



3RP

REGIONAL REFUGEE & RESILIENCE PLAN



2026

3RP Regional Strategic Overview

ADVANCED VERSION

ABOUT

The Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan



is a **strategic coordination, planning, advocacy, fundraising and programming platform** with around **200** humanitarian and development partners across four countries.



has **channeled over US\$ 27 billion** since its inception in 2015.



is a **regionally coherent plan** that adopts a tailored approach to bring out country-specific needs and priorities.



consists of **one regional plan and three standalone country chapters**, which align with existing government-led national response plans (e.g., JRP and LRP).



is **centered on national leadership and capacities** to achieve resilience for all, guided by the principle of 'leaving no one behind'.



integrates a **return preparedness component**, ensuring a structured, inter-agency approach to support voluntary, safe, dignified, and well-informed returns while maintaining critical support for refugees and host communities.

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Design: UNHCR / Klement

For additional information:



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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 governments, 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 supported the response in many ways including by making their services available to refugee populations.



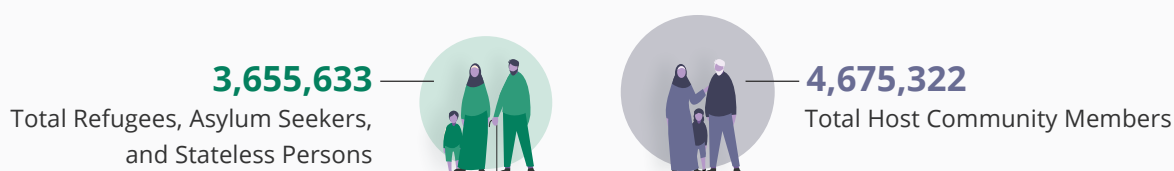
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Overview: 2026 Response

Population Targeted in 2026



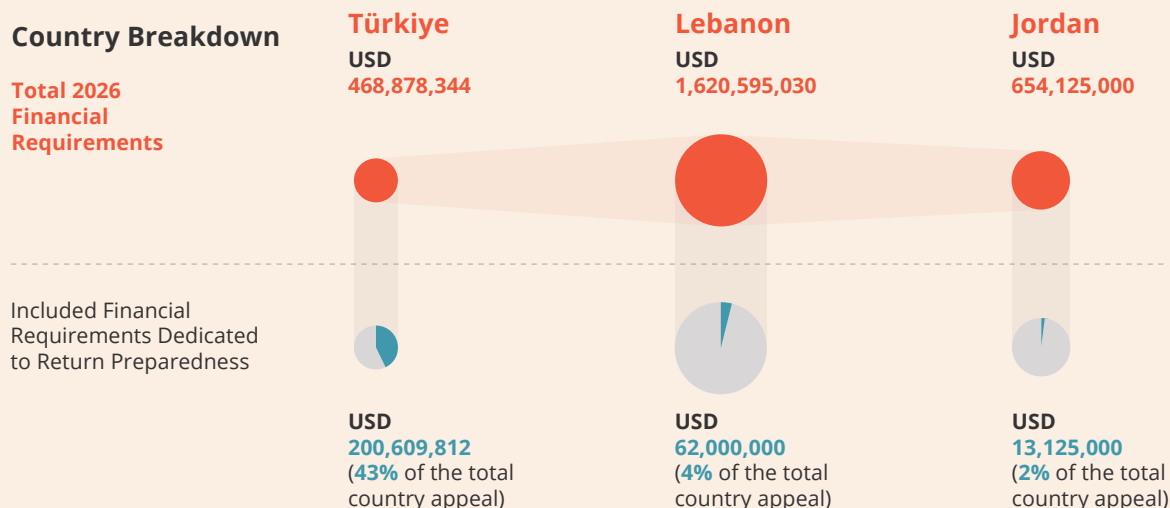
Country Breakdown	Türkiye	Lebanon	Jordan
Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Stateless Persons	2,516,014	833,074	306,545
Host Community Members	3,607,620	684,670	383,032
Projected Returnees	300,000	200,000*	75,000

Please note that the figures are preliminary DRAFT figures, as the planning process in 3RP countries is still ongoing.

* Lebanon, projected returnees: The aim is to enable some 400,000 Syrians to return within the first six months of 2026, including those able to return spontaneously using their own resources; while sectors have budgeted to support returns for up to 200,000 individuals who will seek direct assistance to return in 2026.

Financial Requirements for 2026

USD 2.74 billion Total Required





Aisha, 7, is a Syrian refugee from rural Homs, born and raised in Azraq Refugee Camp, Jordan, after her family fled the war. She loves playing with her brothers and caring for her cat, Soso. Aisha only knows Syria through family stories. She dreams of becoming a doctor one day, “to treat everyone, even Soso.”

Regional Overview

At the end of 2025, the Syria situation remains one of the largest displacement crises globally, with around 11 million Syrians forcibly displaced, including around 4.5 million Syrian refugees hosted in neighbouring countries,¹ amid active conflicts, natural and climate change-related disasters, and deteriorating socio-economic and humanitarian conditions.

Up to nine out of ten Syrian refugees grapple with challenges in meeting their basic needs, while the support needed by host communities has reached unprecedented levels.²

Overall, in 2026, more than 10.8 million people in Lebanon, Jordan, and Türkiye are estimated to be in need of some form of humanitarian and development assistance. In 2025, an estimated 16.5 million people inside Syria needed humanitarian assistance, including 7.1 million who were internally displaced.³

However, the political change and unprecedented developments in Syria that led to the fall of the Assad government in December 2024 have dramatically impacted the lives of millions of Syrians, both within and outside the country. The new situation simultaneously presents potential opportunities for return, while exacerbating risks of new displacement. Undoubtedly, there has been an increase in Syrian refugees expressing a desire to return home. The most recent Enhanced Refugee Perceptions and Intentions Survey (ERPIS), published in September 2025, indicates that 80% of refugees hope to return one day, with 18% expressing the intention to do so within the next year. Most refugees returned in the spring season and after the end of the school year. By the end of November 2025, over 1.2 million Syrians had already returned.⁴

At the same time, new displacement continues. In the first half of 2025, over 100,000 Syrians fled into Lebanon, mainly from Homs, Hama, Rural Damascus, and Idlib, underscoring that while the political transition has opened opportunities for return, significant protection risks remain.

¹ [UNHCR Operational Data Portal, Syria Regional Refugee Response](#) (accessed 26 October 2025).
Note: Approximately 700,000 Syrian refugees known to UNHCR in Lebanon are not formally registered and are therefore not reflected in the data portal.

² [Humanitarian Action, Syrian Arab Republic: Humanitarian Response Priorities 2025](#) (accessed 15 December 2025).
³ [OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic: Humanitarian Overview, Issue No. 1](#), October 2025.

⁴ [UNHCR CORE, Syria Governorates of Return Overview](#) (As of 11 Dec 2025), 14 December 2025.

Inside Syria, many returning families find their homes damaged or destroyed, and face significant obstacles in rebuilding their lives. High levels of explosive ordnance contamination in Syria present the risk of death and injury if not marked and cleared. Health services in frontline areas have largely ceased, and education systems have faced major interruptions throughout the years of conflict, while access to other basic services, such as water or electricity, remains limited. Considering the challenging conditions for a safe return, millions remain displaced, including in IDPs sites, with limited access to services.

Multiple conflicts in the region have exacerbated economic challenges, with the economies of refugee-hosting countries projected to contract further in 2026, potentially resulting in more people falling into poverty. The economies of 3RP countries are marked by weak growth, high public debt, hyperinflation, declining foreign investment, and high unemployment. These challenges limit fiscal space for services, erode household purchasing power, and push more refugees and vulnerable populations into poverty.

In Lebanon, even prior to the escalation of the hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah in September 2024, the majority of Syrian refugees struggled to cover their basic needs, driving them to adopt harmful coping mechanisms, including reduced school attendance, child labour, and early marriage.⁵ The conflict has further worsened their situation, with widespread destruction, particularly in the South, damaged shelters, and winter conditions exacerbating vulnerabilities. Many families face constraints in accessing basic services such as education, compounded by restrictive measures in some municipalities.

In Jordan, rising prices and reduced aid have worsened food security, pushing families to prioritise rent and food over other essential services such as health and education.⁶

In Türkiye, similar economic challenges, notably high inflation and currency fluctuations, compounded by recovery efforts from the 2023 earthquakes, have strained overburdened services.

Based on the findings of recent intention surveys,⁷ the majority of refugees are still expected to remain in host countries by the end of 2026. As of mid-2025, 76% of Syrian refugee households reported no intention to return within the next 12 months, while 18% indicated an intention to return in that period. At the same time, long-term aspirations to return remain high, with around 80% of refugees expressing hope to return to Syria one day.⁸ Continued support to refugee-hosting countries remains critical to address life-saving humanitarian needs and maintain protection space. It is crucial to follow the choices made by Syrian refugees, including to support those who want to return home.

In parallel, promoting the inclusion of Syrian refugees in national systems and enhancing the economic growth of host countries remains essential. For this, evidence-based advocacy efforts should focus on identifying entry points to remove legal barriers that restrict refugees' access to the labour market and social protection schemes, create employment opportunities and support Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). To generate employment and stimulate growth, Governments should engage the private sector, employ innovative financing mechanisms and financial tools like debt swaps or concessional financing.

⁵ VASyR 2024 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, 2024.

⁶ Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) – Socio-Economic Survey in Jordan (Q4 2024), 20 May 2025.

⁷ Enhanced Refugee Perceptions and Intentions Survey (ERPIS), September 2025; and Flash Regional Survey on Syrian Refugees' Perceptions and Intentions on Return to Syria, February 2025.

⁸ Enhanced Refugee Perceptions and Intentions Survey (ERPIS), September 2025.

Regional Needs, Vulnerabilities and Trends

Socio-Economic Outlook in the 3RP Countries

The economies of 3RP countries are facing significant macroeconomic challenges, which impact individual, community and institutional resilience capacities. In 2023, weak economic growth characterized 3RP countries, with Lebanon experiencing an economic contraction of -0.8%,⁹ while Jordan and Türkiye saw modest growth at 2.7%, and 5.1%, respectively.¹⁰ 3RP countries have seen a decline in foreign direct investment (FDI). For example, in 2006, the FDI net inflow as percentage of the GDP was 23.5% in Jordan, and 12.1% in Lebanon. This has decreased significantly to 1.5% for Jordan, and 2.9% for Lebanon in 2023.¹¹ Two out of the three countries are carrying public debt burdens of around 90% of GDP or more¹² (reaching 283.2% in Lebanon), which reduces host countries' fiscal space, i.e. which limits their ability to fund social programmes and invest in essential public services, such as health, education, and other social services that benefit both host communities and refugees.

