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Cover photo
by UNHCR / Rasheed Hussein

Akre camp, Duhok, Iraq.
Cash distribution is being conducted
door-to-door to avoid crowding, while
making sure all precautionary health
measures are taken.



Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan
In Response to the Syria Crisis

April 2020



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COVID-19 RESPONSE

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3RP Response to the COVID-19 Crisis

COVID-19 is having a profound impact on all 3RP countries – Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt – and is likely to have far-reaching health and socio-economic impacts in the medium term. These countries collectively host over 5.5 million registered Syrian refugees, as well as additional refugees, asylum-seekers and other vulnerable groups of many nationalities.

Impact of COVID-19

In the face of a growing pandemic, host governments have adopted necessary public health measures to limit the spread of the virus among the population, including refugees and vulnerable host communities alike. Preliminary assessments and evidences on COVID-19 impacts point to several worrisome trends emerging across 3RP countries.

The COVID-19 crisis is exacerbating vulnerabilities among both refugee and host communities. While poverty and unemployment rates for Syrian refugees were already high prior to the onset of COVID-19, Syrian refugees face even greater challenges in earning a livelihood, covering basic needs such as shelter or food and accessing key services such as healthcare. As the vast majority of refugees live in urban or peri-urban environments, often in densely populated areas or shelters, social distancing and/or limiting outdoor activities are extremely difficult to implement. Against such a backdrop, protection risks, such as sexual and gender-based violence, child labour, and exploitation, are heightened, while the use of negative coping mechanisms may rise.

Likewise, for host communities, business closures and other measures have significantly reduced income and livelihoods opportunities for vulnerable men and women, who now face higher risks of unemployment, underemployment and impoverishment. Many, particularly informal workers, are not covered by social security or other safety nets, which makes it increasingly difficult for them to meet their needs. Women are particularly affected, bearing increased domestic and care burdens and facing increased risks of domestic violence. Access to quality health services beyond the scope of COVID-19 is also becoming a challenge.

Essential services across the region continue to be impacted. National health systems are the main points of access for primary healthcare for Syrian refugees who are generally either eligible to receive healthcare on the same basis as nationals or able to have access to a range of subsidized primary healthcare services. Yet, the combination of pre-existing strains on the systems and the COVID-19 impact means systems are overburdened. The same phenomena can be seen with other infrastructure, such as municipal water and sanitation services, upon

which entire communities rely, refugees and host communities alike, adding to vulnerabilities.

Meanwhile, closures of schools and educational institutions have also left many vulnerable children and young people without access to quality education. Disruptions in economic activities and supply chains for key goods and services due to lockdowns are also negatively impacting government revenues, making the delivery of public services even more challenging.

In some countries, the prevailing conditions, as well as potential misinformation and misperceptions about COVID-19, mean there is also an increased risk of tensions between host and refugee communities.

3RP COVID-19 Plan in Numbers

Original 3RP Requirements:
USD 5.56 billion

3RP COVID-19 Plan Total:
USD 774,031,060

From original requirements:
USD 130,278,189 as priority
COVID-19 related activities

New requirements:
USD 643,752,871 for new or
scaled up activities

Current Situation



133,985

reported cases of COVID-19 in the 3RP countries as of 04 May 2020 <https://covid19.who.int/>

COUNTRY	REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES	TARGETED MEMBERS OF IMPACTED COMMUNITIES IN 2020	NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19
TURKEY	3,576,369	1,800,000	124,375
LEBANON	914,648	1,005,000	737
JORDAN	654,692	520,000	461
IRAQ	245,810	158,110	2,219
EGYPT	129,210	506,000	6,193
TOTAL	5,520,729	3,989,110	133,985

Key Lines of Response to COVID-19

Even before the spread of COVID-19, 3RP partners across the five countries were supporting national leadership by promoting continued access by refugees to asylum and international protection; helping to meet the basic needs of refugees and affected host community members; striving to build resilience and self-reliance at all levels; and helping to strengthen the capacity of national and local institutions. Indeed, most ongoing activities in existing 3RP country plans directly or indirectly support national efforts to curb the spread and lessen the impact of COVID-19. 3RP partners have also played a critical role in national preparedness activities even before the outbreak of the virus. These activities remain a vital pillar of 3RP support, and partners are leveraging the use of innovative tools and approaches to reach those in need in ways that respect physical and social distancing.

