


SITUATION ANALYSIS

During the month of February, shelter partners continued to respond to the harsh winter conditions particularly in North, Akkar, and Bekaa. Some 33,061 vulnerable individuals living in informal settlements and substandard buildings were assisted with weatherproofing interventions. This includes the replacement of shelter structures in informal settlements that have been seriously damaged by the severe climate conditions caused by the latest storms at the end of January and February.

As part of the shelter sector strategy to target and assist the most vulnerable populations, UNHCR is conducting a 'shelter phone survey' with 6,000 Syrian households to learn more about their shelter and living conditions across the country. The survey will provide an updated overview on the specific sheltering needs per geographical location, and will help the shelter partners adjust their activities to the shelter needs expressed by people in need. The results the survey results are expected to be finalized and shared by March 2015. The previous phone survey which was undertaken in March 2014 found that 40 % Syrian refugees were living in sub-standard shelters.

The 'Four Cities' programme assessments are ongoing. The programme aims to improve information and knowledge on the urban dimensions of the crisis, and their impact on poor urban host Lebanese and Palestinian communities. Further, following detailed profiling of the cities and poor areas, upgrading plans for selected neighborhoods will be developed and implemented, providing a holistic response for improvement of shelter, infrastructure and service provision. The programme will first be established in Tripoli and Sour during the first half of 2015, where host communities and refugees will start benefiting from site and infrastructure upgrade of neighborhoods, informal gatherings, and informal urban areas.

