



SYRIAN REFUGEES

INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL UPDATE

19 March 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

Conflict in Syria enters fifth year

As the Syrian conflict enters its fifth year, millions of refugees in neighboring countries and those displaced inside Syria are caught in deteriorating conditions, facing an even bleaker future without more international support. A statement from UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 12 March stressed that a political solution to the conflict is necessary and called upon the international community to unite and lend its full support to UN efforts to forge an inclusive, Syrian-led political transition based on the Geneva Communiqué and which meets the aspirations of the Syrian people for freedom, dignity and justice.

On 13 March, senior officials of the UN's humanitarian system issued a joint statement expressing their horror, outrage and frustration as the crisis in Syria enters its fifth year. They restated their commitment as humanitarian leaders and urged world leaders to put aside their differences and use their influence to bring about meaningful change in Syria. The officials warned that the credibility of the international community is at stake.

Meanwhile, some 21 humanitarian and human rights organizations released a report which accuses the UN Security Council of failing to implement the three resolutions passed last year which sought to boost humanitarian assistance to Syrian civilians. The organizations delivered a 'failing grade' for world powers and the broader international community. The report can be accessed here: http://www.oxfam.de/sites/www.oxfam.de/files/syria_report-oxfam-sperrfrist-120315.pdf

KEY FIGURES

3.9 million

Syrian refugees have fled to neighboring countries and North Africa

1.9 million

Refugees and vulnerable members of impacted communities are receiving food assistance in 2014

1.7 million

People have been provided with access to safe drinking water in 2014

966,000

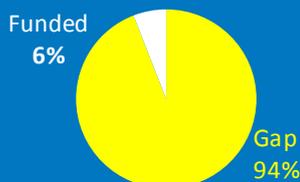
People have benefited from shelter assistance in camp and non-camp settings in 2014

1 million

People have benefited from the distribution of basic household and core relief items in 2014.

3RP 2015 FUNDING

USD 4.5 billion (agency total requirements requested for 2015)

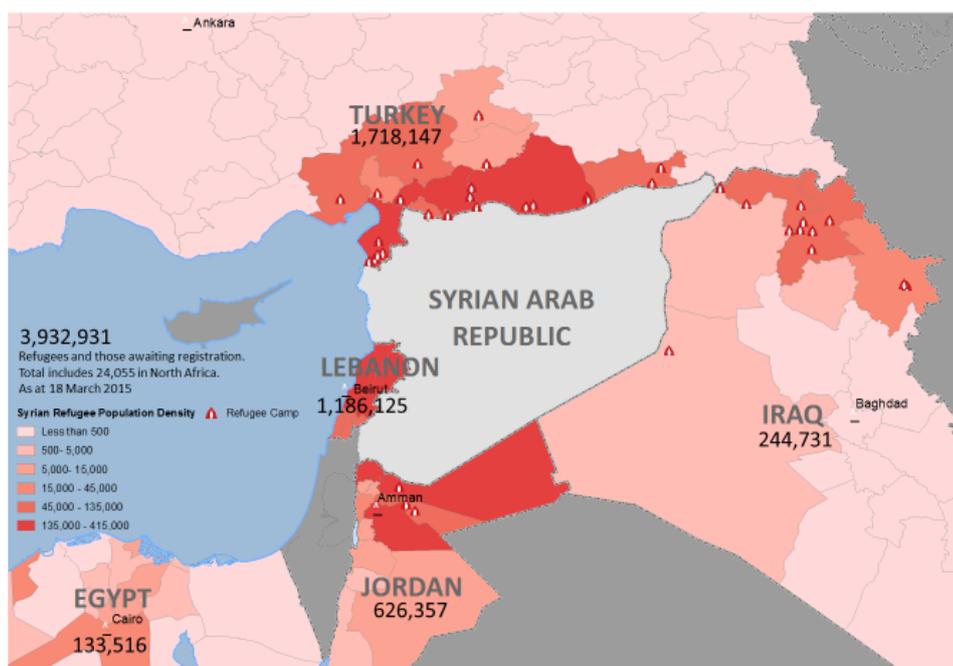


3RP OVERVIEW

4.3m refugees (Projected December 2015)

