

Shelter partners across the region helping to prepare refugees to get through winter

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

In light of last year's cold and wet winter, Lebanon has started the 2015/16 winter preparation earlier this year. Already by the end of October, 127,332 persons living in Informal Settlements have been assisted in weather proofing, so that 92 per cent of this year's target is already met. The remaining will be assisted by the year's end. In addition, the Ministry of Social Affairs provided heavy-duty tarpaulins to cover leaking and faulty makeshift roofs: four partners distributed 5,000 in the North and in Akkar and three agencies 10,000 items in the governorates of Bekaa and Baalbek-Hermel (with another 2,500 planned for Aarsal). For 5,284 displaced Syrians in Informal Settlements, sites (drainage) were improved to ensure access and mitigate flooding. 3RP partners continue to procure shelter kits in the next months, which also include insulation kits that have proven, especially in higher altitudes, to well protect against winter cold.

A major winterization assessment was undertaken in Jordan's Zaatari camp during October (see story at right).

Also in Jordan, shelter partners renovated 60 properties and identified 125 extremely vulnerable refugee households for cash-for-rent assistance, which will be provided in November. Meanwhile in the camps, the restructuring of Zaatari progresses, efforts are ongoing to ensure proper distribution of shelters in line with a final layout plan of the camp which meets minimum standards whilst preserving social cohesion. In Azraq camp, 22 per cent are food insecure with a further 63 per cent vulnerable to food insecurity. Responding to these findings, partners in the camp will pilot a backyard vegetable production project, adopting an innovative hydroponic system, with the aim of increasing and diversifying food consumption through homestead food production.

In Iraq, the total shelter capacity of the ten refugee camps is 19,999 shelter units. Of these, 80 per cent are improved (provided with a concrete slab, kitchen, family latrine, and shower) and are almost all occupied. Around 68,000 refugees are benefiting from improved shelters in the camps.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The 3RP's overall strategy for the Shelter Sector is to improve private dwellings and local neighbourhood facilities to help build the resilience of refugee hosting communities, while also maintaining and promoting a healthy living environment and investing in more sustainable infrastructure in camps.

For those people living outside camps, an increasing number are now living in sub-standard shelters, including nearly 300,000 refugees in 1,800 informal settlements in Lebanon and Jordan. Overall, it is estimated that more than half of all refugees live in sub-standard shelters, with challenges related to tenure, privacy, over-crowding, and risks of sexual exploitation. The shortage of shelter solutions is driving up rents and family indebtedness. These pressures especially affect lower income housing areas, as well as host communities and the wider housing market.

The 3RP emphasizes the need to improve living conditions and promote a healthy environment for all residents, as well as protecting the sustainability of camps through investments in camp infrastructure.

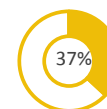


Basirma camp. UNHCR/S. Rich

Sector Response Summary:



1,271,080 Refugees & Local
Community Members targeted for
assistance by end-2015
469,344 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees
expected by end-2015
4,279,567 currently registered or
awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.3 billion
required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 2.019 billion received in 2015



MOST REFUGEES' SHELTER UNSUITABLE FOR WINTER: NEW ASSESSMENT ON ZAAATARI CAMP

In early 2015, refugees in Zaatari experienced torrential rains, heavy snow, high winds, and hail in two winter storms - Huda in January and Jana in February. In order to prepare residents for such conditions in the coming winter, 3RP partners are currently working to provide winterization support, particularly focusing on access to functioning heaters, and children's clothing needs, in addition to shelter suitability for winter and capacity to conduct shelter improvements.

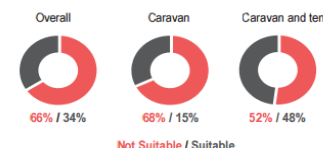
REACH and UNHCR conducted a joint winterization assessment in Zaatari camp in October to gather information on the winter needs of the camp residents.

The assessment also inquired into the suitability of families' shelters for winter. It was found that 66 per cent of families consider their shelter unsuitable for winter, primarily due to leaking roofs. When asked about their family's ability to address such maintenance issues themselves, 44 per cent rated their capacity for making repairs as weak. The most frequently cited reason for this is a lack of financial resources (95 per cent).

In addition to this assessment, the GIS team in Zaatari has been supporting winter preparedness efforts through analysing and mapping flood risks in the camp. The team produced a Flood Risk Analysis map in October 2015, following an early season rain storm, using elevation, water flow direction, and previous winter observations to assess flood-prone areas. This map will be used by camp actors to guide movement and the delivery of services around the camp during and after storms.

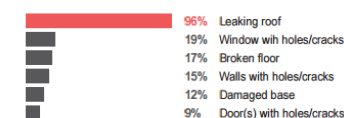
Suitability of Shelter for Winter 2015/2016

The proportion of families reporting a shelter that is suitable for winter 2015/2016*:



Reasons for Unsuitability of Shelter

The proportion of families with a shelter unsuitable for winter 2015/2016 by reported reasons for unsuitability of shelter*:



*Multiple reasons for unsuitability could be chosen per respondent

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - OCTOBER 2015

■ Progress ■ Planned Response, by end-2015

68,324 households outside of camps received assistance for shelter or shelter upgrades



25,545 households in camps received assistance for shelter or shelter upgrades



These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Progress and targets may change in line with data revisions. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 31 October 2015.