

WHO JORDAN



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World Health
Organization

Jordan



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to our first-quarter 2025 newsletter, marking the start of a new chapter for WHO Jordan and a moment of reflection for me as I conclude my time in this incredible country.

Serving as WHO Representative to Jordan for the past three years has been an extraordinary journey—one filled with meaningful collaboration, impactful progress, and invaluable relationships. I have had the privilege of working closely with the Ministry of Health, the Government of Jordan, and our esteemed health and development partners to strengthen healthcare systems, expand access to essential services, and advance public health priorities.

Throughout my time here, I have witnessed remarkable resilience and commitment from all those working to improve health and well-being in Jordan. From supporting emergency preparedness and response to enhancing universal health coverage, every challenge faced has been met with determination and a shared vision for a healthier future.

To the WHO Jordan team—thank you. Your dedication, expertise, and unwavering commitment to our mission have been truly inspiring. I have been honored to work alongside such a passionate and hardworking team. Your efforts, both seen and unseen, make a real difference in the lives of so many, and I have no doubt that you will continue to drive progress and impact in the years ahead.

While leaving is never easy, I do so with deep appreciation for all that has been accomplished and confidence in the continued success of WHO Jordan. The dedication and passion of this team and its partners will undoubtedly carry forward the important work we have started together.

Thank you for the trust, collaboration, and warmth extended to me in Jordan. It has truly been an honor to serve in Jordan, and I will always cherish the experiences and connections made during my time here.

With gratitude and best wishes,

Jamela Al-Raiby



Dr Jamela Al-Raiby

WHO Representative to Jordan

Five years of progress: Realizing health for all in Jordan

For five years, the Ministry of Health has led a transformative journey, strengthening healthcare for thousands across Jordan. Driven by the Economic Modernization Vision, the Ministry of Health's strategic plan, and guided by the Country Cooperation Strategy and the Regional Director's flagship initiatives, the EU Trust Fund Jordan Health Project has spearheaded efforts to build stronger health systems.



This partnership has empowered healthcare workers, strengthened primary healthcare services, expanded immunization efforts, and enhanced supply chain management. It stands as a testament to the power of collaboration in achieving Health for All. Together, we continue the journey toward a healthier, more resilient future.



Advancing health systems: Paving the path to UHC

The EUTF partnership played a pivotal role in supporting the Ministry of Health's strategy to strengthen primary health care services towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Through political economy analysis, policy dialogues, and voices of citizens, Jordan developed its UHC roadmap, representing a strategic shift toward a more sustainable, inclusive, and efficient health system, one that prioritizes every child, every family, and every community.



To support evidence-based policies and guided interventions, the project conducted several health system assessments such as health system preparedness and response to health emergencies, primary health care, Comprehensive Expanded Programme on Immunization, Effective Vaccine Management and supply chain management.



Reaching every child: Jordan's commitment to immunization

The national immunization programme in Jordan is recognized as one of the best programmes in the region, this programme reflects the country's political commitment to inclusivity through reaching children who had not previously been immunized and vaccinating 20% of Syrian refugee and vulnerable Jordanian infants.



As vaccines bring us closer to people, goals and moments that matter to us most, the project supported outreach and mobile vaccination efforts with a fleet of vehicles reaching everyone, everywhere at every age.



Building resilient supply chain: Advancing healthcare access

WHO's supply chain management improvement plan covered the establishment and rehabilitation of 14 warehouses across the country. These warehouses were fully equipped, and their workforce was trained in supply chain management and storage best practices.



These achievements contribute to the pioneering initiative within the three main flagship initiatives of the WHO Regional Director aiming to enhance equitable access to essential medical products by improving procurement and supply systems, bolstering local production capacity and strengthening regulatory systems across the Eastern Mediterranean Region.



Empowering healthcare workers: Investing in a resilient future

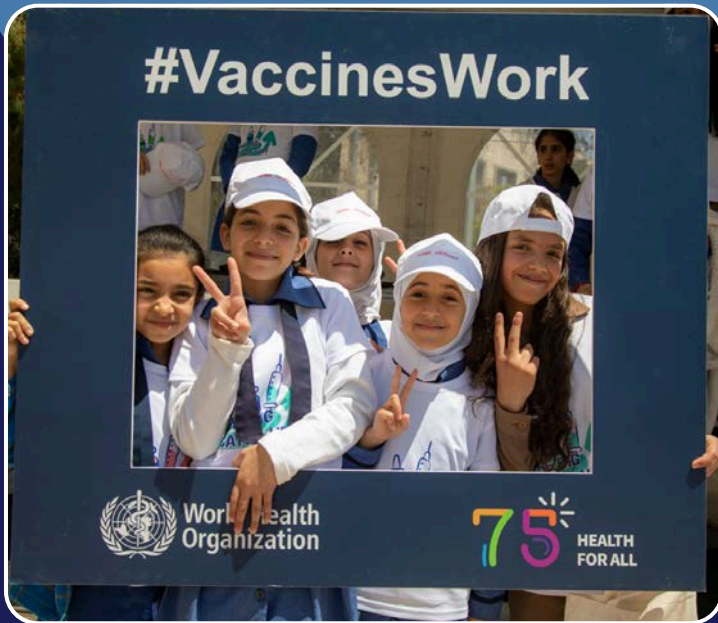


To ensure sustainability, EUTF project equipped many healthcare workers across Jordan with the skills needed to empower them to respond to respond to different health needs, putting individuals and communities at the center of the health system, yet contributing to another flagship of the Regional Director, “Investing in a Resilient health workforce”.



