

Inter-Agency Emergency Appeal for the Influx from Lebanon to Syria

OCTOBER 2024
TO MARCH 2025

Preliminary Summary & Inter-Agency Requirements



Published 7 October 2024



SYRIA: Inter-Agency Emergency Appeal for the Influx from Lebanon to Syria
October 2024 to March 2025

Title photo by UNHCR / Hameed Maarouf
Design by UNHCR / Klement

Document published on 7 October 2024

Contact:
UNHCR Syria External Relations Unit
SYRDAREPORTING@unhcr.org

For further information, please visit:
UNHCR Global Focus, <https://reporting.unhcr.org/syrian-arab-republic-lebanon-influx-emergency-appeal>

OVERVIEW

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Key Figures



55
INTER-AGENCY
PARTNERS

POPULATION
TO BE ASSISTED:



480,000
LEBANESE
AND SYRIANS
PROJECTED BY
MARCH 2025

This figure also includes Palestine refugees in Lebanon, and 80,000 host community members.



\$324 million
TOTAL
INTER-AGENCY
REQUIREMENTS

This Inter-Agency Emergency Appeal for the Influx from Lebanon to Syria outlines the initial inter-agency and inter-sector response and activities to support Syria's efforts to protect and assist Syrians, Lebanese refugees, others fleeing Lebanon, and host community members. It includes preliminary financial requirements for six months for 55 partners (including UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and civil society actors), to respond to the crisis, working in support of the Syrian authorities.

Since late September 2024, escalating hostilities in Lebanon have pushed approximately 220,000 individuals to flee from Lebanon to Syria as of 5 October. It is estimated that Syrian nationals make up 70 per cent of those arriving in Syria, while the remaining 30 per cent are Lebanese. Most people fleeing from Lebanon are entering through the Jdaidet Yabous border crossing point. In light of the nature of the influx, where people are fleeing hostilities across an international border, including Syrians and Lebanese refugees, UNHCR, in close collaboration with the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and in consultation with the Humanitarian Country Teams, will continue to lead, coordinate and report on the response, which will cover the whole of Syria.

Following the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, movements into Syria are primarily to Damascus, Rural Damascus, Homs, and Tartous Governorates, with some also moving to non-government-controlled areas in the north-east and in the north-west and beyond. Many people are arriving in Syria in dire conditions, with some having sustained injuries either during the difficult journey or as a result of the hostilities in Lebanon.¹ More than half of the new arrivals are women and girls, and over 60 per cent are children under the age of 18. People are arriving at border points either by car or on foot, carrying only what they could manage.

The arrival of Syrians fleeing to north-west Syria has remained relatively low, with 264 households observed so far in greater Idlib and northern Aleppo. In north-east Syria, over 15,000 individuals have arrived so far in the Ar-Raqqa, Deir Ezzor, and Hassakeh Governorates. The majority are hosted by their relatives or Syrian families. Partners are supporting the Government and SARC to distribute water and food items as well as essential core relief items at transit points and at final destinations. UN agencies are also supporting NGO partners to provide reproductive health services and psychosocial support.

Note on data:
Reporting period is from 24 September until 03 October 2024.

¹ Syrian refugees fleeing Lebanon back to Syria are considered to be returning under adverse circumstances as people are fleeing airstrikes in Lebanon, where many Syrian refugees, as well as Lebanese, have also been killed and injured.

Since the beginning of the emergency, the Government of Syria has kept the borders open for Syrians, Lebanese and others fleeing Lebanon. In addition, Syrian local communities have been acting as first responders, supporting people fleeing into Syria by providing places to stay, food and water. However, the recent influx is placing immense pressure on the local communities. Entering its fourteenth year of crisis, Syria remains one of the largest humanitarian crises in the world, affecting millions of people. This has been compounded by the unpredictable security situation and an increasingly dire economic outlook. Limited public infrastructure and services are further exacerbating daily challenges. Inflation, evidenced by rising commodity prices, is increasingly eroding families' purchasing power, further deepening the impoverishment of already vulnerable populations. Despite overstretched resources, the Government of Syria and local Syrian communities are generously extending support to those fleeing from Lebanon.

The current hostilities in Lebanon show no sign of abating and in fact, with the increase in airstrikes and the beginning of ground incursions by Israeli forces into Southern Lebanon, population displacement is projected to continue to grow in the coming days and weeks. Hence, there is a need not only to provide life-saving emergency relief at the borders, but also to inject much-needed resources for humanitarian early recovery to support livelihood activities.

Partners at the border providing critical services, including emergency medical assistance for pregnant women and women of reproductive age.

Photo by UNFPA

Given the very fluid situation, with the number of new arrivals increasing, this document outlines the preliminary needs. The response plan may be extended and revised in the coming months, including updated budgets, to take into account the rate of new arrivals, the results of ongoing inter-agency assessments and response in border, transit and destination locations.



OVERVIEW

AT A GLANCE (DATA AS OF 05 OCTOBER 2024)*

PLANNING FIGURE



480,000
Individuals

which includes **Lebanese, Syrians,** and 5,000 **Palestine refugees in Lebanon,** as well as 80,000 **Syrian host community members.**

CURRENT DISPLACEMENT



220,000
Individuals

crossed from Lebanon into Syria since 24 September 2024

*Reporting period is from 24 Sep until 03 Oct 2024.

DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN



60%
Children under the Age of 18 (Boys and Girls)



1.4%
Older Persons (60+ years)



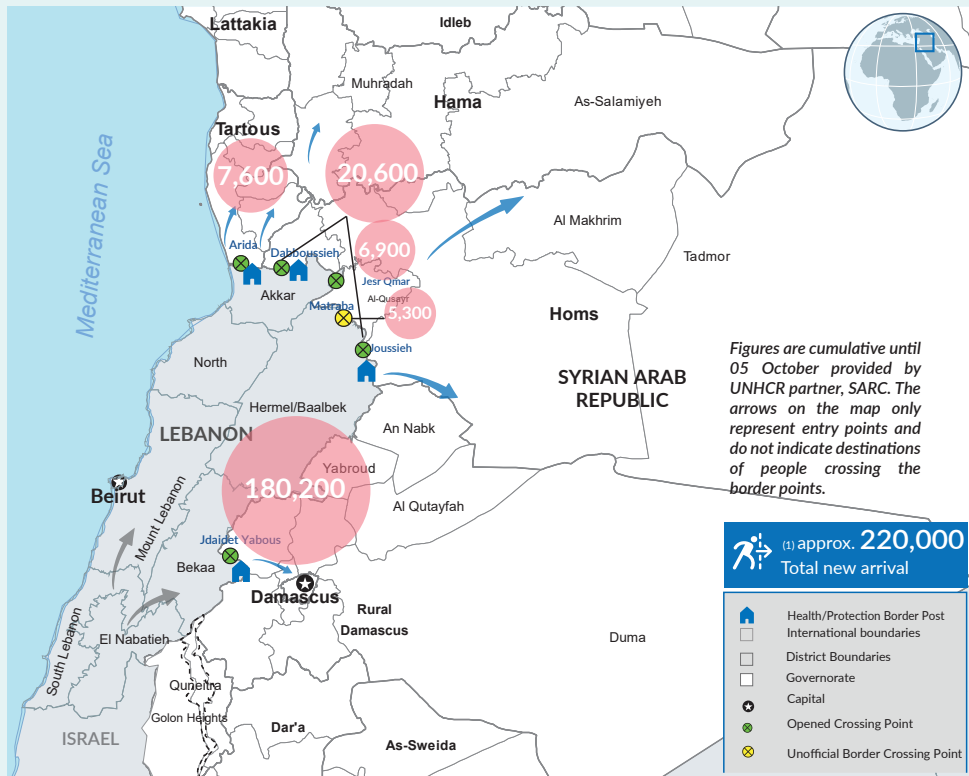
53%
Women and Girls



16%
Estimated People with Disability**

** NOTE: Individuals with disabilities make up an estimated 16 per cent of any population (WHO estimates), with higher numbers expected in situations of conflict-induced forced displacement. According to global estimates, the prevalence of disability is often higher among women.

MAP



1) The numbers of new arrivals in this map are from "SARC Emergency Response For Lebanese Refugees and Syrian Returnees" (Issued 5 October 2024). The numbers also include people entering through the Matraha crossing point (an unofficial border) where UNHCR is not present. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE NEEDS

Prior to this new emergency, Syria was already facing a major humanitarian crisis that remains severely underfunded. The country will require additional support to provide urgent protection and critical life-saving assistance.² As stated, Syrian refugees fleeing Lebanon back to Syria are considered to be returning under adverse circumstances as people are fleeing airstrikes in Lebanon, where many Syrian refugees and Lebanese have been killed and injured.

Initial assessments indicate that the new arrivals' most pressing needs are protection, water and sanitation, food, shelter, health, nutrition, and core relief items. Regarding protection, supporting Syrian authorities to ensure safe and unhindered access to Syrian territory for Syrians, Lebanese, and others forced to flee from Lebanon remains the key priority. At the onset of the crisis, and despite its own challenges, the Government of Syria generously opened its borders to individuals and families fleeing the ongoing conflict in Lebanon. The Government's decision to waive the requirement to exchange US\$ 100 normally required for Syrians to enter the country, as well as other immigration measures, has been instrumental in facilitating access. Continuous advocacy is needed to ensure that this waiver remains in place throughout the crisis, along with efforts to address any other obstacles that may arise.

After several years of displacement, many Syrians have been unable to register civil events and obtain the necessary documentation, which is critical to establishing nationality and related rights. A considerable number of children and women with newborns have been identified at the border, possessing only a birth attestation or no documentation at all. Furthermore, while Syrian authorities have facilitated the entry of Lebanese nationals possessing any type of documentation, these individuals may still face challenges in legalizing their stay in the country and accessing protection and support. UNHCR has also identified a few stateless individuals of both Syrian and Lebanese origin crossing into Syria

who need legal assistance to enter the country and enjoy their rights at their destination.

With over half of those crossing into Syria being children, preventing and responding to incidents of family separation, gender-based violence, exploitation and abuse, and violence against children, both along the journey and in hosting centres and communities, will be central to the protection response. Mental health and psychosocial support needs are widespread due to hostilities, loss of family members, and displacement. These factors can also undermine people's ability to cope and may lead them to resort to harmful coping mechanisms. Given the scale of the influx and the extreme vulnerability of arrivals, ensuring that the partners have access and the capacity to monitor the well-being of Syrians and Lebanese remains critical.

