

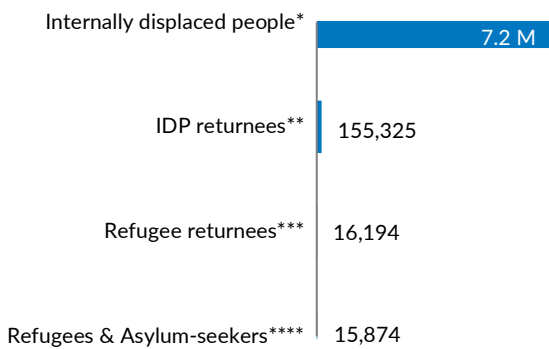
Syrian Arab Republic

June 2024

The protracted crisis in Syria continues to affect millions of lives. The security situation in parts of the country remains unpredictable and the economic situation is increasingly dire. According to the [2024 Syria Humanitarian Needs Overview](#), 16.7 million people need humanitarian assistance, a 9 per cent increase from the previous year.

The February earthquakes further exacerbated the situation in Syria. UNHCR in Syria continues to provide protection services and humanitarian assistance to refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, stateless people, and vulnerable host community members based on identified needs and vulnerabilities.

PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DISPLACEMENT IN THE WHOLE OF SYRIA



* Source: 2024 HNO.

** Source: OCHA, January-July 2023

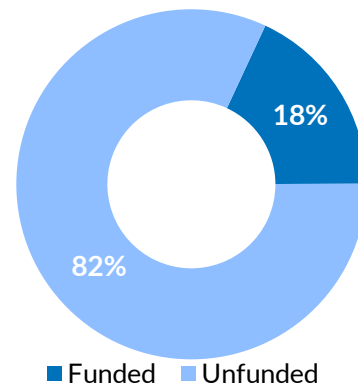
*** Source: UNHCR verified returns in 2024

**** Source: UNHCR, June 2024

FUNDING (AS OF 30 JUNE 2024)

USD 466.6 million

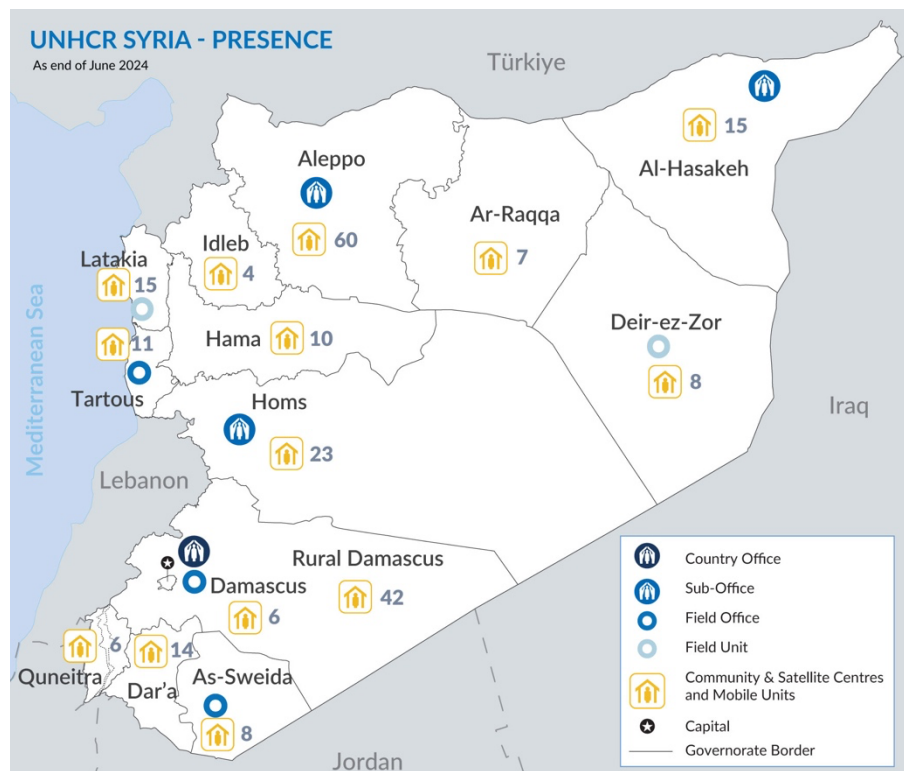
requested for the Syria Operation in 2024



UNHCR PRESENCE

Offices: 9

- 1 Country Office in Damascus
- 3 Sub-Offices in Aleppo, Homs and Qamishli
- 3 Field Offices in As-Sweida, Damascus, and Tartous
- 2 Field Units in Latakia and Deir-ez-Zor



Partnership and Coordination

As of June 2024, UNHCR was working with 28 partner agencies, including government counterparts, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), national NGOs, and UN agencies.

