

## Jordan Refugee Response Host Communities

October, 2022

Humanitarian actors have been providing critical winter assistance needs to refugees in Jordan since 2012. The **Winter Task Force** - under the auspices of the Basic Needs Working Group - is organized every August in Jordan.

The Winter Task Force is comprised of humanitarian actors and aims to **design a winter assistance package** that meets the winter needs of refugees residing in Jordan, and to coordinate the effective provision of this life-saving humanitarian assistance in a timely and efficient manner.

This document outlines the factors considered and packages designed by the Winter Task Force members for the 2022-2023 winter season in Jordan.

### KEY INDICATORS

# 95,000

Households eligible for winter assistance based on need.

# 90%

Of the eligible households are Syrian (85,500) and 10% (9,500) are non-Syrian refugee households.

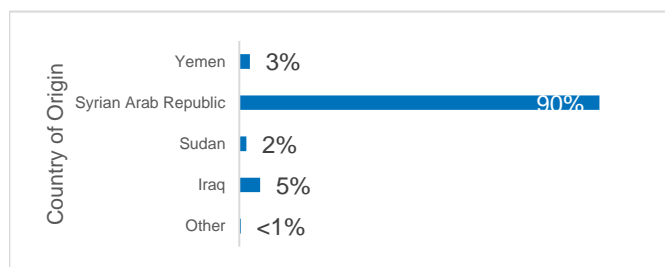
# 390,000

Eligible individuals for winter assistance.

50% are children, 47% are adults and 3% are elderly persons.

### POPULATION OF CONCERN

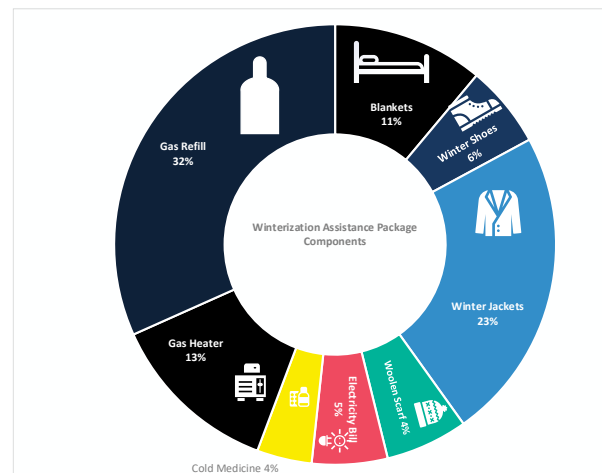
Breakdown of eligible households for winter based on country of origin



Other nationalities include Somalia, Libya, Ethiopia, Egypt, Eritrea and 24 other nationalities.

### FUNDING REQUIREMENTS TO MEET ACUTE REFUGEE WINTER NEEDS

# USD 36.6 M



### WINTER ASSISTANCE PACKAGES:

The Task Force agreed to five different assistance packages based on refugee households' winter needs:

**Package 1** - Winter Cash - Full Value (households not receiving monthly cash assistance for other purposes)

**Package 2** - Winter Cash - Reduced Value (households receiving monthly cash assistance)

**Package 3** - Winter Mix - NFIs and Full Value

**Package 4** - Winter Mix - NFIs and Reduced Cash Value

**Package 5** - Winter NFIs only

# Background

Humanitarian response actors have been providing winter cash assistance to refugees residing in Jordan since 2012 to mitigate the negative impacts of winter weather on their wellbeing. In 2014, standard winter cash assistance packages were introduced to harmonize the assistance packages across actors. Lessons learned are captured on a yearly basis and applied to ensure that refugees' winter needs are addressed as effectively and efficiently as possible, and that the assistance provided to them meets their winter priorities.

# Planning

For the 2022/23 winter season, planning among the humanitarian community in Jordan began in August 2022 with the organization of the Winter Task Force (henceforth referred to as the "Task Force"), under the auspices of the Basic Needs Working Group (BNWG).

