

Regional winterization progress report

Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt / October 2018

This upcoming winter, UNHCR aims to provide live-saving winterization assistance to **3.5 million vulnerable Syrian and Iraqi internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt.**

Distribution of winterization assistance has already started in Syria and Jordan. As of 31 October, **over 420,000 people have been reached with winterization assistance.**

In the rest of the countries, identification of beneficiaries, procurement of winter items and upgrading work in camps and settlements are ongoing. The programme covers the period from **September 2017 to March 2018.**

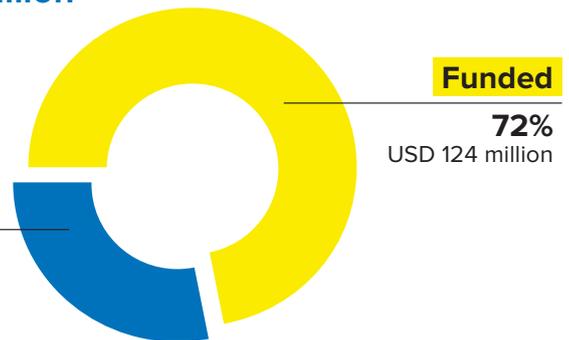
3.5 million ** Syrian and Iraqi IDPs and refugees assessed to be in need of winterization assistance.

421,133 (12%) people reached with winterization assistance as of 31 October. Most of the winterization assistance will be provided during November.

70% of the winter assistance will be delivered in the form of cash distribution to IDPs and refugees.

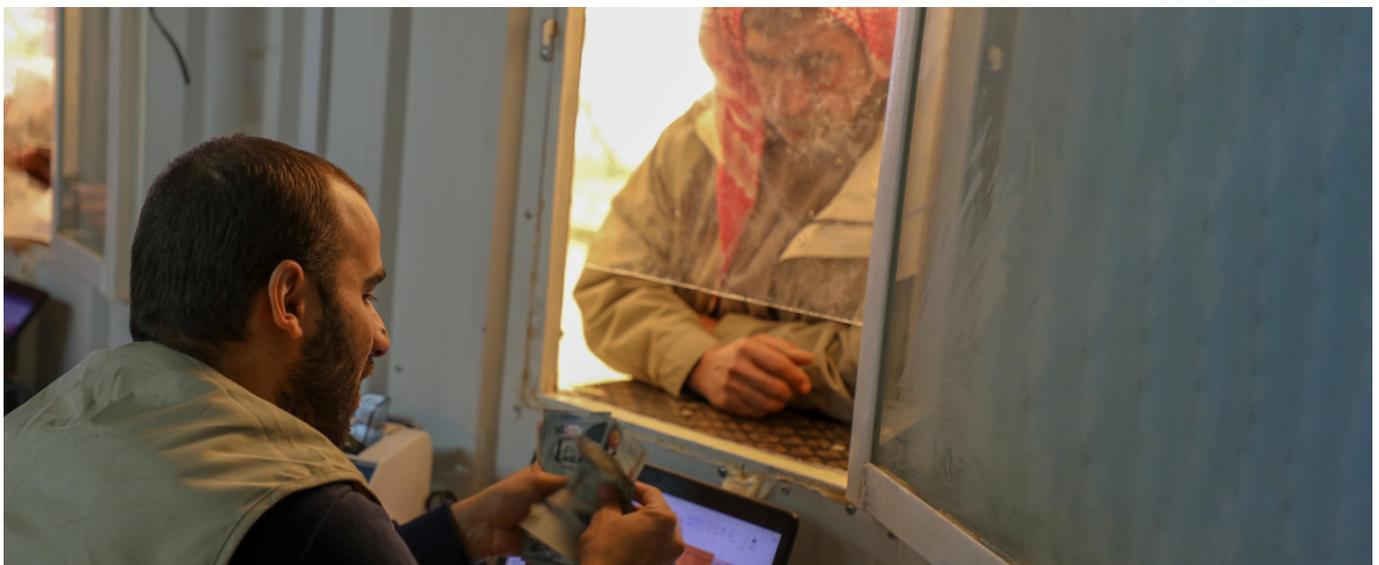
FUNDING*
USD 172 million
requested **

Unfunded
28%
USD 48 million



*The funding level varies from country to country

**The total budget requirement has increased to USD 172 million from USD 168 million due to increased winterization assistance needs in the region.