New arrivals are expected to exacerbate social and communal tensions by straining struggling basic services such as health, water and electricity, and increasing competition for already limited resources and livelihoods in Syrian communities. This situation could further affect specific groups, including refugees and people with specific needs. Limited access to safe housing and shelters for both Syrians and Lebanese refugees, particularly those who have lost their homes due to the conflict, is also a significant concern and is expected to heighten protection risks. Given the high vulnerabilities and economic challenges expected to be faced by the forcibly displaced population and their host communities, cases of child labour, child and early marriage, exploitation and gender-based violence are expected to rise. Forcibly displaced children will require support to integrate into the Syrian education system, which will help create a safer environment to address the rising child protection needs.

² <https://fts.unocha.org/plans/1175/summary>, Syria 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan is only 26.5 per cent funded as of 6 October 2024



Thousands of people arriving at the Jdaidet Yabous border point.
Photo by UNHCR

EMERGENCY RESPONSE STRATEGY

Since day one of the influx, humanitarian actors have been engaged in the response. In close collaboration with the Syrian authorities and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), UN agencies and international and national NGOs have been providing protection services and life-saving assistance, including relief items, food, water and sanitation, health services, nutrition screening and legal support.

With the increasing number of new arrivals, humanitarian actors are scaling up their operations at border crossing points. They are prepositioning food, installing latrines to improve the sanitation conditions, establishing child and women friendly spaces, deploying medical personnel, and providing health and nutrition supplies. Additionally, they are reinforcing disease surveillance to detect and prevent outbreaks, distribute dignity and sanitary kits, and support children, pregnant women, and women of reproductive age. Partners are also working to prevent family separation. In addition, noting that many individuals and families arrived distressed and encountered long queues at the border, there is ongoing work to facilitate the movement of people from the border to destinations, to better address security and protection concerns.

As humanitarian actors address the immediate needs of the new arrivals, the local authorities and communities in different governorates, which serve as transit points or destinations for new arrivals, are also stepping up. They have opened hosting centres to accommodate mainly Lebanese new arrivals and are providing essential support. Most of the people fleeing Lebanon are being supported by Syrian families, despite facing economic hardship themselves after more than 13 years of conflict.

As the influx persists, inter-agency partners in collaboration with national authorities and SARC, will continue to address the immediate and medium-term needs of Syrians and Lebanese affected by the hostilities. This inter-agency response will ensure protection and life-saving

assistance for up to 400,000 people fleeing Lebanon, along with six months of mid-term support for 240,000 people in need and 80,000 Syrians hosting new arrivals.

The humanitarian community is structuring its response in two phases: an immediate response at border points focusing on key protection activities and life-saving support for new arrivals, followed by medium-term assistance for Lebanese refugees, Syrians, and their host communities in need, for up to six months.

The border response focuses on ensuring access, decongesting border areas, and providing life-saving support. Partners will offer information, referrals, and assistance to those with specific needs. Actions include legal interventions and advice, deployment of ambulances and mobile teams, provision of water, food, non-food item (NFIs), and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, along with cash assistance and safe transport from border points to transit or destination areas.

Interventions will target the most vulnerable individuals and host communities based on the identified needs, with an area-based approach with a strong emphasis on coordinated inter-sectoral response.

Moreover, as the winter season approaches and could make the situation for new arrivals and host communities more precarious, partners will reinforce winter preparedness measures and ongoing winter mitigation and response activities through the ongoing sectoral humanitarian response in Syria. This will include protecting the most vulnerable and aiming to mitigate immediate risks posed by winter weather.



Distribution of NFIs, including solar lanterns.
Photo by SARC

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Partners will:

• Objective 1:

Ensure safe and unhindered access to territory for Syrians, Lebanese, and others forced to flee from Lebanon, in line with their circumstances and in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement.

The protection response at border crossing points will prioritize advocacy and interventions on access to territory, prevention and response to family separation, monitoring and data collection, as well as promote protection-sensitive crowd management to ensure a smooth and organized flow upon entry, with a focus on fast-tracking vulnerable individuals. In addition, partners will ensure the provision of information, legal counselling and assistance, psychological first aid, and the identification of, referral and support for persons with specific needs or extremely vulnerable individuals, including providing cash for protection for emergency cases.

• Objective 2:

Support Syrian authorities to provide timely and life-saving humanitarian assistance for all those fleeing Lebanon, with a focus on identifying persons with specific needs and the most vulnerable populations to provide them with specialized services.

The initial priority is to ensure safe and orderly access to the Syrian territory. In coordination with the Syrian authorities and SARC, partners are working to decongest border crossings and arrival points, and provide life-saving assistance, including food, water and sanitation, shelter, and medical and nutrition aid for Syrians and Lebanese refugees. They are also focusing on identifying and referring persons with specific needs and vulnerable groups, such as children, women, and persons with disabilities among others, for targeted support and specialized protection services.

In places of destination, protection support and assistance will be delivered primarily through existing sector partners' network of facilities (including community centres, Women and Girls' Safe Spaces, Child Friendly Spaces etc), mobile teams and community networks and outreach volunteers, across all 14 governorates. In places receiving new Syrian and Lebanese arrivals, services will be enhanced or expanded to new facilities, such as the hosting centres being established.

