

REGIONAL STRATEGIC OVERVIEW 2021-2022

REGIONAL
REFUGEE &
RESILIENCE
PLAN



The figures and information contained in this document are in draft form and subject to amendment as the 3RP country chapters are finalized



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Foreword

The Syria crisis will soon mark its tenth anniversary and remains, by some distance, the largest refugee crisis in the world. Today, the five main refugee-hosting countries – Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt – continue to generously host over 5.5 million refugees, while also contending with increasing needs among host communities and larger swathes of their population due to the multiple, overlapping crises.

The arrival of COVID-19 brought profound economic and social distress across the region. Many people among refugee and host communities lost their livelihoods and were pushed further into poverty and with savings exhausted, struggled to put food on the table or access critical social services. Most 3RP countries are confronting economic recessions and rising levels of unemployment and poverty. In several countries, host governments are facing mounting fiscal challenges to provide services for all those in need.

While host governments and the international community stepped up their support to the extent possible, new waves of the pandemic and its after-effects are hitting the region and vulnerabilities are likely to worsen. The most vulnerable remain in day-to-day survival mode. Gender-based violence continues to be reported across the region. Competition over resources, overstretched services and scarcer livelihoods opportunities is increasing risks of tensions between and within communities.

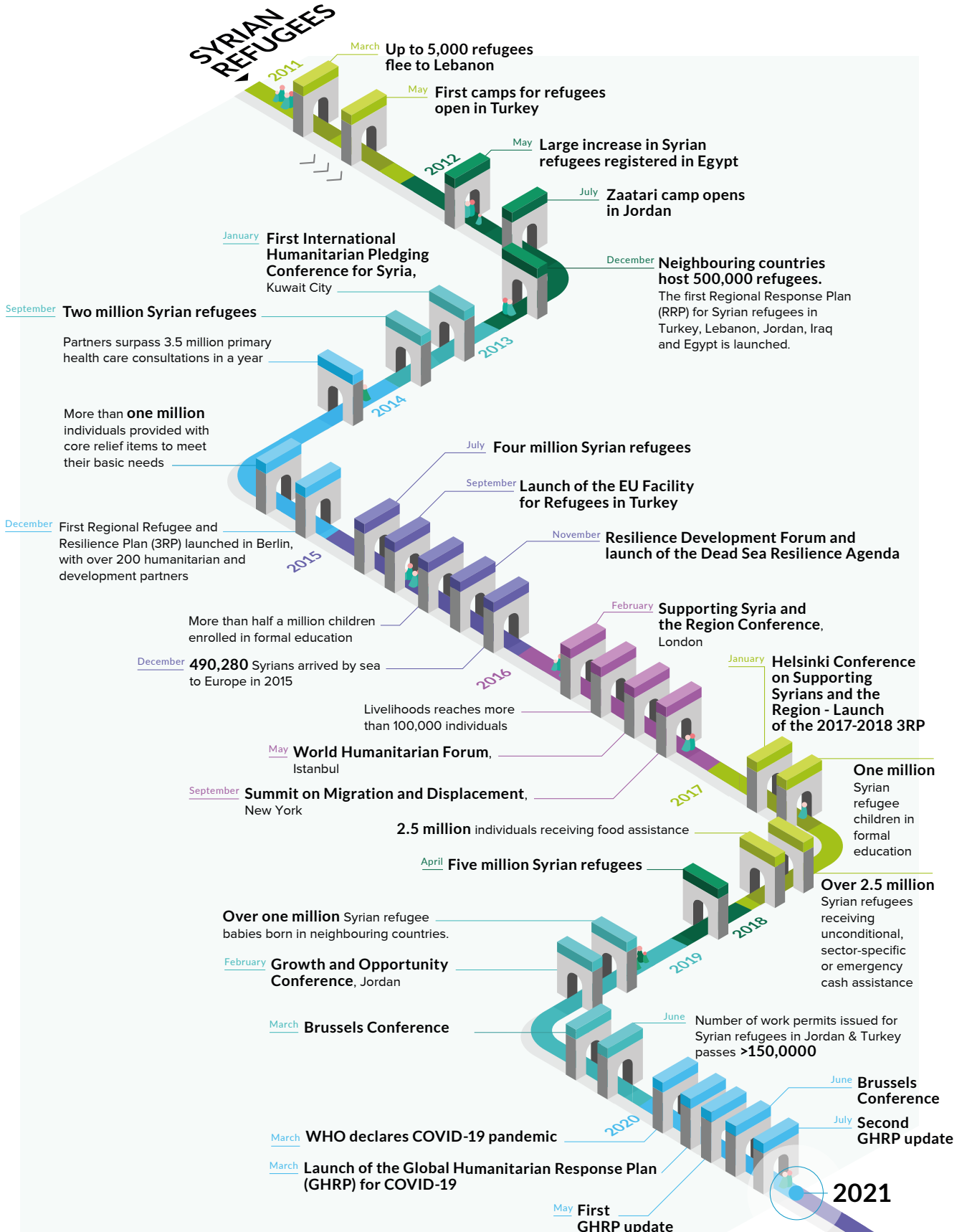
The 3RP stepped up its response in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue this into 2021, with some ten million people targeted for support across the region. This year's 3RP offers a USD\$ 5.9 billion comprehensive plan across the five countries. Underpinned by the strong partnership between UNHCR and UNDP, the 3RP continues to adapt and strives to provide a response that helps to meet protection and other acute needs, as well as enhancing the resilience capacities of individuals, families, and the national and local institutions supporting them.

3RP partners will also seek to redouble efforts on two important fronts. First, working concretely towards securing durable solutions for refugees, including enhancing our efforts on resettlement and related to voluntary, safe and dignified return. Second, to strengthen our work across the Humanitarian-Development Nexus and better connect our response with longer term national strategies for inclusive growth and sustainable development. This in line with the Global Compact for Refugees and will be key to preserving progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in host countries. The 3RP pledges to strengthen coordination and collaborations with all national and international stakeholders, including International Finance Institutions and the private sector, to make this a reality.

More than ever, 3RP partners remain grateful for the generosity and support of the international community and count on their assistance for the coming year. We look forward to working together in partnership in the year ahead during this critical time for the region and its people.



Syria Crisis Timeline



RESPONSE SUMMARY

Population

REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES AS OF 18 NOVEMBER 2020*

5,580,518

PROJECTED REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES BY DECEMBER 2020 (AS OF DECEMBER 2019)

5,400,683

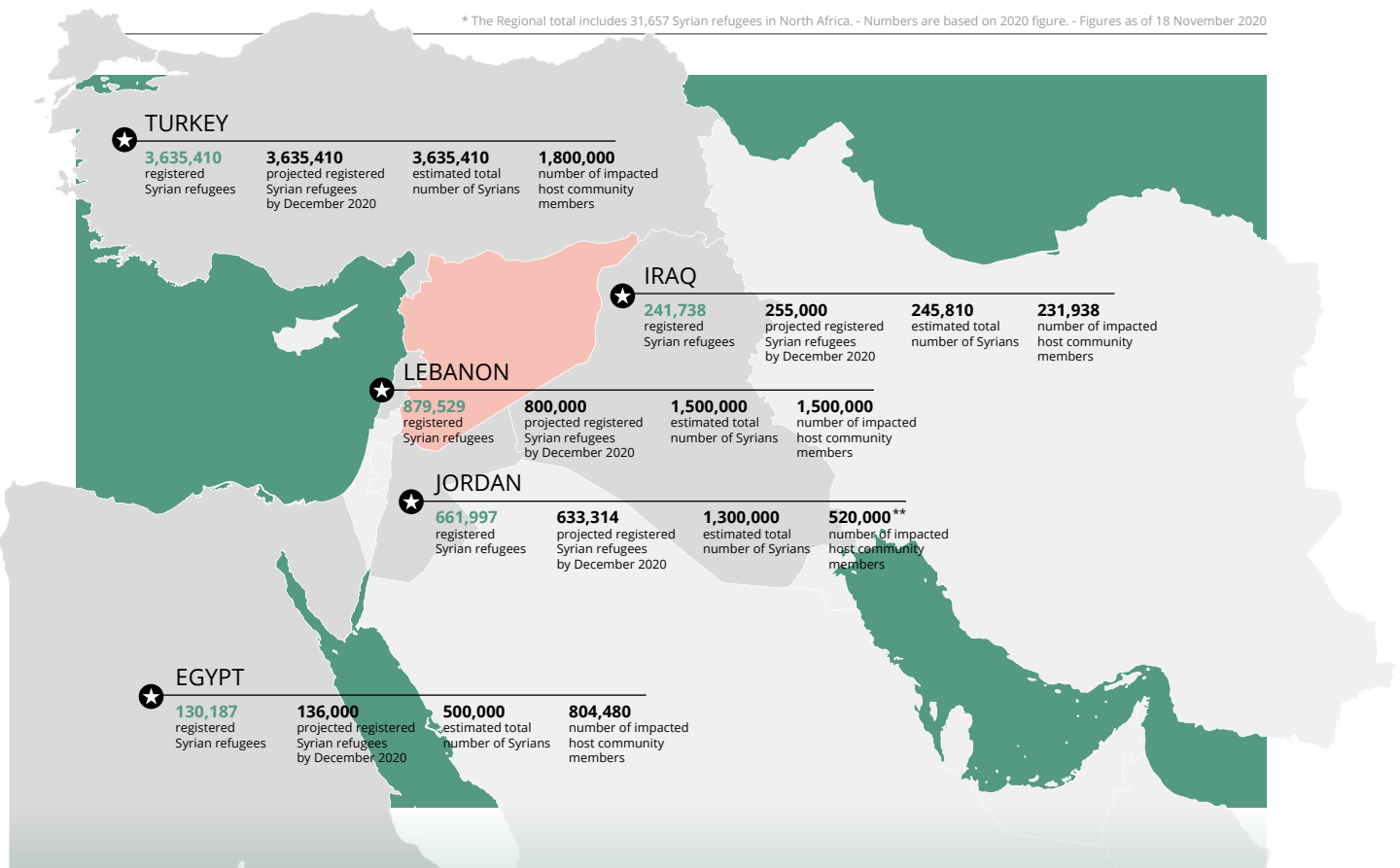
ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER OF SYRIANS

7,122,179

NUMBER OF IMPACTED HOST COMMUNITY MEMBERS

4,856,418

* The Regional total includes 31,657 Syrian refugees in North Africa. - Numbers are based on 2020 figure. - Figures as of 18 November 2020



** The Jordan figures are pending review by the Government of Jordan and subject to change in due course

KEY FACTS

Residence
95% of Syrian refugees within the region are living in urban and peri-urban areas, while 5% are living in refugee camps.

People with Disabilities
Global estimates suggest that 15% of the refugee population are people with disabilities.

Youth
Some 45% of Syrian refugees within the region are below the age of 18. Some 45% of host community populations are below the age of 24.

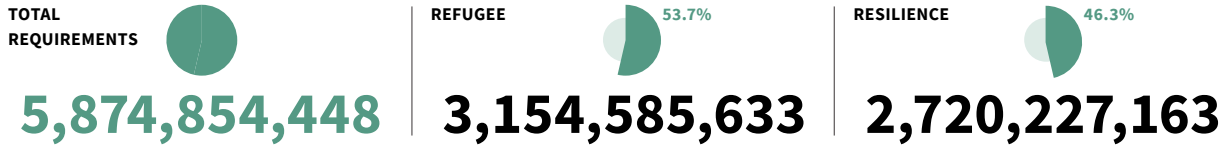
Gender
Some 44% of Syrian refugees within the region are female. Some 49% of host community populations within the region are female.

Situation
The socio-economic impact of movement restrictions and lockdowns has been dramatic. In Lebanon, according to the recently completed annual Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees 89% of the total Syrian refugee population cannot afford the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket, compared 55% at the end of 2019.



RESPONSE SUMMARY

Financial Requirements 2021

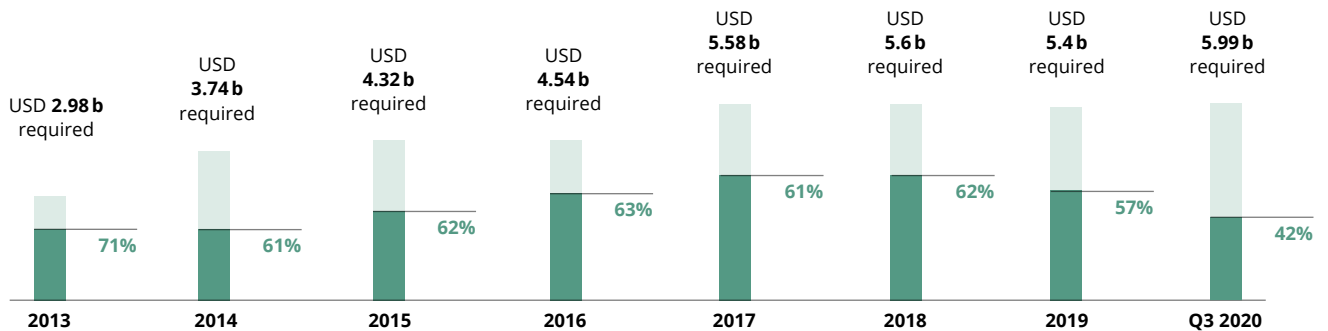


BREAKDOWN OF FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

COUNTRY	REFUGEE COMPONENT	RESILIENCE COMPONENT	TOTAL REQUIREMENTS
TURKEY	456,000,000	579,000,000	1,035,041,652
LEBANON	1,430,000,000	1,320,000,000	2,750,000,000
JORDAN	880,000,000	720,000,000	1,600,000,000
IRAQ	166,153,398	55,574,144	221,727,542
EGYPT	123,432,235	45,653,019	169,085,254
REGIONAL	99,000,000	-	99,000,000
TOTAL	3,154,585,633	2,720,227,163	5,874,854,448

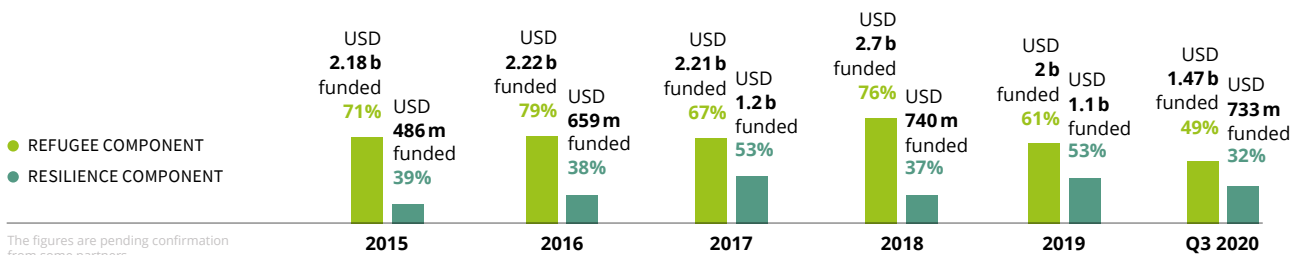
NOTE: The figures may change subject to further updates from countries

APPEAL VS FUNDING IN PREVIOUS YEARS



This graphic covers funding under the 3RP since 2015 and its predecessors, the Refugee Response Plans (RRPs), since 2012. The figures are pending confirmation from some partners.

