

# REGIONAL WINTERIZATION PROGRAMME 2013



UNHCR | B. Sokol

**INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR  
SYRIAN REFUGEES**

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

**Winter is fast approaching. UNHCR and Regional Response Plan (RRP) partners are coordinating to implement a plan that meets the needs of the most vulnerable amongst the more than 2.2 million refugees who have fled their homes due to the continuing conflict in Syria.**

**In total, RRP partners are providing assistance to all Syrians residing in camps and over 40 per cent living outside of camps. It is estimated that the overall Syria RRP winterization programme is valued at some US\$ 138 million.**

### **Assistance in camps**

All Syrians living in camps in the region are benefitting from winterization measures by RRP partners. A range of activities will be implemented including a supplemental distribution of core relief items (CRIs), materials to increase the insulation of tent covers, stoves and fuel for heating. Site planning engineers are working with partners to improve drainage channels to prevent tents from being saturated with water and mud. The most vulnerable children are being provided with clothing and appropriate waterproof footwear. Health partners are scaling up surveillance and response capacity to detect winter-borne illnesses including influenza, respiratory diseases and mitigate the impact of chronic low temperatures. Measures are being put in place to prevent and respond to incidents to fire, including fire-fighting materials strategically placed in camp locations as well as the mobilization of fire brigade equipment and personnel where possible.

### **Assistance to the most vulnerable in host communities**

Priority groups targeted for assistance include those who live in sub-standard shelters, those who live in areas with severe climatic conditions, and the most vulnerable who may have the most difficulties to cover their accommodation, utility and heating or fuel costs. Weatherproofing is being provided to families living in sub-standard shelters – such as unfinished buildings, informal settlement or makeshift collective centres – through the distribution of plastic sheeting, renovations and repairs that increase the shelter’s durability and ability to withstand winter conditions. Families unable to cover their basic household needs are being assisted with relief items, stoves, fuel or cash. In many cases, assistance is a mixture of in-kind items or the cash equivalent. Partners are working together to agree on common vulnerability criteria and the identification of refugees most in need and coordinating to implement and distribute winterization assistance.

## **Winterization assistance**

All Syrians in camps assisted and most vulnerable in host communities assisted through the provision of:

- Blankets and quilts;
- Plastic sheeting;
- Insulation materials for tents;
- Stoves and fuel for heating;
- Clothing;
- Preventive health response
- Mattresses;
- WASH winterization items;
- Renovation and repairs for shelter;
- Cash assistance;
- Waterproof footwear.
- Cash transfer for utilities, fuel and shelter

Partners working to improve drainage channels.

Measures put in place to prevent and respond to incidents to fire.

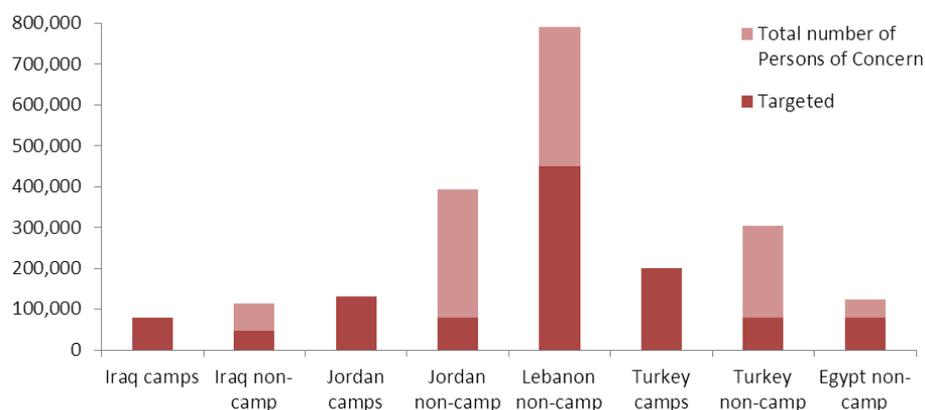
Partners agree on common vulnerability criteria and identification of refugees most in need outside camps in each country.

