

Syria

January-June 2019

As of end of June 2019, UNHCR Syria provided community-based protection to **752,051** displaced persons, returnees and host community members, including **146,022** individuals provided with legal assistance, **108,252** children with social and recreational activities in community centres, child-friendly spaces, schools and other outreach activities, **30,476** students with remedial and catch-up classes, and **96,472** individuals taking part in SGBV awareness sessions.

Meanwhile, **825,243** individuals received at least one core-relief item, **77,993** displaced persons, returnees and host community members benefited from UNHCR's shelter activities, while **219,747** individuals were supported through UNHCR's community-based health interventions, as well as **2,056** individuals benefited from the UNHCR's livelihood programme.

UNHCR recorded **41,570** Syrian refugees having spontaneously returned between January and June 2019. An increase in self-organized returns of refugees in 2019 is expected. UNHCR will continue to respond to the needs of the displaced and refugee returnees with the same implemented community-based protection approach assisting internally displaced Syrians.

HUMANITARIAN SNAPSHOT

11.7 million

people in need of humanitarian assistance

13.2 million

people in need of protection interventions

11.3 million

people in need of health assistance

4.7 million

people in need of shelter

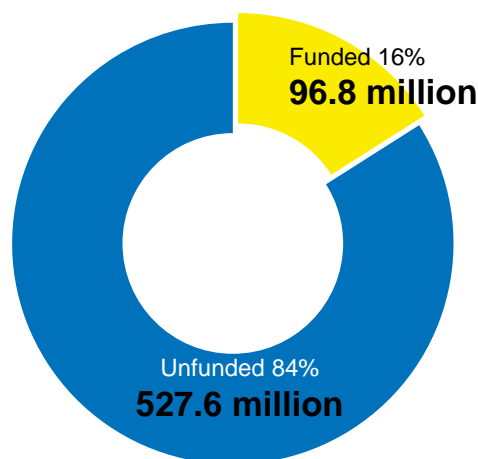
4.4 million

people in need of core relief items

FUNDING (AS OF 24 JUNE 2019)

USD 624.4 million

requested for the Syria Operation



On Eid celebrations bringing together 45 refugee children from different nationalities to learn & play in a safe space, 25 young refugees in Syria managed through their creative idea "We Hope" club received the Youth Initiative Fund.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Internally Displaced Persons

 Internally displaced persons **5.9 million**

Returnees

 Movements of Internally displaced persons **216,200***

 Syrian displaced returnees 2019 **136,000****

 Syrian refugee returnees 2019 **41,570 *****

Refugees and Asylum seekers

 Current population **31,161 ******

 Total urban refugees **16,797**

 Total asylum seekers **14,364**

 Camp population **31,090 *******

*IDPs Taskforce 2019, 30 April 2019

**OCHA, 30 April 2019

*** UNHCR, 30 June 2019

****This figure excludes the camp population

*****Only 6,800 individuals that arrived to Al-Hol before the recent influx are persons of concern of UNHCR.

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

In the ninth year of the crisis, the humanitarian needs in Syria remained staggering in terms of scale, severity and complexity, with protection risks persisting in a number of areas. According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2019, a total of 11.7 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, including 5.9 million people that are internally displaced. Some 5 million people are in acute need due to a convergence of vulnerabilities resulting from displacement, exposure to hostilities and limited access to basic goods and services. There are also 1.1 million people in need in hard-to-reach locations. Major population movements took place in 2018, where 1.6 million people moved across the country.

In 2019, a major emergency situation occurred in North-East Syria leading to internal displacement and loss of lives of particularly children. UNHCR responded to this emergency through an inter-agency effort in providing life-saving assistance through its Non-Food Item (NFI)/Shelter and protection programmes.

Working in partnership

In compliance with UNHCR policy on the selection and retention of partners, and in view of the operation's expansion, UNHCR undertook a full-fledged Call of Expression of Interest to select for partnership under IDP and returnees' projects for 2020.