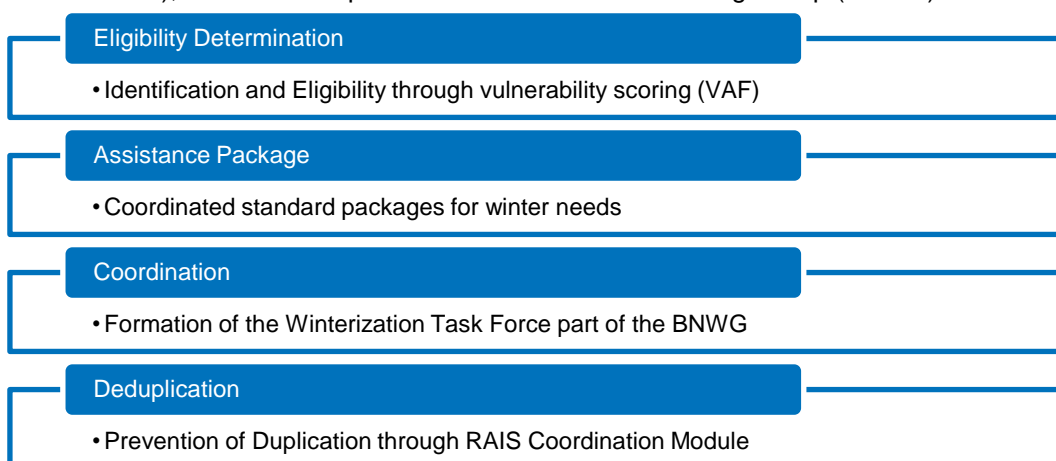


Figure 1: Winter Task Force Standards



## ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

The Task Force agreed to use eligible criteria based on Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) indicators in addition to other vulnerability indicators. Below are the key definitions of the VAF scores that the Task Force agreed to use – for more details, please refer to the [2022 VAF population report for refugees in host communities](#).

**Definitions:**

**VAF:** Vulnerability Assessment Framework. It explores different types of vulnerability dimensions across multiple sectors and inform the identification of vulnerability via an in-depth analysis for each sector.

**VAF Welfare**

It's a score based on an econometric model that predicts the economic welfare of Syrian non-camp refugees. The methodology developed by the World Bank uses predicted expenditure as a proxy indicator for refugee family 'economic' vulnerability

**Debt Per Capita**

The debt per capita score measures a family or individual's vulnerability in relation to their debt. An individual in a family without any debt is categorized as low vulnerability, whereas a debt over 100 JOD per capita is categorized as severely vulnerable

**Livelihood coping strategies index (LSCI)**

This score measures the adoption of livelihoods-based coping strategies frequently employed by families to meet their basic needs, using a 30-day recall period. The LSCI provides insights on the behaviors which refugee families rely on when adapting to crises or shocks and seeks to assess their degree of resilience and ability to overcome potential future shocks. **Crisis Level:** a direct reduction of future productivity, including human capital formation; **Emergency Level:** A reduction of future productivity, more difficult to reverse or more dramatic in nature than crisis strategies

**VAF Shelter**

This score is used to measure the shelter conditions the refugees are living in on multiple angles from the physical conditions of the shelter, access to services, the crowding, and security of tenure.

A household is considered **eligible for winter assistance if they satisfy any of the below criteria:**

