

A Syrian refugee girl in Basirma camp, Iraq.

This chapter provides a summary of the general environment in which UNHCR operated in the Middle East and North Africa in 2014. It presents the main challenges and constraints that affected the organization's operational response, and sums up the year's achievements across the region. Dashboard presentations of key figures related to the two major emergency situations in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria) are included.

Details of the largest operations in the region and its subregions in 2014 are presented on the *Global Focus* website at <http://reporting.unhcr.org>.

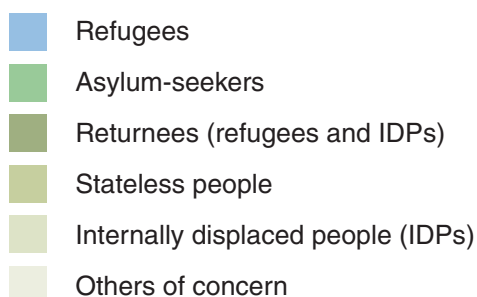
MIDDLE NORTH



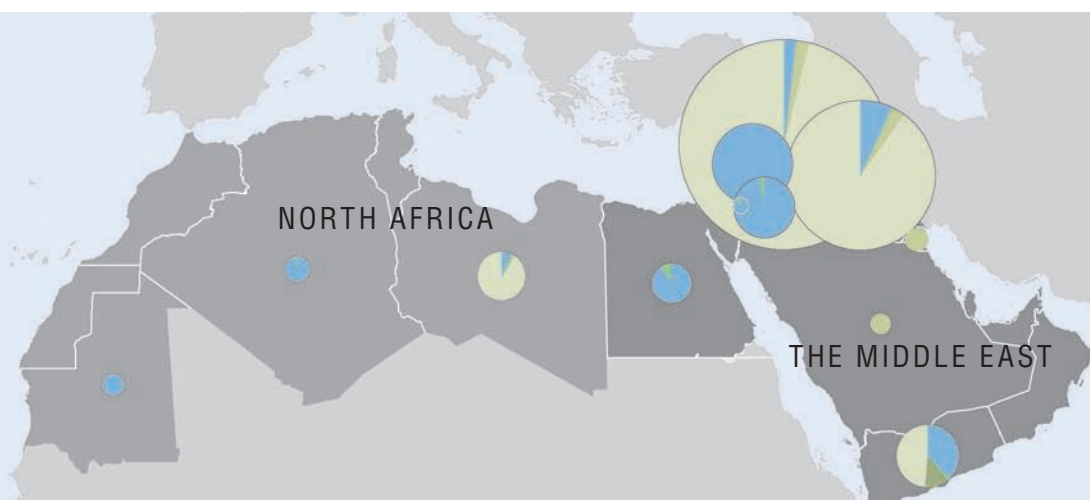
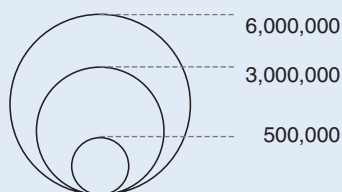
EAST AND AFRICA

| WORKING ENVIRONMENT |

- The worsening humanitarian situation in and around Syria was compounded by an escalation of violence in Iraq during 2014. In view of the impact of current developments on the region's stability, and the struggle to find a political resolution in Syria, UNHCR continued to work with partners to contain the deterioration of the regional humanitarian and protection situation.
- Syrians have become the largest refugee population under UNHCR's mandate, with an estimated 3.7 million Syrian refugees in the Middle East and North Africa region at the end of 2014. UNHCR coordinated the implementation of and reporting on the *2014 Syria Regional Response Plan* (RRP6), under which more than 150 participating organizations responded to the needs of Syrian refugees and members of host communities in the five main refugee host countries (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey).
- The prolonged nature of the Syria crisis, which entered its fifth year in March 2015, has also required a shift in approach. The *Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2015-2016* (3RP), issued at the end of 2014, is a regional strategy that brings together host Governments and around 200 humanitarian and development partners to support nationally-led response plans for the five main Syrian refugee host countries. This unique coordination initiative aims to scale up resilience and stabilization-based development components to complement humanitarian assistance. UNHCR and UNDP led the development of the 3RP in 2014.
- Inside Syria, 12.2 million people needed humanitarian assistance at the end of 2014, including 7.6 million internally displaced people (IDPs). Pursuant to UN Security Council Resolution 2165 (2014), UNHCR strengthened its coordination and operational response capacity in Jordan and Turkey to assist those most in need in Syria. The Office also continued its coordination and leadership responsibilities for three inter-agency clusters and sector working groups under the *2014 Syria Response Plan*, as well as the *Iraq Strategic Response Plan 2014-2015*.
- At the end of 2014, there were more than 200,000 Iraqi refugees being hosted in the region, more than half of whom were newly registered in 2014 following the increasing violence in Iraq. The estimated number of new IDPs in Iraq exceeded 2 million in 2014, including more than 900,000 in the Kurdistan Region. Some 1 million people also remain displaced in central Iraq as a result of earlier violence. Following the declaration of a system-wide Level 3 emergency (see *Glossary*) in Iraq in August 2014, UNHCR launched an expanded operation to bring in relief supplies by air, land and sea. This was the largest single aid distribution organized by UNHCR in more than a decade, targeting half a million IDPs. The Office also expanded emergency shelter and winterization efforts; provided the Kurdistan Regional Government with expertise in site planning; implemented country-wide cash assistance programmes; and conducted protection monitoring. In 2014, UNHCR's Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) for the Syria situation was also designated as the RRC for the Iraq situation.
- In Yemen, the political impasse deteriorated into renewed conflict, leading to new displacement in 2014. UNHCR continued to provide life-saving assistance and critical protection to both IDPs and refugees wherever possible. At the end of 2014, there were more than 330,000 IDPs and approximately 248,000 refugees in Yemen. Yemen also continued to be a destination and transit country for people travelling as part of irregular mixed movements. In 2015, the humanitarian situation in Yemen has deteriorated further as conflict spreads throughout the country. This is prompting new waves of displacement, of both Yemeni nationals and refugees who had sought safety in Yemen, to flee to neighbouring countries and further



Population size



afield. UNHCR continues to provide humanitarian assistance to the extent possible and to monitor the situation of displacement inside Yemen and across its borders.

