ACTED

Shelter and winterization needs assessment

Mafraq, 01.09.2013
Shelter and winterization needs assessment

1. Introduction
Introduction to ACTED:

Headquartered in Paris and with 3,300 staff worldwide, ACTED is operating in 34 countries under a global mandate to link relief assistance to rehabilitation and development.

In Jordan, ACTED has been responding to the Syrian Refugee crisis since April 2012, providing humanitarian assistance in Jordanian host communities with support of the European Commission and the United Nations Agency for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). ACTED has been assisting vulnerable Syrians and Jordanians with water, sanitation and hygiene assistance; distribution of non-food items, shelter and cash support in the governorates of Irbid, Mafraq, Jerash, and Ajloun. This assessment was designed to assist in effectively targeting future WASH and Shelter assistance in advance of the upcoming winter.
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2. Objectives of assessment and methodology used.
Main objective:

- To assess the condition of shelters of Syrian refugees and Jordanian host communities in terms of type, standard of living, and technical aspects.
- Identify relevant shelter assistance interventions and enhance resilience to winter conditions.
Sample size:

- 299 shelters assessed in Mafraq, Irbid, Jarash and Ajloun: 37% in Mafraq, 34% in Irbid, 15% in Jarash and 14% in Ajloun.
- Minimum sample size is representative of the population in the selected 25 BSUs (basic service units, or areas identified by the community as service areas of that community) and was decided at 95% confidence level and 10% error margin.

Methodology:

- The households were chosen randomly from a total of 25 BSUs with a high concentration of Syrian refugees.
A total number of 299 households were assessed, 37% in Mafraq, 34% in Irbid, 15% in Jarash and 14% in Ajloun.

The majority of respondents were Syrians (70%).

Close to half of respondents were women.

88% of Syrian beneficiaries are registered with UNHCR, whereas 12% are not.
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3. Profile of respondents
The average number of household members per shelter is 7.12, which compared to REACH findings in March (average household size of 4.1) shows a significant increase in household members.

Overall, the majority of respondents said that the household is comprised of only one family. Average number of families per shelter is 1.4.
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4. Type of shelter
Findings show that most Syrians rent accommodation from Jordanians in separate shelters, whereas the majority of Jordanians have their own accommodation.

**Type of shelter arrangements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Shelter Arrangement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Jordanian</th>
<th>Syrian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rented from Jordanian in separate shelter</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rented from Syrian household in same shelter</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hosted by facility made available by Jordanian government</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rented from Jordanian in same shelter</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- The graph shows the distribution of shelter arrangements between Jordanians and Syrians.
- The majority of Jordanians have their own accommodation, while most Syrians rent from Jordanians in separate shelters.
Out of the 20% that live in substandard accommodation, most interviewed Syrians live in basements and animal farms, with big variations across governorates. Syrians living in animal farms have been identified in all governorates, except Ajloun. Out of all respondents, Syrians living in tents have been identified only in Mafraq governorate.

**Type of shelter**

- **House**: 77%
- **Basement**: 16%
- **Animal farms**: 7%
- **Tent/temporary structure**: 0%
- **Apartment**: 34%
- **Garage**: 10%
- **Outdoor rooms**: 3%
- **Outdoor rooms**: 4%
- **Outdoor rooms**: 1%
- **Outdoor rooms**: 2%
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5. Rental
Almost all Syrians pay rent, which is a significant higher percentage of Syrians in comparison to Jordanians.

Both Syrians and Jordanians are paying on average 100 JOD per month.

The majority of Syrians (88%) have a written rent/lease agreement, much higher than Jordanians (52%) who rent accommodation without an agreement.

Most Syrians (50%) and Jordanians (47%) interviewees said that places to rent are rarely available and very difficult to find, with around 30% saying that they are not available and almost impossible to find.
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6. Satisfaction with living area
• More than 90% of both Syrians and Jordanian are happy to live in their area and feel welcomed by their neighbours.

• When asked if they are happy to live in the current accommodation, the majority of both Syrians (56%) and Jordanians (73%) said no.

• Most respondents complained about the small size of housing and crowdedness, poor housing conditions, moisture, and the high cost of rent.

• The majority of respondents reported that they feel safe in their current housing. Of those who reported feeling unsafe, most respondents blamed the poor construction.
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7. Crowdedness
In terms of living space, most Syrian households meet the SPHERE standard of 3.5 sqm per person, except the ones living in tents, temporary structures and chicken farms.

Most crowded spaces are temporary settlements and animal farms, with 1.4 sqm per person and 3.4 sqm per person respectively.
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Sqm per person per type of shelter, Jordanians

- Apartment: 12.1
- Basement: 8.4
- House: 13.2

Sqm per person per type of shelter, Syrians

- Apartment: 8.9
- Basement: 6.2
- Garage: 4.7
- House: 9.7
- Chicken farms: 3.4
- Outdoor rooms: 5.0
- Tent/temporary structure: 1.4
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8. Shelter facilities
Findings show that most toilets, bathing areas, kitchens, living rooms and sleeping rooms are located inside the shelter, with a relatively high percentage of toilets located outside the shelter.