The 3RP is also seeking to immediately help countries and communities curb the risk and lessen the immediate social and economic impact on refugees and host communities alike. Against the backdrop of the existing plans, 3RP countries have developed specific COVID-19 response plans. These plans comprise (1) activities to address the immediate impacts of COVID-19 that have been (re)prioritized, reprogrammed or reallocated from original 3RP plans/requirements; and (2) activities not foreseen or planned for in existing 3RPs either in terms of type or scale of activity and for which additional financial resources are needed. The total requirements needed to implement the COVID-19 plans are the sum of these activities – some US\$ 774 million in total, comprised of US\$ 130 million from existing budgets and requirements,

and some US\$ 644 million in additional funding on top of existing 3RP plans.

Each of the country plans is summarized in this document, outlining a range of multi-sectoral interventions specific to dealing with the impact of COVID-19. As with the existing 3RP plans in each country, the 3RP COVID-19 plan is firmly rooted in supporting national and local efforts and the variance in timelines and specific responses across the region reflect that. 3RP plans are also aligned to other humanitarian and development response plans related to COVID-19, as further outlined on page 6, while operational coordination between various plans and actors is being enhanced to ensure a coherent response to COVID-19. The full implementation of existing 3RP plans and the specific COVID-19 response is subject to a range of financial, capacity and technical challenges. 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.

These 3RP plans do not attempt to deal with the medium-term socio-economic effects of COVID-19, particularly related to macroeconomic effects or more longer-term requirements in various sectors. 3RP partners across the region have already started to assess such impacts with a view to ascertaining how best the 3RP can help governments and communities recover from the impact of COVID-19 both in 2020 and beyond. Overall 3RP plans will therefore be updated as necessary as the situation evolves.

3RP partners are providing clean and potable water to refugee camps.

Water is essential for refugees to stay clean and to carry out good hygiene practices. Photo taken in Bardarash Camp, Iraq, by UNHCR / Shaza Shekfeh

COVID-19 has had not only a profound socio-economic impact in the short term, but also likely will affect in the medium to long term. With the fast evolving situations, many 3RP partners are conducting assessments to measure the social and economic implications. Although much is yet to be determined, particularly related to the second-order effects, 3RP partners will use such assessments undertaken at country and regional levels to gather data and inform evidence-based 3RP programming both for the remainder of 2020, but also into 2021.

A snapshot of the current situation based on rapid assessments:



Situation prior to the COVID-19

- Over half the populations in the 3RP countries are engaged in informal sectors
- Vulnerable groups of refugees and host communities (low income households, informal sector workers, women, children, youth, older persons, persons with special needs, refugees, IDPs, migrants) are at higher risk
- Majority of the refugees live in urban centres, densely populated areas, informal settlements
- Gender inequalities



Outbreak of COVID-19 crisis



Exacerbating multi-dimensional poverty and vulnerability among vulnerable refugee and host communities

- Reduction in household income/ livelihoods potentially leading to negative coping strategies.
- Reduced access to quality food and nutritious diets due to increases in food prices which is evidenced in some countries.
- Reduced access to public services like shelter, water, sanitation and waste management
- Reduced access to quality education including access to vocational training
- Reduced access to health services (for Covid19 treatment and other services)
- Changes in intrahousehold gender dynamics, increase in women's time poverty, and risks of domestic violence
- Possible rise in social tensions between and among refugee and host communities, due to competition over even scarcer jobs and livelihoods opportunities and access to services



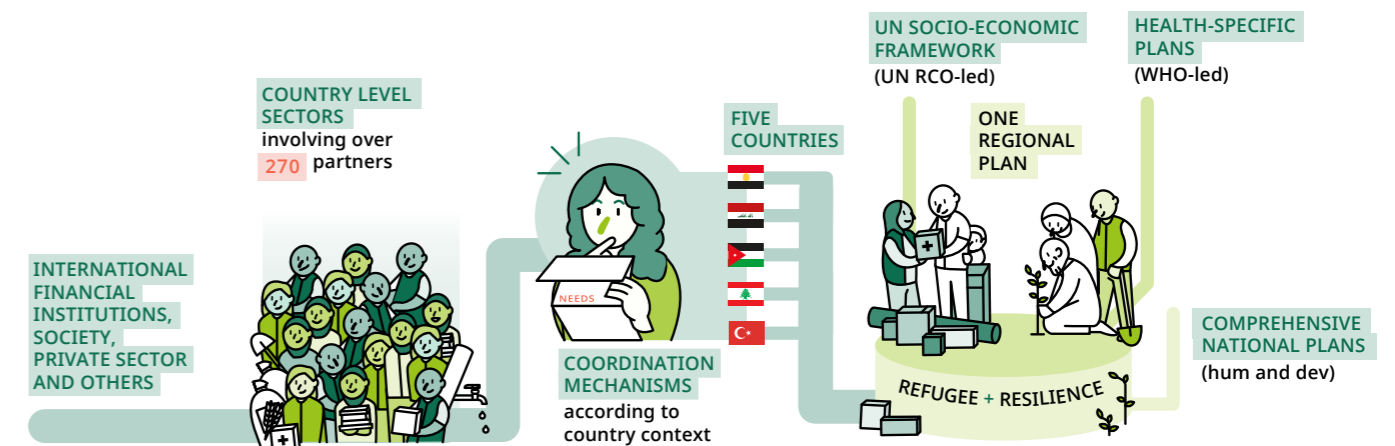
NOTE: These are preliminary findings and subject to change.

3RP Model and Linkages to Other COVID-19 Plans

The 3RP is a strategic, coordination, planning, advocacy, fundraising, and programming platform for humanitarian and development partners to respond to the impact of the crisis in Syria in the five most affected neighbouring countries to Syria – Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt. The 3RP acts in support of national efforts. It comprises one regional plan, with five standalone country chapters. The 3RP has two interconnected components: the refugee component addresses the protection and humanitarian assistance needs of refugees while the resilience component addresses the resilience, stabilization and development needs of impacted communities, aiming to strengthen the capacities of national

actors. Comprising over 270 partners, the 3RP has mobilized over US\$15 billion in resources since 2015 and reached millions of refugees and vulnerable host community members.

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 to the greatest extent possible.





Financial Requirements 2020


TOTAL Original 3RP Requirements: USD 5,564,343,778	3RP COVID-19 Plan From original 3RP Requirements*: USD 130,278,189 Health related: TBD Non-health related: TBD New Requirements: USD 643,752,871 Health related: USD 81,624,773 Non-health related: USD 562,128,098 Total: USD 774,031,060
TURKEY Original 3RP Requirements: USD 1,174,788,179	3RP COVID-19 Plan From original 3RP Requirements*: USD 38,875,688 Health related: USD 1,787,797 Non-health related: USD 37,087,891 New Requirements: USD 118,085,443 Health related: USD 9,610,050 Non-health related: USD 108,475,393 Total: USD 156,961,131
LEBANON Original 3RP Requirements: USD 2,674,389,127	3RP COVID-19 Plan From original 3RP Requirements*: USD 4,668,024 Health related: TBD Non-health related: TBD New Requirements: USD 216,345,025 Health related: USD 15,000,000 Non-health related: USD 201,345,025 Total: USD 221,013,049
JORDAN Original 3RP Requirements: USD 1,200,090,223	3RP COVID-19 Plan From original 3RP Requirements*: - New Requirements: USD 275,331,772 Health related: USD 43,700,000 Non-health related: USD 231,631,772 Total: USD 275,331,772
IRAQ Original 3RP Requirements: USD 259,942,303	3RP COVID-19 Plan From original 3RP Requirements*: USD 42,417,534 Health related: USD 8,509,998 Non-health related: USD 33,907,536 New Requirements: USD 30,927,264 Health related: USD 13,066,000 Non-health related: USD 17,861,264 Total: USD 73,344,798
EGYPT Original 3RP Requirements: USD 159,163,205	3RP COVID-19 Plan From original 3RP Requirements*: USD 44,316,943 Health related: USD 6,422,000 Non-health related: USD 37,894,943 New Requirements: - Health related: - Non-health related: - Total: USD 44,316,943


