ONE UN JORDAN
A summary of 2015 joint efforts
This booklet is a summary of the key results achieved in 2015 by the ten inter-agency working groups of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Jordan. It provides an overview of what the UN can achieve through a more coherent and coordinated programmatic work, which will be continuously strengthened over the next year to best support Jordan achieve its national priorities.

Since the year 2000, Jordan made significant strides in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), however the development context was challenged over the past years by the conflict in Syria and the overall regional volatility. This complex situation provided the UNCT in Jordan with an opportunity to increase the coherence and effectiveness of its operations, as required by the recently-endorsed 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in line with the principles of the Delivering as One approach.

The original United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2017-2013 was revisited taking into account the emerging national priorities and the need to apply the resilience-based approach as the glue to bridge humanitarian and development assistance. This resulted in the formulation of the United Nations Assistance Framework 2017-2015 (UNAF) which incorporates a section dedicated to the Syrian refugee response and additional emphasis on resilience programming to reinforce Government institutions and services most affected by the crisis.

The UN established six Results Groups - corresponding to the six priority areas - to operationalize the UNAF. This is in addition to the four existing inter-agency groups: Communications, Operations, Sustainable Development Goals and Gender. A regular interaction between the four inter-agency groups and the six UNAF Results Groups was promoted to encourage cross-fertilization and peer-review.

The work of the ten working groups was operationalized through Annual Work Plans (AWPs), with a particular focus on joint and/or collaborative initiatives. The AWPs therefore included programmes and activities that specifically required the collaboration of two or more agencies, either through a formal joint programme document or through a harmonized approach, i.e. joint programming.

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1 For detailed results of UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in Jordan please visit their respective websites at [http://un.org.jo/partners](http://un.org.jo/partners)
The UNAF Results Group on Systemic Reforms, chaired by UNDP, works to strengthen local governance and participatory planning approaches, provides assistance to the electoral cycle and supports the development of the Government’s capacity to design and implement evidence-based policies and plans for national and local reforms. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. Support to the Jordan Response Platform for the Syria Crisis (JRP), through a UN Joint Programme, which aims at streamlining the aid architecture and enhancing transparency and accountability of aid flows. An online project approval system for the Jordan Response Plan (i.e. JORISS) was established in 2015 with 323 projects approved as of 31 December 2015. The status of the JRP projects are now known in real time and the average number of days for project approval has reduced from 33 days to 25 days.

2. The UN supported the Government of Jordan in the development of the national Vision 2025, providing technical assistance in conducting a needs assessment and in setting the goals. The Vision 2025 was endorsed by the Cabinet and launched in May 2015. Support is also being extended to establish a website and an online monitoring system - hosted for The Prime Minister’s Delivery Unit (PMDU)- for the Vision and its Executive Development Plans;

3. The UN provided technical and training support to the Department of Statistics for the development of the National Population and Housing Census, which was conducted in December 2015. The results are expected in early 2016.

The following UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results: UNDP, OCHA, UNESCO, UN Women, FAO, WFP, WHO, UN Habitat, ILO, UNOPS, UNFPA and UNICEF.
The UNAF Results Group on Social Equity, chaired by ILO, works to improve social protection and poverty alleviation mechanisms for vulnerable people at the national and sub-national levels. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

The UN supported the Ministry of Social Development in drafting bylaws for the Juvenile Law No. 32 of 2014. The result group provided specific technical support on bylaws relating to child labour and supported the drafting of bylaws for the remaining articles. Moreover, the UN worked jointly to promote awareness on child labour through events related to the World Day Against Child Labour.

The following UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results: ILO and UNICEF.
The UNAF Results Group on Equitable Social Services, chaired by UNICEF, works to provide equitable delivery of quality social services for all men, women, boys and girls. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. A joint UN programming focused on the implementation of community based protection mechanisms at the governorate level in Mafraq, Zarqa, Ramtha, Irbid, Ma’an and Amman. As a result, 1,990 women and girls were able to access quality social, legal and psychological support as well as multi-sectoral referral services, including 182 sexual and gender based violence survivors who also benefited from life-skills trainings.

