

Syria and Iraq situations

(Syria, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt)

This winter, UNHCR plans to provide winter assistance to over four million vulnerable Syrian and Iraqi internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in Syria, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt. The total budget for the Regional Winter Assistance Plan is USD 241.2 million and covers the period from September 2017 to March 2018.

Winter assistance will include cash payments, distribution of winter items and camp improvements. Overall, assistance is increasingly being implemented through cash assistance offering flexibility and independence to recipients.

Distribution of winter assistance has already started in Syria. In the rest of the countries, identification of beneficiaries, procurement of winter items and engineering work in camps and settlements are ongoing.



4.12 million
Syrian and Iraqi IDPs
and refugees planned
to be reached with
winter assistance



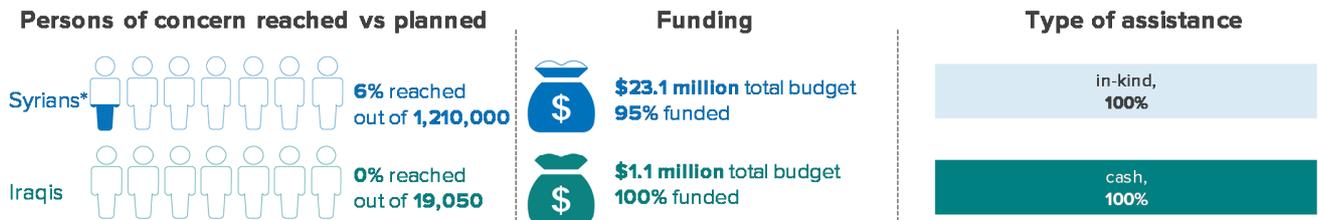
USD 241.2 million
requested
So far **USD 129.3 million**
or **54%** was received



On 20 September, UNHCR with its partner Syrian Arab Red Crescent distributed winter items in Arran, Aleppo Governorate in Syria. © UNHCR/Antwan Chnkjji

Country updates

SYRIA



* Includes Syrian IDPs planned to be reached by UNHCR operations inside Syria and through cross-border operations from Turkey and Jordan.

- UNHCR began its winterization programme in Syria on 1 September. As of 30 September, 72,824 Syrian IDPs (15,150 families) were provided with core relief items specific to winter, including high thermal blankets, extra plastic sheeting, and winter clothing kits in Aleppo, As-Sweida, Damascus, Deir-Ez-Zor, Rural Damascus, Homs, Lattakia, and Tartous governorates. UNHCR Syria is planning to reach one million IDPs this winter. A contingency stock of 35,000 kits will be maintained throughout the country at various hubs for emergency response.
- For the first time, UNHCR was able to dispatch winter items to approximately 50,000 individuals (10,000 families) in the newly accessible areas in Deir-Ez-Zor Governorate. People in newly accessible areas in Aleppo and Hama governorates also received winter assistance. UNHCR also plans to provide winter support to 19,050 Iraqi refugees (6,850 families), through a one-time cash assistance of USD 56 per person.
- As part of the cross-border interventions from Amman (Jordan), UNHCR aims to provide winter assistance to 60,000 IDPs (12,000 families) in southern Syria. A total of 4,350 UNHCR winter kits are scheduled for trans-shipment in October, in preparation for distribution to families in need living in informal settlements or in higher altitude areas. UNHCR cross-border interventions from Gaziantep (Turkey) will include trans-shipment of high thermal blankets, tarpaulin and solar lamps for distribution by partners to 150,000 IDPs (30,000 families) in northern Syria. The first trans-shipment took place on 3 October and so far 18,880 individuals (3,776 families) have been assisted.

TURKEY



- UNHCR plans to begin the distribution of one-off cash assistance of USD 50 per person to 305,950 Syrian and Iraqi refugees (61,190 families) in urban areas in November. For Syrian and Iraqi refugees in camps, discussions are ongoing with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) to replace part of the non-food item assistance with cash assistance.

