

HIGHLIGHTS

- An additional 3 cases of polio confirmed in Syria, including in two new areas.
- Parties to the conflict flout IHL as children are killed and injured at school; 43 humanitarian aid workers killed since the start of the conflict; Palestine refugees killed or trapped in sealed off areas.
- A UN-supported truce in Al Wa'er explicitly recognises the right of civilians to humanitarian assistance.
- The SHARP 2013 is less than 60% funded.

FIGURES

Population	21.4 m	
	<i>Under 2013 SHARP</i>	<i>New figures</i>
# of people in need	6.8 m	9.3 m
# of IDPs	4.25 m	6.5 m
# of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries and North Africa	2.2 m	

FUNDING

\$ 1.4 billion

requested (US\$) for humanitarian assistance inside Syria

58% funded

\$ 3 billion

requested (US\$) for the Regional Refugee Response Plan

63% funded



WFP/HAnano

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Additional cases of polio confirmed

On 11 November, WHO announced that the number of confirmed polio cases in Syria now stands at thirteen. Genetic sequencing indicates that the isolated viruses are most closely linked to the virus detected in environmental samples in Egypt during December 2012 (which in turn had been linked to wild poliovirus circulating in Pakistan). Closely related wild poliovirus strains have also been detected in environmental samples in Israel, West Bank and Gaza Strip since February 2013. Wild poliovirus had not been detected in Syria since 1999. Given the current situation in Syria, frequent population movement across borders in the region and the immunization level in key areas, the risk of further spread of wild poliovirus type 1 across the region is considered to be high. In addition to the national vaccination campaign in Syria which was launched at the identification of "hot" acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases, targeting 1.6 million children, a surveillance alert has been issued for the region to actively search for additional potential cases and micro-planning is being finalized to provide a comprehensive response across the seven countries neighbouring Syria, starting early December.

From 6 -19 October 2013, the Early Warning and Response System (EWARS) reported three new (AFP cases, two in Damascus and one in Alboukamal in Deir-ez-Zor). A decrease in the number of Typhoid cases in Idleb governorate was reported, in addition to a decrease in the number of measles cases. The measles decline is attributed both to the normal development of the epidemic and to UNICEF-and WHO-supported vaccination campaigns against measles which have been conducted in all governorates.

Parties to the conflict flout obligations under IHL

32 Syrian Arab Red Crescent volunteers have been killed in Syria since the onset of the conflict

Humanitarian aid workers continue to deliver life-saving assistance to men, women and children throughout the country, including across conflict lines. This assistance is undertaken at great risk as parties to the conflict do not adhere to International Humanitarian Law (IHL). In November, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) announced that an additional ten volunteers were killed as a result of the conflict. This represents a significant escalation, from 22 to 32 people killed since the start of the conflict, an almost 50 percent increase just in recent weeks.

Children have been killed and injured while schools are in session

A string of attacks on Damascus schools over the past month culminated in the shelling of St. John of Damascus School on 11 November in which five children were reportedly killed and 11 injured in their classrooms. On the same day, four children and their driver were reportedly killed after a shell hit their school bus in Bab Touma. On 6 November, a shell hit Aicha Al Sidika School in the Al Midan area of Damascus, reportedly injuring four children. On 22 October, 14 students and a teacher were reportedly injured when shells hit two schools – Fayez Saeed and Nazeh Monzier – in Jaramana, Rural Damascus.

Palestine refugees cut off from protection and assistance

On 6 November, UNRWA Commissioner General made a speech to the 4th Committee of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) highlighting the plight of Palestine refugees (PR) in Syria and those displaced from Syria throughout the region, calling on the GA “to join UNRWA to condemn in the strongest terms the profound suffering being endured by civilians trapped in these situations and to appeal to the Syrian authorities and all other parties to allow Palestinian civilians – wherever they live in Syria – the full spectrum of protection to which they are entitled”.

Prior to the crisis, approximately 150,000 Palestine refugees in Syria (PRS) lived in the Yarmouk area of Damascus; UNRWA now estimates 20,000 PRS remain trapped as intense fighting continues and all access points remain sealed. There have been unconfirmed reports of malnutrition among children and elderly people in Yarmouk as a result of severe food shortages. Recent planned food distributions were stopped after only dozens of deliveries due to escalated fighting.

