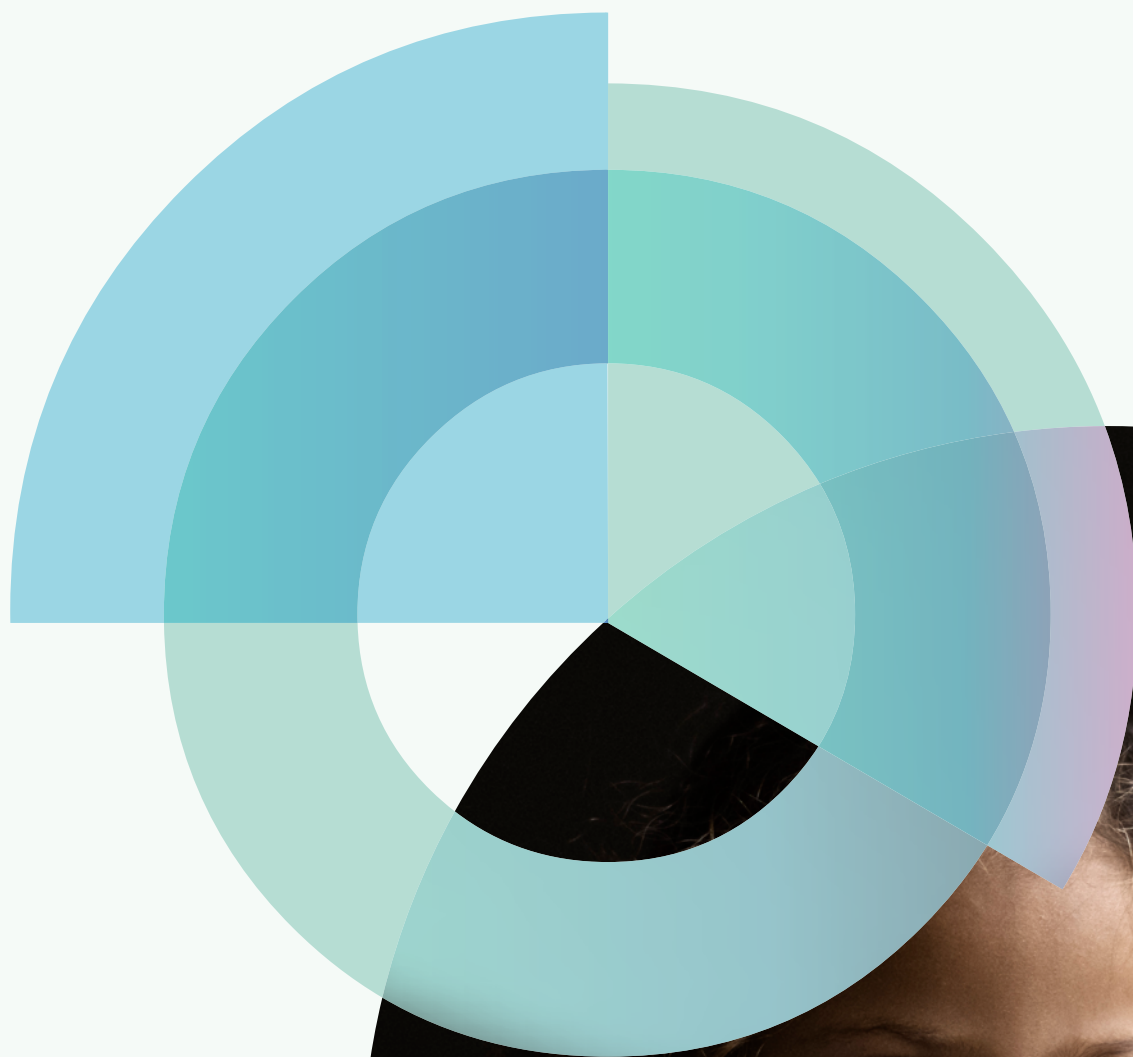


REGIONAL NEEDS OVERVIEW 2021

REGIONAL REFUGEE
AND RESILIENCE PLAN



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Executive Summary

The Syria refugee crisis remains the largest humanitarian and development crises in the world. Across the five main Syrian-refugee hosting countries including under the 3RP – Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt – over 10 million people need some form of humanitarian and resilience support going into 2021. This includes some 5.5 million Syrian refugees and 4.8 million impacted host community members, which is the highest number of people in need of some form of assistance in this crisis, in nearly a decade.

