

# INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

17 - 23 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

- More than 2.8 million Syrian refugees have sought protection in the region. The average rate of monthly registrations continues to exceed 100,000 so far in 2014.
- Water scarcity is a potential threat in the region in light of the anticipated dry summer months. Lebanon has experienced one of the driest winter seasons on record. The strain on WASH services in host communities is also increasing. In northern Jordan, many affected communities receive water less than one day per week and only 37 per cent of host community populations are linked to a piped sewerage network.
- Armed conflict in Anbar governorate continues to cause massive internal displacement in Iraq, further straining the resources of host communities and of the Kurdistan Regional Government. According to the government, as of 15 May, 72,325 families have been displaced from Anbar, including 4,500 families to the Kurdistan Region where some 220,000 Syrian refugees are hosted.
- Polio vaccination campaigns in April reached a reported 549,768 children under 5 in Lebanon; and 14.5 million in Egypt. Some 5.8 million children under 5 in Iraq were vaccinated in May.

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## REGIONAL FIGURES

**2.8 million** Syrian refugees have fled to neighbouring countries and North Africa

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

**73%** funding gap in the 2014 Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP6)

Total number of refugees registered and awaiting registration **2,823,346**

Registered Refugees **2,750,885**

Awaiting Registration with UNHCR **72,461**

**TURKEY**  
**761,674**  
registered.

**LEBANON**  
**1,081,676**  
Registered: 1,024,887  
Awaiting reg.: 56,789

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

**EGYPT**  
**137,454**  
registered.

**N. AFRICA\***  
**23,367**  
registered

\* Morocco, Algeria and Libya

**JORDAN**  
**596,062**  
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.

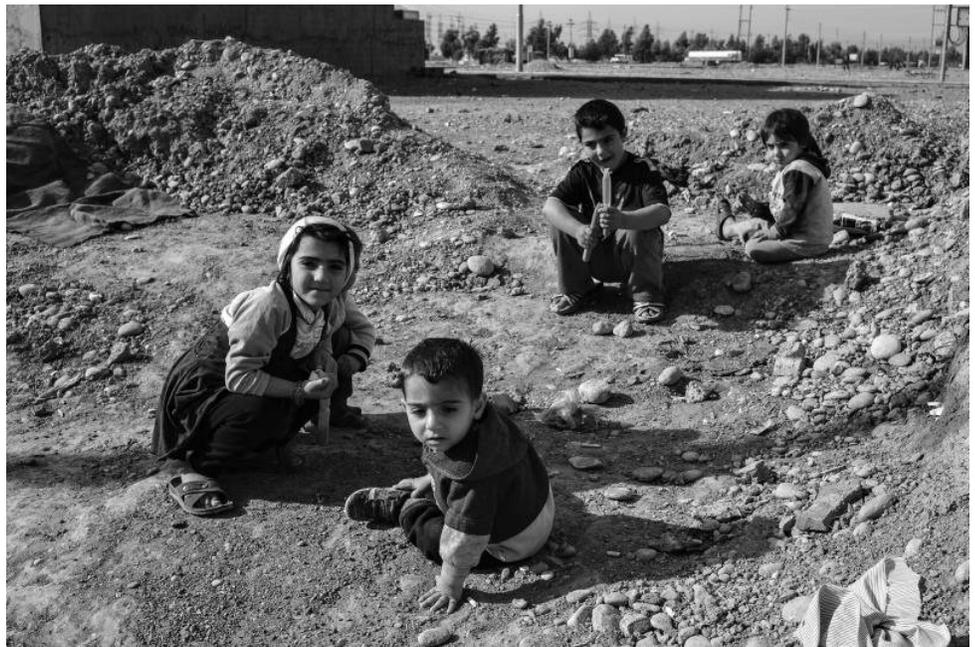
Refugee population as of 26 May 2014, based on available data. For updated figures, please visit <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees>

## TURKEY: SCALING UP INTERVENTIONS FOR REFUGEES IN HOST COMMUNITIES

- Over 520,000 Syrian refugees - more than 70 per cent of the total population - live outside of camps in Turkey. The Government of Turkey - the main responder to the crisis - as well as UN Agencies and an increasing number of NGOs are working to scale up assistance and interventions to respond to the growing needs of refugees in host communities.
- The support to non-camp refugees will be aided by the ongoing registration in urban areas, which will enable state institutions to implement a comprehensive approach targeting all Syrian refugees in need of assistance. In addition, humanitarian partners are also working to increase assistance outside of camp settings.
- International Rescue Committee (IRC) opened a Youth Centre in Reyhanli, which will serve to both the local population and Syrian refugees aged 12-25 years old. IRC with the support of the sub-governorate had conducted preliminary focus group discussions with Syrians to decide on types of activities to be conducted in the centre. Currently, English and Turkish language classes have been organized with activities to be further expanded.
- There are four schools providing education to Syrian children living outside of the camps in Sanliurfa. About 1,200 Syrian children are registered in one of the schools, supported by the Religious Affairs Foundation. However, attendance is reportedly around 50 per cent due to the lack of transportation for children from their homes to the school. More than 30 Syrian teachers are working on voluntary basis and receive 500-600 TL (approx. US\$ 238 - 286) per month as an incentive.
- Malteser International are funding both a clinic and community centre for Syrians outside camps in Kilis, run by International Blue Crescent. The clinic provides health care to post operation cases and is planning to expand its capacity with an additional 20 beds. The Community Centre is providing services to about 800 non-camp Syrians in Kilis.

