



Standard Operating Procedure

UNHCR's Assistance to unregistered Syrian Asylum-Seekers

Governing principles

- UNHCR's assistance should in principle be focused on UNHCR-registered refugees
- This is for reasons of
 - integrity of our programmes
 - accountability vis-à-vis donors
 - not to undermine the protection value of registration
- In the present emergency response, however, there are circumstances which may warrant that assistance be provided to unregistered asylum-seekers.

Categories of unregistered asylum-seekers eligible to UNHCR's assistance

- Syrian asylum-seekers who are pending registration with UNHCR and who are identified by UNHCR or partners as being vulnerable and in need of assistance
- Syrian asylum-seekers who are identified by UNHCR or partners as being vulnerable and in need of assistance, and who are willing to register
- Syrian asylum-seekers who are identified by UNHCR or partners as being vulnerable and in need of assistance, but who are afraid to register for reasons that are deemed *bona fide* (e.g. religious minorities).

What assistance?

- Emergency secondary health care
- Primary health care (initial consultation and access)
- Non-food items (one off)
- Emergency shelter/winterisation and WASH interventions
- Collective education support (e.g. participation in remedial classes or accelerated learning programmes).

Modalities

- Partners identifying and/or providing assistance to such Syrian asylum-seekers should:
 - inform the concerned persons that assistance can only be provided on a one-off basis and more regular/broad UNHCR assistance can only be provided based upon registration
 - provide the concerned persons with the UNHCR info note on assistance
 - provide to UNHCR the contact details of the household for follow-up by the Office
- The UNHCR Field Office should follow-up and the concerned cases, with the purpose of fast-tracking registration (or encouraging for registration - for those who are afraid).

Assistance that cannot be provided to unregistered refugees

- Regular health services
- Regular NFI assistance
- Cash assistance
- Shelter/WASH rehabilitation
- Individual education support (e.g. payment of tuition fees, provision of school kits)
- Livelihood/vocational training.