- The security situation in Libya remained volatile. According to local authorities and national non-governmental organizations, around 400,000 people were displaced inside the country by the end of 2014. Nearly 37,000 refugees and asylum-seekers were registered with UNHCR in Libya, the majority from Syria and the rest from more than 30 other countries. Libya also remained a major transit country for migrants and asylum-seekers wanting to travel across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe.
- More generally, the Middle East and North Africa continued to be a region of origin, destination and transit for refugees and migrants. Trafficking and smuggling, as well as loss of life at sea, remained of serious concern. North Africa was particularly affected by irregular mixed movements, including of people in transit to Europe. UNHCR strengthened partnerships in order to raise awareness and provide information on the risks of moving irregularly by

land or sea. In North Africa, UNHCR worked on developing standard operating procedures for protection and assistance following disembarkation after rescue at sea operations, and on strengthening institutional protection mechanisms.

- UNHCR continued to call on the international community to remain engaged in the *Western Sahara* refugee situation: Sahrawi refugees living in camps near Tindouf, Algeria, have been displaced for 40 years and are increasingly vulnerable.
- Partnerships continued to be crucial in the Middle East and North Africa region. UNHCR's partnership with countries of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, for example, resulted in substantial support for the Syria situation and other humanitarian responses. Collaboration with the League of Arab States and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation also expanded significantly in 2014, a trend that is expected to continue in 2015. In addition, the growing range of civil society actors continued to be a vital entry point and source of support for UNHCR in the region.

| CONSTRAINTS |

In 2014, UNHCR faced numerous constraints in the Middle East and North Africa. In the absence of a political solution, the scale of the Syria and Iraq crises heightened concerns about the impact on regional stability.

In many instances, displacement across the region was urban in nature, requiring UNHCR to adopt innovative communication and outreach activities, assessment and targeting methodology and community-based protection strategies. Evidence-based data collection showed that refugees become more vulnerable as their displacement lengthens. Throughout the region, information available to UNHCR suggested that refugees resorted to a range of negative coping strategies to survive, including child labour and begging. While Syria's neighbouring countries have displayed remarkable generosity in hosting large numbers of refugees, the impact on host communities across the region continued to be significant as they sought to absorb the economic and social impact on their markets, infrastructure and social structures.

The increasingly challenging and dynamic security situation severely affected the capacity of staff of UNHCR and partners

to run operations. Deteriorating security conditions and the rise of extremist actors also hindered access to people in need of humanitarian assistance.

The dangers of irregular mixed movements were highlighted throughout 2014. More than 91,000 people arrived in Yemen by sea – a significant increase compared to the 65,300 arrivals in 2013. Among them, reportedly, were many victims of human trafficking. Two hundred and forty-six migrants and asylum-seekers were reported drowned or missing off the coast of Yemen in 2014.

Many migrants and asylum-seekers in Libya also sought to travel by boat to Europe. In 2014, Italy received over 170,000 arrivals by sea. The majority – 83 per cent of arrivals – had left from Libya, while the rest departed from Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey. Twenty-five per cent of arrivals in Italy were Syrian nationals. An estimated 3,500 people died or went missing in the Mediterranean Sea in 2014, compared to 600 people in 2013. Rescue at sea remained a major concern for UNHCR and the Office continued its work with governments in North Africa to respond to and prevent tragedies at sea.

| ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT |

○ *Safeguarding access to protection and asylum*

Ensuring access to safety and protection from *refoulement* for people of concern remained a primary objective for UNHCR across the Middle East and North Africa region, in light of the protracted displacement compounded by new emergencies.

In countries hosting Syrian refugees, UNHCR continued to support the development of national systems, including by: cooperating with authorities on registration and the renewal of documentation; expanding the use of biometrics; engaging in community-based protection; and strengthening evidence-based protection programming. In Turkey, the Law on Foreigners and International Protection adopted in 2013, and the temporary protection regulation of October 2014, ensuring *non-refoulement* and access to assistance for Syrian nationals, stateless people and refugees from Syria, were milestones in refugee protection at a time when Turkey became the biggest refugee-hosting country in the world.

Several countries in North Africa continued to work towards establishing national asylum legislation, including Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia.

UNHCR also significantly strengthened its capacity to ensure the efficient registration of refugees upon arrival in the countries of asylum. In 2014, almost 745,000 people were registered in the Middle East and North Africa. By early 2015, 69 per cent of refugees and asylum-seekers in the region had been registered using biometric technology – a faster, more secure, and durable method to protect people and target assistance. Iris-scan biometric technology was in place in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, while other countries, such as Algeria, Mauritania and Morocco, used fingerprinting biometrics.

