Akre camp, Duhok, Iraq. Cash distribution is being conducted door-to-door to avoid crowding, while making sure all precautionary health measures are taken.
3RP Response to the COVID-19 Crisis

COVID-19 is having a profound impact on all 3RP countries – Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt – and is likely to have far-reaching health and socio-economic impacts in the medium term. These countries collectively host over 5.5 million registered Syrian refugees, as well as additional refugees, asylum-seekers and other vulnerable groups of many nationalities.

Impact of COVID-19

In the face of a growing pandemic, host governments have adopted necessary public health measures to limit the spread of the virus among the population, including refugees and vulnerable host communities alike. Preliminary assessments and evidences on COVID-19 impacts point to several worrisome trends emerging across 3RP countries.

The COVID-19 crisis is exacerbating vulnerabilities among both refugee and host communities. While poverty and unemployment rates for Syrian refugees were already high prior to the onset of COVID-19, Syrian refugees face even greater challenges in earning a livelihood, covering basic needs such as shelter or food and accessing key services such as healthcare. As the vast majority of refugees live in urban or peri-urban environments, often in densely populated areas or shelters, social distancing and/or limiting outdoor activities are extremely difficult to implement. Against such a backdrop, protection risks, such as sexual and gender-based violence, child labour, and exploitation, are heightened, while patterns of violence, child labour, and a lack of social security or other safety nets, which makes it increasingly difficult for them to meet their needs.

Women are particularly affected, bearing increased domestic and care burdens and facing increased risks of domestic violence. Access to quality health services beyond the scope of COVID-19 is also becoming a challenge. Essential services across the region continue to be impacted. National health systems are the main points of access for primary healthcare for Syrian refugees who are generally either eligible to receive healthcare on the same basis as nationals or able to have access to a range of subsidized primary healthcare services. Yet, the combination of pre-existing strains on the systems and the COVID-19 impact means systems are overburdened. The same phenomena can be seen with other infrastructure, such as municipal water and sanitation services, upon which entire communities rely, refugees and host communities alike, adding to vulnerabilities

Meanwhile, closures of schools and educational institutions have also left many vulnerable children and young people without access to quality education. Disruptions in economic activities and supply chains for key goods and services due to lockdowns are also negatively impacting government revenues, making the delivery of public services even more challenging.

In some countries, the prevailing conditions, as well as potential misinformation and misperceptions about COVID-19, mean there is also an increased risk of tensions between host and refugee communities.

Even before the spread of COVID-19, 3RP partners across the five countries were supporting national leadership by promoting continued access by refugees to asylum and international protection; helping to meet the basic needs of refugees and affected host community members; striving to build resilience and self-reliance at all levels; and helping to strengthen the capacity of national and local institutions. Indeed, most ongoing activities in existing 3RP country plans directly or indirectly support national efforts to curb the spread and lessen the impact of COVID-19. 3RP partners have also played a critical role in national preparedness activities even before the outbreak of the virus. These activities remain a vital pillar of 3RP support, and partners are leveraging the use of innovative tools and approaches to reach those in need in ways that respect physical and social distancing.

The 3RP is also seeking to immediately help countries and communities curb the risk and lessen the immediate social and economic impact on refugees and host communities alike. Against the backdrop of the existing plans, 3RP countries have developed specific COVID-19 response plans. These plans comprise (1) activities to address the immediate impacts of COVID-19 that have been (re)prioritized, reprogrammed or reallocated from COVID-19 related activities; and (2) new activities not foreseen or planned for in the existing 3RP partner activities in existing 3RP country plans to deal with the medium-term socio-economic effects of COVID-19, particularly related to macroeconomic effects or more longer-term requirements in various sectors. 3RP partners across the region have already started to assess such impacts with a view to ascertaining how best the 3RP can help governments and communities recover from the impact of COVID-19 both in 2020 and beyond. Overall 3RP plans will therefore be updated as necessary as the situation evolves.

Key Lines of Response to COVID-19

Even before the spread of COVID-19, 3RP partners across the five countries were supporting national leadership by promoting continued access by refugees to asylum and international protection; helping to meet the basic needs of refugees and affected host community members; striving to build resilience and self-reliance at all levels; and helping to strengthen the capacity of national and local institutions. Indeed, most ongoing activities in existing 3RP country plans directly or indirectly support national efforts to curb the spread and lessen the impact of COVID-19. 3RP partners have also played a critical role in national preparedness activities even before the outbreak of the virus. These activities remain a vital pillar of 3RP support, and partners are leveraging the use of innovative tools and approaches to reach those in need in ways that respect physical and social distancing.