Following weeks of being cut off from communications, UNRWA preliminary reports indicate that 7 Palestine refugees in Syria were killed and 15 injured as a result of intense fighting around the Palestine refugee camp in Dar’a on 12 October 2013. Further, UNRWA’s Primary Health Care Centre and Women’s Programme Centre sustained heavy damage.

Joint humanitarian convoys continue to access to hard-to-reach populations

Over the past two weeks, joint humanitarian convoys, coordinated by OCHA, the

Logistics Cluster and SARC have dispatched assistance to 312,500 people in hard-to-reach areas. These missions complement regular cross-line programming and aim to expand access and coverage of needs by mobilizing one-off, cross-sectoral humanitarian relief items for dispatch to men, women and children who have been without assistance from the coordinated humanitarian response inside Syria for significant periods of time. The joint missions enable rapid assessments and communication with local community leaders, charities and communities in need – all of which are critical to enable further access and delivery of an accountable and impartial humanitarian response, particularly for communities in conflict zones.

As the national vaccination campaign opens up access countrywide, the UN Hub in Homs agreed with the Governor, to reach 60,000 vulnerable women, men and children, in Ar-Rastan City and rural areas with comprehensive humanitarian assistance via three joint UN/SARC convoys. On 8 November, 34 trucks delivered humanitarian assistance to



Credit: SARC Homs/ASibai
Homs, Syria (8 Nov 2013) – Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) Homs branch volunteers load WFP family food rations as part of the joint humanitarian convoy which transported much needed humanitarian relief items to Ar-Rastan, Homs, Syria.

7,000 families (approximately 35,000 people) in Ar-Rastan and surrounding communities, an area that had not been reached by the coordinated response since June 2013. On 14 November, a second joint convoy delivered supplies to 3,500 families (approximately 17,500 people), including wheat flour which had been unavailable for some time. On 17 November the third joint convoy of 8 trucks, carrying humanitarian supplies for 1,500 families (approximately 7,500 people), reached two villages in Ar-Rastan area, Deir Fool and Ein Elnasir.

The most recent group of joint humanitarian convoys reached Aleppo City with the largest and most comprehensive inter-agency delivery of health and medical supplies across conflict lines since the beginning of the conflict. The Ministry of Health, SARC and UNRWA in both government- and opposition- controlled medical clinics/hospitals received supplies for 260,000 people, including basic health kits, inter-agency emergency health kits (IEHK), trauma kits, diarrhoea kits, IV fluids, rape kits, reproductive health kits, intrauterine devices (IUD), defibrillators, surgical kits, dialysis supplies and blood bank supplies.

Overview of the Coordinated Humanitarian Response in Syria

The Logistics Cluster donates 20 trucks to SARC to facilitate response

On 13 November 2013, the Syria Logistics Cluster, led by WFP, handed over 20 trucks to SARC, enhancing its capacity to fill logistics gaps where transport by private companies is not possible. The deterioration of security along roads in Syria has severely limited the availability of commercial transporters and, as a result, SARC's capacity to load supplies in its own warehouses, and dispatch and deliver life-saving supplies directly to the most vulnerable people in Syria. Each donated truck has a capacity to hold eight to ten metric tons of humanitarian relief cargo. The Logistic Cluster is providing the spare parts necessary for long-term upkeep and maintenance of each vehicle, enabling SARC to continue future deliveries.



Credit: Syria Logistics Cluster/
Beirut Port, Lebanon (13 Nov 2013) – The Logistics Cluster transports 20 trucks into Syria for donation to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, alongside equipment for maintenance and repairs, to build SARC's capacity for humanitarian response.

