite learning space," Humam says. "I wanted to transfer my knowledge to others. Technology and artificial intelligence open doors to opportunities in diverse sectors."

Through his mentorship, children and youth in Zaatari are gaining practical skills, confidence, and exposure to emerging technologies. In a displacement context where opportunities are limited, Humam's work is helping bridge the digital divide and empower youth on their journey towards future livelihoods.



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# Priority 3: Sustainable Resource Management and Access to Water, Food and Energy

## UN Agency Reporting:



## SDGs:



## Highlights



» Strengthened national climate governance through support to Jordan's first Biennial Transparency Report and completion of the National Stocktake Report.



» Enhanced water resilience through rainwater harvesting installations, wastewater infrastructure investments, and climate-smart irrigation interventions.



» Advanced climate-smart agriculture through piloting innovative agricultural technologies to improve yields and resilience.



» Expanded climate and resource-awareness outreach through large-scale community engagement and education initiatives.

### Outcome 3: Enhanced national resource management models that ensure equitable access to water, food, and clean energy for all, address climate related and other risks, and empower local communities as agents of change for responsible production and consumption

National water, food and energy resource management solutions are increasingly informed by evidence-based analysis and good practices integrating disaster and climate risk reduction

Combating the effects of climate change remains a national strategic priority and the UN continued its work in this area in 2025. During the year, the UN assisted Jordan in submitting its first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) and completed the National Stocktake Report, consolidating evidence on emissions, climate actions, and finance to guide NDC implementation. The UN also advanced the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2025-2050), aligning with the Global Biodiversity Framework. In this spirit, the UN also worked on identifying blue-economy

transformations in Aqaba as well as supporting climate-smart agriculture in the Jordan Valley and Badia through efficient irrigation and rangeland restoration.

The UN advanced climate-resilient agriculture through three workstreams. The CLIMATE initiative with the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) delivered Sharia-compliant loans to 70 farmers (30 percent women), with a total investment value of US\$ 800,000, following capacity building for 240 smallholder farmers. As a result of the initiative, the ACC now embeds

a climate resilience screening tool into all its loan applications. Three innovative agricultural technologies were piloted with 356 farmers across Jerash, Mafrqa, and the Jordan Valley - a bio-fertilizer using beneficial bacteria and fungi that boosted crop yields by 50 to 100 percent; a subsurface irrigation system delivering optimal water directly to plant roots; and flat-pack inflatable water storage tanks deployable within 24 hours. The UN also supported five national institutions in operationalizing its drought monitoring platform, enabling the National Drought Committee to produce its first seasonal report in three years.

The UN continued to work closely with national authorities to ensure national water, food and energy resources were managed in a manner that protects them from disaster and climate change risks, and ensure stability in such key sectors. In this vein, the UN enhanced the

adaptive capacity and water resilience through the installation and handover of rainwater harvesting systems in 19 schools, 5 mosques and 6 residential buildings in Irbid and Mafrqa. The UN also finalized investments in wastewater infrastructure in Maerad with a 2,000m<sup>3</sup> and a 500 m<sup>3</sup> storage tank at Al-Akaider. Wastewater was in focus in farms in Jerash and Ramtha, where it was reused to irrigate 261 dunums alongside the installation of climate-smart irrigation systems on 120 dunums of farmland in Jerash and Ramtha. The UN also supported two climate-resilient, gender-mainstreamed climate adaptation plans (Irbid and Mafrqa) and two urban observatories to strengthen climate risk assessment and planning. The UN supported the installation of 120 rainwater harvesting pear-shaped wells in Karak and oversaw the construction of 60 units in Al-Tafilah and 20 units in Al-Shoubak/Ma'an.

## Building Resilience to Climate Change in Jordan through Improving Water Use Efficiency in the Agriculture Sector (BRCCJ).

Location: Dead Sea, Jordan

In Jordan's water-scarce Dead Sea Basin, unpredictable rainfall and rising water costs place increasing pressure on farming households. Through a joint UN initiative in partnership with ministries of Water and Irrigation, Agriculture and Environment, which have installed 117 rainwater harvesting units, rainwater harvesting systems are helping 725 individuals better manage scarce water resources, improve food sustainability and adapt to climate change. By improving water use efficiency at household level, the initiative advances sustainable water management at all levels across Jordan.

"I was able to collect over 20 cubic meters of water this winter, fulfilling my household irrigation needs for a whole month," says farmer Jamal Al Sawalga. "This project gave me the opportunity to increase my produce by at least fifteen percent."



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The UN facilitated technical workshops with local authorities and academia to assess disaster and climate risks using the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities and its Public Health System Resilience Addendum in Irbid. These workshops also contributed to strengthening the capacity of local authorities and stakeholders to better understand and assess multi-hazard risks. This process supported the identification of priority resilience actions and strengthened coordination between disaster management, health, and migration actors; through which the UN developed a Local Resilience Action Plan integrating disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, public health preparedness, and human mobility considerations into local planning processes.

A bio-fertilizer piloted with

**356 farmers**

using beneficial bacteria and fungi boosted crop yields by 50 to 100 percent – **one of three innovative agricultural technologies trialed across Jerash, Mafraq and the Jordan Valley.**

The UN strengthened practical capacity for renewable energy transition by training 16 small and medium-sized enterprises on manufacturing opportunities in renewable energy systems and convening sensitization workshops for policymakers on operating and maintaining renewable infrastructure, equipping both public officials and private

firms with tools applicable across the water-energy-food nexus. On disability inclusion, the UN developed a policy guidance note providing concrete entry points for integrating persons with disabilities into Just Transition processes across social protection, employment, and policy coordination, complemented by a national policy review assessing Just Transition frameworks against Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities standards and identifying the changes needed to embed disability inclusion and intersectionality into climate and natural resource decision-making.

Local engagement and civil society capacity-building initiatives were conducted, including 16 gender-sensitive consultations on green construction, water-saving practices, and climate-smart agriculture. These activities reached over 532 participants, empowering local actors to engage in responsible production and consumption decisions.

The UN also strengthened climate responsive coordination and monitoring in the WASH sector by co-leading the national Syrian refugee WASH Sector Working Group. It advanced the institutionalization of Climate-Resilient Water and Sanitation Safety Planning and reached 29,341 refugees in the Zaatari and Garden camps through community-based awareness activities. The activities focused on climate change priority behaviour. The UN also mobilized 1,146 Climate Champions who supported youth engagement in national and international climate efforts.