2. The UN supported Jordanian Women Union to reach out to 1,906 people from hosting communities with awareness raising activities on methods to redress and eliminate violence against women. In addition, 399 training sessions to 12,407 School Advocacy Group members focused on how to develop school-level plans to create a violence-free environment.

3. The result group worked together to review neonatal care protocols and guidelines and trained more than 300 health professional in applying new protocols for neonatal and maternal health.

4. A joint UN effort ensured the immunization of 397,000 children (5-0 years) through subnational immunization days.

5. The UN partnered with the government and NGOs in Jordan in designing a training package and initiated five-day Training of Trainers. This was the first ever training in Jordan aiming to equip community health workers with the necessary skills in area of antenatal, postnatal and newborn care counselling, early referral and support services.

6. The UN began distributing winter kits to the most vulnerable children aged 0 to 16. In addition to host communities, in King Abdullah Park camp (172 girls and 212 boys) and Cyber City camp (77 girls and 73 boys).

7. A joint child cash grant was established.

The following UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results: UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, IOM, WFP and UNHCR.
The UNAF Results Group on Investing in Young People, chaired by UNFPA, works to support the Government of Jordan develop policies and mechanisms for effective and inclusive participation of young men and women in social, cultural, economic and political life. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. The UNAF Results Group on Youth extensively supported the development of evidence-based national youth policies. The UN assisted the Higher Council for Youth in developing a National Youth Strategy for Jordan, which is expected to be endorsed soon. Moreover, the UN jointly supported the preparation of a National Youth Survey which was carried out and its results presented.

2. The UN trained a core team of 31 UNRWA ‘Technical Vocational Education and Training’ trainers on life skills packages. Additionally, 5,100 Palestinian youth were trained and 12 youth initiatives supported.

3. The UNAF Result Group supported the National Expert Team for Labor Market to look into the positional analysis regarding skills development for youth.

The following UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results: UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, UNRWA, UNESCO, ILO and UNV.
The UNAF Results Group on Preserving the Environment, chaired by UNOPS, works to support the Government of Jordan develop and implement strategies and plans targeting key cultural, environmental and Disaster Risk Management issues (including a transition to a Green Economy). Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. A report on “Rapid Assessment of the Impact of Syrian Refugee Fluxes on Environment in Jordan” was developed by the UN. The study presents a first-stage rapid assessment of the potential impact on the environment in Jordan of the influx of Syrian refugees fleeing the ongoing crisis in Syria since 2011. The study addressed five priorities, mainly, water quantity and quality, soil degradation and rangelands, biodiversity and ecosystem services, air pollution and hazardous and medical waste.

2. The UN worked with the Ministry of Environment on mainstreaming the environmental component across the Jordan Response Plan so that an Environment Marker will be included for all JRP projects under Jordan Response Information System for the Syria Crisis (JOR-ISS) 2016.

The following UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results: UNOPS, UNEP and UNDP.
The UNAF Results Group on Refugees, chaired by UNHCR, works in collaboration with the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) to seek opportunities to link the refugee programming with the broader UNAF strategy. In this regard, this Results Groups works to identify increasingly innovative, durable and holistic solutions that have transformative impact on households, communities and institutions. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. The UN provided $41.5 million in cash assistance to Syrian refugees, the largest programme of its kind. Assistance is provided biometrically for large scale outreach and cost effectiveness. Accountability to refugees is ensured by the 65,000 home visits conducted and a 16 line help-line that received 314,915 calls eradicating cost associated with traveling to UNHCR offices to seek advice and assistance. In addition 22,200 refugees were assisted with resettlement.

2. The UN’s assistance allows over half a million Syrian refugees in Jordan to meet their basic food needs every day, and has contributed $408 million to the Jordanian retail economy between 2012 and 2015. As of late 2014 95 percent of the UN’s assistance is provided in the form of e-vouchers, a platform which functions like a pre-paid debit card, developed in partnership with MasterCard.

3. The UN has implemented emergency employment support programme to support the livelihoods and provide job opportunities for young Jordanians in the host communities in four municipalities in Mafraq.

The following UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results: UNHCR, WFP, UN Women, UNDP and OCHA.
The UN Communications Group, chaired by the **Office of the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator**, enhances the visibility of the work of the UNCT in Jordan and shows its positive impact through Communicating As One. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. UN’s 70th anniversary.