In the context of the inter-agency coordination framework in Syria, UNHCR leads the Protection and Community Services sector and co-leads the Shelter sector with the Ministry of Local Administration and Environment and the Non-Food Items sector with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent. UNHCR also participates in the work of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Area Humanitarian Country Teams (AHCTs), with several heads of field offices acting as Area Humanitarian Coordinators. UNHCR together with other UN agencies participates in the crossline operations delivering humanitarian assistance to north-west Syria through an inter-agency mechanism organized by OCHA, in line with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. Furthermore, UNHCR has been co-chairing the In-Country Network on Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) together with UNICEF since 2022.

UNHCR co-leads inter-agency efforts aimed at enhancing cooperation and coordination in supporting areas experiencing relatively higher numbers of spontaneous refugee and IDP returns through multi-stakeholder and multi-sector [area-based](#) return support approaches.

Strategic Directions

UNHCR's Strategic Directions 2023-2025 for Syria, validated in a consultative planning process, are threefold and in line with the [UN Syria Strategic Framework for the Syrian Arab Republic 2022-2024](#):

- **Support solutions:** UNHCR will further enhance its engagement with partners to facilitate solutions for IDPs and those who have spontaneously returned, including through the UN's area-based return support approach, to strengthen humanitarian early recovery and resilience of communities, and therefore the sustainability of return and reintegration.
- **Maintain emergency preparedness and response capacity:** UNHCR will preserve its readiness to respond to new and protracted emergencies. In addition, the Office is prepared to scale up crossline assistance.
- **Enhance refugee protection, inclusion, and solutions:** UNHCR will step up its involvement and engagement in refugee protection, enhance the inclusion of refugees into services and assistance provided by other actors (such as livelihoods support), and advocate for solutions.



Distribution of national IDs to the students from hard-to-reach areas with the support of the UNHCR Legal Aid Team. © UNHCR/H.Maarouf

Main Activities

Protection

UNHCR-supported community centres provide protection services such as [child protection](#) activities, catch-up [classes](#) for children, [psychosocial assistance](#), and support to prevent and respond to [gender-based violence](#). UNHCR and partners also provide [legal assistance](#), for instance to obtain civil documentation and register vital events like births and marriages. The services provided at the [community centres](#) are available for [refugees and asylum-seekers](#), IDPs, returnees (i.e., refugees and internally displaced people having returned to their home areas), and host communities.

Besides the community centres, and mobile units also offer protection services based on identified needs in underserved or remote locations. The latter respond flexibly to population movements and increase outreach to the most vulnerable populations who do not have easy access to the community or satellite centres.

The community centres are supported by a network of outreach volunteers. The outreach volunteers, selected from the IDP and affected communities, are the first responders and assist those in need in a timely manner. They inform communities of the services available, identify needs, provide initial support, and refer cases to community centres for further assistance.

As of June 2024, UNHCR is supporting 116 community and satellite centres and 113 mobile units in all 14 governorates of the country and engaging over 2,300 outreach volunteers to strengthen its protection activities.

For refugees and asylum-seekers, UNHCR conducts refugee status determination, registration, and resettlement, when applicable. Some refugees and asylum-seekers may also benefit from additional protection services such as multi-purpose cash grants and scholarships for students.

Cash-Based Interventions (CBIs)

UNHCR uses cash-based interventions to help the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers meet their urgent needs. Vulnerability is determined using either a scoring system or a panel review of individual protection risks, and eligibility is reviewed every two months. As of March 2024, UNHCR increased the monthly multi-purpose cash grant value to around US\$ 89 per average family (of three). A one-off emergency grant is also available for urgent protection needs. In addition, refugee and asylum-seeker families receive winter grants which exceed US\$ 230 per eligible family (of three). Education grants also support refugee students in covering transportation and education material costs, as schools in Syria are open free of charge to refugees. The value of the education grant ranges from US\$ 48 to 80 per student.

In 2024, UNHCR expanded cash assistance for vulnerable Syrians following its engagement in cash assistance to families displaced due to the February 2023 earthquakes, providing a one-time multi-purpose cash grant of US\$ 230 to 45,000 Syrian families. The targeting criteria will consider geographical and categorical factors to prioritize specific profiles who have higher protection risks.

Additionally, UNHCR is expanding the CBI modality to achieve sectoral objectives in 2024 implementing cash for shelter repair for 479 families. Also, UNHCR plans to provide cash for livelihoods including monetization of start-up small business grants and agricultural grants for 1,110 families in 2024.

Core Relief Items

UNHCR provides core relief items including blankets, sleeping mats, mattresses, jerry cans, plastic sheets, kitchen sets, and solar lamps to IDPs, returnees, and vulnerable host community members in emergency situations. Supplementary seasonal items such as winter clothing and rechargeable fans are also distributed to IDPs, returnees, host community members, and asylum-seekers based on needs.

