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2019 Progress Report

Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan in Response to the Syria Crisis

January – June 2019

NOTE: The figures and information contained in this document are in draft form and subject to amendment as mid-year country-level funding and indicator data is finalized.

WE THANK OUR DONORS FOR THEIR **GENEROUS SUPPORT FOR 3RP ACTIVITIES**



The work of 3RP partners would not have been possible without the extremely generous support of donors.

As well as member states, 3RP Partners are grateful to private donors, humanitarian funds, foundations, charities and other organizations for their contributions. 3RP Partners would also like to acknowledge the huge contribution of host countries who have contributed to the response in many ways including making their services available to refugee populations, at great expense. The member state donors above are gratefully acknowledged for their contributions in 2019.

Regional Overview

the Syrian conflict. 3RP partners continue to support host governments to improve the lives 7 billion to support humanitarian, resilience of Syrian refugees across the region. While much has been achieved, the length of the crisis has left many Syrians destitute and without hope. The needs of Syrians and communities hosting them in the region remain enormous.

The number of Syrian refugees in the region remains stable as of end-June 2019, currently standing at 5,625,871. This is in line with the projections of the 2019-2020 3RP Regional Strategic Overview and with return intention surveys conducted in 2018 which found that although the majority of Syrian refugees hope to return to Syria one day, most do not see this In support of nationally led response efforts, happening in the next 12 months.

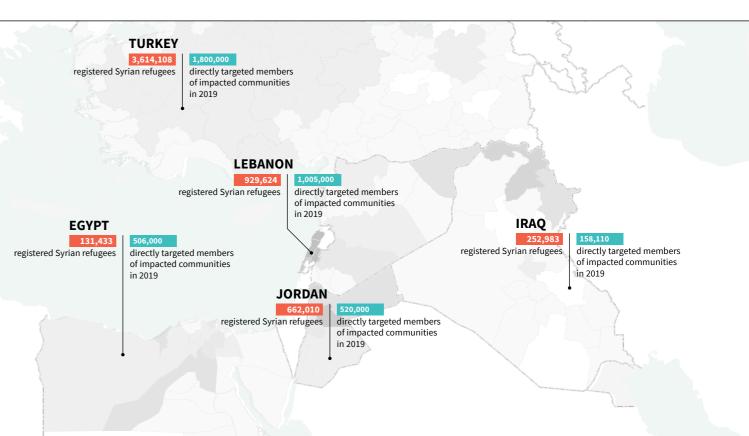
The stability of the population reaffirms to the protection, assistance and resilience the international community and donors the need to continue to support lifesaving and resilience-building programmes in 3RP host countries, which continue to share their limited

March 2019 marked the eighth anniversary of resources with refugees. During the Brussels III conference in March 2019, donors pledged USD and development activities in 2019. As of the end of June, USD 1.6 billion has been reported as received by 3RP partners.

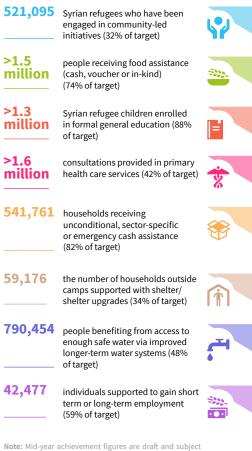
> Resettlement and complementary pathways for admission into third countries also need to be expanded. Across the region, 16,429 Syrian refugees were submitted for resettlement to third countries in the first half of the year. However, the number of available spaces pledged by resettlement countries falls far short of the needs.

> the 3RP's more than 270 partner organizations across the region have continued to address needs of Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities, reinforcing those communities to respond to the impact of prolonged displacement.

TOTAL 5.625.871 total # of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR as of June 2019 (includes 35,713 from North Africa)



Achievements



to amendment. Figures for some countries are as of May 2019 due to different reporting timelines, while for others some partners are still reporting.

3,989,110

total # of directly targeted members of impacted communities in 2019

Funding

FUNDING STATUS

3RP Total Requirements	\$5,534,930,516
Total Funding Received	\$1,633,224,902
% funded against 3RP Total Requirements	30%

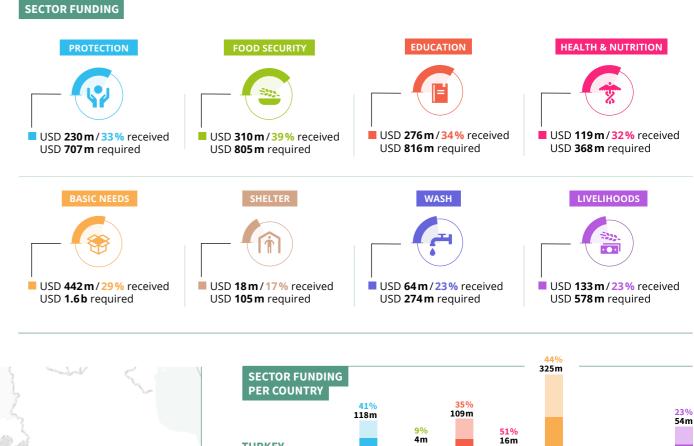
3RP FUNDING STATUS BY COMPONENT REFUGEE COMPONENT USD1 billion received / (30%) USD 2.4 billion funding gap USD 603 million received / (29%)