## Coordination

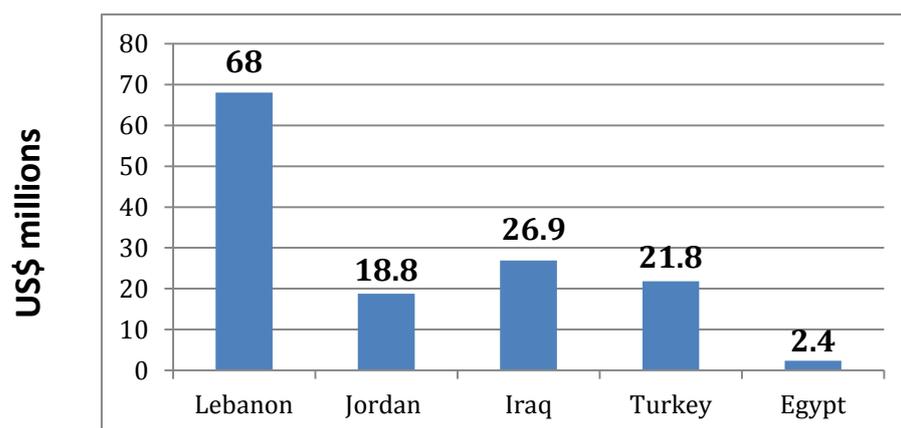
Coordination among RRP partners is done through inter-sectoral coordination meetings chaired by UNHCR and held in each country including in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. Specific issues, such as shelter, distribution of relief and basic needs items and public health responses are discussed in each country in the relevant sector working group.

### Winter Assistance Targeted Populations

Total targeted population	
Egypt	80,000
Iraq	126,000
Jordan	210,400
Lebanon	450,000
Turkey	280,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,146,400</b>



### Winterization Programme by Country

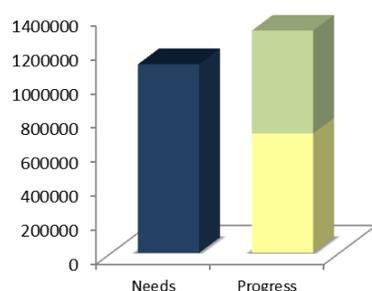


**Total regional winterization programme = \$138 million**

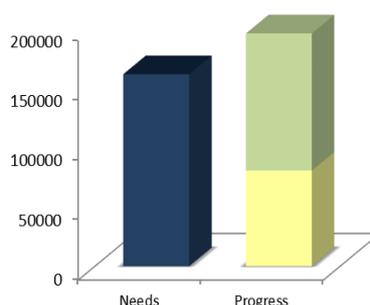
### UNHCR Stock

UNHCR is closely monitoring stocks in the various warehouses to ensure that items are available and distributed to refugees where needed. Transferring systems overland, through airlift or sea shipment are put in place to ensure that items reach the countries were needed.

