

SYRIA SITUATION: REGIONAL WINTERIZATION PROGRAMME

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

10 - 16 January 2014



This update provides a snapshot of 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.

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

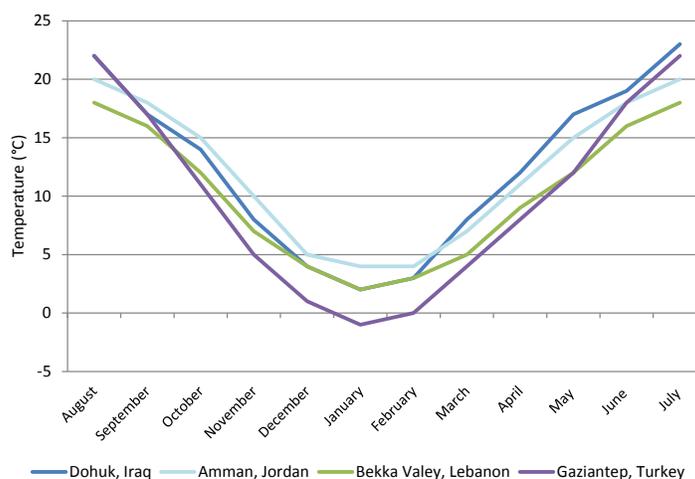
- Cash assistance
- Distribution of relief items, including blankets, mattresses, stoves and fuel for heating, and clothing
- Preventive health response
- Shelter weatherproofing
- Shelter renovation and repairs
- Replacement of tents
- Construction of drainage channels
- Constructing slabs that insulate 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. 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 houses, and distributing cash assistance to vulnerable families.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The distribution of winterization items among Syrian refugees in camps across **Iraq** is complete and distribution for refugees outside camps is underway.
- In **Lebanon**, 344,000 Syrian refugees (69,000 households) have received blankets, stoves and the winter fuel allowance.
- In **Jordan**, about 111,275 Syrian refugees in the 12 governorates have received supplementary winterization cash assistance.
- In **Turkey**, UNICEF has distributed 34,797 sets of jumpsuits to children under two. UNHCR's procurement of 240,000 high thermal blankets has arrived at Mersin Port and items will soon be released for distribution.



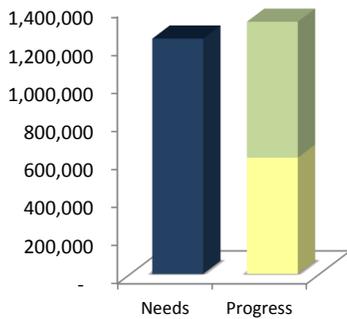
Weather conditions in the region are particularly rough during the winter, with peaks of sub-zero temperatures in many locations where refugees live, including northern Iraq, mountain areas in Lebanon, south of Turkey. Temperature differences between day and night can be significant, especially in the 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

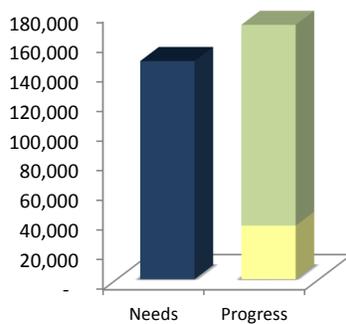
UNHCR is closely monitoring stocks in various warehouses to ensure that items are available and delivered to refugees where needed. Overland transfer systems, through airlift or sea shipment, have been put in place to ensure that items reach the countries where needed. Thus far, the UNHCR winterization programme stands at 57 per cent released for distribution, 16 per cent of items in stock and 36 per cent in the pipeline in refugee-hosting countries.

