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Syria's Children: A lost generation?

Crisis report March 2011-March 2013

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A Lost Generation?

As the crisis in Syria enters its third tragic year, and the daily headlines focus on military clashes and political efforts to resolve the crisis, the world must not forget the human realities at stake. The risk of losing a generation grows with every day that the situation deteriorates, while the progress made for Syrian children in previous years is undone.

All around them, their dreams and opportunities for the future are being lost. And as they lose their childhoods . . . as their right to be children is denied . . . their views of their neighbours are coloured in ways that can create future generations of self-perpetuating violence. With all that implies for the region as a whole.

Children face tremendous dangers on a daily basis. They are being killed, maimed and orphaned by conflict. Health clinics that have not been damaged or destroyed struggle to deliver life-saving services. Clean water and adequate sanitation – the most fundamental of daily necessities – are increasingly scarce.

Many schools have been damaged, destroyed or taken over by displaced people seeking shelter. Countless children suffer from the psychological trauma of seeing family members killed, of being separated from their parents and being terrified by the constant thunder of shelling. Girls and women are further vulnerable to violence.

Many have fled their country to live in refugee camps in neighbouring countries. And if all this were not enough, they are enduring a bitterly cold winter.

UNICEF and its partners are committed to keeping Syria's children from becoming a 'lost generation'. This report highlights some of the critical efforts made to minimize the impact of the crisis on children - including in life-saving areas of health, nutrition, immunization, water and sanitation, as well as investments in the future of children through education and child protection.

*Cover Photo:
Child at a funeral in Syria.
February 2012.*

UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake with Syrian children at the Za'atari refugee camp in northern Jordan, October 2012.



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But hundreds of thousands of Syrian children on the precipice need the international community at their sides, to help them through the months ahead in the face of continuing insecurity and obstacles to humanitarian access.

Across Syria, and in the neighbouring countries of Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Turkey, UNICEF is seeking new ways of reaching affected populations, working with a wide range of partners, and scaling up our activities to deliver healthcare, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and protection for all children.

To do so, UNICEF, like all our partners in the UN and beyond, requires urgent funding – or these life-saving services will be placed in jeopardy. We can only meet the growing needs if adequate resources are made available.

UNICEF also calls on all parties to the conflict, and those who have influence over them, to reaffirm the principle that children are not

responsible for conflict and should not be its first victims. They must be protected against violence at all times and allowed safe access to basic services.

Millions of children inside Syria and across the region are witnessing their past and their futures disappear amidst the rubble and destruction of this prolonged conflict. We must rescue them from the brink, for their sake and for the sake of Syria in future generations.

Anthony Lake
UNICEF Executive Director

Introduction


Two years into the conflict in Syria, children are paying the heaviest price. The affected population estimates made in late 2012 speak for themselves: of the 4 million affected people inside Syria, almost 2 million are children, and of the 2 million displaced, 800,000 are children. The current numbers are most likely much higher. Half a million child refugees are now in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. Thousands more are streaming across Syria's borders every week. Meanwhile, host communities that were already vulnerable before the crisis are overwhelmed. In short, the crisis is reaching a point of no return, with long-term consequences for Syria and the region as a whole, including the risk of a 'lost generation' of Syrian children.

In Syria, children have been exposed to grave human rights violations including killing and maiming, sexual violence, torture, arbitrary detention, recruitment and use by armed forces and groups, and exposure to explosive remnants of war.

Basic infrastructure and public services are being systematically destroyed. Families are struggling to survive in increasingly desperate conditions. One in every five schools in Syria is destroyed, damaged or converted into shelters for displaced families – disrupting schooling for hundreds of thousands of children. Water availability is a third of what it was before the crisis. Children and women in shelters are more exposed to unsanitary conditions, including unsafe drinking water and a lack of water for personal hygiene, placing them at further risk of water-borne diseases including acute respiratory infections and skin diseases such as scabies.

UNICEF and partners face a complex operational environment with increased violence, limited access, and a severe shortage of funds.