Objective 3:

- **Expand the focus of the response towards mid-term assistance in transit and destination areas. Provide multi-faceted services and livelihood interventions for both host communities and new arrivals, using an area-based approach to foster social cohesion, improve self-reliance, and promote early recovery.**

In Syria, accommodation is primarily provided by local host families, rentals, or hosting centres for the most vulnerable. Over 110 UNHCR-supported community centres and other agencies' existing community-based networks serve as entry points for key protection services, water and sanitation, health, nutrition, education, livelihoods, and community engagement. Assistance will be provided in cash or in-kind, and the multi-functional outreach capacity will be expanded to reach people in need across the country. Protection, livelihood, and socioeconomic support will remain key foundations of the response until solutions become possible.



SARC and partners are providing assistance at the border.
Photo by UNHCR

SECTOR RESPONSE PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITIES



In destination areas, protection support will be provided through a network of facilities (community centres, Women and Girls' Safe Spaces, Child-Friendly Spaces), mobile teams, and community outreach volunteers. Services will be enhanced or expanded to these facilities, including newly established hosting centres.

At border crossing points, new arrivals receive information on existing UNHCR-supported community centres as well as other UNICEF and UNFPA community-based networks. These centres and networks serve as “one-stop shops” providing various services, information, and referrals. Services at these centres and networks are available for both Syrians and Lebanese as well as host communities.

Key Activities

- Establish community-based protection mechanisms for new arrivals.
- Strengthen community engagement, information dissemination, and awareness, while promoting social cohesion through community-led initiatives.
- Provide psychosocial support, including case management and recreational activities, to foster community cohesion and identify vulnerable individuals and households.
- Offer targeted protection assistance, both in-kind and cash, including support for persons with disabilities (e.g., assistive devices). Offer emergency cash assistance to families with children, expanding the cash transfer programme and referral services alongside.
- Deliver child protection services and GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response services, including case management, family tracing, and reunification for vulnerable children, especially those separated from their families as well as for children with disabilities (through UNICEF child protection and UNFPA GBV networks).
- Provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for children and adults affected by trauma.
- Support parents through programmes to improve childcare and protection during emergencies.
- Build emergency-related capacity for frontline workers to better support and protect children.
- Conduct protection outreach and raise awareness on child protection, GBV prevention and response, family separation, and mine risk education.
- Provide legal counselling and specialized legal assistance, including mediation at the community level.



Sector: Public Health and Nutrition

The fragile Syrian health system is already experiencing severe disruptions with deteriorating malnutrition rates in the country, making it difficult to meet additional health and nutrition needs. The coordinated health and nutrition response focuses on urgent needs and provides a strategic approach to the crisis aiming to minimize negative health and nutrition impacts and public health risks. Furthermore, the nutrition response will focus on the border points via integrated health and nutrition mobile teams as well as in hosting centres and host communities to address short- and medium-term nutrition needs of children under five as well as pregnant and lactating women.

Key Activities

- Provide care for children, pregnant and lactating women, ensure safe deliveries, offer prenatal and postnatal care, and establish clinical management of rape services.
- Establish emergency mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, expand hotlines, and deploy outreach teams.
- Ensure access to primary care and childhood immunization. Set up fixed health points, use existing facilities, and deploy medical teams of NGO and the Ministry of Health to remote areas, including vaccination teams with portable cold chain equipment.
- Enhance medical supply chain to procure and distribute lifesaving medicines, consumables, kits and equipment to health facilities, including at border points.
- Create robust referral systems and pathways for trauma and emergency, mental health, and disability patients to access primary and secondary healthcare.
- Strengthen public health efforts for disease surveillance and outbreak prevention through scale up of surveillance and rapid response teams, training health care workers on community event-based surveillance, and supporting peripheral and central public health laboratories.
- Train healthcare providers in mass casualty management, MHPSS, clinical management of rape, and other essential services.
- Enhance risk communication and community engagement by training health workers and community volunteers to disseminate key messages on communicable diseases and hygiene, maternal and child health and nutrition in emergencies - focusing on newborn, child and maternal care, and infant and young child feeding.
- Support a rapid nutrition assessment to generate evidence to improve the response.
- Establish and support rapid-response nutrition teams.
- Engage in early detection and treatment of life-threatening child wasting.
- Provision of high-energy biscuits and complementary food rations for children aged 6-59 months and for pregnant and lactating women.
- Treat severe acute malnutrition with complications and ensure provision of supplies and technical support to stabilization centres.
- Prevent child wasting by providing fortified complementary foods.
- Prevent micronutrient deficiencies in children under five and pregnant/lactating women and adolescent girls through supplementation.
- Promote and support infant and young child feeding in emergencies.
- Train community health workers on Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies, and Community Management of Acute Malnutrition.



Sector:

Food Security and Agriculture

The response aims to deliver an integrated, lifesaving intervention in two phases: first provide immediate support to new arrivals, followed by a five-month response at destination locations. The remaining food-insecure households will transition to regular assistance programmes following this response period.