## Institutional and cross-sectoral capacities, coordination, and skills to design, implement and monitor sustainable resources management are increased

The UN also supported the updating of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy and the integration of risk-informed planning with sub-national authorities. It also introduced efficient and natural-refrigerant cooling solutions through Cool Up and strengthened municipal waste-resource systems. Staying at the national level, the UN supported the implementation of Jordan's National Urban Policy through advisory services as well as conducting a gap analysis assessing the integration of the National Urban Policy into draft planning law for villages.

In addition, the UN supported the Ministry of Environment in the development of Jordan's third State of Environment Report (SoER). The SoER process included capacity building and training workshops, the drafting of chapters, coordination and authors meetings, as well as stakeholder consultations and validations sessions. The report provides a comprehensive assessment of the state of environment in Jordan, and serves as an evidence base to support policy and informed decision-making.

In 2025, the UN supported the improvement of sustainable resources management capacities through multi-country knowledge exchanges on smart urban water management, green infrastructure and nature-based solutions. The UN also supported enhanced resilience of the Greater Amman Municipality to water-related challenges through the design of green infrastructure at key flood-prone hotspot locations.

The UN strengthened the just energy transition pipeline by analysing Jordan's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem, training 33 policymakers in investment planning aligned with the forthcoming NDC revision, and developing three governorate-level concept notes through hands-on coaching creating a

practical pipeline of investment-ready ideas across regions. Disability inclusion in climate governance was advanced through three regional capacity-building workshops bringing together government, civil society, organisations of persons with disabilities, and social partners to build shared understanding of inclusion and intersectionality across National Adaptation Plans, NDCs, and Just Transition processes.

In 2025, national capacities to manage health risks associated with population mobility were reinforced through technical assistance to integrate migration health considerations into national strategies, including Universal Health Coverage and climate-sensitive health planning. Support was also provided to strengthen preparedness and response capacities at points of entry, including Queen Alia International Airport, through engagement with the national public health emergency task force and enhanced coordination for cross-border health threats. In parallel, capacity-building activities on climate-related and multi-hazard health risks reached 258 local government representatives and 203 community members, strengthening institutional readiness to anticipate and respond to environmentally induced public health risks affecting mobile populations. Public awareness initiatives, including health messaging campaigns targeting travelers during the Hajj season, reached over 22,000 individuals with information on climate, environmental and health risks associated with mobility.

During the year, the UN also partnered with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health and civil society organizations to establish a national coordination structure on Menstrual Health and Hygiene in order to respond better to gender responsive adolescent health and wellbeing outcomes.

## Public knowledge and awareness on climate change impact, responsible consumption, and disaster risk reduction is enhanced

The UN continued to reach out to the public in order to ensure better knowledge and awareness of climate change. In 2025, it launched the 'Environmental Legacy Makers' Award in collaboration with Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) and Greater Amman Municipality to raise public awareness about climate change impacts and empower university students to design innovative, nature-based solutions to reduce urban flooding. The UN also expanded community-level awareness on climate change adaptation, water conservation, and responsible resource use through large-scale outreach linked to installation of rainwater harvesting and greywater treatment systems, reaching over 66,550 students, of which 40,240 were reached on greywater treatment system and over 26,300 were reached on rainwater harvesting. The UN also worked with Sahab City authorities to launch Sahab City's Multilayered Vulnerability Profile and Urban Resilience Action Plan.

The UN developed a value chain analysis with integrated environmental sustainability and climate risk exposure assessment in Jordan's fruit and vegetable sector. It also conducted

training workshops, awareness-raising activities, and stakeholder dialogues embedding climate change impacts, responsible production and consumption, and disaster risk reduction as core themes. The UN also supported a series of structured just transition dialogues in partnership with civil society, private sector, government representatives, workers' and employers' representatives, creating inclusive spaces for sector-specific discussions across industries and enabling workers, employers, youth, and civil society to engage in shaping a more people-centered and inclusive green transition.

The UN supported outreach and knowledge sharing on just transition and disability-inclusive climate action, reaching 40 people through targeted communications that translated technical policy content into accessible messaging across UN country channels. Two regional learning and exchange mechanisms were established to disseminate models of good practice, connecting Jordan's experience with wider policy discussions and broadening stakeholder understanding of how disability inclusion can be systematically embedded in climate plans, NDCs, and reporting frameworks.



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## Practical and Resilient: Tackling Jordan's Water Crisis One Drop at a Time

Location: Northern Jordan

In a quiet neighborhood in northern Jordan, tucked inside a modest building that shelters Syrian refugees, widows, and orphans, the sound of rain this year carried a different meaning. It wasn't just water falling from the sky, it was a signal of hope, a beginning of change.

Jordan is among the most water-scarce countries in the world. With an annual per capita water availability of less than 60 cubic meters, far below the absolute water scarcity line of 500 cubic meters per capita per year, the value of each drop cannot be overstated. As climate change intensifies and droughts become more frequent, the luxury of watching rainwater go to waste is no longer affordable.

The UN launched the "Resilient Water Solutions Against Climate Change in Jordan and Lebanon" project with the aim to provide affordable, low-tech, and scalable solutions that not only conserve water but build real resilience in communities facing increasing climate change threats.

Among these solutions is the installation of rainwater harvesting systems, designed to capture and store rainwater safely for household use. One of the project's beneficiaries, Sana, a Syrian refugee and mother of three, lives in a residential building managed by a local charity that supports refugees and vulnerable women.

"We used to spend more than we could afford on water, but now, we can collect and store rainwater to meet part of our daily needs. We are eagerly waiting for the next winter, it's not just rain anymore, it's a way to cut costs and meet our essential needs."

## People's knowledge and skills to participate and influence decision-making processes on sustainable natural resources management and climate change are enhanced especially of youth and children

The UN in 2025 institutionalized youth engagement in climate governance via a youth roadmap for the enhanced NDC and expanded youth and women's participation in marine monitoring and conservation in Aqaba. The held community dialogues and portfolio-style food systems work built informed participation and agency among youth and local stakeholders to co-shape transition pathways.

The UN advanced the climate-health nexus through deployment of 14 solar-powered refrigerators across primary health care centres, development of a National Climate Adaptation Plan for Health, and contribution to the One UN Environment Strategy. Just transition capacity

was strengthened through policy roundtables with line ministries and stakeholder consultations with workers and employers, equipping 33 policymakers with investment planning skills and guiding eight officials in integrating just transition into Jordan's NDC. Representatives of workers' and employers' organizations have participated in capacity building training on just transition, climate change concepts, and climate policies in order to participate and influence decision-making processes. Multi-stakeholder workshops ensured organisations of persons with disabilities could engage directly in these processes, broadening the rights base of national climate policy.