LEBANON

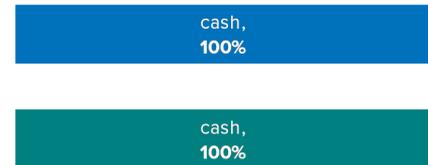
Persons of concern planned



Funding



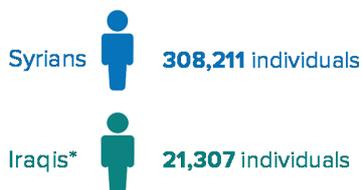
Type of assistance



- UNHCR's winter programme in Lebanon aims to assist the most vulnerable refugee families, who are living below the poverty line, to meet some of their additional seasonal needs. UNHCR aims to assist some 870,000 Syrian refugees (174,000 families) and 6,000 Iraqi refugees (2,000 families) with a winter cash assistance package. The targeting, prioritization and value of the package will depend on the availability of resources.
- In addition, some 123,000 Syrian refugees (24,600 families) living in informal settlements will be provided with shelter weather-proofing kits. UNHCR aims to complete the distribution of all shelter kits by the end of November. UNHCR is also planning to assist some 50,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees residing in areas without ATM access through fuel vouchers.

JORDAN

Persons of concern planned



Funding



Type of assistance



* The figure for Iraqis include refugees of other nationalities.

- Distribution of winter assistance to 115,211 Syrian refugees (24,700 families) in Zaatari and Azraq camps is planned to begin in the second/third week of October. Cash for gas to cover the cost of gas refills and cash for shelter to address shelter maintenance will be provided once per family, together with shelter insulation materials and winter core relief items.
- In urban areas, 138,000 Syrian refugees (30,000 families) will receive a one-off cash assistance (per family), which will be distributed starting in November through the Common Cash Facility system. Beneficiary selection is coordinated through the inter-agency Winter Task Force to ensure a uniform approach and avoid any duplication. Special attention is given to women headed households, the elderly, people with disabilities, unaccompanied children, children working or otherwise at risk, people with specific medical needs or survivors of violence or torture. UNHCR and its partners will undertake regular monitoring of project activities, and cash beneficiaries will be part of UNHCR's post-distribution monitoring mechanism.
- A one-off cash assistance (per person) will be provided to 21,307 Iraqi and refugees of other nationalities (9,774 families) through the Common Cash Facility system.

IRAQ

Persons of concern planned



Funding



Type of assistance



- UNHCR will provide 960,000 Iraqi IDPs (160,000 families) with winter assistance both in camps and urban areas, targeting the newly displaced people from Ninewa, Salah-al-Din and Anbar governorates as well as other vulnerable IDPs across the country. In camps, assistance will include core relief items specific to winter (including blankets, heating stove, plastic sheet, and kerosene jerry cans) and one-off cash assistance to cover costs for heating fuel for the four-month winter period. IDP families living in urban areas will receive one-off cash assistance.
- UNHCR plans to provide 179,500 Syrian refugees (35,900 families) with winter assistance both in camps and urban areas. For refugees in camps, core relief item kits will also be distributed.

EGYPT

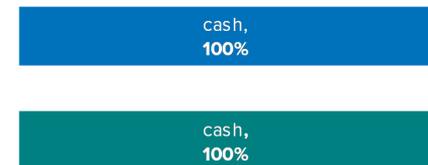
Persons of concern planned



Funding



Type of assistance



- UNHCR plans to provide a one-off cash assistance to 87,000 Syrian refugees (27,000 families) and 1,250 Iraqi refugees (310 families) of at least USD 25 per person. The cash value is 75 per cent of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), defined as the household requirements to meet basic needs for winter. To ensure that vulnerable refugees receive 100 per cent of the MEB, UNICEF has agreed to complement the cash grant with a top-up amount of USD 10 to support the entire MEB of USD 35. This will also allow UNHCR to extend its winterization assistance to an additional 13,000 persons of all nationalities including Syrians and Iraqis.

FUNDING

UNHCR is grateful to the donors who have contributed to the winter programme for Syrian and Iraqi IDPs and refugees with unearmarked and earmarked funds.

CONTACTS

For more details, please contact UNHCR MENA Director's Office in Amman (Jordan) at: jorrherds@unhcr.org

LINKS

[Syria Regional Refugee Response portal](#); [UNHCR website](#)