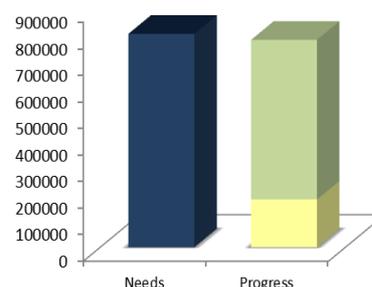
#### Blankets/Quilts



#### Plastic Sheet

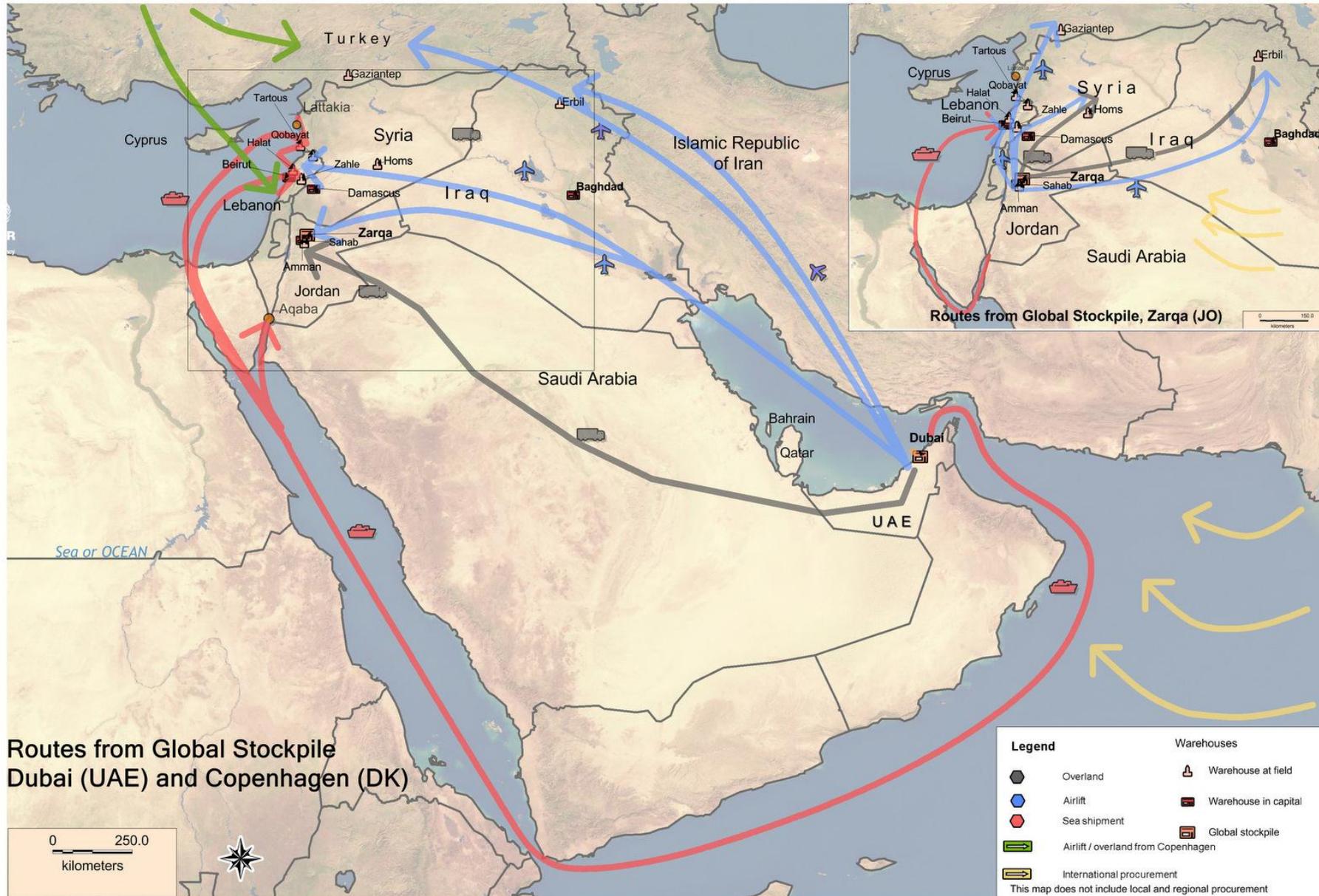


#### Clothing



■ Released/Stock ■ Pipeline

## UNHCR Supply routes



## LEBANON

Over 800,000 people of concern are dispersed in more than 1,500 locations throughout Lebanon, with the majority subject to the harsher winter climate of the North and Bekaa Valley. RRP partners are providing winterization assistance to more than 450,000 people who have fled the Syrian crisis. This constitutes nearly 60 per cent of refugees and other persons of concern in Lebanon.

### *Winter package for up to 90,000 households (450,000 people)*

Refugees need blankets, stove heaters, and money to purchase fuel to heat their dwellings during the cold winter months. UNHCR and RRP partners are distributing CRIs to selected refugee households including high thermal blankets, a stove and cash for five months of fuel totaling \$500.



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### *Weatherproofing for 28,000 sub-standard shelters (140,000 people)*

More than 28,000 households living in sub-standard shelter are being provided with materials and tools to seal off their shelters for the winter. RRP partners have identified families living in sub-standard shelter, especially those in areas with severe climatic conditions.

### *Child Protection / Education winterization assistance*

Together with its partners in these sectors, UNICEF is providing 88,000 winter clothing kits targeting all children aged 14 years and under living in tented settlements, as well as winter clothing vouchers for 50,273 refugees living in urban collective shelters and other vulnerable children.