## Priority 4: Accountability, Transparency and Participation

### UN Agency Reporting:



### SDGs:



## Highlights



➤ Strengthened women's political participation through gender-sensitive recommendations for amendments to the Local Administration Law.



➤ Advanced SDG localization through Voluntary Local Reviews and strengthened local-to-national policy and data linkages.



➤ Improved transparency and aid effectiveness through operationalization of JoRISS 2.0 and launch of a Foreign Assistance Dashboard.



➤ Strengthened evidence-based governance through support to the General Census of Population and Housing and improved national statistical systems.

### Outcome 4: Enhanced accountability and responsiveness of Jordanian institutions and their partners, and especially women and youth are increasingly and meaningfully involved in policy choices and decisions that affect their lives

National and local administration systems and procedures improved to monitor and publicly report on policies and programme implementation

The UN supported the Inter-ministerial Committee for Women's Empowerment (IMC) in formulating gender-sensitive recommendations for amendments to the Local Administration Law which were informed by an evidence-based analysis. The UN facilitated this process through convening a specialized group of legal and governance experts to undertake a comprehensive gender review of the existing legal framework and identify priority reform areas to enhance women's representation and participation in local governance structures. The endorsed recommendations were formally submitted by the IMC Chair to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Local Administration, elevating them to the national legislative

agenda. This milestone marks an important institutional step that strengthens the enabling environment for women's political participation at the subnational level and provides UN Women with an endorsed national reform framework to guide its interventions.

The UN also supported the government in implementing the requirements of the Prime Minister's Budget Circular No. (14) and the 2026 Budget Law, which mandate that government entities integrate gender considerations into their budget submissions and prioritize programs promote gender equality. As a result, four pilot ministries - the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Political and

Parliamentary Affairs successfully embedded gender-sensitive performance indicators in their budget chapters. The UN played a critical role by providing technical assistance to General Budget Department in designing and implementing Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) methodologies, refining budget circulars, and developing standardized tools and frameworks to support government entities in applying gender-responsive budgeting practices. Additionally, the UN facilitated specialized training sessions for government staff to enhance their understanding of gender analysis, performance-based budgeting, and gender-sensitive expenditure tracking. With UN support, the Government of Jordan identified and committed 5 additional ministries for inclusion in the GRB programme.

The UN enhanced transparency and evidence-based governance by operationalizing the JoRISS 2.0 (Foreign Funding System) and a Foreign Assistance Dashboard with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, improving public access to real-time aid and financing data. The UN assisted the Jordan Data Portal (JDP) SDG Dashboard as it expanded access to disaggregated national data while the UN helped scale the Tanmiah Tool to all 12 governorates, strengthening planning, GIS-based monitoring, and accountability. The UN helped Jordan become the first in the region to establish a national SDG3 team with members from government, private sector, and academia, helping to report to the JDP on SDG3 during 2025 increase to 75 percent.



Jordan became the first country in the region to establish a national SDG3 team spanning government, private sector, and academia – **with national SDG3 reporting coverage rising to 75% in 2025.**

In 2025, the UN supported the Department of Statistics in implementing the General Census of Population and Housing. This included both technical and financial support as well as advisory support to improve linkages to administrative records and enhance data quality for census operations through an online capacity-development workshop on use of administrative records and fast counting methods for censuses. Statistical capacities were also strengthened with the inclusion of SRH indicators within Jordan's SDG monitoring system.

Advances in evidence generation were noticed in child and equity focused areas and their improvement in national data system. Key achievements included contributions to the 2025 Labour Market Panel Survey and technical and financial support for design, data collection, and capacity building as well as supporting sectoral evidence through the Nutrition Environment Assessment in Schools. A pilot national labour market information system was operationalised in collaboration with six public entities, creating a shared data architecture for timely monitoring and public reporting on labour market policies and programmes.

The UN contributed technical inputs related to reporting processes associated with the EU rules of origin initiative, while continuing evidence generation work through generating evidence informing policy through sector selection analysis, a market study in food industries, a tripartite-endorsed policy paper on just transition, and practical guidance on disability-inclusive climate action.

In 2025, the UN Strengthened SDG localization through multi-level, multi-stakeholder data collection, monitoring, and reporting, marked by the launch of Irbid City's first Voluntary Local Review (VLR) covering six SDGs as well as advancing the second VLR for Amman City with eight SDGs under review. The UN also supported the Local 2030 Knowledge and Scientific Network (KSN) under the Local 2030 Coalition, connecting global expertise with local research and municipal priorities through six policy papers addressing priority challenges in Irbid

and Aqaba. Jordan's pioneering efforts under SDG localization was represented through hosting the Inter-Regional SDG Localization Workshop, bringing together partners from 13 countries to strengthen governance, data, and local action.

At the legislative level, the UN provided technical support to urban planning by-law development

### Legal, policy framework and institutional capacities are strengthened to enhance effective access to fundamental rights and basic services, as well as participation in decision making and inclusive representation, especially for women, youth and PWD, in elected bodies and leadership positions

The UN supported Jordan's legal and institutional environment throughout 2025, with important activities. Together with Parliament, it worked on freedom of expression and access to information by facilitating structured dialogue between MPs and legal experts, assisting the legislature in clarifying future legislation in these core rights. Over 30 MPs, journalists and civil society representatives participated in the dialogue. The UN also strengthened inclusive institutions and participation, as noted by Jordan's Corruption Perception Index score rising to 49/100 (rank 59) in 2025.

Jordan made significant strides in advancing women's political participation, gender-responsive governance, and security sector inclusion across Jordan in 2025. Through the UN's technical support to the Independent Election Commission, gender equality was systematically embedded across institutional structures, with 18 gender focal points trained and Standard Operating Procedures developed to guide gender-responsive electoral management. The UN support the Inter-ministerial Committee for Women's Empowerment in its implementation of the Political School, which equipped 314 women with leadership and governance capacities to engage in political life. Also, 46 parliamentary fellows were trained in gender-responsive legislative drafting and 15 Members of Parliament received training on Gender-

in Amman, which was launched in 2025, and completed a comprehensive gap analysis and legislative recommendations to align the Cities, Villages, and Buildings Planning Law with the Jordan National Urban Policy, reinforcing policy coherence and implementation readiness.

