

3RP

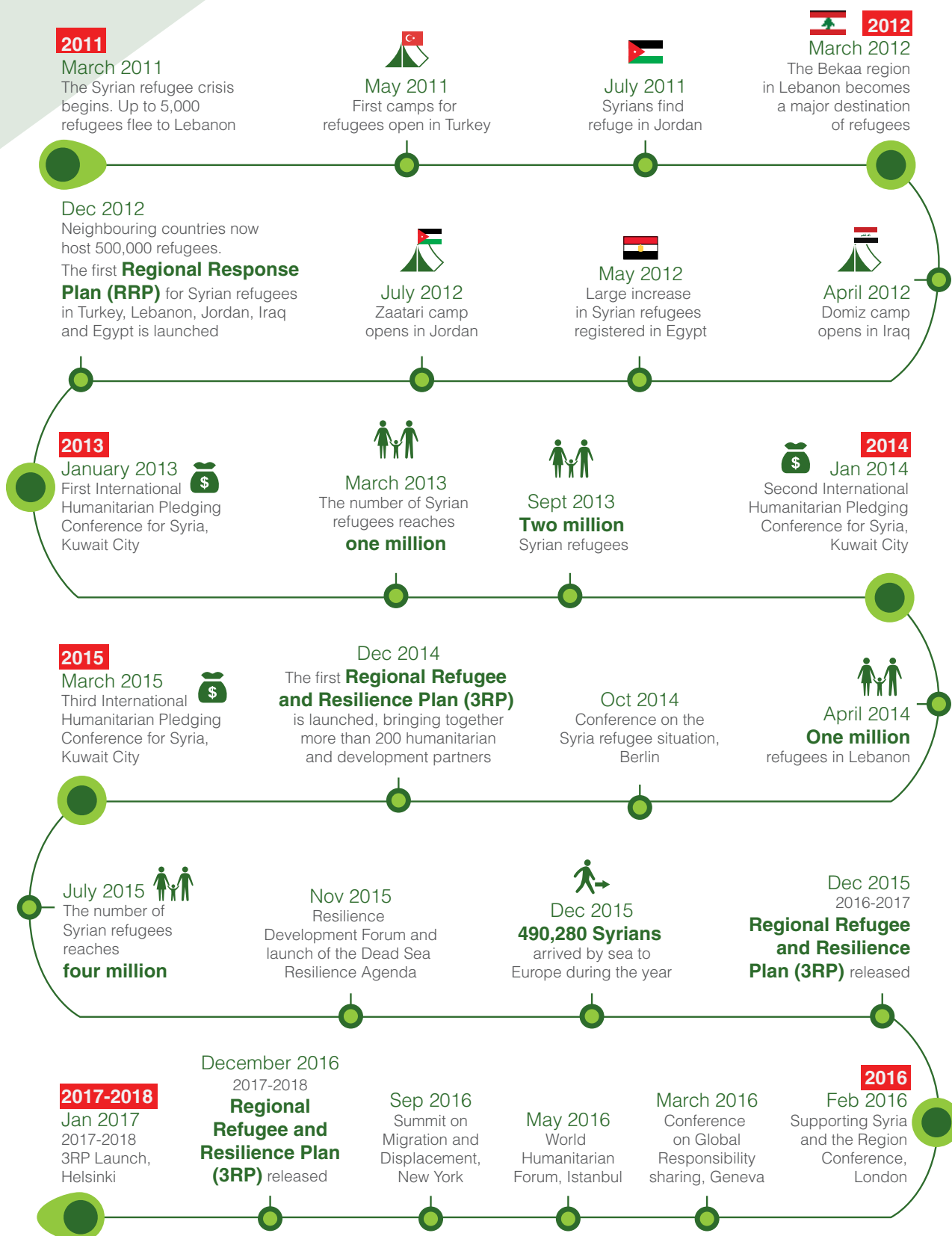
REGIONAL
REFUGEE &
RESILIENCE
PLAN 2017 - 2018

IN RESPONSE TO THE SYRIA CRISIS



Regional Strategic Overview

SYRIA REFUGEE TIMELINE



FOREWORD

The conflict in Syria continues to produce the gravest displacement crisis in the world today; generating dramatic levels of suffering, and shattering the lives of many Syrian people - along with their hopes and dreams. The social fabric of the country has drastically weakened, as have levels of trust among its people. Sadly, the impact of the conflict has rolled back hard-won development gains and compromised prospects for stability, peace and prosperity for future generations in the country and across the region. Despite unparalleled generosity demonstrated by host countries and donors at large, the resources of many Syrian refugee families are long exhausted.