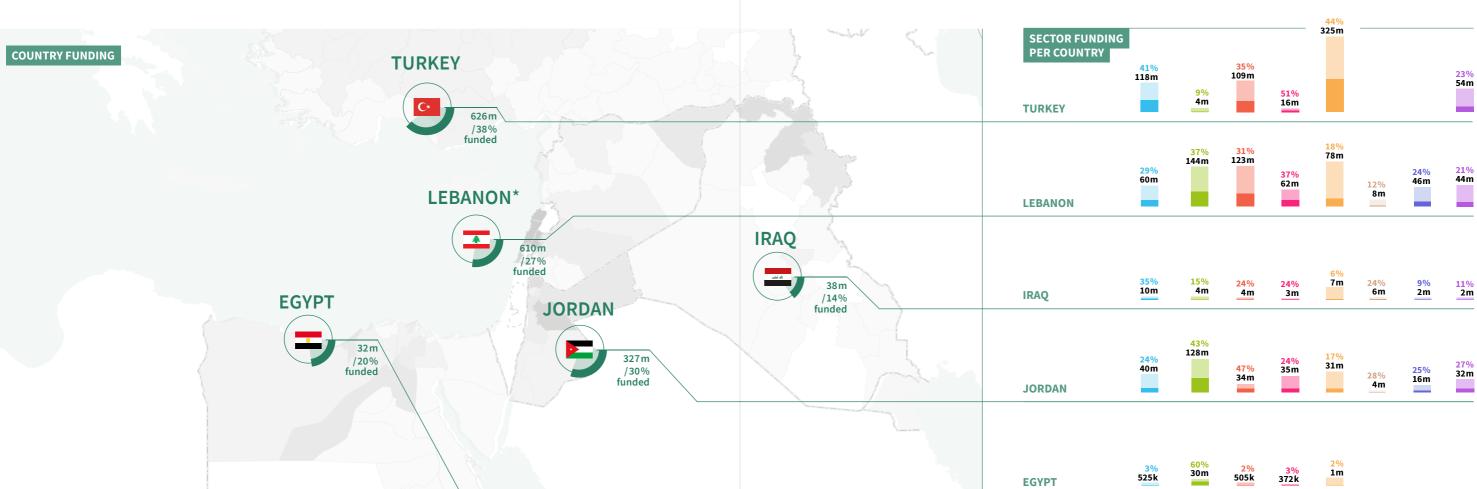
USD 1.5 billion funding gap

AGENCY FUNDING

Type of Agency	Requirements (in USD)	Received (in USD)	% Funded
UN Agencies, Fund, Programmes	4,751,471,487	1,410,634,033	30%
International NGOs	633,062,999	216,677,862	34%
National NGOs	150,396,031	13,795,423	9%







* For Lebanon Carryover funding received in 2018 is reflected in the overall amount received for 2019

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In Focus: Key Funding Shortfalls

The neighbouring countries in the region continue to host unprecedented numbers of refugees, with more than 5.6 million Syrian refugees across the region, in the eighth year of the Syrian crisis. The continued provision of basic services to Syrians exemplifies the generosity of host governments but it has put a great strain on national systems. The sustainability of the response and the efficiency of service provision have also been possible thanks to the continuous international support provided through the 3RP, with more than USD 14 billion received since 2015.

A decline in this support, accompanied by other financial challenges would compromise the quality and sustainability of the response, impacting host countries and host communities who have so generously received the population in need. Greater international responsibility sharing is necessary for ensuring refugees' continuous access to basic services as well as maintaining social cohesion between the host and refugee communities.

3RP partners ask for urgent and enhanced donor support to avoid reductions or closures of key programmes in the coming months, as the level of needs exceeds the response capacity and resources available. Some examples of critical funding shortfalls across the region are outlined here. Early disbursement of pledged funds, and flexible earmarking, are also important so money is used where and when it is needed most. Without additional funding, there will be a tangible destabilizing impact on refugee families and communities: more children out of school; more urgent medical needs untreated; missed chances for people to earn a living; and, an increase in social tensions



USD 2.8 million is needed to maintain critical health services for some 331,400 vulnerable Syrian refugees and members of affected communities from July onwards, including essential immunization activities, life-saving interventions, and support to persons with disabilities and chronic health conditions.

USD 13.2 million is urgently needed to provide protection services to the entire refugee population from July onwards. The protection sector is critically underfunded

USD 50 million is required to continue monthly cash assistance for 31,600 Syrian refugee households. Lack of funding may worsen their protection risks and compel them to negative comping mechanisms.



USD 8.9 million is needed by the **Food Security and Agriculture Sector** by October 2019, or 30,000 Syrian refugees will see their monthly food assistance either significantly reduced or completely cut.

A total of USD 10 million is needed 4 to ensure the continuation of Protection activities. In the Child Protection Sub-Sector, without the additional funding, 3.000 vulnerable and at risk children will not have access to specialized support including case management, while 13,626 boys and girls affected by the Syrian crisis will not access psychosocial support services and community based child protection support.

Some USD 10 million is needed to ensure access to upgraded shelters and sustainable infrastructure, for all 96,000 Syrian refugees living in camps and to ensure that urban residents have access to affordable housing.

JORDAN



LEBANON



September 2019

E

Ŕ:

30%

USD 51.8 million is needed to E continue educational activities from July onwards for some 400,000 children, including working with national partners to strengthen education systems to benefit children nationwide. If not received, children may be forced to drop out of school, making them even more vulnerable to risks such as child labour or early marriage.

USD 8 million is urgently required to ۴ improve living conditions for more than 150,000 Syrian refugees by improving the supply of quality water systems in refugee camps and settlements. If not received, this could have a detrimental impact upon the hygiene and health conditions of camps and settlements from July onwards.

USD 80 million is urgently required to continue cash assistance in the second half of the year for some 173,000 Syrian refugees, to avoid them plunging deeper into poverty.

USD 54 million is required to continue cash assistance for 654,000 vulnerable refugees. Without this funding, persons currently receiving monthly cash assistance to meet their basic food needs are at risk of having their entitlements either significantly reduced or completely cut.





