

REGIONAL: RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE - DECEMBER

More than 1 million people living in camps and local communities were provided with shelter assistance during 2014

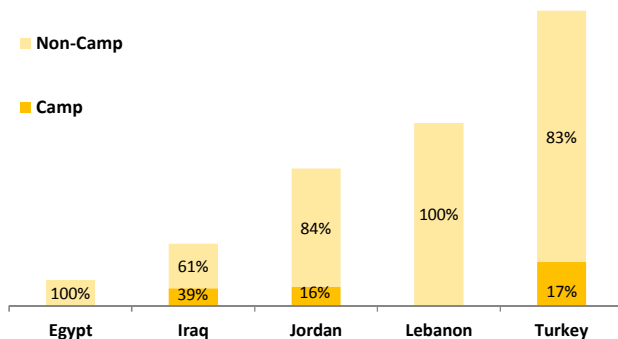
DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

In Lebanon, agencies participating in the Shelter sector reported assistance reaching over 440,000 individuals during the year - including 341,000 Syrian refugees, almost 61,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria, 2,243 Lebanese returnees from Syria and more than 35,5000 affected Lebanese. During the final quarter of the year a particular focus was on winterization programmes, with weatherproofing and informal settlement site improvement activities boosted. Almost 20,500 refugees benefited during December from the distribution of over 4,000 weather proofing kits in informal settlements, while 6,243 refugees recieved 1,250 sealing off kits, and 862 refugees benefited from site improvement in flood prone informal settlements.

In Iraq this year, almost 91,500 refugees in camps have been provided with emergency shelter, almost 50,000 of whom benefited from improved shelter (tent foundations and kitchens), and 18,715 of whom recieved new or replacement tents. During December, a particular focus was assisting some 2,500 mostly newly arrived refugees from Kobane with shelter assistance in camps. Four large tents were also set up in Darashakran camp as a reception centre for Kobane refugees, along with additional latrines and showers at both Darashakran and Qushtapa.

In Jordan, a range of strategic and planning processes were underway in December, including the development of a monitoring and evaluaition tool for shelter projects in non-camp settings, 3RP indicators for shelter projects, guidelines for sealing-off kits, a 2015 workplan matrix for the sector, and a review of the Shelter Working Group Strategy and Guidelines.

Refugee settings: camp vs non-camp



Iraq-KRI, N. Colt/UNHCR

SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE REGION:

3,775,798

Refugee Population, end-December 2014

3,590,000

Refugee Population Planning Figure, end-2014

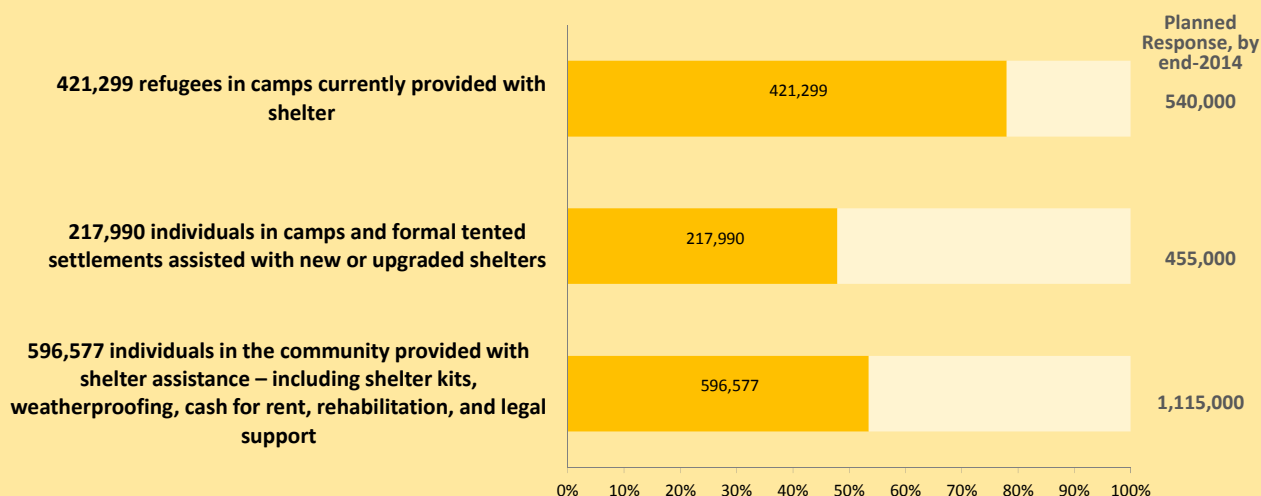
NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Out of 3.59 million UNHCR-registered Syrians expected by December 2014, around 540,000 will be accommodated in camps. Shelter solutions in camps vary and include tents, caravans and transitional T-shelters, generally meeting minimum international standards. Continued efforts are required (and underway) to improve infrastructure (roads, drainage), provide safety, ensure weather-proofing and maintenance, inclusion of water and sanitation facilities. Camps are relatively expensive on a per-capita basis and at present, have little prospect for self-sustainability. Shelter remains a significant concern in the contingency plan, given the scarcity of land to accommodate large numbers of people. Throughout the region, there are pre-identified sites to accommodate up to 200,000 additional people.

Access to affordable and adequate shelter remains a major issue for those refugees living outside of camps. 95 per cent of refugees who live outside camps pay rent, and thus are impacted by increasing rental prices and shortages of affordable housing units in the market. In Jordan, for example, rental prices have reportedly increased by 100-200 per cent in some areas, with extremes of 300 per cent, compared to pre-crisis values. Moreover, across the region, approximately 860,000 refugees are estimated to live in sub-standard shelters, including some 170,000 people living in informal settlements in Lebanon. Many refugees are paying rent to live in places that are uninhabitable.

Winter cold and seasonal precipitation pose yet another challenge to the most shelter insecure - it is estimated that nearly 100,000 dwellings will be in need of weather-proofing or assistance with heating during the winter months.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2014



Planned response based on full funding of RRP6 for an expected population of 3.59 million Syrian refugees in the region by end-2014. By the end of 2014 there were 3.77 million refugees in the region, and the overall RRP6 appeal was 61% funded.