COMPONENT FUNDING IN PREVIOUS YEARS



The figures are pending confirmation from some partners

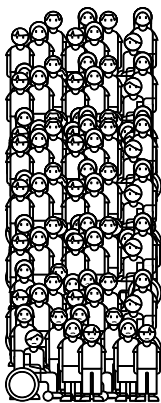


INTRODUCTION

Situation Overview

TRENDS

Syrians remain the largest refugee population globally in need of resettlement in 2020

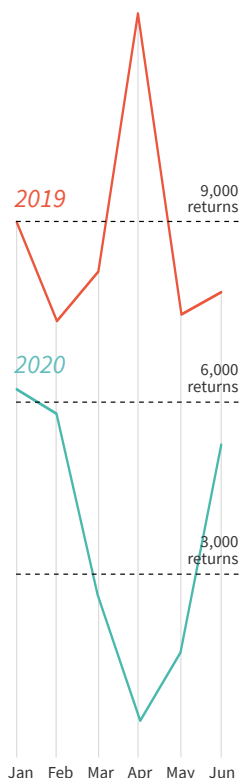


Estimated 579,031 Syrian refugees are currently in need of resettlement

With the Syria crisis entering the eleventh year, the conflict continues to drive the largest refugees' crisis in the world. Over 5.5 million Syrian refugees are registered with UNHCR in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt which remains broadly in line with last year's figures. To contain the spread of COVID-19, several countries in the region decided to close borders and impose movement restrictions, which led to a considerable decrease in the overall return movement. By the third quarter of 2020, over 31,000 refugees in the region had spontaneously returned to Syria, a reduction of around 70 per cent compared to the same time last year. Resettlement submissions and departures were also affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, there was no major influx recorded in 2020 as borders and admissions procedures remained closely managed, even before the COVID-19 restrictions. The modest net increase in registered refugees across the region is primarily linked to the registration of new-borns. In addition to registered Syrian refugees, additional Syrians are present in host countries, along with refugees of other nationalities, asylum seekers, and stateless persons.

During 2020, COVID-19 exacerbated socio-economic and other challenges in the host countries including early signs of a significant increase in poverty levels among their populations as well as inadequate access to information, public services, internet and so forth. Across the region, many countries confronted economic recession, and slow economic recovery is projected in 2021. At the same time, this has also put fiscal pressure on the host governments with limited financial and human resources while meeting the increased demand for basic services (particularly health services). While host countries continue to demonstrate generosity in hosting large numbers of refugees, the pressures are clearly growing at national, community and household levels.

Return trend



For the first time since its inception, the 3RP prepared a Regional Needs Overview (RNO) to consolidate needs assessments conducted in 2020 particularly in the wake of COVID-19, to identify the key underlying drivers of needs, as well as the primary needs at the regional and country levels. These key drivers were: 1) large-scale protracted displacement; 2) socio-economic conditions; 3) COVID-19; and 4) demographic drivers. Altogether these factors have pushed more refugee and host community members into poverty and in need of assistance than at any other time during the Syria crisis. The RNO finds that some 10 million people – over 5.5 million registered refugees, as well as some 4.8 million host community members – are in need of some form of assistance across 3RP countries. Moreover, national and local institutions also require additional support to deliver essential services to refugees and host communities.

According to the RNO, in nearly all host countries, refugee households reported that loss of livelihoods caused increased needs for social assistance to cover basic needs, hygiene materials, medicines and rent, which led to refugees moving from residential shelters into informal settlements. The negative impacts were reported among vulnerable host community members such that for those who were working as daily casual labour lost their jobs and numbers of micro and small businesses were also in danger of closure. The loss of livelihoods also meant that both refugees and vulnerable host community members suffered from a worsened food security situation, with a majority reporting use of negative coping strategies, such as cutting down the number and quantity of meals per day, with adults prioritizing their children's food needs over their own. In addition, because of the movement restrictions and confinement measures, women are involved in more domestic work, in addition to caring for children. Incidents of GBV were reported to be on the rise for both refugee and host community women.



Syrian refugees and host community members will continue to require support in terms of income and livelihoods, noting that these needs have exacerbated competition over scarcer employment opportunities and raised social tensions. In Turkey, an inter-agency assessment¹ showed worrying signs that the social segregation between refugees and host communities is deepening. In Lebanon, perceived aid bias is also increasing with perceptions that vulnerable Lebanese have been neglected in international aid.

In all countries, school closure led to an education gap that is likely to affect thousands of refugee students until in-person classes resume. Access to learning will continue to depend on sufficient, predictable and affordable internet and or telephone-based technology audio, which many refugee households do not have.

The global financial situation is projected to be challenging for 2021 and is likely to impact the 3RP as well. Traditional donors will be confronted with multiple and multi-layered crises that require their support, with greater attention likely to be paid to domestic recovery efforts and internal stimulus packages. Nevertheless, as of 30 September 2020, the 3RP appeal was 42 percent funded, which was the same funding level as the same period last year, with over US\$2.49 billion received. Outside the 3RP pledges, donors have also provided substantial financial aid through loans and grants to Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt and other specific appeals. In the context of the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan, donors allocated over US\$ 128 million to the 3RP, the largest amount of all Regional Refugee Plans (RRP) worldwide.

A SNAPSHOT OF THE 3RP COUNTRIES

TURKEY



73% of Syrian women and girls under temporary protection in Turkey do not know where to seek assistance related to violence or harassment.²



More than 460,000 school-aged children were still out-of-school and did not have any access to education opportunities.

LEBANON



The GBVIMS reported increases of several forms of Gender-Based Violence during the first quarter of 2020. 99% of GBV victims were female.



Nutrition has been a growing need in Lebanon with the percentage of households with poor or borderline consumption doubling in 2020.

JORDAN



54% of the 24,000 shelters in the Za'atari camp had leaking roof and damaged structure.



69% of survey respondents felt that GBV has increased since the beginning of the pandemic.

Over 50% of adolescent girls reported that they are doing more household chores as a result of the pandemic and the lockdown measures.³

IRAQ



Since COVID-19 started in Iraq, 60% of Syrian refugee households reported needing access to health services and hospitals.



Roughly three out of four Syrian refugee households reported COVID-19 increased the level of stress in their household.

EGYPT



Unemployment reportedly reached 9.6% in the second quarter of 2020, compared to 7.5% in the same period last year.



More than half of refugees reduced the number and portions of meals per day, while 55 per cent had to reduce their adults' food consumption to allow for children to eat.



Strategic Directions

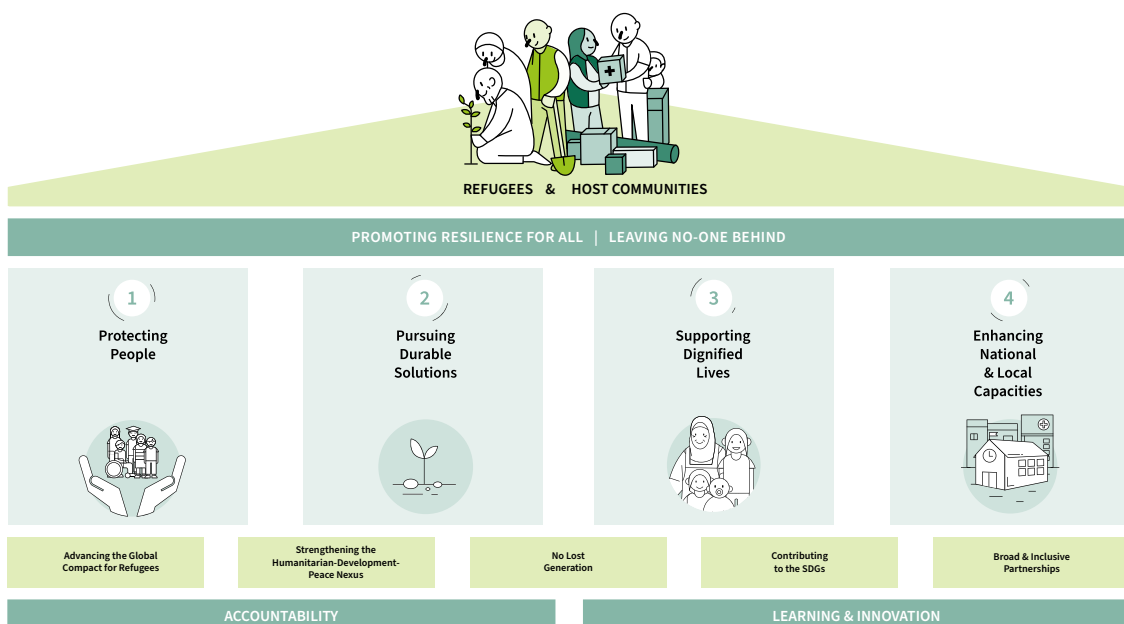
The strategic directions of the 3RP during the 2021-2022 cycle are outlined in the graphic below and remain unchanged from last year. This follows a validation exercise to ensure that they remained relevant and focused on the impact the 3RP seeks to make against the immediate and longer-term needs as articulated in the 3RP Regional Needs Overview. While the broader regional strategic directions remain unchanged, programmes, approaches, and modalities within each objective at the regional and country-level continue to be refined to ensure that 3RP response efforts remain focused on national needs and priorities.

The overarching frame for the 3RP is to promote resilience for all, guided by the principle that 'no one is left behind'. From there, the regional strategic directions set the overall high-level parameters for the regional response and articulate the impact which 3RP partners strive to make. In order to measure progress, a 3RP regional monitoring framework has been developed, as explained in [page 21](#). Under the overall regional strategic direction framework, each country has developed its own specific strategic directions and objectives based on its context, as outlined in the country overviews in this document and as detailed extensively in the country-level response document which are available on the 3RP website.

Progress towards the strategic directions rests on several building blocks that inform programming, advocacy, and policy development and ensure that the 3RP's implementation is in line with national priorities and complementary to national efforts. A key aspect is

leveraging the knowledge, capacity and insights of global frameworks such as the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDPN) to advance the response with a longer term focus, while adapting it to emerging needs, including its future evolution as the situation changes across the region.

The advent of the global COVID-19 pandemic has brought into sharp focus the need for humanitarian and development actors to work even more closely together. In line with the Grand Bargain agreement, the 3RP remains committed to promoting greater participation of national and local responders across several workstreams such as financing, partnership, capacity strengthening, coordination and gender. In that regard, the 3RP acknowledges the response of other non-government actors which operate outside 3RP structures but who are also significantly working to meet the needs of affected people across the region. This includes international financial institutions (IFIs), such as the World Bank, development actors, and other international organizations such as the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC). In the context of COVID-19, initiatives have taken place this year to advance this collaboration, including joint analytical work, response planning and closer coordination to promote complementary efforts, avoid duplication, and ensure impact of programming – and this will continue in 2021 both for COVID-19 and longer-term responses.



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Protecting People

With Syrians continuing to require access to international protection and asylum, and also facing a range of interlinked protection risks in host countries, protecting people is at the centre of planning, design, implementation and monitoring of all interventions of the 3RP to ensure no one is left behind. The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated the pre-existing protection risks and increased vulnerabilities of not just the refugees, but also vulnerable host community members. By interlinking with the strategic direction on durable solutions, the 3RP will continue to advocate for and support access to safety, a favourable protection environment and realisation of solutions through its response by closely connecting with national systems, through community-based approaches and reinforcing identification and referral mechanisms.

Obtaining and renewing civil documentation remains a key to enable access to social services, employment and their entitlements in the host countries. This also includes the registration of important life events, such as marriages and births. Gender inequality and risk of gender-based violence (GBV) were issues persisting even before the pandemic. However, the increasing socioeconomic vulnerability among the refugee and host community households, resulting in resort to harmful coping strategies further heightened the protection risks of especially women and girls, as well as older persons and persons living with disabilities. In order to address their protection risks, specialized protection programming is critical. Furthermore, the inclusion of age, gender and diversity and integration of GBV prevention, mitigation and response into programming across all sectors remain crucial.

Children, who make up half of the displaced population, have also been affected with increased parental anxieties and frustrations caused by social isolation and fears around livelihoods and financial difficulties further aggravate tensions increasing the risk of child abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation. While education is considered as means of protection to children, the new learning modalities have brought about a concern of equity of access in education. 3RP partners will continue to support the host governments to address this issue, given the importance of education in building the ability of children and youth to better protect themselves and increase self-reliance.

The increasing levels of anxiety and uncertainty can lead to long-term mental health issues and psychological distress, requiring a long-term mental health and psychosocial support linked to the protection response. To enhance the protection response, community-based protection (CBP) approach is applied to reach out to the affected communities and ensure the community members and 3RP partners jointly identify community's most serious protection risks, explore their causes and effects, and jointly agree on how to prevent and respond to them. 3RP partners also seek to strengthen zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation and abuse through awareness and capacity building, communication with affected communities, and community-based complaint mechanisms. Protection sensitive programming is pursued across the 3RP and thus contributes to each of the strategic directions

INTERLINKED PROTECTION SERVICES



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Supporting Durable Solutions

While Syrian refugees continue to require access to territory and international protection, working towards durable solutions is a critical aspect across the 3RP response. Under the framework of a comprehensive protection and solutions approach, the 3RP works towards three possible durable solutions in line with international standards and frameworks: voluntary repatriation to Syria; international resettlement; and local solutions and opportunities. While a regional approach and coherence is pursued, the exact scale and scope of activities towards durable solutions varies according to the context of each 3RP country.

Voluntary Repatriation

All refugees have the fundamental right to return to their country of origin at a time of their own choosing. Refugees' free and informed decisions are the guidepost for the 3RP response. Though there is no facilitation or promotion of returns at the current time, 3RP partners have gradually strengthened support to refugees who choose to return and requested advice and support, in coordination with host governments. Support in this area is undertaken in line with UNHCR's Comprehensive Protection and Solutions Strategy: Protection Thresholds and Parameters for Return to Syria. Such support is critical given it yields important protection dividends, reduces the risk of harm, and contributes to an informed and dignified return, while not incentivising returns. This work is complemented by longer-term planning and preparedness efforts, under the Regional Durable Solutions Working Group, and on-going advocacy around what refugees identify as the key barriers to return. This entails close coordination with humanitarian actors operating in Syria. More information on the 3RP's work on voluntary repatriation is found in [Annex 1: Voluntary Return to Syria](#).

