

INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

6 - 12 July 2014



This situation update is prepared by UNHCR Office of the Director, Middle East and North Africa Bureau. It provides a snapshot of the inter-agency regional humanitarian response in full coordination with host Governments and 163 partners across the region.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Planning for the 2015 Syrian refugee response has commenced. The regional response in 2015 will be organized in the form of a Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (RRRP) combining a refugee pillar, addressing the specific and distinct protection and assistance needs of refugees, and a strong resilience pillar, aimed at supporting national capacities and local communities.
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) have released its [report to support the operationalisation of a resilience-based development approach](#) in dealing with the Syrian refugee crisis. The UNDP-ODI report provides a critical review of vulnerability criteria and frameworks used by humanitarian partners to address the Syria crisis.
- Well into the fourth year of the Syrian crisis, 6.5 million Syrian children now need immediate humanitarian assistance, whether inside the country or living as refugees. The number is an increase of more than two million compared to just one year ago.

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REGIONAL FIGURES

2.9 million Syrian refugees have fled to neighbouring countries and North Africa

860,000 refugees outside camps are estimated to be living in sub-standard shelter

2.4 million people estimated to be in need of support to prepare for the next winter

1.7 million refugees require food assistance.

900,000 Syrian school-age children need education

Total number of refugees registered and awaiting registration **2,914,092**

Registered Refugees **2,873,233**

Awaiting Registration with UNHCR **40,859**

TURKEY
799,457
registered.

LEBANON
1,126,131
Registered: 1,086,885
Awaiting reg.: 39,246

IRAQ
220,210
Registered: 218,597
Awaiting reg.: 1,613

EGYPT
138,274
registered.

JORDAN
606,653
registered.

N. AFRICA*
23,367
registered.

* Morocco, Algeria and Libya

Sources AFAD, Government of Egypt, Government of Iraq, Government of Jordan, Government of Lebanon, UNHCR Regional Datawarehouse, Common Operational Dataset (COD), UNGIWG, Natural Earth, UNCS

0 25 50 100 150 200 kilometers

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

Refugee population as of 15 July 2014, based on available data. For updated figures, please visit <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees>

LEBANON: SUPPORTING VULNERABLE HOST COMMUNITIES

- With over one million registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon, many host communities require support to manage the additional number of residents and the additional pressure exerted on already fragile infrastructure.
- The 2014 Regional Response Plan (RRP6) for Lebanon places significant emphasis on support to Lebanese communities and on enhancing the capacity of government institutions. Some 25 per cent of the funding appealed for (US\$ 399 million) is dedicated to meet the needs of vulnerable Lebanese.

- Social cohesion - In the first five months of 2014, \$8.7 million were invested in 136 quick impact and short-term community support projects in vulnerable communities hosting high numbers of Syrian refugees. These projects aim to fill critical service gaps for populations most affected by the Syrian crisis and are implemented across all sectors. For example, municipalities are provided with waste collection trucks and bins and primary schools benefit from hygiene kits.



