



SYRIAN REFUGEES

INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL UPDATE

20 November 2014

KEY FIGURES

3.2 million

Syrian refugees have fled to neighbouring countries and North Africa

1.9 million

Refugees and vulnerable members of impacted communities are receiving food assistance in 2014

1.3 million

People have been provided with access to safe drinking water in 2014

870,000

People have benefited from shelter assistance in camp and non-camp settings in 2014

829,000

People have benefited from the distribution of basic household and core relief items in 2014

FUNDING

USD 3.7 billion

requested for the situation

Gap
49%



Funded
51%

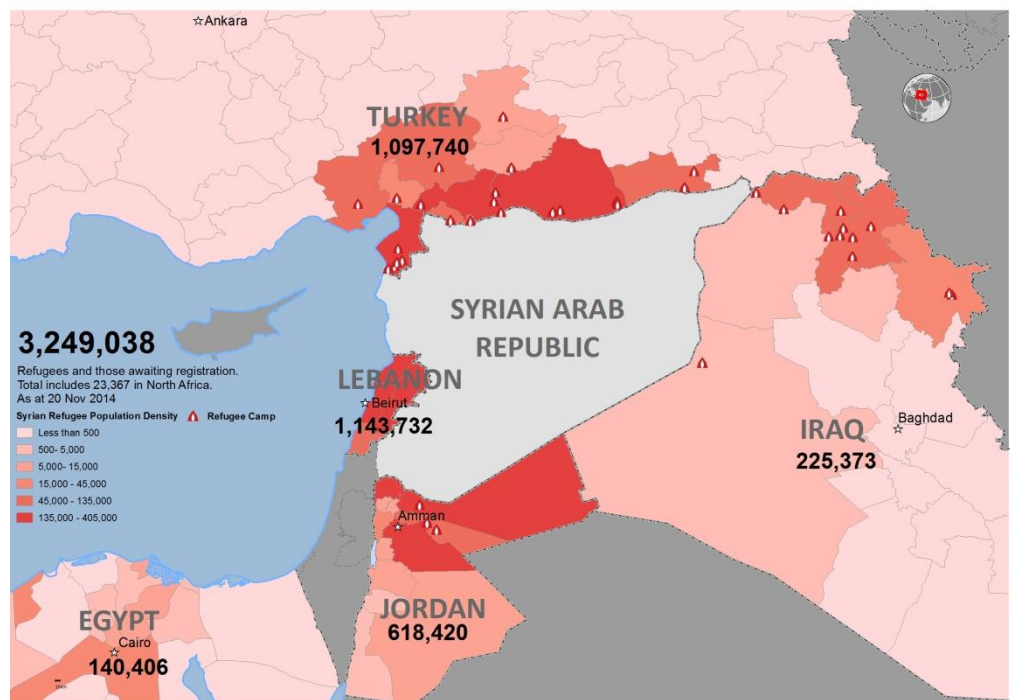
PRIORITIES

- 2015-2016 planning
- Winterization for 1.5 million vulnerable refugees including the distribution/ replacement of winter relief items, upgrades to shelter and seasonal cash allowances

HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of new arrivals from Syria to Jordan has significantly decreased since 25 September, with no entries through informal border crossings registered by UNHCR since 1 November. Between 3,000 and 4,000 Syrian refugees are reportedly camped at the berm near the border at Rukban and Hadalat in north-eastern Jordan. UNHCR continues to advocate with authorities for access to the territory.
- Efforts are underway across the region to assist displaced populations in preparing for the coming winter. Snow and freezing temperatures are common in many parts of the region, including mountainous areas of Lebanon and the Kurdistan Region (KR-I) in northern Iraq. The winter programme includes shelter upgrades to ensure that sub-standard shelters are reinforced against the elements, and provision of items such as high-thermal blankets, stoves and fuel.
- Turkish authorities report that 192,411 Syrian refugees have entered Turkey since fighting broke out in Kobani on 19 September, of whom some 14,552 people have travelled onwards to the KR-I. Humanitarian partners are working with Government authorities in Turkey and the KR-I to assist new arrivals with shelter, food, core relief items and protection services.