Resettlement

Syrians remain the largest refugee population globally in need of resettlement in 2020, with an estimated 579,031 Syrian refugees currently in need of resettlement. Despite resettlement mechanisms re-commencing by mid-2020 and the provision of resettlement guidance in keeping with global public health guidance, 2020 will be a record low for refugee resettlement. However, the outlook for 2021 and beyond forecasts a continuing downward trend, despite the ongoing and critical needs

in the region. 2019 saw a renewed global commitment to resettlement and complementary pathways, with the launch of the multi-stakeholder Three Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways. In the MENA region, there were also positive developments in terms of a much-welcomed reversal of the downward trend in resettlement submission numbers of previous years, with a 10 per cent increase in submissions compared to 2018. In the 3RP context, resettlement and complementary pathways remain key interventions providing an effective solution to refugees who face vulnerabilities in the countries of asylum, demonstrating responsibility-sharing while playing a part in preserving protection space in host countries. In line with UNHCR's Comprehensive Protection and Solutions Strategy: A Roadmap to Advance Resettlement and Complementary Pathways in the Syria Crisis, three specific objectives are being pursued this year: 1) safeguarding the ongoing resilience of Syrian resettlement programmes; 2) Strengthening capacities to increase complementary pathways opportunities for Syrian refugees; and 3) Engagement with partners on renewed and supportive advocacy efforts in receiving communities. More information on the 3RP's work towards resettlement is found in [Annex 2: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways](#).

Local opportunities and solutions

The concept of local integration is complex and its reference and application in legal and policy frameworks varies across 3RP countries. Yet, as many Syrian refugees are likely to remain in host countries for the near future, identifying local opportunities and enhancing self-reliance as a precursor to longer-term solutions remains critical. While the scale and scope of such activities remain context specific, the 3RP response in host countries is generally oriented towards expanding local opportunities and enhancing self-reliance of refugees and host communities alike. This can include supporting access to national and local systems and services, livelihoods and work opportunities, community-level support, and advocacy for a supportive legal framework and enabling environment. In addition to building self-reliance and reducing dependency on support, such an approach can bring a range of economic and social benefits for host countries, including promoting an environment where refugees and host communities can live in a socially cohesive manner and contribute to longer-term solutions.



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Contributing to Dignified Lives

The combined economic effects of COVID-19 and related containment measures, the drop in oil prices and other on-going crises in some countries have taken a heavy toll on economies and populations in the sub-region, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities and affecting the socio-economic well-being of refugees and vulnerable host populations. Addressing the resulting needs and providing enabling conditions and opportunities for all to lead a dignified life is a priority for all 3RP partners across a range of sectors, including food security, basic needs, health, education, shelter, WASH and social cohesion and livelihoods.

In a context of growing and widespread vulnerabilities, partners will continue to maintain and adapt gender and conflict-sensitive, employment and income support programs to help affected households earn income to cover basic needs and access services.

Building on the commitments first made by Governments and donors, efforts to promote self-reliance remain central to all programming for resilience, including through expanding impoverished and vulnerable populations' access to sustainable livelihoods and economic opportunities.

3RP partners will continue to support the expansion of refugees' access to work documentation. To date, Jordan and Turkey have issued 207,073 work permits⁴ and 132,497 permits respectively that allow refugees to work. With the need to adapt to the new context, a special emphasis will also be placed on skills enhancement, including digital skills, and re-profiling of vulnerable people, particularly women and disadvantaged youth, to facilitate job market (re-) entry. 3RP partners will continue to support business continuity and job retention with a particular focus on micro and small enterprises (including home-based, digital business) in vulnerable host communities. Efforts will also be made to link cash for work and other forms of social assistance to skill development, employability, financial inclusion to facilitate the graduation of vulnerable refugee and host populations from social assistance. In light of environmental challenges and the need to improve water and solid waste management, promoting the use of renewable energy and opportunities related to the green economy will be further explored, amongst other actions.

Social Cohesion

Fostering social cohesion between refugees and host communities remains an integral part of the 3RP response, and a key tenet of the resilience approach that has become more critical than ever in the context of COVID-19. The loss of jobs and income among both refugee and host communities, the exacerbated competition over scarcer employment opportunities, potentially fuelled by misperceptions, has led to a rise in social tensions, in some countries, both between refugees and host communities and between host community members themselves.

Supported by context analysis, conflict-sensitive programming and monitoring frameworks mainstreaming conflict-sensitivity indicators, 3RP interventions will continue, next to doing no harm, to promote peaceful relationships between and within communities, by supporting initiatives that effectively engage and benefit both host community and refugee populations, with a particular focus on youth-and women led initiatives and empowerment. Beyond community-based interventions, 3RP partners will also continue to support municipal and other local service providers and institutions, that play a key role in community cohesion.



Iraq - Syrian refugee doctor Issa treats patients while living in exile. Dr. Issa, originally from Hassakeh in northern Syria, visits a patient in Darashakran Camp, near the city of Erbil.



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Enhancing Local & National Capacities

In all countries, enhancing local and national capacities rather than working through parallel systems, remain one of priorities of the 3RP partners to build resilience. This includes not only direct support to public institutions, local entities, but also civil society and businesses, as per the localization principles. Considering the growing needs generated by the COVID-19 crisis, maintaining and increasing levels of service provision including for health and education, social protection as well as supporting local capacities is more critical than ever.

3RP partners also acknowledge that working closely with local institutions can also help ease social tensions at the community level in a context where competition over scarce resources and opportunities is on the rise.

Throughout the 3RP countries and based on country needs, partners continue to strengthen the response capacities of national and local institutions through infrastructure development (schools, health facilities, water networks), the provision of equipment (solid waste trucks, computers) or human resources (e.g. social workers, teachers), while ensuring that services are effectively tailored to the specific needs of refugee and host community populations and promote social cohesion. Efforts are also made to support more transformative changes in the way national and local institutions plan and deliver services to vulnerable groups (e.g. improvements to targeting methodologies, information management systems in national social protection systems), supporting the development of

action plans or national policies on child labour or SGBV response and prevention. Increasingly, 3RP partners are also helping local institutions to incorporate disaster risk management and environmental concerns into their work. Thus, support to municipal services has increasingly moved beyond providing garbage bins and trucks to municipalities towards more sustainable initiatives, based on zero-waste, bio-gas generation, or recycling activities.

The strengthening of national and local capacities of national and local institutions is thus an important channel through which the 3RP response contributes to advancing national development goals and the SDGs. 3RP partners will continue to build upon the partnerships and trust built by working jointly with local responders since the onset of the crisis.

Furthermore, the 3RP response also aims at fostering local service delivery through greater partnership with local actors, including NGOs, Community Based Organizations (CBO) and Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and Faith Based Organizations.

The COVID-19 crisis has also exposed the vulnerability of the private sector, particularly the micro and small businesses, which provide important sources of livelihoods for refugee and host community members, particularly women and youth. In 2021-2022, 3RP partners will continue to support the resilience of businesses and cooperatives in host communities including through the provision of equipment or grants to micro and small businesses and cooperatives to help them expand their activities, but also business development services to identify new clients or market linkages. In doing so, partners will build on the broader COVID-19 response which aims at scaling up the use of digital solutions (digitalization of businesses and investment in e-commerce, digital platform and other online livelihoods activities).



PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENING TRACKING (PIST) ANALYSIS IN 3RP

Public Institution Strengthening Tracking (PIST) results: PIST analysis was conducted in Turkey (2017-2020 in order to monitor the type and value of support provided by 3RP partners and the results achieved. 3RP partners are assisting a wide range of public institutions, including at local and municipal level, through both the provision of additional resources but also capacity strengthening programmes to enable them to cope, adapt and transform in response to refugees and host communities’ needs.

Based on the analysis made in Turkey:

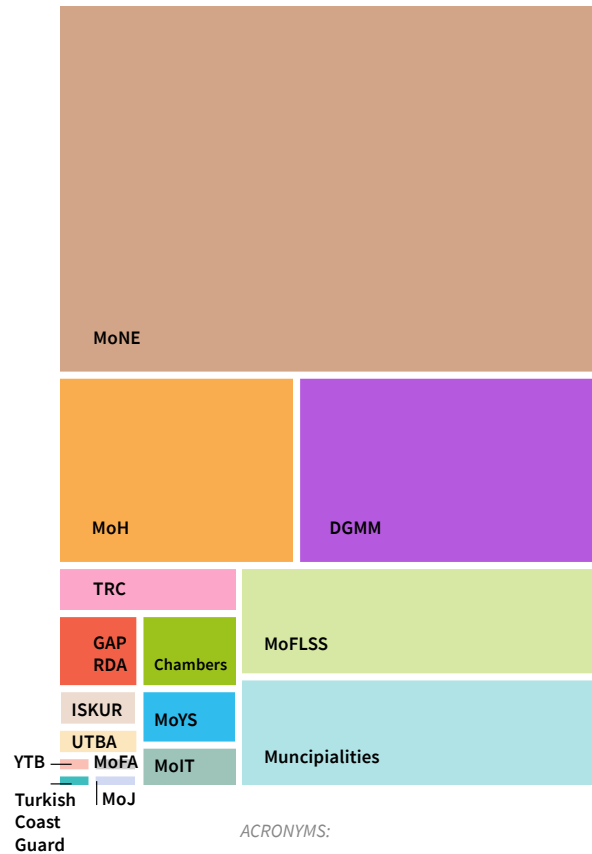
- Support provided to the public institutions have been increasing in Turkey since 2017.
- By sector, Education sector received the most funding (approx. 40% of total funding), followed by Directorate General of Migration Management then Ministry of Health.

For details: [PIST findings in Turkey 2020](#)

IMPROVING NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION

3RP partners will provide access to basic services to those vulnerable, in many cases female headed households and/or informal workers, who are not eligible to social safety nets or find those saturated or absent. However, given the criticality of expanding social protection to foster resilience in the new context, 3RP will continue to build upon their cumulative experience to strengthen the capacity of national social protection providers and systems. This includes continued support for more harmonized frameworks and systems for delivery, alongside improved targeting efforts amongst both national and refugee populations, the use of common platforms and tools, as well as leveraging the use of innovation, such as digital systems and biometric authentication. Mechanisms for risk preparedness to enhance prevention capacities for long-term resilience have also been introduced. In Lebanon and Jordan, 3RP Partners’ experience in building transparent, effective and efficient cash-based transfer programs for refugees has been transferred to host governments to best support their vulnerable populations. In light of the pandemic, these learnings will be carried into 2021 to augment social protection programs across the region. Going forward, targeting approaches in Jordan will be informed by the results of the joint comprehensive vulnerability assessment (JCVA), which aims at standardizing the characterization of most vulnerable groups, looking beyond status and need and support a more equitable approach to resource distribution, addressing discrepancies between communities and refugees in the medium term.

DETAIL BY INSTITUTION TURKEY 2017 - 2019 SUPPORT



ACRONYMS:

- MoNE: National Education
- DGMM: Directorate General of Migration Management
- MoH: Health
- MoFLSS: Family, Labour and Social Services
- TRC: Turkish Red Crescent
- GAP RDA: The Southeastern Anatolia Project (Güneydoğu Anadolu Projesi, GAP RDA (Regional Development Administration)
- MoYS: Youth and Sports
- MoIT: Industry and Technology
- MoFA: Foreign Affairs
- ISKUR: Turkish Employment Agency



Thematic Issues

Global Impact on Refugees

The 3RP will continue to advance implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) during the 2021-2022 cycle to ensure more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing and that host countries and communities receive the support they need and that refugees can lead productive lives. The four key objectives of the GCR are to:

- Ease the pressure on host countries
- Enhance refugee self-reliance
- Expand access to third-country solutions
- Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity

3RP countries will take part as needed in the three interconnected periodic review initiatives referenced in the GCR. This includes the indicator framework for the GCR which is mainstreamed into 3RP monitoring and reporting; progress towards implementing pledges and initiatives announced at the Global Refugee Forum (GRF); and the exercise on measuring the impact of hosting, protecting and assisting refugees. More information on each of these initiatives is available at <https://www.unhcr.org/the-global-compact-on-refugees.html>.

The conclusions of these periodic review initiatives, as well as the 3RP's own monitoring will be used to further strengthen the response, including driving joint humanitarian and development responses to long-term displacement, as well as contributing to normative discussions at the global level to inform similar responses in other settings.

One Refugee Approach

Each of the 3RP countries continues to host populations of other nationalities aside from Syrians or Palestine Refugees, including registered refugees, stateless persons and asylum seekers. As of December 2020⁵, this accounts for an estimated 715,000 people, including 320,000 persons in Turkey⁶, 17,000 in Lebanon, 89,000 in Jordan, 91,000 in Iraq and 198,000 in Egypt. As outlined in the Regional Needs Overview, many of this population face similar, or in some cases even greater, vulnerabilities than Syrian refugees.

While the 3RP was established in response to the Syria crisis and focuses on Syrian refugees, 3RP partners adopt and continue to advocate for an inclusive, “one refugee,” approach for all persons of concern, Syrian and non-Syrian alike, in all sectors and services. This approach seeks to reduce and ultimately eliminate differences in rights and services based on nationality in approaches to protection and assistance. Such an approach is in line with the Global Compact on Refugees and the Sustainable Development Goals’ vision of ‘leaving no one behind’.

While the financial requirements outlined in the 3RP are specific to Syrians, it is important to note that 3RP partners often provide protection, assistance, and services to other populations in their countries at the point of delivery in a non-discriminatory manner. There are also successful examples, particularly in the context of COVID-19, where existing national and local mechanisms and resources were extended to other nationalities. While some progress has been made on data and information on the needs of different population groups, more is required. During the 2021-2022 planning cycle, the 3RP will continue to look at how the one refugee approach or in some countries, inclusive approach, can be implemented, including in terms of moving towards an inclusive planning framework that covers all population groups. Furthermore, the 3RP continues to encourage and advocate that national planning initiatives generally target all population groups on an equal basis. While doing so, the 3RP recognizes that, as a nationally driven plan, the feasibility of such an approach needs to be assessed and carefully tailored to the country context.



3RP and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Governments of Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Egypt and Iraq are all committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs. However, the protracted Syrian crisis and COVID-19 unavoidably affects host countries’ ability to deliver on this ambitious agenda. In this regard, it is important to consider how the 3RP and country response plans can be leveraged to advance the implementation of the SDGs, tailored to national priorities.

Consistent with the 2030 Agenda’s overarching principle of leaving no one behind, and bringing together humanitarian and development approaches, the 3RP and country response plans strive to reduce vulnerabilities and provide sustainable opportunities and solutions for all women, men, boys and girls affected by the crisis. In line with other key implementation principles of the 2030 Agenda, the 3RP also fosters national ownership, fulfilment of human rights, multi-stakeholder partnerships and innovation, integrated approaches, as well as the development of strong accountability and monitoring frameworks. The 3RP aims at strengthening the resilience of refugees and host communities (“Resilience for All”), and as such offers an immediate contribution to the achievement of SDG Target 1.5: “By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations, and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters”.