WHO, UNICEF and UNHCR supported national vaccination campaigns reach more than 1.9 million children

The 2013 national vaccination campaigns against measles and polio has reached approximately 473,494 children between the ages of 6 months to 15 years with Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine, and 1,405,101 children under the age of five with a dose of polio vaccine, since start of the campaigns, respectively on 20 and 24 October. This includes approximately 140,000 children in Deir-ez-Zor, the location of the polio outbreak. It also includes over 24,000 children who received the polio vaccine and nearly 20,000 who received the MMR vaccine in Aleppo. The campaigns aim to vaccinate a total of 2.2 million children, including 1.6 million children for polio, but have been hindered by access constraints in Dar'a, Damascus and the northeastern governorates.

On 6 November, UNICEF and WHO supported the Ministry of Health and SARC to dispatch a range of child-appropriate vaccines, over 15,000 syringes and child nutritional

items in Bludan community, in Az-Zabdan district of Rural Damascus, from where they will be distributed to surrounding villages.

Agreement sets the stage for humanitarian access to Al Wa'er area of Homs

After a year of engagement, the Homs Reconciliation Committee has established an agreement between parties to the conflict which explicitly acknowledges the right to humanitarian assistance of the civilian population in Al Wa'er neighbourhood in Homs City and the obligations of both parties to not deny access to assistance. The UN supported this critical step forward by providing capacity building for the Homs Reconciliation Committee on humanitarian principles, including right to assistance and obligations of all parties to the conflict under IHL.

An area hosting approximately 400,000 people, of which 200,000 are internally displaced persons, Al Wa'er is a highly contested area due to its strategic position connecting supply routes. Freedom of movement is restricted by high levels of insecurity and checkpoints controlled by parties to the conflict. Commercial access is limited, resulting in a dramatic increase in the price of commodities relative to Homs City, particularly within the last six weeks, while humanitarian access has become more challenging. A joint humanitarian assessment on 10 October found a severe shortage of medicine and lack of medical staff, food, cooking gas and fuel. Garbage is accumulating in the streets where the collective shelters are located, schools are operating two to three shifts per day to provide education for students and only one private hospital is functioning at minimal capacity (approximately 20 percent).

Over the past week, fighting has continued to escalate. On 13 November residents reported experiencing the heaviest shelling in 2013, prompting civilians to seek safer areas even within the neighbourhood. However, during the same period, since the agreement was brokered, SARC was able to evacuate a number of elderly and people with disabilities, a local child care NGO delivered two tons of relief items to its distribution centre and several commercial food trucks transited through the checkpoints. On 18 November, heavy shelling hit the Al Walid hospital resulting in civilian deaths and injuries, including to medical professionals.

WFP contracts new partners to support scale-up but insecurity hinders November dispatch

After dispatching the highest level of food assistance last month since the start of the conflict, enough to provide food assistance for over 3.4 million people, WFP's November cycle of food dispatches has been significantly hindered by escalation of fighting and access constraints. As of 15 November, WFP has dispatched only 27 percent of the monthly overall plan of 800,000 family food rations.

Insecurity along transport routes to the Northeast has significantly limited planned dispatches to Al-Hassakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor, such that: partial dispatch for 2,400 family food rations, targeting 12,000 people, reached Ar-Raqqa on 5 November; 4,150 family food rations, targeting approximately 20,750 people, reached the Al Mayadin area of Deir-ez-Zor, on 13 November; and no rations have reached Al-Hassakeh. Food rations delivered to partners in Aleppo city, Homs and Idleb are currently being distributed, although some areas of Homs City are inaccessible due to ongoing fighting.

In addition to joint humanitarian convoys, WFP successfully reached areas that had been inaccessible for some time, including: 1,400 family food rations targeting 9,800 people in the Al Wa'er neighbourhood in Homs City on 7 November, following an easing of access constraints. After approximately 15 months without WFP food dispatches, SARC gained access to the village of Al-Otaiba in the eastern Ghouta area of Rural Damascus on 6 November to distribute 2,000 family food rations, sufficient to assist 10,000 people for one month.

In order to increase the coverage and capacity of its response, WFP is expanding its network of NGO cooperating partners. Three new charities were contracted during the month of October to support November cycle food distributions in Ar-Raqqa and Aleppo, specifically; bringing the current total to 27 partners nationwide, including SARC which

has handled roughly half of all dispatches. Additionally, a flexible approach to delivery has been employed and was demonstrated when six WFP trucks were caught in fighting on the road to Al-Hassakeh, planned allocations were re-routed to Ar-Raqqa instead.