Fuel for classroom heating are being provided to 355 schools and non-formal education structures, including UNRWA's five schools in the Bekaa. School heating is expected to benefit 88,750 students.

## JORDAN

UNHCR has registered more than 550,000 individuals affected by the Syrian situation, of which some 80 per cent are accommodated in the urban community. The onset of winter is significantly adding to the challenges facing persons of concern, both in camp settings and across all governorates in Jordan. RRP partners will reach 80,000 individuals living in camps and up to 100,000 individuals living outside camps, assisting a total 180,000 identified Syrians, or 33 per cent of identified persons of concern in Jordan. Additional activities are planned and UNHCR will coordinate with response partners in the relevant sectors.

### ***Camps and settlement centres (up to 29,600 families / 148,000 people)***

Distribution of key items including roofing to protect refugees from the rain in Za'atri camp and the settlement centres is taking place through a phased approach. Distribution of core relief items and gas stoves, cylinders and refills is planned during the winter months.

UNHCR has received almost 600,000 pieces of winter clothing from UNIQLO-Japan. Items are being sorted and will be distributed by implementing partner Japan Emergency NGOs in Za'atri camp and other settlements.

### ***Winter protection for children (up to 37,800 children under five)***

UNICEF is supporting Syrian children up to 5 years old in refugee camps. Basic winter clothes and apparel for 37,800 children are being procured through a regional tendering process and an additional 38,000 thermal blankets will also be procured.

### ***Cash assistance***

#### **Supplement winterization assistance for 15,000 vulnerable families (75,000 people)**

UNHCR provides regular cash assistance to vulnerable Syrians through a banking agreement with Cairo Amman Bank, with up to 15,000 vulnerable families assisted with a monthly cash allowance. During the winter months, UNHCR is providing a supplement to cover additional needs such as fuel, blankets and clothing. Winterization will be paid for four months to registered Syrian refugees included in the regular financial assistance. The first instalment of the supplement will be distributed in November 2013 and will continue monthly till February 2014.

#### **Emergency assistance for 5,160 vulnerable families (25,800 people)**

UNHCR offers one-time emergency cash assistance to vulnerable refugees. From October to February, UNHCR will assist over 5,000 families. In addition, UNHCR through Mercy Corps will support another 200 families with an emergency cash grant.

### ***Border crossing points (24,000 new arrivals)***

UNHCR is providing 24,000 blankets to the border for new arrivals, many of whom arrive with few personal belongings and generally during the coldest night hours. Provision of gas heaters and cylinders is also foreseen in waiting areas at the border in cooperation with Jordan Armed Forces.

#### **Refugees in need of winterization assistance**

There are four categories of refugees which have the highest risk in relation to winter, and who are in the need of winterization assistance, including:

- Families and individuals residing in tents, including in refugee camps or in makeshift accommodation in informal settlements;
- Individuals and families who are living in sub-standard accommodation, such as collective centres, informal settlements or unfinished buildings;
- Individuals living in geographic areas subject to severe winter conditions such as high altitude or traditionally low or freezing temperatures;
- Families who, despite having habitable accommodation, are socio-economically vulnerable and unable to cover the costs of heating fuel or utility bills related to heating.

### ***Shelter upgrades (400 families/2,000 people)***

UNHCR through its partners Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Mercy Corps is assisting families to upgrade their shelters to better withstand harsh weather conditions. A total of 400 families will be assisted, primarily in districts where the winter is harsh and areas that were underserved in 2012. These include the mountain areas of Jerash and Ajloun and outlying villages. ACTED will distribute shelter sealing off/insulation kits to 160 families living in substandard accommodation in Mafraq, Irbid, Jerasj and Ajloun.



*Makeshift shelters in Lebanon. UNHCR | S. Malkawi*

In camps, UNHCR is providing plastic sheeting and other forms of support to protect from the rain or better insulate the emergency shelters.

### ***Health***

WHO is supporting the Ministry of Health's (MoH) preparedness with the following activities:

- Specific trainings for expected diseases during winter, such as Acute Respiratory Infections. Trainings on case definition and case management targeting health workers in and outside camps are already included in the yearly plan;
- Supplying sufficient amounts of antibiotics and asthma medications for the winter season. Such supplies are included in UNICEF, UNHCR and NGO partner stocks as well as WHO/MoH stock, which have been already purchased;
- Strengthening EWARS and routine surveillance and by adding specifically SARI/Influenza Like Illnesses, which are highly prevalent and contiguous as one of the notifiable diseases;
- Strengthened coordination between WHO and UNHCR via the food, shelter and WASH Sector Working Groups to address in timely manner unforeseen needs such as deficient shelter/accommodation and impending stockouts.

