



# SUPPORTING SYRIANS AND THE REGION

RESULTS AND PROGRAMME UPDATE, MARCH 2019

Syria continues to be characterized by destruction to almost every aspect of life and livelihoods, including massive devastation of homes, businesses, basic services and infrastructure. Estimates from 2015 point to more than 83% of Syrians living below the poverty line - all indications suggest more impoverishment since then. This is particularly critical for youth and raises the specter of negative coping mechanisms due to diminished livelihoods prospects.

Over 11.8 million people inside Syria continue to require humanitarian aid and 6 million remain displaced. Meanwhile, some 1.4 million IDPs have also returned to areas of origin, mostly in Aleppo, Homs and rural Damascus.

Refugees in neighboring countries have grown increasingly vulnerable, with the vast majority living below the poverty line. Neighboring countries have shown tremendous generosity in hosting over 5.8 million refugees - with pressures on social services and infrastructure, on jobs, and, most alarmingly, on social cohesion growing by the day.

## UNDP AND THE IMPERATIVE OF RESILIENCE

Since 2014, UNDP, in close cooperation with partners, has spearheaded the resilience agenda in the response to the Syria crisis, as a means of preserving the dignity and needs of people inside Syria and of supporting neighboring countries and the international community to more sustainably meet the needs of refugees and host communities in the region.

Inside Syria, despite extremely difficult security conditions, UNDP is doing its best to help all Syrians, regardless of where they live, respond to the extraordinary difficulties they are facing, with a focus on the most vulnerable, including women-headed households and

youth. UNDP continues to work through Humanitarian Response Plans and leads the Early Recovery and Livelihoods Cluster, with programming focused on livelihood support, basic services, and local-level infrastructure-rehabilitation projects.

UNDP also co-chairs with UN DPA the Interagency Task Force on Syria and the Post-Agreement Planning Exercise.

## IN THE REGION - SUPPORTING NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

In countries neighboring Syria, UNDP's response has relied on our close partnership with UNHCR around the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) to support national governments to address the fallout in alliance with over 270 humanitarian and development partners. Within this complementary approach with UNHCR, UNDP focuses on the livelihoods component, adapted to each country and addressing the needs of host communities and refugees. Though each programme is nationally tailored, three broad themes are: support for services and expansion of economic opportunities, jobs and business-skills training, and promotion of social and community cohesion.

Within the frame of this response, in 2018 UNDP Lebanon supported over 850,000 host community members and refugees with access to basic services, improved livelihoods and peacebuilding in 124 vulnerable localities, creating over 43,000 days of work.

In Jordan, 2.7 million people comprising hosts and refugees benefitted from UNDP's support for improved municipal infrastructure and services, and 41,000 people benefitted from improved livelihoods and job creation.

UNDP's work in Turkey has improved municipal services for over 2.5 million Syrians and host community members while supporting over 50,000 Syrians to improve their Turkish-language skills.

In Egypt, host communities and refugees have benefitted from interventions in waste management and 160,000 workdays were created in vulnerable communities.

The 3RP for 2019-2020 was formally launched by the United Nations and NGO partners in Geneva in December 2019. The 3RP budget for 2019-2020 reinforces the trend for a stronger relationship between resilience priorities and humanitarian needs, with support intended to reach some 3.9 million members of host communities as well as 5.6 million refugees from Syria.

In Iraq, UNDP has focused on supporting the resilience of affected groups and communities within the current context of humanitarian crisis, through two major initiatives focused on the stabilization of liberated areas and on the enhancement of public services, livelihoods opportunities and social cohesion in areas heavily impacted by the crisis. As of December 2018, an estimated 4.1 million internally displaced Iraqis had returned or resettled, while an additional 1.8 million people remain displaced.

## CRISIS, RESILIENCE AND THE SDGS

Despite crisis conditions, UNDP in these countries has also supported Governments to drive Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. In Lebanon, the Government has created a working Group under the Prime Minister to better link SDGs and economic reform. The country presented its first Voluntary National

Review in the 2018 High-Level Political Forum. In Iraq and Jordan UNDP is supporting the mainstreaming of SDGs into ongoing policy work. The Government of Egypt has now twice presented VNRs at the HLPF in 2017 and 2018 and UNDP is actively supporting national plans for achieving the SDGs.

At the sub-regional level, UNDP's Sub-Regional Response Facility (UNDP-SRF) plays a vital role in supporting UNDP country offices as well as national, regional and international partners to shift towards more robust resilience policies, capacities and systems. In addition to managing UNDP's engagement in co-leading the 3RP with UNHCR, coordinating the resilience pillar and supporting M&E and reporting, the UNDP-SRF also develops with 3RP partners and the international community programmatic tools, knowledge products and advocacy.

The resilience-based development component of the inter-agency 3RP appeal for 2019 is USD 2.3 billion - to address the resilience needs of impacted and vulnerable communities, including supporting national and local municipalities to deliver basic social services and improve livelihoods while expanding employment opportunities.