USD 60 million is urgently required to cover the tuition fees of children in formal education for the academic year 2019-2020. If not covered, this could affect around 100,000 children starting in

Some USD 32 million is needed to invest in multi-year funding programs to support small businesses as they are the main job creators in vulnerable areas, as well as to develop strategic value chains in agro-food and environment products. This will support 1,500 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and develop eight new local value chains, in total creating over 2,150 jobs.

TURKEY



USD 35 million is urgently required for the Food Security and Agriculture sector. Without this funding, some 52,264 people will suffer dramatic and far-reaching cuts in services that help them to shift towards self-reliance. Investing more funds in this approach can also ensure the inclusion of refugees into national development plans, and mobilize appropriate development assistance.

USD 187 million is required for livelihoods activities. The livelihoods sector in 2019 is targeting nearly 550,000 individuals. With limited funding, programs targeting these individuals with language training, vocational training, entrepreneurship skills, job creation and facilitating access to finance (and grants) will be reduced in scope, affecting the number of people that can be reached with this programming.

USD 195 million is required for the protection sector response for 3.6 million refugees in Turkey. The sector supports the Government of Turkey and its primary role in the provision of protection to persons of concern, while specialized services continue to be delivered through sector members for those having challenges accessing national services. Underfunding would impact the level of support provided to the Government, negatively affecting the number of persons benefiting from national services and the level of access to service providers.

Turkey

The Government of Turkey's leadership of the refugee response is based on the Law on Foreigners and International Protection and its Temporary Protection Regulation, and the provision of services through national and local systems. The verification of the registration information of more than 2.7 million Syrians in Turkey has been successfully completed in 2019, followed by continuous registration.

Regular school attendance is being promoted through complementary services including the Conditional Cash Transfer for Education (CCTE), transportation assistance, and provision of equipment. Efforts are being made to facilitate education for out of school children, including accelerated learning programs and other forms of non-formal education. Access to higher education preparatory courses have also been facilitated and opportunities to apply for higher education scholarships have supported tertiary education.

Adolescent and youth engagement was supported through various mechanisms including the national 'Child Advisory Board' and the 'Social Circus' enabling both Syrian and local youth to contribute towards social cohesion.

3RP partners work to increase access to formal employment opportunities, although the needs outweigh available employment. On the

demand side of the labour market, partners have promoted entrepreneurship, business start-ups, formal job creation and placement, as well as language training, skills development and certification for employment.

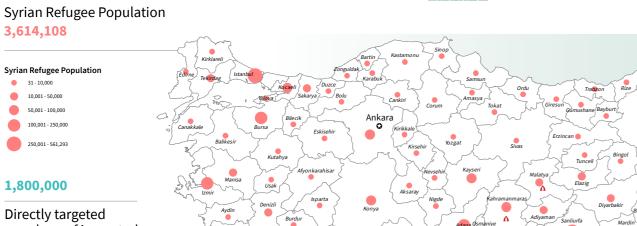
Increased access to healthcare through Migrant Health Centres, women and girls safe spaces, and public hospitals, as well as transportation support, has allowed access to primary healthcare services, including immunization as well as maternal and child healthcare, and prevention of disease. Support to health institutions continuous through training of Syrian and Turkish health professionals, and the inclusion of Syrian health professionals into the Turkish health system.

Access to protection services has been strengthened through support to national and local service providers including Social Services Centres and municipalities, complemented by child protection services. The protection sector has prioritized services for women and children at risk, responses to GBV, child marriage and child labour as well as psychosocial needs, and access to legal assistance. Access to justice was strengthened by expanding the number of child-friendly judicial interview rooms and training specialized personnel on how to respond to the specific needs of refugee children.

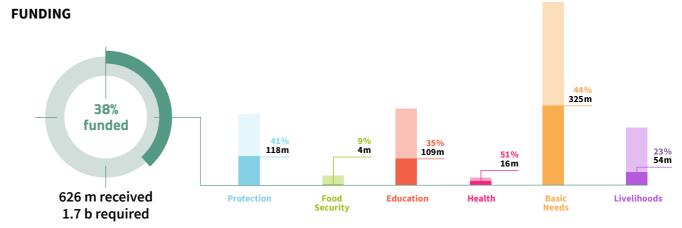
In the first half of 2019, more than 1.75 million Syrians under temporary protection were supported through cash based interventions, shelter, NFIs and food assistance. Monthly and multi-purpose cash support, such as the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN), targeted the most vulnerable. In an effort to create more opportunities for self-reliance and reduce dependency on cash assistance, there has been cross-sectoral efforts towards linking basic needs and livelihoods. Support to service provision in municipalities continued through strengthened technical capacities and building increased accessibility of services.

The agriculture sector is a key for the socioeconomic integration of Syrians under temporary protection and host community members. 3RP partners target marketbased interventions to deliver food security, environmental sustainability and economic opportunities and the provision of training on good food and nutrition agricultural practices.

> The verification of the registration information of more than 2.7 million Syrians in Turkey has been successfully completed in 2019







INNOVATION



Supporting increased access to national systems

3RP partners have continued working towards supporting increased access of Syrians to national systems including health education, employment and social services.

Cooperation with the Government has been ongoing on providing the Syrian population with alternatives to camps, through which tented Temporary Accommodation Centres have been closed and others have been decongested.

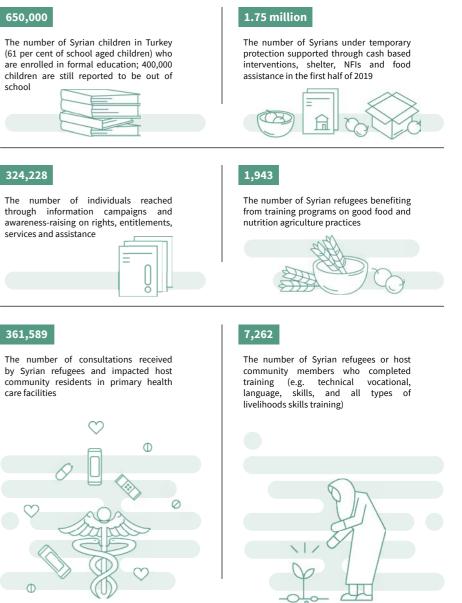
Significant support has been made available also to the implementation of the Harmonization Roadmap for enhanced social cohesion across the country.