Key Activities

- **Provide immediate life-saving food support at border crossings and shelters through appropriate modalities (hot meals, fresh meals, ready-to-eat rations, and regular food baskets).**
- **Support displaced persons and their hosts with regular food baskets or voucher/cash assistance.**
- **Support local food production, by providing quality and time-sensitive agricultural inputs, targeting new arrivals and farmers in the host communities in line with seasonality and prioritized needs aiming to minimize the adoption of harmful coping mechanisms and urgently support local food production at the household level. This will be combined with delivery of relevant training.**

Agricultural inputs include the following sub-activities:

- Support small-scale farming production through vegetable gardening and poultry.
- Distribute livestock production inputs to influx-affected livestock breeders including poultry producers, targeting new arrivals and host families. The sector will also improve fodder production and veterinary services in influx-affected areas.
- Conduct relevant short-term agriculture-oriented vocational training programmes (for instance Farmer Field Schools) to enhance agricultural skills for income generation and self-sufficiency, as well as to strengthen social cohesion among new arrivals and host communities.
- Support small business grants or microfinancing initiatives for agriculture-oriented activities.



Sector:
Shelter and NFIs

Most people fleeing Lebanon will stay with Syrian families, and both new arrivals and host communities are prioritized for support, which includes essential non-food items (NFIs) (e.g., bedding, baby supplies) and cash-based interventions (CBIs) to help sustain host arrangements.

Vulnerable households may receive CBIs to alleviate the financial burden of rent that could force them into hosting centres, which are a last-resort solution.

At present, 28 hosting centres are being prepared, with an initial capacity to accommodate 10,000 people, while additional public premises are progressively being identified.

Immediate priorities include rehabilitation of communal infrastructure with proper water, sanitation, and hygiene conditions; set up of protection-sensitive hosting facilities, and distribution of essential NFIs.

Key Activities

- **Support rehabilitation of existing premises and repair damaged houses for new arrivals and host communities.**
- **Expand NFI distributions of bedding, clothing, solar lanterns, and cooking supplies, focusing on the most vulnerable. Provide winterization kits (heaters, blankets, and plastic sheeting) to ensure shelters are prepared for winter.**
- **Assess the possibility of providing cash to alleviate the financial burden of rent.**
- **Collaborate with the WASH sector to ensure all active hosting centres have adequate sanitation and water systems.**



Sector:
Basic Needs (MPCA)

Basic needs support will enable refugees to meet their immediate needs and achieve long-term well-being by addressing key socioeconomic vulnerabilities. The primary approach will be the provision of multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA). Needs assessments will be conducted to identify vulnerabilities and project the number of people in need who can be supported through MPCA. Other sectoral support provided through the cash modality is reflected under the respective sectors.



Sector:
WASH

The WASH response is closely integrated with shelter interventions, focusing on households, hosting centres, and local communities.

The aim of WASH is to provide comprehensive support to various shelter options while promoting health and hygiene.

Key Activities

- Set up mobile toilets and showers to improve sanitation in hosting centres.
- Install water tanks (1,000 and 5,000 litres) for long-term storage.
- Place handwashing stations with six taps to encourage proper hygiene.
- Deploy 120-liter solid waste containers for waste management.
- Conduct regular site cleaning and waste collection.
- Maintain water, sewage networks, and sanitation units to ensure safety and functionality in shelters.
- Provide hygiene kits, sanitary pads, diapers for babies and older persons, and jerry cans as part of health and hygiene promotion campaigns.
- Conduct water quality monitoring in at-risk hosting and destination locations.



Sector:
Education

A holistic package of education, child protection, and development opportunities for adolescents will be provided to ensure inclusive, equitable, and safe access to formal and non-formal education, including early childhood development.

Key Activities

- Provide non-formal education, including psychosocial support and recreational activities.
- Establish Temporary Learning Spaces with furniture and early childhood education programmes.
- Distribute supplies (stationery, textbooks, and pedagogical materials) to assist students to resume their studies.
- Provide teacher training, awareness sessions, and disseminate information on school registration.
- Enhance the Family Strengthening Programme to help prevent family separation through cash assistance, educational support, healthcare, housing, food, vocational training, and income-generating projects for self-sufficiency.



Sector:

Livelihoods and Early Recovery

As Syria faces a severe socioeconomic crisis, addressing challenges related to basic services, self-reliance, and social cohesion from the onset of the emergency is essential. Support for Syrians and Lebanese will include multi-faceted services and livelihood interventions for both host communities and new arrivals, using an area-based approach to foster social cohesion and improve self-reliance.

Key Activities

- Enhance access to basic services such as health, education, water, and sewage infrastructure to alleviate pressure on services in areas with high numbers of new arrivals.
- Implement low-voltage activities and introduce solar energy to improve electricity access and promote renewable energy in return areas.
- Offer cash for work programmes by creating short-term employment through waste collection.
- Install solar-powered lighting in hosting centres and affected areas for improved safety.
- Support micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and livelihoods by providing financial assistance, grants, small-scale productive infrastructure rehabilitation and training to MSMEs to create jobs, with a focus on female-headed households and climate-friendly agriculture.
- Offer soft skills, technical, and vocational training to enhance employability in high-demand sectors for new arrivals and host communities based on rapid skills needs assessment.
- Provide real-world experience through apprenticeships and on-the-job training to boost employability, in close cooperation with the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, whose members seek qualified workers.
- Strengthen social cohesion and improve governance for inclusivity and sustainability in return areas.
- Support persons with disabilities by providing cash assistance to 8,000 families with persons with disabilities, giving assistive devices (prosthetics, wheelchairs), and upgrading shelters with ramps and handrails.
- Promote gender equality and women's empowerment by promoting women's roles and increasing access to opportunities and decision-making.
- Deliver mental health services to 600 people (62% women).
- Establish legal aid centres, mobile clinics for civil documentation, and launch legal awareness campaigns for housing and employment rights, supported by "Your Legal App."
- Provide returnees with cash income and community reintegration through emergency employment.
- Focus on small-scale infrastructure rehabilitation to support future livelihoods.
- Source workers from new arrivals and local communities to promote social reconciliation.

 Sector:
Logistics

In the regional and country-wide context of a growing fuel shortage, key logistics and supply interventions include:

Key Activities

- **Providing fuel for the humanitarian response:**
 - Coordination and information management to ensure an effective response.
 - Support for storage and transport services to partners.
 - Assistance during market disruptions.
- **Providing fuel for operational movements to support emergency response:**
 - Establish emergency diesel capacity to ensure response continuity, particularly from border crossings to destination areas.



Partners coordinating efforts at the border to ensure safe and orderly access to Syrian territory, decongest crossings, identify and support vulnerable groups, and deliver life-saving assistance, including shelter, medical aid, and food, to both Syrians and Lebanese refugees in need.

Photo by UNICEF

CROSS-CUTTING RESPONSE PRIORITIES

This appeal is guided by the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) to promote solutions and inclusion from the outset of the emergency.

All interventions will be designed, implemented, and monitored through rights-based, needs-based, community-based and Age Gender Diversity (AGD) approaches.

Multi-purpose cash assistance and sectoral cash initiatives are key implementation modalities and will be used whenever possible. Inflation, major liquidity challenges, and their impact on local prices will be important considerations for decision-making.

Partners will mainstream protection and risk mitigation in the response through, for instance, safety audits and trainings for frontline workers and officials. Protection interventions will also include identifying the most vulnerable refugees, in particular survivors of violence, unaccompanied and separated children, children with disabilities, older persons, single women and female-headed households. Those in need will be offered assistance and referrals to key services such as legal aid, family reunification and alternative care arrangements.

Inclusive and accessible mechanisms to ensure accountability to affected people will be expanded, including two-way communication channels and feedback and response mechanisms. A community-based protection approach will continue to be implemented in all interventions, and peaceful co-existence among refugees and host communities will be promoted.

