

### HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 60,000 people killed in Syria since March 2011.
- 4 million people in need of assistance inside Syria, including 400,000 Palestine refugees.
- Almost 600,000 Syrians registered as refugees in neighbouring countries, North Africa.
- Humanitarian interventions over coming six months require US\$1.5 billion in funding.

### FIGURES

Population	22 m
Governorates	14
Affected people	4 m
Number of IDPs	2 m
Number of Syrian refugees in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Egypt	597,240

### FUNDING (US\$)

**519 million**

requested by the UN for activities inside Syria (January-June 2013)

**1 billion**

requested under the Regional Refugee Response Plan for 2013 (January-June)



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## Death toll continues to rise and humanitarian needs continue to increase

The conflict in Syria continues to cause immeasurable destruction and human suffering. People living in cities, towns and villages are subjected to unrelenting violence with civilian deaths increasing. The overall death toll has reached more than 60,000 people since the onset of the crisis in March 2011, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights reports. According to the latest update by the Commission of Inquiry to the Human Rights Council on the Syrian Arab Republic, entire towns and villages across the governorates of Latakia, Idlib, Hama and Dera'a have been emptied of their inhabitants. Neighbourhoods in southern and eastern Damascus, Deir Ez-Zor and Aleppo have been razed, and the city centre of Homs has been devastated.

The plight of people caught up in the violence is exacerbated by shortages of food, water and fuel. In Aleppo, like elsewhere in the country, electricity is cut off for prolonged periods. Access to medical care is severely limited. Dar Al Shifa, Aleppo's main emergency hospital, has been shelled multiple times and is now destroyed. For many people, insecurity is preventing them from accessing basic necessities.

Children are particularly vulnerable. According to a study by researchers from Turkey, the United States and Norway, as many as three out of four children hosted in one refugee camp in Turkey have lost a family member with the majority of children interviewed at the camp showing signs of stress and trauma.

### Humanitarian partners seek US\$1.5 billion to assist Syrians

Across the country, the UN estimates that 4 million people are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance while the situation continues to deteriorate. This includes 2 million people who have been forced to flee due to the continued fighting, including from Yarmouk, which is home to about 150,000 Palestine refugees and an even larger number of Syrians. UNRWA now estimates that 400,000 out of 500,000 registered Palestine refugees in Syria are in need of assistance across the country.

Syrians fleeing also continue to seek refuge across the borders into neighbouring countries. The total number of refugees registered and/ or assisted in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey has reached almost 600,000 people.

To provide life-saving emergency assistance inside Syria and to refugees in neighbouring countries, UN humanitarian agencies and partners seek US\$1.5 billion for interventions over the next six months.

## OHCHR data analysis reveals high Syria death toll

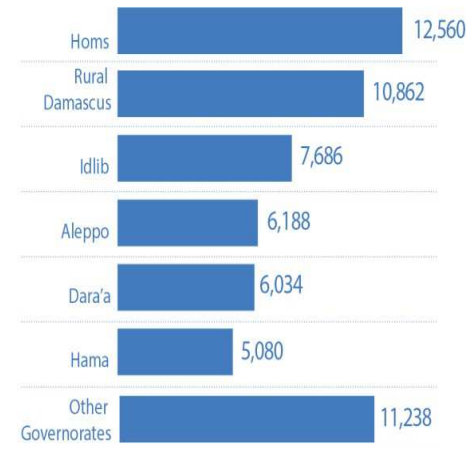
### Over 60,000 people killed since onset of crisis

Data analysis carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights suggests that more than 60,000 people have been killed since the start of the crisis in mid-March 2011. Based on seven different sources, analysts have identified 59,648 people who have been killed during the period 15 March 2011 until 30 November 2012. Noting that the study does not identify a definitive figure, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, said the number is higher than expected and truly shocking.

According to the data, there has been a steady increase in the number of deaths. From around 1,000 people killed per month in the summer of 2011, more than 5,000 people have been killed on average per month since July 2012. Documented victims are overwhelmingly male at about 76 per cent.