UNHCR provides cash assistance to vulnerable displaced persons

On 11 November, UNHCR began cash distributions in Lattakia and reached an estimated 1,533 individuals fitting the vulnerability criteria. Ongoing cash distribution in Al-Hassakeh has also reached 57,304 people, enabling assistance in a location which is challenging to reach with in-kind supplies. In 2013, UNHCR has reached 147,956 vulnerable displaced Syrians in Al-Hassakeh, Damascus, Homs, Lattakia, Rural and Tartous with US\$ 3,556,888.

One beneficiary, a mother who must raise her children alone, lost her husband when she left him behind guarding their house when she traveled to the hospital to give birth to their twins. She intends to use the cash to help pay for food and winter clothes for her children.

Mobile teams and fixed centres facilitate medical check-ups for children, IDPs and vulnerable people

WHO has provided health authorities in Damascus and SARC with life-saving medicines and medical supplies, including IV fluids, medicines for life-saving, communicable and non-communicable diseases, sufficient to treat 205,866 and 276,237 direct beneficiaries, respectively, as well as a defibrillator.

UNICEF supported 62 mobile medical teams across 14 governorates and 19 fixed centres in Damascus, Hama, Quneitra and Rural Damascus, Hama and Quneitra that provided medical check-ups to 29,601 children, bringing the total number reached to 314,714 since January 2013.

International Medical Corps, in coordination with SARC, have provided 838 medical consultations to people in need, 811 of them to internally displaced persons, in at least 17 official and non-official collective shelters in Damascus through two mobile medical teams and two mobile medical units. IMC and SARC have opened a new medical point in Al Sanameen, Dar'a, to support provision of health services through curative care, specialising in internal medicine and gynecology as well as provision of medicine, in an area which currently hosts a large number of internally displaced persons from other parts of Dar'a and Rural Damascus. Two clinics in Rural Damascus provided 1,496 consultations, almost of half of which were to internally displaced persons. The highest levels of morbidity were 69 cases of acute respiratory infection.

Small Roses Society provided consultation and services to more than 80 internally displaced children with disabilities in Aleppo.

UNRWA provides comprehensive humanitarian assistance to Palestine refugees in Syria despite challenges

With UNRWA's support over 47,000 Palestine refugee children are enrolled in school - 19,000 of them in UNRWA operated schools and some 28,000 in government schools that the Ministry of Education (MoE) has designated for UNRWA to use in the afternoon in areas where UNRWA schools have been damaged, are not accessible or are being used as temporary collective shelters. UNRWA employs 1,783 UNRWA teachers and has recruited 30 psychosocial counsellors to work with children. Self-learning materials are being prepared for all grades and subjects in coordination with the MoE and UNICEF. The School-Based Teacher Development and Leading for the Future programmes have been launched, targeting teachers in grades 1-6 and head teachers in Damascus.

Nearly 2,000 young people are taking courses in English, French, computer skills, literacy and numeracy in Damascus, Hama, Homs and Lattakia, while some 1,300 more are engaged in a wide range of short-term vocational education courses in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Lattakia. Psychosocial support, first aid training, life skills

and extra-curricular/stress-release activities are benefiting 1,125 students in UNRWA camps and temporary collective shelters in Damascus, Hama and Lattakia.

In addition to the five health centres and six health points operated in Damascus, and one each in Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Lattakia and Neirab, two new health centres opened in rural Damascus and Aleppo. Medical supplies sufficient to cover PRS until the end of February 2014 have been distributed to the northern and southern regions, as well as Damascus. UNRWA is participating in the national immunisation campaign targeting polio (0-5 years), measles, mumps and rubella (1-15 years) and the enhancement of polio surveillance among PRS has not detected any incidence yet.