In order to respond to the multiple large-scale displacements in the region, refugee status determination methodologies and tools were developed, adapted and successfully implemented to increase processing capacity and decrease waiting periods and backlogs, particularly in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon. Policies for the strategic use of UNHCR mandate refugee status determination were also developed.

○ *Mitigating sexual and gender-based violence*

The Middle East and North Africa continued to record incidents of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) against displaced women, girls, men and boys in 2014. UNHCR and partners assisted national authorities in preventing and responding to SGBV by promoting gender equality, supporting national protection systems and community-based interventions, improving data collection and analysis, and strengthening advocacy. The organization worked with governmental and non-governmental partners to establish safe reporting of crimes and referral and follow-up mechanisms for victims, and informed community members and survivors about available services. In countries hosting Syrian refugees, more than 66,300 survivors of SGBV received specialist support in 2014. In Syria, UNHCR led the protection cluster, working with partners to ensure that SGBV survivors received counselling, medical support and legal aid. Since 2013, more than 12,200 SGBV survivors in Damascus have received such support.

In total, some 45,400 Syrian refugees received legal counselling and legal support related to documentation, SGBV, birth registration, and civil status-related issues, with a further 13,000 Syrian IDPs receiving equivalent support. UNHCR also assisted more than 7,000 Iraqi refugees and some 15,700 Iraqi IDPs to access legal services and counselling.

○ *Protecting children in displacement*

In 2014, UNHCR placed particular emphasis on the situation of children in the Middle East and North Africa region, including more than 1.9 million Syrian refugee children. Efforts were made to strengthen governmental and civil society child protection and education services, focusing on youth and adolescents. In coordination with host Governments, more than 174,000 Syrian refugee children and some 17,600 Iraqi refugee children received support from UNHCR to enrol in primary education in 2014.

In October 2014, the first regional conference on protecting refugee children and adolescents in the Middle East and North Africa (*Investing in The Future: Protecting Refugee Children in the Middle East and North Africa*) was held in the United Arab Emirates, in partnership with UNHCR's Eminent Advocate, Her Highness Sheikha Jawaher Bint Mohammed Al Qasim of Sharjah. The conference underscored the importance of child protection, examined ways to strengthen protection systems, and raised awareness of the specific risks that children face as a result of forced displacement.

UNHCR continued to standardize best interest assessment (BIA) procedures and support best interest determination (BID) panels for unaccompanied and separated children. By mid-2014, UNHCR and partners had conducted more than 4,100 BIAs, strengthened BID processes in Yemen and countries affected by the Syria crisis, and provided technical support to national

authorities responsible for BID in Algeria and Tunisia.

○ *Preventing statelessness*

Regional efforts continued to address statelessness. UNHCR supported research to improve data, and provided technical assistance to States for preventing and reducing statelessness. The Office worked with governments in the region to increase birth registration and provided advice on potential legislative reforms to address gaps in nationality laws. Some 115,000 Syrian refugee children have been born in exile since the crisis began in 2011. UNHCR continued to work with host governments to ensure the timely registration of births, and with civil society to establish legal aid programmes to assist families. In Jordan, these measures, coupled with strong governmental support, saw an eight-fold increase in the number of birth certificates issued to Syrian refugee children born in camps.

○ *Meeting the basic needs of the most vulnerable*

In order to enhance the dignity and self-reliance of people of concern to UNHCR, cash support and the use of cash-based assistance programmes continued to be privileged where possible, allowing beneficiaries to make their own choices about their household expenditures. Cash-based transfers likewise provided greater efficiency in reaching the most vulnerable. The organization rolled out SMS communications with refugees and used

various social media tools to ensure effective transmission of information.

In Syria, UNHCR assisted 4.5 million people with core relief items and provided material assistance to a further 2 million Syrian refugee families across the region. Monthly cash assistance supported over half a million Syrians during 2014, in an effort to reduce reliance on negative coping strategies such as child labour.

Particular attention was dedicated to health services in 2014, with 270 health facilities offering specialized and emergency care for Syrian refugee families being constructed or maintained across the Middle East and North Africa region in 2014. A further 20 health facilities were supported inside Syria. More than 48,600 urban Syrian refugee families received various forms of shelter assistance, and in order to reduce the risk of evictions of refugees from rented accommodation, UNHCR and its partners worked with municipalities and local leaders, and established collective shelter management committees, in Lebanon.

With more than 2 million new Iraqi IDPs in 2014, the delivery of basic humanitarian assistance and services was a considerable challenge. UNHCR efforts were focused within the protection, shelter/non-food items, and camp coordination and camp

management clusters. Ten IDP camps were constructed in different parts of Iraq, including seven in the Kurdistan Region. UNHCR distributed over 64,000 kits of core relief items and 19,100 emergency shelters to internally displaced Iraqi families.

To help prepare vulnerable families for the winter, 360,000 Iraqi IDPs and 82,000 Iraqi refugees received winter items such as kerosene and heating stoves. Cash assistance and vouchers were provided to 6,000 Iraqi refugees and 14,000 Iraqi IDPs, based on continuous needs assessments.