This macroeconomic stress is compounded by a high unemployment rate, accounting for 18% in Jordan, 11.5% in Lebanon, and 9.4% in Türkiye, and which particularly

affects vulnerable groups such as refugees, women, and youth.¹³ Meanwhile, informality in the labour market is pervasive, with a significant part of employment in host countries occurring in the informal sector, impeding access to safe employment and social security schemes and resulting in lower wages.¹⁴

While we observe the growth of refugee-led businesses, including Syrian enterprises constituting over 25% of new foreign firms in Türkiye, refugees still face barriers such as restricted access to finance, legal challenges such as obtaining residency and work permits, and limited recognition of professional qualifications and to access to employment.¹⁵

Inflation is also a pressing concern, with Lebanon experiencing hyperinflation at 221.3% (annual) and other countries, like Türkiye (53.9%), and Jordan (2.1%), seeing significant increases.¹⁶ This has impacted the purchasing power of households in vulnerable situations, including their access to food, education, healthcare, and other basic services. In addition, poverty levels remain high. At the national level, we find high poverty rates across all the hosting

⁹ World Bank, *Macro Poverty Outlook, Update: Lebanon*, October 2024.

¹⁰ World Bank, *Macro Poverty Outlook: Jordan; Türkiye*, October 2024.

¹¹ See: World Bank Group, *Foreign direct investment, net inflows (% of GDP)*, accessed December 2024.; *World Bank Macro Poverty Outlook*, accessed December 2024.

¹² Around 1.4 times the EMDEs average in 2024. See ILO, *ILOSTAT data explorer*, accessed December 2024.

¹³ ILO Estimates 2024. Unemployment rate (Modelled estimates) for 15+ individuals. See ILO, *ILOSTAT data explorer*, accessed December 2024.

¹⁴ ILO Estimates. *Informal employment rate (%)*. Force Survey in Egypt (2019) 67%, *Employment and Unemployment Survey in Jordan (2022)* 53.2%, *Labor Force survey in Lebanon (2019)* 55.4%, *Household labor force survey in Türkiye (2022)* 27.3%. Data accessed December 2024.

¹⁵ World Bank, *The Mobility of displaced Syrians: An economic and social analysis*, 2020.

¹⁶ World Bank, *inflation consumer prices (annual %)*, data accessed in December 2023.



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Photo by CARE Egypt

“No job is shameful, and any job is better than asking for charity,” says Bahana Ghanem from Beheira, Egypt. Two years ago, she bought a piece of land and started farming to support her siblings. Through CARE Egypt’s ‘She Feeds the World’ project, Bahana enhanced her skills and now produces high-quality potato harvests, contributing to economic empowerment.

counties, with poverty rate in Türkiye at 14.4% (2021); Lebanon at 44% (2022); and Jordan at 15.7% (2019).¹⁷ Nevertheless, studies show that poverty levels remain higher for the Syrian refugees, with 67% of Syrian refugees in Jordan expected to fall below the poverty line by the end of 2024,¹⁸ and with 90% of Syrian refugees living in extreme poverty in Lebanon.¹⁹ As the high cost of living exacerbates poverty and food insecurity, it forces families to adopt harmful coping strategies such as withdrawing children from school or resorting to child labour and early marriage.

Recent assessments of the effect of regional conflicts paint a worrying picture in the host countries. It is estimated that even with a cessation of hostilities in place, Lebanon’s economy will contract by an additional 2.3% in 2025, resulting in a 3.2% decline in public revenues. This contraction would further exacerbate Lebanon’s fiscal challenges and undermine its ability to maintain key public services. Household welfare will also be impacted, with the consumer price index projected to increase by 6% and private consumption to drop by 14.8%.²⁰ The conflict in the OpT, in turn, continues to have devastating consequences for civilians in the Gaza Strip and beyond, while also negatively affecting neighbouring countries, including Lebanon, particularly through a significant decrease in tourism. This decline affects the GDP and other productive activities including trade, with a loss estimated at 1.3% for the 2023 baseline in Jordan and Lebanon, and is likely to further impact their economies.

¹⁷ Poverty headcount ratio according to national poverty lines (% of population). Data retrieved from the *World Bank Poverty World Development Indicators*, accessed December 2024.

¹⁸ UNHCR *Vulnerability Assessment Framework: Socio-economic survey of refugees*, 2025.

¹⁹ World Bank. *Lebanon Poverty Equity Assessment: Weathering a protracted crisis*, 2024.

²⁰ UNDP (October 2024). *UNDP warns of socio-economic crisis in Lebanon amidst escalation of hostilities*; and UNDP (October 2024) *Economic and social consequences of the escalating hostilities in Lebanon – Rapid Appraisal*, October 2024.

Protracted Displacement with Growing Vulnerabilities among Refugees and Host Communities

Forced displacement impacts both displaced individuals and the communities which host them. This impact is amplified in protracted refugee situations “in which refugees find themselves in a long-lasting and intractable state of limbo. Their lives may not be at risk, but their basic rights and essential economic, social, and psychological needs remain unfulfilled after years in exile,”²¹ according to UNHCR.

As of mid-December 2025, Türkiye continues to host 2.37 million Syrian refugees, one of the largest refugee populations worldwide. Jordan (with over 427,000 Syrian refugees) and Lebanon (over 1.2 million Syrian refugees) are among the world’s countries hosting the largest refugee populations per capita. Across the region, approximately 94% of Syrian refugees live within host communities, with the remainder residing in camps.

The vulnerability of refugees increases amidst regional or global crises that exacerbate political, economic, social, and security concerns in host countries. Refugees already face unique challenges, which intensify when conditions in host countries deteriorate, as seen in 3RP countries. Refugees are often driven to adopt harmful coping strategies, including reducing meals, cutting healthcare expenses, accepting high-risk jobs, incurring debt, withdrawing children from school, and engaging in child labour or child marriage.

Prolonged displacement in a worsening socio-economic environment also strains host governments and diverts resources that are critical to addressing both the development needs of host populations and the needs of refugees. While coping mechanisms and recovery from economic shocks may differ, both host communities and refugees encounter similar challenges, such as high unemployment rates that intensify competition for limited job opportunities and scarce resources, ultimately impacting social cohesion.

To mitigate these challenges and foster long-term stability, refugees and host communities alike require improved access to education, health, social protection, and employment opportunities to address inter-generational needs and achieve lasting solutions.



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Video by Mercy Corps Lebanon

In Lebanon, through Mercy Corps’ SAFER programme, vulnerable Lebanese families receive cash assistance that helps them meet basic needs, maintain dignity, and avoid harmful coping strategies in the face of prolonged economic crisis.

²¹ [UNHCR Standing Committee – Protracted refugee situations](#)

Key Cross-Cutting Challenges

► Climate Impact

The wider region faces the most severe water shortages globally, with climate change undermining water and energy access, food security, and ecosystems, leading to increased risks of malnutrition and disease for children and protection risks for women and girls. Urgent governance, development, and humanitarian challenges resulting from the Syria crisis are worsened by ecological degradation, including drought-like conditions, water scarcity, desertification, and rising temperatures. Looking ahead, climate change will remain a key driver of heightened needs, vulnerabilities, and potential tensions among refugees and host communities. The 3RP partners will prioritise interventions addressing climate change, water scarcity, energy needs, and environmental degradation to offset potential instabilities.

► Policy and Regulatory Frameworks

Host governments in the region have continued to play a generous role in hosting Syrian refugees. However, progress towards self-reliance or durable solutions remains challenging, with persistent issues related to social cohesion and negative rhetoric. The legal status of refugees, restrictive national policies, and limited access to civil documentation continue to constrain socio-economic inclusion. Access to basic services and decent livelihood opportunities remains inconsistent, while social protection and welfare schemes are limited and often inaccessible. The 3RP response aims to expand local opportunities and empower refugees and host communities towards self-reliance. Inclusive policies will be pivotal to achieving durable solutions to displacement.



Photo by DRC Lebanon

► Palestine Refugees: Needs and Response

By 2026, Palestine refugees in Lebanon and Jordan continue to face the compounded impacts of conflict, socioeconomic collapse and precarious legal status. In Lebanon, the effects of the major escalation of conflict between Israel and Hezbollah in late 2024, the most serious since the 2006 Lebanon War, were layered onto years of socioeconomic crisis and deepening camp insecurity. Some 231,000 Palestine refugees in the country, including around 209,000 Palestine refugees in Lebanon and 22,000 Palestine refugees from Syria (PRS), remain among the most marginalised communities, with over 80% living below the poverty line and facing legal restrictions that limit access to public services, bar them from syndicated professions and prohibit property ownership. PRS are even more vulnerable: since May 2024, an official policy shift preventing the renewal of legal residency has affected nearly every facet of their lives, increasing the risk of detention, constraining movement and sharply restricting access to formal work, civil registration and education. UNRWA remains central to the provision of essential services and humanitarian response as protection risks rise, including violence, exploitation and reliance on negative coping mechanisms in overcrowded camps. In Jordan, of the approximately 19,600 PRS who fled Syria to Jordan and remain in the country, around 3,000 lack any form of official Jordanian documentation, severely limiting access to employment, education, and health care and exposing them to heightened protection risks such as arrest, detention, deportation and the risk of statelessness. They remain almost entirely dependent on UNRWA services to meet their basic needs.

Half of Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS) surveyed by UNRWA in Lebanon and Jordan express the intention to return to Syria one day.²² Despite ongoing fragility, the region has witnessed significant population movements, including a marked acceleration in the return of Palestine refugees to and within Syria under highly challenging circumstances. In 2025, following the collapse of Bashar al-Assad's regime, Palestine refugee returns to and within Syria tripled compared to the total recorded over the previous five years, reaching an estimated 42,000 individuals returning to Yarmouk, Ein El Tel and Dera'a Palestine refugee camps alone. Donor support for these returning Palestinians should be channelled directly to UNRWA. UNHCR and UNRWA will work together to ensure a coordinated and coherent operational response, while fully recognising the distinct protection needs of Palestine refugees.