Increase in support for growing psychosocial needs of displaced Syrians

Continued violent conflict is negatively impacting the mental health of the Syrian people, especially among IDPs and people living in areas with heavy fighting. IMC, in coordination with SARC, continued to provide psychosocial support in the form of recreational activities, counseling and early childhood training programmes – to 1,911 beneficiaries in 8 communal shelters, and various centres and primary health clinics, in Damascus, bringing the total number of displaced assisted since the beginning of 2013 up to 17,034. Since 2013, UNHCR has reached more than 18,000 individuals with recreational activities and psychosocial support.

Since the beginning of 2013, UNICEF, through its partners, has reached 110,166 children with essential psychosocial support services with activities as well as group and individual sessions, in child friendly spaces. Due to the changing security situation, and recently improved access, UNICEF scaled-up its psychosocial support activities in Hama, Homs and Dar'a. In addition to the increased number of programme cooperation agreements, these advances helped to ensure that, during the reporting period, psychosocial support was provided to over 24,600 children. A further 28,298 youth received psychosocial support, including 1,223 adolescents in Homs, through UNICEF's adolescent programme, bringing the total number of assisted children and adolescents to 138,464.

Despite improved access to certain areas, insecurity continues to constrain staff access overall, hinders the ability of humanitarian actors to independently monitor and assess the situation of children and ensure programmes are appropriately adjusted to meet their needs.

Victims of sexual and gender-based violence receive essential support

The continued violence in Syria has caused increasing concerns for the protection of women. The prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) remains high on the humanitarian community's agenda, following an increase in reported cases and concerns received from national NGOs. During the reporting period, UNFPA, through the Syrian Family Planning Association (SFPA) and SARC volunteers, provided psychological first aid (PFA), psychosocial support (PSS) and counseling for 1,800 women residing in the worst-affected areas of Damascus, Deir-ez-Zor, Homs, Idleb and Rural Damascus. Moreover, survivors of GBV continue to visit UNFPA assisted SFPA clinics to receive free of charge medical consultation and legal advice. UNFPA also continued to distribute hygiene kits to 13,005 households in Aleppo and 1,305 households in Rural Homs, to preserve the dignity of families in areas directly exposed to fighting. In addition, 121,936 sanitary napkins were distributed to vulnerable women in Aleppo, rural Homs and Rural Damascus.

Essential legal assistance provided to displaced Syrians and vulnerable refugees

Individuals without documentation, including those who lost or failed to register civil events (births, marriages etc.), are among the most disenfranchised and at risk as they are vulnerable to harassment, exploitation and other dangers. During the reporting period, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) reached 2,505 people at six community centres in Damascus, Dar'a, Homs and Rural Damascus of which over 90 per cent were displaced. In total, DRC has reached over 11,000 displaced Syrians and displaced

refugees since the beginning of 2013. In addition, DRC provided 274 persons with legal, social, health and psychosocial services. A further 26 received legal consultations, including 7 refugees, on family-related matters and domestic relations including divorce, custody, marriage, lack of documentation, missing relatives. Furthermore, DRC made direct interventions in the courts for 3 women on cases related to divorce and power of attorney. DRC provided vocational training and livelihoods courses for 212 persons in Damascus, Homs and Rural Damascus.

Scaling up capacity for improved child protection response

As a result of the conflict, children in Syria are vulnerable to exploitation including forcible recruitment, domestic violence, early marriage and child labour. Following approval from the governor of Tartous, UNICEF, through SARC and other partner NGOs, is in the process of establishing child-friendly tents in nine shelters as a pilot of multifunction centres for children. The child-friendly spaces aim to provide 1,500 children and adolescents each month with integrated services, including psychosocial support to young Syrians who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, education and vocational training to adolescents, and recreational activities.

Following an initial assessment of the capacity of local NGOs regarding child protection and psycho-social support and a request from NGOs for support, a skills-based training programme tailored to help frontline workers was established. On 5 November, International Medical Corps (IMC) and UNHCR held the first in this series of trainings, a week-long module on 'Child Protection and Psychosocial Care' for 26 participants from ten different national NGOs in Aleppo, As-Sweida, Damascus, Dar'a and Rural Damascus. In a similar vein, UNHCR staff in Homs conducted "Field Monitoring Training" in which staff members from other UN agencies were invited.