Alongside the record numbers of people in need, the level of vulnerability among refugees and impacted host community members is growing. Five key underlying trends are driving this need: the effects of large-scale protracted displacement, macroeconomic forecasts, socioeconomic conditions, COVID-19, and demographic pressures. These interlinked trends have worsened existing structural and individual vulnerabilities and, in some cases, created new vulnerabilities, with long-term effects yet to be fully measured. The trends have also deepened pre-existing inequalities, the most pervasive being gender inequality.

This 3RP Regional Needs Overview (RNO) provides a consolidated overview of the needs and vulnerabilities of refugees and impacted host community members at both the regional and country level based on the data and information from over 100 assessments and studies conducted throughout 2020. It is intended to inform 3RP regional and country-level planning for 2021 and beyond, as well as further research and policy efforts. While the scale and scope of needs vary across the 3RP countries, a common regional picture emerges, in addition to the specific country dynamics. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic hit first

the region early in the year and was followed by other waves that at the time of writing continue to impact the lives of millions of refugees and host communities alike. Similarly, in the context of a global economic recession, host countries have further stretched thin the resources needed to fund services in support of the vulnerable population. Economic forecasts for 3RP countries in 2020 and beyond have been progressively downward revised from early 2020, especially in Lebanon where compounding crises have had devastating effects. Rises in levels of unemployment, income and multidimensional poverty, and food insecurity are among the greatest factors driving individual need in the short-term. The high youth population across the region places stressors on the limited capacities of education and livelihoods sectors. Additional demographic pressures are a result of worsening social cohesion due to competition over limited resources, services, and opportunities. At a time where the social fabric is under pressure, violence against women and risks of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) continue to be reported across the region. Moreover, the broader health impacts driven by COVID-19 will also entail long term consequences for the most vulnerable people.

Against this backdrop, a clear set of regional needs have emerged. Protection-related intersectional needs, particularly those related to legal status, gender, age and specific needs, have been highlighted across regional assessments. Syrian refugees additionally continue to need opportunities for durable solutions. The need for broader availability and improved quality of education, livelihoods opportunities and access to quality food and health care is essential. With rises in the use of negative coping mechanisms by vulnerable individuals observed across the region, support to address these needs, among others, is critical. Enhancing local capacities, specifically infrastructure, service provision, and social safety net programmes, is a critical element to ensure that the needs of vulnerable individuals can be met in the medium and long-term by building resilience.

Methodological considerations

The Regional Needs Overview (RNO) of the 3RP is the first document of this kind that complements and informs a Regional Response Plan. While all regional crises around the world build their narratives and responses around country-specific needs assessments, this RNO also aims at streamlining and identifying common trends and dynamics that may impact the region alike. It is therefore essential to recognise and praise the efforts made by different actors and stakeholders involved in this process and taking this document as a starting point for future publications.

