COVID-19 is having a significant impact on the 3RP countries and has worsened existing socio-economic vulnerabilities among both refugee and host communities. People are losing their livelihoods and sources of income, are increasingly unable to meet their basic needs and may not have social safety nets or social protection systems to help them through.

The protection situation remains of deep concern in the context of COVID-19. Negative coping mechanisms, such as reducing food consumption, have been reported. Adherence to social distancing and other containment measures can lead to increased protection risks. Females are particularly at heightened protection risk of sexual and gender-based violence.

Host communities face higher risks of unemployment, underemployment and impoverishment. Informal workers are generally not covered by social security or other safety nets, making it harder for them to meet their needs. This increases social challenges as well. In some areas, social tensions between host and refugees as well as among host community members are said to be rising.

Learning has been disrupted for millions of vulnerable boys, girls and youth. The closure of schools and educational institutions has left many with little or no access to education. Non-formal education, often a critical link to earning a livelihood, has been severely impacted.

Host countries continue to demonstrate outstanding generosity to Syrian refugees as they have done for many years now. Even with COVID-19, host countries have retained their commitment towards refugees and ensuring the continuation of protection and assistance.

The 3RP continues to implement a largescale multi-sectoral response in support of national efforts. Through existing plans, 3RP partners are reaching millions of people per month across the region, albeit through adopting remote and other innovative working modalities.

3RP countries have also developed specific plans to further help countries curb the spread of COVID-19 and lessen its impact. This includes a range of health and non-health interventions to address the most pressing challenges arising from the outbreak, with a large focus on protection activities and the provision of cash assistance to reduce socio-economic hardship.

These 3RP COVID-19 specific plans require some USD774 million in funding. To respond to the most pressing needs, 3RP partners have redirected existing programmes and activities where possible (US130 million) and also have identified additional requirements to introduce or scale up activities (USD644 million). A full revision of the 3RP is pending for the second half of the year.

The 3RP encourages an inclusive and gender-responsive approach to the mitigation of COVID-19 health and socioeconomic impacts and recovery efforts to build resilience for all. Public health and other responses should include and help address the risks facing refugees, the internally displaced, stateless, and other marginalized and vulnerable host community groups.
FAQ

3RP COVID-19 PLANS

Q

What are you hearing about the situation for refugees and host communities during COVID-19?

A

Information coming from refugees and other vulnerable groups indicates an extremely challenging time as a result of COVID-19. People losing their jobs and sources of income, lack of savings, inability to pay rent leading to evictions or threats of evictions, lack of food, intimate partner violence, increased psychosocial distress, discrimination and desperation have been reported across the region to varying degrees. Besides the dissemination of COVID-19 related information and the increased provision of hygiene products and healthcare, top prioritized information queries and service requests include financial assistance, resettlement to third countries (for refugees) and specialized services for individuals with specific needs.

What is the purpose of developing a COVID-19 plan?

A

Information coming from 3RP indicates that refugees and vulnerable host communities were already living in difficult conditions and this have been exacerbated by COVID-19 - increasing protection and socio-economic vulnerabilities. While continuing to implement on-going plans, 3RP countries have developed specific COVID-19 response plans as a way of immediately helping countries and communities curb the risk and lessen the social and economic impact on refugees and host communities alike.

Can you explain the plan in a nutshell?

A

3RP COVID-19 plans comprise a range of health and non-health activities. Aside from the health aspects, protection activities, cash assistance and livelihoods support form a large part of the plans. To implement the plan, 3RP needs some USD774 million at the current time, comprising some USD644 million in new funding, as well as some USD130 million from original 3RP plans/requirements which was identified/temporarily (re)prioritized from existing requirements for priority COVID-19 activities. Funding requirements are subject to change, including once there is a full revision of 3RP plans. This COVID-19 plan is complemented by the on-going 3RP response.
**What does temporarily (re)prioritized mean? Do you still need money for these activities?**

Yes, funding is required for the USD130 million that has been identified / temporarily reprioritized from existing requirements for priority COVID-19 activities. Funding had not been received for these activities and thus it represents an adjustment of originally planned activities towards COVID-19 priority areas. At the programme level, 3RP partners internally may leverage actual funding received temporarily towards COVID-19 activities to ensure operational continuity, but this does not affect overall 3RP sector or inter-agency requirements.