As of end of June, UNHCR has partnership agreements with 25 partners including six international NGOs, 17 national NGOs and two government entities (Ministry of Local Administration and Environment and Ministry of Higher Education). Out of 11 national partners who have submitted the Partnership Project with UNHCR for the clearance of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, nine partners have received the approval so far, while the partnership agreement with one of the local partners in Homs was not approved. Moreover, UNHCR decided not to extend the partnership agreement with one of the international NGOs beyond June 2019.

Emergency Response

Response to emergency in North-East Syria

Since the beginning of December 2018, more than 64,000 individuals arrived from Hajin to Al-Hol camp due to hostilities related to military operations against ISIS strongholds. The total population is currently 70,192 individuals, where more than 90 percent of the new arrivals are women and children.

All humanitarian actors on the ground intensified efforts to support the camp administration during this humanitarian emergency. Through inter-agency collaboration, UNHCR along with other UN agencies and ICRC responded with the provision of core-relief items, shelter kits and tents as well as protection services. UNHCR and its partners set up a 24-hour response teams to receive the newly displaced people, quickly identify the most vulnerable cases and provide urgent assistance, especially to unaccompanied or separated children and those who require immediate medical assistance. UNHCR also scaled up its community-based protection activities through the community, satellite centres and mobile units to serve the urgent protection needs of people in need.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

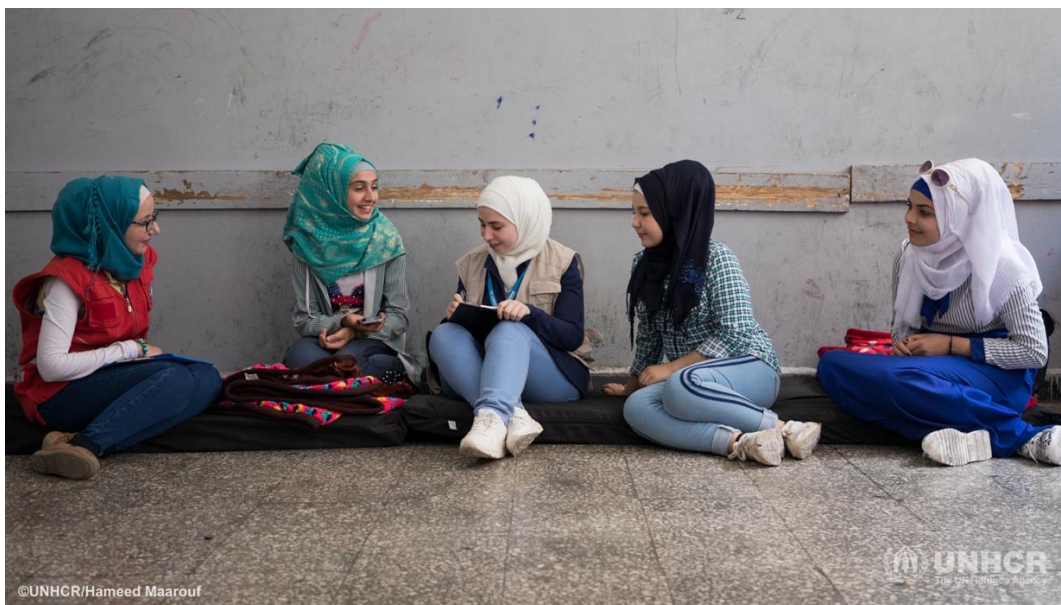
By end of June, the number of operational UNHCR-funded community centres and satellite centres stands at 94 community centres and 29 satellite centres, supported with a network of 102 mobile units and 2,655 Outreach Volunteers (ORVs).

In June, UNHCR's internal Data Management Tool (DMT) for community centres was officially launched presenting detailed information on the assisted and registered population in the community centres and enabling proper data analysis of statistical inputs shared by partners. Accordingly, monthly statistical inputs were received from 71 community centres run by five partners. Besides, SARC new data management system was launched in three community centres and two satellite centres in Homs, Lattakia and Tartous after UNHCR conducted the relevant trainings for the staff members.

