



Over 42,000 child refugees benefited from child protection or psychosocial support activities in January

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY:

Interventions to provide protection and assistance to the more than 1.9 million Syrian refugee children remain a priority for 3RP partners and host government authorities around the region.

In Lebanon, The National Plan to Safeguard Women and Children was launched at the end of January to facilitate access to appropriate services and to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Social Affairs and its partners and help them better regulate the provision of services to children in need of protection.

In Jordan, the Forced and Early marriage Task Force has updated its 2015 work plan, including including compilation and dissemination of prevention and response tools among members, awareness raising campaigns and continuation of advocacy with authorities. 109 Child and Adolescent Friendly Spaces, 21 Community Centres, and 11 women safe spaces were supported by 3RP partners during the month.

In Iraq, newly arrived refugee children are engaged in activities in child friendly spaces and provided with psychosocial support. remains a challenge, as many are traumatized by the recent conflict. A total of 97 unaccompanied and separated children have been identified, registered and provided with care during January.

In Egypt, over 780 children, youth and parents accessed community-based psychosocial support and child protection services, while in Turkey a new Child Friendly Space became operational in Eyyübiye province of Urfa.



Refugees cross into Turkey after fleeing fighting around Kobani in North East Syria. Ivor Prickett/UNHCR.

Sector Response Summary:



4,687,000 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted by end-2015



4,160,165 assisted in 2015

Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015

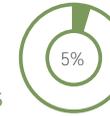


3,787,715 currently registered or awaiting

3RP Overall Funding Status:



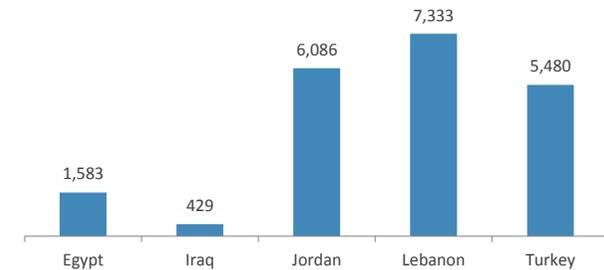
USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 212.26 million received in 2015



RESETTLEMENT & HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION TO BE FURTHER SCALED UP IN 2015-16

Since 2013, a total of 26,588 Syrian refugees from the region have been submitted for resettlement and humanitarian admissions to third countries, including almost 21,000 in 2014 alone (see chart below). In addition, a further 11,130 places have been granted by States via visas under other forms of admission. UNHCR continues to encourage greater burden-sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees through resettlement opportunities or other forms of admission and will seek another 100,000 resettlement places for Syrian refugees in 2015 and 2016. The current target for submissions in 2015 is 28,500, of which 1,120 have already been submitted.

20,911 Syrian refugees submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission in 2014



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

While the conflict in Syria continues to cause loss of life, injury, destruction and displacement on a large scale, it is increasingly difficult for Syrians to find safety, including by seeking asylum. Many of those arriving in host countries in the region are increasingly vulnerable and many have been displaced multiple times prior to arriving.

International solidarity and burden-sharing with host countries are therefore ever more important to preserve protection space for refugees and ensure protection from refoulement. Access to registration, verification, including through the use of biometrics, and the renewal of documentation remain critical. They also assist, along with community-based protection processes, to ensure that refugees' need for information and engagement - especially for those living outside of camps - is met.

Refugee children, including the more than 136,000 Syrian children who have been born in exile since the conflict began, require specific assistance, as do survivors of violence, including SGBV, which has been a persistent feature of the conflict which affects women, girls, boys and men in different way.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 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. Targets are based on full funding of the 3RP and an expected 4.27 million refugees by end-2015.



The food basket is harmonized and voucher values decrease by an average of 13 per cent across the region

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

Taking into account dietary preferences of Syrian refugees, economic options for food items with similar nutritional values and the availability of items in the region, the voucher food basket was harmonized across the region in 2014 and this month, the overall voucher value decreased by an average of 13 per cent in the five countries hosting Syrian refugees. Partners are collecting information to assess if and how the food voucher reductions made this month is affecting food consumption-based negative coping mechanisms.

In Egypt, food assistance reached 86,576 Syrian refugees this month and 19,500 barcoded cards were upgraded, benefitting 62,250 people. A total of USD 1.45 million was injected into the economy through vouchers and e-cards in January, however vouchers reduced in value by 30 per cent, from USD 24 to USD 17.

In Iraq, food parcels were distributed to more than 20,000 Syrian refugees in five camps and vouchers to almost 84,000 refugees in four camps, including Kawergosk camp where vouchers were distributed for the first time. This month, the voucher was USD 28.20 per person.