A crisis of such proportions, complexity, and duration calls for a response of an unprecedented scale and nature. The Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), now entering its third year, combines a humanitarian response focused on alleviating the suffering of the most vulnerable, addressing basic needs and preventing large numbers of refugees from falling deeper into poverty, with longer term interventions bolstering the resilience of refugee and host communities, while also capacitating national systems. The 3RP has mobilized the combined knowledge, efforts and resources of five states, more than 200 partner agencies, and an increasing number of donors.

Partners are not only responding to the most critical needs on a daily basis, but are also engaged in a dynamic process of constant adaptation, bringing the different facets of assistance to Syrian refugees and host communities into an increasingly coherent and effective framework linking humanitarian and resilience-building actions.

Significant progress has been achieved in this direction over the past two years. Governments have reaffirmed their leadership of the response, managing coordination and planning as nationally-owned processes. Humanitarian and development institutional and financing silos are beginning to break down with the emergence of innovative multi-year financing mechanisms. The private sector is progressively bringing its experience and resources to bear on the response. And not least, 3RP stakeholders are developing innovative best practices in both coordination and programming, ranging from biometric registration and cash programming to resilience-based approaches.

The impact of the 3RP has also been felt far beyond the borders of the region. Since the launch of the *Dead Sea Resilience Agenda* at the *Resilience Development Forum* in November 2015, which called for changes in the way the Syria crisis is dealt with, the global policy and aid environment has evolved rapidly, stimulated by several important events, including the “*Supporting Syria and the Region Conference*” in London in February 2016, the *High Level Meeting on global responsibility sharing through pathways for admission of Syrian refugees* in Geneva in March 2016, the *World Humanitarian Summit (WHS)* in Istanbul in May 2016, and the *United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants* held in New York in September 2016. The London Conference, in particular, has stimulated a broad range of measures to address jobs, education, host community support and other elements - including through innovative instruments such as the Jordan Compact, which bundles trade, humanitarian aid and development support.

While peace in Syria remains the only solution to this protracted crisis, the 3RP response model in the neighbouring countries aims to preserve human capital and critical assets within the displaced Syrian population to foster stability and restore hope. This promise, however, can only be translated into reality through renewed international solidarity with Syrian people and the neighbouring countries. This 3RP offers a platform for all partners to contribute to this vital endeavour.

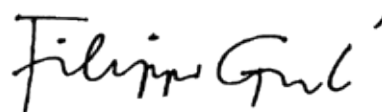
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INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

The Syria crisis has displaced 4.81 million Syrian refugees into the Republic of Turkey, the Lebanese Republic, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Iraq and the Arab Republic of Egypt, and there are an estimated 6.1 million internally displaced people within Syria. Turkey hosts more refugees than any other country – some 2.76 million, accounting for around 3.5 per cent of the population of Turkey. In Lebanon, the one million registered Syrian refugees are equivalent to over 20 per cent of the population, and the 655,000 registered Syrian refugees in Jordan is equivalent to nearly 9 per cent of the population. Iraq hosts nearly 230,000 Syrian refugees, as well as 3.2 million internally displaced Iraqis. Egypt hosts around 115,000 Syrian refugees along with refugees from many other countries.

During 2016, the number of registered Syrian refugees protected by these five countries has increased by almost 200,000 to stand at 4.81 million at the end of November.

Despite the ongoing conflict inside Syria which continues to generate displacement, large-scale new arrivals to the refugee hosting countries are not anticipated during 2017 given increasingly managed admission policies. The refugee planning figure of 4.7 million Syrian refugees in the region by the end of 2017 reflects: limited new arrivals as well as new registrations; births and marriages; and changes occurring as a result of departures from host states including through resettlement and other forms of admission to third countries.

Refugees from Syria are losing hope that a political solution will soon be found to end the bloodshed in their homeland, and yet struggle to meet their basic needs in countries of asylum in the region.