Inherently, 3RP interventions contribute to a wide range of SDGs and targets. 3RP partners work together towards ensuring an effective and equitable access

of both refugees and host communities to education, health, sanitation and other key socio-economic goods, services and infrastructures as well as to sustainable livelihoods opportunities (SDG 1 to 11). In some countries, interventions already seek to address broader sustainable development challenges such as environmental and ecological vulnerabilities (SDG 15), while ongoing efforts to expand protection, strengthen capacities of national and local institutions, and promote social cohesion and stability in affected communities are of direct significance to SDG 16.

Looking ahead, the establishment of explicit linkages between the 3RP, country response plans and the SDGs, including integrating SDG-relevant indicators (disaggregated by sex, gender, age, affected populations and areas) in monitoring & evaluation frameworks would help leverage and track 3RP partners’ specific contributions to the implementation of the SDGs. In Jordan, for instance, the new cycle of the Jordan Response Plan already linked sectoral response areas to specific SDGs, whilst targets and indicators from the SDG framework and national strategies and plans have also been used to identify priority interventions.

In line with the 3RP key principles, such a process of alignment should be nationally owned and driven, aligned and at pace with host countries’ own efforts to integrate the SDGs in their national development plans and strategies and define their SDG priorities. This should be supported by renewed commitments to strengthen the humanitarian-development nexus and bridge humanitarian and development funding streams to cover critical gaps in the delivery of ‘SDG services’ at national and local levels.

THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development



Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus

By bringing more than 270 humanitarian and development partners together under a single, coordinated response, the 3RP has helped put the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDP Nexus) into practice. 3RP partners strive to address both the immediate humanitarian needs and the long-term development goals of refugees, host communities and host countries, whilst building resilience for all.

By strengthening the national, municipal and local capacities of host countries, the plan seeks to boost local service delivery to meet the needs of vulnerable communities in an equitable manner and enhance the national ownership of the crisis response. In line with the Peace element of the Nexus, the 3RP also focuses on addressing tensions that can arise between Syrian refugees and the communities hosting them by developing conflict-sensitive programming to reduce underlying socioeconomic and political sensitivities, address root causes of instability and foster social cohesion. This is important both in contexts where tensions are already manifesting in view of COVID-19, but likewise as a preventative measure making the impact of our programs more effective and reducing potential future risks.

With the compounding impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its widespread ramifications on the lives, livelihoods, health systems and economies across the region, bridging divides between humanitarian and development action has become more critical than ever. The growing vulnerabilities and deprivations facing refugee and host communities and risks of misinformation and stigma associated with the pandemic also underscores paying a sustained attention to social cohesion across all 3RP interventions.

Through joint assessments, research and joint programming, 3RP humanitarian and development partners have been leveraging their comparative advantage to promote a holistic, integrated and more effective response to the crisis. For the 2021-2022 plan, 3RP partners remain committed to further strengthening the operationalization the Nexus in the Syria crisis response.

Turkey: WFP's "Kitchen of Hope" Syrian refugees and Turkish nationals are skilling up in a flagship project to boost the resilience of vulnerable communities.

Özlem in action during the Kitchen of Hope project's culinary training.

Programming at the HDP Nexus

- In Lebanon, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO and the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) have been collaborating on the "Gender Alert: Lebanon COVID-19 series". The publications explore how COVID-19 affects women's and men's health, their protection risks, economic prospects, and the roles women and men play in Lebanon's healthcare system. Each agency provides contributions to the study based on their comparative advantage and area of focus.

- In Turkey, UNDP, UNHCR and FAO worked together to foster enterprise development and inclusive business initiatives to employ Syrians under temporary protection and host community members. This included fostering enterprise development in a sustainable and long-term manner, developing the institutional capacity of local techno-parks and providing support to businesses, on the job trainings and skills development to both Syrians under temporary protection and host communities.

- In Jordan, WFP, FAO and IFAD are working together to create job opportunities for smallholder farmers, targeting both Syrians and Jordanians. The MADAD-funded project will focus on strengthening the capacity of national institutions to provide extension services to vulnerable and smallholder farmers and will also enable refugees and host communities to improve their access to finance services and family business investments.



Palestine Refugees from Syria

Palestinian refugees affected by the Syria crisis face worsening socio-economic conditions, increased vulnerability and depleted coping mechanisms. This includes over 438,000 Palestine refugees inside Syria, and more than 45,200 who are currently reported in Lebanon and Jordan, as well as an estimated 3,000 Egypt and under 1,000 in Gaza. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increased hardship, as many Palestinian refugees rely on daily paid and informal employment opportunities which have been curtailed by the lockdowns and the other restrictive measures adopted to contain the spread of the virus.

Many Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) who have been able to reach Jordan and Lebanon face a difficult and marginalized existence due to their uncertain legal status and limited social protection mechanisms. In Lebanon, PRS are confronted with the impacts of multiple crisis, including the economic crisis that has been affecting the country since October 2019, coupled with the health and non-health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. Effectively denied access to most public services and barred from working in several syndicated professions, many PRS in Lebanon are at risk of slipping into deeper poverty. In Jordan, PRS struggle with limited coping mechanisms and many continue to face protection challenges due to their precarious legal status. In recent months, the spread of COVID-19 and the related socio-economic consequences have exposed PRS in Jordan to further vulnerability and hardship.⁷

New Urban Agenda

The New Urban Agenda (NUA), sets a new global standard for sustainable urban development, which will help rethink how we plan, manage and live in cities. The Agenda provides guidance for achieving the SDGs. Through the NUA, world leaders are committing to ensure that all citizens have access to equal opportunities and face no discrimination and that the rights of refugees, migrants and internally displaced persons are fully respected regardless of their migration status. As 95 per cent of Syrian refugees reside in urban areas, 3RP partners will be supporting national governments and local authorities implement the Agenda, with technical and financial partnerships and assistance from the donor community.

No Lost Generation

Following a challenging year due to the COVID19 pandemic and its secondary impact on the lives of the most vulnerable, as well as changes in the socio-political context, No Lost Generation (NLG) will strengthen its advocacy in 2021, making the case for a more visible and renewed drive for the plight of Syrian children.

NLG will advocate for specific changes in three key areas: increase inclusion and access to education services and interventions for Syrian children and adolescents, across all ages and modalities; sustainable solutions with and for Syrian adolescents and young people in the transition from education to employment, while addressing harmful coping mechanisms, especially child marriage and child labour; and the systematic and sustainable provision of mental health and psychosocial support for children, adolescents and young people in NLG countries, including clear strategies for the provision of MHPSS within traditional sectors.

NLG will prioritize those thematic advocacy messages while at the same time actively promoting sustained investments in national systems; continued engagement with donors and renewed advocacy and partnerships with national governments, private sector, NLG champions and regional and global initiatives; strengthened focus on increased evidence-based and solutions-oriented advocacy; addressing the specific needs and vulnerabilities girls face across different ages and services, including sexual and gender-based violence; promoting the active participation of adolescents and young people across all NLG interventions; and promoting the use of innovation across all priorities.

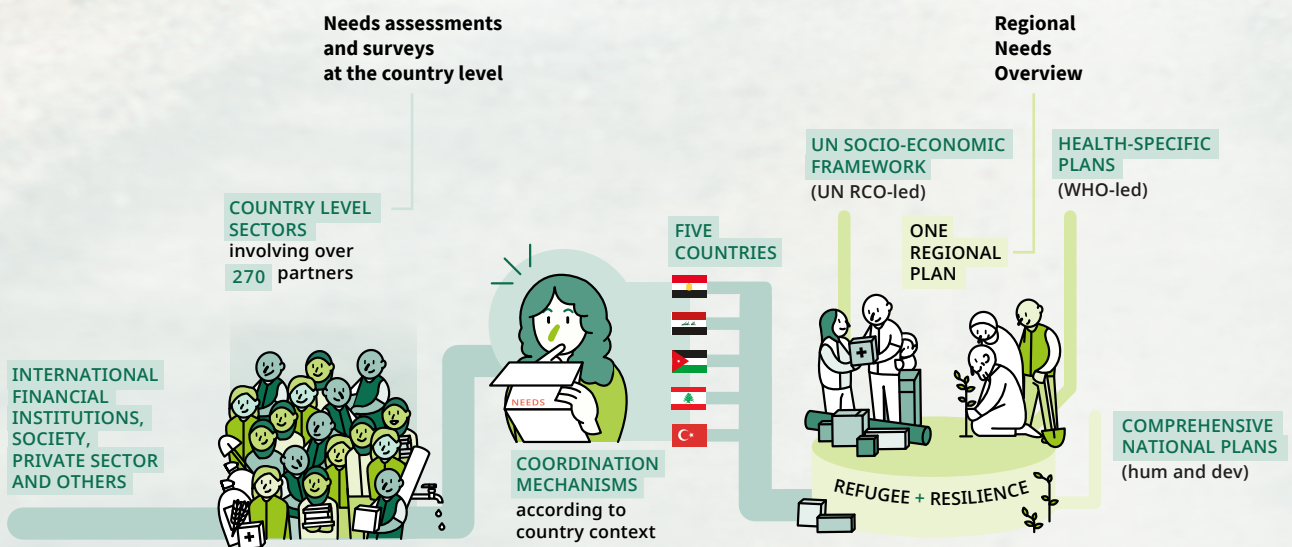


3RP Structure and Role

The 3RP is a strategic, coordination, planning, advocacy, fundraising, and programming platform for humanitarian and development partners to respond to the Syria crisis. It is comprised of one regional plan and five standalone country plans that respond to the needs of refugees and host communities and countries. The 3RP effectively addresses the protection and humanitarian assistance needs of refugees living in camps, settlements and in the host communities, while also addresses the resilience, stabilization and development needs of impacted individuals (both refugees and host populations), communities and institutions, aiming to strengthen the capacities of national actors.

As the 3RP is an integrated humanitarian and development plan, the 3RP is co-led overall by UNHCR and UNDP, who take the primary responsibility for the leadership and coordination of the refugee and resilience component respectively and through partnership with humanitarian and development actors, bringing their expertise to bear across the various sectors to support the national efforts. In that regard, the 3RP links to and aligns with national plans and priorities, as well as other planning frameworks, plans and coordination mechanisms at the regional and country level to the extent possible to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication.

The graphic outlines how the 3RP is conceptualized and implemented. The fundamentals of the 3RP is a strong national leadership, with the national leaders as the principal responders, supported by UN Agencies, international and national NGOs, and other partners.



Strategic Planning and Coordination

Since the launch of the 3RP in 2015, the 3RP has been recognized as a model of complementary coordination mechanisms between humanitarian and development, with over 270 partners operating across the region. In the regional level, the 3RP presents strategy documents and funding appeals, as well as supports country operations to ensure regional coherence in their planning, reporting and advocacy and resource mobilisation. Each year, a two-year Regional Strategic Overview (RSO) is released together with the country chapters to provide an overview of the regional strategies and response plans. The 3RP will continue to strengthen inter-agency processes, which include a periodic review of the strategic directions, as well as efforts to link with strategic initiatives like Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, in 2020, the 3RP developed a pilot Regional Needs Overview (RNO), which consolidated available evidences on needs and increased vulnerabilities of refugees and host communities and host countries due to the multi-layered crises. The document is meant not only to inform the country and regional planning from inter-agency and inter-sectoral perspectives, but also to help further reflecting on aggregate medium and long-term trends across 3RP countries.

Country-level Coordination

Although the processes and the modalities of identifying national priorities, coordination structure and programming vary between the five countries, the 3RP and its partners use every opportunity to place national leadership and capacities at the forefront of the response. The 3RP response is comprised of five standalone country chapters, which are nationally led in design and implementation. The country chapter of Lebanon is Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), which is developed by a national steering body convened by the Minister of Social Affairs and the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator under the overall guidance of the Government's Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced. In Jordan, the Jordan Response Plan (JRP), which is closely linked to national priorities is the Jordan chapter of the 3RP. The plan is developed by the Government, through the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC) and the secretariat in MOPIC ensures overall coordination of the response. In Iraq, the 3RP community will closely coordinate with the KRG and the Ministry of Planning to align its response and programs with the agenda of the Government and the Vision 2030 development plan. In Turkey, the 3RP partners work in close collaboration with national and local institutions as well as civil

society actors towards supporting the policies and services provided by the Government of Turkey, thus presenting a strong model of inclusivity and ownership. In Egypt, the government represented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), remains the main counterpart for policy and coordination of the 3RP together with national and international partners.

Advocacy and Resource Mobilization

The 3RP also serves as an important resource mobilization and advocacy functions and sets a common approach for advocacy and funding at both country and regional levels. Since the inception, over US\$ 19 billion dollars have been channelled through the 3RP to enable the 3RP partners to support national efforts to deal with the crisis. In 2021, 3RP partners are committed to enhancing joint advocacy and communication, noting the uncertain funding landscape ahead.

Research and Policy Development

The 3RP partners also carry out vulnerability and needs assessments on a regular basis as well as research on different thematic areas which contribute to improve programming and developing policy briefs.

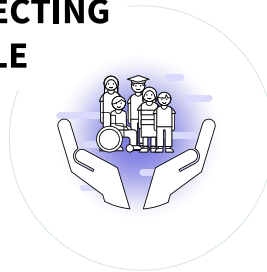


While each country has its own monitoring framework, ensuring coherent reporting on the progress of 3RP plans against the 3RP strategic directions is key to demonstrate the contribution and impact of the 3RP responses. Following the development of the regional strategic directions, this year, the 3RP has developed a regional monitoring framework to report progress against those four strategic directions. It is expected that this monitoring framework will help improve the overall planning, response, reporting and advocacy. It also links to other measurement frameworks, such as the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) where relevant and to the extent possible.

MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Strategic Direction 01

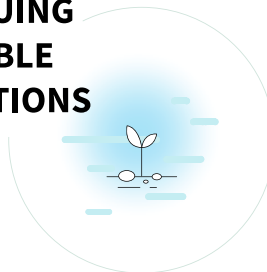
PROTECTING PEOPLE



Access to territory, asylum and basic rights for refugees is secured – Prevent and reduce statelessness through legally – recognised documentation and favorable legal provisions – SGBV is prevented and the risk of its occurrence mitigated – Scale and scope of specialised child protection services expanded – Expanding efforts to nurture community protection and refugee-host community cohesion

Strategic Direction 02

PURSuing DURABLE SOLUTIONS



Supporting voluntary, safe and dignified returns, without incentivising other returns – Ensuring preparedness plans for larger-scale return are in place – Increasing the number of those who can benefit from resettlement from a broad range of states – Promote the opportunity for complementary pathways – Expanding local opportunities for refugees from a solutions perspective

Strategic Direction 03

SUPPORTING DIGNIFIED LIVES



Ensure that refugee population can meet their basic needs and prevent them from resorting to negative coping strategies – Minimum standard of housing of the most affected communities is improved – Employability of and economic opportunities for refugees and host communities are improved – Economic opportunities for refugee and host communities expanded – Access to quality health care services for refugees and host communities is improved – Refugee children are enrolled in the national education system (primary and secondary)

Strategic Direction 04

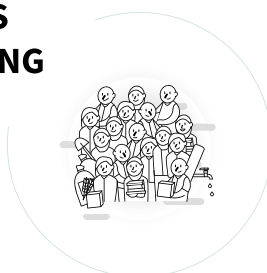
ENHANCING NATIONAL AND LOCAL CAPACITIES



Response capacities of national public institutions strengthened – Response capacities of municipalities and other local authorities strengthened – Partnership with the private sector increased

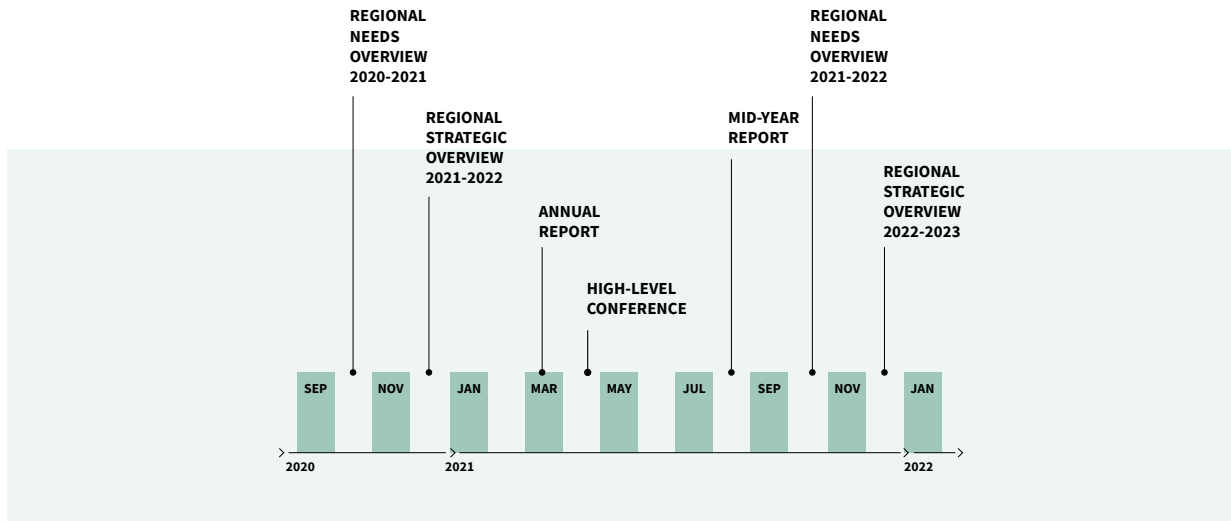
Strategic Direction

CROSS CUTTING



Country response plans linked to national/ sectoral development plans and the SDGs – 3RP contribution to the implementation of the GCR – Broadened partnerships with ifis and ngos outside of 3RP framework – 3RP contribution to the HDP Nexus operationalization

TIMELINE OF KEY 3RP PRODUCTS AND EVENTS

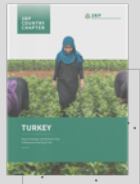


3RP PRODUCTS



Country Chapters

The country-driven processes are paramount in the 3RP and through the coordination structures that are in place in all countries, alignment and complimentary to national plans are ensured. The 3RP response is comprised of five standalone country chapters, which are nationally led in design and implementation. In Lebanon and Jordan, there are national response plans, namely Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and Jordan Response Plan, which constitute the country chapters for the 3RP, while in Turkey, Iraq and Egypt, the country chapters, which are nationally led in design and implementation, are developed every year covering a two-year planning cycle.



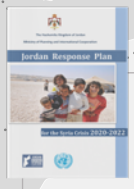
TURKEY
3RP COUNTRY CHAPTER



LEBANON
RESPONSE PLAN




IRAQ
3RP COUNTRY CHAPTER



JORDAN
RESPONSE PLAN



EGYPT
3RP COUNTRY CHAPTER

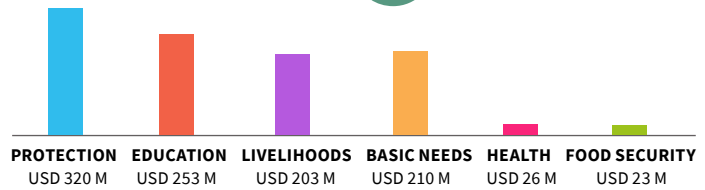
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TURKEY APPEAL JAN-DEC 2021:
USD 1.04 B



REFUGEE: USD 455 M (44 %)
RESILIENCE: USD 580 M (56 %)



REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES AS OF 18 NOVEMBER 2020

3,621,968

PROJECTED REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES BY DECEMBER 2020 (AS OF DECEMBER 2019)

3,621,968

ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER OF SYRIANS

3,621,968

NUMBER OF IMPACTED HOST COMMUNITY MEMBERS

1,800,000

Turkey hosts the largest number of persons under temporary and international protection in the world with 3.6 million Syrians under temporary protection in addition to approximately 320,000 international protection applicants and status holders. Currently, over 98 per cent of Syrians under temporary protection live in urban and rural areas, with less than 2 percent residing in Temporary Accommodation Centres.

The Government of Turkey leads the response and has shouldered the bulk of the financial burden of hosting Syrians under temporary protection. As the situation remains protracted, there is a need for increased and sustained international responsibility sharing, in line with the core principles of the Global Compact on Refugees, to address the continued needs of Syrians under temporary protection, persons under international protection, the communities which host them and the institutions which respond to the needs of both.

The need of continued support is more important than ever due to the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, notably regarding the loss or reduction of livelihoods and income for persons under temporary and international protection as well as host communities. As a result of the pandemic, vulnerabilities and basic needs have increased, while humanitarian and development partners have adapted service delivery modalities to continue maintain their support for the worst affected households and individuals. The increase in domestic food prices, lower incomes and increasing unemployment have significant impact on overall food security and access to healthy food by the poor. In trying to cope with the burden during this pandemic, poor people have reduced their dietary diversity and are spending on essential items such as education and health care. Despite the impacts of the pandemic, Turkey has continued to provide Syrians under temporary protection with access to basic services through the public institutions at national and local levels.

Turkey’s Law on Foreigners and International Protection and its Temporary Protection Regulation provide for a strong legal framework for the stay, registration, and strengthened access of persons under temporary and international protection to national services. The registration of Syrians under temporary protection by the Ministry of Interior’s Directorate General of Migration Management continues, as do spontaneous and self-organized returns of Syrians under temporary protection who are processed under voluntary return procedures as regulated by the legal framework.

Since 2015, the 3RP in Turkey has contributed to the mobilization of more than US\$ 4.5 billion, in particularly increasing support to and through public services and to municipalities where 90% of Syrians under temporary protection live. 3RP partners provide support to the Government of Turkey in complementarity with other actors, such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Turkish Red Crescent as well as international financial institutions. The latter have increased their financial support to national and local public institutions for service delivery, job creation and business development. Local actors are at the forefront of Turkey’s response and require additional support in the coming period to deal with the twin stresses of hosting large numbers of persons under temporary and international protection and the pandemic, which have stretched services.

In terms of technical support and service delivery, 3RP partners work with several line ministries and public institutions to provide targeted protection and assistance alongside a complementary, resilience-based approach.

People with specific needs, including women and children at risk as well as persons with disabilities face heightened vulnerabilities due to the pandemic and will be a 3RP priority in 2021-22 in line with the principle of the Sustainable Development Goals of “leaving no one behind”. 3RP partners support the Ministry of



Family, Labour and Social Services to provide targeted protection assistance, including the prevention of and response to gender-based violence, psychosocial support and access to legal and other specialized services, such as safe spaces and shelters.

3RP partners continue to support the Government of Turkey in meeting the most pressing basic needs of persons under temporary and international protection along with vulnerable host community members through cash and in-kind assistance. The multi-purpose cash assistance scheme, the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN), will continue to provide essential support to around 1.7 million vulnerable individuals under temporary protection, and is now funded outside the 3RP. The cash assistance provided by 3RP partners will therefore focus on vulnerable households that do not meet the ESSN criteria and those who are in camps, as well as complementary emergency and one-off support to people in urgent need.

Health sector partners support the Ministry of Health which manages a network of Migrant Health Centres that provide primary health services alleviating the pressures placed on hospitals, including the response to COVID-19, while reducing language barriers and increasing human resource capacity to increase access to healthcare.

Education is another 3RP priority in Turkey, and 3RP partners support the Ministry of National Education in promoting the inclusion of Syrians under temporary protection in the national education system, with more than 760,000 Syrian children of school age enrolled in formal education and over 37,000 students attending tertiary education. This support includes the Conditional Cash Transfer for Education programme.

The Regulation on Work Permits of Foreigners under Temporary Protection adopted in 2016, grants Syrians under temporary protection the right to apply for work permits and access to formal employment, with the aim of promoting self-reliance. In addition, Syrians under temporary protection can work in seasonal agriculture or animal husbandry within the scope of work permit exemptions. 3RP partners work on the supply and demand side with a range of public institutions and the private sector to increase employability and promote self-reliance through job placement, support to various businesses and market linkages. Finally, given the risk of rising social tensions due to the impacts of COVID-19 on access to employment and assistance, 3RP partners in Turkey will continue to support the Government's efforts to strengthen socio-economic inclusion and reinforce social cohesion based on Turkey's National Harmonization Strategy and Action Plan.

Key Selected Targets 2021



707,220 individuals
are reached through information campaigns and awareness-raising on rights, entitlements, services and assistance



1,143,200 MHPSS consultations
are provided in (supported) refugee health centers and host community clinics (sex and age disaggregated reporting)



139 national and local institutions
are supported to promote social cohesion



4,830 individuals
in national and local institutions are trained to support refugees and host community members with special needs



32,470 refugees and host community members
are completed with trainings (e.g. technical vocational skills training, which can include language/soft skills provided as part of employability package)



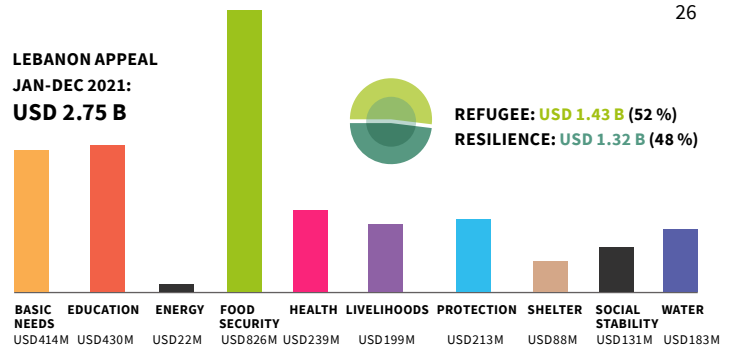
16,031 SMEs and businesses
are supported through business management trainings, financial /non-financial services or technology transfer



834,500 refugee children
are supported with distance learning



COUNTRY CHAPTER
Lebanon



**REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES
AS OF 18 NOVEMBER 2020**

879,529

**PROJECTED REGISTERED SYRIAN
REFUGEES BY DECEMBER 2020
(AS OF DECEMBER 2019)**

800,000

**ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER
OF SYRIANS**

1,500,000

**NUMBER OF IMPACTED HOST
COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

1,500,000

Lebanon continues to host the highest number of displaced per capita in the world, showing strong commitment to displaced Syrians and vulnerable populations within its borders. As of November 2020, the Government of Lebanon (GoL) estimates that the country hosts 1.5 million Syrians who have fled the conflict in Syria, including 879,598 registered as refugees with UNHCR, along with 257,000 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon, Palestine refugees from Syria, other UNRWA eligible persons from Lebanon. Since its inception, Lebanon has received US\$8.807 billion in support under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP).

The assistance made possible by donor contributions and implemented by Government, humanitarian and development partners under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), along with the exceptional hospitality of Lebanese communities, has brought substantial, much-needed support across all sectors and has prevented an even greater deterioration of living conditions for the most vulnerable groups. Achievements under the LCRP include: support to critical infrastructure such as water and waste management; helping local municipalities address livelihoods and service provision; extensive cash assistance bringing life-saving support to the poorest groups while boosting the local economy; support to health centres and hospitals; and substantial advances in helping the government enrol greater numbers of children in public schools every year.

Notwithstanding, the conflict in Syria has had a compounding impact on Lebanon's already deteriorating social development and economic growth, causing deepening poverty and humanitarian needs, and exacerbated pre-existing development constraints in the country. This situation has been further complicated by the COVID-19 outbreak, leading to further worsening of the socio-economic situation with direct effects on unemployment, food security and services. The advent

of the port explosions added a tremendous strain on the country's general economy, and created additional despair, loss of jobs and tensions. Amidst the unfolding crisis, poverty levels amongst refugees and Lebanese are rising exponentially and have crippled people's ability to cope. It is estimated that approximately 23.2 per cent of Lebanese have been plunged into extreme poverty but due to existing data gaps, further data is needed to fully understand the extent of the situation. Some 91 per cent of displaced Syrians are living on less than \$2.90 per day.

The multiple crises have contributed to increased social tensions, noting that competition for jobs and access to services remain among the primary drivers of tension at the local level. Positive inter-communal relations are at the lowest point (since the beginning of the tensions monitoring mechanism under the LCRP was set up in 2017), particularly in vulnerable localities. The percentage of displaced Syrians aged 15 years and above having legal residency continues to show a downward trend. Other major protection challenges include mental health, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), child marriage and child labour as well as violence against children. One stark illustration of the deteriorating situation is the increase in irregular onward movements by both Syrians and Lebanese by sea from Lebanon towards Cyprus in 2020 compared to previous years.

The LCRP, a joint plan between the Government of Lebanon and its international and national partners, aims to respond to these challenges in a holistic, comprehensive and integrated manner through multi-year planning to achieve the following strategic objectives: ensure the protection of displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese and Palestinian refugees; provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations; support service provision through national systems; and reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability.



