

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fighting in key locations results in new displacement and deterioration of the humanitarian context.
- The Revised Syrian Humanitarian Response and Assistance Plan (SHARP) 2013 is 60% funded.

FIGURES

Population	21.4 m
Under Revised SHARP 2013	New Estimates
# of PIN	6.8m
# of IDPs.	4.25m
# of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries and North Africa	2.2 m

FUNDING

\$ 1.4 billion

requested (US\$) for humanitarian assistance inside Syria

60% funded

\$ 3 billion

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

64% funded



UNICEF/SHalabi

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Fighting results in new displacement and deteriorated humanitarian context

Escalation of fighting along the Damascus-Homs highway results in displacement and deterioration of the humanitarian situation

Over the past couple of weeks, an escalation in fighting has concentrated on the strategic supply and transit route of Damascus-Homs highway linked to Al Qalamoun, resulting in internal displacement and refugee outflows as the fighting intensifies. Security concerns have rendered the road inaccessible since 19 November 2013, limiting the freedom of movement of civilians as well as dispatch of humanitarian assistance.

Thousands of Syrians have fled the Al Qalamoun area in Rural Damascus to Lebanon, as well as to nearby locations within Syria. Reportedly, approximately 1,500 families (7,500 people) have arrived to Sadad and Al Hamarat towns in eastern rural Homs, with more internally displaced persons expected to arrive in the coming weeks. UN agencies are working with partners to provide the displaced families with urgent humanitarian assistance.

The UN is monitoring the restriction of movement along the Damascus-Homs highway in order to enable pre-positioning of stocks for humanitarian supplies. Also, WFP food dispatches to Hama and Homs have been disrupted, while the delivery of packaging material to WFP facilities in Safita and Lattakia was also affected.

Further population displacement took place in Rural Damascus and Quneitra governorates, where heavy fighting has led to a large number of families fleeing their homes over the past weeks. In response to the growing humanitarian needs, WFP re-prioritized to these areas food assistance that could not be dispatched to the north-eastern governorates.

Fighting undermines UNRWA access to Palestine refugees

Yarmouk and Sbeineh, areas with a significant Palestine refugee population, continue to be sealed off with an estimated 20,000 Palestine refugees trapped in Yarmouk and reports of growing malnutrition amongst children and the elderly. Due to insecurity in the area, UNRWA's convoy plan to deliver comprehensive humanitarian assistance to Yarmouk is on hold with only some vaccine stocks delivered. In addition, the main road to Khan Eshieh Camp was blocked during the last week of November and a staff member was temporarily detained whilst attempting to deliver food parcels to the camp.

UNRWA lost its ninth staff member, Mohammad Suheil Yousef Awwad, who was killed by a mortar round. Another member of staff was injured by small arms fire in Damascus, bringing the total number of injured staff to sixteen.

Deterioration in the security situation in Rural Damascus forces a Community Centre to close

Al-Nabek is home to one of eight community centres in Syria established by UNHCR to provide activities in the spheres of informal education, health awareness and psychosocial support for the displaced community in the area. Managed by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), the community centre provided life-changing counseling or support for at least thirty people per week and as many as 577 benefitted during October 2013. In addition to the individuals supported, the community centres act as 'a self-organising public service' - a shared resource in which experiences and values are created, and the entire impact community benefits.

Due to an escalation of fighting and deterioration of security in the area, the activities were forced to halt over the past couple of weeks.

Initial steps towards reduced bureaucratic hurdles to the humanitarian response

During the reporting period, the Syrian Government announced a number of measures taken to facilitate the expansion of relief operations, including, inter alia, the authorization for the UN to open two additional humanitarian hubs in Aleppo and Qamishly the approval of more than 50 pending visa for humanitarian workers, and allowing the UN to import humanitarian supplies through official border crossings with Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq. It also announced its intention to implement revised streamlined procedures to facilitate humanitarian convoys and revised visa procedures.