Refugees are living primarily in urban, peri-urban and rural areas, with only

a minority – some 10 per cent – living in camps. However, despite this geographic integration, refugees face extremely high rates of poverty – 93 per cent of Syrian refugees living outside of camps in Jordan are living below the poverty line, more than 70 per cent of refugees are below the poverty line in Lebanon, 65 per cent in Egypt, and 37 per cent in Iraq. While refugees and host nationals have a similar labour force participation rates, the unemployment rates for refugees are far higher than host nationals given the existing policies.

Weak economic growth, stressed public finances and export disruption have long been major challenges facing these economies, in some cases threatening development gains. In the case of Lebanon, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has fallen by more than 50 per cent since the beginning of the crisis. An average economic growth during 2010-2014 in per capita terms was below one per cent in Jordan and Lebanon and negative in Egypt. In Jordan and Iraq, the additional population pressure has taxed both public infrastructure (e.g. roads, health, water) and private infrastructure (e.g. housing), with the government facing significant pressure to maintain the quality of services and infrastructure. The loss of trade opportunities has dramatically impacted agricultural exports from Lebanon, which account for nearly 15 per cent of exports; Lebanon relies on ground transport through Syria to access markets in Jordan and the Gulf that account for some 60 per cent of these exports.

Over the past year, a number of far-reaching events¹ have accelerated calls for profound changes in the way humanitarian crises are responded to, with a particular focus on Syria. The centrality of using and supporting national systems and local responders is now widely accepted; funding architecture is progressively shifting towards multi-year predictable funding;

commitments were made to mobilize the necessary financial resources and domestic political support to create up to 1.1 million jobs by 2018; and private sector actors have signalled their willingness to provide new investment.

The 3RP 2017-2018 was prepared in response to this evolving policy landscape, reinforced by a global commitment to invest in resilience in countries neighbouring Syria. The 3RP continues to be a nationally-led process, incorporating in full the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) and Jordan Response Plan (JRP) and the Turkey, Iraq and Egypt country chapters that have been developed with the full involvement of the respective governments.

Regionally, more than 240 Partners working through the 2017-2018 3RP framework, either appealing directly for funding, as partners of appealing agencies, or as part of the broader platform of policy, advocacy and delivery. Partners include government authorities in host countries, United Nations agencies, non-government organizations, donor governments, the private sector, charities and foundations.

In 2017, United Nations and NGO partners are appealing for USD 4.69 billion to support national plans. Of this, USD 2.62 billion (56 per cent) is to address protection and assistance needs within the Refugee Component and USD 2.07 billion (44 per cent) is in support of the Resilience Component, including investments in livelihoods and other support to national knowledge, capacities and systems.

3RP partners strive to address the needs of the most vulnerable through effective humanitarian and resilience-based interventions, while building a more sustainable response. Efficiencies include the use of biometrics for refugee registration, increased use of cash-based interventions for food and other

¹ Including the Dead Sea Resilience Development Forum in November 2015, the London Supporting Syria and the Region Conference in February 2016, the High-level meeting on global responsibility sharing through pathways for admission of Syrian Refugees in March 2016, the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) in Istanbul in May 2016 and the UN Migration Summit in New York in September 2016.

basic needs assistance, integrated education, protection and youth services, and a focus on service delivery through local and municipal systems to reduce duplication and build national capacities.

At the London Conference donors pledged more funds than ever before, and made the first major multi-year commitments at a pledging conference for the Syria crisis response (both the 3RP and the Humanitarian Response Plan for inside Syria). Pledges totalled USD 6 billion for 2016 and a further USD 6.1 billion for 2017-2020.² In addition,

the Conference brought an important number of new development partners (International Financial Institutions, development funds and agencies), representing an unprecedented shift in international responses to a protracted crisis. In 2016, the total funding provided by donors is USD 2.54 billion toward the 3RP (56 per cent) as at 30 November.

3RP Partners continue to emphasize the importance of predictable, longer-term funding, and as such the 3RP is now a fully costed, two-year plan across the region.

This Regional Strategic Overview outlines the key parameters and guiding principles of this integrated approach, summarizes the nationally-led plan in each country, provides a regional overview of each sector response, and highlights key areas of focus for the 3RP in 2016 including: protection; meeting the basic needs of refugees and other affected people; building on the Dead Sea Resilience Agenda; livelihoods and job opportunities; the No Lost Generation initiative; innovation; new partnerships; and leadership and accountability.



Egypt/UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

² For full details of the pledges, see www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/co-hosts-statement-annex-fundraising/.

2017-18 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

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