2. The “16 days of activism against gender-based violence campaign” was jointly implemented by the UN. It succeeded in organizing more than 200 events in all 12 Jordanian governorates, involving more than 100 civil society and private sector partners and engaging about 50,000 people on social media.

3. One UN Voice Media Breakfast - as part of a series of breakfasts aiming to enhance the UNCG’s relationship with national and international press and media in Jordan.

All UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results.
The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Group, chaired by UNESCO and supported by the RC/HC-Office, works to support the Government of Jordan in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. Support to national institutions to ensure understanding and strong national ownership in the adoption and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC) and the Ministry of Finance (MOF) were supported with technical expertise and policy advice in preparation of the intergovernmental negotiations for the 2030 Agenda (January-July 2015), the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (July 2015) and the Global Summit (September 2015).

2. Intensive collaboration with MOPIC and Line Ministries was done to organize a national workshop to kick-off the SDGs implementation in Jordan, which took place in March 2016 and where a national roadmap was launched. In preparation to this event, support to Line Ministries was extended to carry out a mainstreaming exercise of the SDGs in the national planning, in four case studies (education, health, poverty, and environment).

3. Regarding the participation of the Civil society in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs Group carried out several initiatives to strengthen the position and coordinate future action of NGOs, youth and women organizations. Among other, a workshop on “Dialogues on Partnership with the Civil Society” was held on 23 March 2015 with about 100 representatives from civil society organizations, line ministries and private sector representatives.

4. In terms of awareness raising, the SDGs Group organized and/or supported several activities, including: a workshop on “The role of Volunteerism in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”; the “7th Youth Tech Festival -Youth, Gender and Post 2015 Development Agenda” an awareness raising campaign in Mafraq governorate on the occasion of the Social Good Summit; a social media campaign following the UN Summit to adopt the 2030 Agenda; 7 issues of the Post2015- newsletter were produced and disseminated across UN Agencies and staff.

All UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results.
The Gender Theme Group, chaired by UNWOMEN, provides strategic guidance on gender issues while bridging multisectoral gaps and crosscutting needs in terms of gender mainstreaming. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. The Theme Group organized a two-day training on gender mainstreaming in humanitarian and resilience programming. The training provided eighteen implementing partners with tools and strategies for gender equality programming and gender mainstreaming.

2. A gender marker system for all active joint programmes has been introduced and piloted within the framework of the Inter-Agency Projects Approval Committee (IPAC). Similarly, 109 projects endorsed by the Government of Jordan under the Jordan Response Plan 2015 have been rated. In order to enhance staff capacity to promote gender equality in inter-agency programming, a Guidebook for Gender Focal Points has been developed as well as a guidance note on how to mainstream gender in the formulation of the Business Operations Strategy.

3. A UN joint programme was developed to support gender equality and rural women’s economic empowerment in Jordan. Entry points for this initiative will be the agricultural, tourism and culture sectors – with the programme aiming to target areas and populations impacted by the Syria crisis.

4. The UN supported the Government of Jordan to submit its 6th CEDAW Periodic Report in early 2015 - one year ahead of its due date. In addition, joint advocacy efforts resulted in the production and distribution of a short animated video, explaining the importance of the implementation of CEDAW. In addition, under the joint programme ‘Realizing Beijing20+ in Jordan: Women in Action!’ The UN supported the Jordanian National Commission for Women for the development of a Beijing20+ Position Paper – which was presented during the 59th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2015.

All UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results.
The Operations Management Team, chaired by WFP, provides the UNCT with recommendations on common services and business-related issues, while identifying opportunities for collaboration and innovation to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of UN’s programmatic work. Its main achievements in 2015 include:

1. The procurement team developed a strategy for 2016-2015 which includes but not limited to the establishment of a common procurement web portal for all Long-Term Agreements (LTAs), and the initiation of LTAs for common procurement of goods and services;

2. Common Standard Operating Procedures on protocol processes have been finalized by the Protocol team and will be shared with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates in 2016 to ensure a unified approach;

3. A Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) taskforce was established to encourage agencies to implement HACT in their operations.

All UN agencies have jointly contributed in the achievement of the above results.