



syria regional crisis response june 2013

The generous support of donors over the past five months has allowed UNRWA to respond to the urgent humanitarian needs of more than 525,000 Palestine refugees in Syria through the provision of cash assistance, food and material support, and protection in addition to regular education and health programming.

As part of its new appeal for the second half of 2013, UNRWA will continue to adapt and expand its regular programmes in Syria, including in the fields of education, health, technical training and micro-finance. However, much more is necessary to prevent a worsening of the humanitarian crisis facing Palestine refugees in Syria. Palestine refugees who fled to Lebanon and Jordan are also in need of urgent assistance, with support structures in these countries overburdened by the influx of refugees. UNRWA is appealing for a total of US\$ 199.6 million to provide vital emergency assistance to Palestine refugees until the end of 2013. Of this, more than US\$ 150 million will be spent on humanitarian operations within Syria, with a further US\$ 44.7 million spent in Lebanon and US\$ 4.3 million in Jordan.

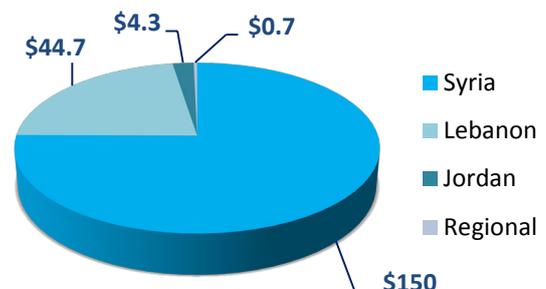
Palestine refugees in Syria have been severely affected by the armed conflict in the country, with virtually all their residential areas experiencing armed engagements or the use of heavy weapons. The relative safety of Palestine refugees in Syria, which their neutral stance in the conflict helped preserve, no longer exists. UNRWA estimates that by the end of 2013, the entire population of 525,000 Palestine refugees residing in Syria will be affected by the conflict, with 420,000 in need of

emergency humanitarian assistance in Syria and over 50 per cent displaced internally.

The majority of Palestine refugees from Yarmouk and Damascus area refugee camps nearby, as well as Dera'a in the south, and Ein el Tal in the north have fled their homes. Although many have reached neighbouring countries, the large majority remains inside Syria. Most have found shelter in schools and safer camps, or with friends and relatives. The spreading violence in Palestine refugee camps resulting in the unraveling of livelihoods and social structures is a devastating material and psychological blow that will have repercussions for years to come.

In Lebanon, the number of Palestine refugees from Syria has exceeded 50,000. The pressure on existing camps, which

Funding Requirements by Field
July – December 2013
(millions of US\$)



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had high rates of poverty and deprivation before the influx, has become enormous, making Lebanon an increasingly desperate option for refugees. An additional 6,000 Palestine

refugees from Syria have also reached Jordan. The Agency is providing support in Lebanon and Jordan, including education and health care to these refugees.



The intensity of the Syria conflict continues to accelerate, with plans and assistance budgets just months old becoming inadequate to cover even the most pressing needs. The request for assistance in UNRWA's new appeal, launched in parallel with the wider United Nations humanitarian system, is not one based on overall needs. It is based on the minimum necessary support to prevent a catastrophic degradation of the situation of Palestine refugees in Syria.

UNRWA's breadth of operation in Syria, with its 3,700 experienced area staff there, in addition to its work in Lebanon and Jordan, gives the Agency great operational flexibility and responsiveness. As the armed conflict is expected to intensify in the coming period, the operational challenges facing the Agency will certainly grow, but UNRWA will draw on its unique blend of assets to improve and strengthen its humanitarian response.

Funding Requirements by Category of Assistance, by Field (July – December 2013) in US\$

Programme intervention	Syria	Lebanon	Jordan	Regional	Total
Cash assistance	102,764,212	33,490,495	3,305,453	277,500	139,837,658
Protection	-	1,161,350	22,200	-	1,183,550
Non-food items (NFIs)	8,417,526	-	-	-	8,417,526
Food assistance	24,521,148	-	-	-	24,521,148
Emergency environmental health	1,110,000	1,731,346	-	-	2,841,346
Emergency health	2,775,000	4,169,611	245,486	-	7,190,097
Emergency education	1,242,978	3,877,508	491,962	-	5,612,448
Shelter	-	222,000	-	-	222,000
Safety and security	1,554,000	-	11,655	-	1,565,655
Capacity and management support	6,394,136	-	175,521	388,500	6,958,157
Emergency repair and maintenance of UNRWA installations	1,221,000	-	-	-	1,221,000
Total	150,000,000	44,652,308	4,252,277	666,000	199,570,585



united nations relief and works agency
for palestine refugees in the near east

www.unrwa.org

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and is mandated to provide assistance and protection to a population of some 5 registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip to achieve their full potential in human development, pending a just solution to their plight. UNRWA's services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, microfinance and emergency assistance. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions.