

Core relief items and cash assistance help new arrivals and provide ongoing assistance to vulnerable families

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

With large numbers of refugees continuing to arrive in Iraq and Turkey from fighting in northern Syria, the provision of core relief items (CRIs) is important to help them meet immediate household needs, including needs for winter. These in-kind distributions are undertaken in coordination with monetized assistance which also goes toward basic needs (see box at right).

Almost 1,000 newly arrived families in Iraq's camps received CRI kits during February, while almost 8,000 families received additional assistance with winter items such as tent insulation and plastic sheeting, thermal blankets, kerosene heaters and fuel.

In Turkey, the number of refugees living in the new Suruc camp has increased to over 11,000. A range of CRI items were provided to refugees in Suruc camp and in the 23 other camps in Turkey including coal and stoves, blankets, clothes, mattresses and hygiene kits.

In Lebanon, CRI kits were distributed to newcomers and families in need during February, which was complemented by more than 93,000 high thermal blankets for winter.

Additional blankets were distributed in Egypt this month as part of winter support to persons of concern.

In Jordan, families living in camps and in the community received regular and winter assistance through various modalities including in-kind provision of gas heaters, cylinders and refill, mattresses, blankets and other non-food items.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The majority of the projected 80,000 monthly 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 provides 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 increasingly 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.

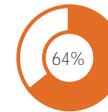


Qushtapa Refugee Camp, Erbil. UNHCR/R. Fraser

Sector Response Summary:



1,546,000 Refugees & Local
Community Members targeted for
assistance by end-2015
993,915 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees
expected by end-2015
3,855,887 currently registered or
awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion
required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 259.56 million received in 2015



EXPANDED USE OF CASH ASSISTANCE FOR BASIC NEEDS ACROSS THE REGION

3RP partners across the region continue to increase, refine, and harmonize the delivery of basic needs assistance using cash modalities.

In Lebanon, where households receive multi-sector/purpose cash transfers (almost 20,000 households per month) as well as seasonal cash (75,930 households) and fuel vouchers (32,944 households) in winter, the household profiling exercise to determine the most economically vulnerable Syrian refugees is continuing.

In Egypt, almost 5,000 households are provided with monthly cash assistance, with the value dependent on the level of vulnerability and household size.

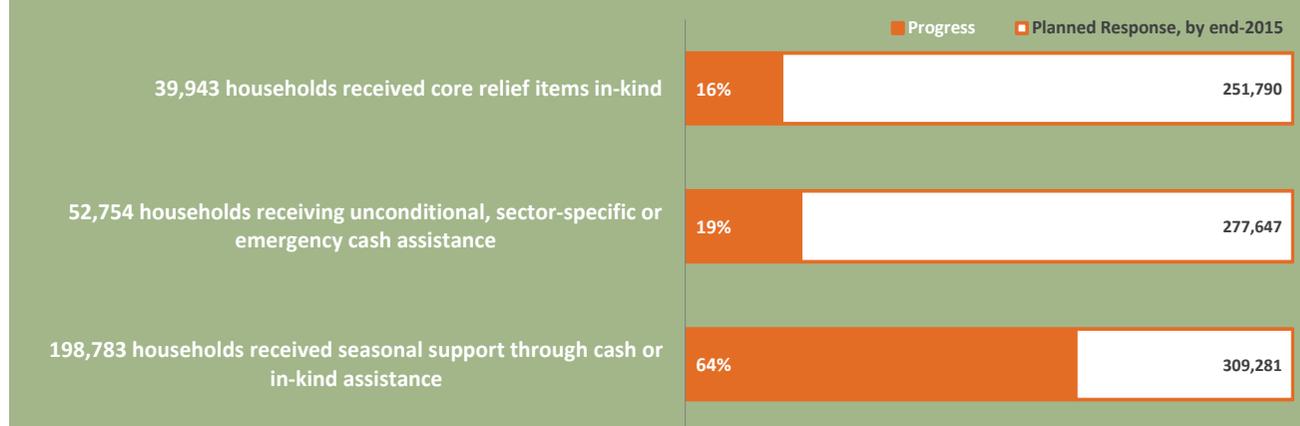
In Jordan, regular cash assistance is distributed to vulnerable Syrian refugees and members of the affected host community on a monthly basis. Cash for winterization assistance is also provided, a larger share of which was paid at the start of the season, in November and December 2014, based on refugee preferences and lessons learnt from the previous winter.

In Turkey, harmonization of vulnerability criteria, assistance levels and modalities among 3RP partners is underway to ensure the widest coverage and that the most vulnerable are assisted by programmes, which include cash for one-time, short term or regular needs, as well as for specific items such as hygiene kits.

Households receiving unconditional cash assistance (excl. winterization programmes)



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - FEBRUARY 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. Targets are based on full funding of the 3RP and an expected 4.27 million refugees by end-2015. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 28 February 2015.