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Each of the country plans is summarized in this document, outlining a range of multi-sectoral interventions specific to dealing with the impact of COVID-19. As with the existing 3RP plans, the 3RP COVID-19 plan is firmly rooted in strengthening supporting national and local efforts and the variance in timelines and specific responses across the region reflect that. 3RP plans are also aligned to other humanitarian and development response plans related to COVID-19, as further outlined on page 6, while operational coordination between various plans and actors is being enhanced to ensure a coherent response to COVID-19. The full implementation of existing 3RP plans and the specific COVID-19 response is subject to a range of financial, capacity and technical challenges. While the 3RP explicitly covers the needs of Syrian refugees and vulnerable host community members, it is important to note that partners also serve refugees, asylum-seekers and other vulnerable groups of many nationalities in a non-discriminatory manner.

These 3RP plans do not attempt to deal with the medium-term socio-economic effects of COVID-19, particularly related to macroeconomic effects or more longer-term requirements in various sectors. 3RP partners across the region have already started to assess such impacts with a view to ascertaining how best the 3RP can help governments and communities recover from the impact of COVID-19 both in 2020 and beyond. Overall 3RP plans will therefore be updated as necessary as the situation evolves.
COVID-19 has had not only a profound socio-economic impact in the short term, but also likely will affect in the medium to long term. With the fast evolving situations, many 3RP partners are conducting assessments to measure the social and economic implications. Although much is yet to be determined, particularly related to the second-order effects, 3RP partners will use such assessments undertaken at country and regional levels to gather data and inform evidence-based 3RP programming both for the remainder of 2020, but also into 2021.

A snapshot of the current situation based on rapid assessments:

Situation prior to the COVID-19

- Over half the populations in the 3RP countries are engaged in informal sectors
- Vulnerable groups of refugees and host communities (low income households, informal sector workers, women, children, youth, older persons, persons with special needs, refugees, IDPs, migrants) are at higher risk
- Majority of the refugees live in urban centres, densely populated areas, informal settlements
- Gender inequalities

Outbreak of COVID-19 crisis

Exacerbating multi-dimensional poverty and vulnerability among vulnerable refugee and host communities

- Reduction in household income/ livelihoods potentially leading to negative coping strategies.
- Reduced access to quality food and nutritious diets due to increases in food prices which is evidenced in some countries.
- Reduced access to public services like shelter, water, sanitation and waste management
- Reduced access to quality education including access to vocational training
- Reduced access to health services (for Covid19 treatment and other services)
- Changes in intrahousehold gender dynamics, increase in women’s time poverty, and risks of domestic violence
- Possible rise in social tensions between and among refugee and host communities, due to competition over even scarcer jobs and livelihoods opportunities and access to services

NOTE: These are preliminary findings and subject to change.

3RP Model and Linkages to Other COVID-19 Plans

The 3RP is a strategic, coordination, planning, advocacy, fundraising, and programming platform for humanitarian and development partners to respond to the impact of the crisis in Syria in the five most affected neighbouring countries to Syria – Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt. The 3RP acts in support of national efforts. It comprises one regional plan, with five standalone country chapters. The 3RP has two interconnected components: the refugee component addresses the protection and humanitarian assistance needs of refugees while the resilience component addresses the resilience, stabilization and development needs of impacted communities, aiming to strengthen the capacities of national actors. Comprising over 270 partners, the 3RP has mobilized over US$15 billion in resources since 2015 and reached millions of refugees and vulnerable host community members.

While the exact modalities vary by country, the 3RP plan for COVID-19 is aligned and complimentary to government-led preparedness and response plans, the WHO-led Country Preparedness and Response Plans, initiatives by UN Resident Coordinator Offices, as well as the work of development actors, including International Financial Institutions to the greatest extent possible.
### Financial Requirements 2020

#### TOTAL

*From original 3RP Requirements:*
- USD 1,126,789,794
- Health related: USD 257,689
- Non-health related: USD 969,098

**COVID-19 Plan**
- New Requirements: USD 6,564,343,778
- Health related: USD 5,564,343,778
- Non-health related: USD 1,000,000

**TOTAL**
- Total: USD 774,031,466
- Non-health related: USD 562,128,098
- Health related: USD 81,624,773
- New Requirements: USD 643,752,871
- Non-health related: USD 130,278,189
- Health related: USD 513,474,682

