REGIONAL OVERVIEW

According to UNHCR, 5,682,058 have now fled Syria to surrounding countries in the region. 1.4 million of them fled in 2014 alone with an average of more than 3,935 people per day. In 2015 more than 617,188 Syrians fled the country, an average of more than 1,714 per day. In 2017 more than 623,374 Syrians fled the country, an average of more than 1,731 per day. In 2018, more than 180,000 Syrians fled the country, an average of more than 500 per day.

Children now make up 45% of the refugee population, meaning there are an estimated 2,556,926 refugee children in the region.

SYRIA KEY FACTS

IDP Spontaneous Returns 2018, ReliefWeb 102.3K
People in need in hard-to-reach areas 2018, OCHA 1.16m
People internally displaced by violence 2018, OCHA 6.2 m
People estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in Idlib 2018, OCHA 2.1 m

OUR RESPONSE

Save the Children has worked in the Middle East for decades. Since July 2012 we have been running an ambitious emergency response to the growing crisis in the region. We have so far received $342.6m for our humanitarian interventions in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Syria.

To date we have reached 3,881,246 people in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Syria, including approx. 2,536,017 children.

With the needs growing every day in in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Syria, more funding is desperately needed.

Save the Children is actively coordinating with governments, UN agencies and other NGOs to respond to the humanitarian crisis.

URGENT NEEDS

2018 has seen a number of changes on the ground in Syria, but the conflict continues to be characterized by attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure by parties to the conflict. Basic services and infrastructure have been devastated by years of fighting and deprivation and the overall levels of humanitarian need remain high - with 117 people in need of humanitarian assistance, including 5 million children.

2018 saw unprecedented rates of internal displacement, particularly within north-west Syria and from Eastern Ghouta, northern Homs and Dar’a as those areas changed hands. More than 1.6 million people fled their homes throughout the year, many of them children who were forced to flee their homes, schools and friends for the third or fourth time. The fate of Idlib province, which hosts many of the displaced where and the more than a million children live, remains in the balance as the population faces a potential military escalation and conflict.

Syria’s children have experienced widespread violations of IHL and IHL and the continuing use of devastating weapons such as cluster bombs, which are banned under international law, bunker busting bombs as well as chemical weapons. The international community must ensure a clear commitment by the parties to the conflict to uphold their obligations to grant humanitarian access to all areas, and refrain from attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals and schools.

While refugee hosting countries are also under immense strain due to the unprecedented scale of the Syrian refugee exodus and protracted nature of the crisis, the international community must continue to honour the commitments it has made at successive conferences and provide sufficient support to Syria’s neighbouring countries to prevent refoulement (forced returns), ensure every last child has access to quality education, facilitate adults’ access to livelihoods and guarantee the legal status and protection of refugees.

Donors must further increase support to people affected by the Syrian crisis, both inside Syria and in the region, specifically prioritizing education and child protection interventions to prevent a lost generation.
**LEBANON**

Lebanon has received staggering numbers of Syrian refugees. With no official camps, the refugee populations spread out across the country, making it hard to reach.

- **948,849** Refugees in Lebanon - 31 December, 2018, UNHCR

**Our response**

*Reached 214,527, of these 111,339 are children*
*Counter Reset starting January 2018.*

**Highlights from our response:**
- Beirut - A total of 20 play rehearsals sessions were conducted with 61 adolescents.
- North - All PSS activities are running, including in Wadi al-Nahle and direct implementation in Wadi Khaleed.
- Bekaa - 22 home visits were conducted throughout December by CM team to follow up with all cases and on the action plan set with each case. One case was successfully returned to education while 21 cases received cash assistance.
- North - Out-of-school children were referred to the Accelerated Learning Programme placement test that took place on 20 December.
- Beirut - 145 children referred to Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) with direct coordination with UNICEF from both partners (Nabaa and PWHO).
- Hygiene and fire prevention awareness sessions were conducted for 19 HHTs that completed the minor repairwork.

**JORDAN**

Jordan hosts the region’s largest refugee camp, Za’atari, where we are working in multiple sectors. Two thirds of Syrian refugees live in host communities.