Responsive Budgeting. At the local level, nine municipalities adopted Gender Mainstreaming Policies, and NEBRAS, a national women-led advocacy platform, was established, engaging 128 women leaders and CSO representatives from across all regions.

Gender equality was systematically embedded across electoral institutional structures, with

**18 gender focal points trained**

to ensure gender-responsive electoral management.

At the strategic level, the UN delivered targeted advisory support across three policy priorities in Jordan. On gender equality, the UN conducted a mid-term assessment of the National Women's Strategy 2020-2025, developed two gender action plans, including one to mainstream gender within the National Aid Fund, and strengthened institutional capacities to address gender-based vulnerabilities in social protection

delivery. On social inclusion, the UN supported the formulation and formal adoption of the National Action Plan for the Older Persons Strategy 2024-2028, facilitating a national consultation workshop and securing Council of Ministers endorsement in October 2025, alongside the preparation of a study on elderly abuse in Jordan. Finally, on digital governance, the UN supported the development of an action plan for implementing Jordan's National Charter for Ethics of AI, finalizing an updated workplan and identifying stakeholders for national consultations on responsible AI governance.

The UN in 2025 delivered a comprehensive portfolio of rule of law and security programming in Jordan. In the field of border management, the UN significantly strengthened the operational capacities of border agencies, establishing nine Operation Rooms and two Central Operation Rooms, reinforcing five Land Border Crossing Points, delivering 11 specialized training courses to 425 officials, and supplying 36 equipment items, while building a sustained pool of experts in Integrated Border Management. To combat trafficking in persons, the UN supported the development of both a national Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy and a National Referral Mechanism, training 70 officials across five national and regional activities. On drug control, the UN conducted a national research project on drug routes, published a report, engaged 200 young people through World Drug Day activities, and trained 40 law enforcement officials. Counter-terrorism and financial crimes capacity was advanced through two specialized trainings and participation in three regional and international conferences covering counter-financing of terrorism, money laundering, and corruption. The UN also strengthened customs capacity to intercept drug and materials smuggling at border crossings through six training courses reaching 40 officials,

mentorship, and targeted equipment provision, resulting in several successful seizures.

The UN continued to support the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF) and the Public Security Directorate (PSD) in advancing a more gender-responsive security sector, contributing to the implementation of their commitments to gender mainstreaming and to increasing women's participation under the National Action Plan on 1325 (JONAP II).

At the policy level, UN-supported gender audits informed the development of second-generation Gender Mainstreaming Policies (GMPs) for both institutions, strengthening institutional frameworks for the systematic integration of gender considerations into security sector planning and operations. At the institutional level, Gender Champions at the leadership level advanced GMP implementation, contributing to more enabling conditions for women's participation.

Capacity development efforts yielded measurable improvements in institutional capability and deployment readiness. A total of 548 female security personnel strengthened their leadership, technical, and operational capacities: 138 completed the Women's Leadership Programme, contributing to a growing cadre of women equipped for leadership roles; 47 were certified as trainers, enhancing institutional capacity to deliver peacekeeping-related training internally; 116 female personnel—both returnees from international missions (including nurses deployed to Gaza) and those preparing for deployment—improved their resilience, stress management, and well-being in conflict contexts; and 247 female officers obtained UN peacekeeping-eligible English and French language certification, expanding the pool of women qualified for international peacekeeping deployments.

# From Commitment to Opportunity: Expanding Women's Employment in Jordan

Location: Ma'an, Jordan

When Aisha\* began working at the Umniah by Beyon Call Centre in Ma'an, she joined a workplace designed to open new opportunities for women where formal employment has often been limited. Today, women make up 81 percent of the centre's workforce, gaining stable incomes, professional skills, and career pathways.

The centre, which was launched in 2025, reflects a broader shift in Jordan's private sector through the adoption of the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs). With UN support, companies like Umniah have introduced gender-responsive recruitment, workplace safety measures, and flexible work arrangements that enable more women to enter and remain in the workforce.

Across Jordan, 256 companies have now signed the WEPs—the highest number in the region. By 2025, participating companies reported a 58 percent increase in women's employment, creating more than 5,000 new jobs.

These results demonstrate increased institutional capacity, sustainability of training systems, and a strengthened pipeline of qualified women for leadership and deployment, reflecting the national adoption of UN-supported programmes and tools.

In parallel, the UN supported the strengthening of infrastructure and training capacities to enable increased deployment of female personnel within the JAF. This included the completion of renovations to female accommodation facilities at the Quick Reaction Forces training centre and the commencement of construction of an additional female accommodation facility at the Jordan Special Operations Forces training centre, expected to be finalized in 2026. Complementary support was provided to strengthen technical, infrastructure and coordination capacities at key border points to facilitate secure and dignified cross-border movements.

The National Labour Conference in November 2025, held under the patronage of the Prime Minister, marked a milestone in consolidating national consensus on comprehensive Labour Law and Social Security Law reform, including

ratification of ILO Convention No. 190, extension of paid maternity leave to 90 days, pay equity reforms, and strengthened protections for domestic workers and persons with disabilities. Structured social dialogue and leadership interventions complemented these reforms by enhancing the meaningful participation of women and youth in trade unions and national policy platforms.

A national mixed-methods assessment on migrant domestic workers conducted across all 12 governorates was validated with 11 government entities, 8 diplomatic missions, and 2 civil society organisations, strengthening the evidence base for rights-based migration governance and informing policy dialogue across sectors.

The UN advanced evidence-based sexual and reproductive health planning on two complementary fronts. A national family planning financing diagnostic was initiated to inform Universal Health Coverage integration, strengthen domestic financing mechanisms, and identify efficiency gains --- a critical step toward ensuring the fiscal sustainability of SRH services amid growing funding constraints.

In parallel, the UN conducted a national multivariate analysis of family planning use and unmet need with findings directly informing targeting strategies, equity considerations, and rights-based policy reforms.

With UN support, civil society organizations participated in consultations and capacity-building workshops on climate adaptation, treated wastewater use, and community engagement, with 65 percent women participants. These initiatives strengthened

CSOs' ability to claim their rights and influence policy decisions affecting their communities.

The Jordan Youth National Chapter engaged youth across Jordan through participatory consultations. The initiative enabled youth to contribute meaningfully to policy dialogues and local decision-making processes while providing entrepreneurial opportunities, Farmers Field School trainings and access to finance and market capacity building.



