# **OCHA**

# Country Fact Sheet - Jordan

#### August 2012

### **Overview**

Jordan (officially the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) is a low-middle income country with limited natural resources and a semi-arid climate. The country borders Saudi Arabia to the east and south-east, Iraq to the north-east, Syria to the north and the West Bank and Israel to the west. Jordan's only port is at its south-western tip, at the Gulf of Aqaba, which is shared with Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. Approximately 75% of Jordan is covered by the Arabian Desert. However, the western part of Jordan is arable land and forests. The capital city is Amman and the country is divided into 12 governorates (Irbid, Mafraq, Jarash, Ajloun, Amman, Balqa, Zarqa, Madaba, Karak, Tafilah, Ma'an and Aqaba).



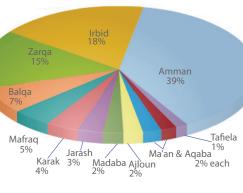
Jordan is a constitutional monarchy with a representative government, based on the 1952 Constitution. The reigning monarch, His Majesty King Abdullah II is the head of state, the chief executive and the commander-inchief of the Jordanian armed forces. The King exercises his executive authority through the Prime Minister and the Cabinet. The Cabinet, meanwhile, is responsible to the (elected) House of Deputies which, along with the House of Notables (appointed by the King), constitutes the legislative branch of the Government. They both serve four year terms. 90 per cent of the population lives on only 10 percent of the country's surface area. As a result of prolonged conflict in the Middle East, Jordan has hosted several waves of refugees and displaced persons. This has had a significant impact on the population growth rate. Since 1961, the population has increased fivefold, leading to pressure on natural resources, growing income disparities and increase in poverty.

# Demographics

Ethnicity: Muslim Sunni (92%), Christians, mostly Greek Orthodox (6%), Circassians (1%) and Armenians (1%).

Population (in 2011) 1	6.3 million	1,979,580 registered		
Gender Distribution 2		Palestinian		
Male	51.5% (3.2 million)	Refugees in Jordan		
Female	48.5% (3.1 million)			
Geo Distribution 3		•		
Rural	17.4 %	Area 6	89,320 km <sup>2</sup>	
Urban	82.6 %	Agri land 7	10,250	
Growth Rate 4	1.9 %		4 km <sup>2</sup> (11.5	
Avg. Life Expectancy 5			% of total)	
Male	72 years	Forest area 8	980 km <sup>2</sup> (1.1 % of	
Female	75 years		total)	

#### **POPULATION BY GOVERNORATES**<sup>9</sup>



### Jordan and Selected Indicators

### **EDUCATION**



 Primary school participation, Gross enrolment ratio (%), 2007-2010 - both sexes <sup>10</sup>: 97
 Secondary school participation, Net

enrolment ratio (%) 2007-2010, both sexes <sup>11</sup>: 81.5 3. Youth (15-24 years) literacy rate (%), 2005-2010<sup>12</sup>: 98.8

4. Primary completion rate (%), both sexes, 2010<sup>13</sup>: 89.9

5. Expenditure on education, public (% of GDP) in 2009  $^{14}\!\!:$  9.3

### HEALTH

**P** 

Fast.

Jordan has one of the most modern health care infrastructures in the Middle

1. Under 5 mortality rate, per1,000 live births, 2010<sup>15</sup>: 22

2. Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, 2010<sup>16</sup>: 18

**3.** Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women aged 15-19), 2009 <sup>17</sup>: 26.5

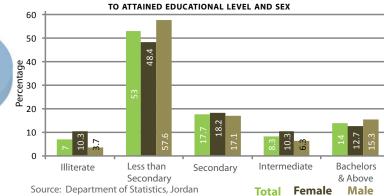
4. Births attended by skilled health personnel (%) <sup>18</sup>: 99

5. Expenditure on health, public (% of GDP) in

2009 <sup>19</sup>: 9.3

Primary health care to approximately 2 million Palestinian refugees in Jordan is provided by UNRWA.