Overview of the Coordinated Humanitarian Response in Syria

National vaccination campaign reaches more than 3.3 million children, including in hard-to-reach areas

Final reports indicate that the National Vaccination Campaign against measles and polio, supported by WHO, UNICEF and UNHCR, reached more than the targeted 2.2 million children with polio vaccine and more than 1.1 million children with measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine across all 14 governorates since its launch during the 3rd week of October 2013. The current polio vaccination round (24 October - 21 November) is complete with 2,201,216 children vaccinated, including more than 300,000 in Deir-ez-Zor governorate, the location of the polio outbreak, and more than 26,000 children in Al Hassakeh via UNHCR outreach health volunteers. UNHCR allocated the resources to support SARC teams of volunteers in the polio vaccination campaign assigned with covering the governorates unreached thus far, including Ar-Raqqa, Dar'a, Deir-ez-Zor and Rural Damascus. On 28 November, two million doses of bivalent oral polio vaccine (bOPV) were delivered to the Ministry of Health by UNICEF for the distribution to all governorates before the next round of vaccinations. .

The school vaccination campaign for MMR remains ongoing with 1,138,259 children reached with the vaccine and vitamin A supplementation.

As part of the unprecedented response effort to halt transmission of the polio virus in Syria, WHO, UNICEF and UNHCR will support the Ministry of Health (MoH) in implementing six to eight rounds of national vaccination campaigns during the next six months, with the next scheduled to start on 8 December 2013. Each campaign targets a total of 2.2 million children with polio vaccine and lasts for a week with one month interval between each campaign. An additional five national immunisation days (NIDs) should be implemented to stop the transmission of wild poliovirus.

To support the upcoming polio vaccination campaigns, WHO trained 60 health workers and focal points from all governorates on sample collecting procedures, cold-chain management, and bivalent-and-trivalent vaccine usage techniques. WHO capacitated 50 national health directors from 12 governorates to support primary health care service delivery especially to children as a means to strengthen MoH response to polio outbreak. Participants were trained on implementing precautionary measures to eradicate poliovirus focusing on response at national level and in neighboring countries. Further, in order to facilitate effective outreach and optimise impact of the future national vaccination campaigns against polio, WHO in collaboration with UNICEF, organized an orientation workshop for 100 people representing media organizations, MoH, NGOs and labour unions. The workshop emphasised the role of the press, key informants and community leaders for raising public awareness and delivering key messages to eradicate poliovirus in Syria. The new campaign will ensure that SARC is trained and tasked to provide polio vaccination services to children in hard-to-reach areas.

UNRWA delivers assistance to Palestine refugees in Syria

UNRWA continues to deliver humanitarian assistance to Palestine refugees in Aleppo, Damascus, Dar'a, Hama, Homs and Lattakia, despite growing access and security challenges. The Agency now estimates that approximately 52,600 refugee homes have now been damaged across Syria, with a further 2,908 completely destroyed, and is currently providing shelter to approximately 11,000 displaced people in collective shelters.

Ahead of winter, the Agency is focused on delivery of food and NFIs, distributing more than 17,700 blankets, 16,000 packets of diapers, 27,100 packets of sanitary towels and 54,300 family food parcels in the last three months. UNRWA is also upgrading collective shelters, installing additional heating and low voltage lighting, construction of tent platforms to improve drainage and prevent flooding, as well as continued maintenance of water and sewage systems in all 200 Agency facilities.

WFP reaches 3.4 million people in scale-up of food assistance

Upon conclusion of the October food assistance distribution cycle, WFP confirms that almost 3.4 million people nation-wide were reached with a total of 670,000 family food rations and 2,843mt of fortified wheat flour. While this represents the greatest number of people reached per month since the start of humanitarian operations in Syria, it is less than the scaled-up target of 4 million people, 84 percent.