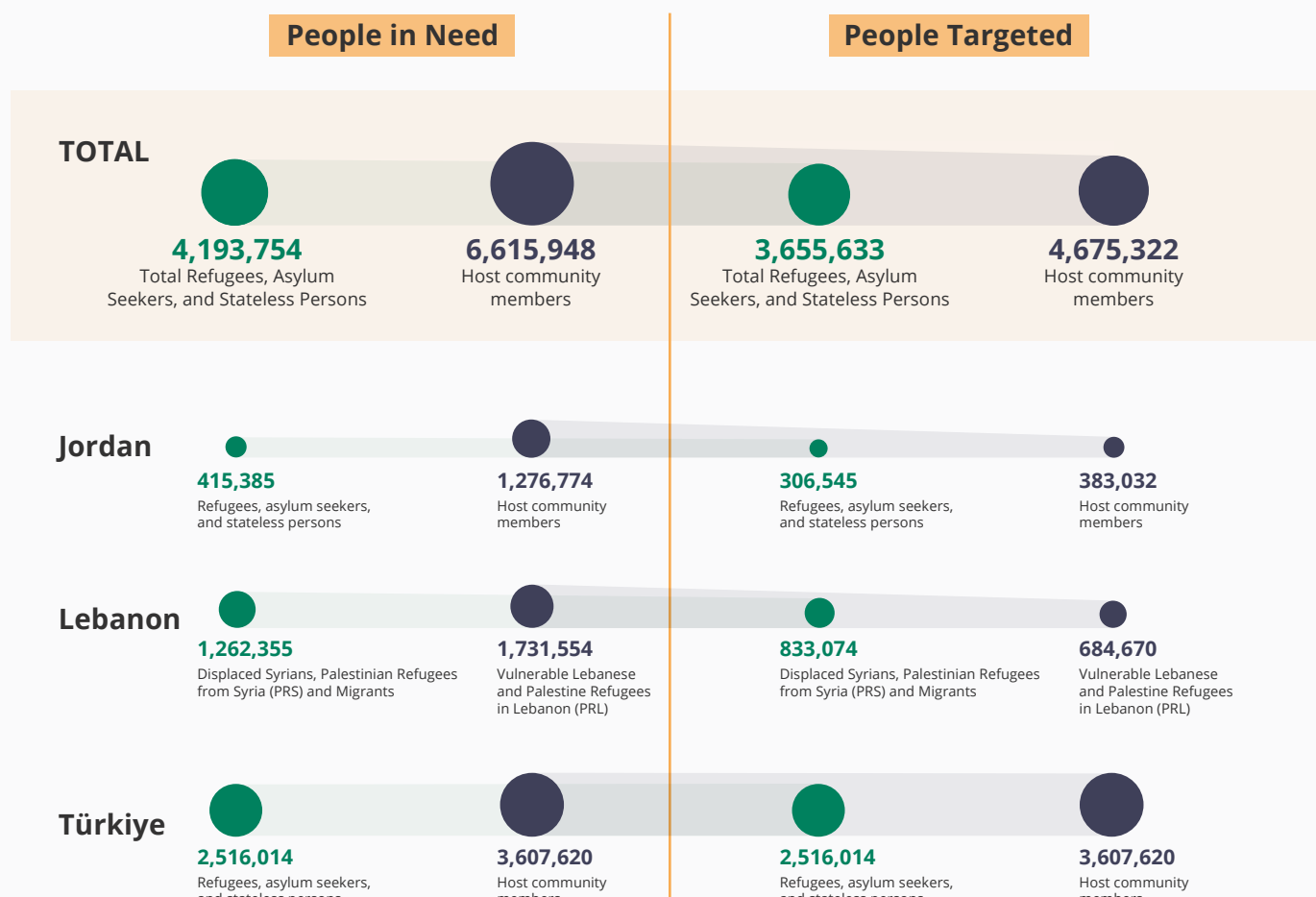
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Video by UNRWA Lebanon

Palestine Refugees from Syria in Lebanon face extreme vulnerability and remain heavily dependent on UNRWA for essential services and protection.

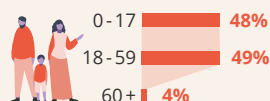
²² In September 2025, UNRWA conducted an intention-to-return survey in Garden Camp, Jordan, encompassing all 290 registered PRS families in the camp, finding that 29% of respondents living inside the camp intend to return to Syria within the next 12 months, while more than half (54%) expressed hope of returning one day. UNRWA, "Intention of Return Survey, Garden Camp", September 2025. In addition, in August 2025, UNRWA conducted a PRS intention-to-return survey in Lebanon, finding that 45% of PRS expressed a desire to return to Syria at some point, while only 15% hoped to do so within the next 12 months. UNRWA, "PRS Return Intention Survey, Lebanon", August 2025.

2026 Population Overview

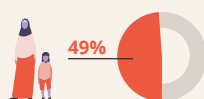


Insights: Targeted Refugee Population

Age Breakdown*



Women & Girls*



Men & Boys*



People with Disabilities**



Projected Returnees

Up to _____ Türkiye: **300,000** _____ Lebanon: **200,000***** _____ Jordan: **75,000**

Please note that the figures are preliminary DRAFT figures, as the planning process in 3RP countries is still ongoing.

Note: Percentages may not sum to exactly 100% due to rounding.

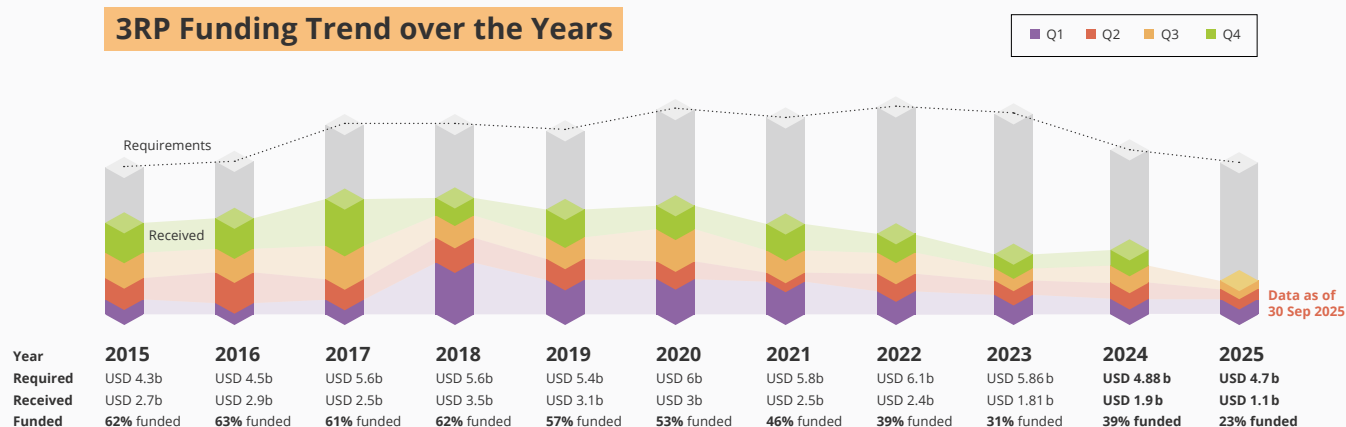
* Regional Estimation for targeted refugee population in Türkiye, Lebanon, and Jordan, based on available data. Data Source: [UNHCR data portal](#), as of 18 Dec 2025.

** Note: The number of persons with disabilities in the region is an estimation. Persons with disabilities make up an estimated 15% of any population, with higher numbers expected in situations of forced displacement.

*** Lebanon, projected returnees: The aim is to enable some 400,000 Syrians to return within the first six months of 2026, including those able to return spontaneously using their own resources; while sectors have budgeted to support returns for up to 200,000 individuals who will seek direct assistance to return in 2026.

Funding Overview

3RP Funding Trend over the Years



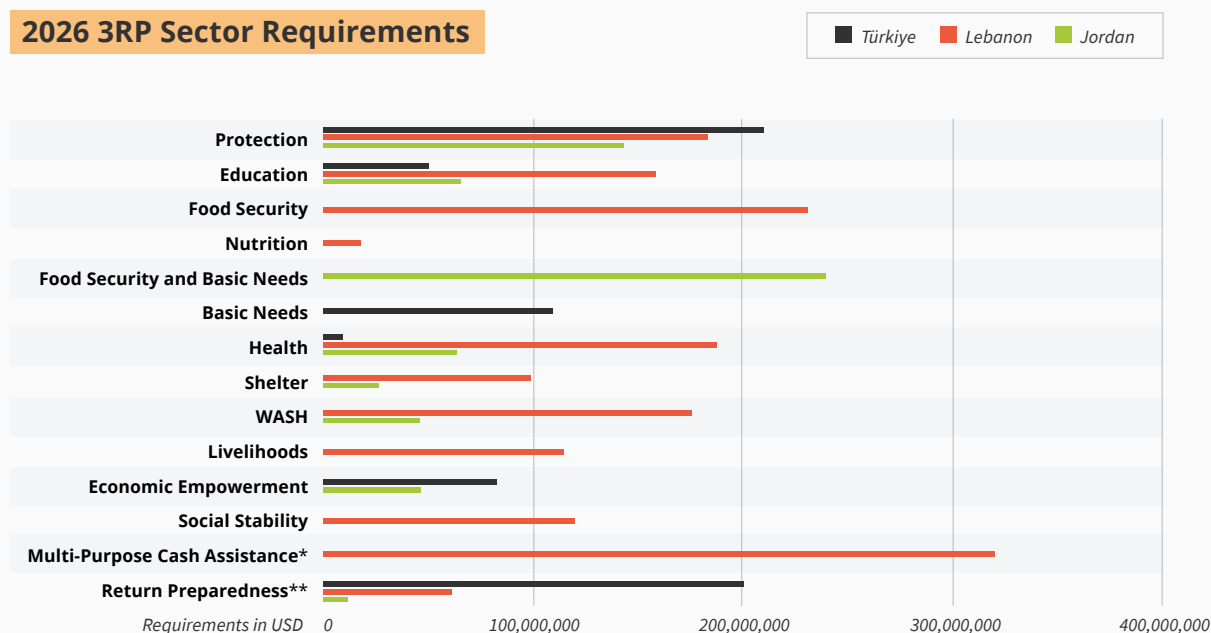
2026 Financial Requirements

USD 2,743,598,374

Total Required



2026 3RP Sector Requirements



Please note that while some sectors (Protection, Education, Health) apply across all countries, other sectors are country-specific.

* **Lebanon:** The Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) chapter in 2026 replaces the former Basic Assistance sector following their merger. The Cash Working Group (CWG) is responsible solely for coordinating MPCA and will therefore reflect only this component in the MPCA chapter. Sector-specific cash interventions (e.g., cash for rent under Shelter) are reflected under the relevant sector budgets.

** **Return Preparedness** is listed as a separate sector for Jordan. For Lebanon and Türkiye, the amounts shown are symbolic and are already reflected under other sectors.

Guiding Principles and Approaches

Global Compact on Refugees (GCR)

Recognizing that international cooperation is necessary to address displacement in a sustainable manner, the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) was developed as a framework for achieving more equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing. The 3RP's innovative HDP Nexus coordination was itself an inspiration for the GCR's whole-of-society approach. The 3RP continues to advocate for international donors' support to promote protection and solutions for refugees and host communities by enhancing and including refugees in national services until a durable solution is found. The participation of the Syrian Government, for the first time ever, at the Global Refugee Forum Progress review in December 2025, and the pledge announced to support the return and reintegration of forcibly displaced people, are a tangible sign of the new authorities' commitment to achieve solutions under the GCR framework.