As the search for a political solution continues, and after years of protracted crisis, UNDP urges partners to join us in sharpening a focus on the resilience needs of the most vulnerable inside Syria and in neighboring countries.

# 2018

## KEY RESULTS

UNDP IN SYRIA  
AND NEIGHBOURING  
COUNTRIES



# 9.8 MILLION

PERSONS BENEFITING FROM IMPROVED  
INFRASTRUCTURE OR SERVICES



# 191,000

PERSONS BENEFITING FROM JOB CREATION,  
TRAINING OR BUSINESS SUPPORT



# 828,000

PERSONS BENEFITING FROM SOCIAL STABILITY  
OR SOCIAL COHESION PROGRAMMES

# UNDP IN SYRIA SUPPORTING SYRIANS



Eight years since the start of the conflict, heavy fighting and years of neglect have left behind massive destruction of infrastructure, erosion of the productive base and damage to the social fabric in Syria. Despite reduced scale of military confrontation and reduced violence in the most densely populated regions of the country, Syrians are increasingly challenged to access basic services due to the level of infrastructure destruction left behind by the hostilities, compounded by scarcity of resources. Lack of livelihood opportunities and massive internal displacement. Inside Syria, over 11.8 million Syrians are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. The 2019 HRP underlines the need to better balance immediate humanitarian life saving support with medium term resilience support given the internal changes in the country during 2018 which has increased the number of people living away from direct conflict areas.

While security dynamics across the country continue to evolve, and in some areas a relative stability has emerged, the after-effects of fighting will continue for many years, especially for women and girls due to the entrenched complexity of the issues they continue to face every day.

The spontaneous returns of 1.4 million IDPs as well as tens of thousands of refugees in 2018 and the expected returns of possibly larger numbers of refugees from neighboring countries would add to the socio-economic stress in the near future. The return and sustainable reintegration of the displaced will necessitate an enhanced availability of basic and social infrastructure and services, secure environment, and viable livelihood

opportunities for them and host communities.

Since the onset of the crisis, UNDP has continued to support local communities in early recovery, livelihoods and bottom-up, needs-based resilience-building efforts, targeting communities that have suffered physical damage as result of the crisis, and communities hosting internally displaced persons.

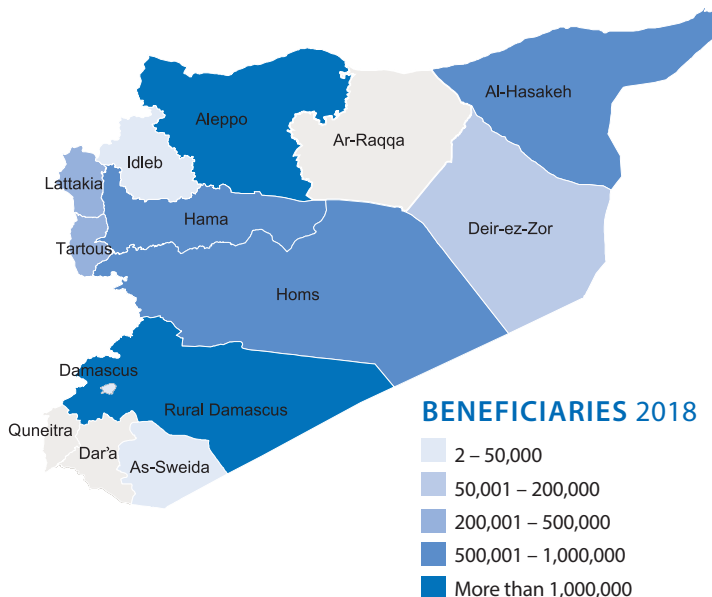
UNDP has throughout 2018 supported vulnerable and affected communities in 13 governorates: Damascus, Rural Damascus, Homs, Hama, Tartous, Lattakia, Aleppo, Al-Hassakeh, Deir-ez-Zor, Ar-Raqqa, As-Sweida, Dar'a and Quneitra.

In 2018, UNDP reached over 2,888,000 people in the affected population (111,270 directly, and 2,776,000 indirectly). The implemented projects have provided 15,342 emergency jobs opportunities created to IDPs and host communities with a clear focus on vulnerable groups: 2,434 to women, including women heading households, 641 to people with disabilities and 8,881 to youth.

Additionally, UNDP is implementing a comprehensive capacity development programme for civil society, which comprises formal training, peer-to-peer support through twinning and networking, and other innovative models.

## LOOKING AHEAD: UNDP AND THE 2019 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN

As the Early Recovery and Livelihoods Cluster Leader, UNDP has provided inputs to the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) with early-recovery and livelihoods



programming consistently with the Durable Solutions Framework and with the HRP's Strategic Outcome 3 on resilience.