- **671,551** Refugees in Jordan - 13 January, 2019, UNHCR

**Our response**

*Reached 327,701, of these 168,179 are children*
*Counter Reset starting January 2018.*

**Highlights from our response:**
- Education Directorate’s staff joined the Child Protection Committee in Ghour Al-Saffi that is community-based along with the school principals, & led 2 initiatives to redecorate school’s environment.
- A boy’s parent visited the coaches in SCI Zaatari center with appreciation that his son is showing progress in his behavior as a result of the Arsenal football exercises.
- We conducted 4 health awareness sessions in the Zaatari camp throughout the month.
- 3 trainings were delivered for the community health volunteers this month.
- 205 beneficiaries from Vocational Training Centres linked with job opportunities.
- 82 children (Jordanian: 32 females; 48 males; Syrian: 2 males) benefited from child care centres services.

**SYRIA**

The most vulnerable children are those who remain inside Syria, who risk death, illness, abuse and exploitation on a daily basis. The humanitarian needs in Syria are incalculable, and providing essential life-saving services to Syrian children and their families remains a priority.

The widespread insecurity and fighting inside Syria makes this a challenging context, but we are delivering humanitarian assistance to children and their families. We have reached 3,062,860 beneficiaries in Syria, including 2,018,427 children up to December 2018.

- **3,640,466** Refugees in Turkey - 31 January, 2019, UNHCR

**Our response**

*Reached: 5,356, of these 4,106 are children*
*Counter reset of beneficiaries starting January 2018 and removing North West Syria figures.*

**Highlights from our response:**
- Child Resilience Programme continues with 37 children along with individual protection assistance for 67 children and 11 adults in K.cekmece.
- In Hatay, hotline is rolled out and 21 complaints are received.
- Parent sessions are conducted in 15 schools with the participation of 412 parents (55% female, 45% male).
- In BMZ project, 1st ECD cycle continues with 14 children in morning and 13 in afternoon group.

**OTHER REFUGEE LOCATIONS**

North Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Libya) - **33,545**

**TURKEY**

The first influx of Syrian refugees into Turkey was in spring of 2011. Currently, individuals registered under STYP (Syrians under Temporary Protection) are found across all 81 provinces of Turkey.

- **3,640,466** Refugees in Turkey - 31 January, 2019, UNHCR

**Highlights from our response:**
- The main achievement under Child Protection in December were, raising awareness on harassment for (50 girls, 25 boys). Child and youth resilience sessions for (20 girls, 21 boys) and PDEP sessions for (14 women, 12 men) SCI staff, facilitators and community groups participants.
- Education activities across operational areas focused on the provision of ECCD, and support for formal and non-formal education opportunities for children.
- Main achievement within Education programme start-up of remedial classes in Math, Sciences, Arabic and English language 20 Para educators teachers were trained on EE using the INEES Teachers in Crisis Contexts toolkit and SC’s LWEIE toolkit.

**IRAQ**

Approx. 98% of Syrian refugees in Iraq reside in the Kurdistan Regional Governorate, Northern Iraq, where they live in a mixture of camp and non-camp settings.

- **252,451** Refugees in Iraq - 31 December, 2019, UNHCR

**Our response**

Reached: **165,009,** Of these **87,525** are children

**Highlights from our response:**
- The main achievement under Child Protection in December were, raising awareness on harassment for (50 girls, 25 boys). Child and youth resilience sessions for (20 girls, 21 boys) and PDEP sessions for (14 women, 12 men) SCI staff, facilitators and community groups participants.
- Education activities across operational areas focused on the provision of ECCD, and support for formal and non-formal education opportunities for children.
- Main achievement within Education programme start-up of remedial classes in Math, Sciences, Arabic and English language 20 Para educators teachers were trained on EE using the INEES Teachers in Crisis Contexts toolkit and SC’s LWEIE toolkit.

**EGYPT**

The refugee population is spread out across Egypt, making the coordination of service delivery challenging. Large numbers live in poor areas in Greater Cairo and Alexandria.