The Mashreq Observatory regional training built national and regional capacities to monitor food security, analyse trends, and identify emerging risks. It supports evidence-based policymaking and adaptive management, linking local data to regional and global platforms. This enables governments to respond effectively to evolving food security challenges.

The UN also conducted community-based assessments in Jordan's three agroecological zones to identify barriers to economic participation for women, youth, and marginalized groups. Findings informed inclusive market interventions promoting equitable access to economic opportunities.

The UN also supported access to justice for refugees and host communities through technical assistance to policy reform processes aimed at expanding the public legal aid system and improving non-custodial measures, with coordination meetings, training, and awareness activities conducted in partnership with justice institutions to strengthen procedural transparency and service accessibility.

The UN also made significant progress in advancing inclusion for children with disabilities in refugee settings, with 17,721 school-aged children screened for various disabilities and provided with 2,678 assistive devices that include 1,965 eyeglasses, 272 hearing aids, and 441 mobility aids resulting in improved access to services and participation.

## People's capacity to claim their rights and to better engage in decision-making processes that affect them is enhanced, especially for youth

Across Jordan, UN agencies worked in concert to deepen people's capacity, particularly among youth, women, and marginalised communities, to claim their rights, engage in decision-making, and participate meaningfully in civic life. A landmark milestone was achieved with Cabinet endorsement of Jordan's first National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security (JoNAP), marking the country's transition from policy

formulation to executive-level commitment on UNSCR 2250. The YPS Unit within the Ministry of Youth was fully operationalized as the central coordination mechanism, supported by a High-Level Steering Committee and an Inter-Ministerial Technical Group spanning all five JoNAP pillars, namely, Participation, Prevention, Protection, Relief and Recovery, Capacity-building and Awareness raising.

## Athar: Youth Using Art to Shape Sustainable Development

Location: Amman, Jordan

Through the *Athar* Art Competition, young people in Jordan transformed complex sustainable development challenges into powerful visual stories, helping bring the Sustainable Development Goals closer to communities and public dialogue. Organized and implemented by the UN, the initiative positioned youth as active contributors to SDG localization.

Focusing on the six SDG transitions, participants reflected on social and environmental issues affecting their daily lives and communicated their perspectives through creative expression. The competition received 63 applications, the overwhelming majority of them young women. The seven final artworks, all created by female artists, highlighted strong young women's leadership in shaping conversations around sustainable development.

Beyond the competition itself, the initiative created a platform for youth-led dialogue, enabling young people to influence how sustainable development challenges are understood and discussed within their communities.

"I am grateful for this competition because it allowed us to express what is happening around us through art. As young people, we need a space where we can express our ideas and our concerns— a space where we can deliver our message to the world." a participating student noted.



In parallel, the UN advanced Media and Information Literacy (MIL) as a national policy priority, supporting development of Jordan's Second National MIL Strategy (2026--2029), which was officially endorsed by the Government in November 2025. The UN also supported the embedding of MIL practices across government institutions through hands-on coaching that trained 94 government and municipal staff. This was complemented by facilitating 13 community dialogues connecting citizens with decision-makers, mainstreaming human security data within national social assistance systems, and deploying digital participation tools, including Tanmiah dashboards and SDG data portals, to strengthen two-way accountability between institutions and communities.

Women's participation in peacebuilding and crisis management was advanced through the establishment of the Tawasol Network, a national dialogue platform bringing together 20 women-led and youth-led civil society organisations from southern and central Jordan, delivering capacity-building to 64 participants and formally engaging key national institutions to lay the groundwork for institutionalising women's leadership in crisis response. The UN also supported 12 women Members of Parliament in strengthening legislative and political skills, and 24 women local council members through targeted capacity-building interventions.

The UN's Nahno volunteering platform engaged over 56,000 adolescents and youth, 61 percent of whom were female, across 250 public, private, and civil society entities, with volunteer engagement rates more than doubling from 7 percent in 2014 to 16.5 percent in 2025. A further 43,800 young people participated in civic engagement initiatives across Ministry of Youth centres in all governorates, while approximately 42,000 people were informed through youth-focused arts and media initiatives including the Athar competition and Ahia video podcast series.

The Madrasati programme, which was launched by Her Majesty Queen Rania in 2008 to connect individuals, private companies and organizations for improving the physical and educational learning environments of Jordan's

most neglected public schools, strengthened gender-responsive education and community engagement across 15 schools in Madaba and Karak, reaching 4,662 educators, caregivers, and community actors, 85 percent of whom were women, alongside 3,146 students.

The Youth for Sustainability initiative engaged more than 15 young Jordanians in Aqaba as sustainability ambassadors, equipping them to design solutions for climate action and green growth, producing community-driven initiatives including marine conservation campaigns and eco-friendly tourism concepts that linked local environmental priorities directly to the SDGs.

To foster political participation among young women, the UN conducted the first-ever assessment of female students' participation in university student union elections across eight universities, following a five-year suspension and persistently low female participation, generating actionable recommendations to inform advocacy and institutional reforms aimed at increasing young women's representation in student leadership.

Community health and wellbeing were also woven into civic engagement efforts. UN's Wellbeing Ambassador Programme offered university students a structured community service pathway, with 32 students completing certification and successfully partnering with 28 coffee houses to commit to smoke-free practices, an initiative that combined policy advocacy, community outreach, and digital communication for sustained impact. Collectively, these programmes reflect a whole-of-system approach to building an informed, active, and rights-aware citizenry, with women and youth at the centre of Jordan's broader governance and social modernization agenda. The UN ensured refugee voices informed programming through consultations with more than 11,000 refugees, while over one million calls were responded to through dedicated helpline services, an automated interactive voice system provided information to over 90,000 families, and messaging channels collectively reached more than 20,000 refugees. Over 3,500 refugee youth and children engaged in recreational and support activities.

## 2.3. Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

In 2025, the UN's Joint Partnerships and Resource Mobilization Strategy moved from conceptual design to operational structuring, with sustained technical discussions advancing a blended finance mechanism designed to mobilise private capital toward the UNSDCF's financing gap. Work focused on defining the full partnership architecture, including investment governance, portfolio eligibility criteria, environmental and social safeguards, and a catalytic first-loss layer to crowd in private investment while maintaining SDG alignment. The mechanism has been deliberately structured as a self-sustaining investment platform rather than a grant facility, capable of generating both measurable development impact and financial returns.