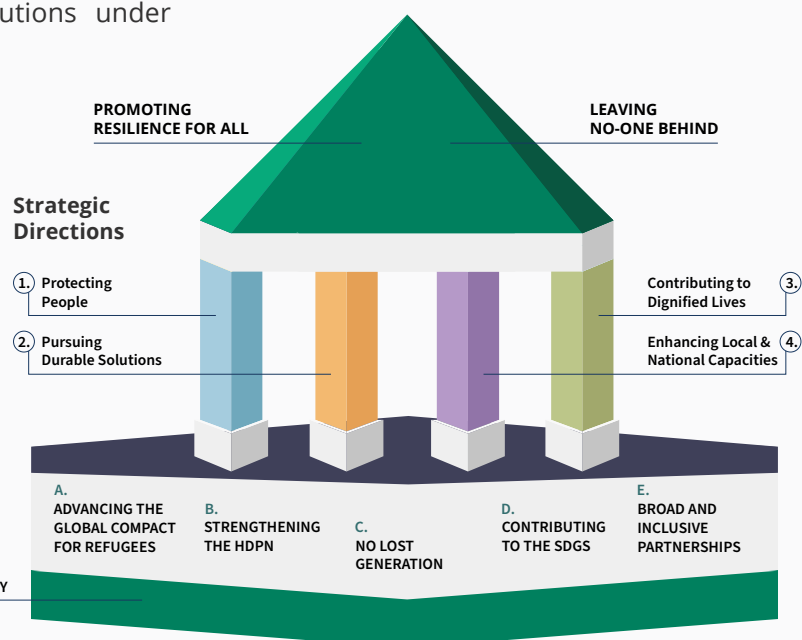
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The governments of Lebanon, Jordan and Türkiye remain committed to achieving the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. However, the protracted Syrian crisis unavoidably impacts the capacity of host countries to fully enact this ambitious agenda.

Through its interventions, the 3RP contributes to a wide spectrum of SDGs and their associated targets, with SDGs mainstreamed in 3RP planning and monitoring processes.

Looking ahead, the 3RP will continue placing a focus on how interventions can continue to advance the implementation of the SDGs and support host governments in localizing the SDGs and meeting SDG targets.

Conceptual Framework



'Resilience for All'

The concept of 'resilience for all' was introduced in 2020 to describe an approach of helping both refugees and host communities to be self-reliant and included, where possible, in local and national systems, plans and policies. The 3RP's resilience programming strives to support host communities' and refugees' self-reliance and the capacities of local and national systems to guarantee access to essential services. 3RP partners have also been working with public institutions at different levels by providing financial and technical support. While acknowledging that national systems are strained, refugees can make a positive contribution to the country in which they work and earn livelihoods while contributing to the economy (e.g., growth, employment, taxes, etc.).

Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDPN)

The 3RP has been at the forefront of bringing humanitarian and development approaches closer to each other, contributing to driving the triple Nexus agenda globally. The resilience-based development approach adopted in the 3RP reinforces the position that the HDPN is critical to providing effective short- and longer-term solutions for host communities and refugees. The 3RP links humanitarian and resilience-based development interventions in various areas including protection, food security, education, health, basic needs, shelter, WASH, and livelihoods and economic empowerment, with an emphasis on identifying interventions and modalities that can promote sustainability. The emphasis on the promotion of social stability and cohesion and conflict sensitivity is of particular significance for the implementation of the 'peace' dimension of the HDPN in the 3RP.



Photo by Takaful Al Sham

Since its launch over five years ago, the Ru'ya Program of Takaful Al Sham Charity (TAS) has trained more than 2,000 adolescents. The Ru'ya Curriculum for Youth Development & Empowerment is structured around six integrated axes: Interpersonal Skills and Thinking, Values and Ethics, Identity and Mission, Career Path, Social Skills, and Community Initiatives.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

Conflict and instability heighten vulnerabilities and may hinder affected populations from accessing protection and assistance services. In this context, community outreach, empowerment, and localization are critical to supporting the identification of protection needs and risks and ensuring equal access to information, protection, and assistance. Safe and accessible feedback and complaints mechanisms will remain central to accountability efforts, alongside initiatives to build trust, counter misinformation, and promote social cohesion to strengthen participation and accountability.

Between January and September 2025, contact centers in Türkiye, Jordan, and Lebanon handled queries related to cash, registration, resettlement, return, healthcare, and legal protection. In the same period, participatory assessments, community dialogues, and awareness-raising initiatives supported access to asylum, services, child protection, GBV prevention, and the inclusion of persons with disabilities and diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, expressions, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC).

In 2026, 3RP partners will continue to enhance community outreach and engagement through digital and face-to-face approaches, including by expanding outreach volunteer programmes and community protection networks and strengthening community and grassroots organisations through coordination and capacity development. All actions will be guided by an Age, Gender, and Diversity (AGD) approach to ensure that women, men, girls, boys, and persons with diverse backgrounds are meaningfully included and their specific needs addressed.



Photo by Humanity & Inclusion

With support from Humanity & Inclusion's Early Intervention program, Ahmad, a young Syrian refugee living in Jordan, has transformed his social and developmental skills. Struggling with delays in language, social interaction, and responsiveness, he received 40 home-based sessions and targeted therapy. Now, he plays with other children, interacts with people around him, and is preparing to join kindergarten.

Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

Risks of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) increase during crises and displacement when populations, especially women and children, rely on humanitarian and existing protection mechanisms break down. The responsibility of 3RP partners to take all necessary measures to protect those affected by crises and displacement from SEA is crucial, especially given the prolonged Syria crisis compounded by multiple emergencies in the region, as well as reduced humanitarian and development funding and livelihood opportunities.

Building on previous achievements, in 2026, 3RP partners will continue to expand efforts to strengthen SEA prevention and response measures across sectors. Priorities include responsible staff recruitment with systematic vetting and reference checks and providing PSEA training to all staff. Ongoing engagement with communities on their rights and reporting mechanisms, enhancing accessible, inclusive, and safe feedback/grievance and response systems in consultation with all community groups, and ensuring survivor-centred assistance with safe referrals to GBV response services will be critical priorities, too. Moreover, aligning with core principles, capacity-building for partners to conduct investigations per global standards, reinforcing the role of PSEA Focal Points and the Inter-Agency PSEA Network, and improving coordination among humanitarian and development organisations, government agencies, local partners, and non-traditional actors will promote the prevention of and response to SEA.

Prioritisation

The 3RP is a country-led, regionally aligned plan composed of three country chapters (Lebanon, Jordan, and Türkiye) with needs-based annual appeals, developed in consultation with host governments and key stakeholders. In preparing the 2026 appeal, the 3RP relies on the prioritisation guidance established for the 2024 planning process and adapted for 2026. While recognizing that emerging global and regional crises are increasing pressures on partners' funding and response capacities, it remains critical that sufficient resources are allocated to the Syrian response. Notably, the 2026 appeal stands at USD 2.74 billion, reflecting a continued prioritisation effort and streamlined requirements compared to the 2025 appeal of USD 4.7 billion, the 2024 appeal of USD 4.9 billion, and the 2023 appeal of USD 5.8 billion. This reflects consecutive years of prioritisation at country level, alongside a changed regional context and funding landscape.

The 3RP has set out four key principles to integrate prioritisation into its appeal:

- ▶ **Commitment and accountability by individual agencies towards beneficiaries.**
- ▶ **Ownership and leadership of national and local governments and localization efforts.**
- ▶ **Engagement of donors and fundraising perspectives.**
- ▶ **Promotion of coherent programming across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDPN), encouraging partners to avoid siloed approaches and align efforts towards durable solutions.**

Interagency coordinators will continue to assess prioritisation parameters at country level, while the 3RP Joint Secretariat will track funding trends, emerging challenges, and donor engagement at the regional level.

Strategic Directions

I. Protecting People

In a context of regional instability driving new large-scale displacement, maintaining or expanding protection space in 3RP countries is central to the response. Without a conducive protection environment, refugees face increased vulnerabilities and are unable to benefit from resilience-building or development opportunities.

Many Syrian refugees arrived without valid documents, impacting their access to civil rights in host countries. Ensuring access to civil registration and documentation is crucial for refugees' basic rights, freedom of movement, education, work services, and entitlements. Birth registration is particularly important to prevent statelessness. Efforts by host countries, in cooperation with other actors, have reduced the percentage of Syrian refugee children born without documentation from 35% in 2012 to between one and 5% in recent years. Timely registration of births, deaths, and marriages is critical to achieving durable solutions.

In 3RP countries, women and girls, especially those with specific needs, are disproportionately affected by GBV, including domestic violence, child marriage, sexual violence (affecting also boys, men, and those with diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC²²)), sexual exploitation, and online harassment. Stigma and cultural norms hinder survivors' ability to seek help. In 2026, priorities include ensuring access to quality, inclusive and community-driven specialized GBV services, evidence-based prevention efforts, promoting women and girls' empowerment through skills-building, education, and safe livelihood opportunities, ensuring culturally sensitive approaches, and mitigating GBV risks across all sectors.

Approximately half of refugees are children and are among the most affected by conflict and displacement, many of them facing family separation, child marriage, child labour, and other forms of exploitation, peer bullying, trauma and distress affecting their mental health and wellbeing, and increased vulnerability to physical and sexual abuse. Access to basic services like education, healthcare, social welfare, and birth registration remains challenging. In 2026, 3RP partners will continue their efforts to integrate refugee children and adolescents into national child protection, justice, and civil registration systems, as well as formal and non-formal education, through enhanced partnerships.

²² Sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics.

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) needs have surged due to prolonged displacement, economic hardships, active conflict and new displacement, earthquakes, increased discrimination, social tensions, and xenophobic violence. Stigma, misconceptions, and a general lack of specialized services in host countries can exacerbate these risks, with cases of increased self-harm, suicidal behaviours, and substance abuse, especially among children and adolescents. With limited access to services, in 2026 evidence-based and scalable MHPSS interventions, including community-based support and specialized mental health care, will be upheld to address these pressing needs.

Partners will also focus on community empowerment, promoting peaceful coexistence through digital and face-to-face solutions for both forcibly displaced and host communities. Progress will come through inclusive learning initiatives and engagement with community and grassroots organisations.

Unaddressed protection challenges may contribute to some Syrian refugees attempting onward movement. In 2025, onward movement by Syrians has been far more limited than in previous years but has included attempts to cross the sea from Lebanon, while several boats attempted to cross the sea directly from Syria. Small numbers of others have moved by air to Libya and then onwards across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe. Such journeys are inherently dangerous, and sustainable responses that go beyond protection and humanitarian interventions continue to be needed in order to contribute to more dignified lives for Syrian refugees in the countries in which they have sought protection.