In absolute terms, the governorates of Homs, Rural Damascus, Idlib, Aleppo, Dera'a and Hama have suffered the highest number of deaths. More than 12,000 people have so far been killed in Homs, while nearly 11,000 deaths have been recorded in Rural Damascus. This corresponds with the level of fighting in these areas, especially in densely populated urban centres.

#### PEOPLE KILLED IN SYRIA CRISIS



TOTAL KILLED: **59,648**  
BETWEEN 15 MARCH 2011 & 30 NOVEMBER 2012

Sources: UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

### UN-Arab League Envoy warns another 100,000 could die if conflict lingers

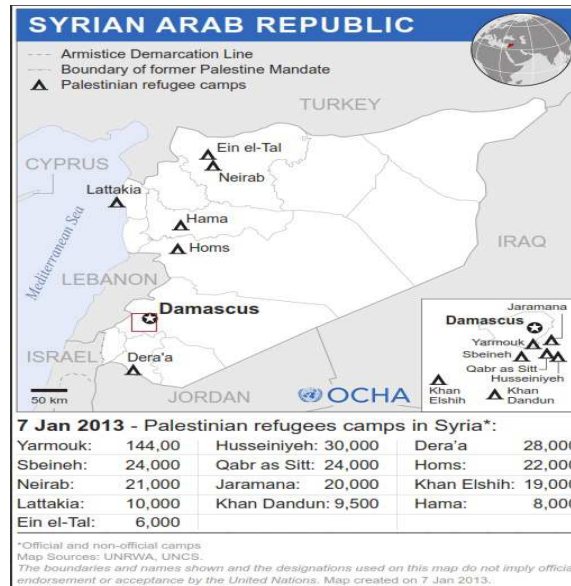
Commenting on the findings, the UN-Arab League Envoy, Lakhdar Brahimi, has warned that the situation is deteriorating and that another 100,000 people could be killed if the conflict continues for another year. Likening the evolving situation to the fate of Somalia, Brahimi noted that Syria could face fragmentation and warlordism, with ordinary people paying the price.

## Palestine refugee community increasingly caught up in the violence

### 400,000 Palestine refugees in need of assistance

The situation for Syria's 500,000 Palestine refugees continues to deteriorate. UNRWA, the UN Agency for Palestine refugees, estimates that 400,000 Palestine refugees across Syria are now in urgent need of assistance. Nearly 3,000 Palestine refugees have fled for Jordan, while another 17,000 have approached UNRWA for assistance in Lebanon.

The intensification of violence in Damascus over recent weeks has severely impacted the Palestine refugee community, as about three-quarters of the community live in this area. Shelling and clashes in and around Yarmouk camp south of Damascus city have forced most of the approximately 150,000 Palestine refugees living there to flee. Many are reported to have fled to other parts of Damascus and Rural Damascus, while others have left for Homs and Lebanon.



Conflict surrounding Sbeineh camp on the outskirts of Damascus has left its 24,000 residents struggling to access basic commodities such as bread and water. Jaramana (20,000 refugees), Husseiniyeh (30,000 refugees) and Qabr as-Sitt (24,000 refugees) camps have also been severely impacted by the fighting.

Palestine refugees in the south of the country are also affected, with most of the 28,000 residents of Dera'a camp currently displaced. UNRWA facilities in the area are largely non-operational. Neirab (21,000 refugees) and Ein al-Tal (6,000 refugees) camps outside Aleppo are increasingly affected, with intense clashes taking place in Ein el-Tal camp.

## Syrian children suffer from post-traumatic stress, depression

### Study warns children are the hidden casualty of the conflict

An international study has highlighted the impact of the conflict on children. Researchers from Bahcesehir University in Istanbul, New York University and the Norwegian Institute for Public Health interviewed more than three hundred children in Gaziantep Islahiye refugee camp in Turkey in early November. The children were aged between 9 and 18, but mostly between 10 to 13 years old. Most of the children had come from Damascus and Aleppo and the majority had lived in the camp for more than six months. The camp hosted around 8,400 Syrian refugees at the time of interviews.