Engaging communities: Boosting immunization uptake

An essential component of any health system is community-based intervention with the focus on community engagement. Through the project, communication and social mobilization interventions were implemented to increase demand for and uptake of routine immunization services.



Voices of partnership: Commitments to health for all



Prof. Feras Hawari
Minister of Health

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is proud of the progress made in strengthening our healthcare system as a key pillar of our Economic Modernization Vision. With the generous support of the European Union and the strategic partnership of WHO, we have expanded healthcare access, empowered our workforce, and reinforced our commitment to universal health coverage. Investing in a resilient and inclusive health sector is fundamental to driving economic growth and sustainable development. We extend our gratitude to our partners for their unwavering support in advancing health for all.

The European Union fully supports Jordan's efforts to achieve universal health coverage for all. Over the last couple of years, the EU has invested more than 90 million euros to support those efforts, and half of it went to a very successful program led by the World Health Organization.

With this, together with WHO, we have supported the Ministry of Health, and particularly its national immunization programme. Now, the immunization coverage in Jordan exceeds 90%. We have rebuilt the cold chain, storages across Jordan from Maan to Irbid. We have also built new storages and we have purchased immunization doses.



Pierre-Christophe Chatzisavas

EU Ambassador to Jordan



Dr. Jamela Al-Raiby

WHO Representative to Jordan

At the World Health Organization, we harness our expertise and evidence-based policy solutions to transform health challenges into opportunities.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the European Union, we have worked to enhance access to quality immunization services at primary healthcare, strengthen supply chain management for essential medicines and health products, advance sustainable health financing and financial protection, respond to acute health emergencies, and improve health monitoring and data systems.

This project is a powerful example of how collaborative partnerships drive real impact—ensuring that everyone, everywhere, receives the quality healthcare services they deserve.



The opening of the Northern Region Vaccine Center

The new Northern Regional Vaccine Centre in Irbid enhances Jordan's immunization system by providing state-of-the-art facilities, including cold storage for vaccines, and increasing capacity for routine immunization. This center supports Jordan's national immunization program and strengthens preparedness for future health challenges. It is a significant step toward ensuring equitable access to life-saving vaccines across the country.



Enhanced medical supply chains: Northern warehouse upgrades

The newly rehabilitated Northern Region Medical Warehouses in Jordan will enhance the distribution of essential medical supplies, ensuring efficient and timely access across the region. This development supports improved healthcare services and strengthens the country's ability to respond effectively to public health needs. The initiative is a significant step in advancing Jordan's healthcare infrastructure.



EUTF Jordan Health Project conclusion: A lasting impact on healthcare

The Syrian Crisis Response Project has successfully concluded, with the support of the Ministry of Health, WHO, and the European Union. The €43 million initiative improved immunization services, developed new vaccine storage facilities, and enhanced medical supply chains. It also contributed to health policy and financing reforms to support Jordan's progress toward universal health coverage. The project leaves a lasting impact on both refugees and the broader Jordanian population.





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تشرفتُ بلقاء صاحبة السمو الملكي الأميرة منى الحسين لمناقشة تعزيز القوى العاملة الصحية في جميع أنحاء الإقليم، إذ تمثل هذه القوى العاملة إحدى الركائز الأساسية للمبادرات الرئيسية التي أطلقناها.

وكانت المناصرة الراسخة من جانب سموها للتمريض والقبالة عاملاً أساسياً في النهوض بالرعاية الصحية التي تتسم بالجودة والإنصاف والقدرة على الصمود في إقليم شرق المتوسط.

كما أعربُ عن امتناني لصاحبة السمو الملكي لما تتحلى به من قيادة وما تُبديه من التزام بالاستثمار في العاملين في الخطوط الأمامية من أجل صحتنا.



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In Jordan, I saw firsthand how investments in health systems are transforming lives - from modernized medical supply chains to expanded immunization services that include refugees.

This is in line with @WHO's Regional flagship initiative on expanding access to medical products, which focuses on improving procurement and supply systems, bolstering local production capacity, and strengthening regulatory systems in the Region for the Region.

WHO remains committed to ensuring access to quality medicines and vaccines for all. I look forward to expanding our cooperation and sharing Jordan's extraordinary success with countries across the @WHOEMRO.





Empowering Youth for a Smoke-Free Future

The World Health Organization in Jordan has launched the Well-being Ambassadors Initiative, bringing together youth from across the country to lead a nationwide movement for a smoke-free environment.