UNDP's contribution to the HRP 2019 will be a two-year, needs-based framework programme covering 90 prioritized rural and urban communities across all 14 regions of Syria with a focus on context-sensitive resilience-building in areas such as livelihoods and economic recovery,

basic social infrastructure and services, social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities, social cohesion and community resilience, and capacity development for local partners.

Donors can provide support for this work on either a geographic or thematic basis; UNDP is calling for an average of US \$1m per community to contribute to building resilience for the most vulnerable Syrians.

## FUNDING 2019 (USD)



## 2018 KEY RESULTS UNDP IN SYRIA



**2.84** MILLION  
PERSONS BENEFITTING  
FROM IMPROVED  
INFRASTRUCTURE OR  
SERVICES



**751,360**  
PERSONS BENEFITTING  
FROM THE REHABILITATION  
OF BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE  
AND SOCIAL SERVICES



**16,300**  
YOUTH COLLABORATING  
ON SOCIAL COHESION  
ACTIVITIES



**2,700**  
FEMALE-HEADED  
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING  
SOCIO-ECONOMIC  
SUPPORT



**30,400**  
PERSONS BENEFITTING  
FROM JOB CREATION,  
TRAINING OR BUSINESS  
SUPPORT



**3,700**  
PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITY RECEIVING  
COMPREHENSIVE  
SERVICES



**104,500**  
PERSONS BENEFITTING  
FROM TRAINING,  
EMPLOYMENT  
AND BUSINESS SUPPORT



**35**  
LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS  
DEVELOPED FOR RESILIENCE-  
BUILDING SYRIA

# UNDP IN LEBANON

## PROMOTING STABILITY AND BUILDING RESILIENCE



UNDP has prioritized supporting the national efforts of the Government of Lebanon to manage the refugee crisis since the onset in early 2011, since which time well over 1 million refugees have entered the country posing grave challenges for stability, development and social stability, and testing Lebanon's resilience while putting strain on its resources and communities.

At the policy level, UNDP co-leads the 2017-2020 Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) together with UNHCR, under the 3RP. In line with the commitments made by the international community at the World Humanitarian Summit, and the New Way of Working championed by the United Nations Secretary-General, the LCRP presents a collective vision to move beyond direct humanitarian assistance and develop resilient public institutions and invest in the country's social, economic and environmental stability.

As a UN co-lead of the LCRP, UNDP is responsible for ensuring that all aspects of the plan contribute to Lebanon's long-term stability. In this capacity UNDP is at the forefront of monitoring and evaluating the impact that the response has on system strengthening and economic, social and environmental stability. In 2018 alone, USD 241 million was delivered

### 2018 TOP DONORS

Germany	40m Euro
United Kingdom	25m GBP
Netherlands	21.7m USD
Norway	15m NoK
Canada	12.35m CDN
United States	5m USD

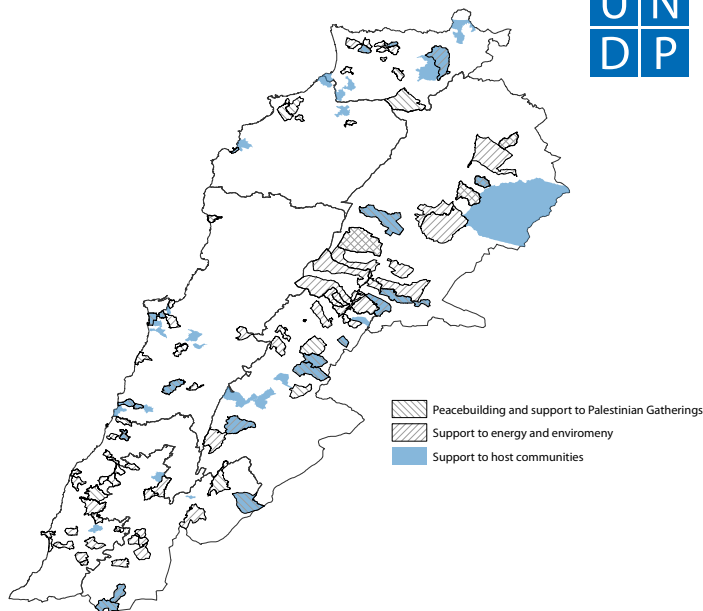
\* Based on March 2019 exchange rate.

to or through public institutions. This is a 16% increase on the figure for 2017 and shows a continued commitment of response partners to an integrated approach that moves beyond immediate humanitarian assistance. With regards to its own programming, UNDP addresses the response in three principle ways:

- Enhancing the stability and resilience of vulnerable communities;
- Assisting key public institutions to develop their capacities for crisis management; and
- Coordinating stabilization and recovery activities across the country.

