

INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

3 - 9 May 2014



This situation update is prepared by UNHCR Office of the Director, Middle East and North Africa Bureau. It provides a snapshot of the inter-agency regional humanitarian response in full coordination with host Governments and 157 partners across the region.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Palestine refugees from Syria were restricted from entering Lebanon during the reporting period with greater scrutiny exercised at the border. UNRWA is present at the border and has been given assurances by authorities that these restrictions are temporary. The Government of Lebanon has indicated that it is in the process of re-examining its admissions policies. UNHCR remains committed to working with the government in this review. UNHCR and UNRWA continue to work closely together on ensuring the protection of refugees from Syria.
- Government ministers from Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt together with UNHCR met on 4 May to appeal for significantly heightened efforts to address the growing human impact of the Syria crisis. The Ministers and the High Commissioner for Refugees noted the continued need for massive international support, including increased bilateral support and financial and development assistance to help hosting countries cope with the escalating demands placed on national services and infrastructure as a result of the refugee influx. They also appealed to development actors and financial institutions to scale up their support to refugee hosting countries.

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REGIONAL FIGURES

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

51% of the Syrian refugee population are under 18 years of age

76% funding gap in the 2014 Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP6)

Total number of refugees registered and awaiting registration **2,779,673**

Registered Refugees **2,712,364**

Awaiting Registration with UNHCR **67,309**

TURKEY
742,816
registered.

LEBANON
1,059,908
Registered: 1,008,271
Awaiting reg.: 51,637

IRAQ
223,113
Registered: 207,441
Awaiting reg.: 15,672

EGYPT
137,123
registered.

N. AFRICA*
23,367
registered

* Morocco, Algeria and Libya

JORDAN
593,346
registered.

Sources AFAD, Government of Egypt, Government of Iraq, Government of Jordan, Government of Lebanon, UNHCR Regional Datawarehouse, Common Operational Dataset (COD), UNGIWG, Natural Earth, UNCS

0 25 50 100 150 200 Kilometers

The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Refugee population as of 11 May 2014, based on available data. For updated figures, please visit <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees>

PROMOTING SELF-RELIANCE AND LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES

- **Iraq** - On 24 April, IOM distributed 120 shops and small business packages to 240 beneficiaries in Darashakran camp. The beneficiaries were selected through the job centre according to specified vulnerability criteria. Eighteen shops were constructed and distributed by IOM for 36 identified vulnerable families in Basirma camp. Some 120 refugees completed a Kurdish course organized by NARIN organization in Domiz camp. The training was aimed at bridging language limitations faced by some Syrian Kurdish refugees in socio-economic contexts. English and computer training courses continued for Syrian refugees in Al Obaidy camp, targeting 500 beneficiaries in 2014.
- **Turkey** - Support to Life (STL) is planning to open its Community Centre in Sanliurfa for non-camp Syrians within the coming weeks. STL is planning to organize focus group discussions with the Syrian community to decide on the types of activities to be organized in the centre. Prospective ideas include Turkish and English language classes, computer courses, various types of vocational courses and intercultural activities.
- **Jordan** - UN Women and the International Labour Organization partnered in a training needs analysis in the women and girls Oasis centre in Zaatari camp. The analysis targeted Syrian refugee women graduating from the Oasis hair cutting and tailoring programmes. The three focus group discussions held with programme participants aimed to identify potential self-reliance opportunities after graduation and to engage them in the development of future trainings.

ACTED: ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS AND HOST COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- **Jordan** - As the Syrian crisis continues, the capacity of refugees to meet their daily needs in Jordan's host communities continues to deteriorate due to dwindling financial resources and a lack of income. Comparatively, vulnerable host communities are increasingly under strain due to the growing number of refugees in Jordan, which has placed greater pressure upon the limited resources and services they have.