UNHCR stock of key winterization items

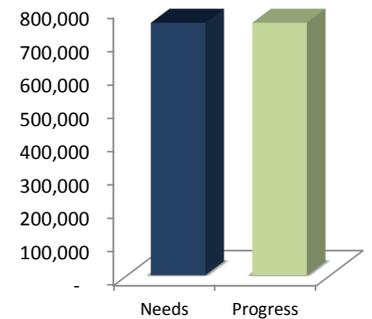
Blankets/Quilts



Plastic Sheet

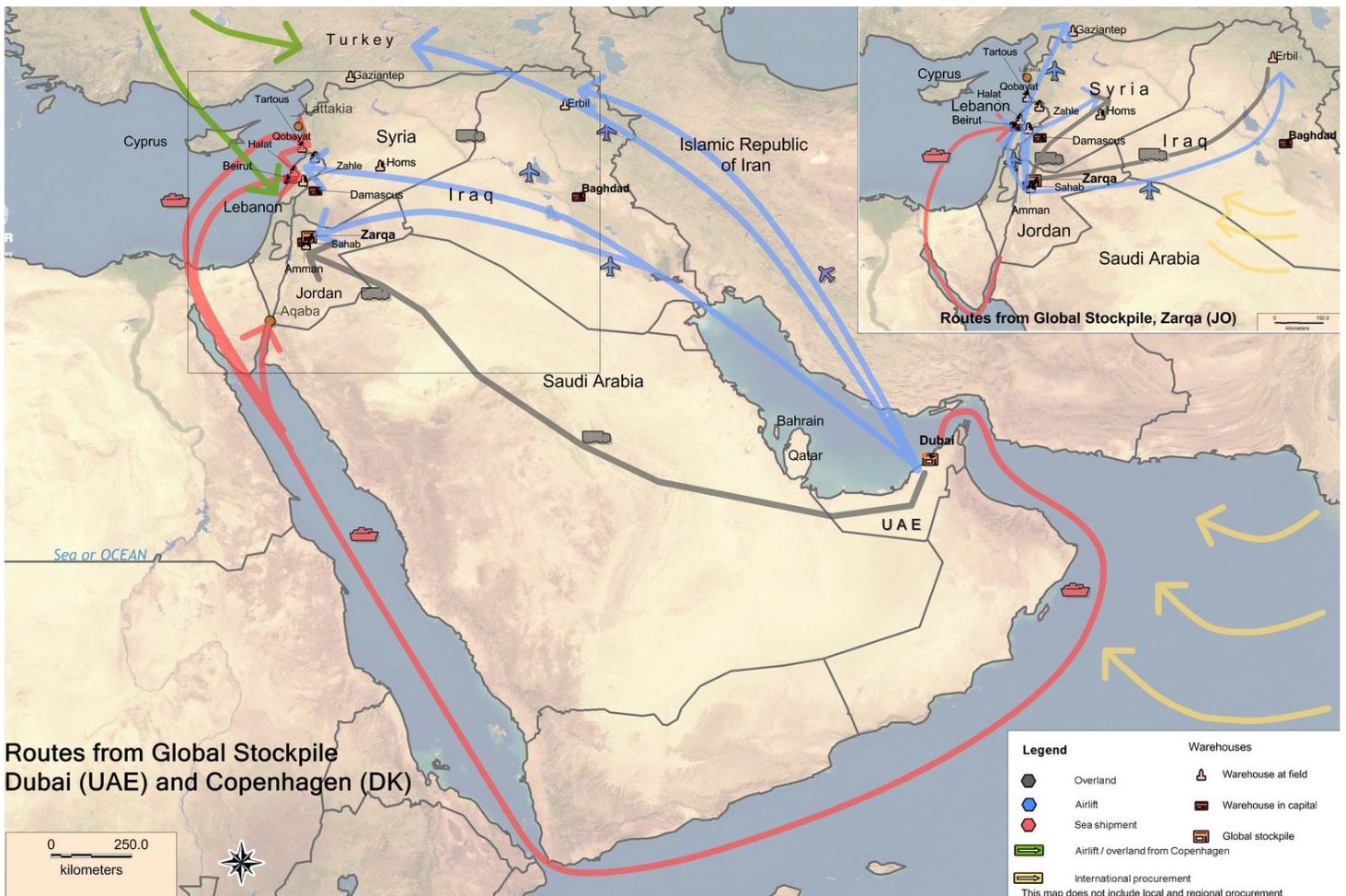


Clothing



Legend: ■ Stock/release ■ Pipeline

Map of UNHCR stock routes



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

LEBANON

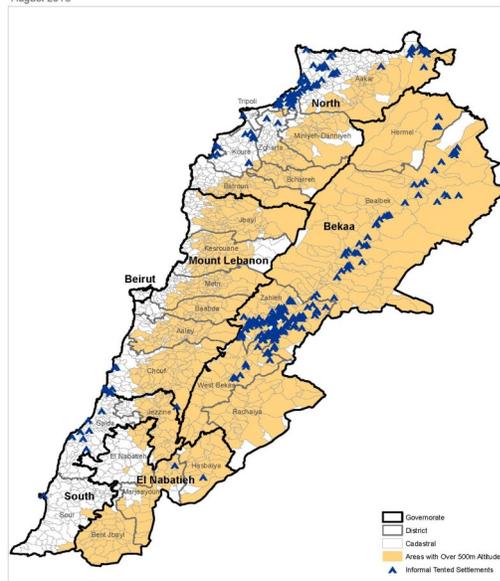
Refugees are dispersed in over 1,500 locations throughout Lebanon, with the majority living in the North or Bekaa Valley where winter conditions are more severe. Nearly 30 per cent of refugees live in sub-standard accommodation such as informal tented settlements, unfinished buildings, garages, worksites and warehouses.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- As of 14 January, **344,000 refugees** (69,000 households) have received blankets, stoves and the winter fuel allowance through ATM cards or vouchers, representing 65 per cent of the total target.
- **30,000 weatherproofing kits** have been distributed for Syrian refugees in informal tented settlement and unfinished buildings across the country, benefitting some 156,000 refugees.
- **137,500** refugee and Lebanese students benefited from support to 360 schools by the Fuel-for-Schools programme. This includes five UNRWA schools in the Bekaa serving 2,600 Palestinian refugee students.
- UNICEF has distributed clothing to **70,000 children** under the age of 14 in informal tented settlements, as well as clothing vouchers to **20,500 children** in informal tented settlements and collective shelters.
- About **14,500 Palestinian ex-Syria (PRS) families** of have been assistance by UNRWA’s winterization programme. Assistance continues and includes cash assistance, winter clothing and one month’s fuel allowance. UNRWA covered 76 per cent and partner agencies covered 24 per cent of the PRS population through in-kind, voucher or cash contributions.

