Establishment and Development
Established in 1968, Husn Camp, officially known as Martyr Azmi Al-Mufti camp, was one of the six original emergency camps used to accommodate some of the 250,000 Palestine refugees and displaced persons who left the West Bank and Gaza Strip after the 1967 Arab-Israeli War.

After the outbreak of the conflict, 12,500 people took refuge in northern Jordan. They were initially accommodated in tents on an area of 0.77 square kilometers. Between June 1967 and February 1968, the refugees and displaced persons were housed in temporary camps throughout the Jordan Valley; however, the escalation of military activity in the area forced them to relocate to Husn Camp.

Between 1969 and 1971, UNRWA built 2,990 prefabricated shelters for the residents of Husn Camp. Over the years, many residents have upgraded their living quarters into more durable structures.

Today, there are more than 28,859 registered Palestine refugees in Husn Camp, making it the seventh largest Palestine refugee camp in Jordan. Yet despite its relatively small population, Husn Camp suffers from a number of pressing socio-economic issues.

UNRWA Services
UNRWA provides a diverse assortment of services in Husn Camp. These include education, health, relief and social services and infrastructure and camp improvement.

Education
- Six schools, out of which four operate on a double-shift system.
- 94 per cent of students in Husn Camp are enrolled in UNRWA schools.
- 4,157 students in grades 1-10 and 129 educational staff members.

Health
- One UNRWA health centre serves 22,658 registered Palestine refugees living inside and outside Husn Camp.
- 1,844 patients with non-communicable diseases under supervision (NCDs).
- UNRWA medical staff each provide an average of 59 consultations per day.

Relief and Social Services Programme (RSSP)
Under the RSSP’s Social Safety Net Programme (SSNP), 752 individuals (193 families) - 48% are aged below 18 years- registered Palestine refugees in Husn Camp live in abject poverty and receive critical needed assistance. UNRWA Jordan Field Office (JFO) has assigned one relief worker to serve and follow up with the registered SSNP beneficiaries reside inside Husn Camp.

In April 2016, the Jordan Field Office (JFO) revised its food distribution programme by introducing e-cards. The new modality replaced food distribution with cash assistance, distributed to families under the SSNP, giving them the autonomy to select food from predesignated shops according to their individual needs. To date, 183 e-cards have been distributed in Husn Camp.

The RSSP also provides guidance and technical support to one Community Based Rehabilitation Centre (CBRC) and one Women’s Programme Centre (WPC) in Husn Camp. The WPC provides a unique and socially acceptable venue for women to participate in cultural and recreational activities, as well as educational and technical training courses in order to increase their marketability and self-confidence.
Infrastructure and Camp Improvement Programme (ICIP)

Camps often suffer from dilapidated shelters, inadequate infrastructure and lack of facilities, compromising the Palestinian refugees' quality of life. The Infrastructure and Camp Improvement programme was introduced in Jordan in 2007 to address the substandard living conditions in Palestine refugee camps.

Through KfW funding under REPAC VII, UNRWA is in the process of reconstructing 35 shelters for 35 Palestine refugee families living in Husn camp. In October 2018, UNRWA signed an agreement with KfW under REPAC VIII to rehabilitate 28 shelters and improvement to the existing playground.

Through KfW funding under REPAC I & II, UNRWA was able to construct extensions to two of its schools (Husn Girls and Husn Boys schools), separating grades 1-3 from grades 4-10, and equip these extensions with the needed IT and educational materials to the benefit of 510 students. Furthermore, the boundary wall of the Girls School was renovated to increase the safety of the students and of the premises.

The improvements of the schools and the reconstruction of 75 shelters did not only secure a better living environment for the camp's residents, but it also created a safer and healthier learning environment for the students by providing new learning spaces and furniture, improved sanitation areas and outdoor recreational spaces.

UNRWA employs sanitation staff in Husn Camp, who play a crucial role in upholding the living conditions for the camp residents by collecting waste, maintaining regular vector control and monitoring the quality of water supplies. The environment health service also works towards reducing the risk of outbreaks of diseases.

Refugee Camp Population

![Refugee Camp Population Chart]

Major Socio-Economic Challenges

The most pressing socio-economic challenge in Husn Camp is pervasive unemployment. Indeed, it has the highest unemployment rate of all camps in Jordan, with a 18 per cent unemployment rate among camp residents. Furthermore, around 23 per cent of Palestine refugees living in the Husn Camp earn an income below the national poverty line (814 JD per year). It is important to note that females are disproportionately affected by the camp's poor economic conditions, with one in every four women being unemployed.

Husn Camp’s dire economic situation has inevitably caused residents’ health to deteriorate. Around 13 per cent of camp residents suffer from chronic health problems and 49 per cent of them do not have any form of health insurance, leaving them extremely vulnerable in the event of future ailments.

Although Husn Camp has the third highest rate of enrollment in kindergarten, 12 per cent of residents above the age of 15 are completely illiterate. This troubling statistic puts Husn Camp above all other camps in Jordan in terms of illiteracy rates. ¹

¹ Age A. Tiltnes, Huafeng Zhang, Progress, Challenges, diversity, in sights into the socio-economic conditions of Palestine refugees in Jordan. Fafo report 2013, Norway.

Camp Map

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UNRWA provides assistance, protection and advocacy for some 5 million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the occupied Palestinian territory, pending a solution to their plight. The Agency’s services encompass education, health care, social safety-net, camp infrastructure and improvement, community support, microfinance and emergency response, including in times of armed conflict.

Through these services, UNRWA strives to help Palestine refugees achieve a decent standard of living, long and healthy lives, knowledge and skills and full enjoyment of human rights. These goals are formulated according to the UN criteria for human development.