

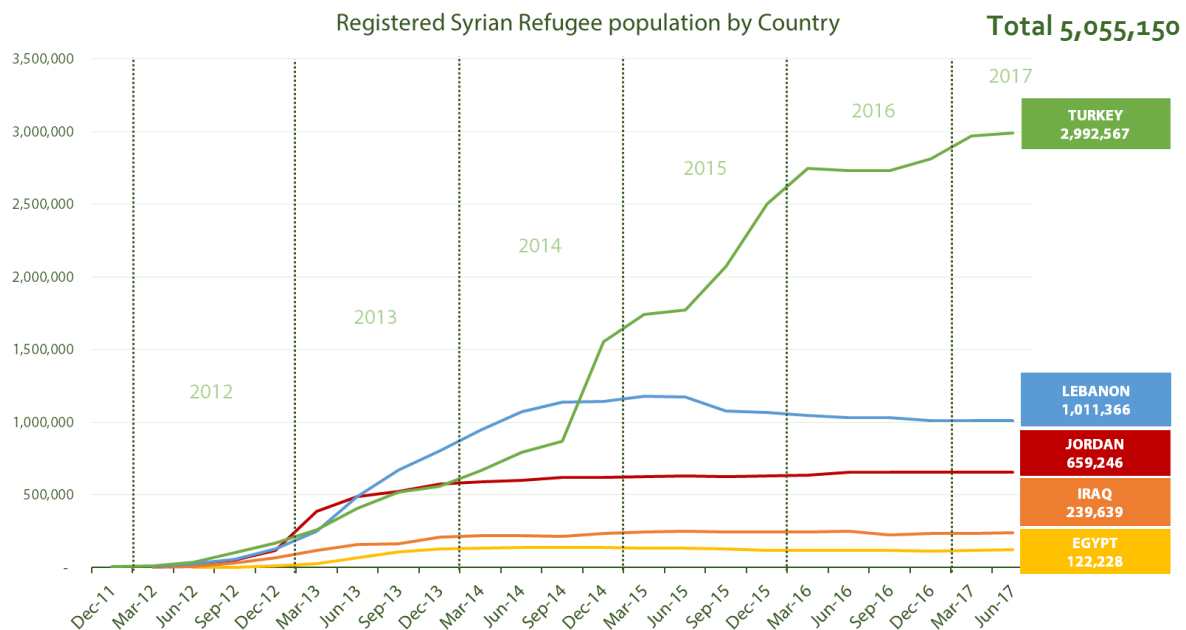
1. Overview

The 3RP 2017-2018 was released as part of the Global Humanitarian Overview on 5 December 2016, and it was later launched in Helsinki, Finland, on 24 January 2017.

The 3RP Regional Strategic Overview, which brings together the five country plans together in a single strategic platform presents a regionally coherent plan developed by **over 240 partners** (government, UN, and international and national NGOs) through **43 working groups** in the **five countries** (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey). For 2017, the appeal seeks **USD 4.63 billion** for the UN and NGO response.

2. Population

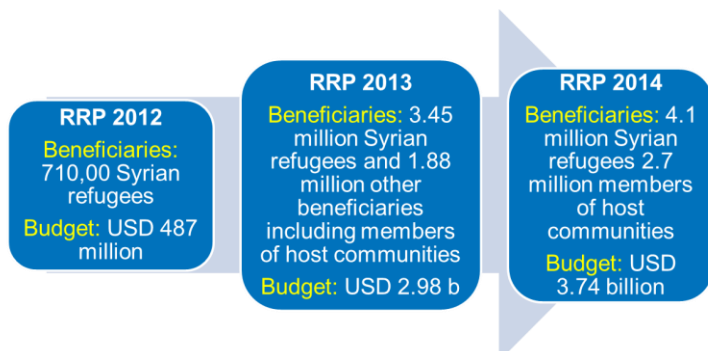
Current population of registered Syrian refugees in the region: 5,055,150 (Turkey: 2,992,567; Lebanon: 1,011,366; Jordan: 659,246; Iraq: 239,639; Egypt: 122,228; North Africa: 30,104). The total net increase since 1 January 2017 is 200,219 refugees, mostly due to registration of Syrian refugees who had already been residing in Turkey.