This initiative empowers young people to raise awareness, challenge harmful norms around tobacco and nicotine use, and promote healthy lifestyles in their communities. Through peer outreach, creative campaigns, and local engagement, the Well-being Ambassadors will become powerful advocates for change.

By investing in youth leadership, this initiative tackles one of Jordan's most pressing public health challenges and paves the way for a healthier, tobacco-free future —led by its youth.





Expanding evidence-based parenting support

The World Health Organization, the Ministry of Health, and the National Council for Family Affairs, hosted Jordan's first Community of Practice (CoP) workshop to expand evidence-based parenting interventions across both health and non-health sectors. Field visits were also conducted to Ministry of Health facilities to showcase Jordan's parenting programs in action.



Empowering grandparents in parenting and care

WHO Jordan, in collaboration with the Greater Amman Municipality, hosted an awareness session on healthy ageing. The session emphasized the importance of elderly nutrition, safe medication use, and empowering grandparents in caregiving roles. It highlighted the value of older adults as active contributors to both family and community life.



WHO Jordan and national center for human rights strengthen collaboration



WHO Jordan welcomed a delegation from the National Center for Human Rights, including Commissioner General H.E. Dr Jamal AlShamayleh and WHO Representative Dr Jamela Al-Raiby. Discussions emphasized human rights as a core pillar of health, the need for equitable access to quality healthcare, and future collaboration to promote human rights in the health sector. The meeting reinforced the shared commitment to creating a more inclusive and sustainable health system for all.

Strengthening School Health



WHO Jordan, in collaboration with UNESCO and WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, is organizing a Capacity Building Workshop on Health Promoting Schools & School Health Services.

This workshop brings together experts from the region to strengthen strategies for integrating health into education and ensure safer, healthier learning environments for students.

Together, we are working towards a future where every school contributes to promoting health and well-being!



تناول الإفطار.

Ramadan Kareem!

During Ramadan, WHO Jordan joined the WHO Regional Ramadan Health Campaign to raise awareness about the link between fasting and well-being. The campaign provided guidance to help individuals make informed choices for a safe and healthy fasting experience.

WHO Jordan commemorated International Womens Day



تتغير الاحتياجات الصحية للمرأة
من وقت ولادتها إلى الكبر.

ولكنهن غالبًا ما يواجهن
حواجز تحول دون الحصول
على التشخيص والعلاج
المناسبين اللازمين.



On International Womens Day we celebrated the incredible contributions of women in healthcare! From nurses and doctors to researchers and caregivers. We honor their tireless efforts in building a healthier and safer future for all.

Promoting hearing health

We proudly commemorated World Hearing Day, highlighting the importance of hearing care across all ages.

The day served as a reminder that early detection and prevention are key to lifelong hearing health.





WE
ARE
20



Celebrating 20 Years of WHO FCTC: A Milestone for Global Tobacco Control

With 183 parties, the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) stands as one of the most widely adopted UN treaties. As it celebrates its 20th anniversary, the FCTC continues to play a pivotal role in advancing global efforts for a smoke-free future, providing guidance for nations to implement effective tobacco control policies and protect public health.

Standing together against cancer

We commemorated World Cancer Day this year, reaffirming our commitment to raising awareness and promoting equitable access to prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

Together, we stand in solidarity with those affected and continue working toward a future where cancer care leaves no one behind.



Reduce your **risk of cancer**

- Refrain from tobacco use
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Keep up with your recommended vaccines
- Eat more fruits and vegetables
- Exercise regularly

WHO Jordan lights is buidling in commemoration of the International Childhood Cancer Day!



On International Childhood Cancer Day the building of the World Health Organization in Jordan was lit up in gold, to honour the courage of children with cancer, and help spread awareness around it.



Meet our staff



I am truly delighted to be part of the WHO country office team in Jordan, where I've had the privilege of witnessing the successful completion of outstanding projects and the launch of inspiring new initiatives. As I embark on my journey with the country office, it is an honor to contribute to such a dedicated and impactful team. I am proud to be part of this journey, working together to make a meaningful difference in the health and well-being of all Jordanians, leaving no one behind.

Dr El Houcine AKHNIF
Senior Health Advisor

At the heart of WHO Jordan's mission, communication is more than just "words" — it's the bridge that connects global health efforts to the people who need them most. As a Communication Assistant, I amplify stories that inspire action, translating complex health initiatives into impactful messages. Whether it's shaping digital narratives, engaging with communities, or highlighting milestones, I thrive in the fast-paced world of global health communication. Every campaign, story, and word has the power to inform, empower, and save lives fueling my passion daily.

Zain AlShurbaji
Communication Assistant



As a Logistics Assistant at the WHO Jordan Country Office, I am honored to contribute to the seamless operations that drive the organization's mission of improving global health. My role is integral in ensuring the efficient management and delivery of vital resources, directly supporting WHO's initiatives. I take immense pride in the dynamic nature of my work, which challenges me to think critically and act swiftly in high-stakes environments. Being part of a global leader helps me grow while impacting health worldwide.

Mohammad Ahmad
Logistics Assistant



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