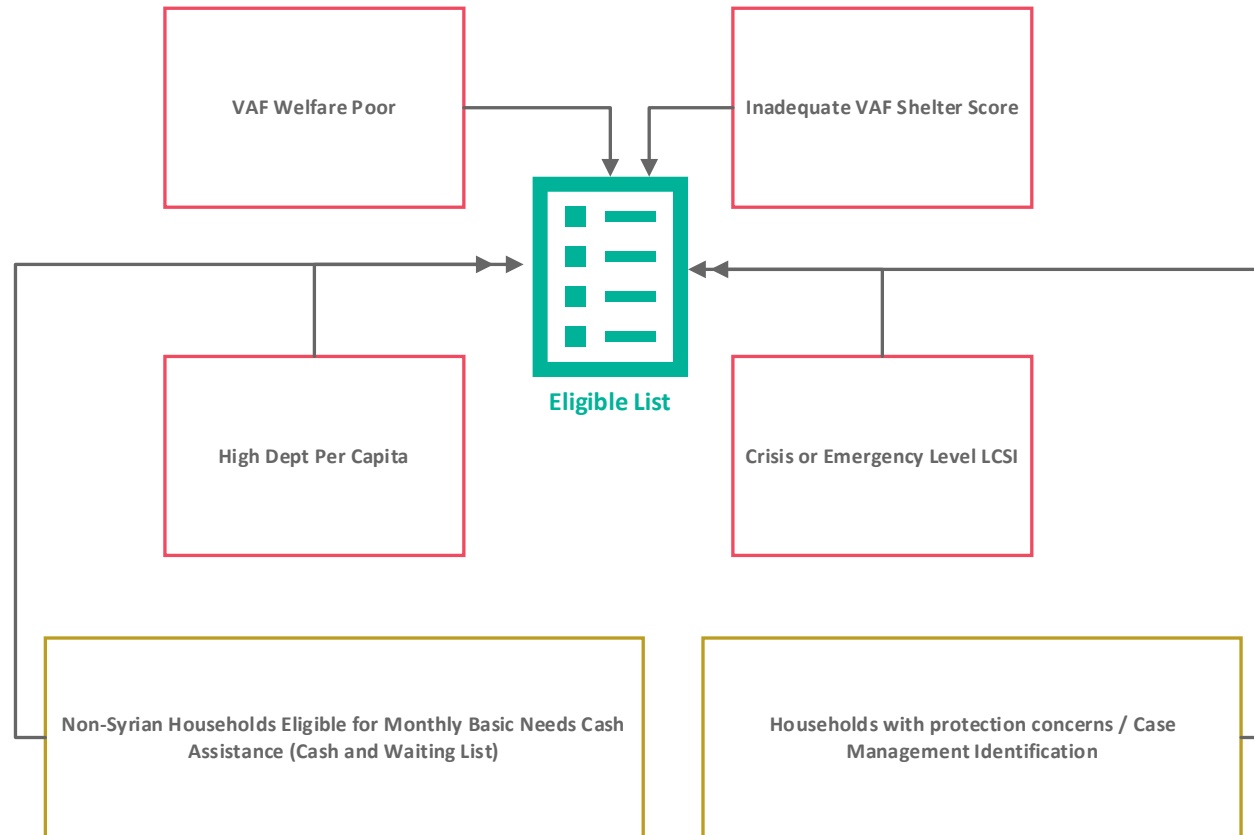
- VAF welfare score of "poor" – below the poverty line for Jordan – highly or severely vulnerable (Syrians only)
- VAF shelter score is inadequate or inappropriate for living – "highly or severely vulnerable"
- VAF Debt per capita score is "highly or severely vulnerable"
- The livelihoods coping strategy index (LSCI) is at "crisis" or "emergency" levels
- Household is on UNHCR Basic Needs cash list or wait list (non-Syrians)
- Household is a UNHCR protection referral case or has been recommended for assistance through case management referrals

**Prioritization:** The Task Force agreed to use the criteria below to prioritize households. Those with the most prioritization elements will be prioritized to receive winter assistance:

- Female heads of households
- Households with members with disabilities
- Households with members with medical conditions
- Large family size (greater than 7)
- High dependency ratios
- Households with children
- Households with elderly members
- Elderly persons living alone
- Not receiving any cash assistance by any actor for the past year
- Was eligible for COVID-19 Emergency Response assistance
- Minors living alone.

# WINTER STANDARDS FOR REFUGEES IN HOST COMMUNITIES 2022-2023

## Winterization Eligibility Criteria 2022-23



### Prioritization

- Female Head of Household
- Households that have not received cash assistance
- Dependency Ratio
- Households with Disabilities
- Households with Children
- Households with Elderlies
- Large Family Size
- Eligible for COVID-19 Emergency Response

Figure 2: Winterization Eligibility Criteria

# WINTER STANDARDS FOR REFUGEES IN HOST COMMUNITIES 2022-2023

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## DESIGN OF CASH ASSISTANCE WINTER NEEDS (TIERED PACKAGES)

