2020 Annual Report

Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan in Response to the Syria Crisis

May 2021
2020 at a glance

Before COVID-19
- Refugees living in extremely dense communities with precarious/insecure housing
- Over half of the population engaged in informal sectors; or unemployment
- Gender inequality
- Limited access for chronic medical treatments, especially persons with special medical needs; limited access to harvest picking for farmers
- Poor sanitation and lack of clean water

COVID-19 pandemic & measures taken in countries
- Movement restrictions; closure of the borders
- Closing of businesses, schools, and public services etc.
- Dominant perceptions of gender roles leading to increased care responsibilities of women
- Limited access for chronic medical treatments, especially persons with special medical needs; limited access to harvest picking for farmers

Deterioration of Livelihoods & increased protection risks
- Deteriorated economic situations leading to reduction in HH income and livelihoods
- Increased social tension
- Evictions
- Irregular return movements to Syria
- Child labour, school drop-out
- Sexual and gender-based violence
- Reduced employment opportunities for women
- Increase in food prices; inability to meet basic needs

Achievements
- 240,317 persons received Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) response services (99% of target)
- 2,361,697 individuals received food assistance (cash, voucher or in-kind) (104% of target)
- 1,191,114 children (5-17 years, girls and boys) enrolled in formal general education (85% of target)
- 2,514,449 consultations for target population in primary health care services (48% of target)
- 570,813 households received unconditional, sector-specific or emergency cash assistance (60% of target)
- 50,707 households outside of camps received assistance for shelter and shelter upgrades (28% of target)
- 1,855,692 people benefiting from access to adequate quantity of safe water through improved longer-term water systems (117% of target)
- 48,479 individuals employed or self-employed, including short term (cash for work and seasonal labour) and long term employment (54% of target)
### Population

**Regional Overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Registered Syrians* as of end December 2020**</th>
<th>Estimated Total Number of Syrians (as of November 2020)</th>
<th>Number of Impacted Host Community Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Turkey</strong></td>
<td>3,638,193 registered Syrians under temporary protection as of end December 2020</td>
<td>3,638,193 estimated total number of Syrians</td>
<td>1,800,000 number of impacted host community members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lebanon</strong></td>
<td>665,531 registered Syrian refugees as of end December 2020</td>
<td>800,000 estimated total number of Syrians</td>
<td>1,500,000 number of impacted host community members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jordan</strong></td>
<td>661,997 registered Syrian refugees as of end December 2020</td>
<td>633,314 estimated total number of Syrians</td>
<td>1,300,000 number of impacted host community members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Egypt</strong></td>
<td>130,577 registered Syrian refugees as of end December 2020</td>
<td>500,000 estimated total number of Syrians</td>
<td>804,480 number of impacted host community members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Iraq</strong></td>
<td>242,163 registered Syrian refugees as of end December 2020</td>
<td>255,000 projected Syrians by December 2021</td>
<td>223,938 number of impacted host community members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* In Turkey, Syrians under temporary protection.  
** The Regional total includes 31,657 Syrian refugees in North Africa. - Numbers are based on 2020 figure. Figures as of 18 April 2021

### “Population Details / Insight”

- **95%** of Syrian refugees across the region reside within the host community, mainly in urban areas; 5% reside in camps.
- **Some 44%** of Syrian refugees within the region are female. Some 49% of host community populations within the region are female.
- **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.
- **In 2020, over 60%** of the households reported loss of job and entire income due to the pandemic in some countries.
REGIONAL OVERVIEW

2020 Overview

FUNDING STATUS

3RP Total Requirements 2020
- Non-COVID-19 Requirements
- COVID-19 Requirements

Total Funding Received
- Non-COVID-19 Requirements received
- COVID-19 Requirements received

% funded against 3RP Total Requirements

ESTIMATED AGENCY FUNDING

UN Agencies, Fund, Programmes
- $4,658,877,253 required
- $2,610,072,862 received (56% funded)

International NGOs
- $559,759,793 required
- $459,357,339 received (82% funded)

National NGOs
- $777,338,710 required
- $132,357,681 received (17% funded)

Notes: This does not include multi-partner funding under COVID-19 requirements.

FUNDING IN PREVIOUS YEARS (END-YEAR)

2020
- 53% funded
- USD 5.996 b required

2019
- 57% funded
- USD 5.4 b required

2018
- 62% funded
- USD 5.6 b required

2017
- 61% funded
- USD 5.58 b required

2016
- 63% funded
- USD 4.54 b required

2015
- 62% funded
- USD 4.32 b required

2014
- 61% funded
- USD 3.74 b required

2013
- 71% funded
- USD 2.98 b required

COUNTRY FUNDING IN 2020

Egypt
- $169m required
- 35% funded

Iraq
- $293.66m required
- 37% funded

Jordan
- $1.475b required
- 47% funded

Lebanon
- $2.656b required
- 57% funded

Turkey
- $1.302b required
- 53% funded

Notes: The country requirements reflect the 3RP COVID-19 appeal and 3RP revision conducted in Q2 2020.