Disruptions in access, particularly in rural Aleppo and in the northeastern governorates, such as Al Hassakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor, impeded recent planned dispatches and distributions. To address such concerns, WFP continues to expand its national NGO partnership base, bringing the total of WFP cooperating partners to 27, including SARC. New partners are now supporting emergency operations in Aleppo and Ar-Raqqa, while an additional two partners are being reviewed to support operations in Damascus and Deir-ez-Zor.

On 10 November, the WFP/FAO Joint Rapid Food and Agriculture Assessment concluded fieldwork and data analysis is ongoing. The final report is expected to be published before the end of December 2013.

Distribution of winterisation items continues as it gets colder

UNHCR has dispatched items for approximately 2,895,000 individuals across all 14 governorates of Syria. Starting from November these include high thermal blankets (one per person) and an extra plastic sheeting for winterisation, in addition to, amongst other things, mattresses, blankets, sleeping mats, jerry cans, sanitary napkins, hygiene kits, kitchen sets and diapers. UNHCR continues to dispatch approximately 250 trucks per week reaching out some 15,000 households together with its Partners. During the reporting period challenges were encountered in delivery of items to Ar-Raqqa governorate, where a 16 truck convoy already en route was suspended. UNHCR encountered challenges to deliver items to Ar-Raqqa governorate, suspending a 16 truck convoy already en route due to reports of fighting at checkpoints along the way. Given

the urgency of need for winterisation items, UNHCR plans to re-route these supplies, likely to benefit internally displaced persons in other governorates.

UNHCR's cash distribution in Lattakia remains ongoing, with many families approaching from Aleppo, Idlib or rural Lattakia. The team continues to see vulnerable individuals enter; a widow, who has lost her husband and her home in Aleppo, is looking after her two daughters and a son. The son is an adult but suffers from a severe medical problem and was looking after the girls whilst his mother collected the cash. The cash received would allow her to pay part of her rent and for some of the medicines they need. Cash assistance in Qamishli is also ongoing and is particularly important given that no relief items have been able to reach the area by road since May this year. Network problems continue to cause minor interruptions to the cash distribution. During distribution, polio leaflets are disseminated amongst persons approaching the centre. It is estimated that 23,000 individuals have benefitted from this awareness campaign. The total assisted families in 2013 with financial assistance are 29,886 families (159,570 individuals).

UNICEF reached vulnerable displaced people in Aleppo with 50,400 high thermal blankets, Dar'a with 2,500 medium thermal blankets and 2,180 plastic-sheeted tarpaulin, Lattakia with 16,000 plastic-sheeted tarpaulin, Tartous with 10,000 plastic sheets and 7,000 baby blankets and finally Rural Damascus with 30,000 high thermal blankets, 4,532 baby blankets and 3,267 sets of children's clothes.

IOM distributed 11,547 basic non-food items and winterised items for 45,283 displaced in many locations in Homs governorate, Hamra, Mahata, Alkhder, Al Qaryatayn, Sadad, Tadmur, Alrasthan, Inshaat and Bab Sebaa, including: 4,000 thermal blankets; 250 adult diapers; 262 baby diapers; 1,347 hygiene kits; 5,667 house cleaning kits and 21 wheelchairs. IOM staff reported that the needs for basic commodities are high in Aleppo, Homs and Rural Damascus. Since January 2013, IOM has reached over 565,000 displaced Syrians in 12 governorates with basic non-food items. Première Urgence (PU) delivered 5,173 hygiene kits to Homs, Rural Damascus and Tartous, as well as 4,000 fitted carpets to SARC branches in Hama, Homs, Rural Damascus and Tartous; however access challenges impeded delivery to Ghouta area of Rural Damascus, and Aleppo and Idlib. In Dar'a, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) distributed kitchen sets, mattresses and blankets to 27,500 internally displaced persons; and mattresses, blankets and underwear to 10,000 people in Aleppo. The SOS Children's Villages distributed basic non-food items in Damascus and Rural Damascus, along with 500 winterisation kits which included five coats and three blankets for each family.