As of end of June 2019, seven partners started running their new data systems in 92 community and satellite centres in 11 governorates and 990 staff members attended 32 training sessions. Moreover, the advocacy process is ongoing with the remaining partners to have their new data management systems developed and launched at their centres, while the new data management systems of four other partners are almost finalized and expected to be launched in the third quarter of 2019.

In June, UNHCR provided non-formal education programmes through remedial classes and accelerated learning activities to 9,321 (30,391 January – June) displaced students at the primary and secondary levels in the community centres and neighborhood education facilities, out of whom 1,168 children were out-of-school (3,567 January–June). Furthermore, in June 1,415 (13,294 January – June) displaced students benefited from the homework café activity within the community centres in different governorates.

Moreover, in June, 46 (288 January – June) returnee students benefited from the homework café activity through UNHCR's partner Al-Ihsan in Aleppo governorate. Furthermore, UNHCR provided accelerated learning activities and remedial classes to 44 (85 January– June) returnee children through its partner Al- Ihsan. Additionally, 66 teachers and social counsellors from the Ministry of Education received a capacity building training facilitated through UNHCR partner Première Urgence Internationale (PUI).



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Students in Syria undertake their final high school (9th grade & baccalaureate) exams during the month of June. More than 4,500 students from hard- to- reach areas in Manbij, Ein El-Qura and surrounding villages took a long trip to Aleppo city to undertake their final exams. UNHCR in collaboration with other NGOs & local entities provided the students with the needed support.

In June 2019, UNHCR partners the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) and the Syria Trust provided legal assistance to 25,699 displaced persons and returnees in 14 governorates. This includes 9,179 individuals who benefited from legal counselling, 12,667 individuals who benefited from 543 awareness sessions, and 3,853 individuals who benefited from lawyers' direct intervention before courts and administrative bodies. Moreover, the lawyers' legal interventions successfully assisted 1,282 individuals in obtaining national identity cards, 780 children to be registered and obtain birth certificates, 771 individuals to obtain family booklets, and 908 individuals to document their marriage events.

As of end of June 2019, 146,022 displaced persons, returnees and host community members benefited from UNHCR's legal aid programme on issues related mainly to personal documentation, authentication of customary marriages, birth registrations, divorce authentication in the context of response to gender-based violence incidents, preserving rights of women and children, property documentation, lease contracts and inheritance. The legal services were provided to 73,438 individuals who benefited from legal counselling, 10,614 individuals who benefited from direct interventions before courts and administrative bodies and 61,970 individuals who benefited from 2,816 awareness raising sessions on various legal matters.

In June, UNHCR and its partners identified and supported 707 (3,430 January– June) survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). Furthermore, during June, 1,047 (4,332 January –June) awareness sessions were conducted for 22,815 (96,472 January – June) individuals. Cases of domestic violence almost represented 50 percent of the reported cases.

In June, 759 (4,190 January – June) awareness-raising sessions on child protection topics were organized at UNHCR's community centres, shelters, child-friendly spaces and schools addressing children, caregivers and community members. Through these interventions, children with protection risks were identified by the displaced persons and host communities. UNHCR also identified and assisted in June 1,073 (5,974 January – June) children at risk. The main protection risks were lack of birth registration and civil documentation, risk of school dropout, child labour, child marriage, crisis-related trauma, family separation and disabilities. Moreover, in June, UNHCR along with its partners and in cooperation with the Ministry of Education established nine community-based child protection structures in June (173 January – June) across the country namely children clubs and child welfare committees. Additionally, during June 20,476 (108,252 January – June) children benefited from social and recreational activities conducted in community centres, child friendly spaces, schools and other outreach activities.

The specific needs of older persons were addressed through the home-based training programme and older persons clubs, through which 245 (916 January – June) older persons benefited from the programme. UNHCR continued to support children with developmental difficulties through its partners by implementing a special home-based rehabilitation programme designed to meet their specific needs and where 148 children were assisted during June, bringing the total number of children who benefitted from this assistance since the beginning of the year to 794 children.

