SYRIAN REFUGEES

INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL UPDATE

10 November 2014

KEY FIGURES

3.2 million
Syrian refugees have fled to neighbouring countries and North Africa

1.8 million
Refugees and vulnerable members of impacted communities are receiving food assistance in 2014

1.2 million
People have been provided with access to safe drinking water in 2014

795,000
People have benefited from shelter assistance in camp and non-camp settings in 2014

700,000
People have benefited from the distribution of basic household and core relief items in 2014

FUNDING

USD 3.7 billion
requested for the situation

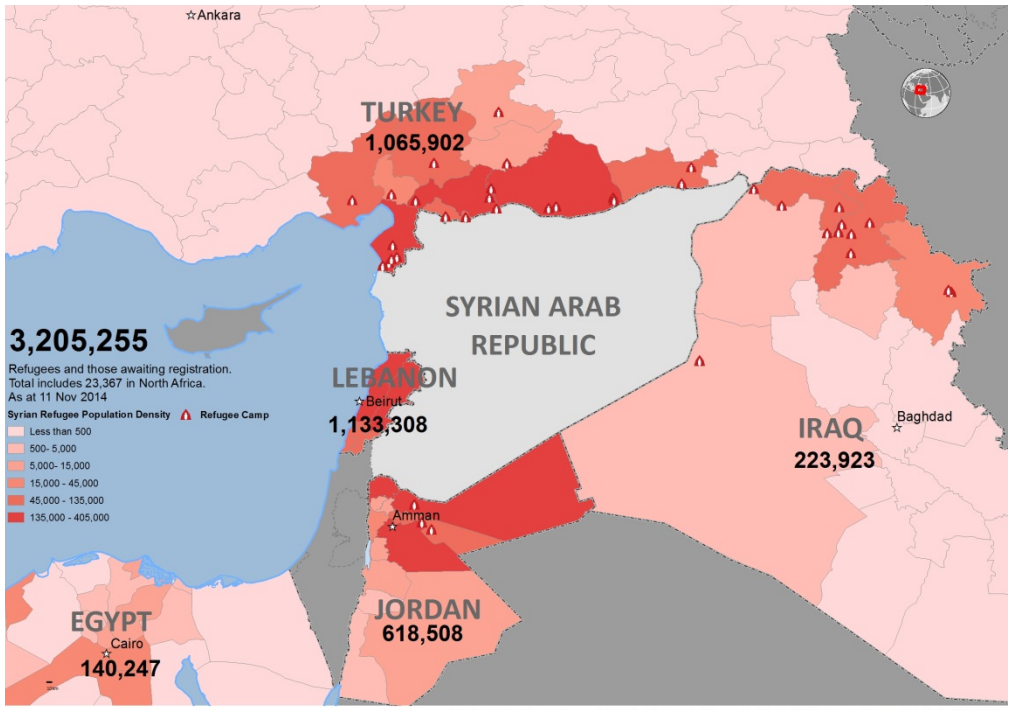
PRIORITIES

- 2015-2016 planning
- Winterization for 1.5 million vulnerable refugees including the distribution/ replacement of winter relief items, upgrades to shelter and seasonal cash

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Government of Turkey reports 191,000 people from the northern Syrian city of Kobani have crossed into Turkey since 19 September. Of these, close to 15,000 people have traveled onward into the Kurdistan Region (KR-I) of Iraq since 25 September. In line with a decision by the Kurdistan Regional Government's Ministry of Interior, all new arrivals from Kobani have been transferred to existing Syrian refugee camps in the KR-I.
- IOM reports continued irregular movements across the Mediterranean throughout October despite increasingly dangerous sea conditions. The total number of arrivals in Italy from January to October 2014 stands at 154,075 according to figures newly released by Italy's Ministry of the Interior - almost four times the number of arrivals recorded during the same period last year (38,882). Syria remains the top sending country with 36,351 arrivals in 2014.
- Following a global appeal for support, WFP has received a number of new confirmed contributions and pledges of funding. These pledges have again enabled WFP to utilize its internal loan mechanisms to avert immediate cuts in food assistance across the region. Until these pledges are confirmed, WFP's actual funding situation remains dire, with cuts in assistance anticipated during the upcoming winter.

A total of 3.2 million people of concern



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

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

As insecurity and violence continue to cause displacement within Syria and across the region, more than 90,000 Syrians have being registered on average each month this year in countries in the regional refugee response.

Humanitarian needs remain enormous. Government services and local communal services are under strain due to the increased demand, impacting service quality for both refugees and nationals, and threatening social cohesion.

