

# 2018-2019 Regional winterization programme progress report

**November 2018** / Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt

This winter, UNHCR aims to provide winterization assistance to **3.5 million vulnerable Syrian and Iraqi internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt.**

As of 30 November, **nearly 1.5 million Syrian and Iraqi IDPs and refugees have been reached** with winterization assistance. This includes 1.3 million Syrians and over 195,000 Iraqis.

The total budget for the Regional Winterization Plan is **USD 180 million** and covers the period from **September 2018 to March 2019.**

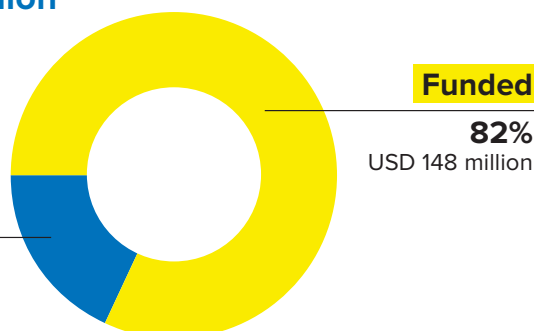
**3.5 million** vulnerable Syrian and Iraqi IDPs and refugees assessed to be in need of winterization assistance.

**1.5 million (43%)** people reached with winterization assistance as of 30 November.

**70%** of the winter assistance will be delivered in the form of cash distribution to IDPs and refugees.

**FUNDING\***  
**USD 180 million**  
requested\*\*

**Unfunded**  
**18%**  
USD 32 million



\*The funding level varies from country to country

\*\*The total budget requirement has increased to USD 180 million from USD 168 million due to increased winterization assistance needs in the region.



Internally displaced Syrians in Maskaneh, rural Aleppo, collect vital winter supplies provided by UNHCR and partners. © UNHCR/Antwan Chnkdji

## UNHCR's winterization strategy focuses on three broad areas of intervention:



Provision of seasonal cash assistance for vulnerable families to meet their additional needs during the winter months.



Provision of core relief items specific to winter such as high thermal blankets, plastic sheets, heaters and gas cylinders, and winter clothes.



Winterization of shelter including shelter weather-proofing and repairs, and improvements to drainage systems and other infrastructure in camps and informal settlements.

The winterization programme is implemented through UNHCR's own staff, government agencies, partners, and community outreach volunteers in coordination with the broader inter-agency response platforms.

## Country Updates

# SYRIA

### Persons of concern planned vs reached

### Type of assistance

<b>Syrians*</b> 	Out of <b>1.35 million</b> targeted so far <b>593,100</b> were reached	 in-kind <b>100%</b>
<b>Iraqis**</b> 	Out of <b>27,484</b> targeted so far <b>4,618</b> were reached	 cash <b>100%</b>

\*Includes Syrian IDPs planned to be reached by UNHCR operations inside Syria and through cross-border operation from Turkey

\*\*The figures for Iraqis include refugees of other nationalities


- This winter, UNHCR Syria aims to reach 1.25 million IDPs, returnees, host communities and affected population across the country. As of 30 November, 548,100 IDPs (109,620 families) were provided with winterization items such as high thermal blankets, solar lamp, extra plastic sheeting, and winter clothes kits in 13 governorates. Supplementary winter items such sleeping bags and winter jackets are also being provided to Syrians living in sub-standard shelters.
- Assistance is being prioritized for newly displaced vulnerable families (including people displaced multiple times), people living in hard-to-reach areas and in sub-standard shelters, spontaneous and self-organized returnees, as well as people in newly accessible locations who have not been assisted in the past. A contingency stock of 35,000 winter kits will be maintained throughout the country for emergency response. In November, UNHCR also distributed seasonal cash assistance to 4,618 refugees and asylum-seekers from Iraq and other countries (1,710 families).
- UNHCR's cross-border operation from Turkey aims to assist 100,000 individuals (20,000 households) in north-west Syria with winterized core-relief items (CRI) kits to protect them from harsh winter conditions before the end of February 2019. The CRI assistance prioritizes vulnerable IDPs and host community members in Idleb and Aleppo governorates and is coordinated with the Shelter/ Non-food Items (NFI) Cluster to target the locations which are not covered by other humanitarian organisations. In November, UNHCR's cross-border operation dispatched 5,500 winterized CRI kits to north-west Syria in four trans-shipments. A total of 22,230 individuals (4,446 households) received a winterized CRI kit in November.

## LEBANON

Persons of concern planned		Type of assistance
<b>Syrians</b>	 Out of <b>809,300</b> targeted so far <b>441,445</b> were reached	<div>cash 100%</div>
<b>Iraqis</b>	 <b>12,600</b> to be reached	<div>cash 100%</div>

- By the end of November, UNHCR provided winter cash assistance of USD 375 to some 441,445 Syrian refugees (88,289 families). Refugees can withdraw their assistance at any ATM in Lebanon. Distribution of ATM cards and validation using biometrics was undertaken before persons of concern could receive the assistance. Close coordination with humanitarian partners was maintained through the Basic Assistance Working Group. In light of the scale of the programme, UNHCR also enhanced its outreach capacities, including through the call centre, to ensure accountability to persons of concern and be able to address refugee queries related to eligibility of assistance, cards and/or pins, and other issues.
- UNHCR also continued to distribute weatherproofing kits and shelter materials to vulnerable refugees living in substandard shelter conditions and in informal settlements. The needs were identified based on the findings of a targeted “door-to-door” technical assessment to determine the most appropriate kits and materials to be provided. By 30 November, around 25,000 Syrian refugee families (128,000 individuals) - 88 per cent of the target - had access to warmer, safer, and shelters more protected against the elements.