US\$5.5 billion required

5.9m direct beneficiaries



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the UN. Source: <http://data.unhcr.org>. Figures published on data.unhcr.org as of 18 March 2015.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The conflict in Syria has now entered its fifth year representing an increasingly complex global challenge with unprecedented displacement in the region and increased needs and vulnerabilities of refugees and persons of concern.

Over 3.9 million Syrian refugees had sought refuge in neighboring countries and North Africa. In addition, more than 130,000 Syrians have sought asylum in Europe.

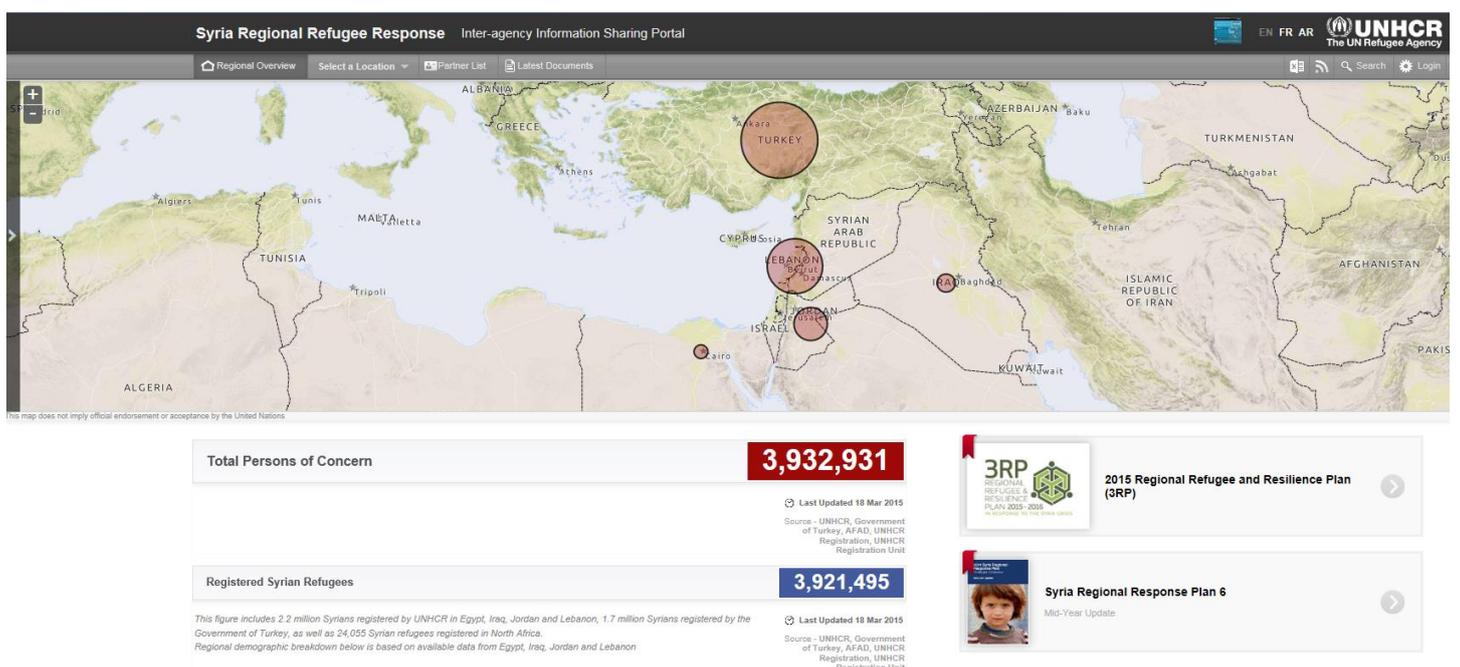
Neighboring countries have been generously hosting Syrian refugees, however there have been severe economic and social impacts on their markets, infrastructures, and communities. Refugees are becoming more vulnerable as their displacement is prolonged.