UNICEF, in collaboration with the General Authority of Palestine Arab Refugees (GAPAR), also delivered six Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions on 'Child Protection and Psychosocial Support' for 210 GAPAR volunteers in Damascus, Dar'a, Lattakia and Rural Damascus. On 13 November, IOM held a workshop on the forms of human trafficking exhibited in the Syria crisis with staff from the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Interior (MoI), legal officers and 21 technical personnel. The one-day event was a part of and efforts to discuss the current structures, policies and referral mechanisms on counter-trafficking.

UNDP provides targeted emergency livelihoods interventions

As part of its ongoing emergency employment scheme for solid waste collection and disposal in Deir-ez-Zor, which ensures short-term jobs for approximately 200 youths, UNDP provided a series of capacity development and hygiene awareness sessions for over 150 cleaners. Among those newly employed, a number of persons with disabilities participated in the trainings and were provided with mobility equipment to enable their employment for the temporary job opportunities. One hundred volunteers and 20 neighborhood supervisors received another series of Training of Trainers courses covered the following subjects: preserving the environment, crisis management, first aid, risk prevention, how to use pesticides, occupational safety and public health.

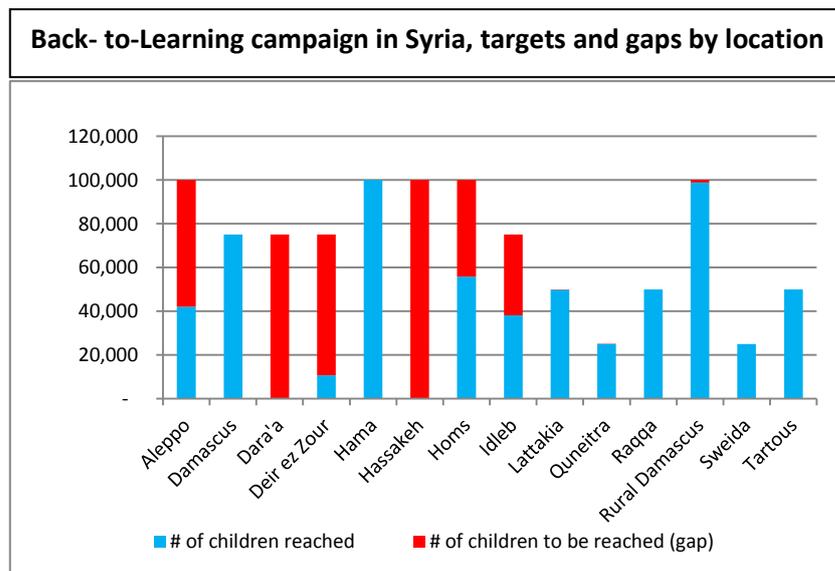


Credit: UNDP
Deir-ez-Zor, Syria (Nov 2013) – Recently hired through UNDP emergency employment schemes, vulnerable Syrians in Deir-ez-Zor were provided with training and equipment, including for persons with disabilities, to enable safe delivery of pesticides.

UNDP launched a rapid initiative for socio-economic restoration of disrupted livelihoods in Homs, reviving ten micro-to-small size businesses and targeting the generation of more than 500 jobs. These businesses were prioritized by the community in Homs, particularly in target neighborhoods where markets are relatively dysfunctional and shops are closed as a result of the crisis. Under this initiative a sewing workshop was established employing 35 of the most vulnerable women among the IDPs residing in Homs.

Back-to-Learning campaign has reached more than 600,000 children

Since the launch on 15 September 2013, the Joint UNICEF and MoE campaign targeting 1 million children has reached 620,240 children in 12 governorates with education supplies; provided 2,262 recreation kits; 2,068 school-in-a-carton; 1,045 school supplies and 498 Early Childhood Development kits across the country.



During the reporting period, UNICEF supported the MoE to establish 37 prefabricated classrooms (9 in Homs and 28 in Aleppo) providing a decent and safe learning environment. In total, 118 prefabs have been set up this year in schools in need of additional protective learning spaces in Aleppo, Damascus, Homs, Rural Damascus and Tartous.