In Syria, basic infrastructure and public services have been **systematically destroyed** over the last 24 months. Families are struggling to survive in increasingly desperate conditions.



Holding a child in his arm, a Syrian man helps other members of his family cross Syria's border with Turkey - part of a growing number of civilians fleeing the conflict in the country. By early March 2013, one million Syrian refugees had been registered or were being assisted in host countries around the region.

Despite these challenges, UNICEF continues to play a key role in line with its mandate and comparative advantage in protecting children's rights and meeting their humanitarian needs. UNICEF advocates with parties to the conflict to protect children against rights violations and ensure their access to basic social services. Today, UNICEF works with a wide network of 40 partners and plans to expand this network to reach more and more children in need inside Syria, including in Dera'a, Tartous, Homs, and Al-Hassakeh, in addition to Damascus.

Over the coming months, UNICEF and partners will continue to focus on delivering life-saving interventions such as water purifying supplies for 10 million people and immunization for up to 3 million children against polio and measles through dozens of mobile clinics that will reach children all over Syria, including in areas controlled by the opposition. At the same time, we will work on ensuring access to education and providing psychosocial support to the most vulnerable children.

UNICEF works with a wide network of 40 partners and plans to expand this network to reach more and more children in need.

Across the sub-region the humanitarian situation in Jordan, Lebanon and neighbouring countries is of serious concern. Refugee flows continue to increase rapidly, with more than 7,000 Syrians fleeing the country every day. UNHCR has already registered one million Syrian refugees. In Lebanon and Jordan, planning figures initially projected for June 2013 have already been reached, placing enormous strain on existing resources. In this challenging environment, UNICEF and its partners continue to cover the essential needs of affected children by providing refugee and host communities with clean drinking water, enrolling children in learning programmes while providing psychosocial services, and supporting vaccination campaigns.

Level of need is outpacing response capacities as funding remains insufficient.

To assist as many children as possible, UNICEF appealed for more than US\$195 million to meet the humanitarian needs of children and women affected by the crisis in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt until the end of June. To date, this appeal has only been 20 per cent funded. Without immediate additional funding, UNICEF will have to halt a number of key life-saving interventions by the end of March 2013. It will also be unable to meet the basic needs of children – including vital water and sanitation services, critical measles and polio immunization campaigns, life-saving neo-natal interventions and emergency medical care. Additional resources are also urgently required to maintain children's education and protect them from violence, exploitation and other forms of abuse.

Syria Crisis

Over **2 million** children affected inside Syria

Half a million refugees are children

In Syria, **1.3 million** children vaccinated against measles

4 million people have safe water through distribution of water purifying supplies

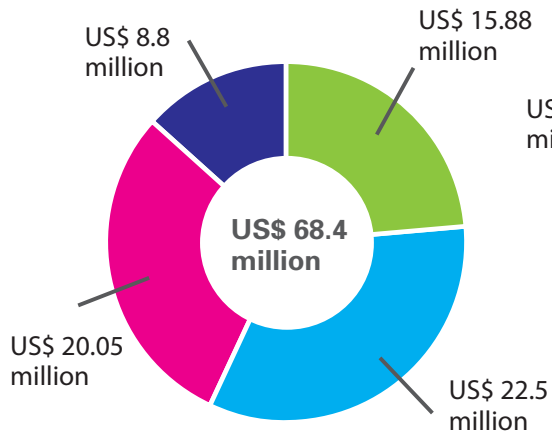
421,700 children and women provided access to essential health services

In the Sub-region **300,000+** children supported with WASH, Health, Psychosocial Support and Education