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF JORDANIANS (AGED 15 YEARS AND ABOVE) ACCORDING activities, compared to 43 and 14 per



### **FOOD SECURITY / NUTRITION 20**

Domestic production of cereals is negligible,



covering less than 3 % of total utilization for food and feed. Cereal import requirements in 2011/12 (July/June) are forecast at a high of 2.3 million tonnes. Wheat imports are estimated at about 840 000

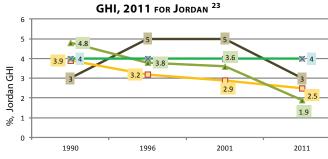
tonnes, about 15 % higher than the last five years. Imports of feed barley and rice are expected to go up by about 12 % on average levels to 770 000 tonnes and 170 000 tonnes, respectively.

**Rural Poverty in Jordan**<sup>21</sup>: 17.4 per cent of Jordanians live in rural areas where poverty is more prevalent than in urban areas. Approximately 19 per cent of the rural population is classified as poor. Because of the arid nature of the land, many rural poor people cannot grow enough crops to feed themselves and their families. People who find other ways to supplement their incomes generally earn very little. Regular drought exacerbates the situation.

Families headed by women tend to be among the most vulnerable. They have fewer economic assets than households headed by men. For example, only 44 per cent of female headed households own agricultural land and 30 per cent own livestock. In contrast, 68 per cent of male headed households own land and 36 per cent of them own livestock. Similarly, only 21 per cent of female headed households receive loans for agricultural development and 9 per cent for income-generating

activities, compared to 43 and 14 per cent of male headed households. **Global Hunger Index (GHI)**<sup>22</sup>: The GHI is designed to comprehensively measure and track hunger globally and by country and region. A number of different indicators can be used to measure hunger. To reflect the multidimensional nature of hunger, the GHI combines three equally weighted indicators (Undernourishment, Child underweight and Child mortality) in one index number. The Global Hunger Index for Jordan in 2011 was low (<5).

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Source: Global Hunger Index, 2011

Proportion of undernourished in the population (%) Under five mortality rate (%) Global Hunger Index (%) Prevalence of underweight in children under five years (%)

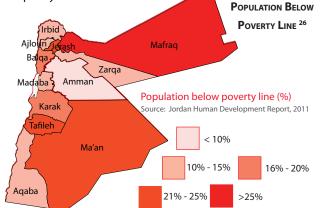
### WATSAN



 Percentage of population using an improved drinking water source - 2010<sup>24</sup>: 97 % 2. Percentage of population using improved sanitation facility - 2010<sup>25</sup>: 98 %

### THE POVERTY TRAP

Approximately 13.3% of the population lived beneath the poverty line in 2008. Jordan's various governorates reflect differing development levels. This is especially apparent when examining percentage of the population below the poverty line (less than US\$ 1 a day), which range from 8.3% in Amman to 31.9% in Mafrag. The 2010 Department of Statistics of Jordan's Poverty Report revealed that 57% of individuals surviving below the official poverty line were to be found in the most densely populated locations: Amman, Irbid and Zarga. Between 2006 and 2008 real income dropped in Jordan by 0.9%. For the poorest 25 %, real income dropped by 8.5%, whilst for the richest 25 % real income dropped by 0.8%, thus increasing income inequality.



Governorate	Population below poverty line (%)	Proportion of poor population out of total poor population in Jordan (%)
Mafraq	31.9	11.9
Ma'an	24.2	3.4
Tafiieh	21.1	2.2
Jerash	20.3	4.6
Balqa	19.7	8.7
Karak	17.1	5.5
Madaba	14.9	2.6
Irbid	14.7	20.5
Ajloun	13.3	2.3
Aqaba	11.8	2
Zarqa	11.2	11.7
Amman	8.3	24.6
Jordan	13.3	100

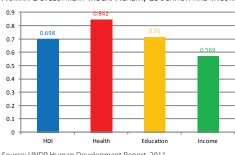
#### HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS

