

Active preparation for 2015-2016 winter assistance programmes are already taking place across the region

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

In Iraq, while the provision of 2015 summer seasonal support has finished with a total amount of 13,954 households assisted, active preparations for the forthcoming winter are underway, where a quick survey has been conducted for newly arrived families to better understand their needs for kerosene during winter season and what delivery modality they prefer (cash or in-kind).

In Lebanon, the Basic Assistance sector is currently strategizing for the coming 2015-2016 winter assistance campaign. The monetization of assistance is expected to increase; therefore, in addition to the cash assistance, some basic non-food items (blankets and winter clothes), fuel vouchers, and shelter activities will be implemented.

In Jordan, A total amount of USD 37.2 million in cash assistance has been distributed to Syrian refugees so far in 2015. An e-voucher project have been launched in Jordan's Azraq, targeting single female headed households, or single parent households. Eligible individuals received a one off payment (of 24.66 JD per household) distributed via e-card to targeted beneficiaries. Beneficiaries were able to purchase specific NFIs and hygiene kits at the supermarket within the camp, however financial assistance was applicable until the end of August. Also, to enhance the local economy, SMSs were shared with residents of Azraq Camp about the opening of a selection process for future businesses in the market area with an aim of establishing 50 shops in village 3 and 50 in village 6.

Since the beginning of 2015, USD 5,255,000 was injected into the Egyptian local economy through monetized assistance. A total of 31,846 vulnerable Syrian refugees were assisted through the provision of monthly cash grants.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The majority of the new refugee arrivals to neighbouring countries in 2015 arrive with few personal possessions and in need of domestic items to meet their needs, including blankets, water jerry cans and kitchen sets. The 3RP partners provide a response for basic needs which is predominantly humanitarian, with packages of basic domestic items for new arrivals, and replacement items for refugees who are accommodated in camps for long periods of time.

For the most vulnerable families, agencies have adopted unconditional, multi-purpose cash assistance programmes through the region, allowing beneficiaries to spend the assistance on goods and services they feel they need most, giving them the dignity of choice while positively impacting on local economies.

Weather in the Middle East includes low winter temperatures, near or below freezing (especially at higher elevations), and heat during the summer often reaching in excess of 40 degrees Celsius. These extremes require warm clothes, energy for heating, and reinforced shelters during the winter, while in summer refugees need basic materials to create shade and protection from disease vectors, especially for children and the elderly.



ACF/Florian Serier

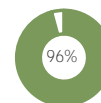
Sector Response Summary:

1,904,095 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end-2015
1,150,460 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:

4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
4,089,023 currently registered or awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:

USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 1.678 billion received in 2015



VULNERABILITIES ON THE RISE AS REFUGEE EXHAUST THEIR SAVINGS AND RESOURCES

Across the region, refugees are exhausting their savings and resources and falling further into poverty.

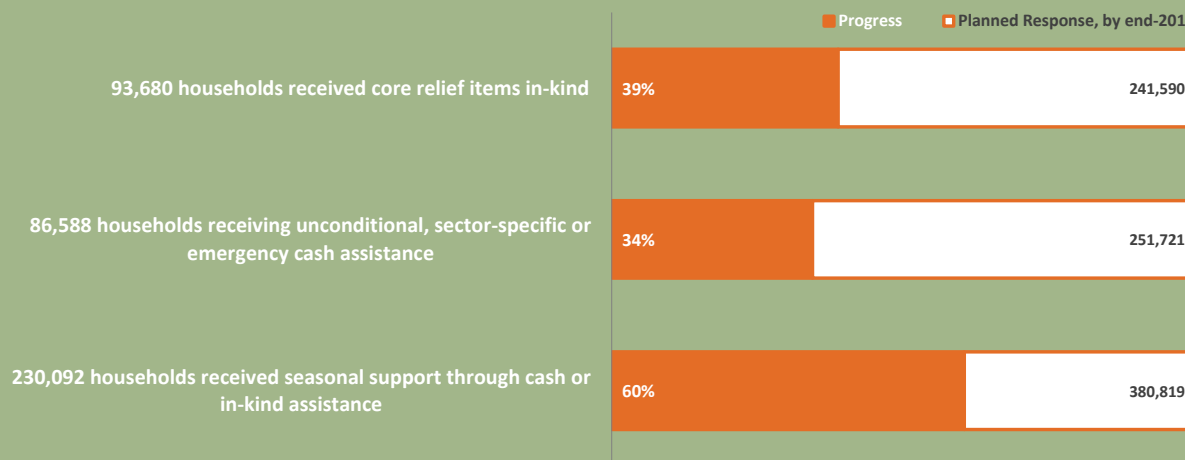
In Lebanon, out of the almost 86,000 refugee families that have had their economic vulnerability assessed, 30,000 were identified to require financial support. Of these, 23,268 families received multi-purpose cash assistance, while the remaining families are in the process of being referred to cash partners for assistance.

Challenges in meeting Syrian refugee's basic needs are still existing in Lebanon and confirmed by the vulnerability assessment, outcomes showed that the percentage of households below the poverty line (USD 3.84/person/day) has increased from 50 per cent to 70 per cent while those living under the survival minimum expenditures basket increased from 29 per cent to 50 per cent compared with 2014.

In Jordan, 86 per cent of Syrian refugees living outside of formal camps are living below the Jordanian poverty line (USD 96/person/month) and are rated as highly or severely vulnerable.

In Egypt, a new targeting mechanism was put in place, utilizing MEB Gaps Analysis Approach to select beneficiaries, resulting in identifying a total of 53,340 as most vulnerable to access food vouchers for August. The final list of beneficiaries for the assistance reflected a reduction of 12,917 individuals from the previous distribution figures of whom 7,278 were also receiving cash assistance.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - AUGUST* 2015



*Note updated data not yet available for Turkey response for August 2015

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 August 2015.