Rehabilitation and winterisation of collective shelters to host internally displaced persons

In line with the continual and increased internal displacement seen in Syria since the onset of the conflict, emergency shelter assistance needs have constantly increased, both in terms of numbers of shelters available and upgrades of shelters necessary to meet humanitarian standards. Since January 2013, UNHCR, through implementing partners, has completely rehabilitated 70 collective shelters in Al Hassakeh, As-Sweida, Damascus, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Quneitra, Rural Damascus and Tartous, where over 35,000 vulnerable persons are residing. In total, PU has completed the rehabilitation of 13 collective shelters (out of the above-mentioned 70) in Damascus, Homs and Tartous.

IOM's shelter rehabilitation includes winterisation and weather proofing measures to protect the displaced population from the winter weather, in addition to the installation of WASH facilities, partitions and general electrical works. Since January 2013, IOM completed the repair and rehabilitation works of 52 official collective centers in five governorates. IOM completed the repair and rehabilitation of 10 collective shelters in Damascus, Lattakia and Rural Damascus, reaching 2,744 vulnerable internally displaced persons. For these shelters, IOM also completed the maintenance and additional repair work that was required, including establishing an additional laundry room for the benefit of over 1,400 IDPs.

Protecting the displaced in makeshift shelters from the cold in winter

Under the winterisation framework, shelter sector actors have begun distribution of sealing-off kits in response to the urgent need for quick impact interventions in preparation for winter for the majority of internally displaced persons (more than 77 percent, according to the Ministry of Local Administration) in Syria who reside in informal settlements or makeshift shelters. The displaced people who occupy unfinished buildings are exposed and vulnerable to weather conditions, which are particularly harsh in the winter season, due to the lack of proper windows and doors, water leaks and lack of private space. The sealing-off kits are assembled and erected through skilled labour recruited among the individuals living in the unfinished buildings. UNHCR, through partners, provided over 300 sealing-off kits as part of the shelter upgrades for 42 private apartments in Damascus and Homs, while work has begun on a further 31 private apartments to provide protection from the cold weather, amongst other things, covering openings in façades with plastic sheeting and wood. Additional 3,000 kits will be provided before the end of the year.

Joint humanitarian convoys reach approximately 200,000 people in November

Over the past four weeks, nine joint humanitarian convoys have enabled one-off dispatch of comprehensive humanitarian assistance to reach approximately 200,000 people in hard-to-reach areas.

On 20 November, the Syria Logistics Cluster, SARC and OCHA supported a joint humanitarian convoy planned for Jasem in Dar'a, transporting 297m³ of WASH, shelter, food and health relief supplies on behalf of IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO and WFP. Alongside this convoy, WFP dispatched a total of 1,000 family food rations, 1.1 mt of high-energy biscuits and 12.5 mt of wheat flour, to provide assistance for 5,000 people in the location. Due to insecurity, the trucks did not reach their destination but SARC Dar'a has begun to distribute the relief items to internally displaced persons in need in Dar'a.

20 November, the UN Hub – Homs delivered a joint humanitarian convoy to Al Wa'er neighbourhood of Homs City. The 21 trucks carried: from WFP, 6,350 food parcels sufficient to meet the needs of 31,570 people; from UNHCR, NFIs to cover the needs of 1,000 families (approximately, 5,000 people), dispatched half to Al-Birr NGO and Aloun NGO (including: 2,550 mattresses, 1,000 jerry cans, 4,800 blankets, 2,800 diapers/children, 400 diapers/elders, 1,000 hygiene kits, 3,000 sleeping mats, 400 sanitary napkins, 1,000 kitchen sets, 1,000 plastic sheets); from UNICEF, supplies sufficient to meet the needs of 15,000 people, dispatched to Al-Birr and Aloun NGOs (including: 1,500 baby hygiene kits, 2,000 blankets, 3,000 sets of clothing/children, 2,500 family hygiene kits, 3,000 plastic sheets); WHO and other health sector partners delivered medical supplies for Aloun and Al-Birr medical facilities, though number of beneficiaries still to be calculated, supplies include 3,000 additional polio vaccines, 4,000 doses for routine vaccinations. The convoy was delayed at the checkpoint for some time, preventing the UN team from conducting a humanitarian assessment and monitoring the distributions. Plans for the UN team return to Al Wa'er to conduct the humanitarian assessment and distribution monitoring on 21 November were canceled due to shelling and escalation of fighting.