FUNDING GAPS
(through June 2013)
Syria **78 per cent**

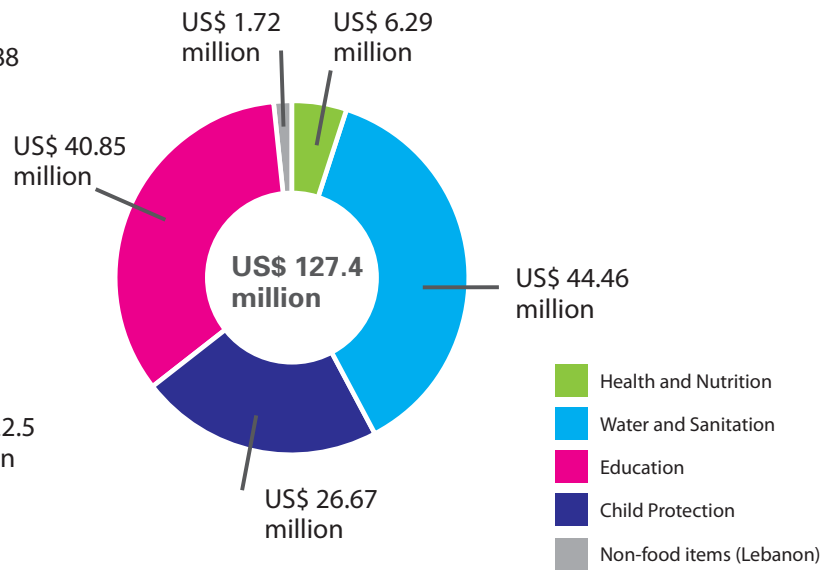
The sub region **79 per cent**

Funds required
SYRIA: US\$ 68.4m



Funds received:
SYRIA: US\$ 14.9m
(22%)

Funds required
REGION: US\$ 127.4m



Funds received:
REGION: US\$ 27.24m
(21%)