Further, since 19 September, More than 190,000 Syrians from Kobani have fled to Turkey since the ISIS group launched an offensive to capture the border city in September. Of these, close to 15,000 refugees have continued on to Iraq's Kurdistan Region (KR-I).

The arrival of Syrian refugees into Jordan fell markedly in early October. The Government of Jordan continues to extend protection to Syrian refugees within the country, but is increasingly concerned of the potential security implications of the crises in neighbouring Iraq and Syria.

In the region, some 400,000 refugees are accommodated in refugee camps. Outside of camps, it is estimated that 38 per cent live in sub-standard shelter. With the forthcoming winter, the provision of winterization assistance to the most vulnerable is an ongoing concern for humanitarian and government actors.

Over 150 agencies and aid groups, together with the governments of neighbouring countries, are working together to protect Syrian refugees and assist them with meeting their basic needs, improve access to education and medical care, and provide basic goods such as tents, food and safe WASH facilities.

Monthly sectoral dashboards are published on the Syria Regional Response Data Portal, detailing sectoral priorities, achievements and needs by country and regionally.

Humanitarian partners project there will be 3.59 million refugees by December 2014 and an annual budget requirements of US$ 3.74 billion, which remains 49 per cent unfunded. Donors have contributed more than $4 billion to successive regional response plans since 2012. However, $1.8 billion more is needed by the end of 2014 to meet the basic needs of vulnerable refugees, especially with the onset of harsher winter conditions.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Protection

LEBANON

- A UNHCR survey between March 2013 and August 2014 indicated that only 30 per cent of Syrian children born in Lebanon have birth certificates. With the support of five government ministries and in partnership with OHCHR and UNICEF, UNHCR and Frontiers Ruwad Association (FR) initiated a campaign on birth registration targeting parents of newborns of all origins to prevent statelessness. To date, UNHCR distributed over 190,000 leaflets and posters at registration sites and community centres. FR is currently conducting capacity building initiatives with participants from relevant ministries to identify ways to strengthen civil registration in Lebanon.

TURKEY

- The number of Syrian refugees who have fled to Turkey from conflict in Kobani has surpassed 190,000, according to AFAD. Some 50,000 new arrivals are staying in government transit camps and with host families in Suruc, while others have moved to different locations throughout Turkey or the KR-I.

IRAQ

Since 25 September, close to 15,000 Syrians fleeing conflict in Kobani have arrived in the KR-I. In response:

- A reception centre has been established by the authorities at the Ibrahim Khalil border crossing where UN agencies are deployed to facilitate the arrivals process. UNHCR is working to improve the condition of the reception centre.

- New arrivals undergo initial screening and receive medical support. To date, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) Department of Health has vaccinated close to 1,500 people against polio, and almost 1,300 children against measles. The new arrivals are then transported by IOM buses to a number of refugee camps across the region including the Kawergosk, Basirma, and Qushtapa camps in Erbil governorate, the Arbat camp in Sulaymaniyah governorate, and the Gawilan camp in Dohuk governorate.
- All new arrivals in the camps are provided with emergency support by UNHCR and its partners, including through distributions of blankets, mattresses, plastic sheeting and other core relief items.

Education

LEBANON

- Syrian refugee children have started the 2014-2015 school year, enrolling in the morning shift in public schools across the country.
- UNICEF has organized training for 32 humanitarian partners in Beirut and Mount Lebanon on how to design education activities in emergencies including conducting assessments, planning, coordination and monitoring of activities.
- UNHCR's Annual Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) provides scholarships annually to refugees to undertake tertiary studies in host countries. DAFI was launched in Lebanon at the beginning of September 2014 and received a total of 453 applications. After detailed screening and interviews by selection committees in four locations across the country, 60 Syrian refugee students were granted DAFI scholarships to support their university studies.

Food Security and Nutrition

LEBANON

- Following the receipt of additional donor contributions, WFP transferred a supplementary payment of US$10 to beneficiary e-cards towards the end of October, bringing the total monthly value of the assistance to the regular US$30. In total, some 917,000 beneficiaries were reached with assistance in October.
- As part of efforts to ensure assistance reaches the most vulnerable, the humanitarian community in Lebanon, through the Targeting Task Force, has developed a joint targeting tool for use as part of each agency's targeting process. The questionnaire, which uses a multi-sectoral approach to assess the vulnerability of refugees, has been shared with sector coordinators and trainings on the tool are underway. The roll-out of the questionnaire is tentatively planned for November.