As part of the Adolescent Development and Participation Programme: 4,465 Palestinian refugees received psycho social service, life skills, civil defence and adolescents health activities conducted in cooperation with GAPAR and UNRWA in Damascus, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Lattakia and Rural Damascus; 975 adolescents participated in peer education sessions about physical and psychological health in As-Sweida; Damascus, Quneitra, Rural Damascus and Tartous; 988 adolescents received vocational training and psychosocial activities in Tartous; 852 adolescents received vocational training courses as well as life skills in adolescents' friendly spaces in Al Wa'er and Al Insha'at area, run by a local NGO; 1,261 youth participated in vocational awareness and communication skills in Aleppo, in cooperation with Education and illiteracy Eradication Association; 500 adolescents benefited from life skills activity in Damascus; and 15 teachers were trained on life skills.

Première Urgence delivers targeted vocational training for IDPs

From the outset of implementation of a vocational training programme targeting internally displaced persons and Iraqi refugees in Damascus, Première Urgence (PU) faced unanticipated challenges as people were afraid to leave the collective shelter, even to travel to participate in the vocational training programmes they seek; those who were enrolled in education courses dropped out in order to enroll in vocational training; and the MoE was unaccustomed to the specific needs of internally displaced persons for vocational training. PU addressed these issues by providing social counseling as well as safe transportation for trainees' and flexibility for students to enroll in literacy classes and educational counseling in addition to vocation training courses. For instance, two students enrolled in sewing training passed their 9th grade exam at the same time. Further, PU provided preparatory courses to enable MoE vocational trainers to manage vocational training for IDPs.



Credit: Première Urgence/ Damascus, Syria (Nov 2013) – Syrian women learn a new trade at the Première Urgence-supported vocational training programme for IDPs Souad Abdullah School.

Since graduating from a vocational training course in July 2013, an internally displaced woman who is raising her child alone, Faten quickly put her training and professional toolkit to good use, earning income by providing haircuts and styling for women in the IDP shelter. "This training gave me an opportunity to start a new life" she shared.

Faten, a 36-year-old, Syrian woman and her daughter lost their home in the Damascus suburbs and now are internally displaced, residing in an official collective shelter in Damascus. Left with very few assets and means to support her child and her, Faten participated in and excelled at the PU vocational training for female hairdressing. Since graduating in July 2013, Faten has put her professional toolkit to good use, earning income by providing haircuts and styling for women in the IDP shelter. "This training gave me an opportunity to start a new life" she shared.

UNICEF and WASH actors enable access to clean and safe water

In response to deteriorating availability and access to basic social services, UNICEF delivered: 21 generator sets to enable accelerated access to clean water for nearly 630,000 internally displaced persons and host communities in As-Sweida, Damascus, Dar'a, Homs, Idleb, Lattakia and Tartous. Water purification supplies to sustain access to

clean water were provided to 10 million people, and 355 tons of water purification were delivered to Aleppo, Damascus, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Idleb, Lattakia, Rural Damascus and Tartous.

During observance of Global Hand Washing Day on 31 October, UNICEF in partnership with the MoE distributed 226,000 soap bars and hand washing brochures in 226 schools, including learning facilities run by UNRWA, in Damascus and Rural Damascus. Hygiene promotion messages on hand-washing were part of the lessons in classrooms across Syria to educate students on good hygiene practices. Hygiene promotion was complemented by distribution of: 20,000 bags of washing powder to benefit 100,000 internally displaced persons in Ar-Raqqa, Hama, Homs and Quneitra; 12,700 baby hygiene kits in Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, Dar'a, Homs, Rural Damascus and Tartous; 38,100 water containers to benefit 95,250 internally displaced persons in Lattakia and Tartous; and a 350 KVA generator to Salamieh wastewater treatment plant to benefit 300,000 people.

ECF along with SARC distributed 7,185 family hygiene kits in Al-Hassakeh during September and October 2013. IMC reached 537 children in 7 shelters in Damascus with the child hygiene promotion campaign, launched in October 2013.

