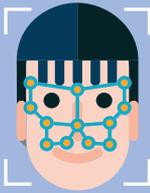


## Biometrics

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly. The agency is mandated to lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and find solutions for them worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees.

### Why and how does UNHCR collect biometrics?

Biometrics data is now considered an integral part of UNHCR registration data and is processed in 79 UNHCR country operations. Thanks to your biometric data, your identity as recorded by UNHCR, is protected as yours, and yours alone. This allows UNHCR to verify your identity, avoid duplications and prevent fraud. Since the introduction of their use, biometrics have brought direct benefits to refugees, UNHCR and partners alike. UNHCR Jordan scans iris as a form of biometric data for all persons above the age of five, with healthy eyes.



### What are the benefits of biometrics (eye print) for refugees and UNHCR?

- Identification of individuals and prevention of misrepresentation
- Improvements in the delivery of protection, assistance, and solution
- Establishing and preserving identities of persons of concern across UNHCR operations globally
- Providing undocumented refugees with their only personal identity record.

### With whom is my personal and biometric data shared?

UNHCR does not share your biometric data with anyone. All data collected by UNHCR, is treated as confidential. At the time of registration, UNHCR staff seek your consent to share your basic biodata with other humanitarian actors for the purpose of assistance or other protection services.

UNHCR is obliged to share basic biodata of refugees and asylum seekers, (names, date of registration, arrival date, entry point and legal status) with the Government of Jordan for the sole purpose of their protection, including prevention from refoulement, (deportation). However, your biometric data is not shared. In no circumstance does UNHCR Jordan share your personal data, including biometric data, with the government of your country of origin.

### Is my personal and biometric data safe?

All data that you provide during registration interview, including biometric data, is stored on UNHCR servers with multiple protection layers.



### In case UNHCR wishes to share the biometrics data with a third party, will another consent be taken from the refugee? Will the third party keep the data confidential?

Biometric data is not shared with any third party. However, if there is a need for that, UNHCR will take consent with refugees prior to sharing data with any third party.

### Can I check what is happening with my personal data after I am registered?

At any time after you are registered with UNHCR, you may also request from UNHCR to check whether your data has been, is being or will be processed, as well as information on the purpose(s) for processing/sharing your personal data and the third parties with whom their personal data has been, is being or will be shared.

### Can I object to the processing of my biometric data?

Yes, you have the right to object to the processing of your biometric data if you have a legitimate ground related to your personal situation. Your objection will be assessed by our senior registration staff on a case-by-case basis. A refusal to biometrically enroll does not impact your status with UNHCR.



**In case of resettlement or departure to any other country, will the biometric data be shared with the respective countries?**

UNHCR does not share biometric data with any resettlement country. However, some resettlement countries (USA, UK) match and crosscheck the biometric data collected at the departure stage with the one captured by UNHCR, to confirm the identity of persons leaving.

**Does UNHCR Jordan collect data for refugees living outside of Jordan? If yes, why cannot the data be transferred from other UNHCR country offices to Jordan in case refugees move from or to Jordan?**

We only register and collect data for refugees inside their country of asylum.

**Am I eligible for monthly cash assistance if I provide my biometrics (eye print) to UNHCR?**

The monthly cash assistance is provided to the most vulnerable asylum seekers and refugees upon household assessment.

**Why does UNHCR use biometrics for withdrawal of cash assistance?**

The use of biometrics for withdrawal of cash assistance is to ensure timely and reliable delivery of cash assistance and to avoid the delay due to loss or theft of ATM cards and forgotten pins. The use of biometrics also ensures that only persons previously identified for the cash assistance are allowed to withdraw it.

**Can I collect my cash assistance without use of biometrics (eye print)?**

In case of any medical conditions that might affect the capture and use of your eye print please contact the helpline to inform UNHCR. You can either request an ATM card upon providing valid medical records or ask that a family member from your case file to be assigned as an alternate cash collector.

### Does Cairo Amman Bank have my biometrics (iris scan)?

UNHCR does not share your biometrics with any partner organizations, including CAB. To facilitate the financial assistance distribution, UNHCR gives CAB a limited access to verify your eye scan against the EyeCloud portal. Once your iris (eye print) is scanned at Cairo Amman Bank ATM, the system checks the scan against UNHCR registration data to confirm your identity and allocates the assistance for your withdrawal. Availability of biometrics or lack thereof does not determine eligibility to receive assistance.

### Is it a requirement to verify our biometrics data occasionally? If yes, what is the procedure for that?

The biometrics are normally checked and verified during the renewal procedures (however this has been put on hold due to pandemic). Biometric data is checked prior to each RSD and RST interview.