A total of **3.2 million** people of concern



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

As insecurity and violence continue to cause displacement within Syria and across the region, more than 90,000 Syrians have been registered on average each month this year in countries in the regional refugee response.

Humanitarian needs remain enormous. Government services and local communal services are under strain due to the increased demand, impacting service quality for both refugees and nationals, and threatening social cohesion.

Further, since 19 September, more than 190,000 Syrians from Kobani have fled to Turkey since the ISIS group launched an offensive to capture the border city in September. Of these, close to 15,000 refugees have continued on to Iraq's Kurdistan Region (KR-I). Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) estimates that the number of Syrians in Turkey has exceeded 1.6 million people, of whom 220,928 are currently living in 22 camps across the south of Turkey; 34,792 Syrian children have been born in Turkish refugee camps.

The arrival of Syrian refugees into Jordan fell markedly in early October. The Government of Jordan continues to extend protection to Syrian refugees within the country, but is increasingly concerned of the potential security implications of the crises in neighbouring Iraq and Syria.

In the region, some 400,000 refugees are accommodated in refugee camps. Outside of camps, it is estimated that 38 per cent live in sub-standard shelter. With the forthcoming winter, the provision of winterization assistance to the most vulnerable is an ongoing concern for humanitarian and government actors.

Over 150 agencies and aid groups, together with the governments of neighbouring countries, are working together to protect Syrian refugees and assist them with meeting their basic needs, improve access to education and medical care, and provide basic goods such as tents, food and safe WASH facilities.

Monthly sectoral dashboards are published on the [Syria Regional Response Data Portal](#), detailing sectoral priorities, achievements and needs by country and regionally.

Humanitarian partners project budgetary requirements of USD 3.74 billion for 2014, which remains 49 per cent unfunded. Donors have contributed more than USD 4 billion to successive regional response plans since 2012. However, despite significant achievements, very important gaps remain in meeting the basic needs of vulnerable refugees, especially with the onset of harsh winter conditions.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS



Protection

LEBANON

- More than 75 per cent of the registered Syrian refugee population of 1.1 million in Lebanon is women and children. On average, 130 Syrian refugee women and girls each day visit a network of some 70 centres and spaces established across Lebanon to safely seek support. The system provides women and girls with medical, emotional and individual counseling, legal services and information about a range of other services. The centres also provide an opportunity for visitors to network with their peers and increase their knowledge about SGBV. Child care is also offered in each facility.
- More than 25,683 women and girls have received dignity kits in 2014. The kits ensure that women and girls have basic hygiene materials, clothing, and protection items that allow them to comfortably continue with their daily activities. Recipients are also informed on a variety of available services provided by humanitarian partners.
- In October 2014, the Ministry of Social Affairs launched its National Plan to safeguard children and women in Lebanon. The plan supports 57 selected Social Development Centres, out of which eight are already operational to provide psychosocial support services through child and adolescent friendly services and safe spaces for women and girls. Services include life skills education, assistance to survivors, and information on how to access basic and specialized services including health, education and protection.

TURKEY

- Turkish authorities report that the total number of Syrian refugees who entered Turkey since the siege of Kobani has reached 192,411. Registration is required for Syrian refugees to access assistance and services, including health care and core relief items. To this end, resources from pre-registration have been reallocated to biometric registration to increase the rate of full registration. Syrian refugees receive their ID cards in two to three days, or sooner for prioritized vulnerable cases. As of 13 November, the cumulative number of biometrically registered Syrian refugees is 36,462 people.
- UNHCR and partners continue to offer a range of assistance at community centres throughout Turkey for the vast majority of Syrian refugees who live outside of the camps. Services offered address protection, basic needs, support for education, health, psychosocial support and livelihoods needs. Community centres also provide children-specific activities, language courses and information on public services to which refugees are eligible for under Turkey's temporary protection regime. UNHCR plans to further expand the presence of community centers throughout the country in 2015 within the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) framework.
- Through its regular capacity building support, UNHCR has organized training sessions to a second group of Turkey's Directorate General for Migration Management staff on various topics including principles of international protection, international human rights and humanitarian law, 1951 Geneva Convention, refugee status determination, interview techniques, RSD and appeal procedures under the Law on Foreigners and International Protection LFIP, country of origin information and research, and access to rights and services by persons of concern.