Afif
Syrian Refugee



Key Selected Targets 2021



315,385

families of Syrian refugees, Lebanese and Palestine Refugees from Syria are reached with regular cash transfers



512,500 children and youth

whose registration fees for public education are partially covered or fully subsidized



1,118,200 individuals

are assisted with improved access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic use



Vulnerable persons

have access to food assistance (cash and in-kind) 1,633,528 for cash + 115,947 for in-kind



234,848 individuals

receive financial support for improved access to hospital care among targeted population



67,501 vulnerable persons

are employed through public infrastructure and environmental assets improvement



100,000 individuals

benefit from counselling, legal assistance and legal representation regarding civil registration including birth registration, marriage, divorce and death



165 municipalities

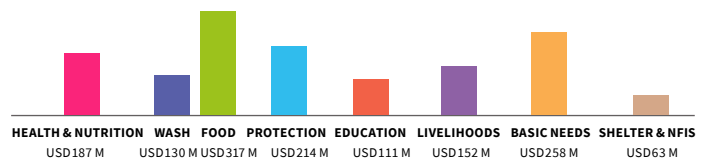
and local actors having improved capacities for dialogue and conflict prevention



JORDAN APPEAL JAN-DEC 2021:
USD 1.6 B



REFUGEE: USD 880 M (55 %)
RESILIENCE: USD 720 M (45 %)



REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES AS OF 18 NOVEMBER 2020

659,673

PROJECTED REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES BY DECEMBER 2020 (AS OF DECEMBER 2019)

633,314

ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER OF SYRIANS

1,300,000

NUMBER OF IMPACTED HOST COMMUNITY MEMBERS

520,000

Jordan hosts 1.3 million Syrians, of which 662,166 are registered with UNHCR, making it the second largest per capita refugee hosting country in the world. While Jordan is not a signatory to the 1951 Convention, it warrants a favourable protection environment for Syrian refugees that is conducive to safeguarding key fundamental human rights through national frameworks. Jordan actively supports and implements global mechanisms in place for responding to the Syria crisis, while also adhering to the principles and priorities outlined in the 2030 Agenda, the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the World Humanitarian Summit.

The impact of COVID-19 in Jordan is significant, with multiple assessments indicating high rates of unemployment as an immediate consequence. More than 85 per cent of the most vulnerable households reported difficulties in meeting even their basic needs like food and rent and amongst the general population, almost three quarters reported similar difficulties. These findings serve as a magnifying glass on inequalities and emerging protection risks. Almost half of households started to reduce their food intake and/or adopt livelihood coping strategies, potentially impacting their future productive capacity. Among refugees living in host communities, food insecurity has reached 21 percent for male headed households and 30 percent for female headed households (131,000 people). The impact in camps has been even more severe; camp households with insufficient food consumption increased from 5 per cent to 19 percent between 2019 and 2020.

Commendably, the Jordanian Government ensured the inclusion of all populations on its territory within its national COVID-19 response plans, highlighting the acute need to address the mid- to long-term structural and socio-economic challenges that equally affect host and refugee populations in need. Moreover, the Jordan Response Plan (JRP) 2020-2022 strongly encourages a mid- to long-term approach, addressing vulnerabilities at individual, household and community levels, spotlighting the need to tackle the root causes of fragility and putting ‘resilience’ back at the core of

the crisis response; The JRP also foresees a dedicated COVID-19 pillar, and each project ensures refugee, host community as well as institutional and capacity building components.

Humanitarian actors contribute to strengthening national systems and institutions helping to address protection risks. Against the backdrop of the National Social Protection Strategy, the focus is to ensure that the services provided are supporting the development of an equitable social protection system that will provide access to Jordanians and non-Jordanians based on need and vulnerability. From 2021 onwards, the findings of the Joint Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment (JCVA)⁸ will inform targeting.

Expansion of social security mechanisms is a national priority recognizing the acute need to grow and formalize the private sector through the promotion of ‘decent work’. Emerging initiatives such as the creation of a multi-donor Emergency Unemployment Fund (EUF) are based on inclusive policies and strategies that simultaneously benefit both refugees and host populations.

A holistic approach is needed to promote an enabling legal and policy environment for reform and addressing demand and supply side barriers that impede women’s social and economic empowerment and participation. Promotion of micro, small and home-based business regularization, and sectors where a preponderance of women work, will be a key.

Humanitarian and Development actors support the government’s commitments under new financing schemes to further expand the sectors in which refugee labour is formalized. Through issuance of work permits, it will promote expansion of social security coverage to informal microenterprises and self-employed workers, and longer-term self-sufficiency of workers. The recovery from COVID-19 induced increase in unemployment and underemployment, and reversal of the impact on the informal sector where most of the refugee



community and vulnerable Jordanians are employed will not be easy. There is a need to invest in strategies that will jointly prioritize national employment whilst supporting access to refugee employment while supporting temporary job creation and allowing recently unemployed and young people to have an immediate income.

For the most vulnerable, the transition from dependence to self-reliance requires graduation from social assistance programs. Current assistance programs that effectively provide for basic needs, will have to be complemented by active labour market policies that support lower skilled workers' (especially women) re-entry into the labour market and economic opportunities. The focus must shift beyond social assistance to include job creation and economic growth, where refugees and host communities can partake, helping to reinforce social cohesion.

Support to host countries must be accompanied by a strengthened approach to resettlement and complementary pathways to help to find lasting solutions and demonstrate collective burden sharing. Jordan has taken unrepresented strides to ensure progress on the Jordan Compact, which serves as lessons learned for other protracted displacement contexts.

Going forward, a continued dialogue and close collaboration between humanitarian and development actors is essential in order to unlock additional growth opportunities and international investment. Furthermore, prioritizing a post-COVID-19 recovery process to build more resilient systems and strengthening institutional capacities as well as capacitating local systems and municipalities at the 'front line' of providing for refugees and host communities will be a key to transform a humanitarian crisis into a development opportunity for all.

Jordan remains one of the driest countries in the world, with scarcity of water a major barrier to the achievement of SDGs and future economic prosperity of Jordan. The water supply deficit challenge at the macro level is reflected at the micro level for water supply to Syrian refugee camps. Zaatari Refugee Camp is heavily dependent on underlying groundwater to meet the needs of the community,

Collective efforts and high-level advocacy for equitable access to quality, inclusive education for those most disadvantaged, as well as evidence generation for strategic response planning and education programming are continuously needed. Continued school closures can have an adverse impact on children's well-being and exacerbate their learning loss.

Key Selected Targets 2021



More than 800,000

Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians are targeted to receive food assistance through cash-based transfers.⁹



Water supply

for around 77,000 refugees in Zaatari Refugee Camp is improved through integration of water services



70,000 Syrian refugees

are issued with work permits



50,000 Syrian refugees

working in the private sector and registered in national security system are supported with enrolment in social security



550 officially established and registered Home Based Businesses

by Greater Amman Municipality (GAM) or municipalities under the purview of Ministry of Local Administration (MOLA), are owned by Syrians.



17,2234

Persons with Disabilities, Older persons at risk, and Other Vulnerable Persons are assisted through Referral Systems, Targeted Assistance, and Outreach



41,000 households

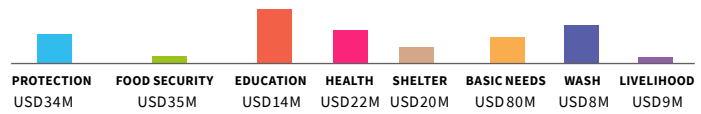
assisted with regular monthly cash assistance and 50,000 households assisted through COVID emergency cash assistance (3 months)



IRAQ APPEAL JAN-DEC 2021:
USD 222 M



REFUGEE: USD 166 M (75 %)
RESILIENCE: USD 56 M (25 %)



REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES
AS OF 18 NOVEMBER 2020

242,704

PROJECTED REGISTERED SYRIAN
REFUGEES BY DECEMBER 2020
(AS OF DECEMBER 2019)

255,000

ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER
OF SYRIANS

245,810

NUMBER OF IMPACTED HOST
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

231,938

Despite the challenging political climate in Iraq and the negative economic climate, the overall protection environment in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) remains largely favourable. Local authorities and host communities remained welcoming and accommodating towards the refugee population.

However, the absence of an effective legal framework for refugee protection in Iraq continues to preclude longer-term residency rights and other legal benefits for Syrian refugees. The difficult economic situation negatively affects the livelihood opportunities of Iraqis and Syrian refugees alike and stretches the existing public services. Lack of access to sustainable employment and livelihood opportunities remains the main vulnerability reported by Syrian refugees and the root cause of protection issues, such as child labour and child marriage. It also led to refugees seeking relocation to camps and not being able to cover costs related to multiple needs, such as renting adequate accommodation, purchasing food for the household, ensuring children’s school attendance, and accessing adequate healthcare services.

The COVID-19 situation has exacerbated these vulnerabilities. Movement restrictions, combined with the temporary closure of shops and non-essential businesses, had a negative effect on food security and the ability to meet basic needs, resulting in an increased need for food and cash assistance, and livelihoods interventions. Efforts are made to advocate with donors to support local authorities in their COVID-19 response and social protection schemes, and to ensure that refugees are included in temporary solutions of cash compensation to daily laborers.

The limited access to livelihood opportunities also increased the risk for some forms of SGBV and had a negative impact on the overall child protection environment, leading to an increase in cases of child

abuse, neglect and labour. However, some protection services are still temporarily conducted through remote and alternative modalities. Protection actors will ensure that refugees have access to qualitative protection services, even in times of movement restrictions, and advocate for opening the border to allow refugees to enter the KR-I to seek asylum or to voluntary return to their places of origin.

Basic health services remain available to refugees, inside and outside camps. However, additional capacity building and material support is needed to assist the COVID19 response of national health providers. Inside refugee camps, camp management activities continued to ensure that services, such as desludging, water trucking, and garbage collection, are available to all camp residents. Public services and institutions in the municipalities surrounding refugee camps will continue to be supported to avoid parallel humanitarian services and to advocate for inclusion of refugees these services.

The closure of schools during the lockdowns led to an education gap. Support was provided to the Ministry of Education to produce new education content for online and offline use, including training. In parallel, education actors will continue supporting the Ministry with the development and implementation of the refugee education integration policy.

Additional programming will be put in place to address the exacerbated needs caused by the COVID-19 situation. However, given the protracted displacement of the majority of the Syrian refugees in the KR-I, the 2021-2022 3RP Iraq Chapter will continue to aim at a gradual transition from emergency humanitarian response to a longer-term solutions-oriented approach with a focus on self-reliance and the inclusion of refugees in strengthened public services and national systems.



Nadira

Syrian Refugee



Key Selected Targets 2021



2,000 Syrian refugees submitted for resettlement or other complementary pathways to third countries



5,620 girls and boys at risk supported with child protection specialized services



4,550 girls, boys, women and men receive SGBV case management services



72,000 refugees residing inside camps receiving food assistance



Refugee education integration policy is endorsed and implemented



126 public PHC facilities supported with material assistance



40 infrastructure projects (roads, electricity, public buildings etc.) improved and maintained inside refugee camps



18,000 refugee households receive Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (cash grants)



16,480 people accessing water through an improved water network



8 government institutions receive support to enhance their training capacity (physical, coverage or knowledge transfer)



EGYPT APPEAL JAN-DEC 2021:
USD 169 M



REFUGEE: USD 123 M (73 %)
RESILIENCE: USD 46 M (27 %)



REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES
AS OF 18 NOVEMBER 2020

130,187

PROJECTED REGISTERED SYRIAN
REFUGEES BY DECEMBER 2020
(AS OF DECEMBER 2019)

136,000

ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER
OF SYRIANS

500,000

NUMBER OF IMPACTED HOST
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

804,480

As of November 2020, 258,862 refugees and asylum-seekers from 58 different nationalities were registered in Egypt, including 130,085 Syrian refugees. Out of the total registered population, 37% are children, including 4,067 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). Among all registered individuals, Syrians remained the largest nationality group, counting for 50% of the total population. However, the number of new registration requests from Syrian nationals continues to decline.

In 2021, the 3RP appealing partners will continue to ensure that the protection space for and legal status of Syrian refugees are maintained, including extending support to access protection including against refoulement. 3RP partners will continue to support refugees and asylum-seekers in meeting their basic needs and in accessing protection, education, health services, housing, food and livelihood options. The partners realize that there is a need for a multilevel intervention to address the increased challenges adversely impacting the protection space for refugees and asylum seekers. Achievements made on the mainstreaming of refugees into national education and health services are expected to continue despite the challenges of COVID-19.

3RP appealing partners in Egypt agreed to prioritize GBV and child protection activities including during the COVID-19 crisis to address the urging needs of the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers. Appealing partners aim to extend financial assistance to all separated and unaccompanied children (USCs). As the 3RP partners and the Government of Egypt (GoE) work towards one refugee approach of assistance for all nationalities, provision of financial assistance to Syrian separated children in 2021 cannot be achieved without securing funding for all refugee separated children from all nationalities. It is worth noting that psychological and housing needs have exacerbated during COVID-19, and likely to be continued in 2021 and beyond.

At the same time, 3RP partners will continue to prioritize communication with the community activities using various platforms and communication means. This will contribute to strengthening the accountability framework for the affected population. Response to persons living with disability and other groups in need will continue using an age, gender and diversity sensitive approach.

Access and support of refugees and asylum seekers to public education remain key strategic priorities. While Syrian, Sudanese and Yemeni refugee students have access to the public education system on equal footing with Egyptians, 3RP education partners will continue enabling access to refugee students from all nationalities to attain primary and secondary education through provision of education grants and continued support to the Ministry of Education.

With regard to health services, refugees and asylum-seekers will continue to have access to primary health care services through public health facilities and complementary care through NGO Partners to fill gaps in non-communicable diseases and reproductive health services. Health partners will continue to support national efforts to improve the quality of services to refugees and asylum-seekers, and the host population in areas with high concentrations of refugees. 3RP Health Partners will also deliver specific health care assistance, as well as secondary and referral care for life-saving treatments. In the meantime, health partners will maintain monitoring of health trends including COVID-19 cases in the refugee and asylum-seeker community and advocate for access to essential lifesaving and regular health services.

In 2021, the 3RP appealing partners in Egypt will continue to provide cash assistance as a protection tool. In addition to enabling refugees to pay rent, utilities, access to education, and other essential needs, Cash-Based Interventions (CBI) reduces harmful coping mechanisms such as taking children out of school,



child marriage, child labour, begging and other survival mechanisms. The CBI continues to expand the use of biometrics to verify the identity of those receiving assistance and to maintain the integrity of the process. With this system, refugees can collect cash assistance directly through selected Egypt Post offices using iris-scan technology. The CBI programme also allows refugees to spend money in local markets in support of the local economy, resulting in protection, and social cohesion dividends through strengthened relationships between refugee and host community populations.

Throughout 2021, the food security partners will extend unconditional food assistance to 150,000 refugees in addition to 20,000 workers and returnees from host communities who are facing unprecedented challenges in meeting their basic needs. In addition, general food assistance will be provided to 130,000 refugees and asylum seekers from nine nationalities, including those of Syria, Sub-Sahara Africa, Yemen and Iraq, in the form of unrestricted cash transferred on a monthly basis through over 100,000 outlets nationwide to support them in meeting basic needs. Moreover, there will be a provision of monthly food assistance to the most vulnerable pregnant and lactating women and their infants under two years of age. The conditionality for their periodic hospital visits will temporarily be removed to minimize the risks of contracting the virus and to alleviate the burden on already stretched medical resources nationwide. Once resources are available, there will be a scale up of current operations to target the most vulnerable groups including refugees and asylum-seekers from all socioeconomic backgrounds regardless of previous vulnerability assessment ranking. Similarly, assistance to pregnant and lactating women refugees which was halted in August 2020 due to shortage in funding will be reinstated, as well as livelihood activities targeting host community and refugees through Food For Training programs, which has been temporarily put on hold during the emergency response period to prioritize access to food will be resumed provided there are adequate resources.