650,000

11001	
	LE
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services and assistance



1,800,000

8

3,614,108

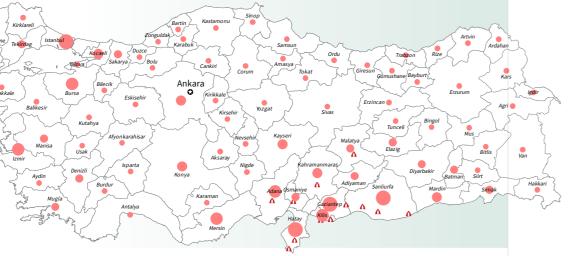
10,001 - 50,00

50,001 - 100,00

100,001 - 250,000 250,001 - 561,293

Svrian Refugee Population 9 31 - 10,000

Directly targeted members of impacted communities in Turkey in 2019



#

Lebanon

In Lebanon, there has been a consistent and increasing trend in support to public institutions under the LCRP in Lebanon from 2015 to 2018, with \$240 million channeled through public administrations (16 percent of the overall funding received) in 2018 to strengthen service delivery, policy development, capacity building and institutional stability. This support has continued in 2019.

As of June 2019, a total of USD 407 million was received by partners. Taking into consideration USD 203 million carried over from 2018, available resources amounted to USD 610 million, or 24 percent of the appeal. Partners have continued providing assistance and services to the most in need. Over 900,000 of the most vulnerable individuals have been reached with food assistance and USD 151 million has been injected into the local economy through cash-based assistance, benefiting 185,000 Syrian households and also boosting the local economy.

However, eight years into the Syrian crisis, protection risks of the vulnerable population in Lebanon remain high. Only 27 percent of Syrian refugees over 15 hold legal residency and over two-thirds of Syrian refugee households remain below the poverty line. Vulnerable populations face difficulties meeting their

basic immediate needs and are making tough choices to cope. 34 percent of refugees now live in non-permanent structures compared with 27 percent in 2017. While public services deliver at scale, the system requires sustained attention. More than half of school-aged Syrian refugee children (3-18) are still out of school despite considerable efforts to ensure access and retention. Inter-communal relations are strained, host community frustrations are evident and with an increased propensity for violence, there is considerable pressure on the protection space for refugees. Pressure on resources and competition for lowerskilled jobs remain key sources of tensions. Environmental degradation has also become a particularly salient topic over the past few months and an important cause of tensions between communities.

There are currently several pressing funding gaps across the response, as Lebanon has seen an unprecedented series of emergencies unfold since January 2019: extreme weather conditions, an increase in evictions, the ongoing dismantlement of hard structures in informal settlements, an environmental crisis around the Litani river. These emergencies have put additional pressure on the most vulnerable refugees living in informal settlements. As refugees are forced to either relocate, repair or dismantle their existing shelters, response

Syrian Refugee Population 929,624 individuals



partners are struggling to keep up the pace. Contingency stocks are depleting and support for the upcoming winter assistance is at risk. Furthermore, as environmental concerns are increasingly the cause of tensions, there is a pressing gap in community support projects, including solid waste management and community security.

A mid-term review of the LCRP was conducted in May-July 2019 to take stock of progress made to date across the response, suggest midcourse adjustments and possible scenarios for post-2020 LCRP, considering the current aid coordination structure in Lebanon. The final report will be presented to the LCRP Steering committee in September.



of Syrian refugees over 15 hold legal residency.



FUNDING 27% 37% 144m funded 60m 610 m received Protection Food Security 2.2 b required

INNOVATION



Designing User-centred Interventions in Lebanon

Over the past few months the Social Stability and Water sectors have run a series of human-centred design workshops across Lebanon with Syrian and Lebanese participants.

During these two-day workshops, participants have developed ideas for community-based solutions to solid waste management problems, a key environmental challenge of national scale.

Eight of the best ideas were given the opportunity to pitch their pilots to a panel of experts and three winning teams walked away with a small grant and mentoring by the MENA Design Research Centre for a 2-month piloting phase. LCRP partners are excited to see what insights and successes these pilots can bring as we look to update our strategies for 2020.

USD 151 million

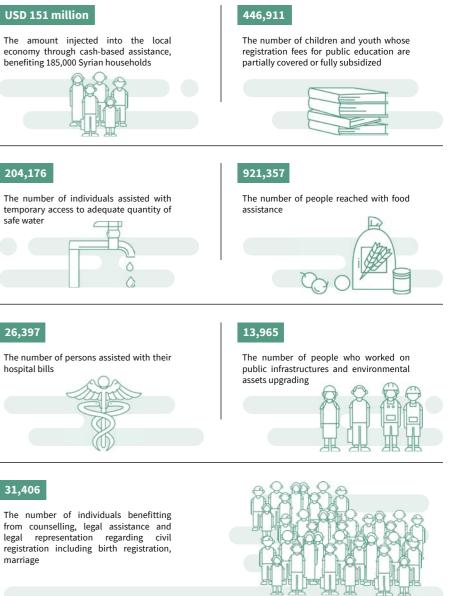


safe water

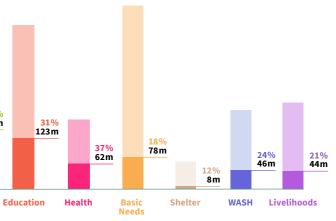


26,397

hospital bills



marriage



KEY FIGURES & ACHIEVEMENTS

11

Jordan

The Jordanian Government continues to provide strong leadership for the Jordan Response Plan (JRP) managed through twelve task forces, led by line ministries. Engagement with the Government in 2019 has been positive. The Government is working towards the simplification of the JRP project-approval process, with the support of stakeholders, particularly in relation to documentation and also in respect of procedures (simplifying the process with line ministries involved).