Over 36,000 refugees in Azraq camp in Jordan are receiving a cash distribution to cover winter costs as well as gas refills for heating and cooking covering two months. Photo © UNHCR/M. Hawari – October 2018

UNHCR's winterization strategy focuses on three broad areas of intervention:



Provision of seasonal cash assistance for vulnerable families to meet their additional needs during the winter months.



Provision of core relief items specific to winter such as high thermal blankets, plastic sheets, heaters and gas cylinders, and winter clothes.



Winterization of shelter including shelter weather-proofing and repairs, and improvements to drainage systems and other infrastructure in camps and informal settlements.

The winterization programme is implemented through UNHCR's own staff, government agencies, partners, and community outreach volunteers in coordination with the broader inter-agency response platforms.

Country Updates

SYRIA

Persons of concern planned vs reached

Syrians*



Out of **1,350,000** targeted so far **312,263** were reached

Iraqis**



27,484 Iraqis to be reached

Type of assistance

in-kind
100%

cash
100%

*Includes Syrian IDPs planned to be reached by UNHCR operations inside Syria and through cross-border operation from Turkey
 **The figures for Iraqis include refugees of other nationalities

- UNHCR Syria began its 2018-2019 winterization programme on 1 September aiming to reach 1.25 million IDPs, returnees, host communities and affected population across the country this upcoming winter. As of 31 October, 294,763 IDPs (58,952 families) were provided with winterization items such as high thermal blankets, solar lamp, extra plastic sheeting, and winter clothes kits in 13 governorates. Supplementary winter items such sleeping bags and winter jackets are also being provided to Syrians living in sub-standard shelters.
- Assistance is being prioritized for newly displaced vulnerable families (including people displaced multiple times), people living in hard-to-reach areas and in sub-standard shelters, as well as people in newly accessible locations who have not been assisted in the past. A contingency stock of 35,000 winter kits will be maintained throughout the country for emergency response. The distribution of winterization assistance for some 27,500 refugees and asylum-seekers from Iraq and other countries (8,400 families) will start from November.
- For cross-border assistance from Gaziantep (Turkey), distribution of winterized core relief items (CRI) started in October. Three trans-shipments with 3,500 winterized CRI kits have been completed to assist 17,500 individuals (3,500 families). The distributions are targeted to vulnerable IDPs and host communities in Idlib and Aleppo governorates and coordinated with Shelter/Non-food item Cluster to prevent duplications and to target the locations not covered by other organisations.

LEBANON

Persons of concern planned		Type of assistance
Syrians  732,049 to be reached		 cash 100%
Iraqis  8,829 to be reached		 cash 100%

- UNHCR aims to provide winter assistance to 732,049 vulnerable Syrian refugees (146,410 families) and 8,829 Iraqi refugees and refugees of other nationalities (2,729 families). Cash assistance for winter of USD 375 per family will be provided to help families meet their needs during the winter months (calculated at a rate of USD 75 per family per month for five months). Refugees eligible for winter cash assistance have been identified based on the results of the recalibrated desk formula. Refugee families who are the most vulnerable and who are not receiving regular monthly multi-purpose cash assistance are being prioritised. Assistance will be withdrawn from an ATM in Lebanon. UNHCR is working to distribute ATM cards as needed and validate recipients using biometrics, with the aim to provide assistance to families most prioritised by the end of November.
- In preparation for winter, UNHCR is also continuing the distribution of weatherproofing and shelter materials to refugees in need in informal settlements, based on the findings of a “door-to-door” technical assessment. In addition, UNHCR is working to assist vulnerable families in upgrading their sub-standard shelters and connecting these shelters to necessary basic services.