#### TURKEY

*From original 3RP Requirements:*
- USD 1,154,661,131
- Health related: USD 259,942,303
- Non-health related: USD 914,712,828

**COVID-19 Plan**
- New Requirements: USD 1,174,788,179
- Health related: USD 61,624,773
- Non-health related: USD 1,113,163,406

**TOTAL**
- Total: USD 2020
- Non-health related: USD 30,927,264
- Health related: USD 6,422,000
- New Requirements: USD 37,894,943
- Non-health related: USD 231,631,772
- Health related: USD 13,066,000

#### LEBANON

*From original 3RP Requirements:*
- USD 2,189,906,223
- Health related: USD 1,200,090,223
- Non-health related: USD 989,815,998

**COVID-19 Plan**
- New Requirements: USD 2,189,906,223
- Health related: USD 1,200,090,223
- Non-health related: USD 989,815,998

**TOTAL**
- Total: USD 275,331,772
- Non-health related: USD 275,331,772
- Health related: USD 275,331,772
- New Requirements: USD 275,331,772
- Non-health related: USD 275,331,772
- Health related: USD 275,331,772

#### IRAQ

*From original 3RP Requirements:*
- USD 239,942,203
- Health related: USD 42,616,842
- Non-health related: USD 197,325,361

**COVID-19 Plan**
- New Requirements: USD 239,942,203
- Health related: USD 42,616,842
- Non-health related: USD 197,325,361

**TOTAL**
- Total: USD 4,668,024
- Non-health related: TBD
- Health related: TBD

#### EGYPT

*From original 3RP Requirements:*
- USD 38,560,205
- Health related: USD 4,322,800
- Non-health related: USD 34,237,405

**COVID-19 Plan**
- New Requirements: USD 38,560,205
- Health related: USD 4,322,800
- Non-health related: USD 34,237,405

**TOTAL**
- Total: USD 38,560,205
- Non-health related: TBD
- Health related: TBD

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### Prioritized Sector Activities

**Enabling key Protection activities, such as SGBV and Child Protection, through enhanced community engagement and remote case management**

**Providing cash and other assistance to the most impacted refugees to help them deal with the socio-economic impact**

**Supporting line ministries and health facilities to sustain primary healthcare to Syrian refugees and vulnerable host community members**

**Supporting host government and education institutions on new learning modalities for children to access education**

**Supporting the development of online vocational training, job-matching and business development tools to continue supporting access to job opportunities and employment retention**

**Providing hygiene kit and personal protective equipment for vulnerable impacted populations, public services’ workers and staff**

**Providing support to refugees in camps for shelter maintenance**

**Increasing communication with communities to raise awareness on COVID-19 and share information on service availability**

**Establishing temporary shelter measures to address overcrowding in densely populated areas and enable physical distancing**

**Engaging with community, public institutions and local authorities to promote social cohesion**

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*3RP partners have identified / reprioritized approximately USD 130 million from existing 3RP appeal figures for priority COVID-19 activities. All figures will be updated following an official comprehensive revision of the 3RP COVID-19 Plan.*

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### Coronavirus prevention and awareness campaigns

3RP partners in Iraq are providing potable water and hygiene awareness among children about the importance of hand washing. 3RP partners are reviewing the availability of medicines and medical in camp health clinics and rolling out health awareness campaigns on Coronavirus in and out of camps. Health awareness messages are being disseminated and awareness posters distributed, within which hand washing, respiratory hygiene measures and early symptoms identification are key topics. There is ongoing training of health workers in camps on disease identification and management – according to Ministry of Health and WHO guidelines – to ensure prompt referral to hospitals when needed.

**Photo:** UNHCR / Rashied Hussein

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### A blueprint for continued learning during the COVID-19 crisis

3RP partners have been supporting the national distance learning programme in collaboration with the host government and education institutions. While this innovative approach was used for adult Turkish language training for 24,849 Syrian refugees prior to the COVID-19 crisis, it has now become part of the new model in response to the COVID-19 crisis. The system works remotely on various mobile devices so that students do not necessarily need continuous internet connection. To adjust to the impact of COVID-19, face-to-face consultations and support have been also moved online through live sessions with teachers, and students can download learning material and use it offline. The language training programme aims at teaching Turkish to 52,000 adult Syrian refugees by the end of 2020, but will provide an important blueprint for the 3RP response to COVID-19. Indeed, 3RP partners are working with Ministry of National Education to develop multiple online training tools and products for over 238 million children in Turkey, including 480,000 refugee children.