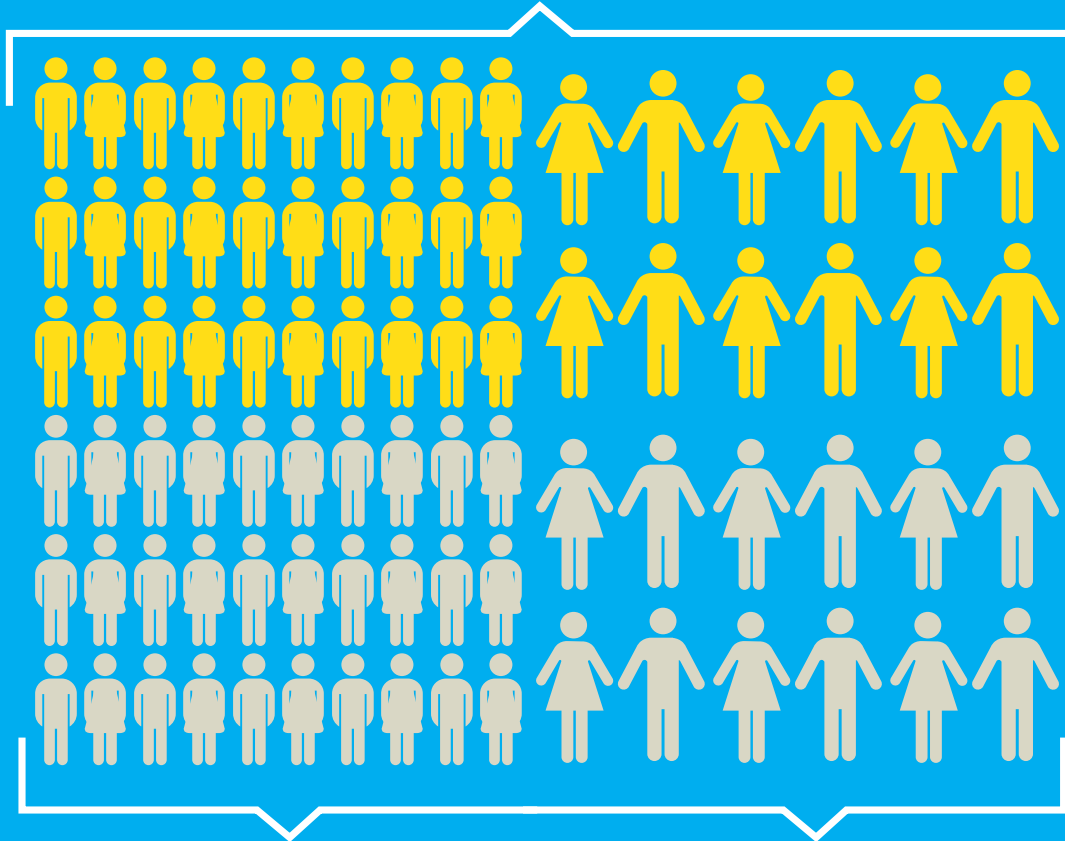


A health worker vaccinates a girl against measles during a UNICEF-supported immunization campaign at Za'atari refugee camp on Jordan's northern border with Syria. By March 2013, the camp had an estimated population of around 90,000 Syrians, at least half of them children.

Half of the affected population are **CHILDREN**

Inside Syria:

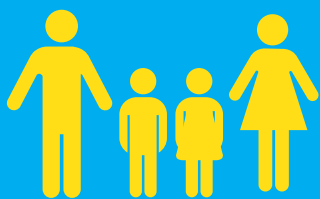
4 MILLION people affected



1.84 MILLION Syrian **CHILDREN** affected

2 MILLION Syrians displaced

Another **1 MILLION** Syrians have fled to neighbouring countries



TOTAL REFUGEES**

Jordan	324,534
Lebanon	322,297
Iraq	106,889
Turkey	185,205
Egypt	43,665
North Africa	8,262

1,000,669



TOTAL CHILD REFUGEES***

Jordan	168,762
Lebanon	172,794
Iraq	55,582
Turkey	96,307
Egypt	22,606
North Africa	4,296

520,348

* All Syria figures are latest available estimates from the Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan 3, January 2013.

** All refugee data from UNHCR, 6 March 2013. Includes registered refugees as well as those awaiting registration.

*** Child refugee estimates based on UNHCR statistics of 52% of regional refugee population under 18 years.



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Syria

In Syria, 4 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. Almost 2 million are children under 18, and 536,000 of them are children under the age of 5. There are 2 million internally displaced people inside Syria who fled their communities due to the violence.

Almost 800,000 children under 14 have been displaced and their opportunities for schooling are severely constrained. According to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 70,000 people have been killed in Syria in the past two years. The number of casualties has risen in parallel with the increased intensity and spread of the conflict.

There are serious child protection concerns for tens of thousands of children including: killing and maiming; sexual violence; torture; arbitrary detention; recruitment and use of children by armed forces and armed groups; exposure to explosive remnants of war; growing intolerance; and, a lack of access to healthcare facilities.

UNICEF has recently conducted assessments in key sectors including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, and Education. Water availability is a third of what it was before the crisis, and children face an increased risk of falling ill as a result of severe damage to the water and sanitation infrastructures. The situation is far worse in community centres sheltering thousands of internally displaced people, with in some cases, 70 people forced to share a single toilet. In education, one in every five schools in Syria is either damaged or sheltering the internally displaced, impacting hundreds of thousands of children whose schooling has been disrupted, or even halted.

As a result of continuing violence, people are still fleeing their homes every day, seeking refuge in safer locations inside Syria, mainly in overcrowded collective shelters that lack basic services. This displacement places more strain on already overstretched host communities.

Response to date

UNICEF and partners are responding to the needs of children and families affected by the crisis through nutrition and health services, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and child protection programmes. This assistance is part of the Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan.

Reaching all children in need is very difficult because of increasing violence, unpredictable humanitarian access and a significant lack of funding. Despite these challenges, UNICEF and partners have reached 1.5 million children across the country with polio vaccinations, and 1.3 million of them were also vaccinated against measles. About 30 per cent of these vaccinations were implemented across lines. UNICEF is scaling up its response in water and sanitation through the delivery of 1,000 metric tons of water treatment supplies that will provide 10 million people in Syria with clean drinking water until the end of April this year. To date, some 4 million people in Homs, Aleppo, Idlib, Damascus, Raqqa, Deir Az Zor and Hama are receiving safe water as a result. Some 32,000 children are assisted on a regular basis with psycho-social support in child friendly spaces and schools.