- The cash assistance package was informed by an informal market assessment survey. Items included in the market assessment were identified by Task Force members as being most needed by refugees during the winter season. The assessment also incorporated lessons learned and feedback from refugee recipients from prior years' assistance rounds.
- The market assessment was carried out by:
  - Winter Task Force Partners: a focal point from each organization recorded the costs of a variety of items, across different governorates of Jordan, in both rural and urban markets.
  - UNHCR Community Support Committees local volunteers (refugees and Jordanian) also contributed to the market assessment.
- The assistance packages were designed considering the family size.
- Over the years, different approaches have been used to design the appropriate level of assistance. In 2018/19 and 2019/20, there were no tiered assistance packages, and the package designs did not take into account whether a family was already receiving monthly cash assistance as part of a regular programme. Starting in 2020/2021, a tiered approach was introduced. Similarly, the winter task force agreed to a tiered approach for the 2022/23 response.
- Blankets, cold medicine, winter foot ware, woolen scarves, and winter jackets were included as part of the package but incorporated into the assistance package based on the premise that only one of two family members would need new items every year.

The assistance package also includes electricity costs and gas cylinder refills (for gas heaters). These costs are calculated for the duration of the six-month winter period in Jordan (October 2022-March 2023).

### Market Assessment Findings

Based on the market assessment findings in order for a household to meet their winter needs, they will require a blanket, winter shoes, jacket, woolen scarf/socks for every individual in the family. Additionally, they will require assistance to cover part of the electricity bills, which have increased by 30% for many refugees. Finally, a gas heater and gas refills to meet the household needs during the months from October 2022 to March 2023, with three gas refills per month. The breakdown of winter needs was designed according to family size. The graph below shows the breakdown of winter needs for a family of four members:

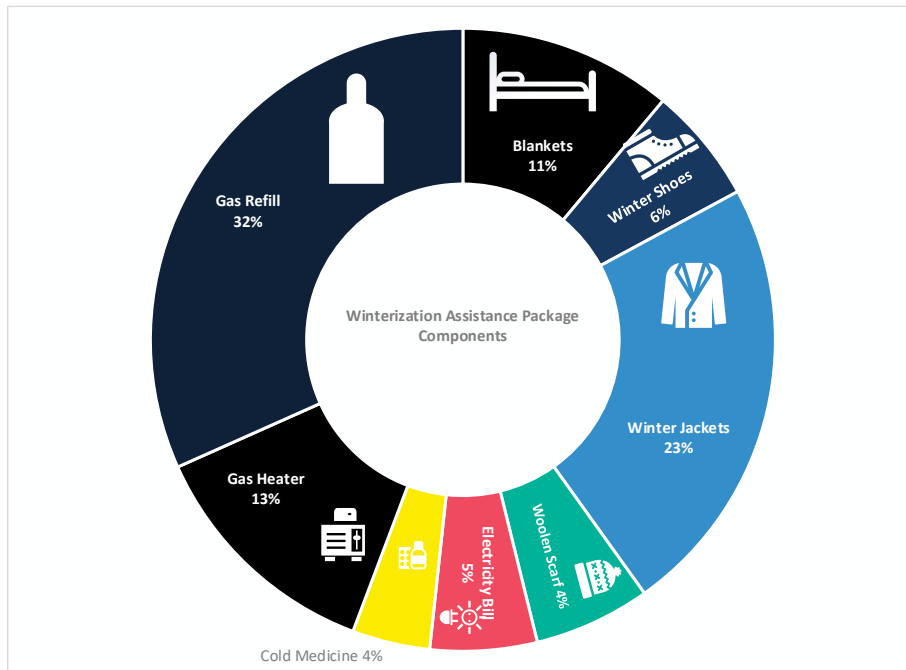


Figure 3: Winter Assistance Needs Components for a Family of Four

### Winter Assistance Needs per Household size

In order to meet winter needs for households, the market assessment survey revealed a need to significantly increase the value of the assistance package based on marked cost of living increases in Jordan over the last year. Given funding limitations, the Task Force members agreed to design winter cash assistance packages that meet approximately **75% of refugee households' winter needs**. For households receiving monthly cash assistance from humanitarian actors, the Task Force has proposed a reduced assistance **package value of 60% of these households' winter needs**.

