



SYRIAN REFUGEES

INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL UPDATE

5 September 2014

KEY FIGURES

3 million

Syrian refugees have fled to neighbouring countries and North Africa

1.8 million

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

1.2 million

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

795,000

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

700,000

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

FUNDING

USD 3.7 billion

requested for the situation



PRIORITIES

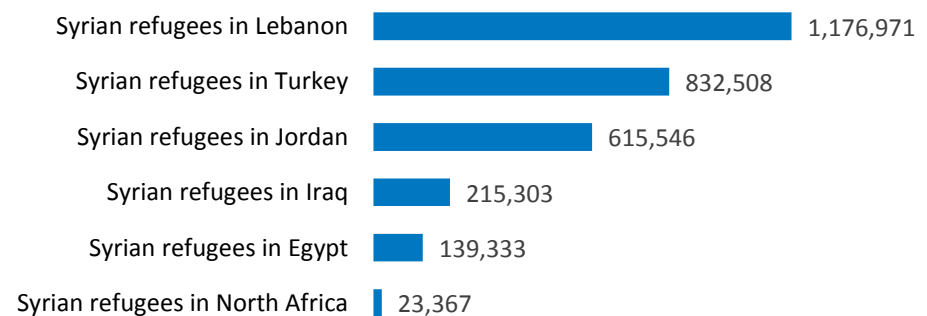
- Winterization for more than 2.4 million vulnerable refugees including the distribution/ replacement of winter relief items, upgrades to shelter and seasonal cash allowances

HIGHLIGHTS

- Syria's intensifying refugee crisis has surpassed **three million** refugees in the region.
- Humanitarian access to Aarsal, **Lebanon**, continues to be impeded by security concerns since clashes between the Lebanese Armed Forces and Syrian militants on 2 August.
- The Director General of **Turkey's** Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) has called on the international community to do more to help Turkey cope with the presence of some 1.2 million Syrians in-country, of whom more than 217,000 are living in 22 camps across Turkey. According to AFAD's latest figures, Turkey has invested US\$3.5 billion in managing the situation but has only received \$224 million in international assistance.
- UNHCR is deeply concerned for the well-being of several hundred Syrians inside the Al Obaidy refugee camp in Al Qa'im, **Iraq**, after UN agencies and international NGOs were forced to abandon their offices and warehouses. National partners are continuing to provide supplies and maintenance, but the situation remains volatile.

Population of concern

A total of **3 million** people of concern



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

More than 150 agencies and aid groups, together with the governments of neighbouring countries, are working together to assist Syrian refugees with meeting their basic needs, improve access to education and medical care, as well as providing basic goods such as tents, mattresses and plastic sheeting.

Donors have contributed more than \$4.1 billion to successive regional response plans since 2012. However, \$2 billion more is needed by the end of 2014 to meet the basic needs of vulnerable refugees. Most urgently, more than 2.4 million people are expected to need support in the coming weeks to prepare for winter. Planned interventions include the distribution of winter relief items, shelter upgrades and seasonal cash allowances.

Protection

LEBANON

- More than 75 child protection actors working in informal settlements, community centres, and child friendly spaces are working on raising awareness on issues related to gender-based violence (GBV) among children and youth.
- 50 women received GBV services during August at the Al Marj Listening and Counseling Centre (LCC) in the Bekaa, supported by UNFPA and run by KAFA. In addition, eight awareness sessions on GBV related topics (including discrimination against women, early forced marriage and family violence) reached 200 women; four sessions on reproductive health targeted 80 women; 24 animations sessions engaged more than 150 children; and 12 sessions on English language were held for 23 women at the centre.
- More than 20 case workers and case managers in the Bekaa received training on “Caring for Child Survivors” from UNICEF and partner KAFA. The training aimed at equipping humanitarian staff with guidelines and tools on the provision of health and psychosocial support to children who have survived sexual abuse.

JORDAN

- A total of 1,037 GBV survivors have sought assistance in UNFPA-supported spaces and benefited from different services throughout August, such as case management, psychosocial and legal representation and referral to other specialized centres. UNFPA and its partners sensitized 2,969 persons on GBV issues, available services and referral pathways through awareness sessions.
- The GBV sub-working group and the health working group attended a two-day training workshop in Amman on how to integrate GBV into the health response. This training was part of the global revision of the IASC GBV guidelines.
- The Ministry of Health in full collaboration with UNFPA conducted six training workshops to strengthen the capacity of 121 health service providers on caring for GBV survivors, reaching 121 female and 50 male staff in Amman, Irbid and Zarqa.
- As part of World Humanitarian Day, ACTED and aptART organized a fun and questioning arts workshop with Syrian children in Zaatari Camp as part of a week of activities.

