

Regional winterization progress report

Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt / September 2018

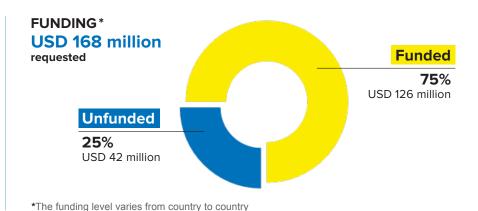
This upcoming winter, UNHCR aims to provide live-saving winterization assistance to 3.4 million vulnerable Syrian and Iraqi internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt.

USD 168 million is needed to ensure that life-saving winterization assistance is in place before freezing temperatures grip the region.
UNHCR winterization programme covers the period from September 2018 to March 2019.

Distribution of winterization assistance has already started in Syria. In the rest of the countries, identification of beneficiaries, procurement of winter items and engineering work in camps and settlements are ongoing.

3.4 million Syrian and Iraqi IDPs and refugees assessed to be in need of winterization assistance.

68% of the winter assistance will be delivered in the form of cash directly to IDPs and refugees.



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People of Tal Al Daman village in Aleppo (Syria) receiving winter core relief items distributed by UNHCR and partners. September 2018 ©UNHCR/AChnkdji



UNHCR's winterization strategy focuses on three broad areas of intervention:



Winterization of shelter including shelter weather-proofing and repairs, and improvements to drainage systems and other infrastructure in camps and informal settlements.



Provision of seasonal cash assistance for vulnerable families to meet their additional needs during the winter months.

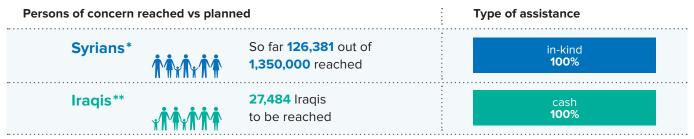


Provision of core relief items specific to winter such as high thermal blankets, plastic sheets, heaters and gas cylinders, and winter clothes.

The winterization programme is implemented through UNHCR's own staff, government agencies, partners, and community outreach volunteers in coordination with the broader inter-agency response platforms.

Country Updates

SYRIA



^{*}Includes Syrian IDPs planned to be reached by UNHCR operations inside Syria and through cross-border operation from Turkey

- UNHCR began its 2018-2019 winterization programme in Syria on 1 September. As of 30 September, 126,381 individuals (25,305 families) received core relief items specific to winter such as high thermal blankets, extra plastic sheeting, and winter clothes kits in six governorates Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Rural Damascus, and Tartous. UNHCR is also providing supplementary winter items such sleeping bags and winter jackets to Syrians living in sub-standard shelters. UNHCR Syria aims to reach 1.25 million IDPs, returnees, host communities and affected population across the country this upcoming winter.
- Assistance is being prioritized for newly displaced vulnerable families (including people displaced multiple times), people living in hard-to-reach areas and in sub-standard shelters, spontaneous and self-organized returnees, as well as people in newly accessible locations who have not been assisted in the past. A contingency stock of 35,000 kits will be maintained throughout the country for emergency response in case of a sudden displacement. The distribution of winterization assistance for 27,500 refugees and asylum-seekers from Iraq and other countries (8,400 families) will start from November.
- For cross-border assistance from Gaziantep (Turkey), UNHCR aims to provide winterized CRI kits for 100,000 Syrian IDPs (20,000 families), targeting locations in most need and beneficiaries identified by agreed vulnerability criteria as determined by a Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI) needs assessment in north-west Syria. The distribution is planned to start in October. UNHCR will deploy a commercial third party company for on-site and post-distribution monitoring, in addition to partner post-distribution monitoring.

^{**}The figures for Iraqis include refugees of other nationalities



LEBANON



- UNHCR aims to provide winter assistance to 732,049 vulnerable Syrian refugees (146,410 families) and 8,829 Iraqi refugees and refugees of other nationalities (2,729 families). Cash assistance for winter of USD 375 per family will be provided to help families meet their needs during the winter months (calculated at a rate of USD 75 per family per month for five months). This will be complemented with shelter assistance including shelter weather-proofing and repairs, improvements to drainage systems and other infrastructure in camps and informal settlements. Beneficiaries for the shelter winter assistance are being identified based on the findings of a unified technical assessment.
- Provision of winter assistance will be coordinated by the Basic Assistance working group composed of UN agencies, NGOs and the Government. Additionally, the Lebanon One Unified Inter-organizational System for E-Cards (LOUISE) will continue to play a key role in multi-agency collaboration and coordination.

JORDAN



^{**}The figures for Iraqis include refugees of other nationalities

- UNHCR plans to reach 267,378 Syrians (69,452 families) in the refugee camps of Azraq and Zaatari and in urban areas with winter assistance in the form of cash assistance, as well as selected winter CRIs. In the camps, this is primarily in the form of one-off cash assistance for gas refills and one-time cash assistance for winter, as well as selected winter CRI provision. In urban areas, a one-off cash assistance will be provided to 158,380 Syrian refugees (45,252 families) through the Common Cash Facility (CCF). The distribution of winter assistance will begin in October. Assistance will also be provided to 22,124 Iraqi refugees and refugees of other nationalities (11,062 households), in the form of a one-off cash distribution through the CCF.
- UNHCR has already started the selection of beneficiaries and is coordinated through the interagency Winterization Task Force, which UNHCR co-chairs with the Norwegian Refugee Council, to ensure a uniform approach while avoiding duplication or overlap. Special attention is given to female-headed households, the elderly, people with disabilities, children who are alone or otherwise at risk, people with medical needs as well as survivors of violence or torture.



IRAQ



• UNHCR aims to assist some 656,100 IDPs (109,350 families) and 228,000 Syrian refugees (45,600 families) in Iraq with winterization assistance - a large part of it will be cash-based. A one-off cash assistance of USD 200 per family will be provided to IDPs living in camps and in urban areas. For Syrian refugees, USD 400 per family will be provided to both those in camps and out of camps. Winterization assistance also includes the distribution of heaters, high thermal blankets, kerosene jerry cans and plastic sheeting. The delivery of CRIs to distributions points will begin in late October, while messaging and SIM card registration for recipients of cash assistance is also in its final stages of being setting up.

Beneficiaries are identified based on vulnerability assessments conducted with partners and community representatives, with priority placed on socio-economic vulnerabilities. UNHCR coordinates with Shelter and NFI clusters and the Cash Working Group, to maximize UNHCR's ability to deliver winterization support to IDPs.

EGYPT



• UNHCR plans to provide 94,400 Syrian refugees (23,600 families) and 1,200 Iraqi refugees (375 families) with one-off cash assistance of USD 34 per person. With the support of UN agencies, UNHCR seeks to increase this amount to USD 56 to compensate effects of the recent inflation and rising fuel and electricity costs. Beneficiaries of the winterization grant consist of those who are: 1) registered with UNHCR and cannot meet their basic domestic needs; and 2) identified by either partners or UNHCR Egypt Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR) as vulnerable cases. The assistance will be distributed through Egypt Post offices beginning in November, and will be primarily concentrated in the three governorates of Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta where the majority of refugees live.

Donors: UNHCR is grateful to the donors who have contributed to the winterization programme for the Syrian and Iraqi IDPs and refugees with unearmarked and earmarked funds as well as those who have contributed directly to the operations.

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