

3RP planning underway in earnest

The 3RP is a country-driven, regionally coherent process which recognizes the centrality of national resilience and stabilization plans and seeks to strengthen national and sub-national capacities.

In Lebanon, strong progress is being made on the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), of which the draft chapters of 10 sectors have been produced.

In Jordan, planning is well underway towards the Jordan Response Plan (JRP) under the leadership of the Government of Jordan, including the completion of the 2015 Needs Assessment.

The Iraq chapter of the 3RP is being drafted ahead of schedule to serve as an annex to the Iraq Strategic Response Plan (SRP).

The first draft abstracts of the Turkey and Egypt chapters of the 3RP have been developed in full consultation with the respective governments.

These strands are being pulled together at the regional level to ensure a coherent and clear statement of the needs of and response plan for refugees and impacted communities across the region.

See over the page for an initial regional-level analysis of the draft plans received to date.

Upcoming 3RP milestones

October: Development of full country plans in each sector and country, in concert with the development of national resilience and stabilization plans.

October-November: Implementation of a 3RP communications plan to ensure all stakeholders are up to date with 3RP developments, milestones and activities.

12 October: UNDP and UNHCR will update on the 3RP process at the Top Donor Group Meeting in Kuwait.

13 October: Regional Workshop on Information Management, Monitoring and Evaluation to promote best practice and regional coherence in 3RP reporting. For information contact farrellb@unhcr.org or jason.pronyk@undp.org.

Early November: Finalization of country chapters and regional overview.

Early December: Launch at global, regional, and country level.

This is a bi-weekly newsletter produced by the 3RP Secretariat. For information: karin.friedrich@undp.org or throne@unhcr.org.

UNDP and UNHCR MoU on Syria and Iraq

On 16 September 2014, on the occasion of a joint visit to Lebanon, UNDP Administrator Helen Clark and High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Syria and Iraq situations, outlining their joint commitment to working together throughout the displacement cycle from emergency to stabilization/resilience and development.

The MOU covers the design of complementary humanitarian and resilience-based development interventions, along with the mobilization of resources through the 3RP.

The scope of cooperation will cover the immediate, medium, and longer term challenges posed by the regional displacement situation.

In support of the MoU, UNDP and UNHCR have established a Joint Secretariat facilitating a common approach to planning, communications, operations and research to support resilience planning for the 3RP.



UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres and UNDP Administrator Helen Clark visit Syrian refugees settlement in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Stabilization Systems Analysis Workshop

Hosted by the UN Resident Coordinator in Lebanon, with support from UNDP Sub-Regional facility and OECD, a Stabilization Systems Analysis Workshop was held in Beirut on 25 and 26 September 2014.

Members of the Government, NGOs, CSOs, donors and UN had the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the resilience-based approach and tailored the OECD methodology to conduct an analysis of present and anticipated risks to stability resulting from the crisis in Syria.

Looking forward, the results of the analysis can inform the development of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) of the 3RP and the actions identified integrated into sectoral plans.

Initial regional-level analysis of 3RP draft plans

Draft country abstracts for 4 countries were provided to the regional secretariat in late September, and an initial analysis shows stakeholders are extremely concerned about the worsening trajectory of the crisis. There are more than 3.2 million Syrian refugees and 6.4 million Syrian IDPs, a growing displacement of more than 2.9 million Iraqi refugees and IDPs, and increased military action in Iraq and Syria. Refugees are exhausting their savings and resources, becoming more vulnerable, and remain in need of life-saving humanitarian assistance.

Decreased economic activity with Syria has altered the economic performance of countries in the region, affecting public finance, trade deficits and key economic sectors, limiting host countries' resource base to cope with the effect of the crisis. Political and social tensions are increasing in many places, especially in the countries that are host to the largest numbers of Syrian refugees. Mounting demands for municipal and government services and support is resulting in additional social and political pressures on fragile host communities.

The 3RP is developing a strategy that will continue to deliver an efficient and effective immediate response to new arrivals, meet the basic needs of the vulnerable, and provide support to refugee-affected municipalities. The 3RP will increasingly support and strengthen, where possible, transition to national service delivery systems. Specific shifts in approach across the region in the different response sectors under the 3RP are outlined below.

Protection: The 3RP protection strategy will pursue strengthening government protection mechanisms, emphasizing protection mainstreaming and reduction of negative coping mechanisms. Ensuring refugees non-discriminatory access, community participation and emphasis on "do no harm" are the essential 3RP principles throughout the multi-sector response.



Health: The 3RP will pursue a more cost-effective and sustainable approach to health, with a focus on ensuring access to effective national systems for refugees, and supporting the resilience of those systems to cope with increased demand. The development of parallel mechanisms will be discouraged. Immunization, including polio, as well as strengthening health systems' capacity to address communicable diseases in the region are important health priorities.



Food Security: Assistance to food-insecure refugees will continue, and to promote social cohesion and parity, also be offered to the vulnerable members of impacted communities. For refugees living outside of camps, further targeting is foreseen. The transition from in-kind food and paper voucher to e-voucher will be completed, and the One-Card modality will be expanded. Small-scale family agriculture production will be supported to improve food security and income generation from sale of agriculture products.



WASH: In camps, 3RP intends to make WASH services more efficient, sustainable and economical by transitioning from temporary solutions such as water tanking and communal latrines to piped networks, proper drainage systems and household level latrines linked where possible to existing municipal systems. Outside camps, the focus will be on working with impacted communities and host governments to improve and strengthen the capacity and robustness of existing services, to cope with the increased number of beneficiaries, at the same time leaving behind improved infrastructure, services and policies, such as water scarcity adaptation, that will remain in place beyond the crisis.



Shelter: Increasingly, people living in camps and settlements will be supported to participate in the local community, offering an alternative to camps and the perspective of becoming an organic and increasingly self-sustainable part of a larger community.



Education: The 3RP will prioritize efforts to ensure non-discriminatory access for refugee children to participate in national formal schooling programs throughout the region, including maintaining and expanding as necessary second shifts as an important means of reaching as many students as possible. Cost-effectiveness when investing in education is a valued approach throughout the region.



Basic Needs: Whenever possible, the 3RP continues the progressive shift from in-kind assistance to unconditional monetized assistance, prioritizing improved targeting to reach those most in need without compounding vulnerabilities. This allows refugees to have more dignity and choice, as well as injecting cash and thereby supporting jobs and livelihoods in their local communities. The scaling up of these cash-based responses will be undertaken with a strong focus on maximizing synergies with national systems, especially in terms of transferring knowledge and capacity.



Livelihoods: Increased attention on livelihoods, self-sustainability and public works is a key 3RP component, where an additional investment of resources is required. Through effective resilience-based programming, these investments will help to stabilize refugee families, communities and host governments, contributing to generate employment and preparing a more sustainable future. The 3RP will promote investments in public infrastructure in local communities, helping to ease the strain placed on this infrastructure by the presence of large numbers of refugees.



Note: sector structures may vary between countries.