The Syrian refugee population in Jordan remains stable. Despite the opening of the border crossing between Syrian and Jordan in October 2018, only two percent of Syrian refugees have returned to their home country. This emphasises the need for continued support for the refugee response in host countries, where the humanitarian needs remain great.

There is a great need for further support in the area of livelihoods. Some 305,000 Syrian refugees of working age (18-59) are registered with UNHCR Jordan. However only 146,180 work permits have been issued through the Jordan Compact since 2016 (including renewals); and only six per cent of these have been issued to women (MoL, June 2019).

There have been significant developments in In 2019, UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP have also

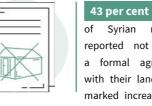
the area of health. Changes to Government regulations in February 2018 meant that Syrian refugees were no longer able to access the noninsured Jordanian rate for health and should thus pay 80 per cent of the "foreigner rate." This amounted to a two-five-fold increase in costs. However, in April 2019, the Government announced the rollback on this policy meaning that Syrian refugees could once again access subsidized healthcare.

The Government also exempted Syrian refugees from the cost of antenatal care, family planning, postnatal care and vaccinations provided by the Ministry of Health (MoH). A multi donor trust fund has been set up to assist the Ministry of Health to cover costs.

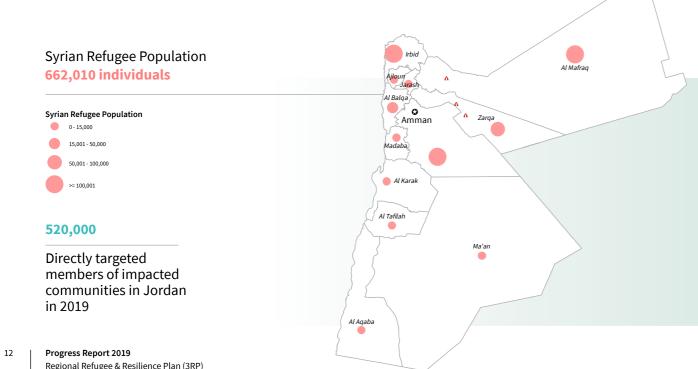
The 2019 Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) for Jordan was launched in April 2019 as a collaboration between UNHCR, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Action Contre La Faim (ACF). With five years of data, it provides a view of the refugee situation over time - and gives evidence of the scope and depth of vulnerabilities that Syrian refugees face in Jordan. The VAF allows agencies to target assistance in a more efficient and equitable manner, based on the application of common vulnerability criteria.

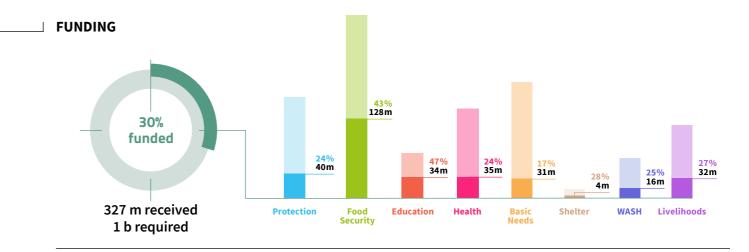
signed a Joint Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment (JCVA) Agreement following a request from the Government to harmonize needs assessment in the JRP. The JCVA will cover both Jordanian and non-Jordanian households and it will help the International community and the Government work together in identifying and addressing needs, as well as and prioritizing in a more comprehensive manner.

This is indicative of the need to shift towards the inclusion of refugees of all nationalities in programming and the harmonization of assistance therein. The support of donors in providing unearmarked funding will be instrumental in the implementation of such a harmonized approach.



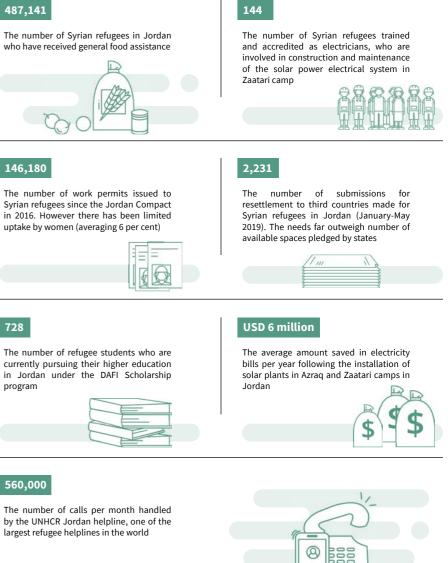
of Syrian refugees reported not having a formal agreement with their landlord, a marked increase from 25 per cent in 2017.





INNOVATION





560,000



146.180

Designing user-centred interventions in Jordan

To identify and implement new technologies relating to water conservation, reuse, wastewater, climate change mitigation and public health issues, a cooperation agreement was signed between UNICEF and two universities (Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) and the Hashemite University), the leading science and technology universities in the country, to establish a "WASH Innovation Hub" within the university.

A Design Thinking Workshop and a

Hackathon were conducted in the second quarter of 2019, kick starting a flurry of

innovative ideas from students addressing climate and water scarcity challenges.

KEY FIGURES & ACHIEVEMENTS

Iraq

Despite the challenging political climate, the protection environment in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, where 99 per cent of the Syrian refugees in Iraq reside, remains favourable. Refugees continue to be assisted with registration and legal assistance, including support for the issuance of residency permits. The absence of a legal framework for refugee protection, however, continues to preclude longer-term residency rights to remain and other legal benefits for Syrian refugees.