In Jordan, in preparation for snowstorm 'Huda', WFP loaded e-cards for 91,419 camp-based refugees and 440,924 refugees living in communities, enabling beneficiaries to purchase goods in advance of the harsh weather.

In Lebanon, more than 920,000 individuals benefitted from food assistance, with more than USD 18 million transferred through vouchers, ATM cards and e-cards for food. However, refugees received 70 per cent of the expected value of their food e-cards.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The majority of refugees from Syria rely on humanitarian food assistance as their primary source of food. Without such support, refugee vulnerabilities would increase, particularly affecting groups such as female-headed households, children, the elderly, those with chronic illness, and persons with disabilities. There is evidence of refugee households resorting to spending their savings, taking their children out of school to work, relying on credit, selling household assets, and reducing food intake. Pre-assistance baseline assessments of newly-arrived refugees and continuous post-distribution monitoring have indicated that the food assistance provided by 3RP Partners helps to stabilize and improve refugees' food consumption frequency and dietary diversity.

Simultaneous assessments in Jordan and Lebanon in communities hosting Syrian refugees show that the rural population is the least resilient to inflation and the emerging threats of environmental degradation, land and water scarcity, and climate change. There is need to build the resilience of poor smallholder farmers to the shocks and stresses that can affect their livelihood and food security. Action is needed now to help mitigate the adverse impacts of the crisis that threaten to undermine development gains in Syria neighbouring countries.



WFP Food voucher distribution in Egypt. Photo ©WFP

Sector Response Summary:



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 1 BILLION INJECTED INTO LOCAL ECONOMIES THROUGH FOOD VOUCHERS SINCE THE START OF THE CRISIS

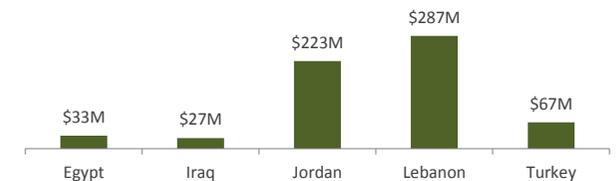
To address the identified needs of the beneficiaries in the region, the 3RP emphasizes the need to continue to provide food assistance to vulnerable refugees through vouchers and other mechanisms.

It is estimated that vouchers contributed USD 607 million to the local economies of the refugee hosting countries in 2014, with more than USD 1 billion injected since the start of operations.

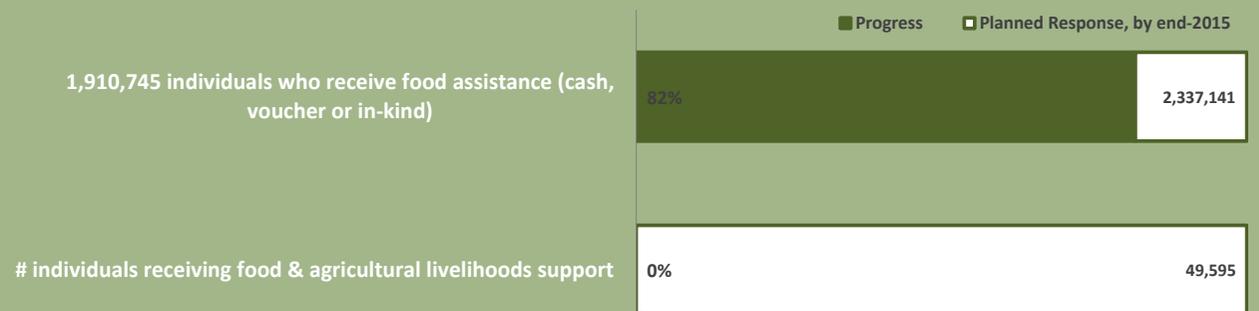
By the end of 2014, Lebanon, Turkey and Jordan had transitioned from paper to e-vouchers whilst Iraq will pilot e-cards during 2015 and a wider roll-out of the current 60 per cent e-voucher coverage is planned in Egypt. The e-cards reflect a shift from physical food deliveries to vouchers.

E-cards are loaded on a monthly basis and can be redeemed at participating local stores, allowing families to buy the foods that fit their needs. This provides increased dignity and support to refugees, with a sense of a more normal lifestyle and ability to cope for their families, while at the same time supporting local economies.

USD amount injected into local economies through food vouchers in 2014



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 2015



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Nearly half of registered school-age Syrian refugee children not enrolled in school

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

In Egypt, education grants were provided to families with children between three and 20 years old to ensure access to education, and additional support for families with children with specific needs.

The second semester of the current academic year started in Iraq on 21 January. Of the 76,405 school age children between the ages of 3-17 years, 29,534 are enrolled in formal education.