Despite the large-scale response by the Government of Lebanon and international partners, humanitarian and development needs continue to grow. In 2018 69% of Syrian refugee households subsisted below the poverty line and 51% of Syrian refugee households in extreme poverty. In addition, 28% of Lebanese were below the national poverty line. Host community fatigue has become more and more pronounced, and tensions between and within communities are on the rise.

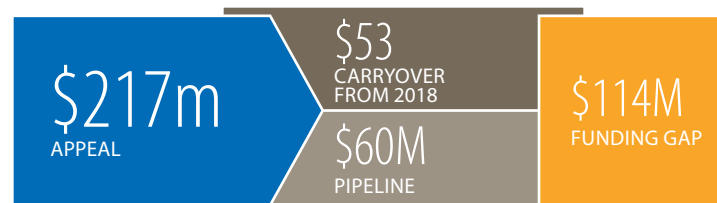
In 2018, UNDP delivered US\$ 41 million in support of these objectives, reaching some 555,500 vulnerable Lebanese, 294,842 Syrian refugees; as well as 4,500 Palestinian refugees from Syria, and 9,730 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon across 124 localities. Key results include increased productivity and income of farmers through improving roads and irrigation systems; creating nearly 44,000 days of work for the most vulnerable; and boosting



over 600 business cooperatives led by women. Furthermore, 67 communities have improved access to and quality of electricity and 89% of municipalities now regularly report through the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities on local tensions, and since 2017 over 400 municipal police members have been trained in 34 municipalities to better manage tensions in their communities.

In close partnership with the Government, UNDP is committed to assist Lebanon to continue to find more sustainable solutions that strengthen the resilience of institutions, host communities and refugees. To further this important mission, UNDP in Lebanon appeals for US\$ 217.3 million across seven sectors for 2019 – and stands ready to scale up delivery as a means to support Lebanon at this time of increasing strain.

### FUNDING 2019 (USD)\*



## 2018 KEY RESULTS UNDP LEBANON



124

VULNERABLE LOCALITIES SUPPORTED



3,306

FARMERS BENEFITING FROM IMPROVED ROADS AND IRRIGATION



43,963

WORK DAYS CREATED IN 2018



609

WOMEN SUPPORTED TO BOOST BUSINESS COOPERATIVES



OVER 200,000

PEOPLE READ QUARTERLY PEACEBUILDING SUPPLEMENTS IN NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS

# UNDP IN JORDAN

## BOOSTING RESILIENCE IN A TIME OF STRAIN



UNDP has made supporting the national efforts of the Government of Jordan to manage the refugee crisis a priority since the onset of the crisis in early 2011, which has seen nearly 650,000 refugees register in the country, mostly living outside of camps and spread across all of Jordan including in poorer Governorates and communities. Support for refugees and host communities is also a priority in the UNDP Country Programme 2018-2022 which is focused on addressing the exclusion and marginalisation of the poorest groups in the country.

UNDP provides both policy and operational support. At the policy level UNDP has supported the Government in building its capacity in aid coordination resulting in the creation and monitoring since 2015 of successive Jordan National Response Plans, the strategic partnership mechanism between the Government of Jordan, donors, and UN agencies for the development of a refugee, resilience-strengthening, and development response to the impact of the Syria crisis on Jordan.

The great majority of UNDP's support comes at the operational level by assisting Governorates and municipalities to expand access

to currently over-stretched social services, and to increase livelihood opportunities for vulnerable communities.

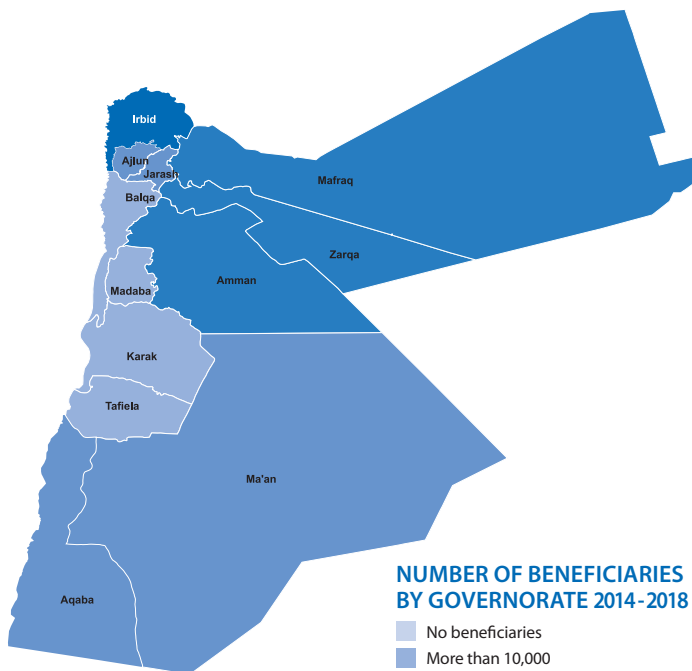
Livelihoods and job creation interventions targeting youth led to sustainable income generation and social improvements for young people through skills exchange programmes with Syrians, micro-business creation, vocational training, and implementation of the 3X6 approach.