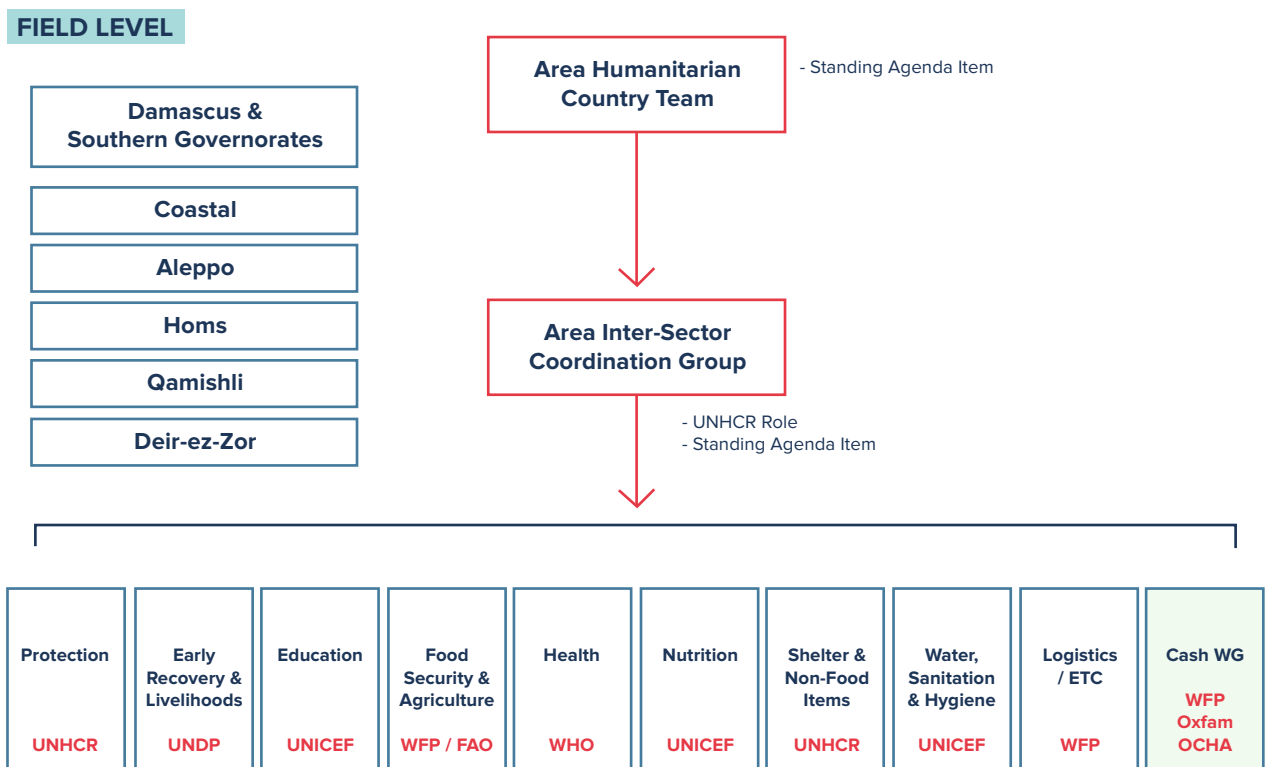
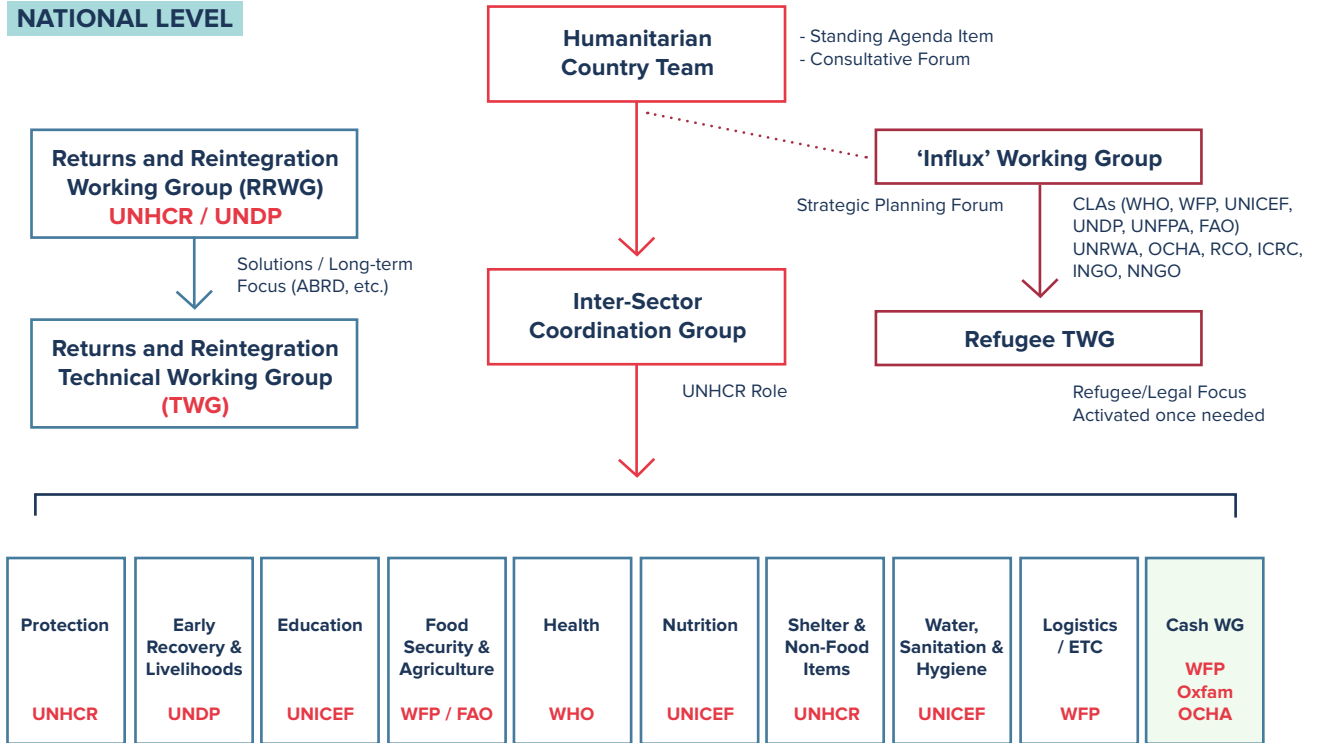
Women and girls in displacement situations may be at higher risk of gender-based violence, exploitation and abuse or intimate partner violence. Protection from all forms of exploitation and abuse will be prioritized, including by strengthening inter-agency networks and existing response systems, such as community/youth-led initiatives and outreach volunteers. Partners will

adhere to standards of conduct for humanitarian workers, with a focus on preventing all forms of exploitation and abuse, reporting concerns through established mechanisms, and upholding a victim-centred approach. Across all assistance efforts and services, partners are developing and mainstreaming messages on all forms of exploitation and abuse. To ensure inclusivity and protection, all refugees and recipients of assistance will have access to safe, gender- and child-sensitive feedback and complaints mechanisms, as well as clear information and must be actively involved in decision-making processes. Partners will strive to provide victims with timely and appropriate support.

All support and services will adhere to key humanitarian principles. The humanitarian and civilian nature of asylum will be a core principle of the response. A consistent approach will be maintained across the country.

Partners will also invest in localization efforts by enhancing the capacity of local and community-based organizations, and national and local authorities. This includes targeted mutual capacity-sharing initiatives that equip local institutions with the skills and resources necessary to handle the ongoing response, aiming for long-term resilience. Localization will prioritize local participation, with a focus on climate-smart and environmentally sound solutions.

COORDINATION



In Syria, emergency coordination mechanisms build on existing well-established structures and the need for a longer-term perspective, noting in particular the coordination mechanisms in respect to the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) but also in Northwest (NW) and Northeast (NE) Syria, in the context of the Whole-of-Syria approach. Additionally, the Return and Reintegration Working Group (RRWG), co-chaired by UNHCR and UNDP, looks at long-term solutions through an area-based support approach.