3. Evolution of the Response

The first Regional Response Plan (RRP) for the Syrian Refugee Crisis was released in March 2012, during the same year it was revised twice RRP2 (June) and RRP3 (September).

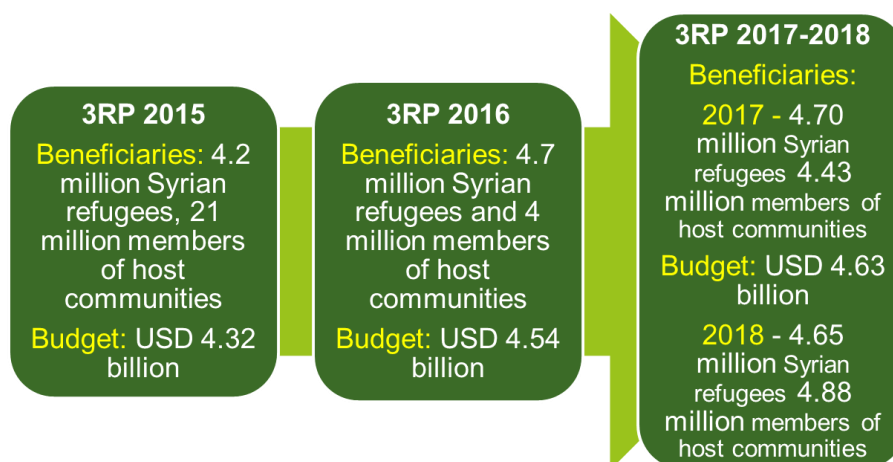
In 2013, Egypt became also part of the RRP4, which in May 2013 was revised to become RRP5.



Foreshadowing the later shift the 3RP model, RRP5 included, for the first time, 1.75 million host community members as a target population group while RRP6 in 2015 included a category of interventions covering capacity-building and resilience programming.

The Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) was first released in 2015 (3RP 2015-2016), it represents a paradigm shift in the response to the crisis by combining humanitarian and development capacities, innovation and resources. It is a unique and coordinated initiative aimed at bringing about a scaling-up of resilience and stabilisation-based development and humanitarian assistance to cope with the crisis. Which was followed by the 3RP 2016-2017.

In 2017 for the first time a fully-costed two year plan was released: 3RP 2017-2018, allowing for planning longer-term interventions and encouraging multi-year funding.