2020 SECTOR FUNDING

PROTECTION
- USD 487.8m/64% received
- USD 757 m required

FOOD SECURITY
- USD 650.1m/56% received
- USD 1.16b required

EDUCATION
- USD 439 m/55% received
- USD 797 m required

HEALTH & NUTRITION
- USD 260 m/60% received
- USD 433 m required

BASIC NEEDS
- USD 497.3 m/40% received
- USD 1.24b required

SHELTER
- USD 62.6 m/53% received
- USD 118.6 m required

WASH
- USD 220.5 m/75% received
- USD 295 m required

LIVELIHOODS
- USD 218.2 m/127% received
- USD 817 m required

Notes: Funding received figures include multi-year funding received specifically for use in 2020 or new funding received in 2020. For Lebanon, carryover funding received in 2019 is not reflected in the overall amount received for 2020. Figures are subject to change based on new information received.
Strategic Directions

3RP countries and partners have ensured that 3RP responses are guided by the Strategic Directions. During 2020, the monitoring framework was developed to ensure accountability and track the achievements and impact made by the partners.

On ‘Protecting people’, national and local authorities, together with partners, had to adjust and put in place alternative remote modalities to ensure the continuation of protection activities as access became more limited. In Jordan, among other initiatives, a remote continuous registration initiative was launched complemented by hybrid document distribution to tackle and minimize the risk of statelessness. Additionally, Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and partners have increased their efforts to address the rise in child protection and GBV issues as a result of the confinement measures imposed by COVID-19 pandemic.

‘Pursuing Durable Solutions’ continued to be at the centre of the response. In total, some 38,000 Syrian refugees returned from neighbouring countries in 2020, which is around 60 per cent lower than the level of return in 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors including the challenging legal, economic and political situation. 3RP partners continued to respond to the needs of those who made a free and informed decision to return, while also continuing longer-term planning for voluntary return.

On resettlement, the number of resettlement submissions was the lowest since 2014, with only 10,056 in 2020. 3RP partners adapted working modalities in light of COVID-19, while also continuing to advocate for an increase in overall resettlement places. The MENA Contact Group on Complementary Pathways was also established in late 2020 to bring increased attention on this critical solution.

In terms of local opportunities, all countries worked tirelessly to promote and facilitate some form of economic and social inclusion, particularly on health programmes, including related to COVID-19 as well as on education and livelihood programs despite the significant challenges caused by the pandemic.

### Strategic Directions Sector Indicators 2018 2019 2020 2020 target

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Directions</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2020 target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protecting People</td>
<td>Protection</td>
<td># of persons receiving Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) response services</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>109,630</td>
<td>240,317</td>
<td>242,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Protection</td>
<td># of girls and boys who are receiving specialized child protection services</td>
<td>127,456</td>
<td>110,337</td>
<td>140,799</td>
<td>179,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Protection</td>
<td># of individuals reached through awareness or information campaigns/sessions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,186,356</td>
<td>1,081,765</td>
<td>1,606,769</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These figures above relate to returns verified and confirmed by UNHCR, based on government sources and direct observation by UNHCR. The actual number of returns may be significantly higher.
On the ‘Supporting Dignified Lives’, notably by addressing the provision of basic needs to refugees and host communities as the pandemic emerged. Concerted efforts by 3RP partners were established to mitigate pandemic-related shocks through increasing coverage of emergency cash and in-kind assistance. The aim helped limit a surge in negative coping mechanisms while safeguarding, where possible, jobs and livelihoods. In order to support self-reliance of refugees and host community members, partners have shifted to offer online training courses, and promoted digital work and e-commerce to ensure the continuity of vocational and language training as well as livelihoods opportunities. Across the 3RP countries, local partners and Syrian NGOs played a central role in responding to the effects of the Syria crisis. In Lebanon alone, more than 120 local partners were involved throughout the year. The prevailing situation on the ground bolstered partners’ engagement and support to local and national institutions. All 3RP countries and partners worked tirelessly to respond and expand essential services (i.e. protection, health, education, social protection) to refugees and host communities. Support to local and national institutions to enhance their capacities also came in the shape of capacity building, material support and other public health advocacy material aiming at raising awareness on implementing measures to minimize the spread of COVID-19. This tracking of support to public institutions regularly undertaken in Lebanon, Turkey, and now Jordan, shows that since 2017, 3RP partners have provided an increasing amount of resources to support national and local systems, totaling nearly 1.5bn USD. In Jordan, the JRP includes a specific Infrastructure and Institutional Capacity Building Component’ since 2020 to highlight the need for dedicated institution support. The tracking of support to public institutions shows that 3RP partners have responded to this call, mobilizing over USD 93m of support to/through public institutions for 2020-21. Across 3RP countries, the impact of COVID-19 has temporarily slowed down the delivery of support to public institutions in 2020 (USD 240m provided compared to USD 427m in 2019), available data on funding secured for 2021 indicates that the support provided to national system will resume increasing across countries. Moreover, partners have maintained a strong focus on fostering social cohesion between communities, despite the obvious restrictions in organizing events bringing people together. 3RP partners through various monitoring platforms including for example the Lebanon’s Tension Monitoring System, or through various surveys in Turkey such as the Syrian Barometer, continued monitoring the evolution of inter-community relations, and supporting local and national institutions to plan and conduct their own social cohesion initiatives.