○ *Protection beyond the immediate neighbouring region*

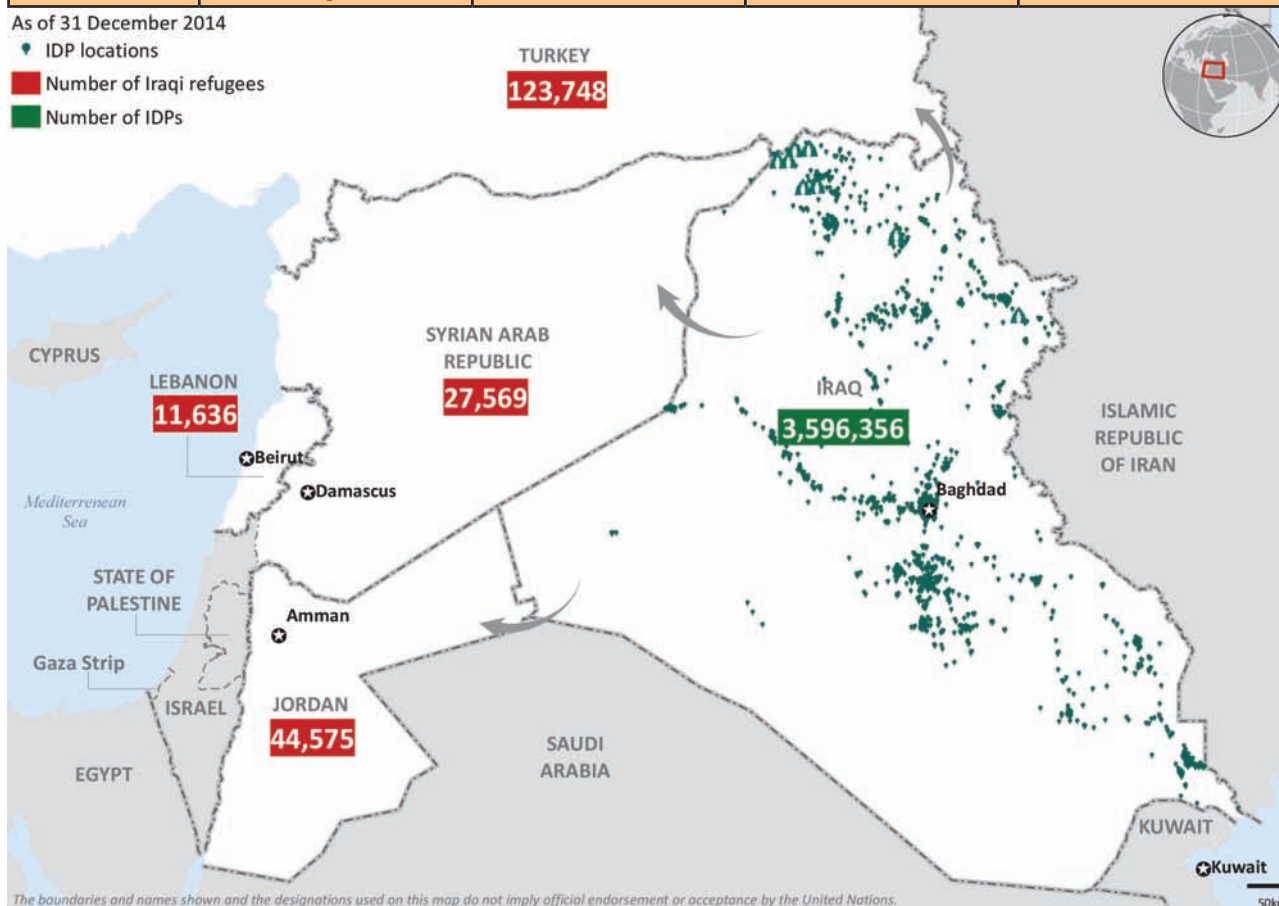
UNHCR continued to encourage burden sharing with countries hosting Syrian refugees through resettlement opportunities or other forms of admission. In 2014, the organization submitted nearly 23,200 refugees for resettlement from the region. The two largest refugee populations benefiting from resettlement were Iraqis and Syrians. In North Africa, UNHCR explored the strategic use of resettlement to address protection needs for refugee survivors of trafficking and SGBV. ■

IRAQ SITUATION 2014

5	207,528	3.59 million	USD 577.1 million	USD 302 million
countries	Iraqi refugees in the region	Iraqi IDPs	total requirements in 2014	total funding received in 2014

As of 31 December 2014

- IDP locations
- Number of Iraqi refugees
- Number of IDPs



Of the total Iraqi refugees in Turkey, 20,995 are registered, 51,067 are pre-registered, and 51,686 are pending pre-registration.

Humanitarian needs

- Protection of Iraqi refugees in their countries of asylum and of civilians affected by the conflict in Iraq.
- Provision of adequate shelter.
- Ensuring access to essential services.

Timeline of key events

- Violence breaks out in Ramadi and Fallujah, Anbar Governorate, forcing tens of thousands to flee.
- Displacement from Anbar peaks at 600,000. Extremist groups infiltrate Fallujah and Ramadi.
- Government forces recapture Ramadi.
- Mosul, Iraq's second largest city, and Tikrit fall to armed groups. Estimated 500,000 displaced over the next month.