In 2018, more than 2.7 million persons benefitted from improved municipal infrastructure and basic services supported by UNDP, including more than 400,000 Syrian refugees.

Women made up more than 65% of all direct beneficiaries under Livelihoods and Employment projects in 2018. Nearly 800 micro-businesses were established. Skills exchange programmes between Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians reached 11,130 individuals, while 22,494 persons were engaged in emergency employment initiatives. Moreover, UNDP enhanced the resilience of host communities in the northern Governorates by promoting sustainable water solutions through a community-driven approach to strengthen water service delivery.

UNDP will continue to target members of marginalized and vulnerable groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, residents of host communities, and refugees, at both national and local levels with a view to ensure no one is left behind.

UNDP has also extended its full support to the Government of Jordan in formulating its National Action



**NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES  
BY GOVERNORATE 2014-2018**

■ No beneficiaries  
■ More than 10,000  
■ More than 30,000  
■ More than 200,000  
■ More than 1,000,000

Plan for the Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) and strengthening national capacity to effectively respond to the impact of the Syria crisis on communities. UNDP activities in support of social cohesion have emphasized the role of women and youth as key actors in sustaining

peace and built on their capacities to enhance cross-community engagement between Jordanians and Syrian refugees. UNDP has additionally supported 50 grassroots organisations in host communities to engage in dialogue, cultural activities and social development.

### 2018 TOP DONORS (USD)

European Union	3.4m
Canada	1.47m
Japan	1.1m
Switzerland	673,000

### FUNDING 2018 (USD)



## 2018 KEY RESULTS UNDP JORDAN



2.7 MILLION

PERSONS BENEFITTING FROM IMPROVED  
MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE  
AND BASIC SERVICES

(Out of which 400,000 are Syrian refugees)



41,000

PERSONS BENEFITTING FROM  
IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS  
AND JOB CREATION



500

YOUTH TRAINED AS STAFF OF YOUTH  
CENTERS, PROVIDING CIVIC AND COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT SERVICES FOR APPROXIMATELY  
530,000 YOUNG PEOPLE



45,363

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES IN SOCIAL  
COHESION ACTIVITIES IN  
HOST COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE  
MATEEN PLATFORM



# UNDP IN TURKEY

## STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE IN TURKEY IN THE RESPONSE TO THE SYRIA CRISIS



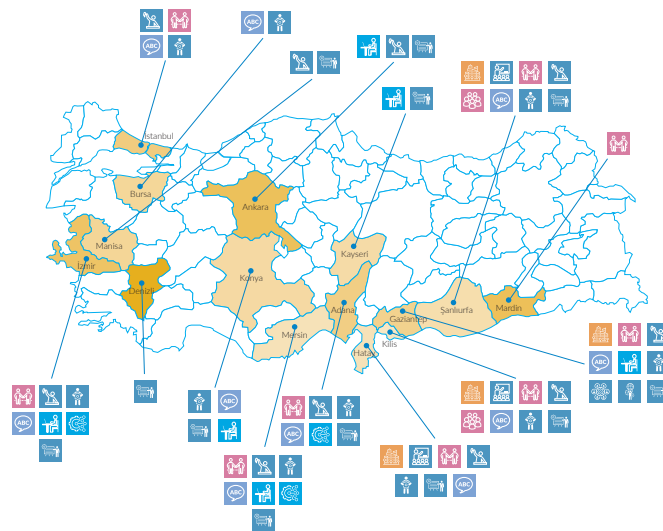
As of February 2019, Turkey hosts over 3.6 million Syrians. Only around five per cent of Syrians live in the 13 official Temporary Accommodation Centres in provinces along the Syrian border, while the remaining 95 per cent reside among the host community in urban, peri-urban and rural areas. The majority of the Syrians under temporary protection live in the Southeast of Turkey. However, substantial populations are also found in large cities of Turkey such as Istanbul, Izmir and Ankara. In Istanbul alone it is estimated that there are over 500,000 refugees, making it the largest refugee-hosting city in Turkey. Turkey thereby hosts the largest refugee population in the world and continues to demonstrate strong national ownership of the response. The Government of Turkey generously allows Syrians to work in Turkey following the adoption of the new Regulation for Work Permit in January 2016 for Syrians under Temporary Protection. As of November, 2018, the number of work permits granted to Syrians is 60,882, including 32,199 to Syrians under Temporary Protection. In addition, it is estimated that around 10,000 business have been established by Syrians in Turkey to date.

Challenges remain however in boosting the livelihoods of Syrian

refugees. The number of Syrians who may be employed in any single business, for example, is limited to 10 per cent of the payroll – and hiring companies are required to pay a fee, albeit reduced, to secure work permits for their Syrian hires. Language barriers also remain a key challenge for Syrians to access available jobs as well as services.