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<th>Sector</th>
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<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2020 target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td># of children (5-17 years, girls and boys) enrolled in formal general education</td>
<td>1,352,125</td>
<td>1,292,000</td>
<td>1,191,114</td>
<td>1,397,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td># of consultations for target population in primary health care services</td>
<td>3,080,575</td>
<td>3,392,724</td>
<td>2,514,449</td>
<td>5,223,053</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Needs</td>
<td># of households receiving unconditional, sector-specific or emergency cash assistance</td>
<td>460,074</td>
<td>496,093</td>
<td>570,813</td>
<td>944,024</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td># of people who have experienced a hygiene promotion / community mobilization session</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>451,287</td>
<td>1,228,830</td>
<td>664,326</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihoods</td>
<td>Number of individuals accessing income and employment opportunities, including access to jobs and to short term opportunities</td>
<td>64,188</td>
<td>89,026</td>
<td>88,077</td>
<td>243,871</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihoods</td>
<td>Number of businesses supported / created</td>
<td>3,566</td>
<td>8,883</td>
<td>3,976</td>
<td>25,979</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Cohesion</td>
<td>Number of people engaged in social cohesion initiatives</td>
<td>203,323</td>
<td>346,225</td>
<td>457,662</td>
<td>238,190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Stability</td>
<td>Number of municipalities and other local authorities provided with technical support on managing inclusive services and fostering social cohesion</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3RP Response to the COVID-19 Crisis

In 2020, the magnitude of the challenges that partners and national governments had to deal with was unseen before. While the impact of COVID-19 on refugees and host communities remains to be fully measured, regional studies conducted by partners have indicated a worsening in socio-economic vulnerabilities, food accessibility and mental health conditions, with women and children disproportionately affected. 3RP COVID-19 plans aimed at responding to the immediate and medium-term needs and, through their assessments and joint evaluation, help set the basis for inclusive recovery. The unreserved and strengthened inclusion of these groups into national plans has been very positive and it aligns with the principle of “Leaving No One behind” set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals.

Among many available examples, as soon as announcements of a vaccine against COVID-19 were made, host countries started to include refugees in national vaccination plans. Violence against women and risks of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) have been reported consistently across the region. Similarly, other protection-related inter-sectorial needs linked to legal status, gender and age and specific needs got also highlighted. Platforms were established to support access to occupational therapy for the elderly and persons with special needs and disabilities, as well as supporting an online workshop dedicated to finding alternative ways for women to seek help during COVID-19.

To tackle the negative effects on food and livelihoods caused by the temporary closure of shops and non-essential businesses, partners assisted vulnerable refugees and host community members through multi-purpose cash assistance. Moreover, on food security and market access, household visits got replaced by a remote data collection system to monitor monthly trends.

On health, while most national systems provided an initial response, they rapidly became overwhelmed with increased demands for patients in need of COVID-19 assistance that negatively impacted routine monitoring and other treatment services for non-communicable diseases. Refugee camps and vulnerable communities initiated health awareness campaigns on transmission and prevention of COVID-19.

Inside some refugee camps, residents received continuity of WASH services by increasing the water supply and providing essential hygiene kits and organizing sessions on risk communication and community engagement (RCCE).

Additionally, the education system had to transition to home-based learning models, often with limited access for vulnerable children such as refugees and children with disabilities. Partners supported access to online distance education, whilst printed learning materials and relevant assistance are also provided to children with limited access to technology and parental support.

The impact of COVID-19 on both the socio-economic situation of refugees and host communities as well on the ability to deliver livelihoods activities has led livelihoods partners to speed up efforts to develop digital livelihoods opportunities initiated before the crisis. Livelihoods partners have developed blended training methodologies (in Turkey) and digital work and e-commerce. Livelihoods training also included COVID-19 infection prevention amongst trainees and supported businesses. The sector partners also supported SMEs through the creation of eCommerce and web-based business support, and the provision of digital package such as internet connection and website development among other things.