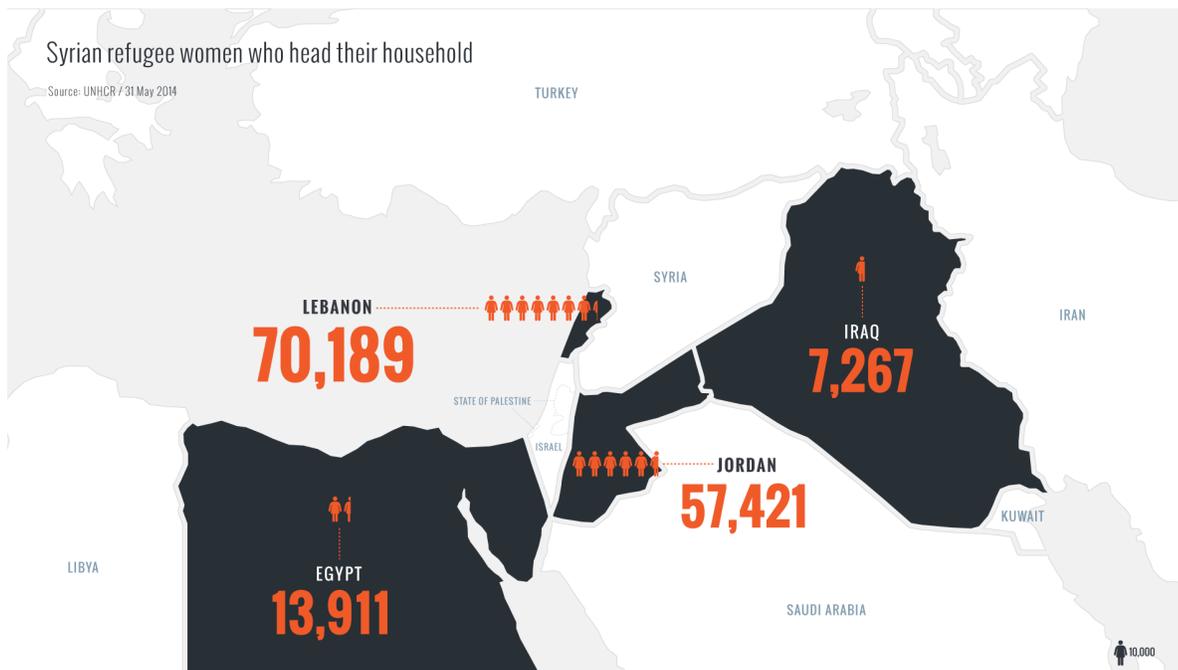
- Food assistance - Close to \$100 million in direct transfers has been injected into the Lebanese economy from January to May 2014 through food purchased by refugees in local shops.
- Education - More than 200,000 children have accessed formal and non-formal education programmes so far in 2014, of which 26,500 (17 per cent) are Lebanese. The school fees for this group accumulate to \$2,584,480 and a further \$275,000 has been invested in school supplies for Lebanese children. In addition, some 2,000 teachers and education personnel have been trained on active learning, classroom management and positive discipline in 2014.
- Health - All children under 5 years benefit from nation-wide immunization campaigns against polio, measles and rubella, as well as Vitamin A supplementation. Over 120 Public Healthcare Centres (PHCs) have been supported and 19 mobile medical units provide health services to remote communities for acute healthcare of refugees and Lebanese. Vulnerable Lebanese receive assistance in paying fees as do Syrian refugees, and over 66 hospitals are compensated on a fee for service basis for the treatment of refugees.
- Shelter - A recent shelter survey showed that 82 per cent of all refugees pay rent, with an average monthly payment of \$200 - injecting over \$32 million into the Lebanese economy every month. In addition, in the first five months of 2014, an additional \$13 million have been invested directly into host communities as part of the shelter response.
- WASH - Existing service delivery for the Lebanese community has been enhanced to benefit Lebanese and Syrian populations. Activities include improving the effectiveness and capacity of water supply systems, improving sanitation through repairs and upgrading of sewerage networks, and connecting households to these systems.
- A number of interventions in the RRP6 response to date contribute to the Government of Lebanon's National Stabilization Roadmap objectives. The link with the Roadmap and other national plans ensures that humanitarian investments are sustainable and deliver both immediate and long-term results for vulnerable Lebanese.

A family of 25 refugees from Homs live in an underground garage in the Beirut. They gather garbage day and night to sell to recycling companies. Two of their 13 children under 11 go to school; three work full time. The rest spend their day in the garage. UNHCR | L. Addario

145,000 SYRIAN REFUGEE WOMEN HEAD FAMILIES ALONE

- More than 145,000 Syrian refugee families in Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan – or one in four of all households – are headed by women facing a lone fight for survival, a new UNHCR report reveals today.
- The report highlights their daily struggle to make ends meet, as the women battle to maintain their dignity and care for their families in run-down overcrowded homes, insecure makeshift shelters and tents. Many live under the threat of violence or exploitation, and their children face mounting trauma and distress.
- "Woman Alone – the Fight for Survival by Syrian Refugee Women" is based on the personal testimony of 135 of those women, given over three months of interviews in early 2014. Forced to take sole responsibility for their families after their men were killed, captured, or otherwise separated, they are caught in a spiral of hardship, isolation and anxiety.
- The number one difficulty reported by the women is a lack of resources. Most of the women are struggling to pay the rent, put food on the table and buy basic household items. Many have reached the end of their savings – even selling off their wedding rings. Only one-fifth have paid work; many find it hard to get a job, or have too much else on their plate. Only one-fifth have support from other adult relatives. Some benefit from local generosity – such as landlords who let them stay rent free, or mosques. Some send their children to work. A quarter receive cash assistance from UNHCR and other aid agencies; two-thirds of those who got assistance are entirely dependent on it. A third of the women say they do not have enough to eat.
- Sixty per cent of the women interviewed expressed feelings of insecurity, and one in three were too scared or overwhelmed even to leave their homes.
- Over 150 organisations are providing services or support to Syrian refugee women and their families. The research found many examples of refugee women taking the initiative, supporting each other and working to find solutions to their daily struggle. It also highlighted many acts of kindness and generosity by host countries and communities.
- Nonetheless, the report found this assistance fell short of what was needed, and called on donors to do more to help Syrian refugee women get back on their feet and earn enough money to live. With visa or other restrictions separating one in five of the women from their husbands or families, the report also asked host governments to find solutions to re-

unite them with their families. Host communities also need massive support. Many of these women's difficulties – and rising tensions – reflect more general concerns in the communities around them.