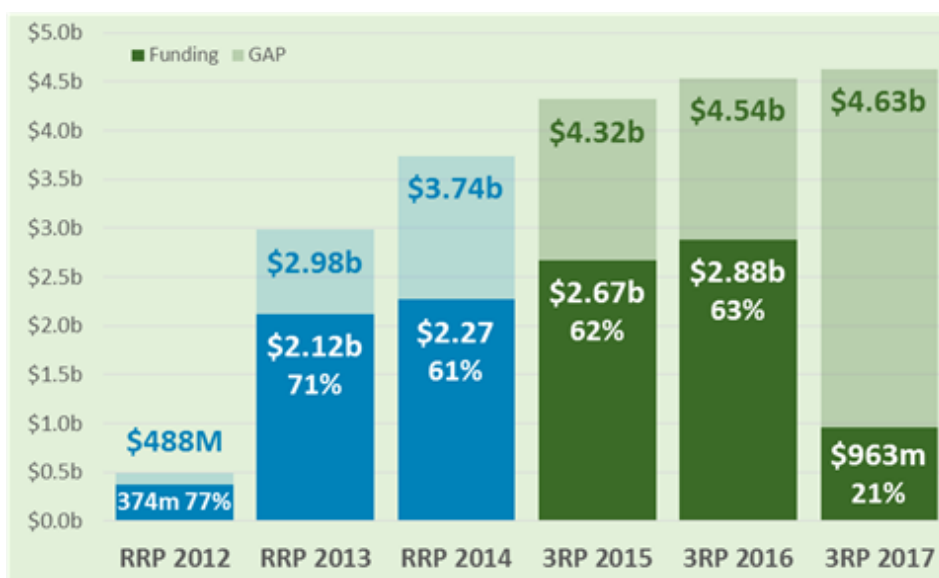
4. Funding

Under the 3RP and the RRP before it, **USD 11.1 billion** has been mobilized for UN and NGO partners in support of Syrian refugees during the period 2012-2017.

As of 15 May, the 3RP funding level for 2017 is **21 per cent** (USD 963 million of the USD 4.63 billion requested). This is USD 400 million less than received at this point one year ago, when the 3RP funding level was at around 30 per cent.

The European Union, together with the UN, hosted the Syria International Conference on Syria in Brussels on 5 April 2017, where 41 donors pledged a combined **USD 6 billion** for critical humanitarian programmes in 2017, an additional **USD 3.7 billion** for 2018-2020 and some **USD 30 billion** in loans.

Funding delays may be due to late conversion of pledges to contributions, as well as donors as yet undecided on their own priorities. Further analysis is underway.



5. Operational Achievements

Since 2012, the RRP/3RP response has provided protection and assistance to over 5 million Syrian refugees and millions more host community members, as well as support to the national systems and services that support them in host communities. This host community support is vital in a context where more than 90 per cent of the refugee caseload lives in urban, peri-urban or rural areas, rather than camps. Some of the 3RP achievements are outlined below.

Regional Protection Framework:

Recognizing the need for consistent and coherent levels of protection and assistance for Syrian refugees no matter which country they have found asylum in, RRP/3RP partners have consistently implemented a regional situation response, including a coherent Regional Protection Framework. Through this framework:

- More than 5 million Syrians have been registered as refugees in 3RP countries.
- Of these, over 2 million have been biometrically registered using world-leading iris scanning technology to enhance effective and efficient access to protection and assistance.
- The regional strategy on statelessness has contributed to the percentage of Syrian refugee children who go undocumented at birth falling from 35% in 2012 to 3% in 2016.

Resettlement and Other Pathways for Admission to Third Countries:

Resettlement is frequently the entry point to further negotiate and advocate for a better protection environment, and has therefore played a strategic role in expanding and preserving asylum space for Syrian refugees. Against this background, it is unfortunate that while refugee vulnerabilities are increasing, resettlement quotas are now starting to decrease.

Other legal pathways of admission to third countries, such as family reunification, labour mobility or academic scholarships, also constitute crucial components of international responsibility-sharing. However, admission States have not as of yet shared a comprehensive picture of how these pathways that are complementary to resettlement are used by States and refugees – such a gap affects the protection programming for resettlement and complementary pathways.

Regarding innovation, in MENA and Turkey, UNHCR has rolled out new tools for case identification based not only on information relating to the refugee's background but also on robust vulnerability assessment methodologies, including home visits, developed within the interagency coordination framework. The use of iris-scan by UNHCR since the onset of the crisis as well as the sharing of biometrics with resettlement countries (USA and the UK) has moreover strengthened the integrity of the process, especially, after the submission of the case by UNHCR.