To reach more children in need, UNICEF is expanding its network of 40 partners. Emergency coordination in Damascus has been strengthened and work is underway to strengthen our presence in Dera'a, Tartous, Homs, and Al-Hassakeh. UNICEF is providing cross-line assistance, reaching areas controlled by the opposition. UNICEF plans to expand these activities so that more vulnerable children in Syria can be accessed from within the country. Since January 2013, UNICEF scaled-up its cross-line humanitarian response across Syria. UNICEF has also dispatched essential supplies for 175,000 people in Aleppo, Deir Az Zor, Homs, Quneitra, Latakia, Dera'a, Al-Hassakeh, Hama, A'tmeh and Idlib, including blankets, quilts, family and baby hygiene kits, children's clothes, high energy biscuits, plastic mats and tarpaulins.

Response highlights to date



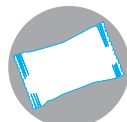
4 million people have **safe water** through the distribution of water-purifying supplies.



333,820 affected people have **soap and hygiene kits**.



421,700 children and **women** provided with access to **essential health services** with sustained coverage of preventive and curative interventions.



14,700 children under five years old reached with **multi-micronutrient supplementation**.



290,000 people reached with winterisation supplies including **blankets, baby clothes and quilts**.



32,000 children assisted with **psycho-social support**.



75,200 school-aged children enrolled in **learning programmes**.

Planned Response (January-June 2013)

- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** Continue to provide water treatment supplies for the maintenance of water systems to address drinking, cooking and personal hygiene needs, targeting **10 million** people over a three-month period.
- **Health & Nutrition:** Complete the second phase of the measles and polio immunization campaigns, coupled with Vitamin A supplementation for up to **3 million** children; support hospitals and health centres to provide neonatal care services; provide medical supplies and emergency medical care for **1 million** children across Syria including through **47** mobile medical teams.
- **Child Protection:** Provide psychosocial support for **300,000** children through Child Friendly Spaces and mobile psychosocial support units. Provide emergency mine/explosive remnants of war risk education to **500,000** children and people at risk through public information channels and teachers' training.
- **Education:** Provide **1 million** school-aged children with education supplies. Support **150,000** children with remedial classes and recreational activities. Support **200,000** children in accessing psychosocial services through school.

The limited availability of funds remains a key challenge for the implementation of operations in Syria, in addition to constraints in humanitarian access and insecurity.

Syria financial requirements (\$US)*

Sector	Funding requirements	Received to date	Unmet requirements	% Unfunded
WASH	22,500,000	7,340,000	15,160,000	67%
Health & Nutrition	15,878,800	500,000	15,378,800	97%
Child Protection	8,820,000	2,410,000	6,410,000	73%
Education	20,050,000	3,000,000	17,050,000	85%
Safety & Security	1,190,000	590,000	600,000	50%
TOTAL	68,438,800	13,840,000	54,598,800	78%

* until June 2013



Lebanon

More than 327,000 Syrian refugees receive protection and humanitarian assistance in Lebanon, including more than 122,000 waiting for registration. Planning figures initially projected for June 2013 have already been reached. These figures do not include unregistered Syrians who fled the conflict. The humanitarian community, together with the Government of Lebanon, are reviewing current targets, including the most vulnerable groups, to provide them with the assistance they need. Syrian refugees are scattered across the country, taking refuge with local host communities and in informal settlements. In addition, there are close to 30,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon and their number is likely to increase. Palestinian refugees for the most part live in existing overcrowded refugee camps in the country. The Syrian crisis has had a significant impact on security in Lebanon, primarily in Tripoli, as well as on the Lebanese economy.

Response to date

Within the framework of the Syria Regional Response Plan 4, UNICEF and partners are responding to the needs of children and communities affected by the crisis by providing water, sanitation and hygiene, education and child protection, along with nutrition and health services. The response addresses Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian children and families impacted by the conflict in Syria.