In Jordan, a comprehensive strategy is being implemented by the Ministry of Education and partners to improve access to certified and alternative education opportunities in 2015. During January, approximately 225 boys and 97 girls sat the Tawjehi (Secondary School Certificate) examination.

In Lebanon, following the decision by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in December, 147 schools were selected for second shifts to accommodate growing demand. The response has been positive with at least 51,000 mostly Syrian children enrolled, and 7,000 on a waiting list. Education partners accelerated their outreach activities this month in order to facilitate the enrolment for a maximum number of Syrian children in the second shift schools.

An incentive scheme has been established this month for teachers in Turkey, to improve the quality of education for refugee children. More than 4,000 Syrian refugees who have been working as volunteer teachers in schools in camps and other locations now receive USD 138 per month (camp-based teachers) or USD 202 per month.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

While education ministries in refugee hosting countries have generally welcomed Syrian children into their education systems, there is a profound strain on resources, leading to significant needs in terms of access and quality. Nearly 50 per cent of the 950,000 registered school-age Syrian refugee children in refugee hosting countries are not enrolled in school.

There are a range of factors contributing to low enrolment and attendance rates, including policy and bureaucratic regulations, with many children required to take placement tests and provide documentation for school registration, which many families no longer have or are unable to obtain.

There are issues in the quality of education, including: new and different curricula; language of teaching; lack of appropriate infrastructure; teacher capacity; overcrowding; lack of certified education programmes; students with trauma and distress; and limited programmes to address lost years of schooling. Targeted education interventions are needed to address the risks of negative coping behaviours.



Bekaa Valley, Lebanon, UNHCR/S. Baldwin

Sector Response Summary:



1,499,487 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted by end-2015
239,620 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
3,787,715 currently registered or awaiting



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 212.26 million received in 2015

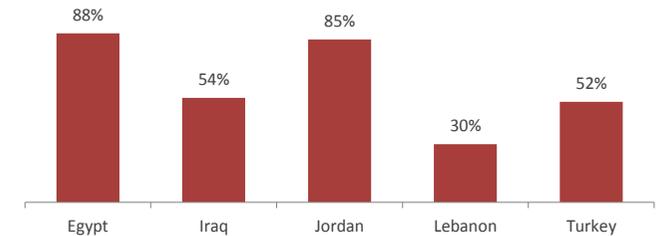


ENROLMENT RATES - SETTING THE BASELINE:

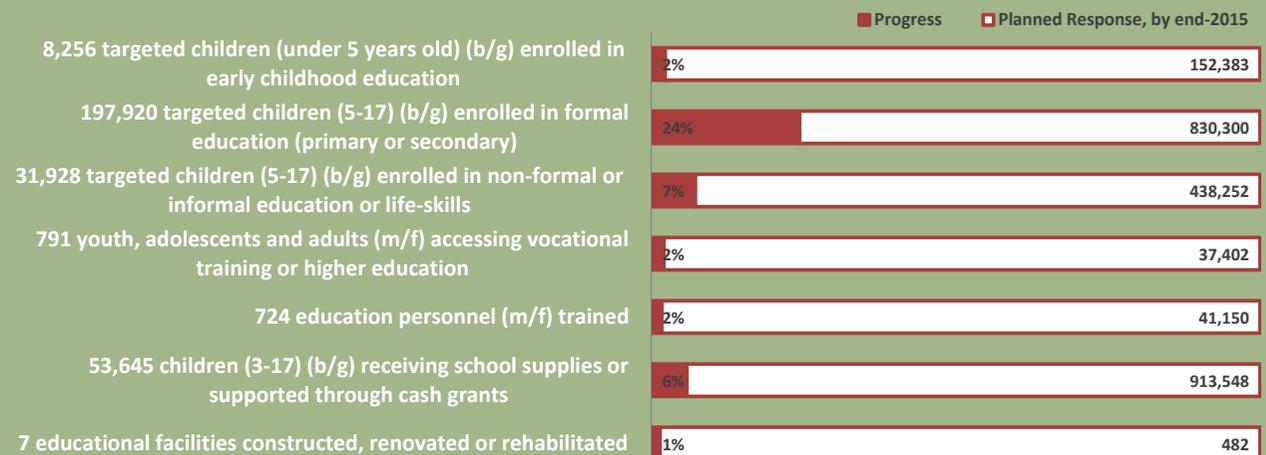
Increasing access to formal and non-formal/informal education, and working to make schools a protective and safe environment for children, continued to form an essential component of the education response under the 'No Lost Generation' (NLG) initiative. The chart below outlines the percentage of children enrolled in education in each of the 3RP response countries as at the start of the 2014-15 school year. Since the launch of the NLG initiative, partners have made tangible progress with a steady increase in access to education. The proportion of out-of-school Syrian refugee children in neighboring countries decreased from 70 per cent in August 2013 to 52 per cent in December 2014.