Key Selected Targets 2021



283 separated and unaccompanied children are supported with financial assistance



12,000 households with approximately 2,500 students have increased access to primary and secondary education through provision of education grant



2,500 GBV survivors are supported with comprehensive multi-sectoral response, including case management and other needed services



8,508 protection cases of 35,054 refugees are provided with cash assistance as protection tool and enable to pay rent and essential basic needs and access to social services



150,000 refugees and 20,000 workers and returnees from host communities receive unconditional food

Annex 1

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

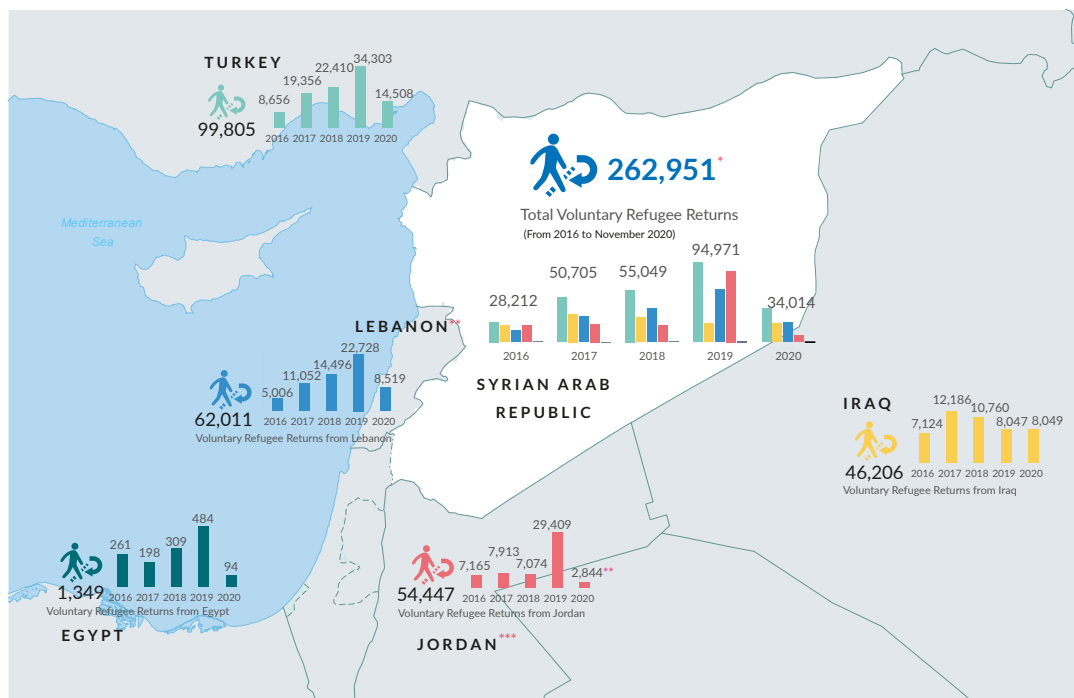
From January 2016 up to November 2020, UNHCR verified the return of over 260,000 Syrian refugees from neighboring countries. This figure represents only refugee returns verified by UNHCR; the actual number is likely higher. In 2019, almost 95,000 refugee returns were verified, an annual increase of nearly three-quarters compared to the previous year.

COVID-19 had a significant impact on return to Syria in 2020. While the level of return in the first two months of 2020 were broadly comparable to previous years, return through official border crossings slowed down significantly in March as countries started to enact border measures and other public health containment policies to halt the spread of the virus which in turn impacted on returns. No verified returns occurred between late March and late May 2020.

Between late May and early June self-organized returns continued, although at a lower previously. Turkish authorities resumed voluntary repatriation activities at that time. By late 2020, return from all 3RP countries had resumed, though numbers remain significantly lower than prior to the pandemic.

Based on current trends, the cumulative number of refugees who will return in 2020 is expected to be around one third of that of 2019. The decrease in returns is likely due to a number of factors including the challenging legal, economic and political situation and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Syria as well as new requirements introduced by Syrian authorities related to entry, including a negative PCR test result and, for every adult, the exchange of 100 USD to Syrian pounds at the official rate upon entry. The financial implications of the new procedures have posed additional challenges for vulnerable refugees.

VOLUNTARY REFUGEE RETURNS AS VERIFIED BY UNHCR AS OF 30 NOVEMBER 2020



* The numbers reported are only those verified or monitored by UNHCR and do not reflect the entire number of returns, which may be significantly higher.

** Data includes only those verified by UNHCR, General Security reported additional figures from their Group Returns and of these a total of 158 individuals were not known to UNHCR.

*** Since the re-opening of the border on 15 October 2018, the methodology for returns data was adapted. The return data after 15 October 2018 remains tentative and is undergoing validation and re-adjustments.

Data source: [UNHCR data portal](#)



RETURN PLANNING FIGURES

Assessments among Syrian refugees in the region continue to highlight their overall intention for an eventual return to Syria. UNHCR's intention and perception survey from March 2019 found that over 75 per cent of Syrian refugees in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon hope to return to Syria one day though only around 6 per cent expect to do so in the immediate future (within next 12 months)¹⁰. On-going engagement with refugee communities is used to identify the major issues and challenges facing refugees in host countries, including engagement with those who are considering a possible return to Syria.

3RP planning for 2021 is based on a return planning figure of some 200,000 – 250,000 Syrian refugees. This figure is based on the latest intention survey, on-going assessments, as well as ensuring consistency in planning from previous years. It is important to note that these figures are projections used for planning purposes only and undue reliance should not be placed on them. Such planning figures necessarily involve uncertainties, which may cause the actual level of return to differ. Return planning figures will be updated as necessary throughout the year as more information becomes available, including to inform the on-going response, as well as contingency planning.

ON-GOING COMMUNICATION WITH REFUGEES

3RP partners have heavily invested in building close links with communities including through a wide range of innovative communication mechanisms. This includes community outreach components, such as home visits, group discussions and the use of community centers as well as call centers, hotlines, social media initiatives, bulk SMS, websites and automated services. Where possible, this involves building on existing community networks or committees. Such two-way communication channels enable 3RP partners to identify major issues and challenges facing refugees in host countries, including engagement with those who are considering a possible return to Syria.

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION AS A DURABLE SOLUTION – CURRENT APPROACH

The 3RP adopts a comprehensive protection and solutions approach, guided by international protection and humanitarian standards and centred on refugee intentions and concerns. This approach entails: 1) supporting refugees, host countries and communities; 2); enhancing preparation and support for those who choose to voluntarily return and 3) advocating for expansion of resettlement and complementary pathways. For voluntary repatriation specifically, UNHCR's Comprehensive Protection and Solutions Strategy: Protection Thresholds and Parameters for Refugee Return to Syria (2018) remains the key guiding document for the 3RP.

All refugees have the fundamental human right to return to their country of origin at a time of their own choosing. The decision to return must be made on a voluntary basis by refugees, based on up-to-date and reliable information, and not coerced either overtly through forced return, or indirectly through changes of policies that restrict refugee rights or by limiting assistance to refugees in the host country. UNHCR and 3RP partners continue to advocate that returns must, to the greatest extent possible, be orderly and sustainable. Ensuring these basic principles are adhered to will require a renewed collective commitment to depoliticize refugee returns.

Refugees' own decisions will remain UNHCR's main guidepost and we continue to plan and be ready to support, following refugees' own decisions if they are taken in a free and informed manner. While there is currently no facilitation or promotion of refugee return to Syria, 3RP partners have gradually strengthened support to refugees intending to return, in line with the overall strategy, and in coordination with host governments. Such support aims to reduce the risk of harm to refugees and contributes to an informed and dignified return.

At the same time, UNHCR continues to stress that expanding support to host countries is critical to maintain protection space and refugee access to legal work and services, in line with the comprehensive protection and solutions approach. Most refugees will remain in host countries for the foreseeable future. But, reducing support will only result in increased push factors, potentially leading to refugees returning prematurely to Syria or seeking to move beyond the region.

3RP 2021 PRIORITIES FOR VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION IN 2021

Through regional, multi-stakeholder discussion related to preparedness planning on return of Syrian refugees, priority areas of work have emerged:

1. ENHANCE SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES INTENDING TO RETURN

UNHCR and inter-agency partners will continue to support to refugees who have made the decision to return in a free and informed manner. Such support is provided in full engagement with host governments and guided by the Comprehensive Protection and Solutions Strategy: Protection Thresholds and Parameters for Refugee Return to Syria and the inter-agency Return Operational Framework, released in 2019.

Such support can include pre-departures individual counseling or group information sessions, return monitoring and needs based services, for example through provisions of legal aid to replace missing documentation or vaccinations. 3RP partners have also provided direct presence at some of the border crossings (for example in Jordan), supporting families with administrative processes and monitoring their safe passage. Specific support related to return is complemented by other types of non-return specific support in host countries, related to education and skills for example, also help to contribute to a greater prospect of a more successful and sustainable return and reintegration.

During counseling, refugees are provided information about the situation in Syria or processes to access rights and services and the voluntariness of their decision is assessed. Access to information ensures refugees can make the best, safest and most sustainable choice for themselves and their family and helps them access basic services upon their return. The information gathered by humanitarian actors during the engagement with refugees further supports the monitoring of motivating factors behind and barriers to returns in the various settings.

Building on the Regional Operational Framework, UNHCR and 3RP partners continue to evaluate how to enhance support and address the needs of refugees who take a free and informed decision to return in line with current position and approaches.

SUPPORT INSIDE SYRIA FOR RETURNEES

In Syria, returning refugees are supported through and included in ongoing humanitarian programmes at the community and village-level and based on need equal to that of other populations, including IDPs and returning IDPs and vulnerable individuals from host communities. Complementing these operational efforts, there is a dialogue with the Government of Syria and other stakeholders to gradually address issues that refugees say inhibit their return. In 2021, 3RP partners will seek to enhance cooperation with the response inside Syria to ensure the best possible support is provided to returnees.



2. ENGAGEMENT ON ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO RETURN

Advocacy to remove barriers for safe returns will remain another important priority for 2021. UNHCR and 3RP partners continue to engage with stakeholders to gradually address and remove what refugees say inhibit their return, such as concerns over safety, housing, livelihoods or access to services. For example, lack of civil documents by refugees and fees related to border crossings can pose challenges for refugees wanting to return. For example, COVID-19 related health measures that require testing and the recent additional provision requiring refugees to have 100 USD at the time of the crossing, places additional financial burden on vulnerable individuals. Engaging stakeholders to find pragmatic solutions to these challenges will support greater access to durable solutions.

3. CONTINUE WITH PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS ON RETURN

Under the 3RP's Regional Durable Solutions Working Group (RDSWG), planning and preparedness efforts will continue related to return. Such an agile and operational posture is necessary in view of the changing situation in Syria and host countries in the region and the diversity of perspectives among refugees themselves.

In 2020, the RDSWG expanded its preparedness planning efforts through the activation of thematic workstreams. These are time and task forced working groups that focus on thematic areas outlined in the Return Operational Framework. These workstreams have two important functions. They inform ongoing information provisions and specialized support to refugees who are intending to return. They also lay important groundwork in case of a sudden change in the context that would allow large-scale facilitation of voluntary repatriation in the future.

Five workstreams have been set up covering Livelihood, Education and Protection related topics (including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, Housing Land and Property rights, Civil Documentation and Explosive Hazard Risk Education). A range of outputs have been produced in these workstreams. Some of the information material that has been developed, where appropriate, also contains information about advice on mitigation strategies for refugees related to specific protection risks such as explosive hazards.

Additional RDSWG Workstreams are expected to be activated in 2021 including related to education and livelihoods. More broadly, RDSWG and country level groups will seek to ensure overall preparedness plans are fit for purpose in the current context.

FORCED RETURNS

Returns that are forced, whether directly or indirectly, put persons at risk, may amount to violations of international law, could hamper stability and reconciliation in Syria and may have a deterring effect on other potential refugee returnees as stories of hardship circulate. UNHCR continues to work with authorities to prevent such instances and respond to them if they occur.

4. IMPROVING DATA AND INFORMATION

Improving available data and information is critical. It enables and supports the ability of refugees to make free and informed decisions and is critical for the sustainability of returns and for building trust in return as a solution. At the same time, refugees' own decisions will remain the main guidepost of the 3RP and thus placing the intentions and perceptions of the refugees at the heart of planning and operational support is vital. In that regard, the 3RP will seek to improve data and information efforts in 2021 in three main ways.

First, 3RP partners will also seek to improve the data and information available to refugees, in collaboration with humanitarian actors operating in Syria. Second, 3RP partners will continue to invest in a wide range of research on thematic areas related to return to generate knowledge and support evidence-based planning efforts. Important efforts already underway include Housing Land and Property, Civil Documentation and livelihoods. Such efforts will feed into broader inter-agency efforts on planning and preparedness to ensure coherence and complementarity between these various research initiatives to maximize our collective understanding. Third, UNHCR will seek to conduct a regional intention and perception survey among refugees, to be complemented by on-going communication with refugees, as well as the work of other 3RP actors in raising the voices of refugees on their hopes, intentions and concerns.



Annex 2

RESETTLEMENT AND COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS

BACKGROUND

The launch of the multi-stakeholder Three Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways¹¹ in late 2019 saw a renewed global commitment to resettlement and complementary pathways. Drawn from the Global Compact on Refugees, the Strategy provides the blueprint and impetus for all stakeholders to deliver on increasing refugees’ access to third country solutions. It has three broad aims: first, to grow resettlement places and the number of resettlement State partners; second, to expand opportunities for complementary pathways; and third, to promote welcoming, inclusive societies in receiving countries. The Three Year Strategy also reinforces the aims developed in UNHCR’s Comprehensive Protection and Solutions Strategy: A Roadmap to Advance Resettlement and Complementary Pathways in the Syria Crisis.¹² This document presents a clear approach to expanding partnerships and solutions and has guided UNHCR’s and other regional humanitarian resettlement and complementary pathways activities related to Syrian refugees.