- Sleeping room: 5% outside, 87% inside, 7% no facility available
- Living area: 8% outside, 91% inside, 1% no facility available
- Cooking area: 16% outside, 80% inside, 4% no facility available
- Bathing area: 16% outside, 74% inside, 10% no facility available
- Toilet: 28% outside, 71% inside, 1% no facility available
Most facilities are shared among family members only, except for the bathing area that is primarily shared among household members.

Comparing Jordanians and Syrians, less Syrians share toilets, bathing, cooking, living and sleeping areas only with family members.

When taking into account the type of housing, respondents living in farms, outdoor rooms, basements, houses and apartments are most likely to share facilities with household members rather than with family members only.
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9. Latrines
The majority of houses, garages, basements, and apartments have toilets with septic tanks.

75% of tents do not have a latrine. Open defecation is common.
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10. Access to utilities
The majority of respondents have electricity (97%).

81% of Jordanians and 73% of Syrians have access to public water supply.

91% of those who do not have access to public water networks, said they buy the water.

The majority of Syrians living in sub standard housing do not have access to water network (67% living in outdoor rooms, 75% living in tents, 44% living in farms).
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11. Heating system
Overall, 35% of respondents have no heating.

Most common type of heating is gas, followed by kerosene and wood.
➢ Out of those that have no heating, the majority live in houses, followed by basements.

➢ Out of all shelters with no heating, the majority are not insulated.
Most Syrians living in outdoor rooms and tents have no heating.

Most common type of heating for sub-standard shelter is gas and kerosene heating.
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12. Construction materials
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- Most shelters have full brick or concrete foundation or some brick or concrete foundation.
- Only tents have stone blocks as foundation.
- Half of respondents who live in tents said they cover the floor with carpet, whereas the remaining half do not cover their floor.
- The majority of shelters have industrial steel frames for windows and concrete slabs for roofs, except the tents.
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13. *Technical damage assessment*
Findings from technical assessments show that the shelters had less damaged windows, doors, and floors.

Most damaged shelter components were the roof, walls, septic tanks, and sewage systems.
When rehabilitating the roofs, it should be noted that the temporary structures, outdoor rooms, animal farms, and houses have the most damaged roofs.

More than 74% of shelters had some level of minor, partial and severe damage, or missing component.

41% of shelters have roofs with signs of moisture. 22% have a lot of moisture, holes, small cracks in the ceiling. 10% are partially or completely collapsed, or have a lot of cracks.
All of the assessed shelters had major problems with walls.

More than 86% of shelters had some level of minor, partial and severe damage, or missing.

53% had some signs of moisture and missing paint. 21% of shelters has walls covered in moisture, some cracks, and a lot of the paint was missing. 9% had big holes, cracks, collapsed walls, a lot of moisture, and no paint.
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- The majority of sub-standard housing were in need of rehabilitation, and almost half of houses and apartments.
- 55% of shelters with some level of minor, partial and severe damage, or missing sewage.
- 36% had sewage with some leakage, no damage. 13% had pipes with small cracks, and/or water inside/outside the shelter because of leakage. 2% had cracks in the sewage network or had existing but non functional sewage.
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- All tents and close to half of farms have no access to sewage systems and septic tanks.
- 52% were with some level of minor, partial and severe damage, or missing septic tanks. 39% had some leakage from sewage connection pipes. 7% had overflowing septic tanks because of damage. 3% had cracks in the septic tanks, or existing but non functional septic tanks, big cracks in the sewage system, and 3% of shelters did not have a septic tank.

### Septic tank damage per type of shelter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter Type</th>
<th>Good condition (%)</th>
<th>Minor damage (%)</th>
<th>Partial damage (%)</th>
<th>Severe damage (%)</th>
<th>Missing (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tents</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor rooms</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken farms</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>41</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garage</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basement</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apartment</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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14. Protection from moisture
80% of all respondents said that their shelter was not insulated or good enough to provide protection against moisture and wetness.

The majority of respondents complained about their roof and walls not being insulated enough to provide protection from moisture/wetness.

65% said that their roof was not waterproof.

All respondents living in tents said that their roof could not withstand a heavy snowfall and is not waterproof and about half in outdoor rooms and farms said that their roof was not waterproof.
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15. Access to tools and capacity
• In terms of accessing tools, 82% of Syrians and 51% Jordanian said they had no access to tools, with more than 90% of respondents not having access to nails, rope, electrical screwdriver, drill, hammer, gaffer tape, and sticks.

• The majority of respondents said that there are available persons in the household to provide labour for repair, however close to 30% of all respondents said they do not have technical knowledge to do so.

• 84% of all respondents said they are willing to upgrade the shelter by themselves if materials are provided.
• When asked about what would they need to prepare their house for the winter, majority of respondents mentioned plastic sheets, draft excluders, pillows, blankets, bed mats, and paint.

• Half of respondents said they needed doors.

• Overall, findings show that there is willingness to contribute with labour to the rehabilitation work, however few respondents have access to tools and only 61% have skills for repairing.
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