However, the risk of a "lost generation" of children has not been averted. Over the course of 2015, the sector aims to increase the overall number of children accessing education through its assistance to children and their families as well as investments in the capacity of national school systems.

Enrolment in formal and non-formal/informal education at the start of school year 2014-2015



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 2015*



* Note: Education indicators for January currently exclude Turkey. Dashboards will be updated as data becomes available.

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National health systems supported to provide access for refugees and host communities to adequate health care

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

In Egypt, 6,781 acute/chronic primary health care (PHC) consultations were provided this month and 1,447 referrals were made to secondary and tertiary level of care. A refresher session was also conducted for 55 Community Health Volunteers on healthy nutrition for pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five years of age.

More than 33,800 refugees in Iraq utilized available primary, secondary and tertiary health care services during the month, provided by the Directorate of Health (DoH) and NGO partners, with the support of UN agencies. DoH established mobile units at the border crossing to vaccinate against measles and polio and to conduct triage to Syrian arrivals to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I). A total of 1,834 children received polio vaccination.

In Lebanon, almost 100,000 PHC consultations were provided, as well as more than 5,105 hospital admissions for lifesaving emergencies and obstetric care. To improve delivery outcomes, 3RP Partners with the Lebanese Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology are implementing a capacity building project on Emergency Obstetrics Care targeting the concerned health care attendants, with ten workshops conducted so far.

In Jordan, 300 women were supported with safe deliveries in reproductive health clinics. Almost 4,000 care givers/mothers were reached with infant and young child feeding (IYCF) services by NGOs this month. During the Huda storm, reproductive health services were provided in Zaatari camp, including an ambulance for referral purposes equipped with all the necessary medical supplies and qualified personnel, in addition to another car in case of evacuation.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Increasing demand throughout the region is stretching national health systems and services, which provide significant health care to Syrian refugees. Insufficient personnel, medical supplies, and inadequate service delivery mean vulnerable populations are at increased risk of communicable diseases due to unfavourable environmental conditions and limited access to basic health services, such as child immunization.

The management of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) is a significant challenge. Nearly 30 per cent of refugees in Jordan suffer from NCDs such as hypertension or diabetes, and 78 per cent of households in Egypt have reported a family member suffering from a chronic disease. Access to adequate and appropriate reproductive health care is a continuing need. It is necessary to improve capacities for basic and comprehensive emergency obstetric and neonatal care at primary, secondary and tertiary health care locations.

The main nutrition concern among refugees is macronutrient deficiency such as iron deficiency. Global acute malnutrition rates are at acceptable levels, below five per cent among refugees.

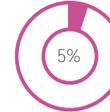


Primary and specialized health care provision through a variety of primary care clinics and specialized referral hospitals. Egypt - Cairo, UNHCR/S.Nelson

Sector Response Summary:



5,361,000 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted by end-2015
273,545 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
3,787,715 currently registered or awaiting



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 212.26 million received in 2015



MAINSTREAMING & SUPPORT TO NATIONAL SYSTEMS KEY TO 3RP RESPONSE

Across the 3RP, and particularly in service delivery sectors like health, efforts are being made to ensure that as far as possible investments are being made that will reduce costly duplication and boost the resilience of national systems to benefit both refugees and host community members. Some examples of these investments across the region are below.

In Egypt, 3RP Partners are meeting regularly to prepare for all actions needed to address the mainstreaming of Syrian refugees into the public PHC system in Cairo, which is planned to start in April. Actions to prepare for mainstreaming include agreeing on the list of Ministry of Health and Population PHC centres to be supported and preparing information and communications materials to advise Syrians of the process.

In Iraq's Dohuk Governorate, the health post has been moved from its location inside Akre camp into a newly constructed PHC centre outside the camp, making it accessible to the host community as well as refugees.

In Jordan, the Burn and Reconstructive Surgery Unit in Princess Basma Hospital in Irbid opened which will benefit more than 1.5 million Jordanians and refugees in northern Jordan.