Due to the prevailing extensive stress factors linked to the crisis and its effects, the psychological needs of the people of concern continued to rise. In June, a total of 1,415 individuals received Psycho-Social Support (PSS) services through community centres and outreach volunteers, out of which 221 cases were referred to specialized mental health services. As of end of June, 7,297 individuals received PSS services, out of whom 596 were referred to specialized services. Moreover, a total of 34,127 individuals participated in 1,744 social and recreational events including awareness raising sessions. As of end of June, 180,420 individuals participated in 8,762 social and recreational events. These activities aimed at assisting people in finding relief from their inner tension, increasing their ability to deal with different types of reactions especially hyper vigilance, isolation and aggression, in addition to increasing their awareness on personal identity issues and individual characteristics, and building positive self-esteem. Different types of

general and medical in-kind assistance were provided to 10,167 (24,875 January – June) vulnerable individuals in order to help them meet their various basic needs.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

UNHCR is relocating a selected number of community centres based on a protection needs' assessment in order to operate in underserved areas and/or locations receiving displaced and refugee returnees. The decisions of relocating the centres are made based on thorough assessments conducted by UNHCR and its partners in the field.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

UNHCR provided 64,362 individuals with at least one core relief and supplementary item during June 2019, bringing the overall individuals who received assistance since the beginning of the year to 825,243 individuals.

UNHCR continued to provide life-saving and life-sustaining impact solutions. In June, 4,992 individuals /998 families in different governorates benefited from shelter assistance such as the distribution and installation of shelter kits and tents along with the provision of technical assistance. UNHCR upgraded the infrastructure capacity and distributed 768 tents in the camps in North East Syria in June. Moreover, 1,600 individuals benefitted from the 40 solid waste bins distributed in Aleppo governorate. Additionally, 180 individuals in Aleppo governorate benefited from longer-term shelter solutions through the rehabilitation of 36 damaged apartments. Furthermore, UNHCR's respective partners continue to conduct the required technical assessments and submit the official approvals in order to start with the implementation of other projects as per UNHCR's shelter plan.

As of end of June, 77,993 individuals /15,599 families benefited from the shelter and infrastructure assistance through the distribution of 206 shelter kits in Dar'a, As-Sweida and Homs, in addition to the distribution of 11,637 tents in various camps in North East Syria, along with the provision of technical assistance, construction of communal kitchens, installation of solar streetlights, provision of solar lights, land preparation, installation of big-size tents, fence construction and establishment of new distribution centres and receptions areas.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

In June, UNHCR assisted 25,702 (187,170 January– June) displaced persons with Primary Health Care (PHC) services through 13 PHC clinics. 610 (1,651 January – June) displaced persons benefited from emergency and life-saving referrals in Damascus, Rural Damascus, Aleppo, Hama and Homs governorates. Moreover, a total of 5,833 (30,926 January–June) individuals were reached by the community-based health activities through the health points in the community centres: 2,367 (14,049 January–June) individuals received basic medical consultation in the clinics of the health points and 3,466 (16,877 January – June) individuals participated in and benefited from the health promotion and disease prevention activities conducted by the community-health workers inside and outside the community centres.

Currently 17 health points are functional in Aleppo, rural Aleppo, Hama, rural Hama, rural Homs, Tartous, rural Tartous, Quneitra, rural Dar'a and rural Al-Hasakah.



LIVELIHOODS AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

In June, UNHCR distributed livelihoods toolkits to 432 persons of concern. The toolkits were blacksmith, sewing, and female hairdressing kits. UNHCR also supported 237 individuals with entrepreneurship/ business trainings carried out in seven governorates, of whom 74 have so far received a grant enabling them to establish or operate a small business. Additionally, 419 individuals have completed vocational training courses supported by UNHCR in six governorates.



People with disabilities are among the most vulnerable in Syria.

Abdullah, who is partially paralyzed, never stopped dreaming about being independent. Through the livelihood support received from UNHCR, he is now running his own shoe repair workshop so that he can support his family.