UNHCR and UNDP co-lead the 3RP in Turkey. UNDP Turkey is the lead agency on resilience and amongst others is responsible for the mainstreaming of a resilience-based approach across all six sectors. In 2018, UNDP led several inter-agency processes to conduct in-depth analysis of the collective impact of response on key aspects of resilience: the resulting reports outline that USD 430m were mobilized in 2017 and 2018 to support public institutions to respond to the crisis, that support to municipalities tripled in size in the past two years, and that the 3RP is supporting 27,100 jobs. UNDP leads the Livelihoods Sector and also plays an important role in the Basic Needs and Protection Sector and the coordination with other partners, such as the World Bank and other International Financial Institutions.

In support of the Government and in line with the 3RP Turkey Chapter 2018-2019, UNDP Turkey continues to help strengthen the resilience of refugees, host community members, local municipalities and relevant national and local institutions to cope with and recover from the impact of the large influx. A key aspect of UNDP's resilience-based development approach is to invest in existing national and local systems to ensure they can adequately serve both host



and refugee communities – in that respect UNDP Turkey has established strong partnerships with a wide range of ministries, national and local institutions, including the Ministries of Education, Industry and Technology, and Agriculture and Forestry; the Strategy and Budget Department of the Presidency Office (formerly the Ministry of Development); the Turkish Employment Agency; the Southeastern Anatolia Regional Development Administration (GAP); and with municipalities hosting the largest number of Syrians under Temporary Protection. Specifically,

UNDP Turkey implements its Syria Crisis Response and Resilience Programme. The programme focuses on three major areas, being: 1) livelihoods, job creation and employment and local economic development; 2) municipal service delivery, including waste management, water management and fire-fighting services; and 3) social cohesion, empowerment and protection, including access to legal aid and justice. These activities provide targeted support to both host community members and refugees, reviving hope and ensuring stability and peaceful coexistence.

### 2018 TOP DONORS (USD)

European Union	58.9m
Japan	10.9m
Germany	6.1m
United States	3m

### FUNDING 2019 (USD)



## 2018 KEY RESULTS UNDP TURKEY



470,000

SYRIANS UNDER TEMPORARY PROTECTION  
AND 2 MILLION HOST COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS BENEFITTED FROM  
IMPROVED MUNICIPAL SERVICES



284

TEACHERS TRAINED TO TEACH  
THE TURKISH LANGUAGE TO  
52,000 SYRIANS, HELPING TO OVERCOME  
LANGUAGE BARRIERS AND ACCESS JOBS.



79

SYRIAN-OWNED COMPANIES  
COMPLETED BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT TRAINING



237

JOBS CREATED IN SOUTHEAST  
ANATOLIA THROUGH SUPPORT FOR  
VALUE CHAINS (AGRICULTURE,  
INDUSTRY, CODING)

# UNDP IN EGYPT

## SUPPORTING HOST COMMUNITIES THROUGH A LIVELIHOODS APPROACH



Despite not having a land border with Syria, Egypt has been a destination for refugees from Syria since the crisis broke out; currently there are nearly half a million Syrians living in the country. Refugees in Egypt are living in urban settings, among Egyptian communities, predominately in the Governorates of Giza, Greater Cairo, Alexandria, and Qalyubia. The Government of Egypt and local communities are stretching their capabilities in every means possible to support Syrian refugees, in spite of their own economic challenges during the past few years.

UNDP is providing support in these communities as part of its broader development work across the country. As the lead agency on resilience within the 3RP, UNDP's focus is on mainstreaming resilience into the response so that host communities and refugees alike are better positioned to withstand the new challenges and continue to pursue their development pathways.

In particular, UNDP Egypt has partnered with the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency (MSMEDA), formerly the Egyptian Social Fund for Development (SFD), to roll out a cash-for-work programme which targeted five impacted host communities of Syrian refugees in Alexandria, Menoufia and Sharkia, creating job opportunities in public health awareness and waste management. Funded by the Government of Kuwait, the project created over 160,000 workdays for 664 persons, approximately 72% were women; It helped strengthen the skills of beneficiaries and improved their employment prospects, helped boost local economic development in target areas while improving health and environmental services. More than 12,000 families of Syrian refugees and host communities benefitted from waste management, environmental awareness and health awareness activities as a result of this intervention.

The programme built on UNDP and MSMEDA's successful experience in implementing cash-for-works programmes in the poorest Egyptian villages from 2012 to 2015, creating

913,228 workdays for poor men and women in labor-intensive infrastructure and social services projects. Such programmes have had a dual benefit: on one hand, an effective social protection mechanism that provides emergency jobs for unskilled and semi-skilled workers, and on the other hand, a means of improving community infrastructures such as roads and water networks, and social services such as public health and waste management.