- **133,028** Refugees in Egypt - 31 December, 2019, UNHCR

**Our response**

Reached: **105,793,** Of these **56,441** are children

**Highlights from our response:**
- 153 children registered attended our CFS.
- 280 parents attended awareness sessions/PSS counselling/ First Aid training.
- 253 children started attending community schools. 6,400 reached to date.
- 31 of youth having completed the youth livelihoods program reaching a total of 1,144.
- 13 small businesses were set up by youth making the total 127 businesses.
- 10 youth joined the local labour market, total number who joined the labour market is 276.
- 23 health facilities supported. 34 total so far.
- 3 pregnant women reached by the antenatal/delivery care services. Total 215 so far.
- 2 Community health workers trained on health promotion activities 195 CHWs have been trained so far.
**EDUCATION**

- Children fleeing violence in Syria have had their worlds turned upside down, and urgently need the safety, stability and structure a positive learning environment can bring to them.
- We provide children with school bags, uniforms, essential school materials, and pay school fees parents cannot afford. We are also providing non-formal education for adolescents.
- We implement Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) programmes in Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, where vulnerable children between 3-6 years of age attend activities that qualify them for school years ahead. Implemented directly and through partners, the ECCD project has reached more than 5,000 children.

**CHILD PROTECTION**

Children urgently require specialised care and protection to help them recover from the extreme psychological and emotional distress they have been through.
- We carry out a range of child protection activities, child resiliency activities, support child protection committees, establish Parent Child Centres and refer children in need of support from psychologists.
- We provide psychosocial support and recreational activities for children in Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS), especially for children who witnessed traumatic events and live in distress. CFS activities help those children to overcome their distress and begin to recover their childhood.

**SHELTER/NFIs**

During the winter, temperatures across the region drop below zero and refugees and IDPs are ill-equipped to cope with the cold, without winter clothes, sufficient blankets, heating or proper shelter.
- We have been delivering essential aid items such as clothing, kitchen sets, and hygiene kits to displaced families in 42 locations in Syria in cooperation with our partners, reaching almost 145,000 people. We have also helped ensure that almost 10,000 people have adequate shelter by providing them with tents or the support to make repairs to their existing shelters.
- Our Shelter team was established in November 2012. To date, it has provided shelter, NFI and WASH assistance to over 20,000 of the most vulnerable families in Lebanon (over 100,000 individuals). We have focused our interventions in the sub-standard buildings (unfinished houses, converted garages, abandoned buildings, etc.) and Informal Settlements. These shelter-types represent 25% and 15% respectively of the registered Syrian refugee population accommodation and also house Palestinians, Lebanese returnees and an increasing number of economically vulnerable Lebanese.

**FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS**

- Food security for Syrian refugees remains a grave concern. In Jordan in partnership with WFP we distribute electronic food vouchers in Za’atari Camp and in host communities, which refugees can exchange for food in local supermarkets.
- We run Cash for Work programmes in Lebanon where families have the opportunity to put their own skills to work in projects which benefit their communities.
- We implemented a Youth Livelihoods project, in Egypt co-funded by Quick Impact Project funding from UNHCR and the French Embassy.
- Women and youth in Egypt and Lebanon benefit from the Home-Based Skills Development Programme (HBSD) through trainings on livelihoods activities, life skills, entrepreneurship and production and marketing. Save the Children also provides equipment and raw material needed to start up income-generating activities.

**HEALTH AND NUTRITION**

Lack of medical care and nutritious food will put children and other vulnerable groups at risk of malnutrition and illnes.
- In Egypt and Syria we have conducted vaccination campaigns of Hepatitis A and polio, respectively.
- In Egypt we have conducted capacity building programmes for health staff in Primary Health Clinics and hospitals in Giza District. 44 doctors and nurses were trained on modules such as family health and maternal and child health.

**WASH**

It is essential to improve water, sanitation and hygiene conditions for Syrian refugee children and their families in order to prevent diseases and ensure their well-being.
- We have been distributing household items, winterization kits and WASH/ hygiene kits, newborn kits in Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt and Syria, and providing shelter support through materials distribution.
- During the winter we distribute blankets and provide shelter support across the region.
- We have conducted hygiene promotion awareness-raising sessions in Iraq and Syria and Lebanon.
- We distribute drainage kits, water vouchers, dislodging vouchers, metal septic tanks, latrines and a number of other items in Lebanon.

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**Our partners**

- Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- WFP
- UKaid
- SWEDEN
- NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
- German Cooperation
- Norwegian Directorate for Development and Cooperation (NORAD)
- KOICA
- JICA
- The MasterCard Foundation
- Czech Republic
- Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
- Attaines étrangères, Commerce et Développement Canada
- The World Bank
- OCHA
- UNFPA
- DANIDA
- Platform
- THE WORLD BANK
- OCHA unicef
- DANIDA