December 2013

January 2014

March 2014

June 2014

2014 response

Strategic objectives	Achievements	Impact	Gaps
Respond to the protection needs of Iraqi refugees, IDPs and other people of concern, with particular focus on child protection, SGBV and the most vulnerable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection profiling identified people of concern who have specific needs and vulnerabilities, including: survivors of sexual and gender-based violence; unaccompanied minors and separated children; older people; women at risk requiring specific attention; people with disabilities; and people who need immediate psychological support. Inside Iraq, protection monitoring in 2014 reached 763,000 people (131,000 families); 33,000 households received legal assistance; and 10,900 IDPs with specific needs were referred to specialist services. Registration of new refugee arrivals and provision of identity documents, protection and security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refugees have access to physical and legal protection. Survivors of violence or trauma, unaccompanied or separated children and other vulnerable people of concern have access to psychosocial, medical, legal and material assistance. Safe spaces for children and women ensure access to education, assistance and support. New refugee arrivals are incorporated into existing assistance programmes to the extent possible, with an enhanced focus on outreach activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People continue to be displaced to insecure areas where UNHCR has limited access, impeding protection monitoring and outreach. Greater capacity is needed to provide psychosocial support and legal services, including to victims of SGBV. In particular, there is a shortage of suitable service providers in the central and southern governorates of Iraq. Large numbers of Iraqi IDP children have experienced psychological stress but do not have access to psychosocial support or specialized services.
Provide life-saving assistance and access to essential services for Iraqi refugees, IDPs and other people of concern.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Iraqi refugees assisted with core relief items, cash and shelter. More than 84,000 IDP households reached with emergency relief items. 10 IDP camps constructed and more than 500 collective centres supported. Training and capacity-building for provided to local CCCM actors and government authorities working in managed camps and collective centres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living conditions of displaced people improved. Refugees have access to basic life-saving emergency provisions, including shelter, WASH, primary health care and nutrition services. Refugees provided with basic household items including blankets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, mosquito nets and hygiene items. One-time cash assistance to assist IDPs in coping with their immediate needs such as rent, food, fuel and medical care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life-saving needs remain enormous. Many communities lack basic supplies, fuel, food and medicine. Families identified as eligible are not receiving cash assistance. Families are moving from rental accommodation to camps as financial resources diminish and vulnerabilities increase. The capacity of some camps is already exhausted.
Strengthen capacity to address needs of newly displaced Iraqi refugees in neighbouring countries and support the cluster response for Iraqi IDPs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial resources mobilized for the additional needs of newly-displaced Iraqi refugees. Co-leadership and coordination of the protection cluster, camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) cluster, and the shelter/NFI cluster in Iraq. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNHCR continued to assist authorities to expand and develop the protection environment by supporting their capacity in responding to the needs of refugees and IDPs. In Iraq, high-level interest was demonstrated, with inter-agency participation; UNHCR partners, both UN agencies and NGOs, were encouraged to lead specific sectors that extended beyond UNHCR's core mandate and operational priorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Iraq, the surge in humanitarian needs far exceeded the operational capacity and resources available, despite a major scaling up of the response, including in the area of coordination. As a result, hosting communities in Iraq, which were also affected by the crisis, were not provided with assistance.

- Armed groups attack internal boundary areas and some 200,000 people flee Sinjar and surrounds, Ninewa Governorate, to the Kurdistan Region.

- 14 August – the Inter-Agency Standing Committee activates a system-wide Level 3 humanitarian emergency in Iraq.

- Heet attack results in displacement of over 120,000 people (20,000 families), including many who had sought safety there following earlier waves of violence in Ramadi, Fallujah and other parts of Anbar.

- More than 2.1 million people are estimated to have been displaced in 2014 alone.