HDI provides a composite measure of three basic dimensions of human development: health, education and income. Jordan's HDI, in 2011, was 0.698<sup>27</sup>, which gives the country a rank of 95 (medium human development) out of 187 countries. The HDI of Arab States as a region increased from 0.444 in 1980 to 0.641 in 2011, placing Jordan above the regional average.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX 28: TRENDS 2007 - 2011

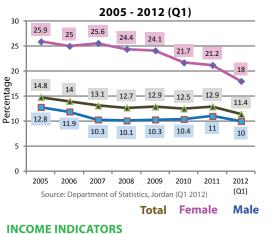
Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Jordan	0.685	0.692	0.694	0.697	0.698
HD (medium)	0.605	0.612	0.618	0.625	0.630
Arab States	0.623	0.629	0.634	0.639	0.641
World	0.670	0.674	0.676	0.679	0.682

Source: UNDP Human Development Report, 2011 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX: HEALTH, EDUCATION AND INCOME 29



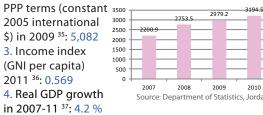
Source: UNDP Human Development Report, 2011

TRENDS OF UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ACCORDING TO SEX -



1. GNI per capita in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms (constant 2005 international \$) in 2011 <sup>34</sup>: 5,300

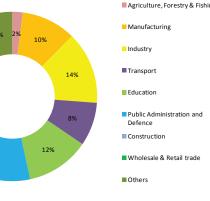
#### 2. GDP per capita in GDP PER CAPITA (JD) 2007-2010



5. GDP in 2011 <sup>38</sup>: US\$ 29.5 billion

5. International Reserves -2011 <sup>39</sup>: US\$ 13.3 billion 6. Inflation rate - 2011 40: 5.7 %

7. Unemployment % (in 2012) <sup>41</sup>: 11.4



#### Source: Department of Statistics, Jordan

16%

24%

7%

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYED (AGED 15 YEARS AND ABOVE) ACCORDING TO ECONOMIC ACTIVITY SECTOR, 2010

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#### **GENDER INDICATORS**

- 1. Labour force participation rate (Ratio
- of female to male shares) 42: 0.315
- 2. Gender Inequality Index <sup>43</sup>: 0.456

3. Shares in parliament, female-male ratio 44: 0.139

4. Maternal mortality ratio (deaths of women per 100,000 live births) in 201045:63

5. Unemployment rate (women) 2012 <sup>46</sup>: 18%

6. Employment rate (women) 2010 47: 14.7%

# Jordan and The MDGs 48

#### **GOAL1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND** HUNGER

Jordan has made significant achievements in combating poverty and hunger not only per the international standard of \$1 a day per capita, but also in relation to the national poverty line (USD 960 per individual annually). The percentage of population below the abject poverty line (JD 292 per capita in 2008) was reduced by more than half between 1992 and 2008, from 6.6% to less than 1%. The poverty gap was also reduced and the poor's share of total consumption increased. The aftermath of the current global financial and economic crisis will make it difficult to maintain these achievements, especially since a large portion of Jordanian

households are near the poverty line - increasing the risk of these families falling below the national poverty line.

#### GOAL2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY **E**DUCATION

Jordan has effectively achieved MDG2 - ensuring that all children enrol in basic school, through provision of basic education opportunities to all school age children. Almost all pupils, who enrol in grade 1 do not drop out and complete grade 5. Illiteracy among the 15-24 year old age group has been almost eradicated with equal gender enrolment, retention and literacy rates

Source: Department of Statistics, Jordan

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#### accomplished in education.

#### GOAL3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

The educational target has been achieved while the political and economic targets call for renewed commitment. Though there have been successful initiatives to increase women's economic and political empowerment, still significant challenges remain.

#### GOAL4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

Under Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) fell from 39 deaths per thousand live births in 1990 to 28 per thousand in 2009 – at an annual average decrease of 0.55 deaths per thousand live births. To achieve the targets by 2015, Jordan needs to increase its efforts to reduce the U5MR by an annual average of 2.5 deaths per thousand live births. It requires more effective policies and programmes, particularly in targeting the geographical areas and populations with higher child mortality rates.