**What does additional or new requirements mean?**

Additional funding is for activities not foreseen or planned for in existing 3RP plans either in terms of type or scale of activity, and where existing 3RP plans and requirements could not be reprioritized.

**How long is the 3RP COVID-19 plan for?**

The 3RP COVID-19 plan covers until the end of the year. However, for some countries, the financial requirements are for a shorter timeframe (3 months, 6 months) to ensure alignment with national and local processes. This is indicated in the document. Where countries have not identified financial requirements until the end of the year, this will be updated once such figures become available.

**How does it link to other plans?**

As with the overall 3RP plans in each country, the 3RP COVID-19 plan is firmly rooted in supporting national and local efforts. 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.

**Is it just for Syrian refugees? What about the other nationalities and vulnerable groups?**

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.
How do you explain the figures now associated with the 3RP?

USD5.5 billion is the original requirements of the 3RP for 2020. This remains unchanged. Of the 5.5 billion, 3RP countries have identified some 130 million worth of reprogramming which has been designated for COVID-19 specific actions. Funding is required for this programming. A total amount of USD644 million is the initial funding requirements by 3RP countries to deal with COVID-19 on top of original requirements. The total requirements of 3RP COVID-19 priority activities is some USD774 million (644 + 130).

Is this an official revision of the 3RP? Will there be a full official mid-year revision of the 3RP?

No, this is not an official revision of the 3RP. The 3RP original requirements still stand. In accordance with national processes, it is planned to have a comprehensive revision of the 3RP for the second half of 2020. This would entail a thorough review of original 3RP 2020 plans to determine what aspects of the original plans are no longer feasible for 2020 and could be adjusted and/or removed, as well as updating COVID-19 plans for the remainder of the year.
FAQ

Q

Is the 3RP included in the Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP)?

A

Yes, the 3RP is included in the GHRP. The 3RP section of the GHRP notes the priority activities and financial requirements for COVID-19, much in the same way as it is included in the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO). The 3RP will continue to provide updated financial requirements in future updates of the GHRP.

How will the 3RP requirements be included in the Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP)?

The table below shows how 3RP financial requirements will be included in the GHRP. The focus will be on the additional requirements generated by COVID-19, broken down into health/non-health, while also recognizing that some USD130 million from existing requirements has been dedicated to COVID-19. Since a full revision of the 3RP is yet to take place, the ‘total requirements’ will be left TBD.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total requirements (Non-COVID + COVID-19)</th>
<th>(sum of 1 + 2) TBD*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. 3RP non-COVID requirements</td>
<td>USD 5.5 billion*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. COVID-19 requirements (NEW)</td>
<td>(sum of 2.1 + 2.2.) 644 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1. Health-related COVID-19</td>
<td>USD 83 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2. Non-health COVID-19</td>
<td>USD 561 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 3RP partners have identified / temporarily reprioritized some USD130 million from existing requirements for priority COVID-19 activities. These requirements remain included in the original 3RP document since they have been temporarily reprioritized and are subject to official revision.

How does the 3RP financial requirements link with the Agency financial requirements in the GHRP?

There is alignment between what agencies submitted for the 3RP financial requirements and what agencies have submitted separately. However, it is important to note that some agencies may undertake activities beyond the 3RP or have placed requirements under a complementary plan at national level. It is also important to note that needs and response requirements are continually evolving and are thus subject to revision.
FAQ

FUNDING

Q

Are you still fundraising for the regular 3RP?

A

Yes. It is vital to maintain funding for the regular 3RP programmes that are not specifically designated for COVID-19. The continuation of these regular programmes – already under-funded – is all the more critical at a time when persons of concern depend even more on protection and assistance. In any case, many of these programmes are still critical to support people through the COVID-19 period and will also be vital when countries and communities start to recover from the impacts of COVID. The COVID-19 plan is an addendum to, and therefore complementary with, regular 3RP programming.

How do we get more information on agency/partner funding requirements?

The 3RP COVID-19 document consolidates country-level information to provide a high-level overview. The 3RP does not have a mechanism to process funding; rather, funding must be directed to each 3RP partner according to their individual processes. For specific information by country, sector, or agency, please consult the relevant 3RP country documents, available on the 3RP website (http://www.3rpsyriacrises.org), and get in touch with coordinators at the country level (contact information in the 3RP regional document).