UNICEF helped vaccinate 207,000 children against measles. UNICEF is providing more than 14,300 people with safe water every day. The winter response continues with supplies delivered to 65,000 vulnerable children. Fuel delivery to 63 schools is on-going, benefiting more than 28,800 Syrian and Lebanese students. UNICEF assisted 15,700 school-aged children arriving from Syria with remedial classes and accelerated learning. Meanwhile, psychosocial support was provided to 13,700 children in January alone through group work in schools and community centres.



Syrian refugee children receive UNICEF supplies of winter clothing in the Lebanese town of Baalbek, close to the Syrian border. Warm clothes and shoes were an important part of UNICEF's interventions across the region during the harsh winter of 2012 - 2013.

Response highlights to date



14,300 people have **drinking and domestic water**.



17,000 affected children provided with **psychosocial support services**.



17,720 affected children enrolled in **schools/learning programmes**



207,000 Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian children **vaccinated against measles**.

Planned response (January-June 2013)

- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** Provide water supply and household water treatment, hand washing stations, showers, and upgraded latrines to **105,000** people, particularly those living in shelters that lack basic facilities.
- **Education:** Improve the learning environments for **35,530** students in **200** schools, through child-focused and supportive teaching practices and improving water and sanitation conditions at schools.
- **Child Protection:** Provide psychosocial services through community centre-based and mobile activities to **74,000** children. Address violence against children, including gender-based violence through community mobilization, parenting programmes and service delivery to survivors. Provide Mine Risk Education to refugees.
- **Health and Nutrition:** Conduct a vaccination campaign against measles and polio for **74,000** Syrian refugee children, complemented with Vitamin A supplementation. Establish nutrition surveillance and monitoring systems. Supplementary micronutrients will be distributed to **50,000** children aged 6–59 months and to pregnant and lactating women.

Lebanon financial requirements (\$US)*

Sector	Funding requirements	Received to date	Unmet requirements	% Unfunded
WASH	10,810,000	3,390,000	7,420,000	69%
Health & Nutrition	1,057,000	600,000	457,000	43%
Child Protection	7,766,600	2,540,000	5,226,000	67%
Education	13,830,000	6,500,000	7,330,000	53%
Non-Food-Items	1,724,280	670,000	1,054,280	61%
TOTAL	35,187,880	13,700,000	21,487,280	61%

* until June 2013



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Jordan

Jordan currently hosts close to 30 per cent of the registered refugees in the region. More than 316,000 Syrian refugees receive protection and humanitarian assistance in Jordan, including 52,000 waiting for registration. Half are children under 18 years of age and more than 1 in every 10 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR are children under the age of three. An estimated 148,000 refugees are registered in the Za’atari refugee camp, while plans are underway to open a new camp in Zarqa. Many refugees live with host communities in Amman, Ma’an and other towns. Since January, the intensification of the conflict in Syria has pushed more than 2,000 Syrians across the border each day into Jordan. February 2013 saw the largest influx of Syrian refugees since the beginning of the crisis in March 2011. Planning figures initially projected for June 2013 have already been reached. The influx of the refugees is putting an ever greater strain on the Government of Jordan, local communities and humanitarian partners, especially given limited financial resources.

Response to date

UNICEF and partners are responding to the needs of children and communities affected by the crisis by providing water, sanitation and hygiene, education, child protection activities, and nutrition and health services.

More than 174,500 people have access to drinking and domestic water, and UNICEF continues to provide essential and sustainable access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene services in Za’atari camp and host communities. UNICEF is establishing two new schools in Za’atari camp to serve 10,000 new students. The winter response continues with the delivery of supplies to vulnerable people, while 20 child friendly spaces in Za’atari camp have been winterized and more than 46,000 refugees are benefitting from winterized water and sanitation units in the camp. UNICEF and partners are distributing baby winter kits to new-borns and new arrivals up to the age of one year, consisting of winter clothing, blankets, and baby cots. An infant and young child feeding programme has been launched in Za’atari which promotes breastfeeding, complementary child feeding, one-to-one counselling and health education sessions for pregnant and lactating women.



