

REGIONAL: RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE - DECEMBER

BASIC NEEDS

More than 1.4 million people have now been provided with seasonal assistance during 2014

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

Winterization activities were ongoing across the region during December.

In Lebanon, the distribution of USD 5.7 million worth of fuel vouchers reached more than 28,500 vulnerable families, while over 50,000 families were assisted with a total of USD 4.1 million as cash-for-winter. In-kind items such as blankets, stoves and clothes were also distributed.

In Egypt, a supplementary cash allowance for winter totalling some USD 1.4 million was disbursed to almost 48,000 Syrian refugees during December.

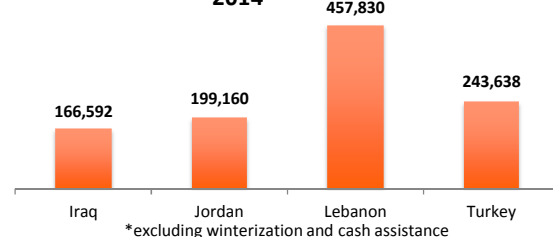
In Iraq, winterization assistance reached another 15,365 people in December, however limited resources meant that not all of the needs could be covered. For instance, in Dohuk winter distributions were limited to the four camps and to targeted vulnerable groups (around 35 per cent of the total needs).

In Jordan, the distribution of 16,500 high-thermal blankets and clothes to all residents of Azraq camp was completed during December. Over 20,000 cash vouchers were also distributed along with a top up of existing food e-cards and the distribution of other in-kind items such as dates and children's shoes. In Zaatari camp all households received blankets, dates and clothes as part of the winter assistance, while vouchers for gas heaters, cylinders and other winter needs will be distributed.

In Turkey, a major procurement winter clothes for more than 550,000 people is underway, with distribution scheduled to start in January. Winter items such as blankets, sleeping mats, stoves and coal are also being provided. A total of more than 316,000 people have so far been provided with winter assistance in Turkey.

The additional winter assistance comes on top of the regular provision of basic assistance across the region which includes regular and emergency cash grants and the provision of core relief items in-kind.

Individuals provided with core relief items in 2014*



Turkey, Provision of NFIs in Adiyaman - IOM/2014

SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE REGION:

3,775,798

Refugee Population, end-December 2014

3,590,000

Refugee Population

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

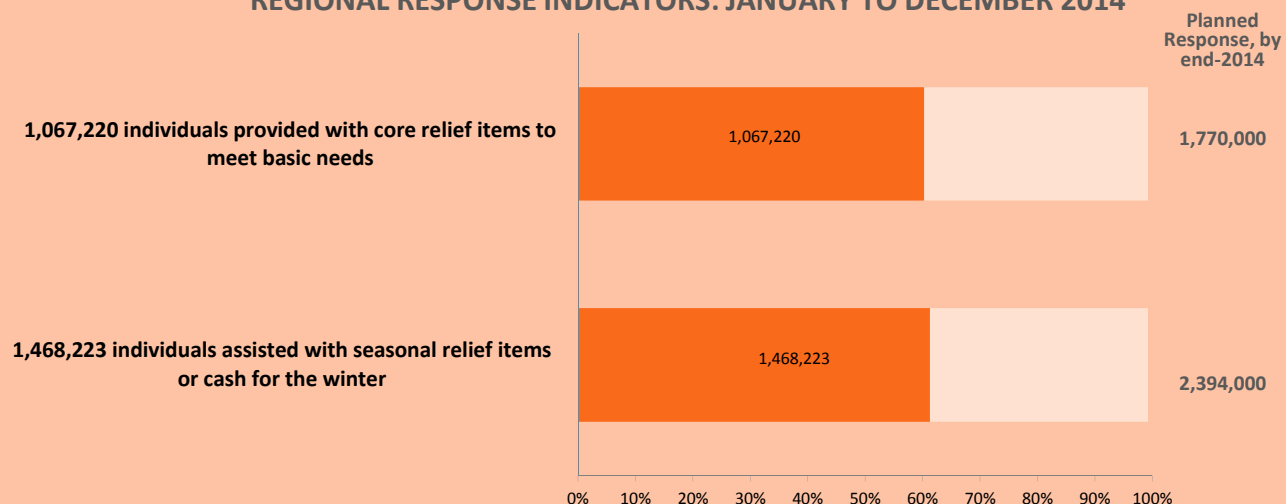
Sector Working Groups estimate that up to 90 per cent of newly-arriving Syrian refugees have no or very few personal belongings. Syrians report that the biggest challenges for material assistance were food, rent and basic items (blankets, clothes, kitchen utensils, plastic buckets/jerry cans).

Recent assessments of refugees living in host communities have found that the income versus expenditure gap caused by limited livelihood opportunities, rising rent and service prices tends to lead to increased use of negative coping strategies as the crisis continues. In Egypt, 11 per cent of families reported borrowing as their main source of income, while in Jordan up to 87 per cent of registered Syrian families living outside of camps are in debt. In Lebanon, an average of 70 per cent of Syrian families are in debt and the amount of debt is generally higher for large households or those who have been in Lebanon longer.

Though large-scale dataset analysis has not yet been completed for all refugee countries, there are indications that the most vulnerable families include those whose household expenditures exceed the identified average minimum expenditure basket and those families with large family size, large number of children or who live in crowded conditions. These among other indicators help to identify the most vulnerable.

While not included in the RRP6 response data presented in this dashboard, the overlapping IDP crisis in Iraq has increased the overall needs and entailed a massive scaling-up of operations by humanitarian partners in that country.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2014



Planned response based on full funding of RRP6 for an expected population of 3.59 million Syrian refugees in the region by end-2014. By the end of 2014 there were 3.77 million refugees in the region, and the overall RRP6 appeal was 61% funded.