As of end of June, 2,056 persons of concern in 12 governorates received livelihoods assistance. Moreover, UNHCR supported a total of 444 individuals with entrepreneurship/business trainings, out of whom 101 individuals were supported to open and run start-up small business projects. Since the beginning of 2019, 439 individuals completed vocational training courses in six governorates.



PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES

Achievements and Impact

In 2019, UNHCR continued to provide multi-purpose cash grants (MPCG) to the most vulnerable refugee families, including cash for food (C4F) for asylum seekers. However, asylum seeker families were discontinued from UNHCR cash programme, effective in March 2019, following a two-month notice period.

During June, UNHCR assisted a total of 3,644 refugee households (11,304 individuals) with MPCGs as a two-month cycle assistance. As of end of June, UNHCR assisted a total of 4,079 refugee households (12,528 individuals) with MPCGs, and 1,011 asylum-seeker households (5,331 individuals) with C4F. UNHCR also provided cash-related counselling to 1,826 families, as well as hotline support to 1,635 families.

During June, the cases of two refugees were submitted to Sweden and to the United Kingdom, leading to a total to 120 submissions so far this year, for resettlement considerations by Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom. While UNHCR aims at

submitting the cases of 380 vulnerable refugees this year, so far, no additional quota has been allocated to the operation. In 2019, 1,900 refugees are considered to be in need of resettlement in Syria, 6% of whom have found access to a durable solution through a resettlement submission. As a result of the insufficient resettlement slots, UNHCR continues to identify and prioritize its advocacy for highly vulnerable cases in need of resettlement as a protection tool. Accordingly, in June, the operation was able to submit one case of an unaccompanied child in need of urgent resettlement. UNHCR Syria has also facilitated so far in 2019 the departure of 123 refugees to Sweden and to the United Kingdom. In addition, UNHCR is increasingly focusing on other pathways, including humanitarian or private sponsorship programmes, and has facilitated the departure of 52 persons to Canada and Australia for this purpose. In addition, UNHCR Syria maintains its support to refugees in their family reunification applications by identifying persons with family members in third countries, and offering related counselling as well as individual case follow up. A total of 182 persons have so far been contacted and counselled for this purpose.

Furthermore, in June, 41 individuals/22 families (330 individuals/172 families January–June) underwent Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews by UNHCR at different stages, and decisions were submitted for 37 individuals/22 families (261 individuals/131 families January– June). Reviews were undertaken for 10 individuals/6 families (165 individuals/91 families January– June), of whom 4 individuals/1 family (62 individuals/24 families January– June) were recognized as refugees.

During June, UNHCR through the education dedicated hotline, provided information to 39 (133 January– June) refugees and asylum seekers about school registration procedures in public schools and placement tests, in addition to the provision of counseling for dropout of school cases and students interested in remedial classes and other education programmes provided by UNHCR' partners.

As of end of June, 109 refugee outreach volunteers representing the refugee communities of Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Yemen, Afghanistan, Chad, Guinea and Eritrea continued to support their communities in four governorates; Aleppo, Damascus, Rural Damascus and Al-Hasakeh.

In June, 14 (55 January – June) new SGBV survivors were identified and assisted with the needed services, such as PSS, health care, legal aid and material assistance. Some were provided with urgent financial grants due to their vulnerability and poor living conditions. In addition, 10 (60 January – June) SGBV awareness sessions were conducted in June mainly in Damascus, Rural Damascus and Al-Hasakeh governorates, where most of the refugee communities are located. In Damascus, refugee outreach volunteers conducted sessions on life skills, women empowerment, domestic violence, early marriage and sexual harassment for women reaching out to 202 (1,357 January – June) persons of concern. Early marriage was highlighted in Al-Hasakeh as a coping strategy to avoid stigmatization following the traditional practices of the community, while in Damascus and Rural Damascus, lack of resources was the reason behind domestic violence.