#### **GOAL5:** IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

The maternal mortality rate fell from 48 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 1990 to 19 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2009. Despite noticeable progress on all maternal health indicators, there are challenges to be addressed in order to sustain the progress. These include increasing population growth, slow increase in contraceptive prevalence rates and unmet needs for family planning.

#### GOAL6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

Jordan has made remarkable achievements towards limiting the incidence of HIV/AIDS through education and awareness-raising programmes. However, additional measures are necessary particularly in raising awareness amongst young people – especially young women. Thanks to national health programmes, Jordan has attained significant health achievements in combating Malaria and reducing the prevalence of Tuberculosis (TB).

#### GOAL7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

If Jordan is to ensure environmental sustainability by 2015, swift measures need to be taken. There have been noticeable improvement in environmental sustainability indicators, particularly

		Select MDG Indicators		
ു 1	1.1	Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day - $\%$	0.1 (2010)	0
	1.2	Poverty gap ratio at \$1 a day (PPP)	2.6 (2008)	
	1.9	Percentage of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption	5 (2007)	
	2.1	Net enrolment ratio in primary education – both sexes	90.7 (2010)	۲
U	2.3	Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds, women and men - %	98.8 (2010)	
$O^3$	3.1	Gender Parity Index in primary level enrolment (Ratio)	1.00 (2010)	Ô
¥		Gender Parity Index in secondary level enrolment (Ratio)	1.06 <mark>(2010)</mark>	
	3.2	Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector – $\%$	16.2 <mark>(2009)</mark>	
	3.3	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament – $\%$	10.8 <mark>(2012)</mark>	
<b>२२२</b> २	4.1	Under-five mortality rate - per 1,000 live births	22 (2010)	Ø
00	4.3	Children 1 year old immunized against measles - %	98 (2010)	
<b>5</b>	5.2	Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel – %	99.1 (2008)	١
<b>6</b>	6.9	Tuberculosis incidence rate per year per 100,000 population (mid-point)	5.4 (2010)	
	6.10	Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course – %	100 % detected, 86 % success (2009)	
907	7.8	Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source – $\%$	97 (2010)	0
	7.9	Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility - $\%$	98 (2010)	
<u></u>	8.15	Mobile cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	118.2 (2011)	0
	8.16	Internet users per 100 population	34.9 (2011)	
ces of data: (1) Sec	cond Nat	ional MDG Benort Jordan 2010 (2) http://www.devinfo.info/(MDG Info	2011 Database)	

Source s of data: (1) Second National MDG Report, Jordan 2010 (2) http://www.devinfo.info/ (MDG Info 2011 Database) (3) http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Data.aspx?cr=400 Source for Progress made and its trends: Second National MDG Report, Jordan 2010  $(\mathbf{D})$ 

O Possible to achieve if some changes are made Very likely to be achieved, on track

ig)	Achieved
	/ cmcvcu

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in limiting waste of natural resources and the loss of biodiversity and improving the guality of services. However, many challenges remain, specifically in the area of environmental resource management.

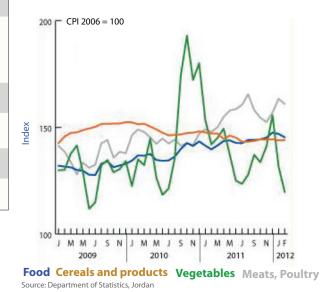
#### GOAL8: DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector in Jordan has grown markedly during recent vears. As a result, the sector's contribution grew to 13% of GDP, and increases have risen in the use of personal computers mobile phones and internet penetration. The country's ICT sector competitive edge has also grown globally.

# CPI

According to the national Department of Statistics<sup>49</sup> the 2011 overall Consumer Price Index (CPI) for food registered a rate of 4.3 percent, compared to 6.7 percent in 2010. The main reason for the reduction is the significant decrease in the vegetable price index from the record high levels during the last guarter of 2010 due to drought. The price index of cereals and cereal products has also declined by approx 2 to 2.5 percent in 2011 following government bread subsidies that prevented the transmission of high wheat import prices to local markets.