Livelihoods opportunities of refugees and host communities are negatively affected by the dire economic situation. Access to jobs, healthcare, basic necessities, and adequate shelter remain challenging, mainly for refugee families living outside camps. Livelihoods actors continue to engage in supply-side strategies, such as vocational, entrepreneurship training and cash-for-work, to ensure market linkages.

Lack of access to sustainable long-term employment, diminishing resources and reduced humanitarian assistance, results in increased risk of negative coping mechanisms such as child labour, child marriage, domestic violence and survival sex.

Child Protection and GBV partners continue to provide specialized services, case management, awareness raising and

Syrian Refugee Population

252,983 individuals

Svrian Refugee Population

0 - 10,000

10,001 - 50,000

50,001 - 100,000

100,001 - 250,000

158,110

in 2019

Directly targeted

members of impacted

communities in Iraq

structured psychosocial support programs, with a strong focus on community capacity building targeting community based structure members, government officials and local NGO staff

Improved targeting methods for multi-purpose cash and food assistance are now in place. Multi-purpose cash assistance is provided up to twelve months. Meanwhile, the modality used for food assistance has transitioned to unrestricted cash through Mobile Money Transfers in all refugee camps.

WASH and Shelter actors are focused on the sustainability of interventions by strengthening the self-reliance of host and refugee communities for care and maintenance activities, capacity building of government directorates and solution-oriented initiatives such as upgrading to permanent shelters, installation of solar lighting and water pumps, and assessing feasibility of integrating camps into surrounding neighborhoods.

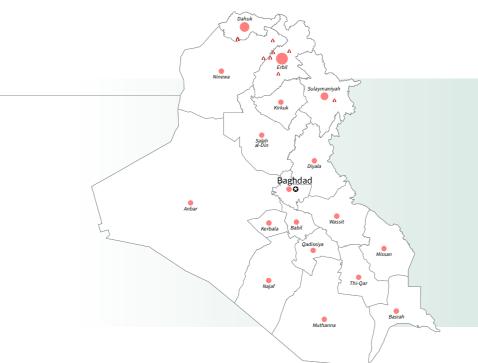
The protracted presence of Syrian refugees in Iraq continues to stretch existing public services, that were already suffering from limited funding. In response, Health Sector partners are supporting health services to ensure free access of Syrian refugees to primary and secondary health services, either

centers supported by UN agencies or through public health facilities run by the Directorates of Health. Meanwhile, Education partners are promoting school attendance through cash assistance and provision of teaching and learning materials, but financial incentives for refugee school teachers remain a critical area of concern where more funding is needed. More needs to be done in terms of harmonization of assistance for refugees of all nationalities, something that requires increased advocacy from the humanitarian community and more flexible funding from donors, which is not earmarked to one population group in particular. Resettlement opportunities and alternative pathways also remain limited and Iraq has not experienced any large-scale return movements during the first six months of 2019.

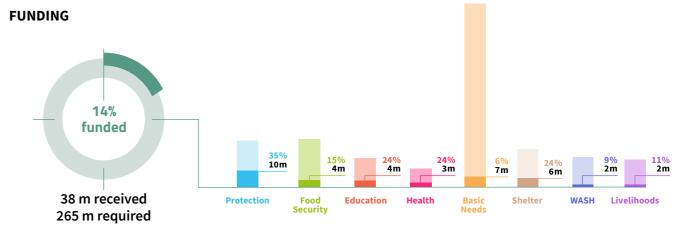
through camp-based primary health care

As well as hosting over 250,000 Syrian refugees, Iraq continues to manage a huge internal displacement situation with over 1.6 million Iragi internally displaced persons (IDPs) as well as 4.3 million recent IDP returnees.









INNOVATION



MPCA targeting

In 2019, the Basic Needs Sector in Iraq is redefining the analysis of multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) provision, focusing not only on immediate impact of assistance on basic needs but also overall well-being of the households.

Investments have been made to improve the MPCA targeting framework through tridimensional vulnerability measurement (risk, coping capacity and well-being), also using a food security index.

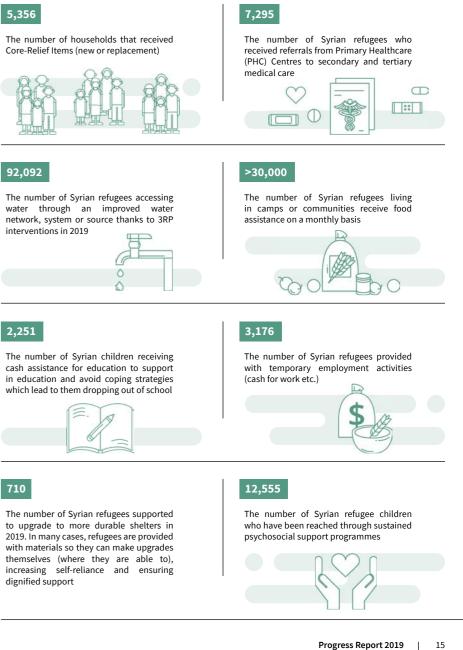
Assistance is provided for selected refugees for up to 12 months and the amount of assistance is based on difference between the minimum expenditure basket and income

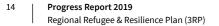
KEY FIGURES & ACHIEVEMENTS





interventions in 2019





Egypt

The Arab Republic of Egypt continues to generously host Syrian refugees. As of 30 June 2019, a total of 249,449 refugees and asylumseekers are registered with UNHCR in Egypt. Some 53 per cent of these are Syrian refugees, followed by refugees and asylum-seekers from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq and Yemen.