Against the backdrop of several compounding crises, 3RP partners not only ensured the continuation of critical programs but rapidly scaled up their capacities to respond to the emerging COVID-19 pandemic, working to the maximum extent possible with local and national counterparts to minimize duplications and ensure great flexibility and complementarity. A 3RP COVID-19 Appeal and a full revision of the entire 3RP helped partners identify new needs generated by the pandemic.

In 2020, UNRWA continued to provide education to 4,812 Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon and 1,167 PRS and Syrian students in Jordan.

The longstanding challenges caused by conflict and displacement were exacerbated by the closure of schools due to COVID-19. In response, UNRWA conceptualized its Education in Emergencies programme, ensuring the continued provision of quality, inclusive, and safe education through the establishment of new safe and accessible Self-Learning Platform. To reach students facing challenges in accessing online materials, printed Self-Learning Materials were also distributed. Students’ psychosocial needs continued to be addressed through remote modalities to support children and parents to cope with the additional stress caused by the pandemic.
“Improving the well-being of host and refugee communities through enhanced access to social and basic services in Beirut.”

In coordination with the Municipality of Beirut, 3RP partner, UN-Habitat, implemented in 2020 a multi-sectorial project in the neighbourhood of Sabra focusing on building upgrading, mobility, and rehabilitation of basic services. The project which aimed to alleviate poverty and enhance living conditions of host and refugee populations, was implemented using participatory and community-based decision-making approaches.

“I am so delighted to be asked about my challenges and needs. For the first time, I feel that I am not left behind.” Maya noted, a 28-year-old resident of Sabra, Beirut.

UN-Habitat Iraq is implementing a project to register the HLP claims for Syrian refugees residing in Iraq for their properties in Syria, which aims to improve land tenure security and safeguards of the HLP rights of refugees. The customized and contextualized innovative tool, respectively the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) is used to document, register, record and archive the property documentation. The STDM datasets linking the claimants with their houses, lands and properties with supporting evidence will be developed and safeguarded. Through this project approximately 2,000 Syrian refugee households will receive claim certificates for their land and property claims in Syria.

Photo by UN-Habitat Lebanon

Photo by UN-Habitat Iraq
Living Together: Football for social cohesion. Bonyan’s project helped strengthen social cohesion between Syrian and Turkish children in the Turkish city of Şanlıurfa. In cooperation with the UEFA foundation, this project targeted both Syrian and Turkish children (7-13 years), as well as their teachers, and parents.

The project started with the rehabilitation of playgrounds in ten Turkish schools. With the help of 300 Syrian and Turkish teachers, three football leagues of 36 teams could be established. For the project, sports materials, guidebooks, and trainer books, have been provided to 100 schools in the city.

Photo by Bonyan

With the onset of the pandemic, WFP Egypt operationalized unrestricted monthly cash-based transfers, in place of vouchers, helping reduce gatherings and overcrowding previously held at voucher-distribution sites while allowing people in need to safely redeem food assistance from an extended network of 100,000 partner retail stores. The cash assistance supported over 77,000 Syrian refugees out of a target 130,000 refugees of all nationalities to secure their basic food needs in this time of crisis.

Photo by WFP Egypt

UN Women together with FAO conceptualised a gender-sensitive monitoring approach for resilience-focused programmes that sought to provide quantitative and qualitative evidence on the impact on women’s resilience and empowerment as well as examine the results produced by different intervention types in Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. This approach is allowing UN Women to better design programmes, ensuring that they are based on needs and vulnerabilities of the population of concern.

Photo by UN Women
Hosting more than 3.6 million Syrians under temporary protection and approximately 320,000 persons under international protection, Turkey remained the largest refugee hosting country in the world in 2020. Despite the significant strain placed in particular on public institutions and municipalities by this additional population and the profound impact of COVID-19 on all segments of society, Turkey maintained its inclusive approach to supporting refugees through State institutions in line with Turkey’s legal and policy framework, in the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees and the Sustainable Development Goals.

3RP partners supported the sustained inclusion of Syrians in national services by working principally through State institutions and providing complementary assistance, supporting the Government-led response to COVID-19 and its negative consequences on already vulnerable groups, including refugees. In Turkey, as elsewhere, the pandemic resulted in a dramatic increase in needs, significant disruption in key services, particularly those involving outreach and in-person activities, and some reversal in gains and progress made in a number of important sectors including education and livelihood.

To respond to significant challenges created by COVID-19 and increased vulnerabilities, particularly of refugee women and children, especially girls, 3RP partners sustained their efforts to contribute to the protection of refugees by adapting programmes to include remote support to minimize service disruptions, identifying through case management 192,000 individuals with protection needs and referring 129,000 to specialized services such as individual, group, and family counselling services to improve well-being and resilience, GBV services, and justice services. The pandemic also generated a huge demand in timely information on service availability and public health measures, and 3RP partners helped 723,000 individuals access reliable information in relevant languages. 3RP Partners continued to support the Turkish Government’s efforts in strengthening case management and outreach services throughout the pandemic.