On 11 November, the solid waste management task force met for the first time with attendance by the Ministry of Local Administration (MOLA), the Ministry of Environment, UN Habitat, UNDP, WHO, UNICEF and SARC. The task force will work towards minimizing the impact of solid waste on public health and the environment, through supporting municipalities and NGOs to provide proper solid waste management solutions, following MoLA's estimates that over 4 million tons of waste has been produced in 2013, without accounting for Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor; 630 illegal dumping sites exist; and 8 major public hospitals in Damascus do not have proper functioning medical waste treatment plants with an average 6 tons of medical waste produced daily.

Distribution of winterisation packages and core relief items ongoing

UNHCR utilised 383 trucks to dispatch 12,390 cubic metres of core relief items (CRIs), including dispatches to new areas to contribute to a total of more than 2.7 million people across 14 governorates reached with core relief items (CRIs) in 2013. In one new location, Zakya, in rural Kisweh, Rural Damascus, Syria Trust distributed supplies to 1,200 families (approximately 6,000 people). In Menbij, Aleppo, UNHCR was able to dispatch supplies for 2,000 families (approximately 10,000 people) after six months without access. In support of education initiatives, 8,000 educational kits were dispatched to Aleppo. The firefighting directorate in Aleppo was supported with 100 mattresses and blankets to enable their preparedness for response, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

IOM distributed and monitored the delivery of 5,528 packages to 15,713 vulnerable persons, 92 percent of which were delivered across conflict lines in As-Sweida, Homs, Idleb, Lattakia and Rural Damascus. Since January 2013, IOM has reached almost 520,000 affected individuals in public shelters, host communities and in conflict and cross line areas.

Première Urgence delivered 8,276 hygiene kits for 41,380 displaced persons in Homs, Rural Damascus and Tartous, bringing the total assisted since the beginning of PU's emergency response in October 2012 to 716, 835 people in 5 governorates. PU also distributed 18,693 winterisation items to 94,815 individuals in Hama, Homs, Rural Damascus and Tartous. UNFPA distributed 5,320 quilts to women in Aleppo as a part of its winterisation activities.

More than 2.2 million Syrian refugees

Country	Refugees registered and/or assisted awaiting registration as of 18 November 2013
Egypt	127,409
Iraq	202,976
Jordan	552,460
Lebanon	816,811
Turkey	519,938
North Africa	14,959
Total	2,234,553

Source: UNHCR as of 18 November 2013. For updated figures and more information: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>. The above figures are based on numbers registered in each country and/or those who are assisted while waiting for registration.

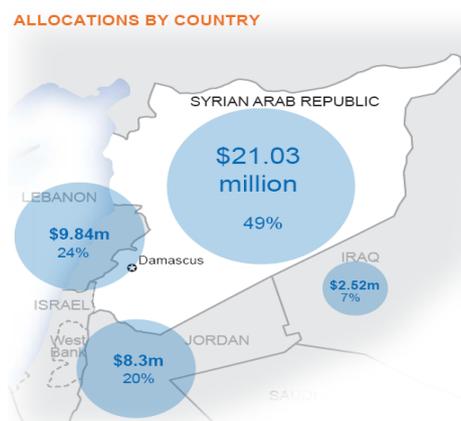
Funding overview

Lack of funding hinders humanitarian response in Syria

The Revised Syrian Humanitarian Response and Assistance Plan (SHARP) 2013 has not been sufficiently funded (58 percent as of 18 November 2013) to enable humanitarian actors to implement the prioritised response for winter, nor the remainder of their 2013 plans, leaving Syrians vulnerable. As of 18 November 2013, the Revised SHARP 2013 lacks almost USD 600 million (USD 594,103,707) to reach the 6.8 million people in need identified in July 2013, USD 179 million of that has been prioritised for the inter-sector winterization plan.

The ERF

The Syria Emergency Response Fund (ERF) continues to facilitate rapid dispersal of funding to enable short-term life-saving interventions as they arise, as well as to enable interventions in under-funded sectors or areas which are hard-to-reach. As of 18 November 2013, the ERF has received. Since inception in March 2012, the ERF has received USD 51.9 million, and allocated USD 41.7 million for 132 projects in Syria, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon. More than 50 percent of the funding received to emergency response in Syria.



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