JORDAN

Persons of concern planned vs reached		Type of assistance
Syrians  Out of 298,683 targeted so far 104,289 were reached		 cash 99% in-kind 1%
Iraqis**  Out of 42,900 targeted so far 4,581 were reached		 cash 100%

**The figures for Iraqis include refugees of other nationalities

- UNHCR aims to reach 298,683 Syrians (71,552 families) in the refugee camps of Azraq and Zaatari and in urban areas with winter assistance in the form of cash assistance, as well as selected winter CRIs. Distribution of winter assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugees in the camps began in October. UNHCR has reached 36,311 individuals (9,000 families) with cash for gas to cover the cost of gas refills and cash for winterization to address shelter maintenance. Distribution of heaters and high thermal blankets has also begun in Azraq camp reaching 4,415 individuals.
- In urban areas, 67,978 Syrian refugees (15,586 families) have received a one-off cash assistance (per family) in October through the multi-agency Common Cash Facility (CCF) system. In November and early December another round of winter cash assistance will be provided to additionally identified vulnerable Syrian families through recycling unwithdrawn amounts. UNHCR and its partners will undertake regular monitoring of project activities, and engagement of cash beneficiaries will be part of UNHCR’s post-distribution monitoring mechanism.

- For the Iraqis and refugees of other nationalities, a one-off cash assistance at household level has been provided to 4,581 individuals (1,414 families) in October through CCF. Another round of distribution for identified vulnerable families who have not yet received a winter package will be processed in November and early December. A cash top up for extremely vulnerable families on the waiting list will be provided in late December through recycling unwithdrawn amounts.

IRAQ

Persons of concern planned		Type of assistance
Syrians  228,000 to be reached		
Iraqis  656,100 to be reached		

- UNHCR aims to assist some 656,100 IDPs including returnees (109,350 families) and 228,000 Syrian refugees (45,600 families) with winterization assistance - a large part of it will be cash-based. A one-off cash assistance of USD 200 per family will be provided to IDPs living in camps and in urban areas. For Syrian refugees, USD 400 per family will be provided to both those in camps and out of camps. Winterization assistance also includes the distribution core relief items such as high thermal blankets, plastic tarpaulins, kerosene jerry cans and heating stoves.
- As of end October, UNHCR has identified the majority of the families that will receive cash assistance and is organizing communication/messaging and SIM card registration events for them. The delivery of CRIs to the distribution points has started and final preparations for the launch of assistance continued. Cash and CRI distribution for IDPs and refugees is set to begin in November.

EGYPT

Persons of concern planned		Type of assistance
Syrians  94,400 to be reached		
Iraqis  1,200 to be reached		

- UNHCR plans to provide 94,400 Syrian refugees (23,600 families) and 1,200 Iraqi refugees (375 families) with one-off cash assistance of USD 34 per person and preparatory work continued during the month of October. With the support of UN agencies, UNHCR seeks to increase this amount to USD 56 to compensate effects of the recent inflation and rising fuel and electricity costs.
- Messages to inform refugees and asylum-seekers about the winter assistance, who is eligible and how the assistance is delivered has been finalized in Arabic and English. The assistance will be distributed through Egypt Post offices on the first week of December, and will be primarily

concentrated in the three governorates of Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta where the majority of refugees live.

- Beneficiaries of the winterization grant consist of those who are: 1) registered with UNHCR and cannot meet their basic domestic needs; and 2) identified by either partners or UNHCR Egypt Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR) as vulnerable cases.

WINTER IS HERE

WINTER GRANTS CASH
STAY WARM, HEALTHY, & PROTECTED

WHAT	HOW
<p>IS THE WINTERIZATION CASH GRANT?</p> <p><small>As winter approaches and temperatures start to drop, UNHCR will provide a one-time cash grant to vulnerable families registered in Egypt.</small></p> <p><small>This cash grant will support your family to buy blankets, clothing and pay bills in order to stay warm, healthy and protected.</small></p>	<p>WILL I BE INFORMED IF I AM ELIGIBLE FOR THE GRANT?</p> <p><small>Refugees entitled to receive the grant will receive a SMS on their mobile phones informing on its availability.</small></p> <p><small>The amount of the cash varies according to the number of family members.</small></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<p>WHERE</p> <p>CAN I COLLECT THE CASH?</p> <p><small>If you receive a SMS from UNHCR, please proceed to any Egypt Post office.</small></p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>

For further information please contact UNHCR Infoline:
Greater Cairo: 02 2728 5699
Alexandria and other North Coast Governorates: 02 2599 0800

f In Arabic on: @RefugeesEgyptAR
In English & other languages: @RefugeesEgypt



Poster on winterization assistance developed by UNHCR Egypt

Donors:

UNHCR is grateful to the donors who have contributed to the winterization programme for the Syrian and Iraqi IDPs and refugees with unearmarked and earmarked funds as well as those who have contributed directly to the operations.

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