### LOOKING AHEAD

UNDP Egypt is appealing for \$10 million in 2019 and 2020 to step up these efforts to foster the resilience of more host communities and Syrian refugees, through a two-track approach that i) increases the self-reliance of communities and strengthens access to livelihood opportunities and services, and ii) strengthens public capacity for a robust response:

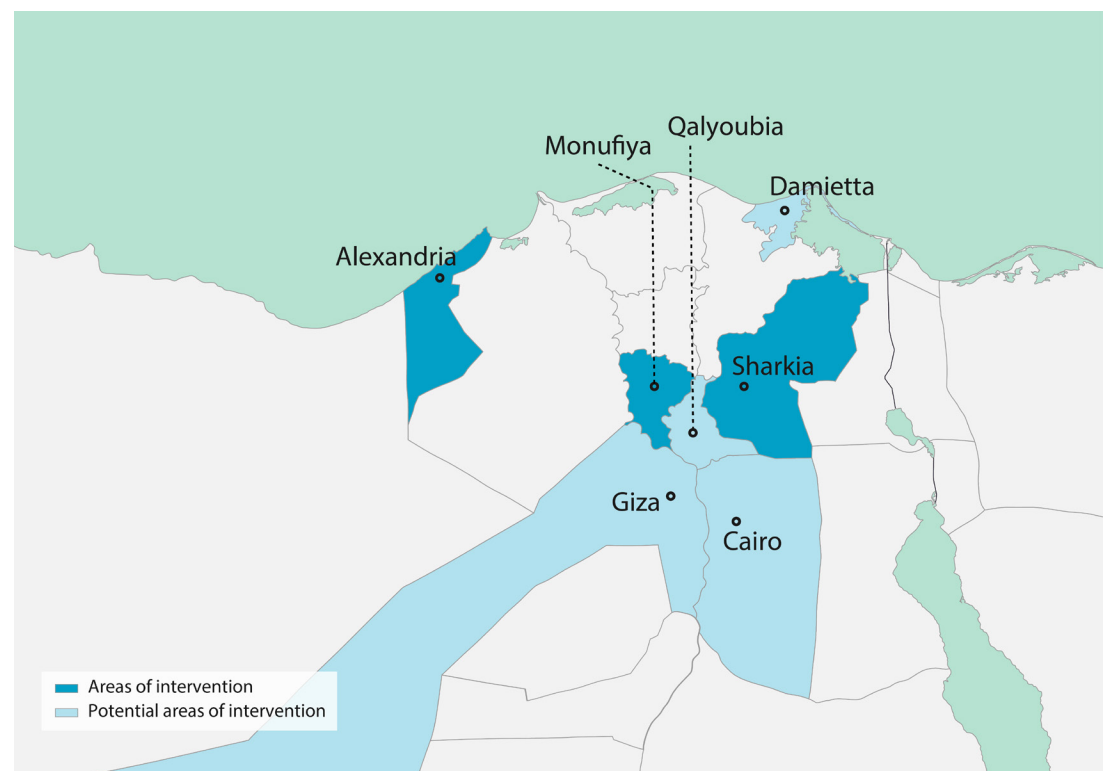
- Strengthening local capacity to design and deliver resilience building interventions—includes building capacities of local

governments to understand the needs and challenges of the local population, optimize and tailor livelihoods support interventions in jobs creation, entrepreneurship support, and business development services

- Increasing self-reliance of vulnerable host and refugee populations while improving access to services and social and economic infrastructure: this component will focus on replicating/upscaling the public works model in other districts with both high level of poverty and Syrian refugee populations, with the aim of creating emergency jobs for unskilled/semi-skilled workers, with a focus on women and youth.

The focus will be on areas with high levels of poverty that have been most affected by the influx of Syrian refugees – including the localities mentioned above as well as Monufiya, Sharkia and Damietta as these Governorates also host numerous registered Syrian refugees.

*“I found it a lifetime opportunity. I applied once I saw an advertisement calling for social workers. I got accepted and received a training for four days. I am currently handling 100 families, both Egyptians and Syrian refugees,” said Samira, a participant in a UNDP-MSMEDA programme.*



# UNDP IN IRAQ

## SUPPORTING IDPs, REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES THROUGH IMPROVED BASIC SERVICES AND ACCESS TO LIVELIHOODS



Amidst on-going multiple socio-economic recovery, political and security challenges, and unresolved root causes to the conflict in Iraq, the country continues to host more than 250,000 Syrian refugees. While much progress has been made in addressing major post-conflict concerns since the success of the Iraqi forces over ISIL in December 2017, host communities continue to experience scarcity of resources and a myriad of social challenges, often intensified by the presence of IDPs and refugees.

As of December 2018, an estimated 4.1 million internally displaced Iraqis had returned or resettled, while an additional 1.8 million people remain displaced. Today, poverty remains particularly high in areas formerly occupied by ISIL (22-44% on average) and unemployment disproportionately affects young people (36% compared with a national rate of 16%) – an especially striking statistic in a country with the median age of 20.