More than 1.18 million Syrian refugees are in Lebanon, which now ranks first in the world in refugees per capita. Well over half are living in insecure dwellings, whilst 75 per cent of refugee families are struggling to meet their food needs. Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) estimates that the number of Syrians in the country has exceeded 1.7 million, of whom some 225,000 are currently living in 24 camps across the south of Turkey.

In Jordan, there are now more than 626,000 Syrian refugees, of which approximately 84 per cent live outside refugee camps, in urban and rural areas across the country. Two-thirds of these refugees are now living below the poverty line and one in six refugee household's live on less than USD\$40 per person per month. From September 2014, almost 31,000 Syrians fled to Iraq from the Kurdish town of Kobane, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees in Iraq to 244,731 people. There are currently more than 133,000 Syrians living in urban neighborhoods and shared accommodation in Egypt.

Over 200 agencies and aid groups, together with the governments of neighboring countries, are working together to protect Syrian refugees and assist them with meeting their basic needs, improve access to education and medical care, and provide basic goods such as tents, food and safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities.

Monthly sectoral dashboards are published on the [Syria Regional Response Data Portal](#), detailing sectoral priorities, achievements and needs by country and regionally.



The Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2015-2016

The Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for Syria and the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) in response to the Syria crisis were jointly launched in Berlin on 18 December 2014.

The 3RP is a country-driven, regionally coherent plan to address refugee protection and humanitarian needs whilst building the resilience of vulnerable people and impacted communities and strengthening the capacity of national delivery systems in the five most affected countries neighbouring Syria.

The 3RP integrates and is aligned with existing and emerging national plans, including the Jordan Response Plan 2015 to the Syria Crisis, the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan, the Iraq SRP, and country responses in Turkey and Egypt.

Requiring US\$5.5 billion in funding to directly support almost six million people, the 3RP is based on planning projections of up to 4.27 million refugees in countries neighbouring Syria by the end of 2015 and help to over a million vulnerable people in host communities. Beyond those receiving direct support, an additional 20.6 million people in impacted local communities will benefit from upgrades to local infrastructure and services in areas such as health, education, water and sewage, training and capacity building of service providers, and policy and administrative support to local and national authorities.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS



Protection

IRAQ

- Between 16 and 28 February, a total of 1,303 Syrians from Kobani were admitted to Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I), the majority through Ibrahim Khalil border. This brings the total number of new arrivals to KR-I since 25 September 2014 to 33,127 and reflects a reduction in arrivals from the previous two weeks (2,172 Syrian arrivals). The new arrivals were transported to Gawilan camp in Dohuk Governorate, where they were registered by UNHCR. Most of the refugees then opted to leave the camp to join family members living in other governorates.
- For the same period, a total of 1,861 cases (3,741 individuals) were processed at registration centers in all four Syrian refugee camps in the Erbil Governorate, involving the issuance and/or renewal of UNHCR documentation and Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) residency cards. In non-camp areas, a total of 1,420 cases (2,808 individuals) of Syrian origin were processed by the UNHCR-Protection and Reintegration Center (PARC) in Erbil Governorate. The Residency Directorate in Erbil processed a total of 949 applications from Syrian refugees, resulting in 426 cases being issued with residency card and 140 applications granted renewal.
- In Basirma camp, Erbil Governorate, Terre des Hommes conducted awareness sessions with ten families on the importance of possessing marriage and/or birth certificates and the risks associated with the lack thereof. In the same camp, Child Protection Units continued to follow up with young people to minimize the risk of potential forced recruitment of children to return to Syria to fight.
- From 16 to 28 February, UNICEF and partners provided psychosocial and specialized services to a total of 1,173 newly registered children in refugee camps in Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah and Erbil governorates.