IRAQ

- 60 women participated in basic vocational trainings and weekly seminars in Domiz Camp, Dokuk, and 271 women and girls attended various recreational sessions in the camps, including sessions on tailoring, hairdressing, crocheting, English language and computer skills.
- UNFPA conducted six awareness sessions on GBV and reproductive health, attended by 140 women in Kawargosek, Darashakran and Baserma camps. The sessions aimed to equip women with the necessary information on primary health care, reproductive health and GBV.

EGYPT

- UNFPA in collaboration with Save the Children built the capacity of 12 GBV service providers on the clinical management of GBV survivors. The trained providers serve both Syrian refugees and host communities.

Education

LEBANON

- Since the beginning of 2014, more than 48,651 children have been enrolled in non-formal education classes, which would enable them to catch up to and enroll in the regular school curriculum.
- The Situation Analysis of Youth in Lebanon Affected by the Syrian Crisis 2014, led by UNFPA with the support of partner agencies, found that only 6 per cent of the surveyed Syrian refugee youth are enrolled in schools; and although more female youth were enrolled in university (19 per cent) than male counterparts (5 per cent), the illiteracy rate was higher amongst women and girls (16 per cent) compared to men and boys (2 per cent).

TURKEY

- A new UNICEF school with 12 classrooms in Yenice District will open in mid-September for the new academic year. The school will provide education from grades 1 to 4 in two shifts per day.



Health

A multi-country, multi-agency strategic planning meeting focused on reviewing strategies to limit the transmission of wild poliovirus in the Middle East was held recently in Amman, Jordan.

Led by WHO and as part of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, the Risk Mapping and Campaign Monitoring workshop brought together health professionals from Global Good, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and UN agencies UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOCHA, UNRWA and WHO.

The meeting in Amman centered on assessing the coordinated approach by UN agencies and partner organizations in responding to the poliovirus outbreak in the Middle East.

A total of 38 cases of polio have been confirmed in Syria and Iraq since the outbreak began in October 2013. Prior to the outbreak the region has been polio free for 15 years.

Using existing innovations in mapping and surveillance, which have been successfully implemented in polio-endemic countries, representatives have collaborated on best practice to ensure quality implementation ahead of two upcoming synchronized campaigns across the Middle East region.

To better address the regional and global polio risk assessment in the context of a humanitarian crisis the group also explored the use of mobile technology in the field and standardization of tools and indicators for measuring success.

LEBANON

- UNICEF and partners started the summer immunization programme mid-August in the 118 municipalities in Lebanon that are at highest risk for low routine immunization.
- Agencies continue to run regular sessions on malnutrition screening, family planning and contraception, early marriage, reproductive health, first aid and mental health to refugees and host communities. More than 1,200 awareness sessions have been organized in the past two weeks.

Food Security and Nutrition

LEBANON

- WFP, UNHCR and the World Bank will be providing assistance to vulnerable Lebanese in line with the Government's National Poverty Targeting Programme. The programme is expected to start in October and plans to benefit 36,000 vulnerable Lebanese by December 2014. Beneficiaries will receive \$30 through the existing e-card modality.
- UNRWA and WFP have signed a memorandum of understanding to support cash for food assistance for Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon. Under the agreement, WFP will provide UNRWA with up to 50 per cent of the funds required to ensure PRS in Lebanon receive food assistance through to December 2014. The amount credited by UNRWA to PRS individuals is at the same rate as the WFP regional emergency operation figure, which is currently \$30 per month.
- While WFP is not able to physically access Aarsal – forcing the postponement of all monitoring and evaluation missions until further notice – food assistance continued to reach Syrian refugees through WFP's e-card programme. Some 8,867 previously distributed cards (providing assistance to 35,814 beneficiaries) were reloaded on 5 August. Beneficiaries can continue to redeem their e-cards in all 14 WFP contracted shops in Aarsal.

JORDAN

- WFP and partners have begun implementing a 'self-targeting' initiative, designed to encourage food secure Syrian refugee families residing in communities to remove themselves from WFP's assistance programme. The campaign, which includes posters displayed at distribution points, partner shops and UNHCR registration sites, comes ahead of a planned transition to vulnerability targeting in September.
- In light of plans to transition from paper to electronic vouchers in Zaatri and Azraq camps, pilot programmes in both camps are scheduled to start in early September. The pilots, which will see 300 families in each camp receiving e-cards, will also include messaging campaigns to inform beneficiaries about the e-card modality. WFP plans to assist its entire caseload of Syrian refugees in camp and non-camp settings with e-cards by October.