Winterization Targeting Map

August 2013



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

The boundaries, names, and designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement of the United Nations or UNHCR. All data used were the best available at the time of map production.

GIS and Mapping by UNHCR

JORDAN

Distribution of relief items is taking place through a phased approach in camps and for vulnerable refugees living in local communities. A number of partners are providing cash assistance to vulnerable families to cover fuel and utility costs as well as contribute to rental fees.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- Humanitarian partners have provided supplementary winterization cash assistance to some **111,275 refugees in the 12 governorates**, and regular winterization cash payments to **64,260 refugees**. The winter supplement of 70 JD/month is provided for four months and is mainly intended to cover fuel costs for heating.
- Islamic Relief Jordan has distributed **1,073 gas heaters and cylinders** for Syrian refugees in Irbid and Mafraq.
- UNICEF, in coordination with Norwegian Refugee Council, has distributed winter clothing kits and blankets to over **30,000 children** aged 0-5 years in Cyber City, King Abdullah Park and Zaatari camps. In addition, UNICEF dispatched 1,002 winter clothing kits and 1,005 high thermal blankets to the eastern border for distribution to newly arrived children aged 0-5 years.

Implementation by Organization - Outside camps

Organization	Planned (# of individuals)	Percentage of implementation
ACTED	5,390	68%
AVSI	3,800	38%
CARE	33,665	17%
ICMC	6,353	91%
JRCS (IFRC—SRC)	15,520	108%
LWF	6,855	19%
MEDAIR	3,500	18%
Mercy Corps	6,855	38%
SRC	7,405	100%
UNHCR	119,963	100%

IRAQ

Over 90 per cent of refugees in Iraq live in northern Iraq, where winter conditions are harshest and temperatures fall below zero for consecutive days and weeks during winter.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- **In camps, the distribution of winter preparedness items among Syrian refugees is complete.** Humanitarian partners are providing additional winterization item to refugees in camps.
- ACTED has distributed two folding beds per tent in camps in Erbil Governorate and Arbat transit site in Sulaymaniyah Governorate.
- Save the Children is distributing winter clothes for children in Basirma, Gawilan, Darashakran, Kawergosk camps and non camp locations in the Erbil Governorate.
- In Arbat transit site, KURDS distributed tent isolation kits, MODM distributed winterization kits including small refrigerators and the Iraqi Red Crescent Society distributed blankets.
- UNICEF continued to provide essential winter items to refugee populations. Winter clothing has reached **8,392 Syrian children** in camps in Iraq, while **6,250 blankets** have also been distributed. Distribution of winter clothing is on-going for over 14,000 children in Domiz camp.
- **For non-camp refugees**, distribution of winter preparedness items is underway and it is estimated that over **16 per cent** of the non-camp population has received winterization assistance.

TURKEY

The response in Turkey is led by the Disaster Management and Emergency Presidency of the Prime Ministry (AFAD) and includes winterization activities. To support the Government of Turkey, response partners are providing supplemental assistance for the camp and non-camp population, including winterization packages for 350,000 refugees in camps, and cash grants for the most vulnerable refugees in host communities.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- To date, UNICEF has distributed **34,797 sets of jumpsuits to children** under two years of age. UNICEF is currently finalizing the procurement of winter clothing for approximately 20,000 children aged 4-18 and will focus, upon the request of AFAD, on new or recent arrivals to camps. UNICEF plans on carrying out the distribution in the coming two weeks.
- UNHCR's procurement of **240,000 high thermal blankets** has arrived at Mersin Port and items will soon be released for distribution. UNHCR has also released 11,850 heaters/electric stoves and over 35,000 clothing for distribution.



Refugees suffer from harsh winter conditions. Credits: UNHCR

Humanitarian response partners are invited to contribute to this report. For more information or to be added to the distribution list, please contact [Bruno Stolze](mailto:stolze@unhcr.org), UNHCR Associate Reporting Officer | stolze@unhcr.org