Standard Winter Assistance Package 2022-2023							
Winter Items	Active Family Size / Price in JODs						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Blanket	11	22	33	44	55	66	77
Winter Shoes	6	12	18	24	30	36	42
Winter Jacket	22	44	66	88	110	132	154
Woolen Scarf/Socks	6	12	18	24	30	36	42
Electricity Bill	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
Cold Medicine Bottle	4	8	12	16	20	24	28
Gas Heater	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Gas refill	126	126	126	126	126	126	126
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>541</b>
<b>Tier 1 - Full Needs JOD</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>410</b>
<b>Tier 2 - Reduced Needs JOD</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>330</b>

Figure 4: Winter Assistance Needs Tiers per Family Size 2022-2023



## MAINTENANCE OF THE REFUGEE ASSISTANCE INFORMATION SYSTEM (RAIS)

RAIS, as a tool, is only as useful as the information that is uploaded into it. Lessons learned from the 2020/2021 winter season include:

- **RAIS must be used by all winter assistance providers.** Some organizations did not book household cases in RAIS before uploading their assistance. This meant that other organizations, who may have booked households in RAIS suddenly discovered these households were already identified for assistance provision by other actors. This resulted in confusion and wasted efforts.
- **Households should not remain marked as “booked” in RAIS for more than two weeks.** Organizations that booked cases in anticipation of funding or MOPIC approval—but did not receive either—booked cases, that effectively blocked households from being assisted by other organizations. It was reported that some organizations found it a challenge to find households to “book” in RAIS because of this.
- **Organizations need to “unbook/release” cases they cannot assist.** If a family has been “booked”, but then “unbooked” due to funding restrictions or unmet eligibility criteria, the organization should contact the household/s to explain. “Unbooking” these cases will also allow other organizations to assist them. If the family was not assisted because they could not contact/reach the family, there is no additional requirement.
- **Organizations should update RAIS on a weekly basis** on cases that they find “unreachable: due to household phone number changes, the Principal Applicant/Head of Household is away on travel, etc. Updating RAIS on a regular basis with this information will ensure that assistance actors do not waste time booking households that are unreachable and that households with the highest winter needs are available for “booking”, and hence assisted, by other organizations.
- **Sharing of lists of families between UNHCR and partners** to be aligned with the data sharing agreement, using secure file transfer and ensuring data protection of refugee data.

**For any support in RAIS training and access email:**

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## Winter Task Force Members

All organizations are greatly appreciative of public and private donor funding (whether earmarked or unearmarked for this type of assistance provision) to be able to provide critical winter assistance to vulnerable refugees in Jordan.

**Winter Task Force Members and Focal Points:**

- CARE
- CARE
- Caritas Jordan
- Caritas Jordan
- Dar Abu Abdullah
- GN jordan
- Habitat for Humanity
- Horizons For Green Development
- ICRC
- IOM
- IRW
- IRW
- JHCO
- Jordan Red Crescent
- Jordan Red Crescent
- JOHUD
- JOHUD
- JOHUD
- JOHUD
- JOHUD
- Medair
- Medair
- Qatar Red Cerescent
- Qatari Red Crescent
- TAHIT
- TDH
- TDH
- TDH Italy
- UMR
- UMR
- UMR
- UNICEF
- UNICEF
- UNICEF
- Vento di Terra
- UNHCR – Community Based Protection
- UNHCR – Shelter
- Zeina abu jbara
- Heba Abu Dyak(on behalf of Zaina)
- Lamia Rantissi
- Nadia Haddadin
- Huzama Fakher
- Rasem ghoul
- Sumaya Al Hadyan
- Alaa Fraitekh
- Dragana RANKOVIC
- Afaf Sito
- Olivia Carbio Paras
- Qasim Zoubi
- Marwan Al Hennawy
- Mutlaq Alhadid
- Moath Alhadid
- Hanan Khader
- Ghufuran Al-Ott
- Murad Al-Khawaldeh
- Rana Diab
- Tamara Zibin
- Natalie Dweri
- Deema Abdallah
- Rawan AlTouqa
- Mohammed Soussi
- Laith Qusam
- Laith Qusus
- Asmaa Aldakar
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- Habib Rajeh
- Moath Ayoub
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## **LINKS**

[Basic Needs Working Group Data Portal – Jordan](#)

[Winter Task Force Data Portal – Jordan](#)