#### CPI FOR BASIC FOODS BETWEEN 2009 AND FEBRUARY 2012

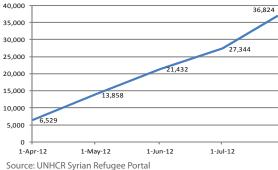


# **Ongoing Humanitarian Activities**

#### **Syrian Refugees**

The number of Syrian refugees registered in Jordan is 36,824 as of 27 July 2012. This number now surpasses the number of Iraqis registered with UNHCR Jordan. They are primarily located in the cities of Amman, Ramtha, Mafraq, Irbid, Zarga and Ma'an. An additional 2,283 persons are awaiting registration and some 50,000 have been identified by local organisations as in need of assistance, some of whom have been registered by UNCHR 50.

27% of the Syrian case load are female headed households, with women and children under 18 making up 73% of registrations with UNHCR. 75% of registered families have four or more children.



TOTAL REGISTERED SYRIAN POPULATION BY UNHCR IN Jordanian citizenship with the exception of JORDAN (AS OF 27TH JULY 2012)

**UNHCR and Jordan Hashmite Charity** Organization (JHCO) have opened a 10,000 person capacity camp in the Za'tari region near the border city of Mafraq, 80km northeast of Amman, in a bid to cope with a refugee influx that has reached a pace of up to 1,000 persons per day. The camp will be able to accommodate up to 113,000 refugees when it is completed. The Za'tari camp is to serve as a residence for Syrian refugees in an effort to alleviate the pressure of hosting refugees in other areas.

#### **Inter-Agency Task Force on Syria**

Humanitarian coordination is led by an Inter Agency Task Force on Syria that is chaired by UNHCR and composed of UN agencies, a number of NGOs and the ICRC as an observer. Sectoral working and sub-working groups have been established and regional coordination meetings are held in Ramtha, Mafraq and Ma'an, and area co-chaired by the Governor and UNHCR.

#### Iragi Refugees 51

The Government of Jordan estimates that there are 450,000 Iragis in the country. However, there is some uncertainty about the actual figure. Currently registered Iragis with UNHCR stands at approx 32,000. Many refugees live in urban areas and lack community support. Many live in poverty and are unable to gain access to livelihoods.

> About 6,000 families of registered refugees receive monthly financial assistance with other support provided through social counseling and disabilities assistance. Some 80 per cent of refugee children are enrolled in primary education and 90 per cent are enrolled in secondary education.

#### Palestinian Refugees 52

Approximately 2 million refugees are registered with UNRWA in Jordan. All Palestine refugees in Jordan have full almost 140,000 refugees originally from the Gaza Strip, which up to 1967 was administered by Egypt. They are eligible for temporary Jordanian passports, which do not entitle them to full citizenship rights such as the right to vote and employment with the government.

In Jordan, UNRWA runs 172 schools providing basic education from first to tenth grade, for more than 122,000 students. The Agency runs 24 primary health care centres, serving a population of more than 1.9 million. The centres deal with over 2.3 million visits each year.

There are ten official Palestine refugee camps in Jordan, which accommodate more than

359,410 registered refugees (17.5% of total registered persons with UNRWA). 99.4% of shelter camps are connected to water networks and 93% are connected to sewerage networks.

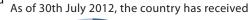
UNRWA has a relief and social services programme which promotes community-based action and delivers relief to families facing particular hardship or small-scale emergencies 53.

#### NUMBER OF REGISTERED

LESTINAIN REF		EUC
CAMPS	54	PALESTINAIN
Amman New Camp	51,500	
Baqa'a	104,000	Souf
Husn	22,000	Baqa'a
Irbid	25,000	Talbieh Am
Jabal el- Hussein	29,000	5-5
Jerash	24,000	Kann
Marka	53,000	{ {
Souf	20,000	15
Talbieh	7,000	$\left\{ \right\}$
Zarqa	20,000	

### Humanitarian Financing 56

The FTS is a global, real-time database which records all reported international humanitarian aid (including that for NGOs and the Red Cross / Red Crescent Movement, bilateral aid, in-kind aid, and private donations).



