# SYRIA SITUATION: REGIONAL WINTERIZATION PROGRAMME

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey 23 - 30 December 2013



This update provides a snapshot of the implementation of a far-reaching <u>winterization programme</u> to address the needs of the most vulnerable amongst those who have fled their homes due to the continuing conflict in Syria.

Winterization programme (excluding Syria)



138 million

Lebanon: 68 million

Jordan: 18.8 million

Iraq: 26.9 million

Egypt: 2.4 million

Turkey: 21.8 million

#### **Activities include**

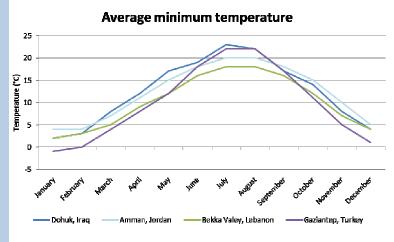
- Cash assistance
- Distribution of relief items, including blankets, mattresses, stoves and fuel for heating, and clothing
- Preventive health response
- Shelter weatherproofing
- Shelter renovation and repairs
- Replacement of tents
- Construction of drainage channels
- Constructing slabs that insulate tents from ground temperatures
- WASH winterization items
- Heating education facilities

The refugee population in the region has more than tripled since last winter. UNHCR and regional refugee response partners are coordinating the implementation of a far-reaching winterization programme to address the needs of the most vulnerable amongst those who have fled their homes due to the continuing conflict in Syria. More than 1.1 million refugees are targeted in the plan, and priority is given to those living in sub-standard shelters; in areas with severe climatic conditions; and the most vulnerable who may have the most difficulties to cover their accommodation, utility and heating or fuel costs.

In addition, UNHCR is implementing a USD 78.8 million plan benefitting up to 1.5 million internally displaced persons in Syria by providing winterized relief items, improving collective shelters and private housings, and distributing cash assistance to vulnerable families.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- In Lebanon About **250,000 refugees** have received winterization core relief items. About **74,500 refugees** have been assisted by the shelter winterization programme. It represents 122 per cent of the overall initially targeted population (61,040 refugees).
- UNHCR Turkey has received the delivery of children's clothes from local procurement. The total number of sets is **155,000** and distribution will soon start to refugees in camps.
- UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP have delivered vital winterization assistance to Syria through Iraq. UNHCR operated a total of 12 flights from Erbil. Each flight carried 40mt of blankets, diapers, jerry cans, plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, health and other items to a total of 10,000 households (50,000 persons) to an area that had been inaccessible for many months.
- UNHCR Iraq has purchased additional floor insulation materials and tent winterization kits to be distributed to refugees in camps. The entire refugee camp population has received winterization kits in Iraq.



Weather conditions in the region are particularly rough during the winter, with picks of sub-zero temperatures in many locations where refugees live, including northern Iraq, mountains in Lebanon, south of Turkey. Temperature differences between day and night can be quite significant, especially in the dryer inland areas, with nights surprisingly cool. Refugees living in camps and in improvised shelter are particularly vulnerable to these conditions.

### Refugee response – UNHCR regional stockpile

UNHCR is closely monitoring stocks in various warehouses to ensure that items are available and delivered to refugees where needed. Overland transfer systems, through airlift, or sea shipment have been put in place to ensure that items reach the countries where needed. Thus far, the UNHCR winterization programme stands at 51 per cent released for distribution, 25 per cent of items in stock and 35 per cent in pipeline in the refugee receiving countries.

## **UNHCR stock of key winterization items**