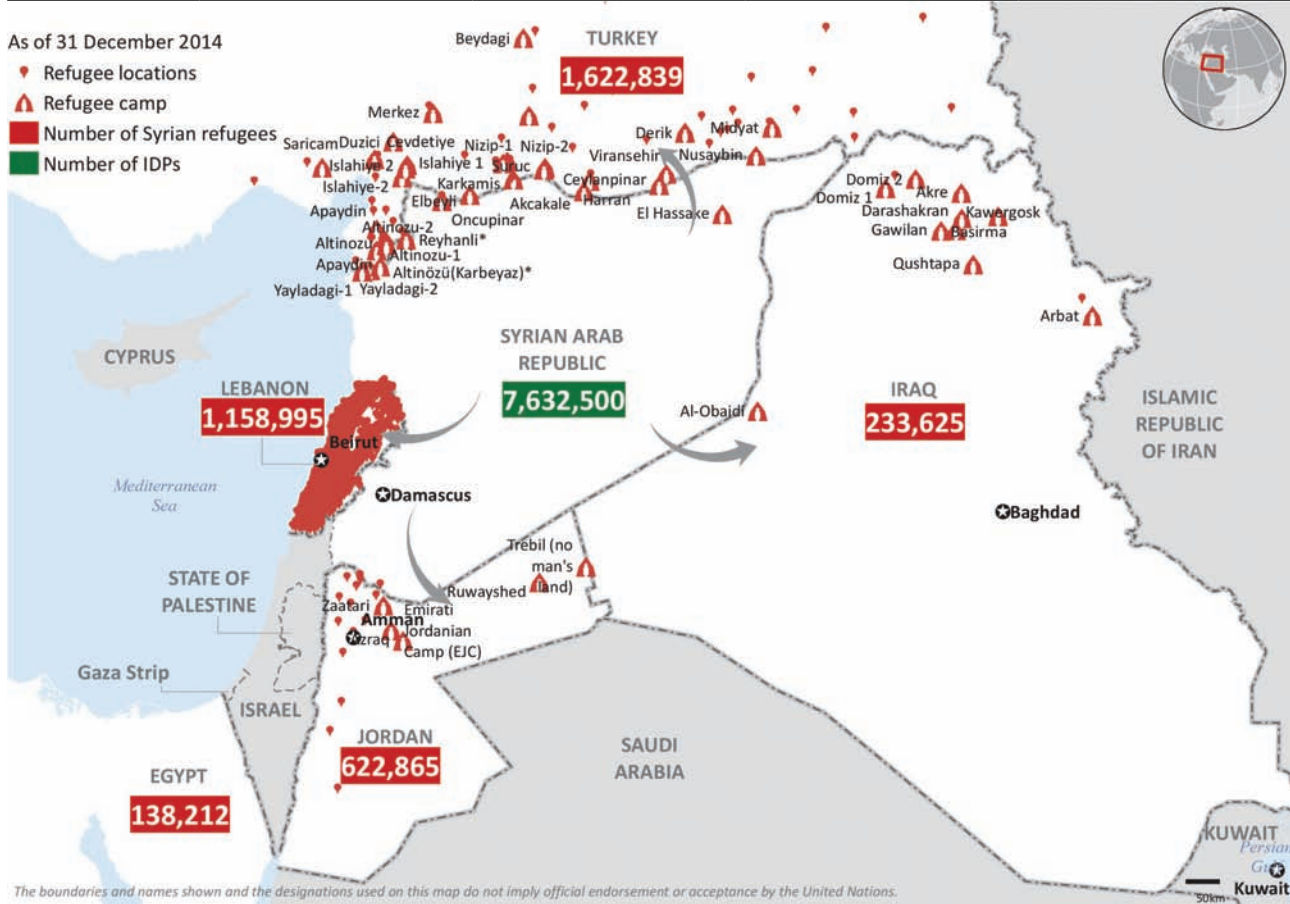
August 2014

October 2014

January 2015

SYRIA SITUATION 2014

6	3.7 million	7.6 million	USD 1.5 billion	USD 931 million
countries	Syrian refugees in the region	Syrian IDPs	total requirements in 2014	total funding received in 2014



Humanitarian needs

- Protection of civilians affected by the conflict in Syria, including through preservation of protection space, robust prevention and response to SGBV and guarding children from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Provision of adequate shelter.
- Ensuring access to essential services.
- Leadership of the regional refugee coordination.

Timeline of key events

- January 2014**: Kuwait II Pledging Conference for Syria results in over USD 2.4 billion pledged; Geneva II conference seeking political solution in Syria held in Switzerland.
- February 2014**: 1,366 people evacuated from the besieged area of Old Homs, operation suspended after six days due to continued mortar attacks; UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2139 demanding unhindered humanitarian access to people in need inside Syria.
- April 2014**: UNHCR responds to the Government request to open a second camp for Syrian refugees in Azraq, Jordan.
- July 2014**: UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2165, supplementing SCR 2139 by allowing cross-border assistance across select border points not controlled by the Syrian Government; UNHCR joins the first cross-border convoy from Turkey to Syria under new resolution.
- August**: Spillover clashes in Arsal, Lebanon, result in displacement of more than 1,000 families and widespread property damage, affecting both Syrians and Lebanese.

2014 response

Strategic objectives	Achievements	Impact	Gaps
Ensure Syrian refugees and IDPs have equitable access to effective protection, including access to territory.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely registration of 1.4 million new refugee arrivals. Profiling implemented to identify people with specific needs and vulnerabilities, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, unaccompanied minors and separated children, older people, women requiring specific attention, people with disabilities and people in need of psychosocial support. UNHCR and partners provided specialized child protection services to over 34,000 refugee children (excluding children receiving SGBV services) who had experienced violence, abuse, neglect or exploitation - over 80% of those targeted in the response. 89,500 people who are victims or at risk of SGBV, including children, received specialized services from UNHCR and partners. 784,300 children received psychosocial support from UNHCR and partners. 465,000 Syrian IDPs benefited from core protection assistance in 12 governorates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refugees have substantial access to physical and legal protection, including protection from refoulement and access to registration and documentation. Survivors of violence or trauma, unaccompanied or separated children and other vulnerable people of concern have access to psychosocial, medical, legal and material assistance. Child protection interventions guard children from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation including child labour and early marriage. 20,911 Syrians submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission. The most vulnerable host communities benefit from improved access to quality essential services and access to livelihood opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals with specific protection needs may not be properly identified and supported. Insufficient availability of psychosocial interventions and specialized services may lead to more people at risk of violence, exploitation, and abuse. Insufficient profiling and disaggregated data on the displaced population and host communities inside Syria hampers effective planning and advocacy. Insecurity in large parts of Syria limited access to displaced populations, particularly in besieged locations and areas of active warfare.
Provide life-saving assistance and access to essential services for Syrian refugees, IDPs and other people of concern.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.3 million refugees assisted with seasonal relief for winter. 1 million newly arrived refugees provided with core relief items. 421,000 refugees provided with shelter in camps. 4.5 million IDPs reached with core relief items in 13 out of 14 governorates, including 1.1 million beneficiaries in 105 hard-to-reach and besieged locations. 29 cross-border convoys provided relief items to 195,000 people inside Syria. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living conditions of displaced people improved. Refugees have access to basic life-saving emergency provisions, including shelter, WASH, primary health care and nutrition services. Regular and one-time cash assistance provided vital assistance for refugees and IDPs to meet their immediate needs, such as rent, food, fuel and medical care. Refugees provided with basic household items including blankets, kitchen set, jerry cans, and hygiene items. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity of national health and education systems overstretched, jeopardizing social cohesion and unity. Inadequate support to local structures and institutions cause growing gaps in the delivery of assistance and services to Syrian refugees. Limited partnership capacity inside Syria restricted UNHCR's reach and access to people of concern.
Provide leadership and coordination for the regional Syrian refugee response; and support the cluster response for Syrian IDPs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership and coordination of the regional response in surrounding countries of asylum for refugees arriving from Syria. USD 2.27 billion mobilized for the regional refugee response. Co-leadership and coordination of the protection, camp coordination and camp management (CCCM), and the shelter/NFI sectors in Syria. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated responses for refugees have been undertaken in all sectors, including: registration, emergency food rations, relief item packages, WASH, health and nutrition services, protection, education and shelter. Targeting and planning of long-term national aid programmes is informed by structured dialogue and the timely provision of quality information on refugees and affected communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate international support for the Syrian refugee hosting countries to deal with the impact of the crisis poses a risk for protection and humanitarian response for refugees.