Food distributions in Zaatari Camp, Jordan. WFP

TURKEY

- The inclusion of six newly contracted shops into the e-Food Card Programme by WFP and the Turkish Red Crescent in Nizip, Ceylanpinar and Akcakale marks the first time beneficiaries in the Gaziantep region have been able to access shops in urban centres. Beneficiaries have expressed satisfaction with the reportedly better quality food items at lower prices. In an effort to expand the programme, WFP has assessed three additional shops in the Ceylanpinar region for possible inclusion.

IRAQ

- WFP's partner, Islamic Relief Worldwide, delivered 1,300 WFP food parcels to Al Obaidi camp in Anbar governorate on 21 August, bringing much-needed food assistance to the entire camp, which had been unreachable since June due to insecurity. WFP plans to dispatch more parcels in the coming weeks to cover the food needs of over 1,000 refugees in the camp for two to three months.

EGYPT

- In the wake of recent increases in Egyptian fuel and public transport prices, WFP is monitoring distribution sites in relation to their accessibility to beneficiaries and affordability. WFP has found that some 3,000 beneficiaries had been traveling more than 65km from Mansoura (in north-east Egypt) to Damietta to collect food vouchers. This was costly and made it difficult for them to use their vouchers, as they could only do so at the supermarket in Damietta. To better serve Syrian refugees in Mansoura, WFP has opened a new distribution site in the area, partnering with Fathallah supermarket. The first distribution in Mansoura was conducted on 18 August.
- WFP is currently refining its targeting approach in order to ensure it is reaching those most in need. Since the start of operations, WFP has given blanket assistance to refugees living in poorer areas, including Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta. More recently, it has also supported those identified as vulnerable in other areas such as Tanta, Marsa Matrouh and Mansoura. Based on expected vulnerability profiling results, WFP plans to target all refugees based on their assessed vulnerability and needs. WFP will start collecting data via household vulnerability questionnaires for over 30,000 household visits commenced on 24 August and will continue until December 2014.



Water and Sanitation

LEBANON

- UNHCR and partner agencies continue to implement water projects in different areas in Lebanon to address water scarcity and improve regular access to clean water for both refugee and local communities.
- More than 50,000 persons are expected to benefit from six water reservoirs undergoing construction work in Mount Lebanon.
- Latrines, water tanks and hand washing stations have been distributed and installed in more than 10 informal settlements in South Lebanon and the Bekaa to make sure proper hygiene and sanitation installations are made available.
- WASH and Health sectors are coordinating regular awareness sessions on hygiene and water use.



Shelter and NFIs

LEBANON

- More than 51 per cent of the total number Syrian refugees registered in Lebanon to date have received shelter support including rehabilitations, shelter kits distributions, and weatherproofing and cash assistance.

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

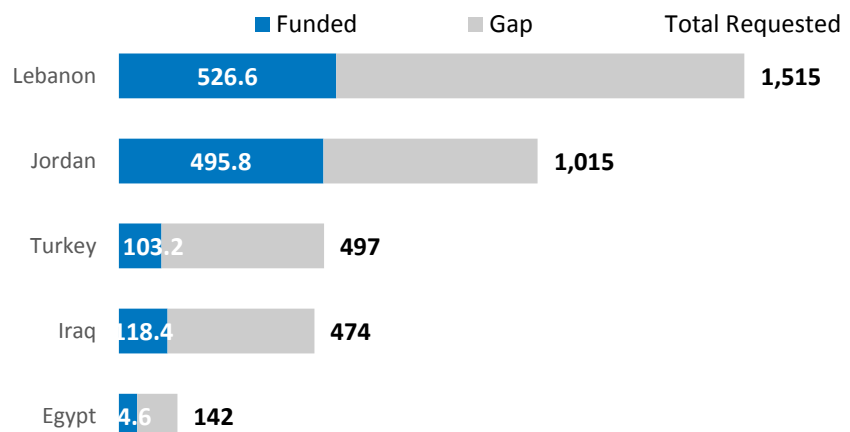
Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation.

Donors who have contributed to the situation:

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- Russia Federation
- Saudi Arabia
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Private donors

Funding (in million USD)

A total of **\$1.6 billion*** has been funded.



*Includes \$327 million of regionally earmarked funds that has been received and is pending allocation by country.

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Links:

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