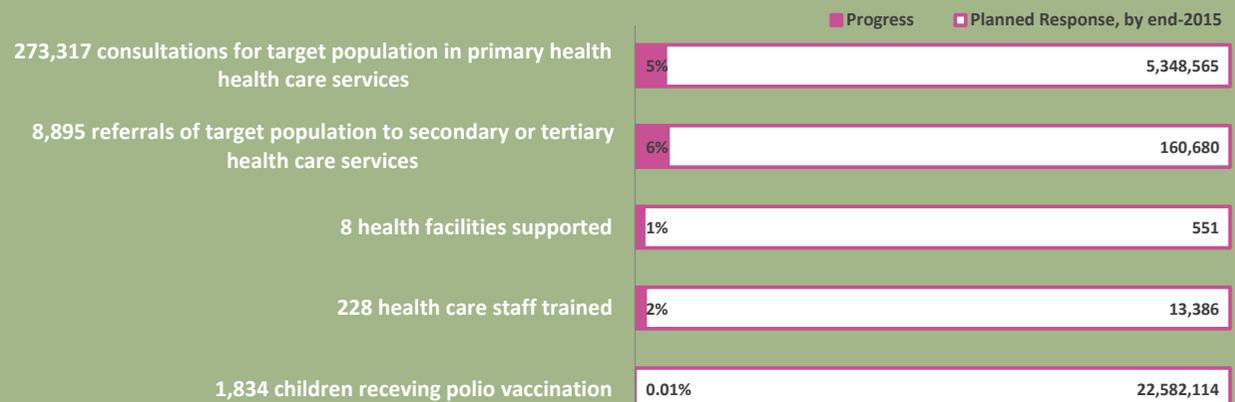
In Lebanon, Mental Health Gap Action Programme training took place in the South and the Bekaa for more than 60 health care staff. Technical and logistical support was provided for the revision of the mental health and substance abuse strategy for Lebanon, aiming to lay the groundwork for the scale up of mental health's integration within the health services available in Lebanon.

in 2014 for every
10 refugees



9 primary health care consultations &
1 referral to secondary or tertiary services

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 2015



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More than 520,000 people received thermal blankets in Jordan and Lebanon during snowstorm "Huda"

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY:

The severe winter storm "Huda" swept across the Middle East in January 2015, bringing heavy snow, rainfall, high winds and freezing temperatures to the region. Humanitarian partners strengthened winter assistance activities to keep vulnerable refugees and internally displaced people warm and protected from the harsh conditions. Agencies worked as fast as possible to replace damaged tents, provide repair kits, deliver emergency supplies and offer alternative temporary shelter for those forced to abandon their homes due to the snow storm.

In Jordan, refugees living in Zaatari and Azraq camps received a mixture of cash vouchers, thermal blankets, gas heaters and cylinders and winter clothes to help them cope with the storm, in addition to their regular winter assistance. For those refugees living outside camps, along with vulnerable Jordanian families, additional high thermal blankets, heaters, gas cylinders and cash assistance was made available to cover immediate needs during the storm.

In Lebanon, refugees and vulnerable Lebanese households living above 500 metres received basic assistance in the form of fuel vouchers, cash-for-winter and core relief items to help them cope with harsh temperatures and the extreme environment.

In Iraq's Dohuk Governorate, where winters are particularly severe, additional winter items including sleeping bags, winter coats, boots, and shelter insulation kits have been distributed during January. Insulation kits and kerosene were also distributed to refugees across northern Iraq, along with cash assistance.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The majority of the projected 80,000 monthly new refugee arrivals to neighbouring countries in 2015 will 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 provides 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 increasingly 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.

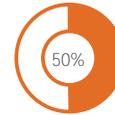


Lebanon. A. McConnel / UNHCR

Sector Response Summary:



1,546,000 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted by end-2015
769,480 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
3,787,715 currently registered or awaiting



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 212.26 million received in 2015



TARGETING MECHANISM ENSURES MOST VULNERABLE RECEIVE ASSISTANCE IN LEBANON

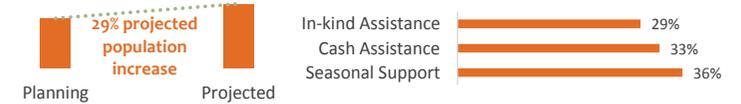
To ensure that scarce resources are used in the most effective manner to assist the most vulnerable, operations in the region are undertaking a range of assessment and targeting exercises. This month, we highlight Lebanon's vulnerability assessment process.

Under criteria jointly agreed upon by humanitarian partners, families in Lebanon are being assessed to determine food insecurity and economic vulnerability in order to establish eligibility for food and cash assistance. More than 7,000 families have been visited as part of a household visit exercise which started in December 2014. It is planned that 10-15,000 households will be visited per month in the coming year.