* 3RP partners have identified / reprioritized approximately USD 130 million from existing 3RP appeal figures for priority COVID-19 activities. All figures will be updated following an official comprehensive revision of the 3RP


Prioritized Sector Activities


- 


Enabling key Protection activities, such as SGBV and Child Protection, through enhanced community engagement and remote case management
- 


Providing cash and other assistance to the most impacted refugees to help them deal with the socio-economic impact
- 


Supporting line ministries and health facilities to sustain primary healthcare to Syrian refugees and vulnerable host community members
- 


Supporting host government and education institutions on new learning modalities for children to access education
- 

Supporting the development of online vocational training, job-matching and business development tools to continue supporting access to job opportunities and employment retention
- 

Providing hygiene kit and personal protective equipment for vulnerable impacted populations, public services' workers and staff
- 

Providing support to refugees in camps for shelter maintenance
- 

Increasing communication with communities to raise awareness on COVID-19 and share information on service availability
- 

Establishing temporary shelter measures to address overcrowding in densely populated areas and enable physical distancing
- 

Engaging with community, public institutions and local authorities to promote social cohesion

IRAQ

Coronavirus prevention and awareness campaigns

3RP partners in Iraq are providing potable water and raising awareness among children about the importance of hand washing. 3RP partners are reviewing the availability of medicines and medical in camp health clinics and rolling out health awareness campaigns on Coronavirus in and out of camps. Health awareness messages are being disseminated and awareness posters distributed, within which hand washing, respiratory hygiene measures and early symptoms identification are key topics. There is ongoing training of health workers in camps on disease identification and management – according to Ministry of Health and WHO guidelines – to ensure prompt referral to hospitals when needed.

Photo: UNHCR / Rasheed Hussein Rasheed



TURKEY

A blueprint for continued learning during the COVID-19 crisis

3RP partners have been supporting the national distance learning programme in collaboration with the host government and education institutions. While this innovative approach was used for adult Turkish language training for 28,000 Syrian refugees prior to the COVID-19 crisis, it has now become part of the new model in response to the COVID-19 crisis. The system works remotely on various mobile devices so that students do not necessarily need continuous internet connection. To adjust to the impact of COVID-19, face-to-face consultations and support have also moved online through live sessions with teachers, and students can download learning material and use it offline. The language training programme aims at teaching Turkish to 52,000 adult Syrian refugees by the end of 2020, but will provide an important blueprint for the 3RP response to COVID-19. Indeed, 3RP partners are working with Ministry of National Education to develop of multiple online training tools and products for over 18 million children in Turkey, including 680,000 refugee children.

Photo: UNDP / Levent Kulu





ORIGINAL 3RP REQUIREMENTS
TURKEY: USD 1,174,788,179

3RP COVID-19 PLAN
From original 3RP Requirements: USD 38,875,688
Health related: USD 1,787,797
Non-health related: USD 37,087,891
New Requirements: USD 118,085,443
Health related: USD 9,610,050
Non-health related: USD 108,475,393
Total: USD 156,961,131

Turkey

In accordance with Turkey's legal framework, over 98 per cent of Syrians under temporary protection live in towns and cities alongside Turkish citizens and benefit from public services. As a result of COVID-19, however, many public services that were already stretched have now had to be paused or reduced in order to limit the spread of the virus.