The study revealed that the majority of them showed signs of stress and trauma. Three out of four children had experienced a death in their immediate family and two out of three had been in a terrifying situation. Some 44 per cent of the participating children reported to have experienced five or more out of eleven adverse events associated with war and disasters, as identified by the researchers. According to the researchers, half of the children interviewed most likely suffered from a depressive disorder and one in three had symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. Many worried about their relatives still in Syria and found it hard to feel secure.

Researchers involved in the study stressed the urgency of addressing the needs of children in the camps, highlighting the importance of implementing measures to support the parents in their efforts to take care of their children in a situation where they themselves are struggling with grief, loss and psychological distress. Such interventions help children cope with their very challenging life situation and may prevent serious mental health problems from returning later in life.



Credit: UN Photo/Mark Garten  
Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon speaks with a distressed woman during his visit to the Syrian refugee camp in Islahiye, southern Turkey, near the border with Syria.

## Food security assessment highlights plight of farmers

### Livelihoods at stake as agricultural production continues to decline

Agricultural production in Syria has been severely undermined by the on-going crisis. According to the preliminary results of a joint WFP, FAO and Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform assessment on food security levels, only 5 per cent of farmers sampled have been able to fully harvest winter crops maturing in early summer (wheat and barley). Some 20 per cent of farmers reported complete inability to harvest their crops. The remaining 75 per cent reported varying degrees of harvesting. The main reasons cited to explain the limited harvest included insecurity, access constraints and limited returns.

In focus group discussions, 55 per cent of pastoralists stated that small and large ruminants and poultry stocks have decreased substantially compared to the previous year. Increased animal feed prices, limited availability of animal feed and difficulties in marketing livestock and livestock products were identified as the main factors pushing pastoralists to sell their animals below market prices. With livestock representing critical livelihood capital, decreases in herd size is expected to change the socio-economic situation of this group and leave them prone to impoverishment, according to FAO.

## Humanitarian partners deliver vital aid to IDPs, vulnerable people

### WFP continues to target 1.5 million people through food assistance

Food distribution for the December cycle started on 10 December. Overall insecurity, attacks by unknown armed groups, road closures, fuel shortages and reluctance of truck drivers to go to certain areas have disrupted dispatches during the reporting period. However, WFP has overcome these challenges and assistance to cover about 600,000 beneficiaries had been dispatched by the first week of January. This number represents about 40 per cent of the target population of 1.5 million people. Due to funding shortages, the current food basket provides approximately 1,000 kcal per person per day and includes 12 kg of rice, 3 kg of bulgur wheat, 5 litres of vegetable oil, 3 kg of sugar, 4 kg of dried pulses, 1 kg of canned pulses, 4 kg of pasta and 0.4 kg of tomato paste.

UNICEF has delivered high energy biscuits to cover 13,150 children in Homs and Tartous.

### Essential items provided to about 150,000 people

People displaced from Yarmouk – both Syrians and Palestine refugees – were offered assistance by UNRWA and humanitarian partners, including UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), and the General Authority for Palestine Arab Refugees (GAPAR). More than 78,000 people received UNICEF assistance, including food for children, children's clothes, hygiene kits, first aid kits and electric stoves. Nearly 20,000 people affected by the violence in Yarmouk received NFIs from UNHCR. About 6,000 people displaced from Yarmouk were hosted in 8 UNRWA schools and the Damascus Training Centre. The Agency also established 6 health points in schools sheltering displaced people as health centres in the camp became inaccessible due to the violence.

While emergency assistance focused on the relief effort for those displaced from Yarmouk, UNHCR also provided assistance to about 25,000 IDPs in Homs, Hama, Hassakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Aleppo. These governorates host high concentrations of displaced people. UNICEF delivered hygiene kits to local NGO partners to cover a total of about 23,000 beneficiaries in Homs (17,250) and Hassakeh (5,598). As part of the winterization effort, assistance included winter clothes for 3,000 IDP children in Hassakeh.

### **Cash assistance helps thousands of IDP and Palestine refugee families**

On 16 December, UNHCR commenced cash assistance provision to IDPs in Damascus. Such cash assistance has previously been rolled out in Rural Damascus (An-Nabk) and Hassakeh. A total of 14,605 beneficiary families, or approximately 73,000 individuals, have so far received assistance.