Furthermore, during June, a total of 3,657 (24,056 January–June) refugees and asylum seekers received free-of-charge comprehensive primary health care including mental health services through nine UNHCR-supported primary health care clinics run by two NGO partners in Al-Hasakeh, Damascus, Rural Damascus and Aleppo governorates. Secondary and tertiary health care was provided to 246 (1,492 January–June) refugees and asylum seekers through designated public, charitable and private contracted hospitals in Syria.



UNHCR Syria commemorates World Refugee Day. From Damascus to Aleppo to Qamishli and further, UNHCR pays tribute to the courage and resilience of children, women and men displaced from their homes. People enjoyed the interactive games during World Refugee Day activities in Damascus.



SUPPORT TO SPONTANEOUS RETURNS

Self-organized returns of IDPs and refugees from neighboring countries continue to several areas where stability has been restored, hostilities declined or ceased, and which have become newly accessible. As of end of June, movements of returnee displaced persons in Syria are estimated to be 216,200, while UNHCR recorded 41,570 Syrian refugees having spontaneously returned between January and June 2019. An increase in self-organized returns of refugees in 2019 is expected. UNHCR will continue to respond to the needs of the displaced and refugee returnees with the same community- based protection approach. While building on its significant capacity to respond to the needs of the returnees, UNHCR is also expanding its capacity and its programmes to assist displaced and refugee returnees as well as the affected population, including the host communities. UNHCR will expand its cooperation with the concerned Government of Syria departments to address the needs of the returnees.

As of end of June, UNHCR field teams conducted over 82 missions to assess conditions and needs of returnees and displaced persons. Through these missions as well as follow up over the phone with families who have recently returned to Syria from Lebanon and Jordan, the top three key concerns identified by returnees included destroyed homes and lack of adequate shelter, lack of livelihood opportunities and lack of civil status documentation.

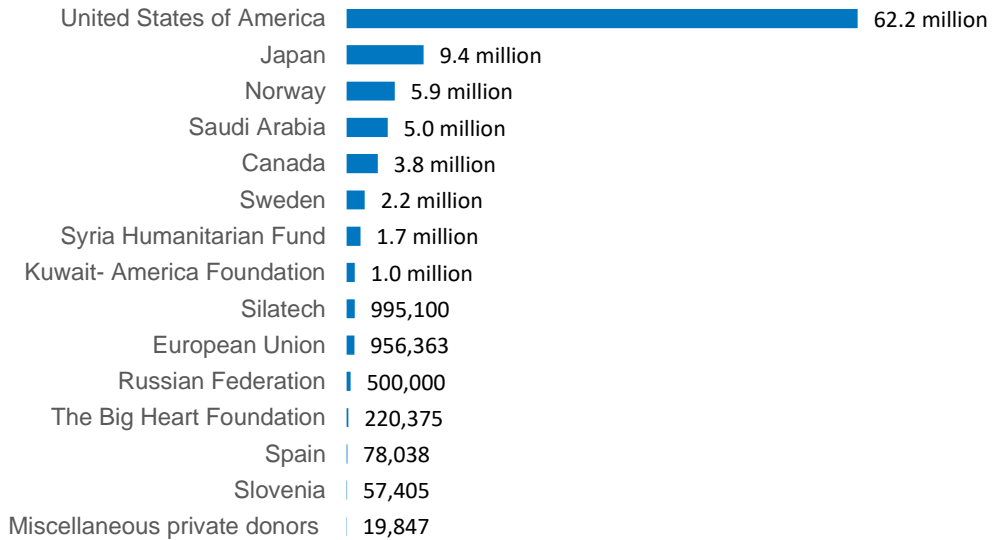
Since January, 5,550 Syrian refugees reportedly returned through group organized returns facilitated by the Government of Jordan and the Directorate of General Security of Lebanon. The follow up assessments conducted with these returnees since December 2018 to understand their needs and refer them to local service providers, indicated many concerns including lack of livelihood opportunities, destroyed homes, lack of civil status documentation, lack of knowledge on available services as well as the need for financial assistance.

