



3RP partners continue distribution of core relief items and cash/voucher assistance targeting the most vulnerable

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

During the month of July, 3RP partners distributed a wide range of core relief items in Turkey, including dignity kits, buckets, baby care kits, mattresses and blankets. Cash/voucher assistance was also provided, along with transportation assistance which enabled refugees to purchase items not available in the camps.

In Iraq, fire incidents became a serious issue with the beginning of the hot season, with more than 20 incidents reported including injuries and destruction of tents and household goods. In addition to NFI kits, hygiene kits, cleaning kits, and air-coolers for families and schools have been distributed to help refugees cope with the heat.

In Jordan's Zaatari camp the Cash for work (CFW) standard operating procedure (SOP) was endorsed by partners and will begin on 1 August. A stock-take of cash assistance provisions was also undertaken across partner organisations and agencies to inform the new project in cooperating with the Health Sector – the aim of this new scheme is to widen the number of beneficiaries accessing healthcare.

In Lebanon, a vulnerability assessment has found that most of the Syrian refugees were exhibiting higher dependency on external livelihood sources like food vouchers, loans and credits, as the percentage of households below the poverty line has increased from 50 per cent to 70 per cent. Negative coping mechanisms included borrowing money, reducing food expenditure, and withdrawing children from school.

In Egypt, home-based interviews for the vulnerability assessment in Greater Cairo have resumed. An additional 400 households were identified for inclusion in the cash assistance programme for August.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The majority of the new refugee arrivals to neighbouring countries in 2015 will arrive with few personal possessions and in need of domestic items to meet their needs, including blankets, water jerry cans and kitchen sets. The 3RP partners provide a response for basic needs which is predominantly humanitarian, with packages of basic domestic items for new arrivals, and replacement items for refugees who are accommodated in camps for long periods of time.

For the most vulnerable families, agencies have adopted unconditional, multi-purpose cash assistance programmes through the region, allowing beneficiaries to spend the assistance on goods and services they feel they need most, giving them the dignity of choice while positively impacting on local economies.

Weather in the Middle East includes low winter temperatures, near or below freezing (especially at higher elevations), and heat during the summer often reaching in excess of 40 degrees Celsius. These extremes require warm clothes, energy for heating, and reinforced shelters during the winter, while in summer refugees need basic materials to create shade and protection from disease vectors, especially for children and the elderly.



Distribution of core relief items in Damiz Camp, Iraq. UNHCR/R. Rasheed

Sector Response Summary:



1,904,095 Refugees & Local
Community Members targeted for
assistance by end-2015
1,309,565 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees
expected by end-2015
4,006,382 currently registered or
awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion
required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 1.384 billion received in 2015



WINTERIZATION THE MAIN FOCUS FOR THE COMING PERIOD

Planning for the humanitarian response to harsh weather conditions must begin well in advance to enable partners to respond in a timely manner. Failure to do so will almost certainly result in dire consequences. Experience demonstrates the essential need for early planning, preparation, procurement and coordination, in order to deliver an efficient and timely response before freezing temperatures grip the region, exposing millions to risk of illness and - in extreme cases, particularly for children - death.

Preparations for winter have begun early this year in Jordan, with a committee established to discuss targeting criteria and guidance in a document to be put forward to the Basic Needs Working Group in September for endorsement.

In Lebanon the analysis of the 2014/2015 winterization activities illustrated that cash is considered the most successful intervention modality. For the coming winter, the basic assistance winter strategy will focus primarily on cash assistance packages.

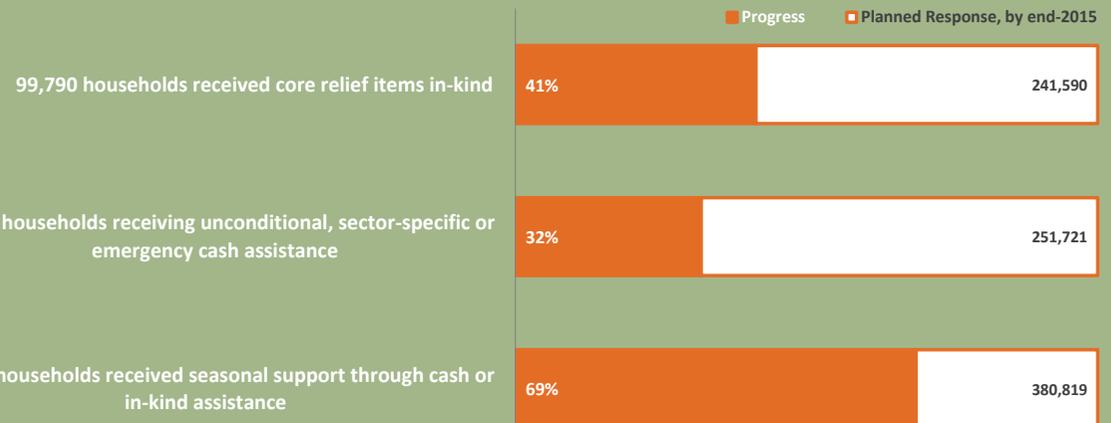
Discussions with all partners for a possible expansion of the cash-based initiatives in Turkey are ongoing, with a particular focus on the upcoming winterization needs of urban refugees.

In Iraq, the improvement of shelters in Gawilan Camp has been identified as a dire need before winter, as it was reported that 666 out of 924 tents were completely damaged by mold.



Syrian refugees remove snow from their shelter rooftops in Lebanon in January 2015. UNHCR/ A. McConnell

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - JUNE 2015



These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Progress and targets may change in line with data revisions. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 31 July 2015.