**Lebanon,****October 2024:**

A Syrian refugee, displaced by the hostilities, holds his head while listening to the television news about the bombings in Lebanon, at the temporary lodgings in Beirut, where he and his family are staying after being forced to flee their home.

Photo by UNHCR / Ximena Borrazas

Gender, Youth and Persons with Disabilities



Conflicts, natural disasters, and economic crises have reversed development gains, including advancements in gender equality,²³ with gender gaps persisting²⁴ as conflicts turn into protracted humanitarian crises, disproportionately affecting women and girls. Emergency responses can either reinforce or challenge these inequalities²⁵ with e.g., adolescent girls and older women in humanitarian settings facing limited services and often being overlooked.²⁶

Displaced and refugee women often take on new roles due to economic pressures, potentially gaining decision-making authority but increasing burden, social pressure,²⁷ and risks of conflict, especially for women with disabilities. Notably, most Syrian refugee women in Jordan, Lebanon, and Türkiye earn low incomes which may lead to more harmful coping strategies, such as withdrawing children from school and child marriage for girls. Addressing gender inequalities is crucial to better meet the needs of and empower crisis-affected women and girls.

Persons with disabilities (PwD), including children, continue to face barriers to healthcare, shelter, and education, with risks of violence, exploitation, and discrimination heightened by displacement. Specialized support services and an inclusive environment, including participation in decision-making processes, are essential to safeguard their rights.

Women and girls continue to face significant sexual and reproductive health (SRH) challenges, including limited access to maternal care, contraceptives, and menstrual health resources. These challenges are further compounded by barriers such as high costs, lack of transportation, restrictive social norms, family dynamics, and insufficient mental health support. Many healthcare systems are also under-resourced, with limited availability of trained providers and integrated SRH services.

Strengthening the localization agenda through capacity building for women-led organisations (WLOs) is critical to addressing these needs effectively. By equipping these organisations with training, resources, and funding, WLOs can be empowered to deliver community-centered SRH services, enhance advocacy efforts, and create sustainable mechanisms to support the most vulnerable women and girls.

Refugee youth face significant protection risks, as many have been displaced for years and, in the absence of self-reliance opportunities may be vulnerable to exploitation, trafficking, and violence. Access to education, resilience programmes, skills development, and community engagement are essential to empower Syrian youth in 3RP countries.

²³ ESCWA: Arab States Sustainable Development Report (2020:12).

²⁴ Situational Analysis of Women and Girls in the MENA and Arab States Region: A Decade Review 2010 – 2020.

²⁵ UNFPA: Executive summary: In the aftermath Gender Considerations in Assessments of Syrian Regions Affected by the 2023 Earthquake. 2023.

²⁶ UNFPA: GBV Prevention and Response to Older Women in the WoS 2022 page 2.

²⁷ UNFPA: Rapid Review. In the aftermath Gender Considerations in Assessments of Syrian Regions Affected by the 2023 Earthquake. 2023. page 8.

II. Pursuing Durable Solutions

For Syrian refugees in 3RP countries, hope for voluntary repatriation has been renewed, but for many the prospect of return in the short term remains unlikely, while sustainable solutions in host countries remain limited. In the meantime, the demand for resettlement and complementary pathways far exceeds the available opportunities. Many Syrian refugees continue to face significant socio-economic challenges with limited access to formal employment, making them vulnerable to a range of protection risks. Some Syrian refugees may attempt to move beyond the region, exposing themselves to multiple dangers, including drowning, trafficking, exploitation, assault, and detention.

Pursuing durable solutions under the 3RP has always been grounded in the needs and intentions of Syrian refugees. Be it ultimately returning in safety and dignity to Syria, remaining in the host country or pursuing movement to a third country through resettlement or a complementary pathway, Syrian refugees must be the ones deciding on their future. The international community, 3RP countries and Syria must work together to ensure different solutions are available to Syrian refugees to suit their varying needs.

► Voluntary Repatriation:

Following the collapse of the Assad government in Syria in early December 2024, refugees in neighbouring countries have expressed elation and hope, as well as caution, about the prospect of returning to their homes. As of end-November 2025, over 1.2 million Syrians have returned. While the majority of refugee returns in 2025 have been voluntary and organized and resourced by refugees themselves ('self-organized'), many refugees also requested assistance as they were unable to cover associated costs or needed some support to enable their return, including legal aid, access to documentation, cash assistance, or transportation. To respond to these requests, voluntary repatriation programmes were gradually implemented in host countries to support refugees willing to voluntarily return to Syria.

Recent intention surveys conducted by UNHCR in partnership with the World Bank, including the [Enhanced Regional Survey on Syrian Refugees' Perceptions and Intentions on Return to Syria \(eRPIS\)](#), build on the trends outlined earlier in this overview and highlight the coexistence of strong aspirations to return with persistent hesitations. Across Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and Lebanon, eight in ten refugees continue to express hope of returning to Syria one day, while only 18% plan to do so within the next year, a decline from 27% earlier in 2025.

The comprehensive protection and solutions approach²⁸ focuses on the four solutions of: 1) Voluntary, safe, and dignified return to Syria; 2) Local solutions and opportunities, such as legal stay; 3) Resettlement to a third country; 4) Access to a third country through legal means other than resettlement (complementary pathways). With a new focus on the first of these solutions, sustained support to asylum countries is essential to ensure adequate protection space for those remaining and the voluntariness of the process for those choosing to return.

On 16 December 2024, [UNHCR released a new position on returns to Syria](#), reiterating that all refugees have the fundamental right to return to their country of origin at a time of their choosing, and all returns must be voluntary, safe and dignified. The position encourages support for refugees seeking to return as conditions allow, while underlining that during such times of uncertainty, widespread destruction and continued high levels of displacement, UNHCR is not promoting large scale voluntary repatriation to Syria.

In early 2025, 3RP partners, under the leadership of UNHCR and through the Regional Durable Solutions Working Group (RDSWG), developed a [Regional Interagency Preparedness Plan for Refugee²⁹ Returns \(IAPPR\)³⁰](#) to establish a common framework, principles, and standards to guide preparedness for voluntary refugee returns to Syria. The IAPPR served as a foundational reference to support the development and updating of country-level interagency return preparedness plans within the overall framework of the 3RP.

Building on this framework, return-related planning and coordination in 2026 continue to be led through the RDSWG at the regional level and through country-led Durable Solutions Working Groups (DSWGs) or equivalent coordination structures at national level. These mechanisms ensure that return planning reflects the evolving context, updated figures, and country-specific operational realities, as detailed in the respective country chapters of this plan.

► Access to Local Opportunities and Solutions:

Expanding local opportunities and solutions is a vital requirement across the refugee population in 3RP countries. While these opportunities may vary in scale and scope, refugees need a supportive legal and policy framework that safeguards their rights and provides socio-economic prospects to enhance self-reliance. The 3RP will continue to advocate for supportive legal and policy frameworks and a conducive environment for sustainable service delivery that is on par with what is available to host communities. It will also promote access to formal and decent employment, financial resources, and the development of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). This aims to bridge the gap between refugees' skills and the demands of the local job market. Achieving this necessitates establishing strategic partnerships, not only with the private sector but also with local governments and service delivery partners, to ensure comprehensive inclusion in service delivery systems. These partnerships will focus on training, certification, and recognition of education, qualifications, and skills while addressing gender inequalities. Exploring connections to provide access to skill development for opportunities in third countries will also be considered, as it can have positive ripple effects, benefiting those who remain in host countries.

²⁸ [UNHCR Comprehensive protection and solutions strategy](#).

²⁹ Reference to refugees and returnees throughout the IAPPR refers to any citizen or habitual resident of Syria who is currently outside the country, irrespective of their legal status in the host or asylum country, e.g. Palestine refugees, stateless persons.

³⁰ The IAPPR was developed through a series of consultations with Regional Durable Solutions Working Group members through the Returns Preparedness Task Force (RPTF), including a workshop in January 2025.

► Resettlement and Complementary Pathways:

For the past decade, UNHCR and partners have been advocating for multi-year, predictable resettlement quotas to provide protection and vital support for Syrian refugees. Even in the context of returns to Syria, resettlement and complementary pathways remain a critical durable solution for many. Syrian refugees are the refugee population with the second highest global resettlement needs, with over 440,000 Syrian refugees projected to be in need of resettlement in 2026.³¹ Even in the wake of uncertainty and the hope and possibility that Syrians who chose to go home will be able to go home, UNHCR and partners must continue to advocate for predictable resettlement quotas for Syrian refugees.

The availability of resettlement as a solution and ultimately a protection tool is a must. Without knowing how the situation will settle in Syria, in the best-case scenario of large-scale voluntary returns to Syria, there will exist Syrian refugees who will continue to face international protection needs and cannot return to Syria. Amongst those refugees, there will be many that continue to need lifesaving protection interventions, such as resettlement. Alternative pathways for the most vulnerable including humanitarian visa and admissions programmes are also needed, as they provide an additional safe pathway for those at heightened risk.

This in combination with the expansion of complementary pathways, such as labour and education opportunities, remains a priority to enhance international responsibility-sharing, in line with the GCR and ensuring that refugees have agency and decision-making power in their futures. In the short term, complementary pathways involve sustained efforts to boost partnership networks and systems while advocating for the removal of obstacles over time. Having established local coordination structures across the MENA region, local working groups and partners coming together will ensure the long-term vision for equal access to pathways which relies on independent partnerships that connect with local resilience and the refugees' capacity to return to their home country. This approach also involves building the HDP Nexus to support these broader goals.




³¹ [Projected global resettlement needs 2026.](#)

III. Contributing to Dignified Lives

In response to the socio-economic impacts of displacement and regional crises, and with the majority of Syrian refugees remaining in host countries, the 3RP aims to promote dignified lives by supporting refugees' and vulnerable host communities' access to essential services, employability, decent work and livelihoods, and social services/ social assistance. With rising poverty and strained public systems in host countries, the 3RP continues to emphasize multi-purpose cash assistance and cash-for-food programmes to meet critical needs, despite shrinking international funding. Ensuring that the most vulnerable populations, including children and youth, can access quality education, vocational training, and social safety nets is central to this vision, promoting both immediate relief and long-term stability.

The provision of decent work opportunities is essential for supporting the resilience of individuals and households. However, underfunding in the livelihoods sectors limits refugees' ability to achieve economic inclusion. The 3RP partners are committed to expanding economic empowerment to both refugees and vulnerable host community members focusing on improving skills and promoting employability through stronger partnerships with governments, international financial institutions, and the private sector. Increasingly, linkages with livelihoods opportunities in Syria are relevant, and technical exchanges between livelihoods sectors and actors have been initiated.