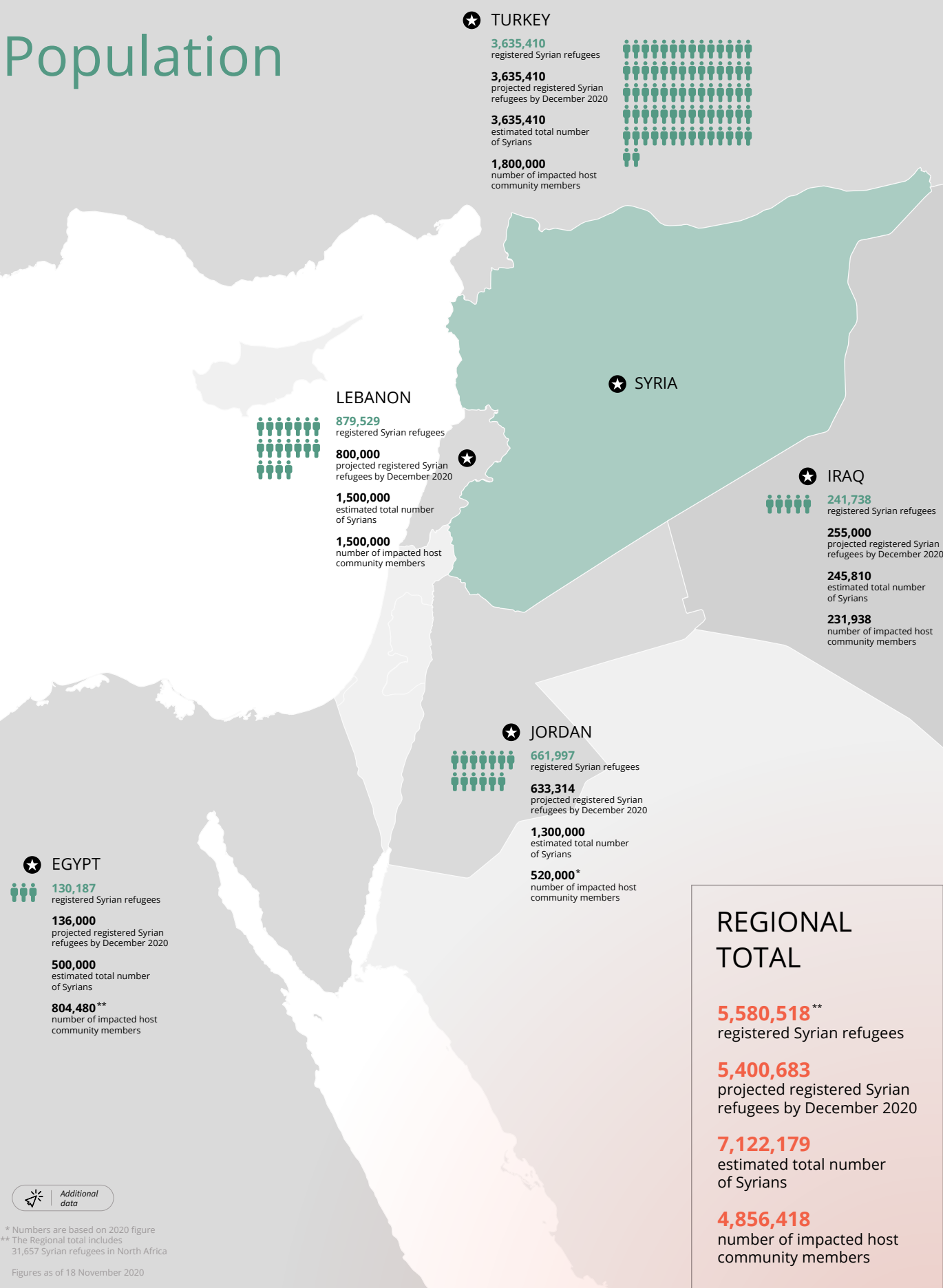
Before reading, it is therefore important to share some methodological considerations. First of all, countries employ various methodologies, and data availability varies across the region. Second, similar types of assessments undertaken in other countries by the same agency consider different information, based on available secondary data. Third, at the time of writing, new waves of COVID-19 pandemic are unfolding globally, and across the region, the depth of the needs will continue to evolve and grow.

More information is available on the 3RP regional and country websites, including detailed needs analyses.

<http://www.3rpsyriacrisis.org>



Population



Key Facts



Social Cohesion

Around **two-in-five** host community members believe that the cost of living in their neighbourhood increased due to the presence of refugees.