### ***Core relief items (300 families/1,500 people)***

Working in Mafraq, Irbid, Jerash, and Ajloun governorates, ACTED is distributing heaters, gas, and blankets to at least 800 of the most vulnerable families and is currently working to expand this programming. UNHCR is providing family packages with basic winter items including blankets, mattresses and gas heaters to some 300 families. Distribution will be completed by Mercy Corps. In camps, UNHCR is providing additional high thermal blanket per person as part of the winterization CRI supplement. Since October, refugees are also receiving two medium-thermal blankets as part of the regular distribution of relief items to new arrivals. Implementing partner NRC is distributing heaters and gas cylinders during the winter months.

## IRAQ

UNHCR estimates that nearly 200,000 Syrians have sought safety in Iraq, most of whom are in the three governorates of the Kurdistan Region in Northern Iraq. Throughout the region, winter conditions are harshest in Northern Iraq, where temperatures fall below zero for consecutive days and weeks during the winter months and is coupled with heavy snowfall and other precipitation.

RRP partners have designed and are working to implement a multi-sectoral approach to respond to these conditions.

### *Health*

The cold weather risks an increase in pneumonia and other respiratory infections. In addition, there is the ever present risk of waterborne diseases, which can spread rapidly through the camps. Other risks include diarrhoea and dysentery. Special care will need to be taken with pregnant women and newborn infants. WHO is supporting all efforts to:

- Strengthen and expand an integrated disease surveillance and response system;
- Assisting emergency medical repairs;
- Health education promotion;
- Training to health care workers for case management;
- Supply medications including drugs for chronic diseases and illnesses, which may be affected by cold weather as well as lifesaving drugs, antibiotics and bronchodilators.

### *Education*

In coordination with the Ministry of Education, UNICEF is procuring pre-fabricated classrooms and tents to serve as learning and recreation spaces for an estimated 30,000 children. Pre-fabricated classrooms will have the benefit of integrated heating systems and carpets. Safe heating systems for camps will contribute to ensure quality learning and recreational activities during the winter. UNICEF is providing safe heaters to ensure warmth in the tented schools, tented Child Friendly Spaces and recreational spaces.

### *WASH*

To ensure that refugees have access to warm water for bathing, efforts are being made to install prefabricated showers. Hot water through both household initiatives (water heated in the tent) and common water heating systems will be considered for the most vulnerable refugees in camps. Small water storage and distribution units will be installed to provide at least the minimum volume needed for drinking and domestic purposes.



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Sanitation facilities are being adapted to mitigate the risk of floods, mud, and surface run-off water. All WASH facilities will be windproof and rainproof, well lit and well drained. Hygiene kits and consumables, baby kits for mother and babies/infants and family water kits and washing basins will be distributed. Hygiene promotion is carried out through public campaigns. The procurement of chlorine and water and sanitation equipment/devices is being pursued for vulnerable areas.

#### ***Site planning – Drainage and roads***

UNHCR and its partners are funding the establishment of concrete foundations and side walls as the base for family tents, sanitation units and cooking areas. This activity will preferably be in combination the distribution of heaters, warm blankets, additional plastic sheeting and related winterization items.

Where concrete foundations cannot be completed, plastic sheeting could be utilized as additional flooring to prevent dampness and moisture to penetrate from beneath. Adequate drainage, in particular for stormwater, is necessary to avoid flooded sites and tents. UNHCR is working with local authorities to construct water drains and channels to prevent water seeping across roads.

#### ***Shelter and core relief items***

UNHCR and partners are distributing winterization kits for all refugees who are residing in camps. Additional tents will be sourced and deployed where required to replace tents that have been damaged through wear and tear or that are not suitable for the harsher weather conditions. UNICEF is distributing hypothermia kits and blankets intended to provide additional support to up to 46,000 refugees, alongside an additional 50,000 blankets.