 Click to view
the full story



With support from Anera and UNICEF, Ismail has gained the skills to farm independently, a profession that will benefit him for a lifetime.

Video by UNICEF Lebanon

These efforts aim to unlock new economic opportunities, encourage entrepreneurial activities, and leverage private sector infrastructure to facilitate responses that benefit both refugees and host communities. Building linkages between education, skills development, and employment opportunities enhances human development outcomes, ensuring a better quality of life and greater self-reliance. Furthermore, by making efforts towards aligning and harmonizing refugee assistance with national child protection and social protection systems, the 3RP enhances social and financial inclusion and aligns its support with national development priorities. This ensures the efficient delivery of services while strengthening institutions and fostering collaboration with civil society and private-sector entities.

With half of the Syrian refugee population under 18 years of age,³² and rapid population growth in host countries, investments in child protection, education, family welfare services and youth development are critical. The provision of sustainable, equitable, and quality education for refugees and their host communities, and ensuring their access to these services, is vital for supporting positive human development outcomes and 'leaving no one behind'. The number of out-of-school Syrian children remains a concern in several 3RP countries. In 2024, 34% of Syrian children had never attended school in Türkiye³³ and 11% in Jordan.³⁴ The 3RP's work enhances education and upskilling, and ensures access to all education tracks, including vocational and technical education, complementary child protection, and family welfare services. Addressing the issue of out-of-school children and ensuring equitable access to all educational tracks, including vocational education, are key priorities. Through this multi-faceted approach, the 3RP remains committed to supporting refugees and vulnerable populations in living dignified lives in continued displacement, while reinforcing the stability, capacity, and resilience of host communities and national systems.

 Click to
learn more

Photo of Banu Odaman, who participated in the 'I Am Trained for My Job' programme, conducted in partnership with the ILO Office for Türkiye and Youth Deal Cooperative. The initiative is aimed at increasing labour force participation in Izmir, particularly targeting youth and women who have taken a break from work due to family caregiving responsibilities.

Photo by ILO / Bülent Küfel

³² As of 1 December October 2025, 48% of UNHCR registered Syrians are under 18, UNHCR Operation Data Portal, Syria Regional Refugee Response.

³³ UNICEF (2024) Report on analysis for out-of-school Syrian children.

³⁴ UNICEF (2020) Jordan country report on out-of-school children.

IV. Enhancing Local and National Capacities

Host governments and their national systems across the 3RP countries continue to struggle to meet the needs of the populations they serve, as displacement continues to be protracted. In urban settings, where more than 94% of Syrian refugees reside,³⁵ municipalities, among other governmental entities, face increasing challenges in ensuring equitable access to and provision of infrastructural services for both refugees and host communities. Notwithstanding, municipalities and local authorities play a crucial role in maintaining social stability and cohesion at the community level. In certain countries, they are also engaged in local economic development and fostering partnerships with the private sector and development actors. Some municipalities have been providing additional services despite receiving little or no support from the central governments, which may not be sustainable.

The 3RP renews its commitment to strengthening support for local and national capacities to ensure the provision of quality services, sustainable and long-term impact of the refugee response. 3RP partners will continue to align programmes with local and national plans and priorities, working in close coordination and partnership with institutions at local, sub-national, and national levels. Cooperation through partnerships with local and national institutions and with local and national civil society ensures that the increasingly stressed systems are supported to meet the growing needs of refugees and host communities, including through technical and human capacity-building and sharing.

Over the coming year, 3RP partners' efforts will continue to focus on social infrastructure development (e.g., schools, health facilities, waste management, and water networks), the provision of equipment (e.g., solid waste trucks, IT equipment), and the development of civil servants' capacities to deliver more effective responses. These efforts are especially relevant to enable those systems to access and absorb larger amounts of funding, particularly through loans and blended finance support from IFIs.



Photo by UNDP Türkiye

UNDP Türkiye's "Villages of Tomorrow" initiative equips local communities in Adana and Izmir with skills in smart agriculture, e-commerce, and coding. The project fosters sustainable development and aims to expand to 10 villages, benefiting over one million people by 2028.

³⁵ UNHCR Operation Data Portal, Syria Regional Refugee Response.



Photos by Relief International/Mazen Yammine

Relief International has been operating in Lebanon since 2007, supporting Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese communities with life-saving healthcare, education programming, and livelihoods assistance under the Lebanon Response Plan. Today local staff continue to provide regular support to those in need while expanding their activities to address the heightened needs caused by the escalation of hostilities.

Social Cohesion and Tensions



Social cohesion remains a core element of the 3RP as host communities and refugees continue to navigate mounting socio-economic pressures, shrinking assistance, and heightened vulnerability. Strengthening trust, inclusion, and community-level resilience continues to be essential to prevent tensions, safeguard stability, and enable adaptive, sustainable solutions in this rapidly shifting context. The 3RP response integrates social cohesion across multiple initiatives, although with different approaches by country. In Türkiye and Jordan, while there is no dedicated social cohesion sector, elements of cohesion and context sensitivity are embedded across the response, including in protection, livelihoods, and education interventions. Efforts focus on language training, engaging refugees in local governance, supporting life skills, MHPSS, and violence prevention programmes, addressing peer bullying among children and adolescents, and fostering workplace inclusion through Syrian businesses and refugee employment. In Lebanon, the response includes conflict-sensitive strategies, including benefiting from the analysis of the Tensions Monitoring System (TMS). Lebanon also hosts a standalone sector on social stability, ensuring 'do-no-harm' principles are applied across all sectors.



Photo of Jacky, the creative entrepreneur behind the eco-friendly brand Bougie a la Mode.

“With UNDP Lebanon’s support through equipment provision, packaging, and raw materials, I managed to diversify and develop new products to attract new customers. I succeeded in reaching new markets and my profits increased.”

To sustain business operations and foster employment opportunities for women and youth, UNDP, in partnership with Norway, supported over 150 SMEs, cooperatives, and farmers through essential training and in-kind grants.

Photo by UNDP

Mamdouh, a farmer from Minya Governorate in Egypt, is among those who participated in training courses on modern irrigation techniques like sprinklers and drip irrigation via CARE Egypt, and was then able to boost his crop yield, expand his land, and unlock new opportunities for himself and his family.

At 58 years old, Mamdouh has spent more than half his life working his land. Yet, he remained eager to learn, grow, and evolve. Through the ‘She Feeds the World’ program, he successfully enhanced the quality of his crops, increased their quantity, and reduced costs. By utilizing modern irrigation techniques, farmers can conserve water and achieve sustainability.



[Click to learn more](#)

Photos by CARE Egypt

A young boy with dark hair and a bright smile is sitting on a large, light-colored rock. He is wearing a blue and white striped t-shirt and dark blue sweatpants. He is barefoot. The background shows a dusty, arid landscape with several small, makeshift buildings made of corrugated metal and wood. Power lines are visible in the distance under a clear blue sky.

"Summer is my favourite season because I have more time to spend outdoors running and playing with my friends. I feel upset that summer is ending and winter is approaching. Winter makes life in the camp even tougher than it is. Despite the challenges, I will study hard and achieve all my dreams,"
says Ahmad, a 12-year-old Syrian refugee in Zaatari camp, Jordan.

Photo by UNHCR / Shawkat Al Harfoush

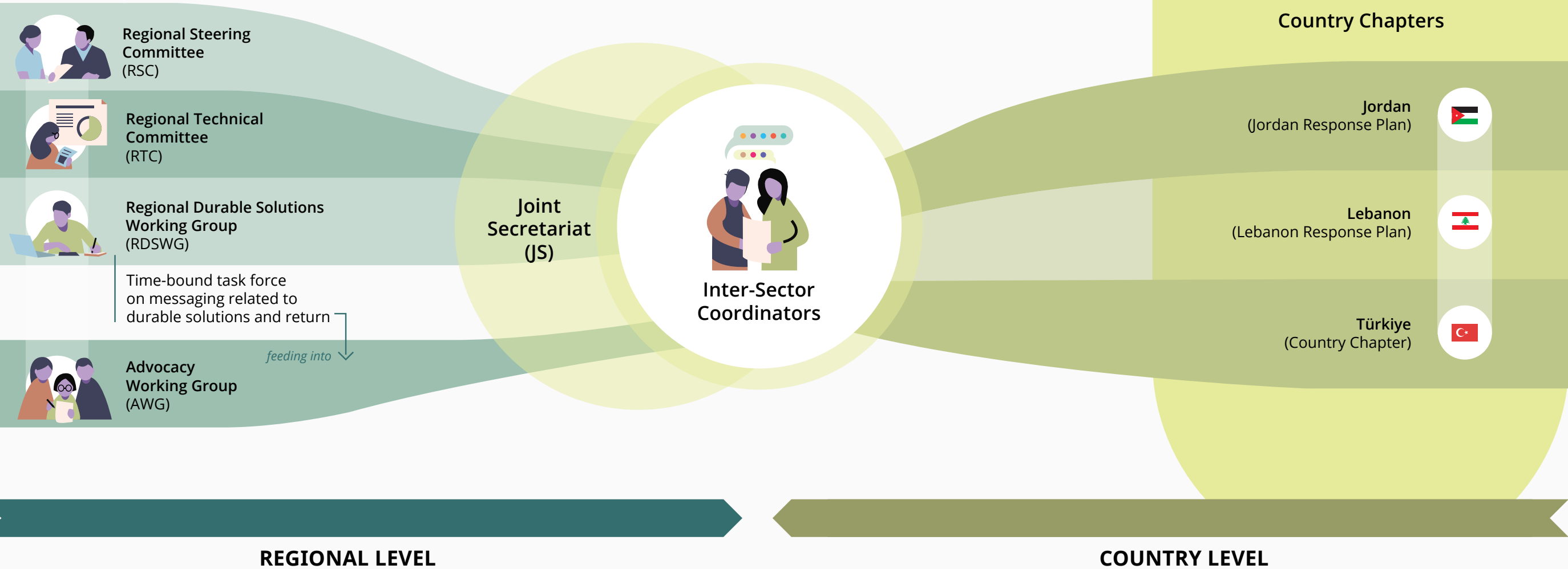
Partnership and Coordination

The 3RP is a strategic coordination, planning, advocacy, fundraising, and programming platform to respond to the Syria crisis.

The 3RP is a comprehensive regional plan with three nationally led response plans, which are developed through the respective coordination structures consisting of governments, UN agencies, and I/NGOs.

Bringing together around 200 humanitarian and development partners at the country and regional level, the 3RP's comprehensive approach has successfully channeled over USD 27 billion through the plan since its inception.