In line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), UNHCR leads the current humanitarian response to the emergency, both at national and field level, through nine sectors and a working group and three sub-sectors (areas of responsibility): Protection (including Child Protection, Gender-Based Violence, and Mine Action), Shelter & NFIs, Public Health, Education, Food Security & Agriculture, Nutrition, Early Recovery and Livelihoods, Logistics/ETC, WASH and Cash. Every sector is represented by the sector leads at the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) at technical level. In respect to the influx from Lebanon, the ISCG is mandated to coordinate, identify, and evaluate relevant operational topics to ensure a formative and standard approach.

The ISCG reports to the newly established Influx Working Group (IWG) for strategic decision-making, priority setting, and overall guidance related to this new emergency. This forum includes heads of sector lead UN agencies, and UNRWA, ICRC, OCHA, and RCO as well as NGO Representatives, and is chaired by the UNHCR Representative. In turn, SARC is tasked by the Government to coordinate the national response, which emphasizes coordination at the sub-national level.

Additionally, a Refugee Technical Working Group could be activated, if and when required, as a forum to discuss legal and protection matters related to refugees and advise the IWG on such matters. Finally, the IWG will consult regularly with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) to align the response to the current emergency with the wider humanitarian response inside Syria.

On 1 October, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees declared a Level 3 (L3) Emergency for Lebanon and Syria. By declaring an L3 emergency, this signals the highest level of emergency response, which requires organization-wide mobilization of capacities. In doing so, maximum resources will be mobilized along with close coordination between UN agencies, humanitarian actors and the international community to address the needs of affected populations. The emergency declaration is in place for 6 months initially and could be extended as needed. Similarly, other UN Agencies, including WHO and UNICEF, have also made emergency declarations.

While the influx is primarily affecting Syria, emergency coordination mechanisms are being developed and stand ready to be activated in neighboring countries, should the conflict expand. This could be done by building on existing well-established structures in neighbouring countries. In particular, the Syria 3RP (Refugee and Resilience Response Plan, co-chaired by UNHCR and UNDP), in Jordan, Lebanon, Türkiye, Egypt and Iraq, and its technical working groups, such as the Regional Durable Solutions Working Group (RDSWG), can offer important platforms for partners to piggyback on. Coordination between the response inside Syria and the response outside remains important to ensure coherent approaches.

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

55 partners are appealing for an estimated **US\$ 324 million** for an initial period from October 2024 to March 2025.

Financial Requirements per Sector

Sector	Total in US\$
Basic needs (MPCA)	US\$ 39,130,356
Education	US\$ 30,646,849
Early Recovery and Livelihoods (ERL)	US\$ 41,295,000
Food Security	US\$ 73,237,500
Health / Nutrition	US\$ 23,345,112
Logistics / Supply	US\$ 2,500,000
Protection	US\$ 42,084,298
Shelter / NFIs	US\$ 60,105,167
WASH	US\$ 11,643,231
Total	US\$ 323,987,513

Budget Summary per Appealing Inter-Agency Partner

Appealing Partners	Requirements in US\$
FAO	US\$ 10,000,000
ILO	US\$ 700,000
UNDP	US\$ 29,282,000
UNFPA	US\$ 7,462,649
UN-Habitat	US\$ 1,100,000
UNHCR	US\$ 124,858,000
UNICEF	US\$ 60,037,366
UNRWA	US\$ 1,533,860
WFP	US\$ 56,900,000
WHO	US\$ 6,000,000
NGO Partners*	US\$ 26,113,638
TOTAL	US\$ 323,987,513

*including requirements from:

Acción Contra el Hambre - Spain, Action Against Hunger, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Aga Khan Foundation, Al Bousleh Charity Foundation, Al Tamayouz for Orphan Sponsorship / Social Care Association, Al-Aamal Al-Kheryiah Association, Al-Batoul for Humanitarian Services, Al-Ber wa Al-Eslah, Al-Birr and social services association (Idleb) (Bir), Aoun For Relief And Development - Islamic Charity (AFRD), Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale (AVSI), Child Care Society (CCS), Circassian charity association, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Dorcas Aid International, Finn church Aid, Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East (GOPA), Hilfswerk der Evangelischen Kirchen Schweiz (HEKS), Ihsan Islamic Association, International Medical Corps (IMC), INTERSOS Humanitarian Aid Organization, MEDAIR, Mosaic Humanitarian Relief and Development Society, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), ONG Rescate, Our Hands Association in Lattakia (Ayadina), Oxfam, Poor Patients Relief Association, Première Urgence Internationale (PUI), Qaderon Institution for Development, Relief and Development Center, Secours Islamique France (SIF), SOS Children's Villages Syria, St. Ephrem Patriarchal Development Committee (EPDC), Syria Pulse Association, Syrian Arab Red Crescent, Syrian Society for Social Development (SSSD), Terre des Hommes Italy, Terre des Hommes Lausanne, The Foundation for Advancing Development Integration (FOUADI), Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH), WeWorld - GVC, ZOA.



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Document published on 7 October 2024

Contact:

UNHCR Syria External Relations Unit
SYRDAREPORTING@unhcr.org

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