#### ***Winter clothing***

UNICEF is distributing winter clothes and shoes to 27,000 children. Warm clothes will be provided by age/size and gender, including to all new-born babies. UNICEF will procure on a priority basis for the most vulnerable 0-12 month infants and the 1-5 years children. The higher age groups (6 – 13 years) will be fully covered depending on fund availability and in coordination with other partners. Winter shoes will be provided for children aged 1-13 years.

#### **Non-camp winterization activities**

##### ***Core relief items***

Winterization packages will be distributed to up to 40 per cent of vulnerable Syrian families living outside of camps in Dohuk, Erbil and Suleimaniyah, with particular focus on those living in sub-standard host community accommodation. UNHCR will procure, warehouse and transport the items. Distribution criteria will be determined with Government and humanitarian partners. Distribution partners include local authorities, Qandil, Civil Development Organization and Harikar.

##### ***Weatherproofing sub-standard shelters***

Mercy Corps is planning to provide weatherproofing support to sub-standard shelters for Syrians living outside camps in Northern Iraq.

## EGYPT

UNHCR has registered more than 125,000 Syrians in Egypt, with the Government of Egypt estimating that there may be more than 200,000 Syrians who have arrived in Egypt as a result of the Syrian crisis. All Syrians in Egypt are living in urban areas, and many face considerable challenges to meet their basic needs, including for rental costs for shelter, food and other basic items.

To assist the most vulnerable Syrians, UNHCR will provide up to 80,000 people with a one-off cash assistance of \$30, to a total of \$2.4 million.

### UNHCR Core Relief Items Regional Distribution List

Winterisation Items to be Provided	Total Needs for Winterization	Total Cost US\$
Blankets High Thermal	1,560,935	17,182,940
Blankets Medium Thermal	430,935	1,488,000
Quilts	100,000	925,000
Buckets	12,000	52,272
Heaters/stoves	80,000	4,040,000
Tent	11,599	5,101,402
Fuel for heaters/stoves	2,733,333	1,640,000
Jerrycans water	48,000	109,440
Jerry cans kerosene	38,000	98,800
Sleeping Mats	50,000	115,800
Plastic sheeting 4x5m	372,000	5,958,160
Plastic rolls 4x50m	2,700	416,485
Concrete slabs	13,373	834,960
Weatherproofing	10,100	1,143,257
Clothing	2,045,000	4,311,434
Mattress	32,000	444,800
Winterization kits for tents	4,997	2,023,785
WASH winterization	3,000	0
Hygiene kits	2,000	16,440
Solar lamp	200,000	8,968,000
Prefab. Warehouses	3	70,800
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$54,941,774</b>

## TURKEY

The Government of Turkey and UNHCR estimates that there may be more than 600,000 Syrians in Turkey. Of this number, over 500,000 have been registered, including some 200,000 who are accommodated in 21 camps managed by the Disaster Management and Emergency Presidency of the Prime Ministry (AFAD).

To support the Government of Turkey's response to Syrians, RRP partners will provide supplemental inputs for the camp and non-camp population.

### Winterization package for camp-based refugees

UNHCR is providing blankets, heaters and winter clothing for all refugee children to support Syrians living in camps in Turkey. UNICEF will provide two-piece outfits for young children living in camps. Some 60,000 pairs of shoes were also distributed in a combined Back to School/winter campaign.

### Assistance to non-camp refugees

UNHCR is planning cash grants for the most vulnerable of the 300,000 registered Syrians not accommodated in camps. IOM is discussing with key stakeholders the possibility of providing items to vulnerable Syrians living outside camps, including basic relief items such as blankets, stoves, mattresses, bed linens and pillows.

### Health

WHO is planning coordination support to health and non-health actors to monitor the health situation and trends of camp and non-camp refugees. WHO will provide technical expertise as needed by health partners to:

- Assess the burden of disease in camp and non-camp refugees, and support assessments and analysis of health capacities and gaps through partners;
- Facilitate capacity building of operational agencies with limited technical and/or managerial capacities, specifically in the upcoming vaccination campaigns;
- Provide essential medicines, medical supplies and operational capacity as requested by the Ministry of Health and health sector partners.