Additionally, the 3RP recognizes actors that operate beyond the 3RP structures but are involved in the Syria crisis response, such as international financial institutions and bilateral development partners who provide support to the host governments' efforts to ensure they can continue supporting refugees and affected host communities.



Needs: Country Overview

Türkiye³⁶



Protection:

Protection challenges for Syrian refugees include language barriers: only 15% are fluent in Turkish; health issues: 27% of households experiencing chronic medical needs, and 20% encountering barriers to healthcare access, primarily due to financial constraints (15%) and language (14%); persisting education gaps: with over 300,000 children out of school and an estimated 20% not enrolled in formal education as of 2024; and vulnerable housing -70% of households living in substandard housing.



Photo by UNHCR / Antoine Tardy



Livelihood:

National unemployment is a concern, expected at 8.96% overall and 17% for Turkish youth aged 15-24 in 2026, while 66% of Syrians under temporary protection are out of the labour force and only 10% of active Syrian refugees have formal employment.



Basic Needs:^{37,38,39}

Syrian refugee households have urgent needs, with 91% unable to cover expenses, 83% reporting worsening financial conditions, and 82% adopting food coping strategies. There is a significantly high multi-dimensional poverty, particularly among female-headed households (60%). In 2024, 14.4% of Turkish people were considered at risk of poverty, with household debt reaching 11% of GDP.

Aicha, 33, fled Syria to Türkiye in 2013, interrupting her civil engineering studies. Learning Turkish and supported by a DAFI scholarship, she completed her degree in 2017. After gaining Turkish citizenship in 2018, she worked with organizations like the Red Crescent. Now a case manager at Relief International, she is pursuing a Master's in Civil Engineering at Yıldız Teknik University.

³⁶ See: *Türkiye: 3RP Country Chapter - 2024 Update (ENG) and Inter-Agency Protection Sector Needs Assessment Round 7*.

³⁷ World Bank poverty and equity brief.

³⁸ Türkiye Household Debt.

³⁹ ILO Modelled Estimates (ILOSTAT, 2024).



Lebanon⁴⁰



Protection:

The main protection risks for Syrians include limited documentation (only 18% with valid residency), limited access to education (59% primary attendance, 19% secondary), high rates of child labour (7%) and child marriage (girls aged 15–19) (17%), inadequate housing (over 50% living in substandard conditions, 19% at risk of collapse), and restricted access to healthcare, with over one third of households facing barriers, primarily due to affordability.



Livelihoods:

Prior to the hostilities in September 2024, employment among refugees has been noted to have increased to 41%, with important disparities remaining (male participation in the labour force reaching 75%, while female participation remaining at 19%). A UNDP rapid appraisal conducted in 2024 estimated that rising unemployment will affect approximately 1.2 million workers across the country.⁴⁷



Basic Needs:^{41,42,43,44}

Lebanese people face severe economic and food security challenges and a poverty rate of 44% in 2022, up from 12% in 2012. Debt, primarily for food and rent, affects 89% of Syrian households and 65% fall below the SMEB,⁴⁵ and 71% below the MEB,⁴⁶ with food (52%) and rent (9%) being their largest expenses.

October 2024: Syrian refugees Layen, 9, Intissan, 7, and Shahd, 3, sit together in the bedroom of the temporary lodgings in west Beirut, Lebanon, where they are living after their family was forced to flee their home in Burj Barajneh refugee camp, because of Israeli airstrikes on the southern suburbs of Beirut.



Photo by UNHCR / Ximena Borrazas

⁴⁰ 2025 VASYR.

⁴¹ Macro Trends.

⁴² World Bank (May 2024).

⁴³ IPC.

⁴⁴ WFP.

⁴⁵ Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket.

⁴⁶ Minimum Expenditure Basket.

⁴⁷ UNDP (2024). *Economic and Social Consequences of the Escalating Hostilities in Lebanon - October 2024 - Rapid Appraisal*.



Jordan⁴⁸



Protection:

Approximately 69% of Syrian refugees live in sub-standard housing, with 16% residing in informal shelters and around 44% lacking formal rental agreements. Child labour remains prevalent, with around 11% of children engaged in labour and 21% of households relying on at least one working child. While around 78% of school-aged children are enrolled, approximately 11% have never attended school, mainly due to financial constraints and access barriers.



Basic Needs:

Food security continues to deteriorate among Syrian refugees, with around 20% experiencing poor food consumption and 26% borderline food consumption. While approximately 16% of Jordanians live below the national poverty line, refugee poverty remains significantly higher, with around 67% of Syrian refugees living below the poverty line in 2024. Refugee households continue to prioritise expenditure on rent and food, often at the expense of other essential needs.



Livelihood:^{49,50}

Labour market access for Syrian refugees remains constrained. In Q4 2024, unemployment among Syrian refugees stood at approximately 36%, compared to around 17% for Jordanians, while over 50% of refugees remain economically inactive. Employment levels declined compared to earlier in 2024, with only around 14% of adult Syrian refugees engaged in income-earning activities, largely informal. The removal of work permit waivers and limited availability of formal employment opportunities continue to push refugees toward informal and insecure livelihoods, constraining prospects for self-reliance for both refugees and host communities.



Photo by Relief International Jordan

Diana, a 15-year-old Syrian refugee in Za'atari camp, was on the verge of dropping out of school, feeling hopeless and unmotivated. Surrounded by cases of early marriage, she believed that getting married was her only option. However, with support from her counselor at Relief International, Diana regained her confidence and decided to stay in school. **"I want to become a photographer,"** she said. **"My counselor helped me focus on my dreams and believe in my ability to succeed."**

Mental health support plays a crucial role in addressing challenges like these and ensuring children stay in school, avoiding harmful coping mechanisms.

⁴⁸ Source: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Host Communities, Q4 2024.

⁴⁹ World Bank Poverty and Equity brief Jordan.

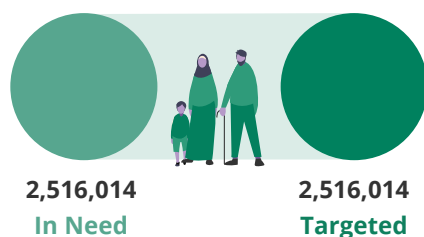
⁵⁰ OECD.



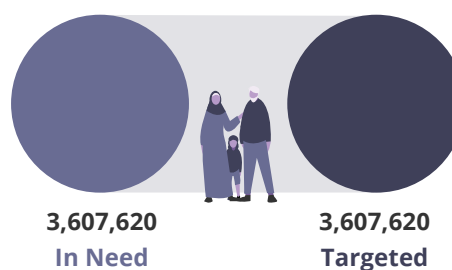
Türkiye

Population in 2026

Total Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Stateless Persons



Host Community Members



Projected Returnees



Please note that the figures are preliminary DRAFT figures, as the planning process in 3RP countries is still ongoing.

2026 Financial Requirements



Total Requirements
468,878,344 USD

Protection	210,823,111 US\$
Basic Needs	110,782,313 US\$
Economic Empowerment	84,210,787 US\$
Education	52,003,481 US\$
Health	11,058,652 US\$
Return Preparedness*	200,609,812 US\$

* **Return Preparedness** is listed as a separate sector here for visual representation. In Türkiye, the amounts shown are already reflected under other sectors listed above; hence, figures should not be interpreted as additional funding requirements.

Strategic objectives and response priorities

In 2026, rooted in a state-led and inclusive response framework while still hosting one of the largest refugee populations in the world, the 3RP Türkiye will continue to focus on three core objectives: contribute to protection of Syrians under temporary protection, international protection applicants and status holders, and impacted members of the host community; support inclusion and equitable access to services; and support harmonisation, self-reliance, and other transitional and durable solutions, including sustainable self-organized voluntary return. Amid declining funding, 3RP Türkiye will prioritise responsible programming and stronger localisation and sustainability.

The overall strategic direction is characterized by two interlinked dimensions. The first centres on sustaining protection space and inclusion in national systems in Türkiye through institutional support and complementary civil society programming across the humanitarian–resilience–development nexus. Emphasis will be placed on ensuring response sustainability at both programmatic and systems levels, advancing localisation and national ownership, and strengthening preparedness. Although the number of self-organised voluntary returns has increased since December 2024, significant needs persist as a large refugee population is expected to remain in Türkiye for the foreseeable future.

The second dimension concerns self-organised voluntary returns, focusing – under the leadership of the Government of Türkiye – on institutional and direct support to address needs related to self-organized return including information and material needs and to prevent new vulnerabilities, thereby enhancing the sustainability of returns. The approach will prioritise dignity, safety, informed decision-making, and voluntariness, while avoiding push factors that could lead to premature returns.

Given the size of the Syrian refugee population in Türkiye and the non-linear nature of solutions processes, these two response dimensions will remain of equal priority in 2026 to ensure self-organised returns are principled and sustainable as well as to adequately support those who opt to remain in Türkiye.

Return planning

Although voluntary returns from Türkiye to Syria have increased since December 2024, under the national framework for voluntary returns these movements remain voluntary and self-organised. There is no facilitated or promoted large-scale return programme in Türkiye in line with the UNHCR Position on Returns to the Syrian Arab Republic (December 2024) and the Government's position that all returns should be voluntary, safe, and dignified.

In coordination with the Presidency of Migration Management, 3RP partners will provide institutional support and implement complementary civil society programming supporting the self-organised voluntary return process. This support primarily aims to support principled approaches and enhance sustainability of return movements; this will include strengthening of protection safeguards such as ensuring informed decision making and voluntariness through observation of return interviews, prioritized financial support to those in situations of vulnerability, and ensuring access to timely and reliable information and counselling on administrative and legal practicalities relating to the decision to return.

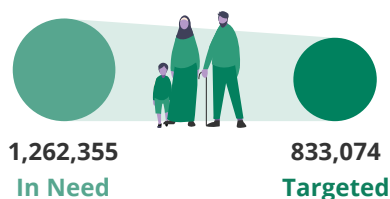
These efforts aim to support a rights-based process while, combined with continued support to the wider refugee population in Türkiye, prevent premature and unsustainable returns, including by avoiding inadvertent push factors.



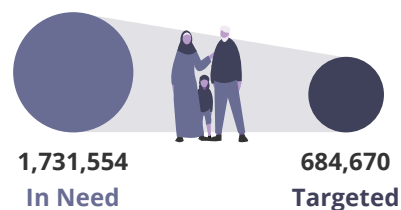
Lebanon

Population in 2026

Total Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Stateless Persons



Host Community Members



Projected Returnees

Up to



200,000 returnees*

Please note that the figures are preliminary DRAFT figures, as the planning process in 3RP countries is still ongoing.