In health financing, a multi-country policy dialogue produced recommendations to merge social protection and health financing into a unified policy framework for Jordan, achieved through coordination with the World Bank, the Global Fund, and health ministries from across the region, an example of the UN leveraging its convening role to generate policy outcomes that no single partner could achieve alone. The UN also launched a first-of-its-kind Diploma in Healthcare Supply Chain Management in collaboration with German Jordanian University and the Université de Montréal, aimed at developing a professional cadre of supply chain leaders to strengthen health systems and advance Universal Health Coverage across the region.

By 2025, three UN entities had formally committed to participate, agreeing to coordinate pipeline development, technical assistance, and impact measurement across economic inclusion, climate-sensitive growth, food systems, and gender equality. Governance arrangements and investment principles have been agreed in principle, with implementation contingent on securing the catalytic capital

needed to activate the vehicle, at which point the mechanism will mark a genuine shift in Jordan's development financing, from donor dependency toward market-based SDG-aligned investment.

The UN in Jordan continued to explore innovative financing instruments to accelerate SDG delivery, complementing traditional development partnerships with market-based and faith-compatible mechanisms. In 2025, the UN conducted a feasibility study into the use of Sukuk, the Islamic finance equivalent of a Development Impact Bond, as a promising instrument for a Girls Impact Bond. The study examined whether this instrument could be structured to mobilise private capital toward programmes empowering adolescent girls, eliminating gender-based violence, and addressing child marriage and female genital mutilation — building on an existing adolescent girls programming framework already established in Jordan. The study represents an important step in expanding the range of financing tools available for gender equality outcomes in a market where Islamic finance instruments carry significant potential for scale.

The UN also demonstrated its value as a trusted implementing partner for bilateral donors seeking to deliver results on gender-based violence prevention and response. Through a partnership with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, the UN served as Project Management Unit for a programme improving access to gender-sensitive prevention and protection services for vulnerable communities in Jordan, providing technical leadership, multi-sectoral coordination, and oversight that bridged governmental and civil society priorities, ensured coherence across GBV interventions, and advanced system-level strengthening and institutionalisation.

## 2.4. Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness and efficiency

The Country Team's joint programming portfolio continued to deepen in 2025, reflecting a strategic shift from standalone project pilots toward integrated, cross-sectoral interventions that strengthen national systems and mobilize new forms of financing. The portfolio is anchored around four thematic clusters – climate-resilient social protection, food systems transformation, just energy transition, and data-driven SDG localization – all aligned with Jordan's Economic Modernization Vision and the National Social Protection Strategy 2025-2033.

A flagship area of joint work in 2025 was food systems, with the UNCT mobilizing US\$ 3 million from the Joint SDG Fund for agri-food system transformation, with pipeline initiatives seeking to unlock blended finance for climate-smart agriculture, cold-chain infrastructure, and the Olive and Olive Oil Value Chain as a strategic investment-ready sector.

The intersection between climate resilience and social protection was another area, with a joint programme between two UN agencies and the World Bank is supporting Jordan in developing a costed action plan for climate-resilient social protection, expanding the Jordan Social Registry, and strengthening anticipatory action capacities, while improving coordination on green jobs and just transition. Complementing this, the Just Energy Transition (JET Jordan) programme, led by two UN agencies, advances energy-water-land nexus policy integration and investment planning, supporting Jordan's shift toward a greener, more inclusive economy.

The Pathways to Inclusive Development programme, implemented jointly by three UN agencies, advanced SDG localization through participatory data collection, support to national and local data monitoring systems and capacities, and strengthened local-to-national

data flows. SDG health data reporting on the Jordan Data Portal increased significantly, from 36 percent in 2023 to 76 percent in 2025, through three years of sustained multisectoral partnership with government, non-government, and private sector actors, substantially improving the evidence base available for health policy planning and accountability.

The Pandemic Fund joint programme, implemented by three UN entities, strengthened One Health workforce coordination, integrated disease surveillance for human-animal interface risks, and procured equipment to enhance surveillance capacity across Jordan, a model of genuine inter-agency collaboration with direct public health impact. A joint climate-health-migration programme focused on mainstreaming a gender-sensitive human mobility lens into national public health adaptation strategies and enhancing understanding of climate health impacts among host and migrant communities, implemented jointly by three UN entities across Jordan and the sub-region. A joint mental health programme for children and adolescents, with a total investment of US\$ 400,000, trained 172 health professionals and 55 school nurses and counsellors, integrated developmental and autism screening into child health records, and served an estimated 220,000 individuals through health services and over 35,000 students through schools.

South-South cooperation remained an active dimension of the UN's work in Jordan in 2025, spanning refugee response, data systems, environmental protection, and urban food systems. Jordan shared its refugee response expertise with senior officials from Libya through a study visit covering registration, camp management, and government-UN coordination models. Technical exchanges supported peer learning on innovative census methodologies

and digital tools to strengthen national statistical systems. Through a regional multi-sectoral initiative, the UN advanced migratory bird protection along the Rift Valley/Red Sea flyway, embedding biodiversity considerations into energy, agriculture, and tourism policies across participating countries.

In Amman, the UN supported the development of the city's first food loss and waste strategy through city-to-city peer learning and pilot circular economy solutions, strengthening the link between municipal and national policy frameworks.

In 2025, the UNCT completed its annual review of the System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP) Gender Equality Scorecard, conducted as a guided self-evaluation led jointly by the Resident Coordinator's Office and UN Women in coordination with an Interagency Assessment Team. The findings confirmed that the UNCT collectively met or exceeded gender mainstreaming requirements across all assessed areas, reflecting a sustained, coordinated commitment to advancing gender equality across the UN's work in Jordan.



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## 2.5. Efforts for more efficient operations and efficiency gains

The UN Operations Management Team (OMT) made measurable progress on operational efficiency in 2025 through the Business Operations Strategy (BOS), achieving cost avoidance of approximately US\$ 790,000. This was achieved primarily through creating and promoting common administrative, ICT, and finance services. Building on this, the BOS will continue to strengthen joint procurement and streamline shared services in the year ahead.

Common premises remain a key pillar of operational efficiency. Jordan currently

maintains seven common premises hosting 17 UN agencies, supporting co-location arrangements that reduce costs and strengthen day-to-day collaboration. Work in 2025 focused on assessing office utilization and identifying further consolidation opportunities, with coordinated planning ongoing to maximize the benefits of the shared premises model.

Furthermore, UN Jordan deployed 173 UN Volunteers across 17 UN agencies, with strong representation of women (58 percent) and youth (136 young professionals).