JORDAN

- There has been a significant drop in the number of individuals transported from the border to Raba Al Sarhan registration centre since 25 September, along with a decrease in the proportion of those admitted into Jordan as refugees. While 5,994 individuals were registered at Raba Al Sarhan in September, the number dropped to 445 individuals in October. Between 3,000 and 4,000 Syrian refugees are reportedly camped at the berm near the border at Rukban and Hadalat in north-eastern Jordan. UNHCR has undertaken numerous initiatives in an effort to increase access for Syrian refugees to Jordan. Meals and water are being provided by IOM and ICRC at the border in conjunction with Jordanian border guards. UNHCR has supplied 10,000 blankets for refugees along the border. With the weather conditions worsening, people face increasing health and hygiene risks as they are being accommodated in inadequate shelters.
- The number of refugee families benefitting from UNHCR unconditional monthly cash assistance increased slightly in October, reaching 20,492 families (82,502 individuals) with an average of USD 130 per family, compared to 20,273 refugee families (81,580 individuals) in September. Nonetheless, the number of refugee families eligible for cash assistance on the waiting list remains significant at 7,800 families and continues to grow. All Syrian families registered with UNHCR are visited by International Relief and Development (IRD) volunteers to assess their eligibility for assistance. The inclusion of additional beneficiaries depends on the availability of funds.
- With the strain on coping mechanisms in urban environment, winter approaching and increasing restrictions on bail-outs, there has been a rise in the number of refugees returning/being returned to Zaatari camp.
- CARE's community centres in Azraq camp serve as hubs of social services for Syrian refugees. More than 170 men, women and children come to the centre every day to take part in psychosocial or recreational activities. Since the camp was opened more than 7,000 children have taken part in CARE's psychosocial and recreational activities, funded by UNHCR.
- Despite an overall decrease in the number of refugees arriving to Jordan in 2014, UNICEF has noted an increase in the number of Syrian unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) entering Jordan as compared to 2013. The reunification rate of separated and unaccompanied children with their families has increased from 63 per cent last year to 89 per cent, showing improvements in the response to UASC.

IRAQ

- Following UNHCR advocacy, the Asayish (KRG intelligence and security) has started to legalize the stay of Syrians who have crossed to KR-I via the Peshkabout border but have not been registered. UNHCR is identifying cases and is referring them to the Domiz Registration Centre to pursue the legalization of their status in the KR-I.

- UNHCR has identified and assisted 588 vulnerable cases amongst newly arriving refugees at the Ibrahim Khalil border point between Turkey and the KR-I. Vulnerabilities include female headed households, those with serious medical conditions, the elderly, pregnant women and unaccompanied and/or separated children.
- UNICEF, in co-operation with its partners, provided psychosocial services to a total of 5,653 children in Duhok, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah governorates. In total, 480 children (152 girls and 328 boys) received specialized services from frontline workers. Cases referred included children with psychosocial disorders, cases of early marriage, child labor, physical abuse and gender-based violence.

Education

JORDAN

- In early October, over 200 youth in Zaatari camp graduated from the fourth cohort of NRC's Youth Training Centre. The Centre provides young people with three-month continuing education courses including in tailoring, electrical wiring and the only certified information technology course in the camps.
- The "Back to School" campaign, led by Save the Children with UNICEF support, reached over 100,000 people in camps and host communities through door-to-door visits, helpdesks, registration centres and community outreach events to encourage families to enroll their children in school. Enrolment records in the camps show an increase compared to last year, with nearly 19,500 students attending school in Zaatari, Azraq camp and the Emirati Jordanian Camp in September 2014. Temporary learning spaces were set up in Zaatari to reduce overcrowding and UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Education to recruit and train additional teachers. Textbooks and school supplies were distributed to all children in the camps.