LEBANON

- During the first week of March, INTERSOS started a campaign to engage men against sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) in the Chouf, Mount Lebanon.

TURKEY

- Turkey has now become the biggest refugee hosting country in the world with more than 1.7 million registered with the authorities.

- According to Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) between 26 January and 4 March, 15,344 Syrians voluntarily returned to the Syrian town of Ayn-Al-Arab (Kobane). Reportedly, most of the returnees are men, who intend to help with cleaning up of the town, which is hazardous due to the presence of unexploded ordnances (UXOs), unstable buildings and infrastructure. For these reasons, Turkish authorities in in the border town of Suruc as well as local authorities inside Syria advise against returns of women and children until the area is cleared of hazardous objects and human remains.

Education

IRAQ

- As of 12 March, UNHCR successfully negotiated with the Department of Labor and Social Affairs to include refugee children with special needs in their education program.
- In the Darashakran refugee camp in Erbil Governorate, due to the expansion of the school infrastructure, the number of children per classroom has been reduced, providing a more conducive learning environment.

JORDAN

- UNFPA delivered training courses in self-reliance, vocational training and life skills for 1,399 women, girls, men and boys between 1 and 28 February.

TURKEY

- In 2015, the Refugee Education Trust (RET) will provide relevant and accredited Turkish language courses to Syrian adolescents and adult men in three districts of Sanliurfa Province, and to Syrian women within Women's Cultural Centres. RET will also provide life-saving support for survivors of SGBV in seven Women's Cultural Centres benefitting both refugees and members of host communities.



Food Security and Nutrition

IRAQ

- Between 16 and 28 February, in Dohuk Governorate, WFP distributed food parcels to 67,783 refugees, whilst 1,411 beneficiaries in the Akre settlement received food vouchers. In Gawilan camp, WFP has identified providers for the establishment of food shops, which will enable the shift from food parcel to a voucher system, as demanded by the refugees.
- During the same time period, in Erbil Governorate, WFP distributed food parcels to 5,862 refugees in Qushtapa camp, and Primary Health Care (PHC) Project distributed dry milk powder to 250 children in Basirma camp.

LEBANON

- UNICEF and humanitarian partners have increased their focus on malnutrition prevention activities through accelerated distribution of micro-nutrients to vulnerable refugee children, as well as the promotion of optimal infant and young child feeding.
- A new partnership between International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) and UNICEF will further enhance the capacity of the nutrition programme, with 60,000 individuals targeted for malnutrition screening and seven sentinel sites expected to be established during the year. For the period 1 January to 6 March, over 6,100 children under five years old have been screened and 131 admitted for malnutrition treatment in Lebanon.
- IOCC is supporting a community kitchen for the distribution of food portions, consisting of hot pots and bread parcels for vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian refugee families in the towns of Minyara, Halba and Tal Abbas in Akkar, North Lebanon, with the support of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH). Between 1 and 6 March, IOCC distributed 720 hot pots for 240 households, approximately 1,200 individuals.



Health

- On 16 March, International Mercy Corps (IMC) released a new report addressing the critical mental health needs of Syrian refugees in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, as well as Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) inside Syria. The report contains evidence that as mental and psychosocial needs continue to grow among the millions of Syrians exposed to war and displacement, so too does the urgent need for skilled staff and accessible mental health services. The full report can be accessed here: <http://internationalmedicalcorps.org/document.doc?id=526>

EGYPT

- In February, UNFPA in collaboration of the Ministry of Health and WHO organized three health awareness sessions for 90 Syrian women, and supported the training of 15 female PHC physicians on obstetric ultrasound use in the greater Cairo districts.