Basic needs partners also played a critical role in reducing the shock of the pandemic on an increased number of vulnerable households by providing monthly cash-based assistance to more than 1.8 million individuals including the Emergency Social Safety Net program, complementary cash-based assistance to 172,000 individuals and more than 1.5 million hygiene, dignity or sanitary kits. In addition, 36 municipalities were supported with infrastructure projects (e.g. waste management) to expand their capacity to deliver essential services to the refugees and host community while contributing to social cohesion.

Health sector partners complemented the Ministry of Health’s extraordinary efforts in 2020 to respond to the pandemic and continue the provision of essential healthcare to refugees and host communities. 3RP partners supported 369,650 primary healthcare consultations, 44,282 individuals have been provided with sexual and reproductive health services and 81,341 refugee children received immunization.

Education remained as critical as ever for refugee protection, inclusion, and social cohesion, but the pandemic created additional barriers for refugee children’s access to continuous learning and reversed some of the progress achieved in previous years. With the support of 3RP partners, more than 768,000 refugee children were enrolled in formal education in the 2020-2021 school year, and 671,274 children benefitted from Conditional Cash Transfers for Education and nearly 4,000 students per month are transported to school free of charge. Nonetheless, more than 400,000 refugee children remained out of school, with a significant decrease in enrollment rates at pre-primary and primary levels – a clear evidence of the negative impact of COVID-19 pandemic.
The Livelihoods and Food Security and Agriculture Sectors were heavily impacted by the socio-economic effects of COVID-19. However, partners were able to sustain and increase provision of skills development programs using digital platforms for engagement (e.g. language, entrepreneurship, business counselling) and cash support initiatives in agriculture to help safeguard jobs and support inclusive recovery from the economic shock of the pandemic, with a particular focus on refugee women and youth. Digitalization modalities were established for training delivery and e-commerce to support small and medium enterprises as well as start-ups. 40,939 individuals were supported with vocational, language and livelihoods skills training, while 10,424 individuals increased their income through support for job retention, job placements, self-employment, or other opportunities.

The difficult socio-economic situation in Turkey resulted in reports of rising social tension in some areas despite the Government’s continued efforts in the implementation of the Harmonization Strategy and National Action Plan and the support from 3RP partners provided through activities promoting the social cohesion. With public health measures, including confinement and social distancing, the community outreach and direct interaction with beneficiaries has been limited for much of the year. 3RP partners are planning to increase their efforts in 2021 to maintain the generally positive relations between refugees and host communities, with sustained support for social cohesion programming and projects to improve services and livelihoods at the community level to address the root causes of social tension.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2020

- Turkey continued to host the largest refugee population in the world.
- Supported information dissemination and awareness raising efforts reaching 723,000 individuals with information on their rights, available services as well as on COVID-19 messaging.
- Identified 192,000 individuals with protection needs (including assessment of 99,000 children of which 129,000 were referred to specialized services), including Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) and legal counseling.
- More than 2 million individuals assisted with cash-based assistance, including monthly and emergency / ad hoc assistance to help mitigate the impacts of the pandemic on the most vulnerable households.
- 768,839 refugee children enrolled in formal education in Turkey and more than 672,274 children benefitted from Conditional Cash Transfers for Education, encouraging their enrollment, and sustaining their school attendance.
- 369,650 primary healthcare consultations.
- 62,424 individuals (57% women) received trainings on language (25,449), vocational training and livelihood skills (16,371) and counselling/mentorship/others (20,604).
- 10,500 increased their income through job placement and self-employment.
In 2020, a total of 2,686,106 individuals (48% Syrians, 46.4% Lebanese, 3.9% PRL and 1.6% PRS) were reached through interventions across 10 sectors under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan. Funding shortages, imbalances and gaps in multi-year funding remain key obstacles for many sectors such as Livelihoods, Shelter and Basic Assistance. Overall, funds covering 63% of the 2020 appeal of US$2.67 billion were made available, representing the highest coverage since 2017.

While steady advancements were made to stem the socio-economic vulnerability of Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese between 2015 and 2019, Lebanon’s multiple crises have compounded vulnerabilities. Poverty levels have reached unprecedented levels with 89% of Syrians now living under the extreme poverty line (compared to 55% in 2019) and 23% of Lebanese (8% in 2019). Many families now rely on assistance to survive and face challenges in accessing services across all sectors, with particular challenges for female-headed households, persons with disabilities and children. Worryingly, competition for jobs and access to services are increasingly cited as a source for tensions and positive inter-communal relations are at the lowest point since the beginning of the monitoring in 2017.