TURKEY

- Following a government request in early October, WFP is supporting the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) in their provision of two daily hot meals to some 10,750 refugees - almost the full capacity of the mobile kitchens - residing in Suruc transit camps and public spaces. TRC is one of five actors providing hot meals to recently arrived Syrian Kurdish refugees, with local authorities coordinating the food and basic needs response and directing actors regarding quantities and distribution locations. As requested by the TRC, WFP will in the coming month deliver food sufficient for 30,000 for one month, or longer based on the number of people in need.

JORDAN

- Following the introduction of vulnerability targeting in October - using criteria generated by the Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise - a total of 37,025 people (nearly seven per cent of registered Syrian refugees residing outside of camps) were removed from WFP's assistance. An inter-agency appeals mechanism was established in parallel to the targeting exercise, ensuring that families removed from

WFP assistance can appeal their exclusion. An appeals committee – with representation from multiple UN agencies and NGOs – are reviewing the 700 appeals so far submitted, with plans to assess all appeals within a month of their receipt. Given the high number of beneficiary questions related to targeting – as well as questions regarding the potential for reduced assistance due to a lack of funding – WFP monitors are also assisting UNHCR help desks in multiple governorates.

- WFP continued its roll-out of e-cards in both Zaatri and Azraq camps, reaching some 400 families every day. The distribution of e-cards to all households in Azraq is nearly complete. The roll-out in Zaatri camp is expected to conclude in late November. WFP field monitors were available at e-card distributions in both camps to show beneficiaries who have never used a debit card-like system how to use the e-card.

IRAQ

- Food security partners are continuing their assistance to newly arrived refugees from Kobani, ensuring that all those who have moved to camps can meet their food needs. The Barzani Charity Foundation is providing hot meals in camps at the request of the Government of Turkey until new arrivals are assisted with WFP food parcels.
- Thus far, WFP has distributed 3,374 individual food parcels to newly arrived refugees in Gawilan, Arbat and Qushtapa camps, and will provide all Kobani refugees remaining in camps with food in-kind assistance as part of the November distribution cycle. Save the Children has also provided ready to eat rations, comprised of hummus, canned sardines, jam, dried bread, etc, for distribution to newly arrived refugees in Darashakran, Basirma and Kawergosk camps, as well as to Kharir Youth Centre.
- Despite ongoing military operations, WFP delivered food to Al Obaidi camp to meet the food needs of all families in the camp for the month of October. The entire camp population – some 1,300 people – received WFP individual food rations, distributed through WFP's cooperating partner, Islamic Relief Worldwide. If the security situation allows, WFP will dispatch more parcels by the end of November for distribution as part of the November cycle.

EGYPT

- WFP's October distributions started as planned on 26 October, targeting just over 100,000 beneficiaries in six locations across the country. In response to reports that some people were receiving vouchers for family members who have left the country, WFP is strengthening its beneficiary verification processes to ensure assistance reaches only those who are targeted. In addition, WFP will automatically suspend assistance to beneficiaries who miss two distributions in a row and delete them from the beneficiary list, assuming they have left the country or no longer require assistance.
- Prior to the planned shift to vulnerability targeting, WFP and UNHCR, in partnership with Save the Children, have continued to collect data on the vulnerability of registered refugees. Household visits - so far covering over 2,117 households (or 10,100 persons) - have been completed in Obour, 6th October, Cairo, Giza, Ismailia, and Sharkiya, while data collection in Damietta and Alexandria is scheduled to start during the second week of November. Initial results indicate that an average household consumes two meals per day, and that their main expenditure is on rent, followed by food, education and health. Nearly 90 per cent of those interviewed receive at least one type of assistance, with food received by 65 percent of households – the most common assistance received (see table below). Despite the majority of people receiving some kind of assistance, most respondents also reported the use of negative coping strategies, with the most common strategy to reduce essential non-food expenditures, such as education and health, followed by buying food on credit or borrowing money to purchase food, and spending their savings.

Health

LEBANON

- The October National Immunisation Campaign for Polio was held from 15 to 21 October and reached some 517,000 children across Lebanon.