* The aim is to enable some 400,000 Syrians to return within the first 6 months of 2026, including those able to return spontaneously using their own resources; while sectors have budgeted to support returns for up to 200,000 individuals who will seek direct assistance to return in 2026.

2026 Financial Requirements



Total Requirements
1,620,595,030 USD

Protection	184,914,888 US\$
Education	160,053,393 US\$
Health	188,819,922 US\$
Shelter	100,276,165 US\$
WASH	177,000,000 US\$
Food Security	231,647,400 US\$
Nutrition	19,548,415 US\$
Livelihoods	116,076,000 US\$
Social Stability	120,756,750 US\$
Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance**	321,502,097 US\$
Return Preparedness***	62,000,000 US\$

** The Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) chapter in 2026 replaces the former Basic Assistance sector following their merger.

The Cash Working Group (CWG) is responsible solely for coordinating MPCA and will therefore reflect only this component in the MPCA chapter. Sector-specific cash interventions (e.g., cash for rent under Shelter) are reflected under the relevant sector budgets.

*** Return Preparedness is listed as a separate sector here for visual representation. In Lebanon, the amounts shown are already reflected under other sectors listed above; hence, figures should not be interpreted as additional funding requirements.

Strategic objectives and response priorities

The 2026 Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) builds on the 2024–2025 plan as an integrated humanitarian and stabilization framework, co-led by the Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, and supported by a wide network of national and international partners.

The plan aims to respond holistically to the multiple crises facing Lebanon including residual humanitarian needs in conflict-affected areas as well as the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis through four Strategic Objectives (SOs):

1. **Provide immediate humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations to ensure that critical needs are met.**
2. **Enhance the protection of vulnerable populations.**
3. **Support service provision through national systems, including strengthening rapid response capacities.**
4. **Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social, and environmental stability.**

The response will adapt to current contextual and funding realities by streamlining coordination, sharpening prioritization, and ensuring that limited resources are channelled toward the most urgent and life-saving needs. Building on lessons from 2025, the LRP 2026 consolidates sectoral and sub-national structures to reduce duplication and enhance efficiency, while maintaining the humanitarian-stabilization focus agreed with the Government and partners.

In line with the Humanitarian Reset, coordination mechanisms have been restructured, promoting the centralization of sector coordination at national level and shifting sub-national engagement to area-based, inter-agency operational coordination.

The 2026 LRP also paves the road for transitioning toward greater Government ownership and alignment with the forthcoming National Recovery Framework and Cooperation Framework, while maintaining its focus on humanitarian-stabilization priorities.

Return planning

In 2025, return movements gained momentum amid a rapidly changing regional context following developments in Syria and the introduction of administrative facilitation measures by the Government of Lebanon.

By end of November 2025, nearly 380,000 Syrians known to UNHCR had returned to Syria, including over 45,000 Syrians under UNHCR's facilitated return program. Moreover, by November 2025, UNHCR and IOM, in collaboration with the General Security Office (GSO) facilitated 11 organized convoys for the return of 2,499 individuals to multiple governorates in Syria. Looking ahead, up to 200,000 Syrian refugees and 5,000 PRS are projected to return in 2026, mostly through self-organized modalities.

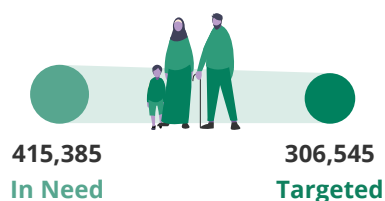
Six Return Spaces across Lebanon provide counselling, voluntariness assessments, civil documentation support, and USD 100 return grants, complemented by cross-border coordination with UNHCR, IOM, UNDP, and UNRWA to support reintegration inside Syria.

Despite progress, key protection and operational concerns persist in both Lebanon and Syria. In Lebanon, further support is needed to ensure the continuity of facilitation measures and remove barriers to return for persons with heightened needs, while in Syria, continued investment is needed to address challenges of limited access to housing, livelihoods, and services in areas of return, and gaps in documentation.

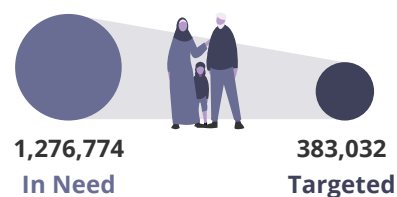
Jordan

Population in 2026

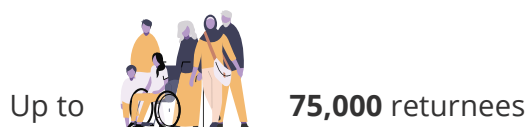
Total Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Stateless Persons



Host Community Members



Projected Returnees



Please note that the figures are preliminary DRAFT figures, as the planning process in 3RP countries is still ongoing.

2026 Financial Requirements



Total Requirements
654,125,000 USD

Protection	145,000,000 US\$
Education	67,300,000 US\$
Health	65,200,000 US\$
Shelter	27,500,000 US\$
WASH	47,000,000 US\$
Economic Empowerment	47,500,000 US\$
Food Security and Basic Needs	241,500,000 US\$
Return Preparedness	13,125,000 US\$

* Return Preparedness is a separate sector in Jordan.

Strategic objectives and response priorities

In 2026, the 3RP response will maintain a prioritized plan while strengthening linkages between the development system and the Syrian refugee response. As the situation evolves and voluntary returns occur, a renewed coordination architecture will be introduced to ensure efficiency and responsiveness to both humanitarian and development priorities. This structure will remain relevant until full inclusion of refugees in national services is feasible.

Key priorities include life-saving assistance for vulnerable populations, provision of food, cash, and shelter services in camps. Cross-cutting priorities will focus on:

- **Protection: Ensuring safety, dignity, and equitable access**
- **Gender and disability inclusion**
- **Strengthened communication with communities**

Efforts will streamline coordination mechanisms, reduce fragmentation, and promote coherent policy dialogue with government counterparts. A strong partnership with the Government of Jordan, particularly through MoPIC, will remain central to steering the response and maintaining a prioritized plan. The renewed architecture will reinforce linkages between development and refugee response while preserving distinct mandates. At the sector level, simplification will follow a phased approach, gradually integrating some refugee sectors into development groups, while others remain to meet operational needs.

Return planning

Following Syria's political transition in late 2024, voluntary returns from Jordan increased significantly in 2025, reaching over 175,000 compared to some 50,000 between 2018 and 2024. In 2026, an estimated 75,000 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR may return, a decrease linked to intentions spread over five years, limited access to basic services, and security volatility in parts of Syria. UNHCR and partners will provide legal aid, medical support, transportation, targeted cash assistance, accurate information, and coordination with actors in Syria to enable sustainable reintegration and protection monitoring. While returns will continue, challenges persist for those remaining in Jordan, including the need to mitigating push factors to prevent premature returns. Reduced funding and limited access to other durable solutions impact service delivery and risk undermining protection gains. Achievements related to returns include strengthened coordination with national authorities to uphold voluntariness of return and maintain access to essential services for those remaining in Jordan. The response, both for those choosing to return to Syria and those staying in Jordan, remains closely coordinated with the Government of Jordan, partners, refugees, and host communities.

Annexes

► Annex I: Advocacy



► Annex II: Options Paper



► Annex III: Definitions



January 2025, Lebanon. In a collective shelter in Mina, Tripoli, lives Rabab, a 39-year-old Palestinian refugee who was born and raised in southern Lebanon near Sour. Her life was upended in late September 2024 when escalating hostilities forced her family to flee, leaving their home destroyed and pushing them into displacement.

Despite a serious heart condition, Rabab perseveres for her five-year-old daughter. Her elderly husband is unable to work, and Rabab herself cannot find employment due to her health. Financial hardship has forced their daughter out of school, as the family's limited resources are spent entirely on basic needs.

Support from the Danish Refugee Council, including food assistance, has provided critical relief.

"Without this aid, we would be lost,"
Rabab says quietly.

While the assistance is a lifeline, Rabab's needs remain overwhelming. Like many displaced families, she continues to hope for stability, dignity, and a safer future for her child.

Photo by DRC Lebanon

Annex

Definitions

Syrian Returnees: All citizens or habitual residents of Syria who have or will return to Syria from both neighbouring and non-neighbouring countries, including Europe and other parts of the world, and who may hold refugee or asylum-seeker status, or may have multiple nationalities or be outside of Syria on the basis of other legal status.

Syrian Refugee Returnees:

Syrian individuals known to UNHCR by being registered in proGres (regardless of the status within proGres) or recorded by an operation (in the situation of Lebanon). In addition, those Syrian refugees registered by the Turkish authorities.

Self-Organized Return: Self-organized voluntary repatriation or spontaneous return is at the refugees' own initiative and through their own travel arrangements. UNHCR must ensure through monitoring that refugees' wish to return is indeed voluntary, and some support can be provided to certain categories of returnees. UNHCR has responsibilities for refugee protection and assistance, including in case of self-organized returns. This includes establishing and documenting on an ongoing basis the factors motivating self-organized returns. UNHCR's support for such returns is based on respect for the refugees' decision to repatriate. Self-organized voluntary returns can occur alongside facilitated returns affecting the same refugee population in one or in different countries of asylum.

Organized Return: Where UNHCR or host governments organize the voluntary repatriation for and with refugees. Organized return would happen under facilitation and/or promotion of return at different scales.

Support to Return Procedures

/Facilitation of Return: Where UNHCR organizes or supports groups or individuals who freely express the wish to repatriate. Support/ Facilitation (as opposed to promotion) may occur even when UNHCR considers that, in principle, it is only safe for some refugee groups or profiles to return. Support/ Facilitation can include provision of a repatriation grant/package or assistance with transport and should include an assessment of voluntariness of the return and the provision of a voluntary repatriation form (VRF).

Promotion of Return: UNHCR engages in promotion of voluntary repatriation where refugees freely express a wish to return, many have already returned, and UNHCR's assessment of the conditions in the country of origin foresees that most refugees will be able to continue returning in safety and with dignity. Promotion of return would see an expansion of activities under facilitation of return, including arranging transportation and provision of repatriation grants for larger groups and possibly in line with a tri-partite agreement.

Temporary Visits / Go and See Visits:

Some refugees return for short periods of time for a variety of reasons, including to check on property, assess the situation, visit elderly family members and accompany family members to the country of origin. These types of movement are normally allowed under a specific legal framework and do not constitute voluntary repatriation and should not impact their refugee status or other legal status in the country of asylum.

Repatriation: The voluntary return of refugees to their country of origin in safety and dignity. It is one of the three durable solutions for refugees, alongside local integration and resettlement.

⁵¹ For further information, see: UNHCR, *Operational Guidelines on Voluntary Repatriation – Internal and Provisional Release, 2022*, or refer to UNHCR's external voluntary repatriation section.



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