IRAQ

- A mass vaccination campaign against polio and measles started across Iraq on 22 February, targeting 5.9 million under five-year-old children. In Basirma and Qushtapa camps, PHC started a 12-day vaccination campaign for measles (nine months to five-year-old children) and polio (new born to five years of age).
- Between 20 and 27 February, a joint WHO/UNHCR mission on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) took place in KR-I, with the participation from the Ministry of Health and the Department of Health from the three governorates. The mission assessed the needs and resources available for MHPSS services for refugees and IDPs and made key recommendations, including the need to strengthen MHPSS coordination among stakeholders, skills-building of medical personnel and improved data collection.

JORDAN

- From 1 to 28 February, UNFPA supported 5,711 women and girls with reproductive health services. A total of 5,252 women received gender based violence (GBV) services, including 395 GBV survivors who benefitted from safe and confidential specialized multi-sectoral services and 261 GBV survivors from case management services. A total of 812 women, girls, men and boys received general psychosocial support services.

LEBANON

- Over 20,000 PHC consultations were conducted throughout the first week of March, including treatments, referrals, medication, antenatal and postnatal care, family planning, child health care and diagnostic tests by UNHCR, IMC, AMEL Association, Caritas Lebanon Migrants Center (CLMC), Makassed, and URDA, in coordination with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MOPH).
- Preparations are on-going for the polio campaign scheduled to take place 23-29 March and 23-29 April 2015. UNICEF has provided 500,000 vaccine doses to MOPH for both campaigns. UNICEF's humanitarian partners are distributing information pamphlets, banners and brochures on the campaigns in 83 localities, across 25 districts countrywide.
- During the month of February, UNFPA organized 49 awareness sessions on hygiene, targeting 735 Syrian refugees and Lebanese women and distributed 2,100 pamphlets on reproductive health issues.

TURKEY

- UNHCR and Human Resource Development Foundation (HRDF) has opened a psychosocial counseling centre for Syrian refugees living in urban areas in Istanbul. The centre, to be operated by HRDF, will extend psychosocial counselling and support services to Syrian refugees and provide up-to-date information on their rights in the fields of health, education and on their other legal entitlements in Turkey. It will also contribute to strengthening the cooperation with civil society organizations (CSOs) and Turkish authorities so as to identify problems faced by groups considered at risk among Syrian refugees including women, people with disabilities, elderly and children.
- In February, UNFPA provided reproductive health and family planning services to 950 Syrian refugees and counseling and psychosocial support services to 250 women, 130 children, and ten men.

 Shelter and NFIs

IRAQ

- In Kawergosk camp, Erbil Governorate, UNHCR and its partners Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and KURDS relocated a total of 512 families (2,500 individuals), representing approximately one quarter of the population of the encamped population to a permanent site of the camp. Internal Organization for Migration (IOM) distributed Core Relief Item (CRI) kits to all camp residents which included four blankets, a plastic sheet, a large carpet, a hygiene kit and a kerosene stove.
- In Darashakran camp, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) distributed 762 tents as part of the shelter improvement programme. KURDS is improving the shading of the Reception Center, and is also working on constructing the new phase of 200 units, which is expected to be ready by the end of March 2015.
- From 16 to 28 February, in Dohuk Governorate, a total of 3,997 families in Domiz 1 and 2 camps, and 538 vulnerable families in Gawilan camp received winterization kits which included carpets, heaters, plastic sheets and blankets.

LEBANON

- Save the Children International (SCI) provided sealing-off kits to over 200 vulnerable refugee families living in Hishi, Qinye, Rajem, Mashta, Kherbet Dawoud and Bire, across Akkar, while ongoing distribution is currently targeting 100 vulnerable families in Mount Lebanon.
- DRC completed rehabilitation works of small shelter units and dwellings across Akkar, targeting 13 vulnerable families (65 individuals) living in Kherbet Daoud, Al-Atika, Al-Mahata and Al-Rama.
- As part of the winter assistance, UN agencies and humanitarian partners will continue to distribute cash vouchers, clothes, weatherproofing kits, fuel vouchers, and fuel for schools until the end of March 2015. Since the start of March 2015, around 1,026 Syrian and Lebanese families have received 3,681 mattresses in Tripoli and surroundings areas.

