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**438,000** Palestine refugees remain in Syria

- 52% female
- 31% children

**126,000** Palestine refugees belong to the most vulnerable categories

- 91% of Palestine refugee households in Syria live in absolute poverty
- 2/3 of Palestine refugees were displaced at least once since 2011
- 40% of Palestine refugees remain displaced within Syria

**59** Palestine refugees returned from Lebanon and Jordan

**62** Palestine refugees returned from other countries

**Emergency Appeal Requirements in Syria for 2020**

UNRWA requires US$ 212.8 million to sustain the delivery of humanitarian assistance, basic services and protection interventions to the 438,000 Palestine refugees estimated to remain in Syria.

As of 31 March 2020, a total of US$ 31.3 million were pledged or received from donors and partners, representing 14.7 per cent of total requirements.

**COVID-19 Response and Impact on UNRWA Operations in Syria**

- 25 UNRWA health facilities are operating a triage system for people with respiratory symptoms.
- NCD patients are being provided with medicines for a 2 months period to minimize crowding at health centres and movement of patients.
- Duration of cash distribution is extended in an effort to minimize the risk of overcrowding.
- As of 31 March 2020, 77% of the refugees had received their cash assistance.
- Social distancing between beneficiaries is being maintained in distribution locations.
- The number of food distribution points has been increased by using UNRWA schools to avoid crowding.
- Sanitation services in ten camps are delivered out daily in addition to disinfection activities.
- 103 UNRWA-run schools across Syria are closed to minimize the risk of exposure to and spread of COVID-19 virus.
- Microfinance services are suspended, and repayments of loans are deferred.
- A remote learning programme is being delivered through online platforms to TVET students.
- UNRWA PSS counsellors are providing advices to teachers, students and parents via phone, instant messaging and email.
- UNRWA Syria is coordinating its COVID-19 response through the UN Inter-Agency Coordination mechanism in Syria. UNRWA is rigorously following WHO guidelines in its preparedness and emergency response plan.

**COVID-19 Update**

- 279,356 Palestine refugees received cash assistance
- The first round of cash distribution in 2020 started on 23 February, covering four months’ worth of assistance
- 1,989 individuals benefited from 585 microfinance loans
- 37% female
- 13% youth
- 20 hygiene kits
- 373 baby kits
- 13 Jerry cans
- 4,270 diapers & napkins
- 14,834 Palestine refugees received food assistance
- The first round of food distribution in 2020 started on 24 March
- 50 UNRWA staff were trained on protection mainstreaming in Dera’a
- Removal of garbage, provision of chlorine tablets and hypochlorite sodium and maintenance works for sewage system in ten Palestine refugees camps
- 61,276 health consultations
- 36,676 female
- 24,600 male
- 24,298 girls
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**Syria: UNRWA - Humanitarian Snapshot, March 2020**

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