Children in a Jordanian host community learn about hygiene | ACTED

- ACTED continues to provide household assistance through activities such as the distribution of WASH relief items, re-occurring cash assistance and hygiene promotion. At the community level, ACTED is rehabilitating WASH facilities and infrastructure in schools and communities. ACTED is commencing community support projects such as the regeneration community centres and parks that will encourage peaceful co-existence between Syrians and Jordanians. In the last four months, ACTED's programming in Jordanian host communities has reached approximately 5,000 persons.
- **Lebanon** - The influx of over one million Syrian refugees in Lebanon has resulted in increased pressures on host communities. This has impacted local authorities' ability to provide basic services to their local populations and growing competition for employment.
- In response to these challenges, Lebanon has seen an increased focus on livelihood and community support interventions from INGOs in the form of vocational training, cash for work, and municipal infrastructure projects. Building on its 16 community support projects implemented in 2013, ACTED has recently developed a number of initiatives focusing on WASH infrastructure, school rehabilitation, and livelihoods support. This includes the construction of reservoirs, the establishment of cash for work centres, and the installation of bathroom facilities in schools.

COMBATting POLIO IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- Following the confirmation of polio cases in Syria and Iraq in October 2013 and January 2014 respectively, the strategic plan for polio response in the Middle East was established with the goal of interrupting the spread of wild poliovirus in the region through mass oral vaccination campaigns, targeting more than 22 million children under the age of five.
- From November 2013 until now, 24 national and subnational immunization activities have been conducted in seven countries across the region, with 63 million doses of polio vaccine administered (repeat doses are required for effective immunization). Detection and reporting of acute flaccid paralysis, the most common sign of acute polio cases, has intensified. National communication plans have been developed and efforts are underway to strengthen routine immunization.
- Many refugees are crossing borders having had no or only limited access to health care for months and children have missed vital routine vaccinations. Weakened by the protracted crisis, these vulnerable populations are at high risk of contracting communicable diseases, particularly when living in crowded conditions with limited access to safe water and sanitation facilities.
- Through improved routine immunization coverage, repeat national immunization days, enhanced outbreak surveillance, and timely investigation and reporting of cases of acute flaccid paralysis, governments in the region with the support of WHO and UNICEF are making every effort to prevent further spread of the disease.

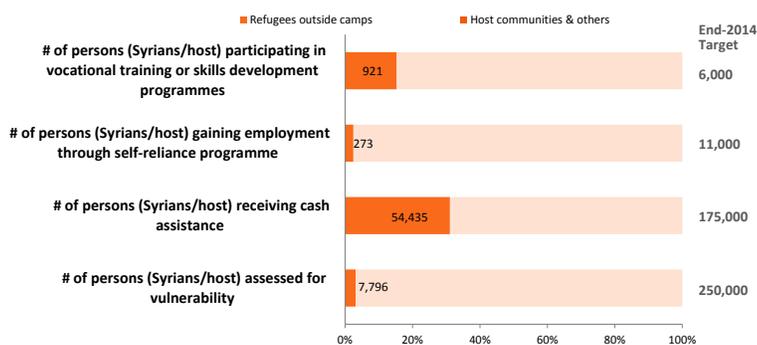


UNICEF

EGYPT: REFUGEES FACING CHALLENGES IN MEETING THEIR BASIC NEEDS

- Syrian refugees arriving in Egypt in 2012 often came with some savings. However, most savings have by now been significantly depleted and many refugees arriving in the second half of 2013 were destitute and devoid of basic financial assets. Syrian refugees are scattered in urban neighbourhoods, renting and sharing accommodation, and the majority are facing challenges in meeting basic needs.
- UNHCR and its RRP partners in Egypt are working to ensure that the refugee population has sufficient basic and domestic items; and that their self-reliance and livelihoods are improved.
- Cash assistance has been provided and self-reliance programmes have been expanded to target around 10 per cent of registered Syrian refugees and members of host communities. The programmes aim allowing beneficiaries to achieve either self-employment or wage-employment.
- Egypt’s political upheavals combined with limited funds received by humanitarian organizations in the response represent great challenges to meeting refugee needs, while trying to minimize the impact of the crisis in refugee communities.
- A report from **Refugees International**, [Tough Times for Syrian Refugees in Egypt](#), notes that finding work that pays a living wage, even in the informal labour market, is a major challenge for Syrian refugees. The report also states that “While their incomes are very limited, the expenditures of Syrian refugees are rising. The prices of food and rent have been rising steadily in recent years; many types of healthcare and medicine require at least a partial payment by the patient; and education requires money for school fees, supplies, uniforms, and transportation.”
- The report highlights funding gaps experienced by the Government and humanitarian actors and calls for more international attention to the situation in Egypt. In particular, donor countries and development agencies are urged to increase support to Egypt’s public services in areas where refugees are living.