TURKEY

- There are 24 refugee camps in ten provinces in south-eastern Turkey. Of the estimated 1.7 million Syrian refugees currently residing in Turkey, approximately 85 per cent are estimated live in urban and rural centres outside camps.
- The number of Syrians admitted to Suruc camp continues to increase and according to AFAD, 11,518 persons are currently residing in the camp. In the town of Suruc, a total of 59,289 Syrians (including those in the camp and in urban areas) were biometrically registered. By the end of February, delivery of various Non-Food Items (NFIs) for 1,000 households (approximately 5,000 persons) was completed which included 10,000 blankets (two per person), 5,000 sleeping mats, 5,000 mattresses, 1,000 kitchen sets, 1,000 kitchen cabinets, 1,000 hot plates, 1,000 fridges, 1,000 heaters, 2,500 jerry cans, 7,000 hygiene kits, 15,000 sanitary napkins and 5,000 sets of anoraks and thermal underwear. In addition, 50 wheelchairs (30 for adults and 20 for children), 50 walking sticks were provided.

 Water and Sanitation

IRAQ

- In Qushtapa camp, Action contre la Faim (ACF) replaced four latrines in schools and installed two new latrines for the newly arrived Syrian refugees from Kobani area.
- In Basirma camp, the construction of sanitation facilities for 84 shelter plots has been completed and construction of 240 plots is still in progress.

LEBANON

- Solidarites International distributed 1,860 hygiene kits to 1,546 families (7,730 individuals) living in 105 informal settlements located in Minieh and Dinnieh in North Lebanon.
- Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF) organized hygiene promotion sessions for 46 families (almost 253 individuals) in the areas of Aanout, Bisri and Aamatour, South Lebanon.
- UNICEF completed the extension and rehabilitation works for drinking water networks in Baalbek (2.5 km) and Hermel (4 km). The project was handed over to the Lebanese Water Establishment to benefit 5,100 individuals in Baalbek and 4,100 individuals in Hermel.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

IRAQ

- As of end February, a conference hall was completed in Domiz 1 camp, providing space for the refugee community to organize and attend social events and to arrange conferences or workshops. A patisserie shop has been established which is an initiative conceived and run by a group of refugee women. This small business will enable the women to generate an income and empower their social and economic status.
- The construction of four green houses in the Gawilan camp is completed.



Forty-six-year-old Alwan arrived to Domiz camp two years ago with nothing. He fled his home in Syria to northern Iraq with his wife and six children. A talented carpenter, Alwan has opened his own carpentry shop recycling wooden materials for his business. The refugee livelihood programme aims to provide refugees with a source of income to increase their self-reliance and to help minimize the trauma of forced displacement. © UNHCR/H.Suliman