• 3 million registered Syrian refugees in the region.

• Beginning of displacement from Kobani and the surrounding area into Turkey, reaching 192,000 and 23,000 travelling further to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

• Lebanese Cabinet approves plan to restrict entry of Syrian refugees; Berlin Conference on Syrian Refugees and Supporting Stability in the Region.

• Number of IDPs in Syria is revised up to 7.6 million and a total of 12.2 million people are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria.

• UNHCR pledging conference for resettlement and other forms of admission for Syrian refugees results in 5,600 new places, to total 67,638 places pledged since 2013.

• SCR 2191 adopted by the Security Council, extending provisions for cross-line and cross-border assistance until Jan 2016; UNHCR and its partners launch the new 2015-2016 Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

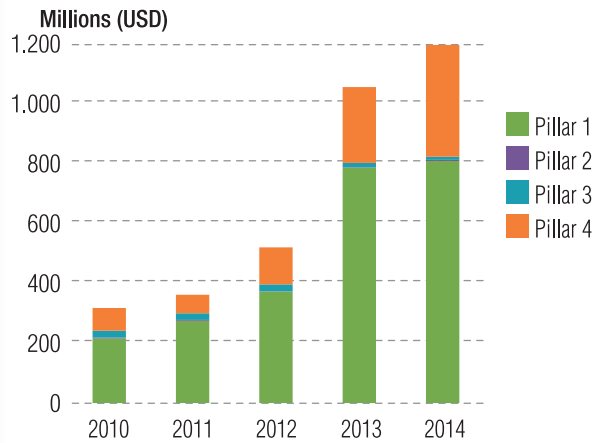
The initial 2014 budget approved by the Executive Committee for the Middle East and North Africa region was USD 1.53 billion. By the end of December 2014, largely due to the unforeseen deterioration in Iraq, the overall financial requirements for the Middle East and North Africa region had reached USD 1.94 billion.

Voluntary contributions for the region amounted to USD 1.22 billion; however despite this generous donor support, funding levels did not match needs. Expenditure stood at just under USD 1.2 billion.

The impact of the funding shortfall includes:

- In Egypt 8,650 refugee students did not receive an education grant for the 2014-2015 academic year and, for those who did, the value was halved. The number of people assisted by UNHCR's cash assistance programme decreased by 45 per cent;
- In Jordan some 10,000 refugees who were identified to be in need of cash assistance did not receive it because funds were unavailable;
- In Lebanon more than 41,700 households did not receive cash assistance. Only 38 per cent of Iraqi refugees could be provided with assistance during the winter months, with the resources available.

EXPENDITURE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA | 2010-2014



BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA | USD

Operation		Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 3 Reintegration projects	Pillar 4 IDP projects	Total
NORTH AFRICA						
Algeria	Budget	32,708,250	0	0	0	32,708,250
	Expenditure	14,415,334	0	0	0	14,415,334
Egypt Regional Office	Budget	83,185,394	69,962	0	0	83,255,356
	Expenditure	51,920,029	58,042	0	0	51,978,071
Libya	Budget	16,694,506	340,000	0	2,050,000	19,084,506
	Expenditure	6,900,897	30,650	0	383,024	7,314,571
Mauritania	Budget	23,758,159	0	0	0	23,758,159
	Expenditure	14,421,167	0	0	0	14,421,167
Morocco	Budget	3,577,780	0	0	0	3,577,780
	Expenditure	2,818,812	0	0	0	2,818,812
Tunisia	Budget	5,976,657	0	0	0	5,976,657
	Expenditure	4,410,086	0	0	0	4,410,086
Western Sahara: Confidence Building Measures	Budget	8,838,157	0	0	0	8,838,157
	Expenditure	3,967,817	0	0	0	3,967,817
Regional activities	Budget	550,000	100,000	0	0	650,000
	Expenditure	49,086	0	0	0	49,086
Subtotal	Budget	175,288,903	509,962	0	2,050,000	177,848,865
	Expenditure	98,903,228	88,692	0	383,024	99,374,944
MIDDLE EAST						
Iraq	Budget	162,769,324	2,000,001	39,598,855	359,893,118	564,261,298
	Expenditure	109,084,501	1,968,872	10,535,762	190,393,472	311,982,607
Israel	Budget	2,934,709	0	0	0	2,934,709
	Expenditure	2,647,535	0	0	0	2,647,535
Jordan	Budget	307,651,034	0	0	0	307,651,034
	Expenditure	206,681,246	0	0	0	206,681,246
Kuwait	Budget	5,000	0	0	0	5,000
	Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Lebanon	Budget	454,608,385	639,282	0	0	455,247,667
	Expenditure	303,690,968	314,418	0	0	304,005,386
Saudi Arabia	Budget	3,929,980	390,000	0	0	4,319,980
	Expenditure	3,430,814	266,571	0	0	3,697,385
Syrian Regional Refugee Coordination Office	Budget	19,811,771	0	0	59,126	19,870,897
	Expenditure	16,358,702	0	0	0	16,358,702
Syrian Arab Republic	Budget	69,840,792	578,338	0	260,996,217	331,415,347
	Expenditure	40,867,514	441,175	0	163,740,561	205,049,250
United Arab Emirates	Budget	3,315,493	125,000	0	0	3,440,493
	Expenditure	2,246,003	87,365	0	0	2,333,368
Yemen	Budget	37,767,816	0	0	18,134,561	55,902,377
	Expenditure	24,524,852	0	0	7,910,226	32,435,078
Regional activities	Budget	8,108,847	0	0	13,648,413	21,757,260
	Expenditure	2,524,029	0	0	11,724,899	14,248,928
Subtotal	Budget	1,070,743,151	3,732,621	39,598,855	652,731,435	1,766,806,062
	Expenditure	712,056,164	3,078,401	10,535,762	373,769,158	1,099,439,485
Total North Africa and the Middle East	Budget	1,246,032,054	4,242,583	39,598,855	654,781,435	1,944,654,927
	Expenditure	810,959,392	3,167,093	10,535,762	374,152,182	1,198,814,429