UNICEF and WASH sector partners enable access to clean water and sanitation

UNICEF-supported activities aim to enhance access to clean drinking water, hygiene and sanitation services in different parts of the country. Forty-five prefabricated toilets and showers were delivered to Aleppo's municipality for installation in the IDP shelters in the city to benefit 2,700 people, while water tankering, rehabilitation of water pipes and sanitation facilities enables access to clean water, sanitation services and hygiene promotion for 35,000 internally displaced persons. Lattakia municipality was provided 1,000 litres of pesticide for pest control at IDP shelters, benefiting 600,000 Lattakia

residents. In addition, 20,500 jerry cans were delivered to SARC Lattakia of which 600 have been distributed to IDP families living outside collective shelters. In Deir-ez-Zor, forty tonnes of water purification supplies were provided as part of the nationwide efforts to enable access to clean water. In total, 25,350 people benefited from distribution of plastic garbage bags and hygiene promotion messages, while 800 children benefited from hygiene promotion activities followed by cleaning campaigns in their schools. In Homs, training on hygiene best practises and distribution of hygiene materials was provided to 4,041 children and women in Al Wa'er and Al Insha'at neighbourhoods; 85 people in Al Insha'at shelter in Homs City were enabled to access hot water through provision of a solar water heating system by UNICEF and partners; 1,267 IDPs residing in Al Wa'er shelters regained access to safe drinking water and proper sanitation through the maintenance and minor repairs of water and sanitation facilities.

Première Urgence distributed 5,173 hygiene kits (1,069 in Homs; 2,069 in Rural Damascus; and 2,035 in Tartous) and continued provision of water in 10 IDP centres in Rural Damascus which host 5,655 IDPs. Since the beginning of the water trucking intervention in June 2012, PU has provided a total of 34,452 cubic meters of water to the shelters; but, as the majority of IDPs in Sahnaya and Ashrafiyat Sahnaya live in unfinished buildings which are disconnected from the municipal water system and require collection of water via jerry cans, PU's ability to provide water efficiently to a large number of people in these unfinished buildings is constrained.

UNFPA and partners provide reproductive health services for more than 8,000 women

UNFPA and implementing partners, including the Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), SARC, SFPA and private hospitals, enabled 7,300 women to receive reproductive health (RH) services in Aleppo, Damascus, Dar'a, Deir-ez-Zor, Homs, Idlib and Rural Damascus. The successful RH voucher program, run in cooperation with MoH, MoHE, local NGOS and the private sector, has contributed to the provision of emergency obstetric care (EmOC), including safe delivery, for approximately 800 women. UNFPA has provided SARC with RH lifesaving medicines to cover the need of 120,000 people in the violence affected areas. In parallel, 62 professionals from MoH, SFPA and SARC completed Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) roll out training sessions on RH.

Psychosocial interventions and capacity scaled up to meet needs

Since launch in April 2013, a joint project, agreed between UNHCR and UNFPA, with implementation by SARC, has provided all levels of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to 15,241 internally displaced persons. Significant numbers of IDPs participated in recreational activities conducted in shelters across Damascus, including 932 affected persons, including children, adolescents and mothers. UNHCR-supported SARC clinics also provided psychosocial support to 36 vulnerable displaced people, with an additional 87 displaced Syrians seen by psychiatrists and psychologists in SARC clinics.