**Photo:** UNDP / Levent Kulu

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**Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan (3RP)**
In accordance with Turkey’s legal framework, over 98 per cent of Syrians under temporary protection live in towns and cities alongside Turkish citizens and benefit from public services. As a result of COVID-19, however, many public services that were already stretched have now had to be paused or reduced in order to limit the spread of the virus.

Refugees, some of whom faced difficulties in accessing public services already due to language, economic or social barriers, now face even greater challenges and the risk of not having access to essential services. While health services continue to operate and refugee and host community children continue their education via distance learning, social and protection services are under increased pressure. The economic and social impact of COVID-19, particularly the temporary closure of businesses and associated loss of income and casual labor opportunities affects all parts of society. For refugees and international protection applicants, the sudden loss of livelihoods is compounded by a lack of savings, preventing families from meeting basic needs including food, rent, and hygiene and sanitary items.

In response, 3RP partners have engaged in: (1) adapting the delivery of services, support and assistance to support continuity, where feasible; (2) identifying priority needs of women and men, girls and boys, communities and institutions impacted by the pandemic; and (3) developing new activities to respond to additional needs. Partners are collaborating to develop cash programmes to help the most vulnerable Syrian refugees who are not benefiting from the Emergency Social Safety Net programme. These cash programmes are complemented by employment retention programmes and financial support for refugees and targeted vulnerable Turkish citizens as well as further support to sustain essential social protection schemes like the Conditional Cash Transfer for Education programme. 3RP partners will also support the health response focusing on the provision of equipment and awareness raising. Other key response will involve supporting government institutions with online working and distance learning modalities to ensure continued access to education while ensuring provision of protection, child protection and SGBV services.

The LCRP supports COVID-19 preparedness and response through an integrated approach as many of the preparedness and response mechanisms cut across population cohorts and are multi-sectoral. The LCRP links to the COVID-19 national response structure through various entry points including the National Technical Committee, the Disaster Risk Management Unit and the Response Pillars.

The overall aim is to continue critical LCRP activities as well as, directly and indirectly, support national efforts, to ensure that:

- The most vulnerable displaced persons from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese continue to access life-saving services and protection.
- Prevention and response activities, particularly related to home isolation in overcrowded areas, are taking place according to Standard Operating Procedures.
- Communication and community engagement are supported through trusted and credible channels using a risk communication and community engagement approach with harmonized messaging.
- All interventions are protection-centered, consider conflict sensitivity and use do no harm approaches, especially in light of the high risk of increasing social tensions and negative impact on communal relations.

Partners have reviewed the existing operational footprint and identified ways to continue with the most critical activities, however reprogramming and additional funding support are required to ensure that critical assistance can continue. Considering the need to shift modalities and activities, donor flexibility is also required.

Simultaneously, the outbreak of COVID-19 is expected to substantially exacerbate the effects of the economic crisis on refugees and host communities. To reduce the risks, additional interventions are needed, with priority to the most vulnerable groups, especially women, girls, people with specific needs and elderly people.
COVID-19 Response April 2020

The socio-economic impact attributed to COVID-19 pandemic is evolving rapidly since the nationwide movement restriction was put in place with relevant emergency measures being imposed on services, communities, businesses and other national systems. While refugees in Jordan are included in the national response, the socio-economic impact of these actions was found to put refugees and host communities under increased stress deteriorating their already precarious situations and vulnerabilities. Key findings from various assessments have shown a significant increase in the signs of distress, the number of reported cases of domestic violence against women and girls and food insecurity with most refugees having no food in stock. Gaps are also found in access to and quality of education as not all children have the necessary tools to access distance learning and quality online content, teacher training and parental engagement continue to remain challenging.

This plan targets Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities, while also covering refugees, asylum-seekers and other vulnerable groups of many nationalities in Jordan. Most refugees live in urban areas, largely below the poverty line, across all Governorates of Jordan. Multi-sectoral support is not provided at that same level as those in camps, leaving non-camp-based refugees additionally vulnerable. Furthermore, the refugee camps necessitate supplementary planning to particularly cover health, protection and related sectoral plans for partners working inside the camps.

The overall objectives in Jordan are to:

- Contribute to national efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in Jordan.

- Continue to address specific vulnerabilities of refugees and ensure continued access to critical services, food, healthcare, protection and security.

- Provide life-saving assistance and healthcare to refugees affected by COVID-19 and support the national health response.

- Mitigate the socio-economic impact of COVID-19.