IRAQ

- The new academic year started on 22 October across the country except in Duhok governorate, where the start of the new academic year has been postponed to 1 December as internally displaced Iraqis are still seeking shelter in schools. 8,313 Syrian students living in camps are attending schools between grades 1-9 in Duhok governorate.
- The Kurdistan Regional Government announced that starting in December, it will not be able to pay refugee teachers' salaries, due to non-receipt of money from the central Government of Iraq. The majority of the affected teachers work in Duhok, with some in Erbil and a smaller number in Sulaymaniyah.

Shelter and NFIs

TURKEY

- AFAD estimates that between 40,000 and 60,000 Syrian refugees are living in Suruç town and surrounding villages. An additional 30 tents have been set up to accommodate around 900 Syrian refugees at the YIBO temporary site. UNHCR provided these families with blankets and foam mattresses. Some 950 refugees are accommodated at the Onbir Nisan Temporary Accommodation Centre.
- Construction is ongoing for a new camp in Suruç by Turkish authorities, which will have capacity for 30,000 persons and is scheduled to be finalized in two months. The new camp will provide Syrian refugees who are staying in temporary transit shelters with proper accommodation that is prepared for winter conditions. UNHCR is supporting this new camp with non-food items.
- UNHCR Turkey's winterization plan, if fully funded, will assist 300,000 refugees in host communities and some 120,000 refugees in camps. The plan includes distribution of high thermal blankets to 84,000 families and winter clothing to a targeted refugee population of 60,000 households (300,000 people) not living in the camps. The winterization programme also foresees replacement of 7,000 tents in camps, as well as the provision of 8,500 electric heaters. Winter clothing for all 530,000 refugees have been procured and delivery is expected from mid-November to mid-December. Distribution in the camps will be done by AFAD, while the distribution to refugees in local communities will be done through UNHCR partners.

JORDAN

- Humanitarian partners have been preparing for the upcoming winter season in order to reach the most vulnerable refugee families with distributions of core relief items, shelter interventions and seasonal financial assistance. The winterization response has been coordinated through the Non-food Items/Cash Assistance Working Group and Shelter Working Group to ensure complementarity of partners' interventions. In camps, the winterization response includes the distribution of gas heaters, gas refills, plastic sheeting, high thermal blankets, winter clothes, shoes, dates and vouchers to buy winter items. In urban areas, cash assistance is to be provided to 27,800 of the most vulnerable Syrian refugees to cover winter needs.
- UNICEF is procuring winter clothing kits which will be provided for children under the age of 15 at border transit points and areas of high refugee vulnerability in Jordan. UNICEF also plans to provide winter clothes to some 44,000 children under 16 years old living in the camps, in cooperation with WFP and UNHCR
- NRC's Integrated Urban Shelter Programme continues to expand in host communities in northern Jordan. To date, the project has brought onto the market an additional 2,400 housing units, providing adequate shelter and security of tenure for more than 7,800 Syrian refugees. Construction works continue on a further 1,600 housing units, with more than 6,400 Syrian refugees on the programme's waiting list. In Irbid, the programme covers 62 villages located in seven districts.

IRAQ

- Implementation of shelter assistance for the non-camp vulnerable refugees, through UNHABITAT, has reached 70 per cent completion. The project is helping 225 families with shelter improvements and repairs.
- Adequate kerosene remains a major need for all families. Procurement of kerosene is underway but UNHCR will only be able to distribute 200L per family to the camp population with currently available funds, rather than the 400L needed to cover the whole winter period.
- As part of the winterization programme, vulnerable families in all four camps in Duhok Governorate will received core relief items, targeting. 481 family kits comprised of five blankets, plastic sheet and water jerry can were distributed as of 30 October. Kerosene jerry cans and heaters are also scheduled for distribution in November.