Refugees, some of whom faced difficulties in accessing public services already due to language, economic or social barriers, now face even greater challenges and the risk of not having access to essential services. While health services continue to operate and refugee and host community children continue their education via distance learning, social and protection services are under increased pressure. The economic and social impact of COVID-19, particularly the temporary closure of businesses and associated loss of income and casual labor opportunities affects all parts of society. For refugees and international protection applicants, the sudden loss of livelihoods is compounded by a lack of savings, preventing families from meeting basic needs including food, rent, and hygiene and sanitary items.

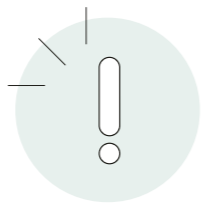
In response, 3RP partners have engaged in: (1) adapting the delivery of services, support and assistance to support continuity, where feasible; (2) identifying priority needs of women and men, girls and boys, communities and institutions impacted by the pandemic; and (3) developing new activities to respond to additional needs. Partners are collaborating to develop cash programmes to help the most vulnerable Syrian refugees who are not benefitting from the Emergency Social Safety Net programme. These cash programmes are complemented by employment retention programmes and financial support for refugees and targeted vulnerable Turkish citizens as well as further support to sustain essential social protection schemes like the Conditional Cash Transfer for Education programme. 3RP partners will also support the health response focusing on the provision of equipment and awareness raising. Other key response will involve supporting government institutions with online working and distance learning modalities to ensure continued access to education while ensuring provision of protection, child protection and SGBV services.

Syrian Refugee Population
3,576,369 individuals

KEY ACTIVITIES



Provide additional cash and in-kind assistance, as well as employment retention schemes to support the most vulnerable households.



Increase engagement with communities through Social Media or other information dissemination channels on health messaging and how to access essential services.



Provide protective and hygiene material as well as awareness raising to enable public institutions, local authorities and businesses to provide essential services and income during the crisis.



Support public institutions in developing distance learning tools for all children in Turkey, including refugee children, as well as online language and vocational training and life skills training.

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ORIGINAL 3RP REQUIREMENTS
LEBANON: USD 2,674,389,127

3RP COVID-19 PLAN
From original 3RP Requirements: USD 4,668,024
Health related: TBD
Non-health related: TBD
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Lebanon

The LCRP supports COVID-19 preparedness and response through an integrated approach as many of the preparedness and response mechanisms cut across population cohorts and are multi-sectoral. The LCRP links to the COVID-19 national response structure through various entry points including the National Technical Committee, the Disaster Risk Management Unit and the Response Pillars.

The overall aim is to continue critical LCRP activities as well as, directly and indirectly, support support national efforts, to ensure that:

- The most vulnerable displaced persons from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese continue to access life-saving services and protection.
- Prevention and response activities, particularly related to home isolation in overcrowded areas, are taking place according to Standard Operating Procedures.
- Communication and community engagement are supported through trusted and credible channels using a risk communication and community engagement approach with harmonized messaging.
- All interventions are protection-centered, consider conflict sensitivity and use do no harm approaches, especially in light of the high risk of increasing social tensions and negative impact on communal relations.

Partners have reviewed the existing operational footprint and identified ways to continue with the most critical activities, however reprogramming and additional funding support are required to ensure that critical assistance can continue. Considering the need to shift modalities and activities, donor flexibility is also required.

Simultaneously, the outbreak of COVID-19 is expected to substantially exacerbate the effects of the economic crisis on refugees and host communities. To reduce the risks, additional interventions are needed, with priority to the most vulnerable groups, especially women, girls, people with specific needs and elderly people.

Syrian Refugee Population
914,648 individuals

KEY ACTIVITIES



Provide emergency cash assistance to families of children at risk targeting 3,000 cases.



Provide food assistance to vulnerable refugees and Lebanese to sustain food security and provide vouchers for vulnerable Lebanese farmers to ensure continued agricultural activities



Support to primary healthcare, including equipment, supplies and staff, through provision of supplies and case management support.



Support development and implementation of flexible education programmes.

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_17767