While the protection environment remains generally conducive, vulnerability levels of Syrian refugees in Egypt remain high. Reports from the participatory assessment as well as results of the Egypt Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR) showed high vulnerability levels of refugees. According to analysis derived from the 2018 baseline survey data, 88 per cent of refugees are severely or highly vulnerable.

As of June 2019, 2,076 Syrian refugee women, men and children benefited from multisectoral case management, including legal referrals and assistance to SGBV survivors. In addition, 1,353 Syrian refugees were submitted for resettlement to third countries, while only 625 refugees were actually resettled. Throughout 2019, 3RP partners will continue advocacy for resettlement while providing Syrian refugees in Egypt with legal assistance, protection of refugee children, adolescents and youth as well as immediate interventions to SGBV survivors.

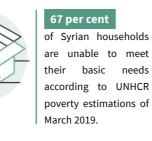
In the first half of 2019, a total of 10,853 Syrian households (48,690 individuals) were assisted with unconditional cash grants based on protection and socio-economic criteria. Urgent funding is needed to continue provision of MPCA and winter assistance to Syrian refugees. Lack of CBI funds may compel vulnerable refugee families to resort to negative coping mechanisms in order to meet their basic needs.

As of June 2019, 3RP partners provided 10,136 Syrian refugee women, men and children with curative and preventive primary healthcare consultations. Moreover, 3RP partners supported the Ministry of Health and Population in Egypt (MoHP) in its Polio National Immunization Days campaign (NIDs) targeting 16 million Egyptian and refugee children, with more than 11,000 non-Egyptians reached and an overall coverage rate close to 100 per cent. While maintaining quality health system in impacted areas remains challenging due to shortage of funds, 3RP partners will prioritize interventions for life saving cases, emergencies, child survival and persons with disabilities and chronic diseases.

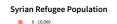
During the first half of 2019, partners in the Education sector were able to retain and support 44,784 Syrian refugee boys and girls (3-17 years) enrolled in public, private and non-

formal education institutions across Egypt. While the teaching capacity of 483 teachers was improved, 1,527 Syrian refugee children received textbooks, learning materials and school bags. Funding of the education sector is of pivotal importance to continue improving capacity of the Education system in Egypt and to provide education grants for Syrian refugee children in basic and secondary education.

With WFP and UNHCR joint efforts, up to 89,000 targeted vulnerable refugees from Syria are being supported through relief and livelihood activities. General food assistance is also provided to over 77,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees on a monthly basis. As of May 2019, WFP Egypt started to implement the "One Refugee Policy" by using agreed upon vulnerability assessment criteria in collaboration with UNHCR to include all vulnerable refugees living in Egypt regardless of their nationality.



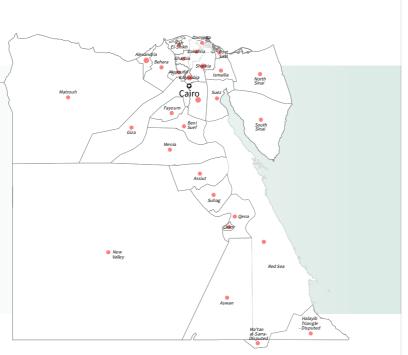


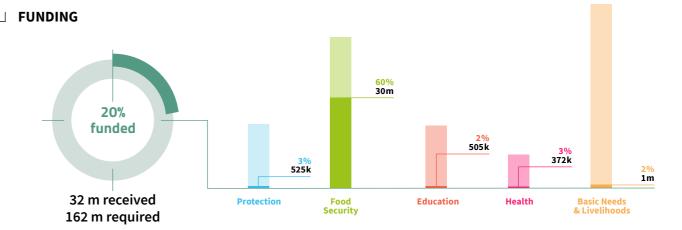


10,001 - 50,000
50,001 - 100,00
>= 100,001

506,000

Directly targeted members of impacted communities in Egypt in 2019





INNOVATION



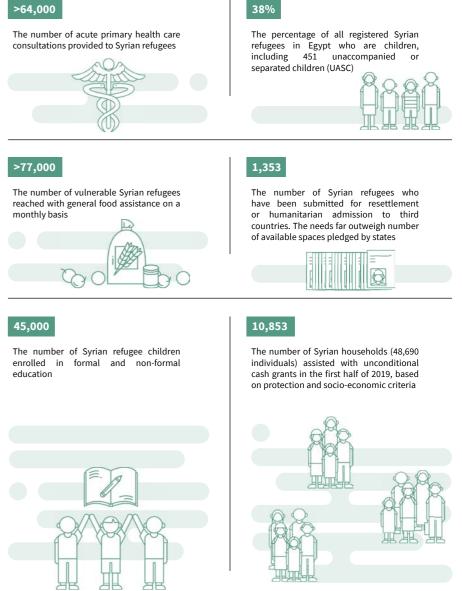
Community Kitchen

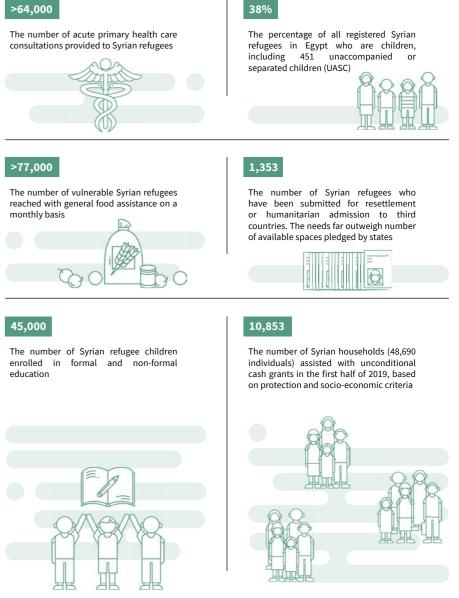
UNHCR has mobilized a public private partnership (PPP) in which a kitchen within the premises of the National Council for Women (NCW) was renovated and equipped to host refugee and Egyptian women. Mumm (an innovative marketing platform for homemade food) was contracted to develop a business model and management structure through which the kitchen can operate as a production and training facility.