IOM delivered a training of trainters (TOT) session on Supportive Communication and Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) for 51 frontline workers in Aleppo and Lattakia. In addition, IOM commenced another round of training on art-based intervention to 22 professionals and volunteers in Damascus, as a part of its programme to reach affected populations in shelters, community centres, churches and mosques in Damascus, Homs, Qamishli and Rural Damascus. To date, IOM has trained 253 professionals and community workers on MHPSS considerations, and continues to provide technical support to 38 SOS caregivers, bringing the total number of individuals reached since the beginning of 2013 to over 42,700.

UNICEF and education sector partners provide education supplies and classes and rehabilitate schools

As part of the education sector strategy to promote education and enable safe spaces for children, the Danish Relief Committee (DRC) rehabilitated four schools in Homs and is assessing nine schools in Damascus for blast film and Action contre la Faim (ACF), supported by UNICEF, completed the assessment of nine schools in preparation of planned rehabilitation. DRC has organised remedial classes for 6,500 children in 17 schools in Damascus, Hama, Homs and Rural Damascus.

In IDP shelters in Damascus, more than 1,700 adolescents attended UNICEF supported life skills training and more than 1,200 youth participated in vocational awareness, communication and financial skills training in Aleppo. Two thousand Palestine refugees across seven governorates benefitted from life skills training related to Gender Based Violence and adolescent health.

As part of the Back to Learning campaign, UNICEF has distributed more than 34,000 posters and flyers to raise awareness on school registration. The on-going campaign has so far benefited 756,000 children in all governorates except Al Hassakeh with school bags, 154,000 children with school supplies, 250,000 children with recreational kits, and 30,000 pre-school children with Early Childhood Development materials. Additional school supplies were distributed to 28,000 children in Homs.

WHO and health sector actors provide supplies to address chronic health concerns of the affected population

WHO has provided health authorities in Damascus with medicines and medical supplies (life-saving and essential medicines) for 446,524 direct beneficiaries and private hospitals in Damascus with medicines and medical equipment (life-saving, communicable and non-communicable diseases medicines) to treat more than 27,060 direct beneficiaries. Health authorities and local NGOs in heavily affected areas in Homs governorate, including Al Wa'er and Al Insha'at neighbourhoods and Ar-Rastan town, were provided with medicines and medical supplies (health kits, essential and communicable disease medicines) to treat 21,250 people. WHO trained 68 nurses working in primary health facilities (in Aleppo, Al Hassakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Damascus, Hama, Homs, Lattakia and Tartous) on management of diabetes cases, diabetes complications and reporting. WHO conducted a workshop for 33 health professionals representing MoH, MoHE, NGOs, SARC and UN agencies to develop a standardized infection control curriculum which will strengthen the capacity of health workers in the area of infection control. As part of initiatives to integrate mental health into provision of basic health services, WHO trained 65 doctors and mental health specialists (from As-Sweida, Damascus, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Quneitra, Rural Damascus and Tartous) working in primary health care on diagnosis and management of mental health conditions and on referrals when specialized services are needed. As part of initiatives to promote adoption of safety measures in case of emergency, WHO conducted an Emergency First Aid training for 152 MoH staff.

Nearly 16,000 beneficiaries have been provided with a comprehensive package of primary health care including medicines for acute and chronic diseases through UNHCR supported polyclinics in Aleppo, Al Hassakeh, Damascus and Rural Damascus. A total of 220,000 people have been reached since January 2013.

UNHCR, in cooperation with the MoH, airlifted infusion fluids, vaccines, medical supplies and medical equipment to Qamishli. A total number of 528,000 children in Qamishli and Deir-ez-Zor will benefit from the delivered polio vaccine (OPV).

Through 62 mobile medical teams across 14 governorates and 24 fixed centres in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Quneitra, Rural Damascus, UNICEF continued to support provision of primary health care services to IDPs and vulnerable children, reaching 17,650 children with routine medical check-ups, referrals and other primary health care services. Since January 2013, UNICEF has reached 332,364 children with primary health care services.