LCRP sectors adapted their programming to respond to rising needs. Monthly cash assistance reached 109,903 households and seasonal cash grants were scaled up to support over 170,900 households. Food assistance was increased to reach more than 1,460,000 million people. Simultaneously, local agricultural was boosted through strengthened capacities or inputs distribution for nearly 3,300 small-scale Lebanese farmers. Sustained access to income-generating activities and skills training was ensured and 1,467 MSMEs supported. Services were scaled up across sectors to support access for all populations.

1.7 million people were reached with water and sanitation services, 700,000 people received subsidized health consultations, more than 200,000 received chronic disease medication and 590,000 children under 5 received routine vaccinations. Barriers to accessing remote learning were addressed and approximately 202,000 non-Lebanese, including 5,733 secondary level students, and 230,500 Lebanese children and adolescents, excluding secondary education, were enrolled in public schools. Protection services focused on the identification and referral of people most at risk. More than 65 municipalities were supported to address rising tensions over jobs and resources.

Cross-sectoral collaboration was improved to address arising challenges. In response to rising eviction risks, the Protection, Shelter, Livelihoods and Social Stability Sectors consolidated a cross-sectoral analysis and harmonized response. The Basic Assistance, Food Security, Health and Education Sectors revised the national Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) calculation to ensure that humanitarian assistance remains meaningful within a context of surging prices.

To address increased requests for assistance, an online Inter-Sector Service Mapping was established to facilitate referral of at-risk individuals to relevant service providers and improve coordination across sectors and partners.
In an outdoor classroom situated at the Shouf Biosphere Reserve – one of Lebanon’s most picturesque and rich forests, 3RP partner, WFP, is running a livelihoods project that is equipping participants from different backgrounds with the theoretical and practical skills they need to master agri-business techniques. “I’m joining hands with younger generations, so we take care of our land together,” says Afif who is a valuable part of the project.

Photo by WFP Lebanon

ACHIEVEMENTS 2020

Nearly 1.4 million subsidized health consultations were provided to an estimated 700,000 vulnerable refugees and Lebanese people in 2020. Nearly 84,000 refugees received financial support for hospital care.

More people were reached with food assistance in 2020 than any other year, with over 1.46 million people reached.

Over 1.4 million people now have improved access to safe water in permanent locations. Scale-up of water trucking for COVID-19 prevention benefitted some 351,000 people. Over 272,000 people in informal settlements were reached through improved sanitation services.

Partners invested in 64 projects to strengthen basic service provision at the municipal level and reduce resource pressure in high-risk communities. It is estimated that these projects benefitted over 250,000 people.

Over 51,000 people were employed through cash for work in 2020, benefitting over 255,000 people. For every 1 person employed through cash for work activities, over 5 people benefit from the income provided so they can meet their basic needs and avoid negative coping mechanisms.

Over USD 429 million (26 per cent of total funding available by the Lebanon response in 2020) was injected into the local economy by LCRP partners through direct cash assistance, benefiting both vulnerable refugee and host community families through direct cash assistance.

New dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives to address social stability reached nearly 41,000 youth who are now better able to positively engage and respond to conflict within their communities, an increase of over 200% from 2019.
While the most critical vulnerabilities could be addressed, poverty levels increased 38% among Jordanians and 18% among Syrian refugees, of whom a higher proportion was already living beneath the poverty line prior to the pandemic. Effective sectoral collaboration ensured continuous access at least to minimum services, such as food and health. Coordination with national partners and the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on referrals of refugees with disabilities and inclusion of persons with disabilities and older people was strengthened. Despite all challenges, 94% of the Jordanian public continues to view refugees in a positive manner, as indicated by a perception survey released in December 2020.

With income opportunities disappearing, the overall food security levels fell back to 2015 levels. Monthly trends on food security and access to markets among Jordanian and refugee households were monitored through a remote data collection system.

The Livelihoods sector adapted to utilize online tools, especially for skills training, as alternatives to employment and job matching activities. It supported access to online vocational trainings and skills development particularly for youth and increased engagement with the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship (MoDEE) to support opportunities in the ICT sector.

The Government, despite the challenges related to the pandemic, included refugees in the national health response and subsequent COVID-19 vaccination programme as well as ensuring continued provision of subsidized health services including maternity and childhood services.

The Ministry of Education (MOE) and sector partners leveraged their expertise and resources to ensure 2.3 million children and young people, could continue learning during school closures.

In response to the increased equipment and connectivity needs to support online education, additional support to teachers and caregivers was put in place, whilst printed materials and assistance were also provided to children with limited access to technology and parental support. Collective efforts included the development of safety measures and health protocols for school reopening, as well as of a blended learning programme to recover lost learning, and high-level advocacy for equitable access to inclusive quality education for the most disadvantaged.