Additional data



Informal Employment

Informal employment is particularly high among **women** and even more for women who are heading households.

In Turkey, **42,2%** of women working within the informal employment sector as carers, cleaners and seasonal workers are without social security.



Gender-based Violence

In Egypt, Iraq and Jordan, violence against women was one of the main reasons women felt unsafe in their homes, with nearly **1 in 3 women** fearing **domestic violence** (by husband or family).



Situation

The socio-economic impact of movement restrictions and lockdowns has been dramatic. In Lebanon, according to the recently completed annual Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees **88% of the total refugee population cannot afford the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket**, compared 55% at the end of 2019.



Host Communities

The region's 2020 GDP growth has been **downgraded by 7.4 % points** on average. Particularly, self-employed, informal sector workers lacking social protection, and individuals working in sectors directly hit by the COVID-19 crisis, such as tourism, retail, textile, and garment industries are at **risk of falling into poverty**.



Additional data



Digital Divide

The digital divide is exacerbating inequalities, particularly **gender inequalities**, in the access to skills development, livelihoods opportunities, as well as social assistance. In the Arab region, **nearly half of the female population** of 84 million is **not connected** to the internet nor has access to a mobile phone.



Residence

95% of Syrian refugees within the region are living in urban and peri-urban areas, while **5%** are living in refugee camps.



Gender and Youth

Some **45%** of Syrian refugees within the region are below the age of 18. Some **45%** of host community populations are below the age of 24.

Some **44%** of Syrian refugees within the region are female. Some **49%** of host community populations within the region are female.



Return

A strong majority of Syrians **wish to return to Syria one day**, a much smaller number plan to return to Syria in the near future. The key issues influencing return intentions include safety and security, livelihoods opportunities, access to shelter and access to basic services.

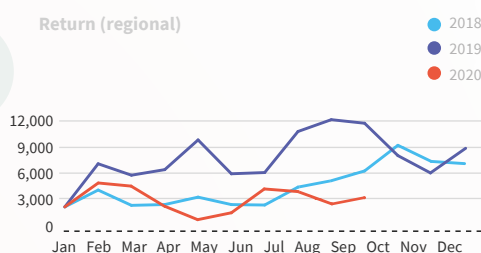


People with Disabilities

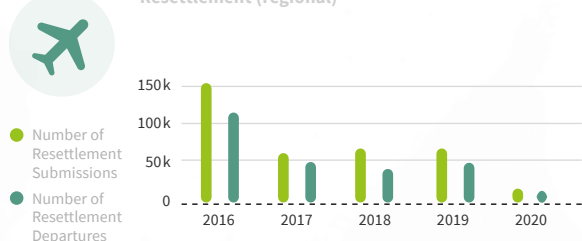
Global estimates suggest that **15%** of the refugee population are people with disabilities.



Return (regional)



Resettlement (regional)



Regional Context Analysis

The needs of Syrian refugees and their host communities in the 3RP countries are shaped by several key regional trends.

These trends include large-scale protracted displacement, macroeconomic trends and socio-economic conditions, the compounding and multi-faceted impacts of COVID-19, and demographic drivers. Despite the challenges brought by these trends, throughout nearly a decade of displacement, host countries, institutions, and communities continue to provide asylum and provide services to more than 5.5 million Syrian refugees, and

refugees of other nationalities, as well as stateless and other persons of concern.

The unprecedented political, economic and social situation across the region, in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and other myriad challenges, has underscored the need for sustained support to host governments, host communities, refugees, and other persons of concern.

This section provides a regional overview for each of these key trends which shape needs and vulnerabilities across the region.



Estimated Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic in the Arab Region

It is estimated that one in quarter of the Arab populations are ranked as poor. In short-term, responding to COVID-19 requires humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable individuals and households. At the same time, considering the mid- to long-term impact, it is important to take into account the concept of building back better by bolstering capacities of vulnerable individuals, institutions and invigorating private sectors.