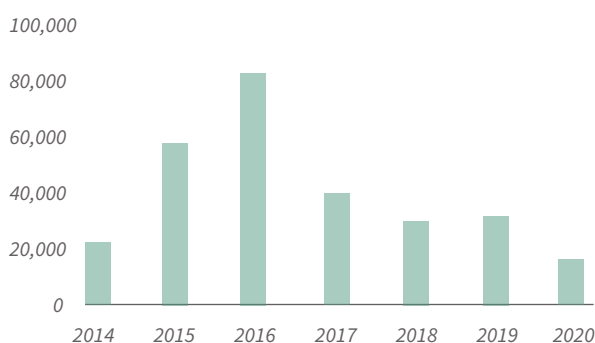
In the MENA region, the positive global developments in 2019 were reflected in a much-welcomed reversal of the downward trend in resettlement submission numbers of previous years, with a 10 per cent increase in submissions compared to 2018. Of these submissions, Syrian refugees remained the largest percentage by far, and were also the largest refugee population submitted for resettlement regionally and globally, due to the ongoing – and ever-increasing – protection needs of this population group.

As of the start of 2020, 576,000 Syrians, mostly living in 3RP countries, were projected in need of resettlement. Many Syrian refugees live in socio-economic destitution, with limited access to formal employment and basic services and are vulnerable to protection risks including exploitation, SGBV, child labour, early marriage and in some instances, arrest, detention, deportation, and refoulement. The pandemic has effectively exacerbated many of the pre-existing vulnerabilities faced by refugees, in an economic context that was already challenging for host communities and that has now worsened.

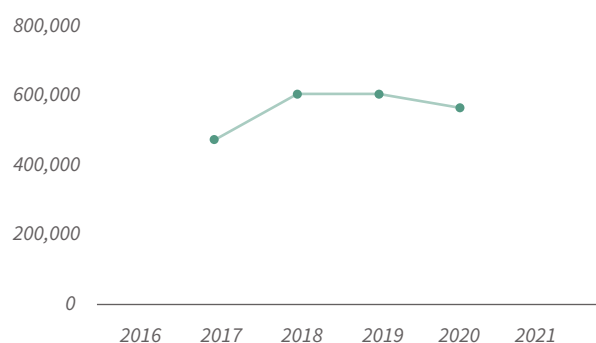
Meanwhile, the COVID-19 pandemic has hindered States’, UNHCR and 3RP partners’ efforts to capitalize on available resettlement quotas, as programs have been delayed – and some reduced – as a result. Departures had early to mid-year been put on hold, and many State were compelled to readjust timeframes and arrangements for processing. Depending on the longer-term socio-economic effects of the pandemic in receiving States, resettlement quotas may be adversely affected in years to come.

Despite the ongoing commitment to resettlement and complementary pathways for Syrians from States, a renewed sense of urgency and collaborative action is needed, to preserve – and if possible, expand - resettlement and complementary pathways opportunities for Syrians in the years ahead, to ensure ongoing protection and solutions.

SYRIAN SUBMISSIONS



RESETTLEMENT NEEDS



PRIORITIES IN PARTNERSHIP UNDER THE 3RP – THE WAY FORWARD FOR 2021

3RP partners under the leadership of UNHCR will continue to reflect the international community's accountability towards Syrian refugees and safeguard the protection space in the five main countries hosting Syrians. The regional approach envisages an ongoing, multi-year resettlement programme for Syrians going forward, targeting those with compelling protection needs, for whom return to Syria will not be possible in the foreseeable future. Concurrently, complementary pathways may offer solutions that allow Syrian refugees to regain normalcy in life, contribute to their local communities and pursue secure and sustainable futures. A collective approach toward the following three strategic objectives is proposed.

1. SAFEGUARDING THE RESILIENCE OF SYRIAN RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMMES

Linked to the first aim of the global Three-Year Strategy, ensuring ongoing resettlement opportunities for Syrians will remain vital. UNHCR and 3RP partners plan to work with States in various bilateral and multilateral ways to maintain Syrian resettlement for years to come.

• Ensuring robust and adaptable resettlement processing modalities

COVID-19 related safety restrictions introduced in early 2020 limited face-to-face contact and initially impacted the ability to conduct in-person processing for registration, refugee status determination and resettlement. However, UNHCR together with partners was able to develop effective remote-based activities in a timely manner, to ensure ongoing resettlement submissions. These procedures ensure that the integrity of the interviews is maintained while also protecting the health and safety of refugees, staff members and other partners. During 2021, 3RP partners will continue to develop these methodologies further to ensure that programmes are more resistant to future incidents which restrict access to offices or physical spaces, and which can be flexible to unprecedented circumstances.

States are encouraged to review procedures and identify remote-based opportunities for processing, and to ensure resumption of safe departures at the earliest opportunity, so that quotas for 2020 are fully realized. States may coordinate closely with UNHCR on the logistical support or information needed to achieve implementation of remote-based processing modalities. 3RP Partners will provide logistics planning, provision of spaces or other forms of assistance to support these aims. Partners in countries receiving refugees will continue to advocate for the continued safe arrivals of refugees on resettlement, with appropriate safety mechanisms in place.

• Ongoing engagement in multi-lateral fora

The spirit of multilateralism and collaboration which has characterized the Syrian resettlement programme from the beginning will remain an important priority. 3RP partners will continue to work closely with States establishing new or increased programmes in the region to support the development of sustainable, enduring activities. A close engagement with the Priority Situations Core Group (PSCG), the RDSWG, and, at the global level, the Annual Tripartite Consultations on resettlement (ATCR) will remain important. These fora may foster new approaches and provide an avenue to pass key advocacy messages on the importance of maintaining Syrian resettlement.

• Further enhance collaboration with 3RP partners to improve identification and referrals

In order to preserve the maximum benefit of resettlement for Syrian refugees and the ongoing effectiveness of programmes, UNHCR and partners envisage a targeted approach to identification, with resettlement remaining a reliable and effective protection tool preserved for those with compelling protection needs, and for whom return to Syria will not be possible in the foreseeable future. UNHCR will work with partners to continue collaboration to highlight protection needs and risk profiles in a multi-agency manner, as well as to contribute ongoing identification efforts towards those with the most compelling protection needs.

2. STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES TO INCREASE COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS OPPORTUNITIES FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Linked to the second aim of the Three-Year Strategy, UNHCR, in conjunction with 3RP partners and regional stakeholders, are planning an ambitious programme of complementary pathways activities to benefit Syrian and other refugees. The main areas of focus are based on the workplan for the newly formed MENA Contact Group for Complementary Pathways (MCGCP), which will be the key vehicle for driving complementary pathways in the region in 2021 and beyond. The MCGCP is a multi-lateral platform with over 70 participants including 3RP partners and Resettlement states and private sector actors. States and partners are encouraged to take an active role within this group and contribute, wherever possible, to activities and discussions. The MCGCP will:



- Provide a forum to raise awareness of existing complementary pathways to resettlement available to refugees and asylum seekers;
- Identify and seek to reduce barriers to complementary pathways;
- Provide advice and guidance on planning and coordination with respect to complementary pathways at the regional and operational levels;
- Act as an incubator for innovative approaches to complementary pathways, considering how projects related to family reunification, labour mobility or third country education scholarships, for example, might be evaluated and adjusted for wider implementation and duplication in other contexts;
- Feed into advocacy efforts to advance and expand complementary pathways, and the development of partnerships as an avenue of expansion.

3. ENGAGEMENT WITH PARTNERS ON RENEWED AND SUPPORTIVE ADVOCACY EFFORTS IN RECEIVING COMMUNITIES

Linking to the third aim of the Three Year Strategy, UNHCR seeks to work closely with partners on advocacy efforts designed to contribute to inclusive and welcoming environments to boost the overall success of Syrian resettlement, as well as to mitigate and respond to the possible risk of reduced resettlement and complementary pathways quotas for Syrians in the coming years.

To advocate for resettlement places and opportunities for the Syrian refugees, UNHCR will collaborate with partners in multi-lateral fora, to tailor protection responses and highlight challenges and needs to donors and civil society. UNHCR will produce tools or narratives which can support advocacy for specific profiles, operations, or receiving countries, in order to garner support for Syrian resettlement, or to promote the positive impact of resettlement for receiving communities. The MCGCP will undertake advocacy efforts to support complementary pathways opportunities, as an additional way to promote wider opportunities for Syrians in the region.

States are encouraged to provide UNHCR of information needed to better ensure national and local authorities responsible for reception and integration support are well-equipped and well-prepared to respond to the needs for refugees upon arrival. States may also wish to consider showcasing particular successes or best practices with regard to reception or integration approaches for Syrians in receiving communities.

Partners will continue to highlight to civil society or other contacts within receiving countries the importance of Syrian resettlement as a concrete expression of solidarity in the region, remind that the predicament of Syrians in the MENA region continues to worsen, and underscore the need for ongoing opportunities for protection and solutions.



Sources

PHOTOS

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FOOTNOTES

- ¹ Turkey: Inter-Agency Protection Sector Needs Assessment Analysis Round 2 - September 2020: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/83595>
- ² UN Women, Needs assessment of Syrian women and girls under temporary protection status in Turkey (2018): <https://eca.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/08/needs-assessment-of-syrian-women-and-girls-under-temporary-protection-status-in-turkey>
- ³ UNFPA, 2020, Daring to Listen Report and Act, A snapshot of the impact of covid-19 on women and girls sexual and reproductive health and rights https://jordan.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/resource-pdf/20200511_Daring%20to%20ask%20Rapid%20Assessment%20Report_FINAL.pdf
- ⁴ Jordan Work permit figures: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/82443>
- ⁵ Please add footnote as follows: The figures of Turkey and Jordan are as of 30 November 2020 while those of Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt are as of 30 June 2020.
- ⁶ 320,000 persons under international protection, which include international protection applicants and status holders such as nationalities other than Syrians, who are granted temporary protection under Turkey's legal framework.
- ⁷ UNRWA's dedicated appeal document for 2021 describes the plight facing Palestine refugees affected by the regional Syria crisis, including the additional humanitarian needs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2021 Syria regional crisis Emergency Appeal will be available at the end of January 2021 on UNRWA website www.unrwa.org/Syria-crisis
- ⁸ JCVA aims at in-depth understanding of the determinants of vulnerability and poverty in Jordan at the household level regardless of nationality or status.
- ⁹ All figures are subject to change based on updated information received from the country level. Total requirements as well as component and sector breakdowns will be available once information is received regarding the Jordan Response Plan.
- ¹⁰ 5th Regional Survey on Refugee Return Perceptions and Intentions, March 2019, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/68443>
- ¹¹ UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Three Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways, June 2019, available at: <https://www.unhcr.org/5d15db254.pdf> [accessed 10 March 2020]
- ¹² 5th Regional Survey on Refugee Return Perceptions and Intentions, March 2019, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/68443>



3RP Appealing Partners

Action Aid (AA)	International Medical Corps (IMC)	SHEILD - Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention for Local Development
Action contre la Faim (ACF)	International Network for Aid, Relief and Assistance (INARA)	SIDC
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Solidarités Internationales (SI)
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)	SPARK
Akkar Network For Development (AND)	International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Support to Life
Akkarouna	INTERSOS	Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS)
Al Fayhaa Association	IR	Taawon
Al Majmoua Lebanese Association for Development	IRJ	Tabitha-Dorcas
Al Midan	Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW)	Tahaddi Education Center (lebanon)
Alianza por la Solidaridad (APS)	Japanese Committee for the Children of Palestine (JCCP)	Terre des Hommes (TDH)
Al-Maqdese for Society Development (MSD)	Jordan Health Aid Society (JHAS)	Terre des Hommes Italia (TDH Italy)
Alpha	Jordan Paramedic Society (JPS)	The Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI)
Alsham Foundation	Jordan River Foundation (JRF)	The International Solid Waste Association (ISWA)
American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA)	Justice Without Frontiers (JWF)	Lebanon
Ana Aqra Association	KADAV	The Lebanese Organization for Studies and Training (LOST)
Anadolu Kultur	KnK Japan (KnkJ)	Thiqah
Arabian Medical Relief (AMR)	Leb Relief	TIAFI
Arche noVa	Lebanese Association for Early childhood Development (ECD)	Un Ponte Per
Arci Cultura e Sviluppo (ARCS)	Lebanese Society For Educational and Social Development (LSESD)	Un Ponte Per (UPP)
Association - Lebanese Popular Association for Popular Action (AMEL)	Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Union of Relief and Development Association (URDA)
Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan)	MAGNA (Medical and Global Nutrition Aid) maharat	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants (ASAM)	Makassed	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
ATAA Relief	MAPs	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
Basmeh wa Zeitooneh (B&Z)	MARAM	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Bonyan	Maya Foundation	United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
British Council (BC)	MEDAIR	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
CARE International (CARE)	Médecins du Monde (Mdm)	United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
Caritas	Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP UK)	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Medical Teams International (MTI)	United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)
Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)	United Work
CIPE	Mercy Corps (MC)	Viyan Organization for Medical Relief & Development
Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP)	Mercy Without Limits	WADI
Common Effort Organization (CEO)	Mercy-USA	WALD
Concern	Middle East Children's Institute (MECI)	War Child Canada (WC-C)
Concern Worldwide	MMS	War Child Holland
Cooperazione e Sviluppo (CESVI)	Mouvement Social	War Child UK (WC-UK)
Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI)	Movimiento Por La Paz (MPDL)	WATAN
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	MSYDD	Welthungerhilfe
Dar Al Fatwa (DAF)	Near East Foundation (NEF)	Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC)	Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (NICCOD)	Woman Support Association (WSA)
Expertise France	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	World Food Programme (WFP)
Fair Trade Lebanon (FTL)	Olive Branch	World Health Organization (WHO)
Fard Foundation	Oxfam	World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF)
Finn Church Aid (FCA)	Peace Winds Japan (PWJ)	World Vision International (WVI)
Fondation Mérieux	peaceofartlb	ZOA International
Food & Agricultural Organization (FAO)	PLAN	
FR	PLAN International	
French Red Cross (FRC)	PLAN International (PI)	
GOAL	Polish Center for International Aid (PCPM)	
Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC)	Positive Planet International	
Habitat for Humanity	Première Urgence-Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI)	
Help - Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V.	Qatar Charity (QC)	
Himaya Daeae Aataa (HDA)	Qatar Red Crescent (QRC)	
Human Appeal	Relief International (RI)	
Human Concern International (HCI) Lebanon	Rene Moawad Foundation (RMF)	
Humanity & Inclusion	Resource Centre for Gender Equality (ABAAD)	
HWA Hilfswerk Austria International (HWA)	RET International	
IB	RET International (lebanon)	
IBC	Right to Play (RTP)	
ICMPD	Safadi Foundation (SAFADI)	
Ihsan RD	Salam LADC	
Institut Européen de Coopération et de Développement (IECD)	Save the Children International (SCI)	
Institute for Development, Research, Advocacy and Applied Care (IDRAAC)	SAWA for Development and Aid	
International Alert (IA)	Sawa for Development and Aid (SDAid)	
International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)	SAWA Group Association	
International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC)	Shafak	
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How to Contribute



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Huda and her daughter (left)
Syrian Refugees

Huda and her daughter standing in the field where they work harvesting and producing. The single mother lost her husband in Syria and had to flee and raise three children by herself. Huda says smiling and laughing has helped her overcome difficulties and hardships.



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