The kitchen was delivered formally to the NCW management by end of 2018 and is being operationalized in 2019. The project was partially funded through the Safe from Start package to mainstream SGBV in Livelihoods

>64,000







KEY FIGURES & ACHIEVEMENTS

17

Thriving, **Not Just Surviving**

Soap-making brings fresh start to grieving Syrian mother

In December 2011, Najwa's 16-year-old son Mahmoud was shot and killed in Daraa, during the early stages of the Syrian conflict. After shelling destroyed their home, there was nothing left for Najwa's family in Syria and they crossed the border into Jordan. Grief stricken in an unfamiliar city, Najwa was struggling until she heard about the Zarqa Life Centre, offering psychosocial support to vulnerable women.

Najwa had recently started making soap and the centre gave her the encouragement and financial support to start a small business. From a small initial donation, today Najwa has built up a soap making business that provides her and four other women (two Syrian, two Jordanian) with a vital income, and which recently began exporting its first orders to China.

Of the 670,000 registered Syrian refugees in Jordan, more than half of whom are women.

In recent years, the Jordanian Government has taken important steps to improve access to the job market for Syrian refugees. The Ministry of Labour (MoL) has issued over 146,000 work permits for Syrian refugees since 2016, in the construction, agricultural, manufacturing and food and food processing sectors. Additionally, in November 2018, MoL allowed Syrian refugees in Jordan to establish their own home-based businesses, in food processing, tailoring, and handicrafts. Nonetheless, livelihood opportunities remain limited for many, especially for women.

"I feel that this is a real achievement and a miracle," said Najwa, brimming with newfound confidence. "Now we have women who are improving their futures and helping their families, while also developing their personalities." "I see myself as a strong woman. I passed through hard times, but I was stronger than these difficulties."





Flowing Water for a Better Life

long alley in Mazboud. Nothing but half a wall separates it from her neighbors' houses. On the weekends, Thuraya transforms her home into a make-shift classroom for the neighborhood children, both Lebanese and Syrian, to attend catch-up classes.

"We had a lot of water-related problems in the neighborhood. Some people suffered, others didn't," Thuraya tells us briefly and cautiously, as the scarce water supply has previously been a point of tension between the villagers. For Thuraya, the scarcity allowed her to only accommodate a limited number of students even though she would have liked to welcome more.

Mazboud, considered one of the most densely populated villages in the Mount Lebanon Governorate, is inhabited by more than 4,300 people. Since the beginning of the Syrian crisis,

Thuraya's home is located at the end of a the town opened its houses to thousands of refugees, raising the number of people benefitting from basic services by almost 30%.

> Identified as a priority by the people of Mazboud, UNDP built a new water well and a water treatment room. The well now supplies 850 homes, including Thuraya's. Previously, she had to make do with four hours of water per week and still had to purchase more water as it was not sufficient for her and her students' needs. Today, the new well provides water for 10 hours per day.

> "Thank God!" said Thuraya, "we do not need to buy water anymore now". As a single working mother, Thuraya does not worry about her water supply anymore. She is now able to use the money she previously spent on water to accommodate more students and buy them the school supplies they need.

"We are not just poor victims who need assistance and mercy"

Meet Muslim (middle), a 26 years old Syrian refugee from Kobani. After high school he enrolled in the College for Electric Engineering in Aleppo, but had to flee the conflict before attending a single class. Four years passed in Erbil, where he worked himself up to team leader in a construction company, but Muslim decided it was time to chase his dreams.

He was selected for the DAFI scholarship program to study at the Mechanics Department of the College of Engineers in Erbil. When he arrived in KR-I, Muslim could not speak a word of English, today he is in his last year of university, doing an internship at Hyundai, is the president of a local book club and is a partner in a coffee bar run by his brother.

How the humanitarian community help to show that refugees can be an asset and contribute to host communities? Muslim says it's all about awareness. Through his activities, Muslim has been contributing to the social fabric and cohesion of Erbil. But still there is a disconnection between how society sees refugees and how Muslim has thrived as a refugee in Erbil. "Through the years, I have seen Syrian refugees contributing to the growth of economy and resilience of society in KR-I by establishing businesses and working." "We are not just poor victims who need assistance and mercy.

PHOTO: Muslim (middle) with his brother (left) and a business partner (right) in the bar his brother is running.



Bashir comes from a family of sweet makers, and since the 1980s his father's shop in Damascus had been among the "top 20 dessert shops in Syria," he says.

However, in 2012, the war in Syria forced Bashir and his family to flee. When they first arrived in Cairo, the Bashirs believed the situation back home would stabilize in a matter of weeks or months

"When we left Syria we did not plan to open a shop here, but after a while it was clear that we had to work," he says. It was hard to rebuild the business from scratch. The family lacked capital and had to learn how to adapt what they made to Egyptian tastes.



"We had to develop our work, buy Egyptian equipment and consult with Egyptian chefs," Bashir says. The result was "Sweets of Damascus", which opened in October 2013 in the city of Giza, close to the capital Cairo. After this turned out to be a success, the family opened a second sweet shop.

Although the asylum environment in Egypt is generally conducive, refugees' ability to access the formal job market is limited, sending many to navigate the challenges of establishing their own start-ups. In order to help them overcome some of these obstacles, 3RP partners provide eligible refugees and asylum-seekers with training, job placement and micro-grants for start-

Although Bashir has tasted success in his adopted country, he still longs to go home. "Seeking asylum was not a choice for us," he said. "No matter how much we work here, we have a country to return to. The moment the war ends, we will return."

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