Shelter Interventions

In camps in north-east Syria hosting mainly Iraqis and Syrian displaced persons, UNHCR distributes tents and emergency shelter kits and helps maintain camp infrastructure. In urban and rural areas, UNHCR helps people repair houses damaged during the crisis by providing materials such as doors, windows, electrical equipment, and water and sanitation facilities at the household level. At the community level, UNHCR also restores basic services such as pavements, communal facilities, and installs solar streetlights. In areas where spontaneous returns of IDPs and refugees are ongoing, UNHCR removes debris; restores sewage systems, water networks and boreholes; and distributes solid waste bins.

UNHCR also distributed cash to families to repair their houses damaged by the earthquakes in Aleppo, Latakia, and Tartous Governorates. Cash for rent was provided to earthquake-affected families who had departed from the collective shelters in Aleppo Governorate.

Self-Reliance and Livelihoods

UNHCR supports vulnerable people to increase their self-reliance and reduce their dependency on assistance by providing agricultural support (seeds and livestock), restoring vocational training schools and irrigation systems, and assisting people to start small businesses through trainings and grants. For more information, see [UNHCR's Factsheet on Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion](#).

Health

UNHCR health points are run by community health workers in some of the UNHCR-supported community centres. A range of health promotion, disease prevention, and referral services are provided there including health counselling, health support groups, screening for early detection of health problems, and support of community-led health initiatives. Trained doctors also provide medical consultations in some health points such as [mental health and psychosocial specialized services](#). UNHCR focuses on building sustainable health capacity in the community through community health outreach volunteers.

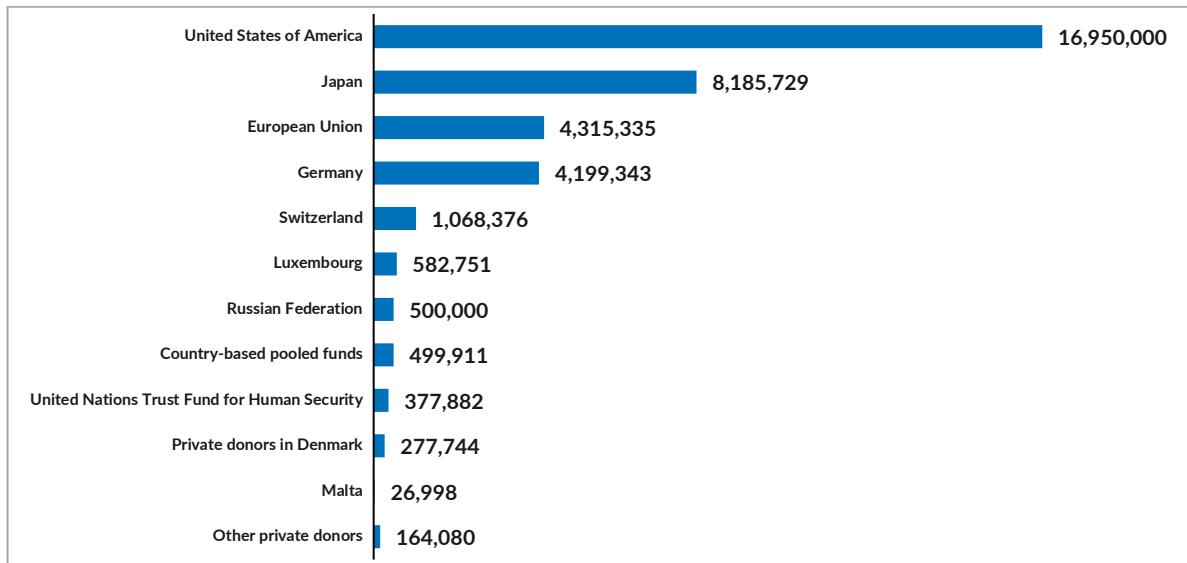
Funding Update | 2024

As of 30 June 2024

UNHCR Syria is grateful to all donors providing critical financial support to address the needs of refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs, returnees, stateless people, and host communities.

CONTRIBUTIONS | US\$

Earmarked contributions and indicative allocation of funds for the operation in 2024 (as of 30 June) amounted to **\$ 85,067,186**.



OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | US\$

Finland 5.5 million | Denmark 4.4 million | Australia for UNHCR 3.9 million | Norway 2.8 million | UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe 2.4 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | US\$

Sweden 90.6 million | Norway 58.9 million | Netherlands (Kingdom of) 36.3 million | Denmark 35.6 million | France 33.4 million | España con ACNUR 31.2 million | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland 28.5 million | Switzerland 19.2 million | Japan for UNHCR 18.1 million | Republic of Korea 17.9 million | Private donors in the Republic of Korea 14.6 million | Belgium 14.2 million | Ireland 13.6 million | Australia 10.7 million

CONTACT

UNHCR Syria External Relations Unit
 Email: SYRDAREPORTING@unhcr.org

LINKS

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