Working in partnership

ABAAD | [ACF Action contre la faim](#) | ACTED Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development | [ActionAid](#) | ADRA Adventist Development and Relief Agency | [AMEL Association-Lebanese Popular Association for Popular Action](#) | ANERA American Near East Refugee Aid | [ARMADILLA](#) | AVSI The Association of Volunteers in International Service | [British Council](#) | CARE International | [CCPA Lebanon](#) | CDO Civil Development Organization | [CISP Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli](#) | CLMC Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center | [CONCERN](#) | COOPI Cooperazione Internazionale | [CRS Catholic Relief Services](#) | DCA Dan Church Aid | [DOT Digital Opportunity Trust](#) | DRC Danish Refugee Council | [EMERGENCY](#) | FAO Food and Agricultural Organization | [FPSC Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura](#) | GVC Gruppo di Volontariato | [HI Handicap International](#) | Humedica | [HWA Hilfswerk Austria International](#) | ILO International Labour Office | [IMC International Medical Corps](#) | International Alert | [INTERSOS](#) | IOCC International Orthodox Christian Charities | [IOM International Organization for Migration](#) | International Relief & Development | [IRC International Rescue Committee](#) | IRW Islamic Relief Worldwide | [KCSAMA Kurdistan Center for Strengthening Administrative and Managerial Abilities](#) | KURDS | [Leb Relief](#) | MAG Mines Advisory Group | [Makassed](#) | Makhzoumi Foundation | [MAP Medical Aid for Palestinians](#) | MEDIAR | [Mercy Corps](#) | Mercy USA | [NRC Norwegian Refugee Council](#) | OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs | [Oxfam](#) | PAO Public Aid Organization | [Partners – Jordan](#) | Partners – Turkey | [PCPM Polish Center for International Aid](#) | PU-AMI Première Urgence-Aide Médicale Internationale | [PWJ Peace wind Japan](#) | QANDIL | [RET Refugee Education Trust](#) | RI Relief International | [Safadi Foundation](#) | SCI Save the Children International | [SeraphimGLOBAL](#) | SFCG Search for Common Ground | [SI Solidaritiés International](#) | SIF Secours Islamique France | [Solidar Suisse](#) | SOS Children’s Village | [TDH Terre des Hommes](#) | TDHI Terre des Hommes Italia | [Toastmasters International](#) | UN Women | [UNDP United Nations Development Programme](#) | UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization | [UNFPA United Nations Population Fund](#) | UN-Habitat | [UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](#) | UNICEF United Nations Children’s Fund | [UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization](#) | UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime | [UNOPS United Nations Office for Project Services](#) | UNRWA United Nations Relief and Works Agency | [URDA Union of Relief and Development Association](#) | War Child Holland | [War Child UK](#) | WFP World Food Programme | [WHO World Health Organization](#) | WRF World Rehabilitation Fund | [WVI World Vision International](#) |

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (2015)

2015 Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP)

Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation.

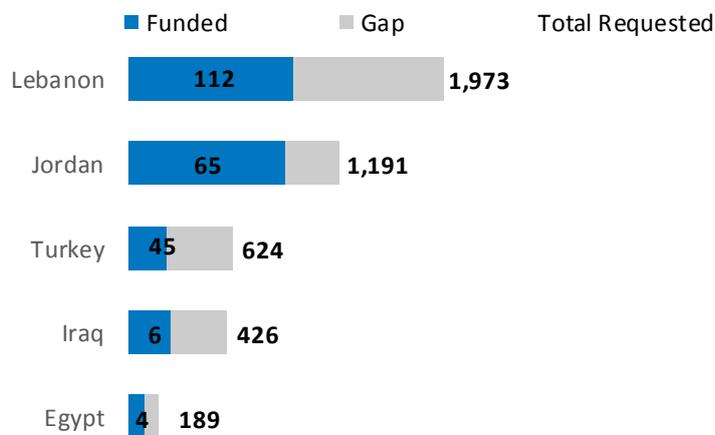
3RP Total Funding Requirements for 2015 (Refugee and Resilience): US\$5,506,704,435

3RP Agency Total Requirements for 2015 (Refugee and Resilience): US\$4,533,248,258

Donors who have contributed to the situation: Funding received (in million USD) for the Agency Requirements for 2015

A total of **USD 284 million*** has been funded

- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Canada
- CERF
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- ERF
- European Union
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Holy See
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Private donors
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Spain
- Switzerland
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States of America



** This is excluding the funding requested and received by Governments. Includes US\$50 million of regionally earmarked funds that has been received and is pending allocation by country.*

Contacts:

Kathryn Porteous, UNHCR Associate Reporting Officer, porteous@unhcr.org Tel: +962 (0)79 015 8003
Nini Gurung, UNHCR Associate Reporting Officer, gurungn@unhcr.org Tel: +962 (0)79 694 8786

Links:

[Syria Regional Refugee Response Inter-agency Information Sharing Portal](#)
[UNHCR Syria Emergency Response](#)