## JORDAN

Persons of concern planned vs reached		Type of assistance
<b>Syrians</b>	 Out of <b>328,683</b> targeted so far <b>239,297</b> were reached	<div>cash 99% in-kind 1%</div>
<b>Iraqis **</b>	 Out of <b>32,000</b> targeted so far <b>26,375</b> were reached	<div>cash 100%</div>

\*\*The figures for Iraqis include refugees of other nationalities

- UNHCR aims to reach 328,683 Syrians (79,052 families) in Azraq and Zaatari camps and in urban areas with winter assistance in the form of cash assistance, as well as selected winter CRIs. UNHCR began its winterization cash assistance uploads in October 2018 and these one-off payments to families have continued on a rolling basis throughout November. The first upload of winterization payments was given to UNHCR’s monthly welfare beneficiaries.
- In urban areas, 202,842 Syrian refugees (about 47,000 families) have received a one-off cash assistance (per family) through the multi-agency Common Cash Facility system. In December, another two rounds of winter cash assistance will be provided to additionally identify vulnerable Syrian families through recycling unwithdrawn amounts. UNHCR and its partners will undertake regular monitoring of project activities, and engagement of cash beneficiaries will be part of UNHCR’s post-distribution monitoring mechanism.



- Distribution of winter assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugees in Zaatari and Azraq camps began in October. UNHCR has reached 36,455 individuals (about 9,000 families) with cash for gas to cover the cost of gas refills and cash for winterization to address shelter maintenance. Distribution of heaters and high thermal blankets has also began in Azraq camp reaching 4,415 individuals.
- For Iraqis and refugees of other nationalities, a one-off cash assistance at household level has been provided to 26,375 individuals (around 14,000 families) in October and November through the Common Cash Facility system. Another round of distribution for identified vulnerable families who have not yet received a winter package will be processed in December. A cash top up for extremely vulnerable families on the waiting list will be provided in late December through recycling unwithdrawn amounts.

## IRAQ

Persons of concern planned		Type of assistance
<b>Syrians</b> 	Out of <b>228,000</b> targeted so far <b>72,450</b> were reached	<div> <div>cash 81%</div> <div>in-kind 19%</div> </div>
<b>Iraqis</b> 	Out of <b>656,100</b> targeted so far <b>164,394</b> were reached	<div> <div>cash 72%</div> <div>in-kind 28%</div> </div>

- UNHCR aims to assist some 656,100 IDPs including returnees (109,350 families) and 228,000 Syrian refugees (45,600 families) with winterization assistance - a large part of it will be cash-based. A one-off cash assistance grant of USD 200 per family will be provided to IDPs living in camps and in urban areas. For Syrian refugees, USD 400 per family will be provided to both those in camps and out of camps.
- Winterization assistance also includes the distribution of core relief items. The distribution of CRIs kicked off in November, reaching a total of 236,844 persons by the end of the month, including 164,394 IDPs and 72,450 refugees. CRI kits are composed of high thermal blankets, heating stoves, plastic sheeting, and kerosene jerry cans. Financial service providers are currently registering individuals identified to receive seasonal cash assistance, for which disbursements are expected to begin in December when SIM card registration is completed.

## EGYPT

Persons of concern planned		Type of assistance
<b>Syrians</b> 	<b>94,400</b> to be reached	<div> <div>cash 100%</div> </div>
<b>Iraqis</b> 	<b>1,200</b> to be reached	<div> <div>cash 100%</div> </div>

- UNHCR aims to provide 94,400 Syrian refugees (23,600 families) and 1,200 Iraqi refugees (375 families) with one-off cash assistance of USD 34 per person. In November, the cash-based intervention team finalized the list of targeted beneficiaries. Disbursement of assistance will start in

the first week of December and will be finalized by the end of the month. The assistance will be paid through the 4,200 branches of the Egypt Post Office located around the whole country. The main distribution areas will be Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta where the majority of refugees and asylum-seekers live.

- UNHCR also started the information campaign on winter assistance. Posters in Arabic and English explaining what the assistance consists of, who is eligible, and how to collect the assistance are displayed in UNHCR and partners' premises. Information is also posted on UNHCR Egypt social media pages (mainly Twitter and Facebook) and included in the service brochures for Syrians and Iraqis refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR distributes an average of 10,000 physical and electronic copies of its bi-monthly brochures with updated detailed information on all services available for refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt. All asylum-seekers receive this brochure (adapted to different population and language groups) when they first approach UNHCR, and the brochures are also available at community based organizations.

### Donors:

UNHCR is grateful to the donors who have contributed to the winterization programme for the Syrian and Iraqi IDPs and refugees with unearmarked and earmarked funds as well as those who have contributed directly to the operations.

Algeria | Argentina | Australia | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Bulgaria | Canada | Chile | China | Costa Rica | Czech Republic | Denmark | Estonia | European Union | Finland | France | Germany | Holy See | Iceland | India | Indonesia | Ireland | Israel | Italy | Japan | Kuwait | Latvia | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Netherlands | New Zealand | Norway | Philippines | Portugal | Private donors | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Romania | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Slovenia | Spain | Sri Lanka | Sweden | Switzerland | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | United Kingdom | United States of America | Uruguay

For more details, please contact UNHCR MENA Director's Office in Amman (Jordan) at: [DOiAreporting@unhcr.org](mailto:DOiAreporting@unhcr.org)