Flooding and muddy conditions have already set in in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. UNHCR



Water and Sanitation

JORDAN

- Since September, NRC has been providing limited value vouchers (2 JOD/ approx. USD 2.8) in Zaatari camp for UNHCR-funded hygiene items for all new arrivals and referrals. Real-time monitoring reveals that some two thirds of refugees spend their vouchers on hygiene and/or cleaning items and around one third spending the vouchers on food. NRC staff have been present at the supermarkets throughout the pilot to provide technical support on the voucher scanning process and to identify any problems experienced by the recipients.
- UNICEF and partners have completed the rehabilitation of WASH facilities in 264 host community schools and has conducted hygiene promotion in all of the facilities with the Japanese Emergency NGO (JEN). Another 100 schools will receive WASH renovation works and hygiene promotion activities in the next phase of activity.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

JORDAN

- On 26 October, the Community Sport Centre in Ajloun governorate was officially inaugurated after renovation works by UNHCR and ACTED. The Community Support Project aims to strengthen social cohesion by providing learning opportunities for the entire community, and will directly benefit 500 children, including 400 Jordanians and 100 Syrian refugees. The Centre will be managed by Kafranjeh Charity Association
- UNDP Jordan conducted a socioeconomic household survey with the aim of rapidly assessing the impact of the Syrian crisis on Jordanian host communities in Irbid and Mafraq. The survey of 4,608 households was conducted from October-December 2013 and covered a wide range of issues relating to household income sources and levels, expenditures, and community priorities. Overall, 35.8 per cent of the sample households in Mafraq perceive “garbage collection (Solid Waste Management)” as the highest priority to address, which was followed by “decreasing income” (35.7%) and “provision of health services” (25.7%). In Irbid, 38.5 per cent of the sample households responded that “decreasing income” was the highest priority, which was followed by “provision of health services” (36.9%), which was listed by four sub-districts as their top priority (64.7% in Wastiyah). The third priority identified was “Finding a job” (30.3%). The survey results will feed into the design of UNDP’s “Mitigating the impact of the Syrian Refugees crisis on Jordanian Vulnerable Host Communities” programme, in particular on livelihoods, employment creation, and municipality support. The results of the survey can be viewed at:

http://www.hostcommunities-jo.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/HIES_Part1.pdf

http://www.hostcommunities-jo.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/HIES_Part2.pdf

Working in partnership

- The regional response for refugees fleeing Syria is the coordinated effort of 163 participating organizations (including 107 appealing agencies)

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FINANCIAL INFORMATION

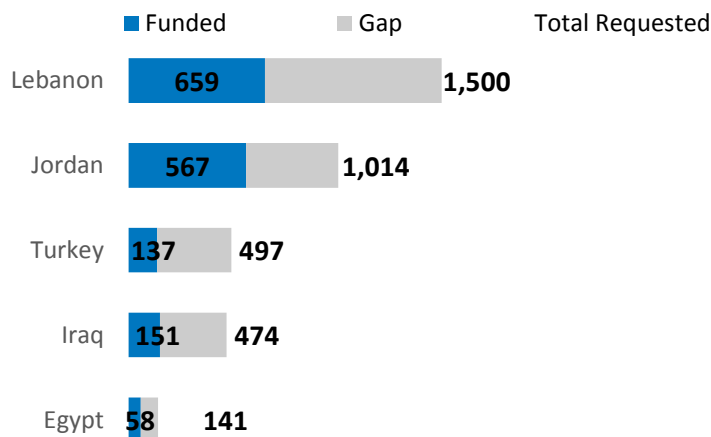
Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation.

Donors who have contributed to the Funding (in million USD)

situation:

- Algeria
- Argentina
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A total of **USD 1.9 billion*** has been funded.



**Includes USD 351 million of regionally earmarked funds that has been received and is pending allocation by country.*

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Links:

[Syria Regional Refugee Response Inter-agency Information Sharing Portal](#)
[UNHCR Syria Emergency Response](#)