- Safeguard the progress made on the SDGs and resilience building in support of refugees and host communities.

Syrian Refugee Population

- 654,692 individuals

Vulnerable host community members

- 520,000 individuals

Number of confirmed cases of COVID-19

- As of 4th May 2020

- 461

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Provide remote psychosocial and peer support through the establishment of online groups and the development and dissemination of materials for parents to prevent violence against children.

- Provide social safety net assistance to economically vulnerable populations affected by COVID-19.

- Provide support to essential public services.

- Advocate for access to territory and freedom of movement to access essential services.

- Provide material support to Departments of Health and health institutions.

- Conduct COVID-19 Health Awareness Raising and Capacity Building.

- Provide sufficient safe water supplies, sanitation services and waste disposal in camps, and adequate safe WASH services in essential public services.

COVID-19 measures adopted by the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government are temporarily affecting the ability to implement some of the 3RP activities. Still, most basic services continue to be delivered in camps and in areas with a high density of displaced populations, and overall access to health and WASH services continues to be guaranteed.

The two main challenges to date are the halt of certain activities due to movement restrictions in the KR-I and the closure of border crossing points. UNHCR will continue to monitor the rapidly changing situation and, in close collaboration with 3RP sector leads, further assess and advise on how to implement life-saving activities in case the COVID-19 measures adopted by the host authorities in Iraq continue to negatively affect the 3RP response due to limitations in freedom of movement, limited access to persons of concern and non-functioning public services.

The 3RP sectors identified priority activities to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and to ensure continuity in humanitarian refugee response. The proposed priority activities have characteristics such as life-saving response, sensitive protection work, COVID-19 awareness-raising and hygiene outreach related to containing the virus and specific supportive logistics activity.

The activities are in conjunction with the prioritized HBP activities endorsed by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and COVID-19 Operations Cell based on PC1/PC2 UN Programme Criticality Assessment in Iraq (December 2019). The 3RP COVID-19 response and measures will be in conjunction with guidance and instructions from the GoI, the KRG, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the COVID-19 Crisis Operations Cell.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Syrian Refugee Population</th>
<th>Iraq</th>
<th>245,810 individuals</th>
<th>Number of confirmed cases of COVID-19</th>
<th>Iraq</th>
<th>2,219 as of 4th May 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerable host community members</td>
<td>158,110 individuals</td>
<td>Non-health related: –</td>
<td>Health related: –</td>
<td>–</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of confirmed cases of COVID-19</td>
<td>2,219 as of 4th May 2020</td>
<td>Non-health related: –</td>
<td>Health related: –</td>
<td>–</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Most Syrian and other refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt were already vulnerable prior to the spread of COVID-19 and these vulnerabilities are set to worsen. Refugees live in urban areas, mostly in overcrowded accommodations with inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene. Amid the Government of Egypt’s (GoE) measures to combat the spread of the Coronavirus, many refugees and asylum-seekers have lost their sources of income. Concerns are also growing over the ability of refugees and asylum-seekers to access public health services and pay rent and housing costs in the coming months.

Unaccompanied and separated children and youth may become more vulnerable and destitute, and cases of SGBV and other protection risks may potentially increase with little access to services. Elderly people and persons with special needs and medical conditions will be among the most affected groups. 3RP partners are closely monitoring that refugees and asylum-seekers will continue to have access to public health services during this period, while also ensuring an equal level of assistance for all refugee nationalities.

While some children have access to e-learning opportunities and materials, the most vulnerable children in remote and impoverished areas will not be able to access these materials. 3RP partners will be supporting the Ministry of Education and Technical Education with the development of guidelines to conduct safe examinations as well as for safe school re-opening.

With most refugees and asylum-seekers exhausting their limited resources on basic supplies, 3RP appealing partners are joining efforts to enable refugees to meet their basic needs, including access to hygiene items and cash assistance to the newly affected households.

Along with unconditional food assistance to those facing unprecedented challenges in meeting their basic needs, provision of monthly food assistance to the most vulnerable pregnant and lactating women and their infants under two years of age will continue.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Extend financial assistance to separated children and additional housing assistance for SGBV survivors both Syrians and those of other nationalities who are at greater risk.
- Provide short-term monthly cash grant to 11,158 families affected due to loss of jobs and stagnated business.
- Provide unconditional food assistance to 150,000 refugees and 20,000 workers and returnees from host communities.
- Distribute of hygiene items to refugees, asylum seekers and host community members who are at greater risk of serious health complications.

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