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Workers unload a shipment of winter clothing for infants at a transit centre for Syrian refugees in northern Jordan. By March 2013, Jordan had registered 272,000 Syrian refugees, living in camps and host communities.

Response highlights to date



174,500 people provided with access to drinking and domestic water.



146,500 people have toilets and sanitation services.



34,000 school-aged children enrolled in learning programmes.



19,366 affected children provided with psychosocial support services.



142,000 children vaccinated against measles.

Planned response (January-June 2013)

- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** Provide water and sanitation services for about **100,000** refugees. Establish more sustainable water source provision and expand sanitation services to improve accessibility
- **Education:** Improve access to formal, informal and non-formal education to **40,000** children and adolescents through teacher training, textbooks and education materials.
- **Child Protection:** Provide psychosocial support for **88,000** beneficiaries and interim care for unaccompanied minors.
- **Health and Nutrition:** Conduct a vaccination campaign against measles and polio, and provide vitamin A supplements provision in both camps and host communities for **77,600** Syrian children under 15. Provide supplementary feeding for **17,340** children and mothers.

Jordan financial requirements (\$US)*

Sector	Funding requirements	Received to date	Unmet requirements	% Unfunded
WASH	24,353,298	2,090,000	22,263,298	91%
Health & Nutrition	3,687,884	370,000	3,317,884	90%
Child Protection	11,194,935	370,000	10,824,935	97%
Education	17,763,883	80,000	17,683,883	99.5%
Non-Food-Items	1,724,280	0	1,724,280	100%
TOTAL	58,724,280	2,910,000	55,814,280	95%

* until June 2013



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Iraq

The crisis in Syria is having a major impact on Iraq with more than 105,000 registered Syrian refugees now living in the country. Planning figures for June 2013 have already been reached and if the current trend continues, up to 150,000 refugees could be in Iraq by the end of June. This is a figure initially projected as the worst-case scenario in the UNHCR contingency plan. The majority of refugees reside in two camps, Al-Qaim in Anbar governorate and Domiz in Dohuk governorate. Children make up half of the refugees in the camps. While the Government of Iraq and UN agencies have provided essential services to meet basic needs, the demands continue to increase with the arrival of new refugees. At the end of October 2012, the border crossing of Al Qa'im was closed for security reasons.

Response to date

UNICEF is working in close partnership with UNHCR on the development and management of the Syrian humanitarian response in Iraq and has the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of activities in the areas of water and sanitation, child protection, health, nutrition and education. Some 13,500 people have drinking water and water for personal hygiene and cooking. About 9,050 school-age children are enrolled in learning programmes and 2,670 affected children have received psychosocial support. Some 36,000 children and women were provided access to essential health services. The winter response included the distribution of winter clothes to refugee children under-5, flu immunization campaigns and the installation of water boilers to heat communal bathrooms.



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Two-year old Amina washes her hands in the Domiz camp for Syrian refugees in northern Iraq, where UNICEF is supporting hygiene promotion, child-friendly spaces and other activities to benefit children.

Response highlights to date



13,500 people have **drinking and domestic water**.



9,050 school-aged children enrolled in learning programmes.



2,670 affected children provided with psychosocial support services.



36,380 children and women provided with access to **essential health services**.



12,000 children vaccinated against **measles**.

Planned response (January-June 2013)

UNICEF is focusing on the following areas given the limited resources:

- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** Provide access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene and means to practice appropriate hygiene in the Domiz and Al-Qaim camps and host communities.
- **Education:** Construct six schools and ensure quality education for **12,000** new refugee children, in addition to continuing education support provided to **1,920** children in 2012.
- **Child Protection:** Establish spaces within refugee camps, schools and communities with psychosocial and recreational activities for **6,000** children. Provide Mine Risk Education to refugees.