Palestine refugees

Palestine refugees affected by the Syria crisis remain particularly vulnerable and are exposed to substantial humanitarian and protection risks. An estimated two-thirds of Palestine refugees in Syria have been displaced from their district of origin at least once since the beginning of the conflict, and 91 per cent of Palestine refugee households live in absolute poverty. Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) who have fled the country and are currently in Lebanon and Jordan continue to face a precarious and marginalized existence due to their uncertain legal status and limited social protection mechanisms, with very limited access to basic services other than those provided by UNRWA. Deteriorating socio-economic conditions, constrained employment opportunities and increased costs of living experienced in both Lebanon and Jordan have increased the vulnerability of PRS families. The situation is further compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has exacted a heavy socio-economic and public health toll.

COVID-19 impact and opportunities for achieving Agenda 2030

The COVID-19 pandemic specifically revealed the fragility of health and food systems, provided a strong rationale for the 2030 Agenda and demonstrated how inter-related the SDGs are. It started as a health crisis, but soon affected all sectors of the economy, imposing serious challenges to the achievement of all SDGs. At the same time, COVID-19 presents an opportunity for the international community to act in solidarity and to turn this crisis into an impetus to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

Manar (4)

Syrian Refugee

Four-year-old Syrian refugee, Manar, is photographed at home in Beirut



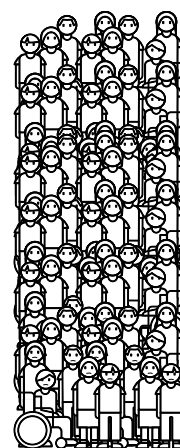
Large-scale Displacement

Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt continue to host over 5.5 million Syrian refugees as of the end of 2020. The registered Syrian refugee population remained relatively stable throughout the year and there was no major arrival of new refugees into the host countries in 2020 as borders and admissions practices remained closely managed by host states.

Some countries witnessed modest net increases in registered refugees primarily due to the registration of new-borns. In addition to registered Syrian refugees, estimates indicate that a significant number of additional Syrians reside in host countries under various arrangements. It is anticipated that a large-scale refugee population will remain in host countries for the time being given current return and resettlement dynamics which will continue to drive needs in 3RP countries. Regarding return, order and movement restrictions as a result of COVID-19 significantly impacted return movements. While the levels of return in the first two months of 2020 were broadly comparable to previous years, return through official border crossings slowed down significantly in March as countries started to enact border measures and other public health containment policies to reduce the spread of the coronavirus. There were no verified returns to Syria between late March and late May 2020. Return movements

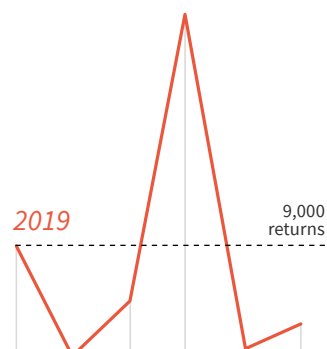
Since reaching its peak of 76,000 resettlement submissions in 2016, there has been a dramatic reduction of resettlement places for Syrian refugees in recent years. The global decrease in the number of resettlement places available and a shifting of resettlement opportunities to other global priority situations have been the primary drivers for the decrease. Still, despite an overall decrease in resettlement places globally, there was a small but critical increase of approximately 1,500 Syrian resettlement submissions in 2019 compared to 2018. According to estimates, Syrians remain the largest refugee population globally in need of resettlement in 2020. Given that the resettlement needs far outnumber the resettlement spaces – with an estimated 579,031 Syrian refugees currently in need of resettlement, vulnerable refugees remain in host countries for longer, which compound their needs and result in increased pressure on assistance programmes and vital services.

Syrians remain the **largest refugee population** globally in need of resettlement in 2020



Estimated
579,031
Syrian refugees are currently in need of resettlement

Return trend



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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_17985