### Joint Communications Strategy Annual Highlights

The UN marked 70 years of partnership with Jordan through a month-long public photo exhibition organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, welcoming government representatives, partners, students, and the public. The UN Communication Group led a joint awareness

campaign introducing resident UN agencies and their contributions to national priorities and the SDGs, while partnerships with national media amplified stories of impact from communities across the Kingdom. Joint advocacy supported key international observances including the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

### Disability Inclusion

The UN delivered three regional workshops building the capacity of over 200 people with disabilities, their organisations, and climate actors on inclusive climate governance and intersectional approaches. In collaboration with the World Bank and the Higher Council

for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the UN developed the Jordan Disability Profile, a comprehensive analytical report informing national policy dialogue and supporting Jordan's commitments at the Global Disability Summit 2025, co-hosted by Jordan and Germany.

### Youth

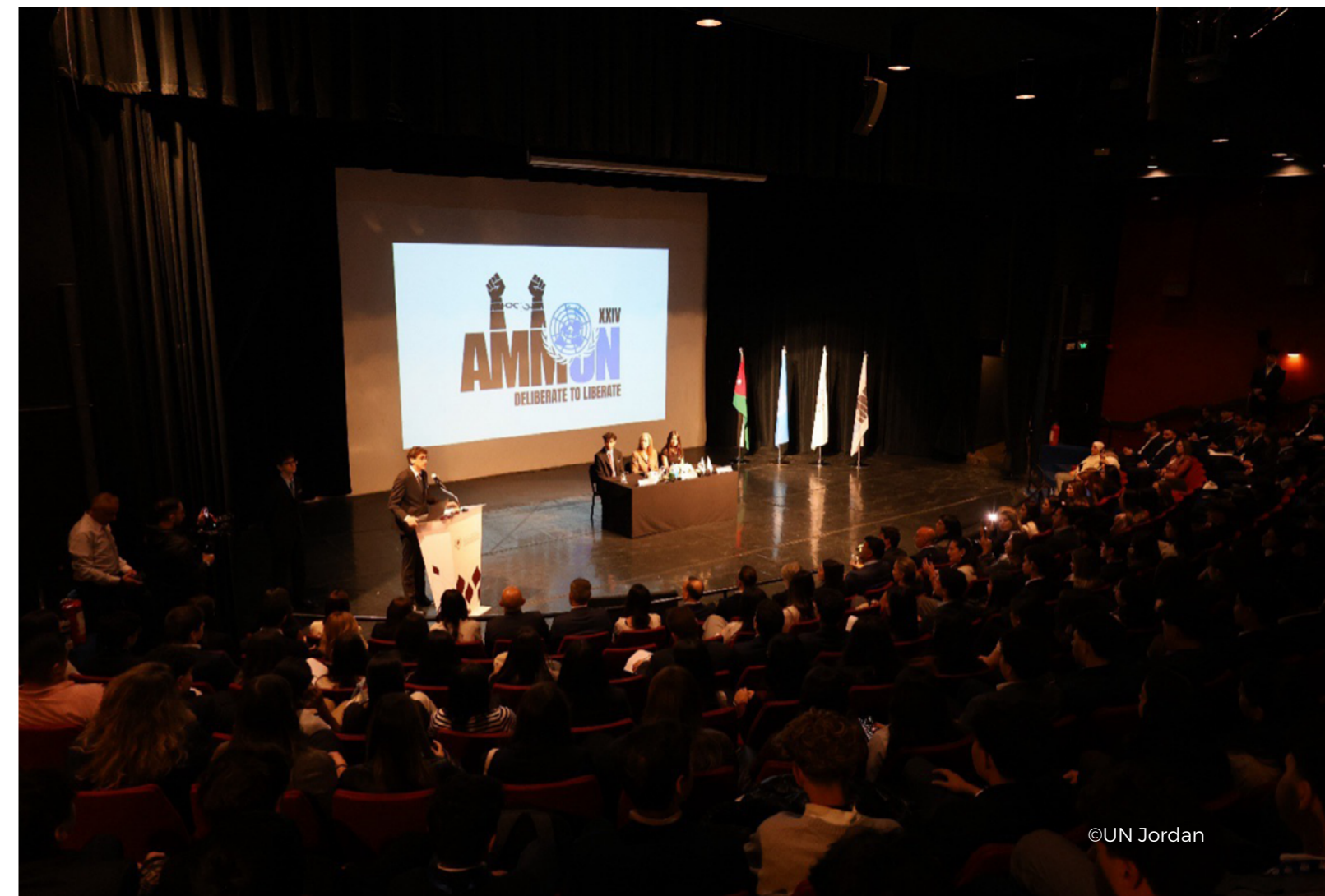
Jordan's National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security was launched in May 2025, providing a structured framework to strengthen youth participation in peacebuilding and decision-making aligned with global YPS commitments. Complementing this, a dedicated initiative engaged approximately 30 young people active

in public health, mental health, and sexual and reproductive health on the intersection between health and sustainable peace. The UN also supported technical preparations for the National Youth Survey to inform the new National Youth Strategy 2026-2030.

### Human Rights

Through the Pathways to Inclusive Development programme, the UN strengthened human rights integration into SDG localisation by supporting national and municipal data platforms and training 46 government technical staff on applying a Human Rights-Based Approach to

SDG monitoring, linking local indicator reporting to participation, equality, non-discrimination, and transparency. Public engagement was advanced through the Athar youth art competition and the Ahia podcast series, collectively reaching approximately 42,000 people online.



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## 2.6. Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

In 2025, the UN in Jordan made significant progress in translating its Joint Partnerships and Resource Mobilization Strategy from concept to operational reality – advancing one of the most innovative financing initiatives the UN system has undertaken in the country.

The centrepiece of this effort is a structured blended finance mechanism designed to mobilize private capital to address the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework’s financing gap. Throughout the year, the UN entered into sustained technical discussions with a selected private Fund of Funds partner to translate the blended finance concept into a workable governance, risk-sharing, and impact framework capable of attracting both institutional investors and UN participation. Joint sessions defined the partnership architecture – including investment governance arrangements, portfolio fund eligibility criteria, environmental and social safeguards, and the operationalization of a catalytic first-loss layer designed to crowd in private investment while maintaining full SDG alignment.

Critically, the mechanism has been structured not as a grant facility but as a self-sustaining investment platform capable of generating both measurable development impact and financial returns – a distinction that is essential to attracting the institutional capital the

initiative requires and to demonstrating that development financing in Jordan can operate beyond traditional donor dependency.