Over the last month, UNRWA has disbursed more than US\$5 million in emergency cash assistance to a total of 94,000 Palestine refugees in Damascus.

### **First phase of shelter rehabilitation works benefits 14,000 IDPs**

UNHCR in partnership with the Ministry of Local Administration, Premiere Urgence, Secours Islamique France, Syria Trust, and the Syrian Society for Social Development have commenced shelter rehabilitation works in Damascus, Rural Damascus and Hassakeh. Out of several hundred shelters across the country hosting IDPs and needing rehabilitation, a total of 40 shelters have been identified for immediate works, each hosting an average of about 350 IDPs. The initial shelter caseload is expected to benefit at least 14,000 people.

### **UNFPA interventions supported women in 7 governorates**

UNFPA's response to the Yarmouk crisis included medical tools and supplies in support of normal delivery and midwifery services for around 1,800 pregnant women. In addition, 3,000 IDPs received reproductive health vouchers which entitle them to services free of charge. As regular health services were severely disrupted in the area, UNFPA through its implementing partners deployed two mobile teams to provide emergency obstetric care and psychological first aid services, assisting around 60 people per unit per day.

In other areas of the country, UNFPA provided emergency obstetric care and psycho-social services targeting 8,500 women. Hygiene kits covering 20,000 people were delivered to Hassakeh, Damascus and Rural Damascus. Medical equipment and tools were provided to the Ministry of Health in support of reproductive health and family planning services to assist around 180,000 women in Damascus, Rural Damascus, Aleppo, Idlib, Homs and Ar-Raqqa.

UNICEF also provided midwifery kits and emergency health kits to cover 10,000 people in Hassakeh during the reporting period.

### **FAO has reached 16,450 people through interventions targeting vulnerable farmers and herders**

FAO's emergency programme targets 20,700 vulnerable farmers and pastoral families, accounting for a total of 165,500 beneficiaries (family size of 8). To date, FAO has reached 8,000 people through animal feed packages to poor herder families. Another 4,450 people have been assisted through provision of agricultural inputs to small-scale farmers, and 4,000 people have benefitted from poultry packages targeting poor farming or peri-urban vulnerable families.

## **Refugee outflows continue unabated**

### **Overall refugee numbers in Egypt, neighbouring countries approach 600,000 people**

Syrians continue to flee the violence and insecurity, seeking refuge in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. This week, the number of refugees approached an overall figure of almost 600,000 people. Current trends include an increase in registrations in Egypt and a rising number of urban refugees in Jordan. In Iraq, the refugee flow has been impacted by low temperatures and heavy rainfalls in the north and north-east. In Lebanon, UNHCR registered more than 5,000 refugees in the first week of January. The refugee population in Turkey has increased by about 25,000 people since the end of November.

Country	Syrian refugees registered and/or assisted	Estimated number of refugees by June 2013
Egypt	13,109	30,000
Iraq	68,645	90,000
Jordan	173,680	300,000
Lebanon	185,841	300,000
Turkey	150,906*	380,000
North Africa	5,059	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>597,240</b>	<b>1,100,000</b>

Source: UNHCR as of 6 January 2013. Refugee figures are based on estimates and may thus vary.

\* Figure provided by the Government of Turkey.

In addition to the above figures, there are over 25,000 Syrians who have fled to various European countries.

### Efforts to bolster camp capacity continues in Iraq

There are currently more than 68,000 refugees registered or awaiting registration in Iraq. About 75 per cent of refugees are staying in the northern Kurdish region. There are more than 30,000 refugees in Domiz camp, which is the largest camp in Iraq. Efforts to bolster capacity at Domiz, as well as in the two camps at Al Qa'im continue. Meanwhile Al Qa'im border crossing remains closed, except for emergency cases.

### Harsh winter conditions in Jordan's Za'atari camp

In Jordan, the number of refugees registered or with registration appointments is close to 174,000 people. Almost 50,000 people are now living in Za'atari camp. Temperatures in Za'atari continue to drop to freezing with snowfall forecast in coming days. Winterization efforts are on-going as heating stoves, blankets, reinforcements for tents and other winter items are being provided to residents.