Through local partners in Aleppo, UNDP launched its intervention for the rehabilitation of disabled people and the provision of disability aid, physiotherapy and psychosocial support in three areas, covering both eastern and western areas of Aleppo. In November, treatment was provided to 66 patients who received 123 physiotherapy sessions, 29 patients received psychosocial support and 26 cases registered for the provision of artificial limbs.

One month of supplementary feeding supply stocks dispatched

UNICEF replenished supplementary feeding supply stocks sufficient for one month – representing an integrated approach with ongoing immunisation campaigns – delivering the following supplies to partners in Damascus, Deir- ez-Zor, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Rural Damascus and Tartous: 10,000 boxes of Plumpy Doz for 50,000 children; 20,000 of supplementary plumpy sachet for 100,000 children; 400,000 sachets of micronutrient for 13,333 children; 23,000 boxes of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) for 115,000 children. In addition, 1,000 boxes of HEBs were sent to the UN Hub – Homs for distribution through cross-line missions, benefitting 5,000 children with supplementary feeding. Additionally, 200 HEB boxes were dispatched to Dara'a to benefit 1000 children for 1 month of supplementary feeding and 3,500 HEB boxes delivered to SARC in Aleppo to benefit 17800 children for one month as supplementary feeding.

Psychosocial interventions meet one of the most pressing needs for children

Psychosocial support has been identified as one of the most pressing needs to mitigate the effect of the current situation in Syria on children. Since the beginning of 2013, UNICEF, through its implementing partners, reached 110,116 children with essential psychosocial support services through activities as well as group and individual sessions, in child-friendly spaces. A further 33,176 youth received psychosocial support, including 4,878 adolescents in Homs, through UNICEF's adolescents' programme, bringing the total number of assisted children and adolescents to 142,696. In As-Sweida, UNICEF also trained 11 volunteers on providing psychosocial support to children, in preparation of psychosocial activities commencing in As-Sweida.

Across Syria, UNICEF and partners are providing essential psychosocial support services to more than 138,000 children and adolescents. UNICEF is supporting psychosocial activities for children and vocational training for adolescent girls and mothers at a shelter for displaced families in Homs city. The Syrian Arab Red Crescent runs the shelter which is based at a school that no longer operates. The shelter, one of 37 in Homs city, hosts 150 people, including 65 children. The children and families at the shelter have been displaced from areas of the city that witnessed heavy fighting in the past two years.

In Homs, UNICEF held a training on Child Rights and Child Protection in Emergencies for 35 volunteers from Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) and local NGO's. Furthermore, UNICEF, in collaboration with SARC, organised an open day activity in Dablan, Homs, for children from four schools, as well as children residing in the local displaced and host communities. The activities included painting, handcrafts, tele-match activities and competitions.



Credit: UNICEF/BHalabi
Homs City, Syria (16 Nov 2013) – Internally displaced children play tug of war as part of UNICEF-supported psychosocial activities at a shelter in Homs City. The Syrian Arab Red Crescent runs the shelter which is based at a school that no longer operates. The shelter, one of 37 in Homs city, hosts 150 people, including 65 children. The children and families at the shelter have been displaced from areas of the city that witnessed heavy fighting in the past two years. Many displaced families also live in the host community, including in unfinished buildings.

Humanitarian actors address violence against women and children

On 24 November, humanitarian actors inside Syria identified protection of women, in particular survivors of GBV, as a critical concern, necessitating increased focus from humanitarian actors in response to the crisis. According to the MoSA on 25 November 2013, women constitute almost 90 percent of the affected population.

UNICEF's partners conducted awareness-raising sessions in an IDP shelter in Tartous to reach 543 women and girls, and 126 men, with issues related to malpractices in raising children, personal hygiene and sanitation, how to deal with adolescents and female empowerment. UNFPA, through the Syrian Family Planning Association (SFPA) and SARC volunteers, provided psychological first aid (PFA), psychosocial support (PSS) and counseling for 1,300 women in the worst-affected areas of Aleppo, Damascus, Dar'a, Deir-ez-Zor, Homs, Idleb and Rural Damascus. Moreover, GBV survivors continue to visit UNFPA-assisted SFPA clinics in Damascus to receive free of charge medical consultation, PSS services and legal advice. UNFPA also distributed vital hygiene kits to preserve the dignity of families, to 2,900 women, girls and men in the violence affected area of Izraa, Dar'a.