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA | USD

<i>Donor</i>	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
Andorra		13,175		13,175
Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations		150,000		150,000
Armenia		100,000		100,000
Australia	8,348,794	4,363,002	3,710,575	16,422,371
Austria		1,387,137		1,387,137
Bahrain	3,530,000			3,530,000
Brazil		300,000		300,000
Canada	11,669,659	6,355,598	6,334,962	24,360,219
Central Emergency Response Fund	459,998	5,666,565		6,126,563
Croatia		48,908		48,908
Czech Republic			159,163	159,163
Denmark	992,368	3,707,247	3,643,651	8,343,266
Estonia	135,685	92,227		227,912
European Union	151,376,965	15,545,547		166,922,512
Finland	137,931	1,239,157	4,126,547	5,503,636
France	2,051,985		664,843	2,716,828
Germany	9,353,693	33,583,189	33,980,734	76,917,617
Greece	68,027			68,027
Holy See	5,000			5,000
Hungary	54,720			54,720
Ireland	1,336,898		1,383,126	2,720,024
Italy	4,539,252			4,539,252
Japan	25,231,893	12,358,107	13,672,080	51,262,080
Kuwait	88,000,000	10,000,000	106,762	98,106,762
Latvia		63,532		63,532
Liechtenstein			110,254	110,254
Luxembourg	1,562,500	883,152		2,445,652
Mexico	1,000,000			1,000,000
Monaco	290,977			290,977
Morocco			29,077	29,077
Netherlands	1,595,755		18,215,735	19,811,490
New Zealand			813,193	813,193
Norway	552,717	9,875,741	20,210,319	30,638,777
Poland	210,960			210,960
Portugal		287,357		287,357
Private donors in Australia	88,134	188,391	1,165,478	1,442,003
Private donors in Austria		114,436	12,107	126,543
Private donors in Belgium			1,995	1,995
Private donors in Canada	778	2,421	337,660	340,859
Private donors in China (Hong Kong SAR)	26,767	41,945	69,745	138,457

<i>Donor</i>	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
Private donors in Denmark	2,935,000			2,935,000
Private donors in France			72,191	72,191
Private donors in Germany	136,001	282,382	7,217,507	7,635,890
Private donors in Greece		13,896	33,228	47,124
Private donors in Ireland			3,266	3,266
Private donors in Italy	653,186	296,209	427,513	1,376,907
Private donors in Japan	419,969	1,536,313	344,790	2,301,072
Private donors in Lebanon	50,000			50,000
Private donors in Norway		147,635		147,635
Private donors in Qatar	441,690			441,690
Private donors in Saudi Arabia	950,000	25,000	54,238	1,029,238
Private donors in Spain	26,223		604,632	630,855
Private donors in Sweden	1,006,345	148,775	1,384,387	2,539,506
Private donors in Switzerland	201,075	3,748	713,416	918,239
Private donors in Thailand	461		13,556	14,017
Private donors in the Netherlands	5,096,955			5,096,955
Private donors in the Republic of Korea	235,323	9,488	331,186	575,997
Private donors in the United Arab Emirates	1,234,885		228,475	1,463,360
Private donors in the United Kingdom			134,418	134,418
Private donors in the United States of America	46,384	2,308,183	1,583,411	3,937,978
Qatar	18,759,588			18,759,588
Republic of Korea	1,000,000	700,000	100,000	1,800,000
Russian Federation	300,000	500,000		800,000
Saudi Arabia	2,947,000	88,317,600		91,264,600
Slovak Republic	65,926			65,926
Slovenia			41,379	41,379
Spain	2,844,983	27,840	33,631	2,906,454
Sweden		9,480,871	4,085,014	13,565,885
Switzerland	7,476,777	3,667,634	3,108,808	14,253,220
Turkey		500,000		500,000
United Arab Emirates	4,859,910			4,859,910
United Kingdom	23,827,849	21,844,826		45,672,676
United Nations Children Fund	962,212			962,212
United Nations Emergency Relief Fund		750,786		750,786
United Nations Office for Project Services	1,996,724			1,996,724
United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS	170,000			170,000
United States of America	263,659,463	78,300,000	118,100,000	460,059,463
World Food Programme	105,560			105,560
Total	655,030,948	315,228,022	247,363,050	1,217,622,020

Note: Includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the “New or additional activities – mandate-related” (NAM) Reserve