SYRIANS CONTINUE TO RISK THEIR LIVES AND SEEK SAFETY FURTHER AFIELD

- The Libyan coast guard informed UNHCR on 7 July that it had recovered 12 bodies from a boat accident believed to have occurred on 6 July, including three Syrians. The boat, which had a capacity of about 200 passengers and may have been carrying many more people, is reported to have capsized off the coast of Tripoli. Search and rescue operations are ongoing.
- Over 500 people have died or remain missing from boat accidents in the Mediterranean so far in 2014.
- Almost 37,000 asylum-seekers and refugees are registered with UNHCR Libya in Tripoli and Benghazi, with Syrians making up the largest group (18,655). However, not all asylum-seekers are registered and many live in precarious conditions, with little legal access to employment. Asylum seekers have also been further displaced by the current unrest in Libya.
- UNHCR urges States worldwide to look at providing legal alternatives to dangerous sea journeys – such as increased family reunification, speedy resettlement and humanitarian admissions. Governments are additionally being encouraged to resist punitive or deterrent measures including detention for people seeking safety.



A Syrian mother on the Italian vessel, Verga, with her young children. They were rescued from a fishing boat carrying 219 people while attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea from Libya. UNHCR | A. D'Amato

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

ABAAD | [ACTED](#) | ActionAid | [Action contre la faim](#) | ADRA | [Al Majmoua](#) | AMAN | [AMEL](#) | ANERA | [Arab Medical Union](#) | Arc en Ciel | [ARDD-Legal Aid](#) | ARK | [Armadilla SCS](#) | Association de Charité Humanitaire | [Association Justice et Miséricorde](#) | AVSI | [BBC Media Action](#) | Beyond Association | [BMD](#) | British Council | [CARE International](#) | Caritas | [Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre](#) | Catholic Relief Services | [CCP](#) | Central Association for Kindergarten Supervisors League | [Centre for Victims of Torture](#) | Civil Development Organization | [Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli](#) | CONCERN | [DRC](#) | Emergency Life Support for Civilian War Victims | [ERC](#) | Family Guidance and Awareness Centre | [FAO](#) | FHI | [Finn Church Aid](#) | French Red Cross | [Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura](#) | GIZ | [Global Communities](#) | Gruppo di Volontariato Civile | [Handicap International](#) | Harikar | [Heartland Alliance International](#) | High Relief Commission | [Hilfswerk Austria International](#) | Human Relief Foundation | [Humedica](#) | ILO | [Institute for Family Health/Noor Al Hussein Foundation](#) | International Alert | [International Catholic Migration Commission](#) | International Children's Continenence Society | [International Medical Corps](#) | International Orthodox Christian Charities | [International Relief and Development](#) | International Rescue Committee | [Internews](#) | INTERSOS | [IOM](#) | IQRAA | [Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project](#) | Iraqi Youth League | [Islamic Relief Worldwide](#) | JBA | [JEN](#) | Jesuit Refugee Service | [JIM - NET](#) | Jordan Health Aid Society | [Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization](#) | Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development | [Jordan Red Crescent](#) | Jordan River Foundation | [Jordanian Women's Union](#) | KAFA | [KnK](#) | KURDS | [Lutheran Word Federation](#) | MADA | [Madrasati Initiative](#) | Mines Advisory Group | [Mahmoud Mosque Society](#) | Makassed | [Makhzoumi Foundation](#) | Medair | [Medical Aid for Palestinians](#) | Médecins du Monde | [Mercy Corps](#) | Mercy USA | [Ministry of Water and Irrigation](#) | Movement for Peace | [Muslim Aid](#) | NAJMAH | [National Centre for Culture and Arts](#) | NICCOD | [NRC](#) | Operation Mercy | [Organization for the Development of Women and Children](#) | Oxfam | [Peace Winds Japan](#) | People In Need | [Plan International](#) | Polish Centre for International Aid | [Psycho Social Training and Services Institute in Cairo](#) | PU-AMI | [Public Aid Organization](#) | QANDIL | [Qatar Red Crescent](#) | Questscope | [Rassemblement Democratique des Femmes du Liban](#) | REACH | [Refugee Education Trust](#) | Relief International | Refugee Egypt | [Resala](#) | Rescate | [RESTART](#) | Royal Health Awareness Society | [Safadi Foundation](#) | SAWA | [SCI KR-I](#) | [SCI](#) | [SCJ](#) | Search for Common Ground | [Secours Islamique France](#) | Seraphim GLOBAL | [SHEILD](#) | Solidar Suisse | [Solidarités International](#) | Soins infirmiers et developpement comunautaire | [SRC](#) | STEP | [Syria Relief and Development](#) | TADAMON | [Taghyeer](#) | TDH | [TDHI](#) | THW | [TRIANGLE GH](#) | UAE Red Crescent | [UNAMI](#) | UN Women | [UNDP](#) | UNESCO | [UNFPA](#) | UN-Habitat | [UNHCR](#) | UNICEF | [United Iraq Medical Society](#) | UNOPS | [Un Ponte Per](#) | UNRWA | [WAAJC](#) | War Child UK | [War Child Holland](#) | WARVIN | [WFP](#) | WHO | [World Rehabilitation Fund](#) | World Vision International | [Young Man's Christian Association](#) | Y-PEER

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