Sectoral Achievements:

RRP/3RP partners have worked together to deliver increased levels of assistance as the number of Syrian refugees and host community members in need has grown, for example:

- Each year between 2014 and 2016, up to 295,000 households received cash assistance and up to 515,000 households received in-kind or cash assistance for winter.
- Since 2014, between 1.9 and 2.3 million people received food assistance.
- Between 2014 and 2016, around 3.2 million primary health care consultations were provided each year.
- Number of people receiving SGBV services grew from 90,000 in 2014 to 198,000 in 2016.
- The number of boys and girls receiving specialized child protection services increased from 35,000 in 2014 to 54,000 in 2016.
- Over 100,000 families a year between 2014 and 2016 received shelter assistance.
- The number of children enrolled in formal or non-formal education rose from 564,000 in 2014 to 1,095,700 in 2016.

Investing in Livelihoods:

Programming on livelihoods under the RRP/3RP has been significantly scaled up under the 3RP model. This has been accompanied by a necessary shift in attitude and policy on the part of the host countries, most of whom have allowed growing livelihoods opportunities to Syrian refugees. Jordan has issued or renewed 46,000 work permits to Syrian refugees, while Turkey has granted more than 10,000 work permits to Syrian refugees in 2016. In Lebanon there have been some positive developments with regards to the waiver of the residency fees for certain refugees. In terms of RRP/3RP partners' operational response, the number of people assisted to access employment opportunities grew from 11,000 in 2014 to 30,000 in 2016.

Supporting the Resilience of National Systems:

Since the start of the crisis, host countries have generously opened their national health and education systems to Syrian refugees. Further, the governments of Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan agreed at the February 2016 London Conference to Compacts containing pledges to provide education to all Syrian refugee children. These commitments are being supported by the international community with strong investments in support of service delivery infrastructure and training/capacity development. For example:

- In Lebanon, some USD 157.5 million were channelled to public institutions in 2016 as part of the international response to provide assistance to vulnerable Lebanese and Syrians.
- In Jordan, investments in municipal infrastructure and basic services benefited an estimated 2.7 million people (refugees and host community members) in 2016.

Gaps and Challenges:

Despite the achievements of RRP/3RP partners, significant gaps and challenges remain:

- With response plans only around 60% funded each year, partners cannot undertake the full range of planned activities to assist refugees and host communities.
- The resilience component and livelihoods sector continue to be chronically underfunded, impacting on programmes to help strengthen the resilience of individuals and communities.
- Notwithstanding the ongoing violence inside Syria, few Syrians are currently able to reach neighbouring countries, illustrating the ongoing management of borders across the region.
- Despite the assistance provided, the duration of the crisis has seen refugees grow increasingly vulnerable - with the vast majority now living below the poverty line.
- While the number of children out of school continues to decrease, there are still more than half a million Syrian refugee children out of school.
- Public institutions in host communities are under extreme pressure to deliver basic services to an increasingly high number of vulnerable people, testing the limits of infrastructure.
- Increased commitments to resettlement and other forms of humanitarian admission to third countries are needed as a contribution to international responsibility-sharing.

6. Lessons Learned

- National leadership of the response should be encouraged from the start.
- Solidarity and responsibility-sharing (financial, resettlement, political etc.) with hosting countries are critical to promote the maintenance of protection space for refugees and access to national systems and services (ie: health, education, municipal services).
- A 'situation' approach across the region has strengthened advocacy and enhanced programmatic coherence in the response.
- The early disbursement of funds, including flexible and multi-year funds, is essential for better planning, resource allocation, and consistency in assistance to beneficiaries.
- Rigorous registration (including biometrics) and vulnerability assessments are key to ensuring an effective response for refugee households.
- Building confidence and tolerance among host governments and communities for livelihoods and employment for refugees is critical.
- Innovation is key to increasing efficiency and effectiveness of the response (ie: cash-based assistance linked to biometric registration).
- Demonstrating a willingness to become more efficient and 'transition' from a pure humanitarian response can help to avoid 'donor fatigue'.
- Development actors should be engaged so that the response can quickly move from strictly humanitarian to humanitarian/resilience as it becomes protracted.
- Engagement of International Financial Institutions is critical to ensure complementary tracks such as longer-term approaches, loans and concessional financing are fully utilized.