## IRAQ: ADDRESSING CHILD PROTECTION CONCERNS

- Humanitarian partners are working to scale up community-based protection systems in camps and host communities, including through the expansion of child friendly spaces to provide protection and psychosocial support to children and their families.
- Violence in schools is becoming an emerging issue that has been reported within the premises of Arabic medium schools in Erbil, as well as in camps through the Protection Network Group forums and protection monitoring visits in Kawergosk and Darashakran camps. UNHCR, NRC, UNICEF and partners are working to support the safe learning environment programme, addressing both teaching personnel and children with psychosocial support needs.



*Refugee children from Deir ez-Zur in eastern Syria play in an abandoned lot in Erbil. Many refugee children in urban areas are not in school. UNHCR | B. Sokol*

- UNHCR conducted a campaign against early marriage in Derek high school, Domiz camp, to address issues such as the health, psychosocial and legal aspects of early/forced marriage. The activity in Domiz was part of the campaign against early marriage among Syrian refugees in different locations in Duhok governorate with particular focus on parents. UNHCR is also coordinating with DMC, UPP and UNICEF to launch a campaign against child labour in Akre transit site.
- Save the Children have completed construction of playgrounds in the two Child and Youth Friendly Spaces in Kawergosk camp. As the end of school year is approaching, UNHCR initiated discussions with UNICEF, NRC, ACTED on implementing a summer programme of recreational activities.

## LEBANON: CONSTANT STRUGGLE FOR ADEQUATE AND AFFORDABLE SHELTER

- UNHCR conducted a shelter survey in March 2014 to assess the refugee shelter conditions in Lebanon. The survey is based on 6,000 interviews conducted and found that most refugees (81%) rent accommodation. Of these, 57 per cent live in apartments that are often shared with other displaced families, and 40 per cent live in insecure dwellings such as unfinished buildings, garages, warehouses, animal sheds and informal settlements.
- Refugees living in substandard shelters are subject to hazardous conditions with limited access to water and hygiene facilities, and are often experiencing overcrowding and harsh weather conditions. This has led to a significant increase in the need for targeted healthcare and protection from weather elements.
- More than 80 per cent of registered refugees pay on average \$200/month in rent for apartments or other types of accommodation including substandard shelters.
- Refugees in Lebanon live in over 1,700 locations and are faced with serious constraints in finding secure accommodation.
- Humanitarian agencies work in a number of ways to meet needs on the ground. Priority is given to those who live in insecure dwellings, where 40 per cent of the refugee population live.
- Support is provided to weatherproof unfinished houses, garages, work sites, and informal settlements, as well as to rehabilitate small shelter units and collective centers. Over 465,000 such interventions have been implemented across Lebanon since the beginning of the crisis.
- In addition, agencies pursue a number of other interventions aimed as well as delivery benefits to Lebanese, such as the rehabilitation of Lebanese homes in exchange for providing accommodation to refugees, and the identification and rehabilitation of private and public buildings to serve as collective shelters for refugees. Agencies have also spent over \$50 million in the local market including procurement of materials and rent subsidies since November 2012.



*Hoda lives in a collective shelter that hosts some 36 Syrian families. Her five children and husband pay around \$70 per month for a small room.*  
UNHCR | A. McConnell

## ONE FAMILY DISPLACED INSIDE SYRIA EVERY 60 SECONDS

- More than 33 million people were internally displaced worldwide at the end of 2013 due to conflict and violence according to a new report by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). This equates to an increase of 4.5 million from 2012, signaling a record high for the second year running.
- The [Global Overview 2014](#) report, which covers internal displacement in 2013, highlights that 63 per cent of the record breaking 33.3 million internally displaced people (IDPs) reported come from just five countries: Syria, Colombia, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan.
- By the end of 2013, 8.2 million people were newly displaced, an increase of 1.6 million compared to the year before.
- Syria remains the largest and fastest evolving displacement crisis in the world. More than 40 per cent of all the people newly displaced in 2013 were in Syria - the equivalent of 9,500 people displaced each day or one family every minute.
- The IDMC report also reveals how large concentrations of IDPs have been particularly targeted by artillery bombardments and airstrikes.

## NUMBER OF REFUGEES WITH CANCER IS OVERWHELMING HEALTH SYSTEMS

- Humanitarian partners are forced to make agonizing decisions over who does and doesn't receive health care, states UNHCR's top medical expert in a [new study](#) published in The Lancet Oncology. Dr Paul Spiegel documented hundreds of refugees in Jordan and Syria who were denied cancer treatment due to limited funds.
- The study – which looked at refugees in Jordan and Syria from 2009-2012 - says the number of documented refugee cancer cases in the region have risen because there are more refugees overall, and because more people are fleeing middle income countries like Syria.
- In Jordan for example, UNHCR's 'Exceptional Care Committee' (ECC), which decides whether to fund expensive treatments, could only approve 246 out of 511 (or 48 per cent) refugee applications for cancer treatment between 2010 and 2012. The main reason for denial was poor prognosis, meaning a patient had little chance of recovery and the committee decided the limited amount of money was better spent on other patients. In rare cases, even patients with good prognoses may be denied because their treatment is too expensive.
- New approaches to prevention and treatment are needed, including mobile and online information campaigns focusing on preventative health, and new financing models such as crowd-funding and potentially health insurance. Any measures will need to include health-care systems in the asylum countries as a whole, to avoid inequality between host communities and refugees.



*Dr. Hassan is a qualified surgeon and Syrian refugee living in Domiz camp, Iraq. He checks in on a patient in the camp. 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 World 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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