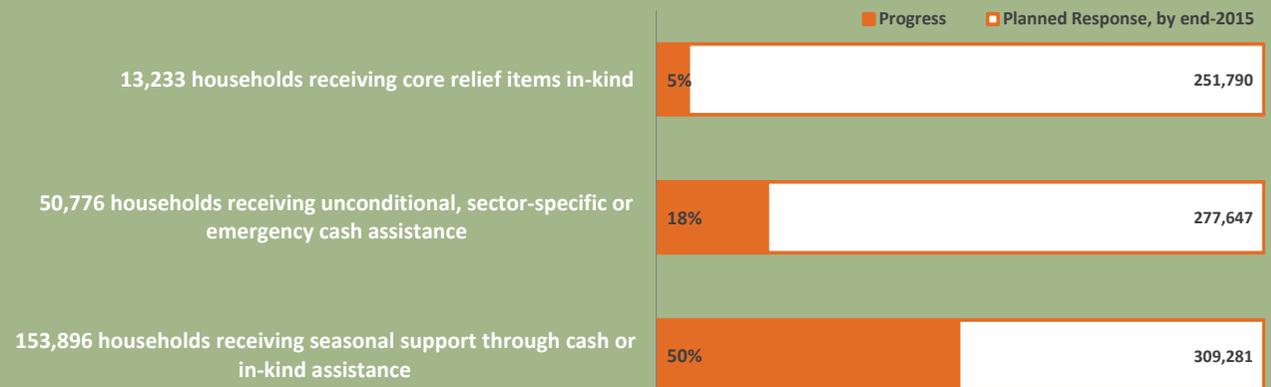
The assessment process aims to ensure that households which are severely economically vulnerable (determined as those with means below the survival living costs) are supported with sustainable, year-round support rather than temporary emergency, stop-gap, or seasonal assistance.

With enhanced assessment, targeting and programming modalities such as these, the response in Lebanon and elsewhere in the region is becoming more efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable refugees and local community members.

Percentage of projected refugee population targeted in basic needs under 3RP (region-wide)



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 2015



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Turkey opens its biggest refugee camp to accommodate refugees who had fled fighting in the Syrian town of Kobane

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

Turkey opened its biggest refugee camp on 25 January. The new camp, located in the south-eastern border town of Suruc, will have the capacity to house up to 35,000 people. Turkey has some 24 camps housing 265,000 Syrian refugees with another one to open in Mardin in February.

In Iraq, installation of the sandwich panel partition walls in Akre camp was completed during January, along with 80 per cent of the sanitation work. Site expansion work, kitchen improvements, and the laying of concrete slabs for tents, kitchens and latrines is ongoing in camps across Iraq. In Sumel district, near Domiz camp, 235 houses were renovated and handed over, benefiting more than 1,600 people.

During January in Jordan, 8,029 temporary shelters were completed in Villages 3, 2, 5, and 6 of Azraq camp, of which 3,677 have reinforced concrete flooring. In Zaatar camp, 325 tents and 1,002 prefab caravans were distributed. The vast majority of the population of Zaatar are now living in prefabs, which are more winter appropriate shelters.

Winter-related shelter activities in Lebanon have been boosted in response to the snowstorm that hit the region at the start of the month. Almost 11,000 vulnerable individuals living in informal settlements and substandard buildings were assisted with weatherproofing kits so that they can become more resilient to the harsh climatic conditions. To address increasing evictions, mainly of informal settlements in the Bekaa, agencies have been boosting their search for alternative relocation sites, including discussions with local authorities. However, in the relative absence of those alternatives, cash for shelter appears to be the prominent solution for the most vulnerable families.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

It is expected that up to 500,000 people will be accommodated in 35 refugee camps in Iraq, Jordan and Turkey in 2015. While most refugee camps in the region meet SPHERE international standards, refugee camps have inherent challenges in relation to aid dependency, security, high running costs and continuing isolation from normal life.

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.



Domiz Refugee Camp, Duhok. UNHCR/T. Toal

Sector Response Summary:



1,273,218 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted by end-2015
370,865 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
3,787,715 currently registered or awaiting



3RP Overall Funding Status:



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SHELTER FOR VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN COMMUNITIES A FOCUS OF 3RP

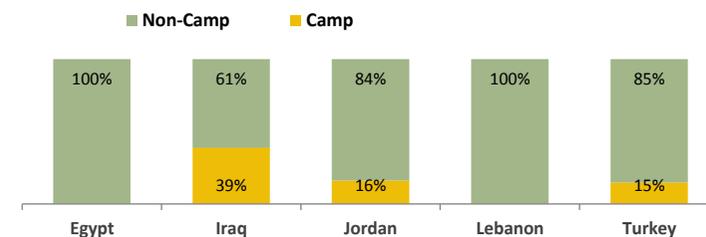
With around 90 per cent of refugees from Syria living in local communities, rather than in camp settings, activities to provide individual and community-level shelter and infrastructure upgrades to benefit both refugees and their host communities are a focus of the response across the region.

In Iraq, a monitoring of the non-camp shelter projects implemented in 2014 has revealed that there is a question of rental increase and threats of evictions by house owners. These are being addressed through the interventions and support of local authorities and 3RP partners.