Reduced livelihoods at the household level resulted in an increase in harmful coping mechanisms (child labour, child marriage), as well as level of violence by and against children. Funding shortages hindered ongoing efforts to strengthen national systems for prevention and response to GBV.

Protection sector partnered with MoSD to coordinate needs-based programming, minimize protection gaps, and develop policy frameworks for refugees’ inclusion in national systems. Communication with communities increased through a network of 23 refugee managed Community Support Centers inclusive of refugees and host communities for enhanced social cohesion. As regular home visits could not be conducted services switched to remote procedures including access to legal aid and counselling, cash-for-protection, psychosocial activities and empowerment activities. Child Protection services shifted to hotlines and online support to ensure continuity and cover emergency situations faced by children.
Livelihood: 1,974 SMEs & HBBs were created and supported in 2020
SMEs established by:
209 women & 103 men

Protection:
Various protection services including Child Protection / Gender Based Violence:
102,228 individuals supported

Health Sector:
Medical consultations:
8,625 individuals
Secondary and tertiary health care intervention:
3,177 individuals

ACHIEVEMENTS 2020

Over 500,000 refugees and 126,000 vulnerable Jordanians were supported through cash-based transfers in form of restricted food voucher in camps and unrestricted cash in communities for a total value of USD 176.4 Million.

Almost 32,000 host community members received cash assistance to meet their basic needs.

More than 124,000 Syrian refugees accessed equitable, safe, and sustainable water through improved cost-efficient water systems as well as safely managed sanitation.

Nearly 9,000 refugees and host community members participated in vocational training and employability skills development programme.

2,208 child protection cases were identified and the support for Coordination on Child Protection thematic issues, especially Child Labour and Child Marriage, was enhanced to manage those cases.

A total of 55,858 individuals received specialized GBV services which were delivered both virtually and in person to ensure safe access to services.

In line with the United Nation Development Programme’s (UNDP) Heart of Amman project, JHASi has conducted this Livelihoods and Community Engagement Project to support local entrepreneurs with innovative ideas related to solving post COVID-19 challenges. JHASi aimed to guide selected participants in transforming their business ideas into successful startups. This project aimed in achieving community engagement, short-term income, capacity building, and market accessibility for vulnerable youth and women through encouraging volunteerism and entrepreneurship.
The protection environment remained largely favourable in 2020 despite the challenging political and economic climate, the COVID-19 pandemic, and accompanying movement restrictions. Advocacy for an effective legal framework for refugee protection continued and advocacy to maintain or enhance the favourable protection environment remained a priority, including access to territory and freedom of movement, remained a successful priority. Due to COVID-related border closures from early March, Syrian refugees have been unable to consistently access safety in Iraq, with limited exceptions. From late 2020, borders opened intermittently to allow returns to Syria, as well as readmissions to Iraq, and advocacy efforts are ongoing at central levels.

In 2020, the Iraq 3RP strategic direction continued, in its coordination, advocacy and response efforts, to support a gradual transition from an emergency humanitarian response to a longer-term solutions-oriented approach, with a focus on local integration, self-reliance and the inclusion of refugees into national systems and public services, in close collaboration with the Government of Iraq (GoI) and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG). To achieve these objectives, the 3RP community had planned to develop an inter-agency solutions strategy, but this has been postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19 response priorities.

The inclusiveness of the 3RP response got strengthened by focusing on government and development actor involvement. Advocacy resulted in the integration of refugees into the UNSDCF (United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework). Multilateral partnerships got established, aligned with the overall objectives of the 3RP, such as the Poverty Alleviation Coalition and the PROSPECTS Partnership. However, given the complex coordination landscape, continued effort is needed in 2021 to strengthen the involvement of other humanitarian and development actors in the 3RP, just as the private sector.

The 2020 3RP response continued to focus on interventions that support public services and advocate for the inclusion of refugees in available services at government side. The Protection Sector continued its capacity-building programs in close collaboration with the KRG Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) and the Directorate of Combating Violence Against Women (DCVAW). The Education Sector supported the KRG Ministry of Education (MoE) with drafting an Education Integration Policy for Syrian Refugees. The Health Sector continued, in collaboration with the Directorates of Health, to explore opportunities to close primary health care centres inside refugee camps and redirect its resources to support integrated public primary health care centres outside camps. The Shelter and WASH Sectors provided care and maintenance interventions inside camps and invested in small-scale infrastructure projects to enhance the physical integration of refugee camps into surrounding municipalities. Finally, the Basic Needs, Food and Livelihoods Sectors continued efforts to insert a graduation approach into their programming and to align targeting frameworks with national social protection systems. Transitioning to resilience-oriented assistance is, however, not always...
applicable to all situations and will not address the needs of all persons of concern. This was especially highlighted by the negative impact of COVID-19 on the ability to meet basic needs for refugees. Therefore, basic needs assistance got expanded to target the most vulnerable households.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2020

1,094 Syrian refugees were submitted for resettlement or other admission pathways to third countries.