Financial Information ^{*****}

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors that have contributed to this operation as well as those that have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Earmarked contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 96,794,315**



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Germany 56.6 million | Private donors Australia 3.8 million | Sweden 3.3 million | Private donors Germany 3 million | United States of America 2.3 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.2 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Sweden 90.4 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | Private donors Spain 33 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 26.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 17.3 million | Switzerland 15.1 million

CONTACTS

Toloe Masori,
 Reporting Officer Syria, masori@unhcr.org

LINKS

www.unhcr.org/sy

<https://twitter.com/UNHCRinSYRIA/status/1118150319341436928>

***** As of 24 June 2019, please find attached more details in Annex 1.

Annexes

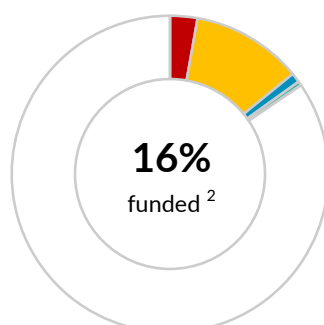
Annex 1

Syrian Arab Republic Funding Update – as of 24 June 2019.

Annex 2

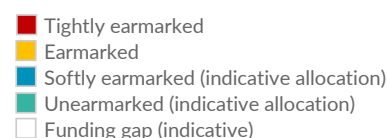
UNHCR main activities as of end of June 2019

\$624.4 million

 UNHCR's financial requirements 2019 ¹


SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

as of 24 June 2019



CONTRIBUTIONS ³ | USD

	Unearmarked	Softly earmarked	Earmarked	Tightly earmarked	Total
United States of America	-	-	62,200,000	-	62,200,000
Japan	-	-	-	9,371,428	9,371,428
Norway	-	-	5,871,991	-	5,871,991
Saudi Arabia	-	-	-	5,000,000	5,000,000
Canada	-	-	3,799,392	-	3,799,392
Sweden	-	-	2,199,978	-	2,199,978
Country-Based Pooled Funds	-	-	-	1,685,894	1,685,894
Kuwait-America Foundation	-	-	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Silatech	-	-	-	995,100	995,100
European Union	-	-	-	956,363	956,363
Russian Federation	-	-	500,000	-	500,000
The Big Heart Foundation	-	-	-	220,375	220,375
Spain	-	-	-	78,038	78,038
Slovenia	-	-	57,405	-	57,405
Miscellaneous private donors	-	-	-	19,847	19,847
Sub-total	-	-	75,628,766	18,327,045	93,955,811
Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments	2,585,843	6,106,159	(4,947,677)	(905,821)	2,838,504
Total	2,585,843	6,106,159	70,681,089	17,421,224	96,794,315

Methodology: Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund prioritised activities. This funding update includes an indicative allocation of funds so as to accurately represent the resources available for the country. The contributions earmarked for Syrian Arab Republic shown above are combined with an indicative allocation of the softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions listed below. This allocation respects different levels of earmarking. Adjustments relate to programme support costs and carry-over.

OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS ⁴ | USD

Germany 56.6 million | Private donors Australia 3.8 million | Sweden 3.3 million | Private donors Germany 3 million | United States of America 2.3 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.2 million

Malta | Norway | Russian Federation | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS ⁵ | USD

Sweden 90.4 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | Private donors Spain 33 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 26.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 17.3 million | Switzerland 15.1 million

Algeria | Argentina | Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan | Belgium | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Iceland | Indonesia | Kuwait | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

Notes:

- The financial requirements for Syrian Arab Republic include requirements for the Iraq Situation Response and the Syria Situation Response.
- The percentage funded (16%) and total funding amount (\$96,794,315) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of \$527,588,378 representing 84% of the financial requirements.
- Contributions to Syrian Arab Republic are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.
- Due to their earmarking at the region or sub-region, or to a related situation or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for Syrian Arab Republic. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contributions is shown.
- Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contribution \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.

For more information: <http://reporting.unhcr.org>

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