Launch of activities against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence to mark International Day to Eliminate Violence against Women

On 25 November, IOM, in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), organised a one-day workshop to observe the International Day to Eliminate Violence against Women. The workshop was attended by the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, UN partners and over 135 participants from community-based organisations and initiatives in Syria to highlight the crucial role of women in peace building as well as the need to protect women in times of conflict. IOM highlighted the fact that women and children are often the most affected and vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

Also, as part of UNHCR's prevention activities, the GBV team rolled out a 16-day awareness-raising campaign against sexual and gender-based violence. UNHCR has planned to raise awareness among both refugees and displaced Syrians, at collective shelters and community centres through recreational and other activities, including focus group discussions, questionnaires, games and role plays.

More than 2.2 million Syrian refugees

Country	Refugees registered and/or assisted awaiting registration as of 2 December 2013
Egypt	128,054
Iraq	208,054
Jordan	560,059
Lebanon	833,685
Turkey	527,307
North Africa	17,139
Total	2,274,402

Source: UNHCR as of 2 December 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

UN appeals 63 percent funded

Despite growing and deepening humanitarian needs, UN agencies and partners continue facing funding constraints. The Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan seeks \$1.4

million to implement 103 projects in all governorates in the country. The plan is currently 60 per cent funded.

The regional Refugee Response Plan seeks nearly \$3 million to assist Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries and North Africa. So far the response plan has received 64 per cent of the required funds.

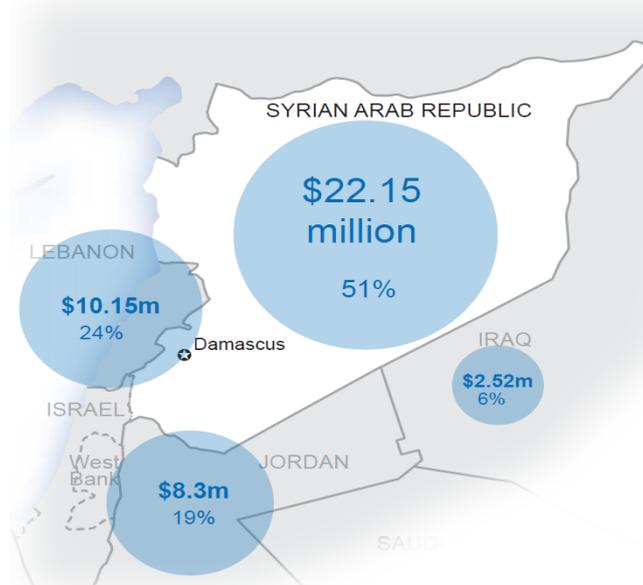
Response plan	Original Requirements (USD)	Revised Requirements (USD)	Funding Received (USD)	% funded
Revised Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan (SHARP) 2013	519,627,047	1,409,812,466	844,921,185	60
Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP) 5	1,044,112,554	2,981,640,112	1,913,160,239	64
Total funding to Appeals (SHARP + RRP)	1,563,739,601	4,391,542,578	2,758,081,424	63

Source: FTS tracking as of 2 December 2013

The Emergency Response Fund (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. Since inception in March 2012, the ERF has received USD 53.2 million, and allocated USD 43.1 million for 136 projects in Syria, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon. More than 50 percent of the funding received to emergency response in Syria.

ALLOCATIONS BY COUNTRY



For further information, please contact:

Raul Rosende, Head of Office, Syria , rosende@un.org, Tel. (+963) 953 300 075

Emanuela Calabrini, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, calabrini@un.org, Tel. (+1) 917 367 3210

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