Shelter and NFIs

LEBANON

- At least 155 people benefited from SHIELD cash for rent assistance in Tyre and Nabatieh in South Lebanon.
- With the recent rainfalls and heavy storms, humanitarian partners including UNHCR, Concern, COOPI, Medair and Save the Children have accelerated their weatherproofing kits distributions in Akkar and Bekaa. Around 4,190 people living in informal settlements, flood-prone areas and unfinished buildings benefited in the past week from shelter support such as weatherproofing kits. An additional 330 individuals living in an informal settlement in Central Bekaa benefited from site improvement works conducted by Medair.
- With the support of UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF, around 966 people were assisted by the Danish Refugee Council with mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets, and hygiene and baby kits in Akkar, Bekaa and South Lebanon. More than 276 people in Mount Lebanon and Bekaa received bedding supplies, kitchen sets and baby kits from Caritas Lebanon Migrants Centre.
- Winter assistance was launched in Rashaya and in El Qaa in Bekaa. As of 7 November, close to 10,000 people (2,000 families) have been assisted with fuel vouchers, jerry cans and blankets. Winter distributions are planned for early November in Arsal, Taalabaya, and Baalbek. The distribution of ATM cards for the procurement of fuel is ongoing in different areas in Lebanon; an amount of up to $100 will be uploaded to the cards in the coming weeks allowing families to purchase heating fuel for the winter.

IRAQ

- UNHCR began implementing winterization activities on 1 October. Some 5,970 families in the KR-I, which experiences sub-zero temperatures, are in need of winterization assistance. As at 31 October, UNHCR has distributed winter kits to 5,970 families (29,850 individuals) living in camps across the KR-I. Distribution gives priority to new arrivals; refugee families that did not receive winterization kits in 2013; and extremely vulnerable refugees in camps requiring replacement of winterization items or tents. UNHCR will also distribute kerosene for heating and cooking.
- For refugees living outside of camps, UNHCR will provide items including thermal blankets or quilts; plastic sheeting; separate jerry cans for water and kerosene; a stove for heating; and kerosene to vulnerable Syrian refugees.
- UNHCR is also targeting some 1,803 families in Centre and South Iraq. In Al Obaidy camp, Anbar, 244 families have received winterization items.

Water and Sanitation

LEBANON

- The shortage of surface water due partly to little rainfall last winter has reduced the production of electricity from dams, leading to a scarcity of electric power. In response, UNICEF has purchased and installed 30 generators in October (12 in the South, 10 in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, 6 in the North and 1 in Bekaa) to benefit more than 400,000 Lebanese and 100,000 Syrian refugees with access to water.
- Following floods in Akkar in October, WASH humanitarian actors responded with drainage and site improvement interventions, desludging of overflowing septic tanks, quality testing of water sources, and provision of water vouchers, jerry cans and sanitation tools to the community.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

LEBANON

- The northern region of Akkar is experiencing diminished economic resources and increasing levels of unemployment, which reaches over 58 per cent in some affected areas. In response, ACTED has adopted a resilience-based approach, prioritizing developmental projects in order to support communities' economic needs. Supported by UNHCR and local partners Akkar Network for Development and Akkarouna, ACTED has started implementing projects in the highly vulnerable Wadi Khaled area of Akkar. These initiatives focus on the provision of vocational training to 40 individuals, and the establishment of an agricultural cooperative benefitting more than 70 family-owned dairy businesses. ACTED has also recently completed a market assessment in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, focusing on key barriers to employment and opportunities for future programming.
- The REACH initiative in partnership with FAO is conducting a nation-wide livelihoods assessment in order to inform the development of appropriate support programs for host communities in both rural and urban settings.

JORDAN

- UNICEF and Generations For Peace have formed a two-year partnership to implement a social cohesion programme that will reach at least five thousand Jordanian and Syrian refugee children and youth in twelve selected communities most in need. UNICEF and Generations For Peace will work with the Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Development (JOHUD) and the Higher Council for Youth (HCY) to bring Jordanian and Syrian children and youth together to participate in innovative sport-based games and arts-based activities, helping to break stereotypes and strengthen social cohesion, reducing tension and risk of violence, and supporting child and youth development in communities. Generations For Peace will provide training, mentoring and support to staff at selected JOHUD and HCY centres. A variety of activities will be strategically implemented to engage children and youth, to support their behaviour change and strengthen relationships, based on greater understanding, tolerance and respect.