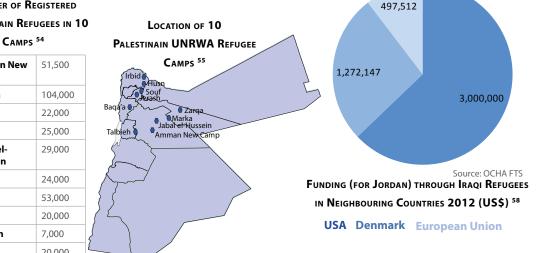
268,09

Source: OCHA FTS FUNDING THROUGH JORDAN 2012 EMERGENCY AS OF 30TH JULY 2012 (USS) 57

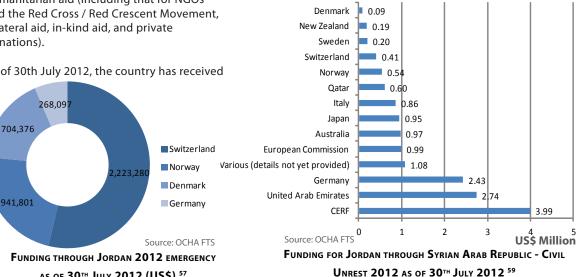
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a total of US\$ 4.14 Million through the Jordan 2012 emergency fund, established to meet the humanitarian and development needs.

US\$ 4.77 Million have been contributed through the Iragi Refugees in Neighbouring Countries 2012 fund, dedicated for Iragi refugees in Jordan, as of 30th July 2012.

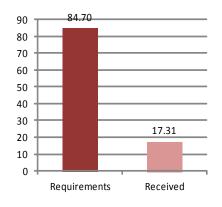


Jordan has received funding of US\$ 16 Million, as of 30th July 2012, through the Syrian Arab Republic -Civil Unrest 2012 fund.



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According to the revised Syria Regional Response Plan 2012, 20.4% (US\$ 17.31 million) has been funded, as of 15th July 2012, out of total required amount of US\$ 84.7 million, for Jordan.



#### Source: Syria RRP 2012

FUNDING (FOR JORDAN) THROUGH REVISED SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE PLAN 2012 AS OF 15TH JULY 2012 (US\$ MILLION) 60

### **National Disaster Management**

Jordan faces a number of hazards including earthquakes, flash floods and drought. Seismic hazard carry the prospect of highest casualty figures and to which the economic, social and state structures of the country are most vulnerable.

Flood, Drought and Seismic Risk Indexes have been developed for Jordan<sup>61</sup>. In 2011, Jordan's score on the Drought Risk Index and Flood Risk Index are above the regional average (4.22 and 8.29 respectively).

Risk Area	2011 score	Regional average
Flood Risk Index	8.29	8.32
Drought Risk Index	4.22	6.22
Seismic Risk Index	7.63	7.27



**Risk categories** 

Disaster management practices have been heavily focused on improving the response to incidents after they occur<sup>62</sup>. This has led a need to shift disaster management practices towards preparedness, risk reduction and holistic risk management. UNDP has initiated a large scale Disaster Risk Reduction and Management project to promote this shift and strengthen national and local resilience to hazards. These efforts include the establishment of designated DRR Units with local authorities in Petra and Agaba and the development of local DRM Master Plans to integrate disaster risk management with development planning. While rapid response mechanisms are still being strengthened, current UN interventions focus on 33. Ibid development of early warning systems, raising disaster risk reduction awareness, and building institutional capacity to ensure that nationwide retrofit design of critical infrastructure is being undertaken.

### **Key personnel**

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**UNHCR**: Mr. Andrew Harper; Representative; Office landline: +962 6 550 2030

Resident Coordinator Office: Mr. Alberto Bocanegra Vidal; Office landline: +962 6 5338 167

OCHA Syria in Amman: Mr. Stuart Shepherd; Office landline: +962 6 5534971

#### Footnotes

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