Iraq financial requirements (\$US)*

Sector	Funding requirements	Received to date	Unmet requirements	% Unfunded
WASH	9,300,200	2,770,000	6,530,200	70%
Health & Nutrition	1,445,400	0	1,445,400	100%
Child Protection	1,445,400	690,000	755,400	52%
Education	2,409,000	430,000	1,979,000	82%
Operations Management	5,400,000	0	5,400,000	100%
TOTAL	20,000,000	3,890,000	16,110,000	80%

* until June 2013



Response to date

In support of the Government of Turkey, UNICEF is responsible for education and joint coordination with UNHCR in child protection. Some 26,200 affected children are enrolled in learning programmes. For the winter response, UNICEF provided 12,300 children in Ackakale (west of Turkey), and in surrounding camps with winter clothing and footwear.

Turkey

Since the beginning of the crisis in Syria, and more particularly with the influx of Syrian refugees starting in June 2011, the Government of Turkey has declared and maintained an open border policy. More than 185,000 refugees are registered in 17 camps in eight provinces, a 24 per cent increase since the beginning of 2013. This is in addition to an estimated 100,000 Syrian refugees living outside of camps, under the temporary protection policy declared by the Government, which allows Syrians to seek protection against forcible returns without individual refugee protection assessment. It is estimated that the number of Syrian refugees in Turkey could reach 380,000 by June 2013.

Response highlights to date



26,263 affected children enrolled in learning programmes.



12,300 children in Ackakale and surrounding camps provided with winter clothing and footwear sets.

Planned response (January-June 2013)

Despite the availability of specialized social and medical services in host provinces in Turkey, there are no systematic child protection systems in place in the camps to identify, support or refer children victims of violence. There are playgrounds and child-friendly spaces but no structured recreational activities for children and adolescents. UNICEF plans to institute structured recreational activities targeting 37,900 children. UNICEF will also focus its activities on:

- **Education:** Provide textbooks, accreditation and certification of student learning achievements to 97,000 children. Provide teacher training, teaching supplies, technical and financial support in the identification of needs, sources of recruitment, compensation and benefits, teacher certification, and teacher performance monitoring and evaluation.
- **Child Protection:** Provide psychosocial care and referral mechanisms through safe recreation and education for approximately 99,750 children and adolescents. Provide mine/explosive remnants of war risk education to returning refugees.

Turkey financial requirements (\$US)*

Sector	Funding requirements	Received to date	Unmet requirements	% Unfunded
Child Protection	6,000,000	1,310,000	4,690,000	78%
Education	6,500,000	0	6,500,000	100%
TOTAL	12,500,000	1,310,000	11,190,000	90%

* until June 2013



Response highlights to date

In November 2012, UNICEF carried out a joint assessment with UNHCR and WFP which identified Syrian refugees' key humanitarian needs in the areas of protection, shelter, food security, health and education. In cooperation with UNHCR, UNICEF is working to establish safe spaces and provide psychosocial support for children and adolescents, supporting primary health care services and promoting appropriate infant and young child survival services. In addition, UNICEF is facilitating the enrolment of school-aged children in learning programmes.

Egypt

In the last quarter of 2012, the number of Syrians fleeing to Egypt increased significantly. Various Egyptian civil society groups have established a support network providing assistance, but lack the capacity to assist and meet the needs of new arrivals. In December 2012, Egypt was included for the first time in the Regional Response Plan. There are an estimated 32,000 Syrians in the country, including an estimated 12,000 people awaiting registration. Planning figures initially projected for June 2013 have already been reached, while the response remains severely underfunded. The Government of Egypt grants Syrians visa-free entry followed by renewable three-month residency. Syrians can access public schools and hospitals without additional costs. For the most part, Syrians tend to originate from Homs, Damascus and Aleppo, and settle mainly in Cairo and Alexandria.

Planned Response (January-June 2013)

- **Child Protection:** Provide psychosocial services to Syrian refugee children.
- **Education:** Provide technical and financial support, as well as supplies to community-based education initiatives for pre-school and primary education levels.

Egypt financial requirements (\$US)*

Sector	Funding requirements	Received to date	Unmet requirements	% Unfunded
Health & Nutrition	90,000	0	90,000	100%
Child Protection	260,000	0	260,000	100%
Education	345,000	0	345,000	100%
TOTAL	695,000	0	695,000	100%

* until June 2013

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