2,405 girls and boys at risk were supported with Child Protection specialized services.

68,147 individuals received cash and voucher as part of food assistance.

12 Public Health Care facilities were supported.

1,763 refugee households received Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (cash grants).

891 shelters were upgraded to more durable shelter (Shelter Upgrade).

86,802 people were able to access water through an improved water network, system or source.

321 individuals supported to establish or scale up businesses (micro-finance, small grants, etc.).
As of December 2020, 259,292 refugees and asylum-seekers from 58 different nationalities were registered in Egypt. Of the total registered persons of concern to UNHCR, Syrians represented 50.4% with 130,577 individuals. In 2020, registration was provided to 35,071 Syrians –through 2217 new and 32,854 continuous registration interviews. In 2020, 3RP protection partners received, provided information to and/or counselled some 59,000 persons of concern (PoCs), including Syrians, either in the office or online. Remote counselling enabled 97 Syrians with high profile protection claims to receive in-depth counselling and referrals to assistance, protection and solutions. 140 emergency assistance payments were further issues to help refugee households recover from protection incidents.

To strengthen community-based protection mechanisms in response to COVID-19, 32 Syrian community leaders & volunteers were trained in psychological first aid. Refugee workers were part of the response reaching out to more than 49,000 persons in situations of distress through information campaigns and responding to 423 cases with emergency needs. Over 1,800 Syrian persons with specific needs (PSN) were supported in various ways. Also, 28 support groups were organized to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for PSN and 143 Syrian PSN received assistive devices.

Many refugees and asylum-seekers have now lost their sources of income due to COVID-19 resulting in an inability to meet basic needs, pay rent and afford housing cost. Various assessment surveys show that nearly half of households adopted emergency coping strategies, such as begging or working in degrading exploitative jobs. A total of 7,845 Syrian cases (30,177 individuals) were provided with monthly multi-purpose cash assistance to meet their basic needs, 292 Syrian cases (1,187 individuals) received short-term cash assistance and 15,057 Syrian cases (38,685 individuals) were targeted for winter assistance. Livelihood support was provided for self-employment, wage employment & skills development. In 2020, 265 Syrians were supported to establish and/or to enlarge their businesses, while 22 were placed in jobs, and 807 were provided guidance on labour market opportunities.

The pandemic has also forced many vulnerable refugees to adopt unfavourable food consumption and livelihood coping mechanisms. Through the 2020 3RP Food security sector, WFP assisted some 120,000 refugees and asylum-seekers and 8000 monthly food assistance to the most vulnerable pregnant and lactating women and their infants under two years of age with food assistance.

There have been exceptional challenges facing refugee families and students attending schools this year related to COVID-19, including inadequate or unreliable access due to poor internet connectivity and/or lack of device (smart phone, tablet, television); incomplete online learning materials (not adequately covering all subjects); and lack of curricular assistance. For the 20/21 academic year, 26,662 Syrian refugee children (including UASC and PSN) received education grants helping them to enrol in schools. 800 Syrian students received health and safety training in public schools and 331 Syrian university students were supported with scholarships.

In 2020, 3RP health partners supported MoHP health facilities with PPEs and healthcare items. Syrian refugees received 7,954 primary health-care consultations and 2,653 referrals to COUNTRY for non-communicable diseases, mental health services & life-saving referrals, resulting in 28,662 primary health-care consultations for Syrian refugees and 2,653 referrals to
secondary and tertiary health care.

Resettlement was the only available durable solution for Syrian refugees; 1,293 Syrians were submitted for resettlement to nine countries and 349 Syrian departed to eight resettlement countries in 2020.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2020

- 35,071 Syrians registration interviews were conducted in 2020.
- 59,000 PoCs, including Syrians were provided information and/or counselled on various Protection issues either in the office or online.
- 1,293 Syrians were submitted for resettlement to nine countries and 349 Syrian departed to eight resettlement countries.
- 120,000 refugees and members from the host community received food / cash-based transfers / commodity vouchers on a monthly basis.
- 26,662 Syrian refugee school age children (49% girls and 51% boys) received education grants helping them to enrol in public schools for the 2020 / 2021 academic year.
- 7,000 refugee families received in-kind hygiene kits.
- 80,443 individuals benefitted from cash for hygiene items.
- 7,845 Syrian cases (30,177 individuals) were provided with monthly multi-purpose cash assistance to meet their basic needs.
WE THANK OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT FOR 3RP ACTIVITIES.

We thank the host governments for being the first responders, extending national services to refugees despite multiple challenges. We equally thank donors for their continued and extremely generous support which made the response possible to support dignified lives.
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