In Jordan, a taskforce is in the process of developing its first draft of the standard Shelter WG M&E tool for Shelter Projects in Non-Camp Settings. It has also begun its review of the current shelter strategy and guidelines which will reflect the plans for 2015 and will link with the new M&E tool, work plan matrix, 3RP indicators, and all guidelines.

In Lebanon, the 'Four Cities Programme' is underway to address the impact on poor urban communities of the refugee crisis, and will be engaged in both neighbourhood upgrades as well as profiling the cities and poor neighbourhoods to provide more knowledge on the urban dimensions of the crisis.

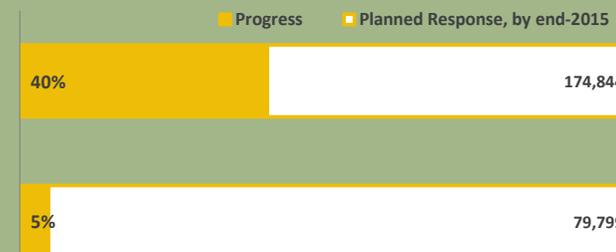
Refugees living in camp and non-camp settings



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 2015

70,455 households outside of camps receiving assistance for shelter and shelter upgrades

3,718 households in camps receiving assistance for shelter and shelter upgrades



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Camp-based refugees supported with water supply but more support needed to improve public water and waste systems

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY:

WASH partners continued to improve sanitation facilities in all eight refugee camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) with new sewage holding tanks and rehabilitation of toilets and showers, benefitting 90,417 Syrian refugees. In Erbil Governorate, construction of WASH facilities in Kawergosk and Qushtapa camps was completed. Some 50,700 Syrians currently residing in Domiz Camp in Dohuk Governorate benefitted from the construction of new sewage holding tanks and toilets, and the rehabilitation of showers.

The provision of essential WASH services continued to approximately 98,000 refugees residing in camps in Jordan, including the daily provision of over four million litres of treated water, maintenance of sanitation facilities, collection and disposal of over two million litres of wastewater and 800 cubic metres of solid waste, as well as the dissemination of key WASH messages in communities and schools.

In Lebanon, the WASH sector continued with basic service provision and development of new infrastructure across the country. Winterization activities for the sector have been challenging due to access issues at the height of the January storms, however 241 sites have benefited from the distribution of 603 drainage kits and 72 sites had more intensive flood preparation works. Five large water supply systems have been developed or improved at Municipality level (Rahbeh, Aanout, Borjejn-Mrejat, Barja and Tabbaneh) serving 28,200 refugees and Lebanese community members. Up to 30 smaller water systems have been completed, serving isolated Syrian groups.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Large refugee numbers add pressure on existing water, sanitation and hygiene services in host countries. Even before the emergency, Jordan was the fourth most water scarce country in the world, while Lebanon is already using two-thirds of its available water resources. In Iraq, the pressure on services in impacted communities is also acute because of the overlapping refugee and IDP crises.

Region-wide, the majority of refugees are living in local communities, and public WASH services are under stress. Authorities require support to improve and run public water, sewage, wastewater treatment, and solid waste collection and disposal systems. National WASH systems required investment even before the influx of refugees, with piped systems leaking up to 70 per cent of water in some areas.

As of the end of 2014, all of the refugees living in camps in Iraq and Jordan require WASH support, while in Lebanon - where all refugees live outside of camps - 28 per cent do not have access to safe water and 39 per cent don't have access to sanitation facilities. There are competing demands for safe drinking water and wastewater services from both local communities and the refugees living in impacted areas, exacerbating an already volatile social, economic and political environment.



Zaatari camp Mafraq, Jordan/UNHCR

IMPROVEMENTS TO WATER SERVICES IN JORDAN'S CAMPS EASING STRAIN ON LOCAL SERVICES AND REDUCING COSTS

The waste water treatment plant in Jordan's Zaatari camp is now processing 700 cubic metres of waste water each day, reducing by over 30 per cent the volume of waste water to be transported to the municipal treatment plant, 45km away.

The Zaatari plant is expected to be fully operational by mid-March, when it is expected to process over 90 per cent of the waste water generated from the camp.

It has been confirmed to partners that the planned water network in Zaatari will be constructed to a household level which will substantially reduce the costs associated with the provision of water across the camp.

Confirmation has also been received that the third borehole in Zaatari and the new borehole in Azraq meet Jordanian drinking water standards, and it is expected that the two new wells will be fully operational by early March.

The authorisation of the third Zaatari well and the Azraq well will mean that the external tankering of water to the two camps will no longer be necessary which will substantially reduce the cost associated with water tankering and ensure more consistent water quality across the two camps.