Working in partnership

- The regional response for refugees fleeing Syria is the coordinated effort of 163 participating organizations (including 107 appealing agencies)

ABAAD | ACTED | ActionAid | Action contre la faim | ADRA | Al Majmoua | AMAN | AMEL | ANERA | Arab Medical Union | Arc en Ciel | ARDD-Legal Aid | ARK | Armadilla SCS | Association de Charité Humanitaire | Association Justice et Miséricorde | AVSI | BBC Media Action | Beyond Association | BMD | British Council | CARE International | Caritas | Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre | Catholic Relief Services | CCP | Central Association for Kindergarten Supervisors League | Centre for Victims of Torture | Civil Development Organization | Comitato International per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli | CONCERN | DRC | Emergency Life Support for Civilian War Victims | ERC | Family Guidance and Awareness Centre | FAO | FHI | Finn Church Aid | French Red Cross | Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura | GIZ | Global Communities | Gruppo di Volontariato Civile | Handicap International | Harikar | Heartland Alliance International | High Relief Commission | Hilfswerk Austria International | Human Relief Foundation | Humedica | ILO | Institute for Family Health/Noor Al Hussein Foundation | International Alert | International Catholic Migration Commission | International Children's Continence Society | International Medical Corps | International Orthodox Christian Charities | International Relief and Development | International Rescue Committee | Internews | INTERSOS | IOM | IQRAA | Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project | Iraqi Youth League | Islamic Relief Worldwide | JBA | JEN | Jesuit Refugee Service | JIM - NET | Jordan Health Aid Society | Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization | Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development | Jordan Red Crescent | Jordan River Foundation | Jordanian Women's Union | KAFA | KnK | KURDS | Lutheran World Federation | MADA | Madrasati Initiative | Mines Advisory Group | Mahmoud Mosque Society | Makassed | Makhzoumi Foundation | Medair | Medical Aid for Palestinians | Médecins du Monde | Mercy Corps | Mercy USA | Ministry of Water and Irrigation | Movement for Peace | Muslim Aid | NAJMAH | National Centre for Culture and Arts | NICCOD | NRC | Operation Mercy | Organization for the Development of Women and Children | Oxfam | Peace Winds Japan | People In Need | Plan International | Polish Centre for International Aid | Psycho Social Training and Services Institute in Cairo | PU-AMI | Public Aid Organization | QANDIL | Qatar Red Crescent | Questscope | Rassemblement Democratique des Femmes du Liban | REACH | Refugee Education Trust | Relief International | Refugee Egypt | Resala | Rescate | RESTART | Royal Health Awareness Society | Safadi Foundation | SAWA | SCI KR-I | SCI | SCJ | Search for Common Ground | Secours Islamique France | Seraphim GLOBAL | SHEILD | Solidar Suisse | Solidarités International | Soins infirmiers et developpement comunautaire | SRC | STEP | Syria Relief and Development | TADAMON | Taghyeer | TDH | TDHI | THW | TRIANGLE GH | UAE Red Crescent | UNAMI | UN Women | UNDP | UNESCO | UNFPA | UN-Habitat | UNHCR | UNICEF | United Iraq Medical Society | UNOPS | Un Ponte Per | UNRWA | WAAJC | War Child UK | War Child Holland | WARVIN | WFP | WHO | World Rehabilitation Fund | World Vision International | Young Man's Christian Association | Y-PEER

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

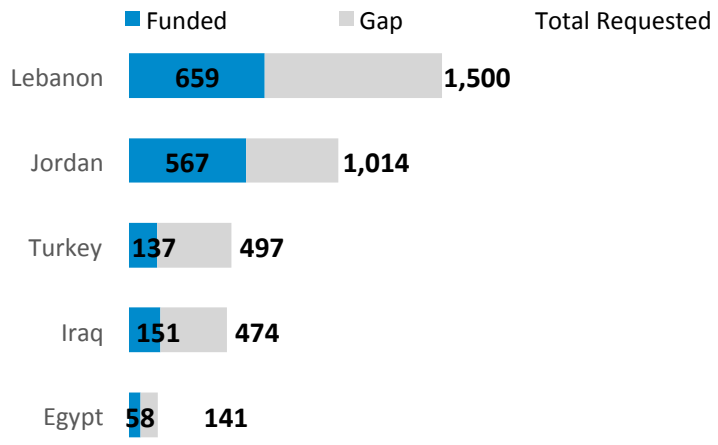
Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation.

Donors who have contributed to the situation:

- Algeria
- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Bahrain
- Belgium
- Canada
- Central Emergency Response Fund
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Ecuador
- Estonia
- Emergency Response Fund
- European Union
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Holy See
- Hungary
- India
- Indonesia
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Republic of Korea
- Kuwait
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Mexico
- Monaco
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Poland
- Qatar
- Romania
- Russia Federation
- Saudi Arabia
- Serbia
- Singapore
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Thailand
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Uruguay
- Private donors

Funding (in million USD)

A total of $1.9 billion* has been funded.



**Includes $351 million of regionally earmarked funds that has been received and is pending allocation by country.*

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Links:
Syria Regional Refugee Response Inter-agency Information Sharing Portal
UNHCR Syria Emergency Response