In this context, UNDP has two major programmes to support stabilization and foster resilience among the most affected communities in Iraq.

At the request of the Government of Iraq, UNDP established the Funding Facility for Stabilization (FFS) in June 2015 to facilitate the return of displaced Iraqis, laying the groundwork for reconstruction and recovery, and to safeguard against the resurgence of violence.

Under extremely challenging circumstances, and in close partnership with the national authorities, FFS has undertaken the restoration of vital community infrastructure, such as schools, medical facilities, water treatment plants, electricity supply lines, roads and bridges, and provided a crucial injection of emergency livelihood support to returnees, to enable them to meet their basic needs.

FFS has also proven a key contribution to reconstruction, peacebuilding and attainment of the SDGs in Iraq. More than four million of the country's nearly six million displaced have returned to the areas covered by the FFS.

To date, as result of FFS in Iraq, 502,000 young people have better access to education, 780,000 million have better access to healthcare, 1.2 million have

access to improved water supply and 1.6 million have better access to electricity supplies. In addition, some 28,000 Iraqis have benefited from support to livelihoods and over 100,000 people have improved housing.

As of January 2019, of the 3,122 projects in the FFS portfolio, 1,737 projects have been completed, 751 are under construction and 634 remain unfunded. Looking ahead, FFS is prioritising locations with the most severe return conditions, including Mosul, Western Nineweh, Western Anbar, the Baiji-Hatra corridor, and Hawija. An additional USD 335 million is urgently needed in 2019 to complete the prioritised stabilisation tasks.

In the regions of Iraq particularly impacted by the on-going Syria crisis, most notably the KRI, UNDP had in 2014 developed the Iraq Crisis Response and Resilience Programme (ICRRP) to support recovery and resilience. ICRRP complements

life-saving and shorter-term stabilization efforts – such as FFS – through a medium-term integrated package of support; specifically focusing on 1) crisis response coordination and management, 2) access to basic services, 3) support for improved livelihood opportunities, 4) protection of vulnerable communities, and 5) promotion of social cohesion and community reconciliation.

In 2019 and 2020, the Programme will require an estimated \$61.5M to scale-up its support for IDPs, Syrian refugees, and host community members, while steadily expanding its support to returnees in the liberated areas, with a view to provide support 'going beyond' the stabilization phase.

UNDP's current Country Programme in Iraq also includes several other initiatives to support post-ISIL Iraq, focused on institutional reform, devolution of administrative and fiscal powers, anti-corruption, disaster preparedness and reconciliation.

### IRAQ CRISIS RESPONSE AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMME

#### 2018 KEY RESULTS

Over **1,100** households comprising refugees, IDPs and host community members benefitted from **sustainable livelihood support**.

Over **1,150** households supported through **emergency livelihood opportunities**.

Over **1 million** individuals comprising host communities, refugees and IDPs have benefitted from **improved access to safe housing, water, electricity, health services, education and improved roads**.

Over **450** youth and university students (273 women) engaged in **peace-education capacity building**; the first-ever **Arabic-language peace lexicon** developed.

82 members of the Kurdistan Joint Crisis Coordination Centre trained in areas related to **crisis response** and project management to better enable an **institutional response**.



#### 2018 TOP DONORS (USD)\*

Japan \$10m  
Germany \$6.39m  
Austria \$1.14m  
France \$570,000

#### 2019 FUNDING (USD)\*

Delivery Target \$200m  
Funding received \$138.5m  
Funding gap \$61.5m

\* Based on exchange rate at time of tabulation.

### FUNDING FACILITY FOR STABILIZATION 2018 KEY RESULTS



- 13 projects undertaken to improve access to **water** in liberated areas
- 34 projects undertaken to improve access to **electricity** in liberated areas
- 29 projects undertaken to restore access to **health** services in liberated areas
- 158 projects undertaken to enable students' return to studies in liberated areas
- 7 projects undertaken to rehabilitate **roads and bridges** in liberated areas
- 12 projects undertaken to rehabilitate **sewerage infrastructure** in liberated areas
- 1,783 **housing** units rehabilitated in liberated areas
- 57 projects undertaken to support **municipalities** to return to work in liberated areas
- 1,427 immediate **livelihood opportunities** created for returnees in liberated areas

#### 2018 TOP DONORS (USD)\*

United States of America \$143m  
Germany \$96.1m  
Netherlands \$23.3m  
Australia \$14.5m  
United Kingdom \$14.3m

#### FUNDING 2019 (USD)\*

Delivery Target \$1.38bn  
Funding Received and Hard Pledges \$1.05bn  
Funding Gap \$335.5m

\* Based on exchange rate at time of tabulation.



**United Nations Development Programme**  
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