These projects are examples of important investments being made in the response, with the goal of improving quality and efficiency while reducing the strain on local services and increasing their resilience.

Sector Response Summary:



1,798,108 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted by end-2015
222,842 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
3,787,715 currently registered or awaiting



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 212.26 million received in 2015



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 2015

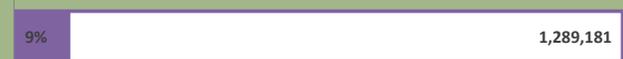
222,842 target beneficiaries with access to adequate quantity of safe water



269,307 individuals benefiting from improved access to adequate quantity of safe water



115,579 target beneficiaries with access to appropriate sanitation facilities and services



153,745 beneficiaries who have experienced a hygiene promotion session



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. Targets are based on full funding of the 3RP and an expected 4.27 million refugees by end-2015.



By end 2015, 3RP targets over 280,000 individuals to access wage employment opportunities

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

In Lebanon, most partners are still developing their annual plans and programmes, however some livelihoods activities started this month focused on rapid income generation activities and vocational training. So far, a total of 169 vulnerable persons benefitted from rapid income generations and 38 people benefitted from skills training. Sixty-nine people were reached with new activities including supporting access to internships, on-the-job training and apprenticeships whilst 36 new micro-enterprises were established.

Also in Lebanon, ten new conflict mitigation mechanisms and 13 youth peacebuilding initiatives have been established this year. The sector's focus on supporting municipalities and other local governance institutions is also off to a good start, with two new community support projects implemented and 76 participatory needs assessments (maps of risks and resources) involving 1,316 host community members completed in January.

In Iraq, the number of people who have been assisted through livelihoods support was slightly lower this month, due to the winter season. A job seeker support centre opened in Kasnazan, Erbil, which is a result of community mobilization activities in the area. A total of 104 non-camp Syrian refugees visited the centre, of whom 44 have been connected to short-term work or training opportunities due to take place next month.

The findings from the labour market Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis (EMAA) assessment in Iraq were released, with recommendations including supporting formal credit lines for small-scale businesses, identifying new markets (agricultural processing) and building the capacity of local businesses to establish a formalized recruitment processes.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

A critical dimension of building resilience is to expand livelihoods and employment opportunities for vulnerable men, women and, especially youth, in compliance with national laws and regulations. In all five countries, livelihoods support under the 3RP is a key way to slow and reverse depletion of individual, family and community assets. To ensure access to sustainable employment, it is vital to equip refugees and vulnerable local populations with the skills that the markets demand. Livelihoods initiatives give refugees the means to cope with hardship, to increase their skills and abilities, and to prosper, as well as improving their prospects in a future return to Syria. In turn, the skills of refugees can help to grow and diversify local economies.

Social cohesion interventions in the region include the development of conflict mitigation mechanisms, with stakeholders helping to conduct participatory conflict analysis to identify sources of tension, along with training on conflict resolution skills such as negotiation, problem solving and mediation.



Livelihood activities. KRI/UNDP

Sector Response Summary:



342,712 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted by end-2015
2,284 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
3,787,715 currently registered or awaiting



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 212.26 million received in 2015



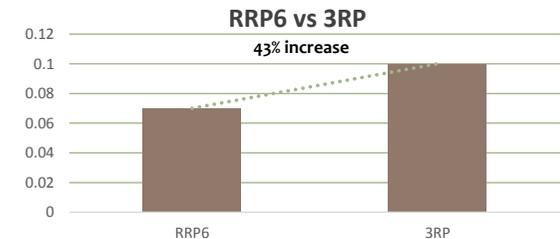
LIVELIHOODS A RENEWED FOCUS UNDER THE 3RP

The livelihoods sector makes up almost ten per cent of the 3RP financial requirements, up from seven per cent under the RRP6.

The focus and extent of livelihoods responses in the region vary across countries, depending on the particular context. Interventions include options for livelihoods stabilization aiming to equip households and communities with coping mechanisms through temporary employment for youth and women through labour intensive methods such as the rehabilitation of key community socio-economic infrastructure, including markets and roads, skills and vocational training to increase employability, and start-up packs and grants for revamping new and old enterprises.

A second track includes interventions designed to generate employment opportunities through addressing rehabilitation/restoration needs of the local economy, promoting access to financial capital for sustainable business development, investing in socio-economic infrastructure and local institutions, and restoring the natural resource base.

Agency Livelihoods Requirements (% of total appeal)



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 2015*

2,057 individuals accessing wage employment opportunities



32 community support projects implemented

227 people trained and/or provided with marketable skills and services

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. Targets are based on full funding of the 3RP and an expected 4.27 million refugees by end -2015