Internal UN coordination was deepened in parallel, aligning the mechanism’s sectoral focus – economic inclusion, climate-sensitive growth, food systems, and gender equality – with participating agencies’ mandates and programming priorities. By the close of 2025, three UN entities had formally committed to participate in the joint mechanism, agreeing to a coordinated approach to investment pipeline development, technical assistance, and impact measurement within their respective thematic areas.

The initiative has now reached its advanced operational stage. Governance arrangements, roles and responsibilities, and investment principles have been agreed in principle between the UN and the Fund of Funds partner. The final preparatory phase is underway, with implementation contingent on securing the catalytic capital contributions needed to activate the investment vehicle. Once confirmed, the mechanism will begin deploying capital into SDG-aligned investments – marking a genuine transition in how the UN in Jordan finances development, from strategy formulation to practical, market-based impact.



# CHAPTER 3

## INTO THE FUTURE

### UNCT key focus for next year

As the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Jordan moves into 2026, it will consolidate a more coherent and impact-driven One UN approach aligned with Jordan's national priorities and modernization agenda. In a context characterized by fiscal pressures, unpredictable regional dynamics, and uncertainty in global financing flows, the UN will strengthen its strategic positioning as a trusted partner to the Government of Jordan, supporting resilience, institutional reform, and sustained progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The UN's engagement in 2026 will be firmly anchored in the implementation of the Economic Modernization Vision (EMV) and its Executive Plan 2026-2029, alongside the Public Sector and Political Modernization agendas. Priority will also be given to supporting the implementation of the National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) 2025-2033 and further aligning UN interventions with its priorities to strengthen inclusive, shock-responsive, and child-sensitive social protection systems. Through integrated policy advisory support, institutional strengthening, and strategic partnerships, the UN will contribute to reforms that promote inclusive economic growth, strengthen governance systems, and expand equitable opportunities. Support to the preparation and presentation of Jordan's third Voluntary National Review and Voluntary Local Review at the High-Level Political Forum will serve as a strategic milestone to assess progress,

reinforce data-driven policymaking, and align national priorities with the 2030 Agenda. Preparatory engagement will also commence to shape the next Cooperation Framework cycle (2028-2032), ensuring continuity and responsiveness to Jordan's evolving development landscape.

In 2026, the UNCT will sharpen its collective focus by concentrating on high-impact priorities where the UN brings a clear added value. Through strengthened Results Groups and clearer accountability for collaboration, the UN will reinforce inter-agency coherence and present a unified institutional interface with government counterparts. Joint efforts will advance national priorities in skills development, economic opportunities, youth empowerment, social protection, health systems strengthening, food systems transformation with a strengthened focus on drought resilience, climate-smart agriculture, digitalization for smallholders, evidence-based food systems governance, and risk-informed approaches that enhance early warning systems and the resilience of fragile natural resources. These efforts will also support SDG localization, alongside enhanced support to local administration and subnational governance. Across all areas, emphasis will be placed on policy coherence, institutional capacity strengthening, and scalable solutions designed to ensure sustainability and national ownership.

Recognizing that development needs significantly exceed traditional aid resources, the UN will deepen its transition from funding to financing, in line with broader UN reform efforts. The UN's comparative advantage lies not in acting as a primary funder, but in catalyzing and aligning larger domestic and international financial flows in support of nationally defined and inclusive outcomes, always mindful of marginalized segments of communities, with a Leave No One Behind outcomes. In Jordan, this will involve strengthening enabling policy frameworks, supporting investment-ready pipelines aligned with reform priorities, and engaging strategically with ministries of planning and finance, international financial institutions, and development partners.

At the same time, the UN will sustain its humanitarian and protection commitments. Support to over three million refugees in Jordan, alongside vulnerable host communities,

will continue despite constrained funding environments. Jordan will also maintain its critical role as a regional humanitarian hub, including facilitating emergency operations such as the humanitarian corridor for Gaza, as required.

In 2026, UNCT's priority is to translate its strategic goals into measurable collective results. This entails clearer joint prioritization at Results Group level, strengthened common approaches to financing and resource mobilization, and a unified institutional narrative that articulates the UN's strategic contribution. Through reinforced coherence, disciplined execution, and principled engagement grounded in human rights and gender equality, the UN in Jordan will be positioned to deliver a focused, credible, and high-impact collective offer in support of the Kingdom's long-term resilience and sustainable development.

# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Agricultural Credit Corporation
AI	Artificial Intelligence
BOS	Business Operations Strategy
BTR	Biennial Transparency Report
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CfW	Cash for Work
CPI	Corruption Perceptions Index
CRCD	Correction and Rehabilitation Centres
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DEGURBA	Degree of Urbanisation
DHIS2	District Health Information System 2
DoS	Department of Statistics
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
E4J	Equipment for Jordan
EMV	Economic Modernization Vision
ESA	Education Sector Analysis
ESP	Education Strategic Plan
EU	European Union
FBS	Farmer Business Schools
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographic Information System
GMP	Gender Mainstreaming Policy
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum
HORECA	Hotel, Restaurant and Catering
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IMM	Impact Measurement and Management

IMF	International Monetary Fund
ISDB	Islamic Development Bank
IVR	Interactive Voice Response
JAF	Jordan Armed Forces
JCDC	Jordan Civil Defence Centre
JDP	Jordan Data Portal
JNCW	Jordan National Commission for Women
JoNAP	Jordan National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security
JONAP II	Jordan National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 (second generation)
JoRISS	Jordan Relief and International Support System
JSC	Job Search Club
KSN	Knowledge and Scientific Network
LMIS	Labour Market Information System
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
MEDEVAC	Medical Evacuation
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MIL	Media and Information Literacy
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoH	Ministry of Health
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MP	Member of Parliament
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
NAP	National Action Plan
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCFA	National Council for Family Affairs
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NSPS	National Social Protection Strategy
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OMT	Operations Management Team
OPD	Organisation of Persons with Disabilities
OSH	Occupational Safety and Health
PCV	Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine
PET	Polyethylene Terephthalate

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PSD	Public Security Directorate
PWD	Person with Disability
RCCE	Risk Communication and Community Engagement
RC	Resident Coordinator
RMS	Royal Medical Services
RSCN	Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature
SBC	Social and Behaviour Change
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SoER	State of Environment Report
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
SWAP	System-Wide Action Plan
TB	Tuberculosis
TOT	Training of Trainers
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
USTR	Office of the United States Trade Representative
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WEP	Women's Empowerment Principles
YPS	Youth, Peace and Security

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