EGYPT: RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE - MARCH
PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS



Source: UNHCR

INSECURITY IN BORDER AREAS CONTINUE TO DRIVE SYRIANS TO TURKEY

- AFAD - the Disaster and Emergency Management Agency of Government of Turkey, reported that during the period of 1-8 May 2014, a total of 2,475 Syrians were admitted and registered in the camps and 1,847 Syrians voluntarily returned to Syria.
- Intensified fighting in the northern Syrian town of Azaz, across the Kilis Oncupinar gate, have reportedly brought several wounded people to Kilis for medical treatment. Other Syrians are reportedly finding their way to Turkey through unofficial routes. While some new arrivals have approached camps from assistance, others have stated a preference to go to other cities.
- Spontaneous arrivals continue to be a major challenges for camps as capacity is reached. Camp officials are making efforts to transfer new arrivals to other camps that may have space to accommodate more refugees, (Nusaybin or Viransehir), while admitting families depending on the availability of tents. Some 350-400 people are currently temporarily accommodated in the waiting areas of Nizip-1, Karkamis, Islahiye and Adiyaman camps.



A Syrian refugee boys stands in front of a blackboard while attending class in Adiyaman's primary school. UNHCR | B. Sokol

The regional response for refugees fleeing Syria is the coordinated effort of 157 participating organizations, including 105 appealing agencies:

ABAAD | [ACTED](#) | ActionAid | [Action contre la faim](#) | Adventist Development and Relief Agency | [Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance](#) | Al Majmoua | [AMAN](#) | AMEL | [Arab Medical Union](#) | Arc en Ciel | [ARDD-Legal Aid](#) | Association de Charité Humanitaire | [Association Justice et Miséricorde](#) | Association of Volunteers in International Service | [BBC Media Action](#) | Beyond Association | [British Council](#) | CARE International | [Caritas](#) | Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre | [Catholic Relief Services](#) | Central Association for Kindergarten Supervisors League | [Centre for Victims of Torture](#) | Civil Development Organization | [Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli](#) | CONCERN | [Cooperazione Internazionale](#) | Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services | [DRC](#) | Family Guidance and Awareness Centre | [FAO](#) | Finn Church Aid | [Finnish Red Cross/Iraqi Red Crescent Society](#) | French Red Cross | [Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura](#) | GIZ | [Global Communities Partners for Good](#) | Gruppo di Volontariato Civile | [Handicap International](#) | Heartland Alliance International | [High Relief Commission](#) | Hilfswerk Austria International | [Human Relief Foundation](#) | Humedica | [ILO](#) | Institution 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 | [Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project](#) | Iraqi Youth League | [Islamic Relief Worldwide](#) | JBA | [JEN](#) | Jesuit Refugee Service | [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](#) | KG | [KnK](#) | KURDS | [Lutheran Word 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 Public Health](#) | 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](#) | 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](#) | Relief International | [Refugee Education Trust](#) | 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 | [St. Andrew's Refugee Education Service](#) | STEP | [TADAMON](#) | Taghyeer | [TDH](#) | TDHI | [THW](#) | TRIANGLE GH | [UAE Red Crescent](#) | UNAMI | [UN Women](#) | UNDP | [UNESCO](#) | UNFPA | [UN-Habitat](#) | UNHCR | [UNICEF](#) | 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

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