Urban refugees, whose numbers are on the rise, continue to receive assistance, including food, cash and winter items. The number of registered Syrians outside Za'atari camp who are residing in urban areas, Cyber City or King Abdullah Park is about 73,000 people. Almost 50,000 Syrian refugees are awaiting registration.

### More than 185,000 Syrian refugees have crossed to Lebanon

There are more than 185,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon, of whom about 50,000 are waiting to be registered. UNHCR continues to register about 1,500 refugees per day. The majority of refugees arrive from Homs, Idlib, Damascus and Aleppo. On 3 January, the Government approved a plan in response to the influx. Upon its approval, the Minister of Social Welfare urged Arab and other nations to support Lebanon's efforts.

Some 10,000 Syrian refugee children are now enrolled in Lebanese schools. However, a number of schools teaching the Syrian curriculum are facing serious funding shortfalls and are at risk of closing down.

In North Lebanon and the Beka'a Valley, UNHCR and Save the Children have started distribution of fuel vouchers to 200 schools. UNICEF has recently reached an agreement with five partners to provide winterization interventions in the Beka'a Valley, benefitting more than 22,000 children.

### Refugee total of 150,000 people outpace capacity in Turkey

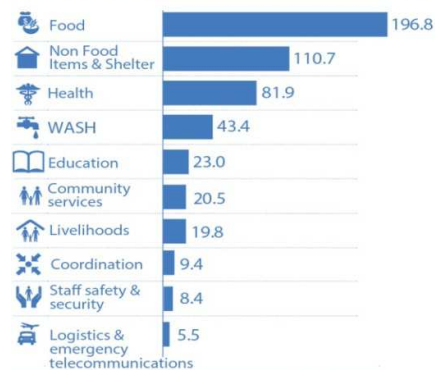
The total number of refugees in Turkey has reached more than 150,000 people. The refugee population has increased by about 25,000 people since the end of November. All 14 camps in the country are at capacity or beyond. A new site with a capacity to host up to 5,000 people will open in Nizip on 11 January. In Sanliurfa province, more than 17,000 Syrians are registered as refugees but live with relatives outside the camp on permission from camp officials.

# 2013 humanitarian and refugee appeals require US\$1.5 billion in funding

## Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan requires US\$519m to assist 4 million people in Syria

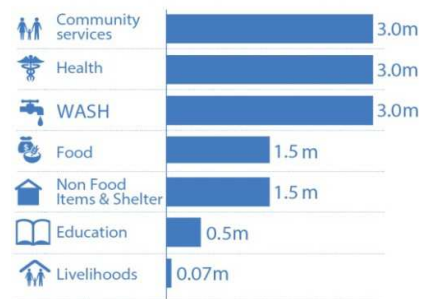
The Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan for January-June 2013 requires US\$519 million in funding to cover 61 projects in ten sectors in all 14 governorates of Syria. Under the plan, UN agencies and humanitarian partners will assist 4 million people, focusing primarily on life-saving and emergency assistance in the sectors of food, health, essential non-food items, shelter and water and sanitation.

### REQUIREMENTS 2013 - US\$ 519m



Sources: Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plans 2013.

### TARGET BENEFICIARIES 2013



Sources: Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plans 2013.

Last year, the humanitarian appeal for response activities inside Syria was left unfulfilled. By 31 December 2012, only US\$191 out of the required US\$348 million had been received, accounting for 55 per cent of overall requirements. Such funding shortfalls affected the extent to which the UN and humanitarian partners were able to respond, particularly in critically underfunded sectors such as water and sanitation (15 per cent funded), education (9 per cent funded), and health (43 per cent funded).

## Regional Refugee Response Plan seeks US\$1 billion to support 1.1 million Syrians

The 2013 (January-June) Regional Refugee Response Plan requires US\$1 billion to provide support to 1.1 million Syrian refugees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. While the plan focuses on response activities targeting Syrians, it also includes projects to assist refugees and asylum seekers who are located in Syria, as well as third-country nationals and 20,000 Palestine refugees who have fled Syria to Lebanon. The refugee response plan in 2012 also faced funding shortfalls, impeding the ability to respond to the crisis. Out of US\$488 million required, the plan received US\$248 million, or some 69 per cent of overall needs.

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