



SITUATION

It has been seven years and the conflict in Syria continues — devastating, displacing, and destroying lives and forcing millions to flee from their homes. Despite the generous response and support that has been provided by host countries, international and national NGO'S, faith-based organizations, and many others, most Syrian displaced and refugee families remain vulnerable. Refugees and displaced Syrian families live below the poverty line, struggle to meet basic needs, have limited access to legal/social protection and income- generating opportunities. This not only impacts their basic survival but also their ability to cope, to heal and re-build their lives with dignity. Ongoing violence in many parts of Syria continues to lead to large-scale displacement. While no large influxes of Syrian refugees across borders have been witnessed, an additional 570,000 Syrian refugees across the region have been registered in 2017 increasing the number of registered refugees from 4.8 million to 5.3 million (*3RP-Regional Overview 2018-2019*). The critical response for the refugee situation continues to fall primarily on the neighbouring countries in the region- mainly- Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey—that host the largest numbers of registered refugees per capita in the world. In Lebanon, one in five people is a refugee, while one in 15 is a refugee in Jordan, further exacerbating the already vulnerable and fragile context of the host community population. In Syria, economic contraction has left the population bereft and destitute. The destruction and disrepair of key social and civilian infrastructure marks the unravelling of essential public services, negatively impacting every aspect of daily life. The ability of the Syrian people to cope with the effects of the conflict is nearly exhausted. A multifaceted range of interventions, from emergency aid to humanitarian aid to longer-term assistance is still needed for those affected by the humanitarian crisis. Nearly half of those affected by the crisis are children and adolescents who are deprived of basic needs such as protection and education. The Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Syrian refugee populations are in critical need of access to the most essential basic services and to an income that allows them to meet their basic needs. It is essential that the response continues to offer humanitarian assistance to ensure IDPs in Syria and refugees in Jordan and Lebanon to receive the support that they desperately need.

NEEDS

The living situation for Syrian refugees across the region continues to be exceedingly challenging. Many of the refugees have now been in the host country for four or more years - are struggling to make ends meet, are increasingly vulnerable and face extremely high rates of poverty. The percentage of the Syrian population in Syria living in extreme poverty (less than US\$2 per day) increased from 33.6 percent pre-crisis to approximately 69 percent today (*Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), Syria 2018*). Joint with an increase in the cost of living, this has led to a severe reduction in people’s purchasing power. 80 percent of Syrian refugees living outside of camps in Jordan are living below the poverty line and more than 76 percent of Syrian refugees are below the poverty line in Lebanon and are severely vulnerable (*3RP Regional Review 2018-19*) The affected persons will continue to face great difficulty in accessing and affording the most basic needs to live a life with dignity. This is exacerbated by the limited livelihoods opportunities, depleting household assets and exhausted savings, and the adoption of negative coping mechanisms. These challenges are compounded by the lack of safe and adequate food, shelter, education, health and WASH services. Along with the physical and material needs, affected persons have faced tragedies, severe suffering and uncertainty. The need to provide protection and psychosocial support with the focus on rebuilding lives remains an essential need.

ACT members in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon have been responding to the crisis since 2012 and are well- aware of the needs and well-prepared to respond to the following needs:

- Shelter / NFIs
- Food Security
- Health- treatment of chronic diseases and support to persons with disabilities will also be considered.

- Protection/Psychosocial
- WASH
- Education
- Early recovery / Livelihoods
- Social Cohesion
- Multi-purpose cash

Female-headed households, out-of-school children and persons with disabilities, require special attention as lack of proper assistance and care may make them more vulnerable than others. ACT members responding to this crisis are giving special attention to them and will ensure that the programs and activities are inclusive and appropriate for the highly vulnerable persons.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National government	The governments of Lebanon and Jordan are both responding to the Syrian humanitarian crisis and have national plans (Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2017-2020, The Jordan Response plan for the Syria Crisis 2016-2019). The national plans feed into the 3RP- Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan for 2018-2019. In Jordan the Ministry of Interior (MoI) is responsible for all refugee related issues. The Minister of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) approves humanitarian assistance projects in coordination with relevant line ministries. In Lebanon, the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), MoI and the Ministry of Labour (MoL), play an active role in the response to the refugee crisis. Humanitarian response within Syria is primarily delivered through the Syrian Arab Red Crescent Society (SARC) with its 14 governorate branches, 80 sub-branches and network of volunteers. The government of Syria facilitates the sporadic delivery of humanitarian aid mostly, but not exclusively, to government-held areas, through the Ministry of Local Affairs High Relief Committee, which issues authorisations for humanitarian organisations to work inside Syria.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UN Agencies	UNHCR, World Food Programme (WFP), the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA)the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UN Women, and the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) are responding inside Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INGOs	All the major INGOs are responding to the Syria humanitarian crisis. The Lebanon Humanitarian INGO forum has 42 members, the Jordan INGO forum has 58 members. The Syria INGO regional forum (SIRF) based out of Amman, Jordan was set up in 2013 to give voice to INGOs conducting humanitarian responses in the Syria region.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Cross Red Crescent Movement	The ICRC is helping people both inside Syria, who are facing extremely difficult conditions because of the conflict, and the hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon. In cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), the ICRC are distributing food and other essentials, restoring water supplies, and supporting medical services.

☒	National NGOs	In Syria, there are approximately 120 national NGOs partnering with the UN in delivering assistance across six (6) hubs in Damascus, Homs, Tartous, Aleppo, Qamishli and As-Sweida. In both Jordan and Lebanon, there are numerous national NGOs that are responding to the needs of the Syrian refugees along with their support to local communities.
☒	Civil society groups	Between 2011 and 2017 alone, the number of founded Syrian Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) increased by approximately 700. Civil society groups are active through the Regional Syria Hub initiative which has been supporting Syrians and civil society organizations. Social media is active and used for many online campaigns to voice the needs and support of Syrian affected persons across the world. In addition to this, there are numerous community based organizations active in both Jordan and Lebanon.
☒	Faith based groups	Faith based organizations have been remarkably active in responding to the Syria humanitarian crisis. Faith based leaders have called for the safety and protection of Syrians and an end to the conflict. Local churches and mosques not only provide the humanitarian needs but are also well informed of the situation and humanitarian needs. Faith based organizations have access and trust to reach the most vulnerable populations.
☒	Host communities	The Syrian conflict has generated massive protracted displacement of over four million refugees, the majority of whom reside in non-camp and/or urban settings in countries such as Lebanon and Jordan. The high number of refugees in both Jordan and Lebanon, is contributing to a situation of rapid, unsustainable urbanisation in an already vulnerable and fragile context. Rising social tensions between communities have the potential to generate secondary conflict in host countries. With economic competition, access to basic goods and services and livelihood opportunities are also influenced by social tensions. To mitigate such tensions, the Jordan government mandates that 30% of all aid for Syrian refugees is to be provided to help vulnerable Jordanian populations, and 20% in Lebanon. Despite these measures, the influx of refugees still has changed the social fabric in both countries and more measures need to be incorporated into humanitarian programming for social cohesion.
☒	Affected communities	Despite efforts and resources expended, the living conditions of refugee populations remain challenging. Major social, economic and status challenges directly affecting the lives of Syrian refugees significantly increase their vulnerability. In addition to refugees, IDPs themselves – are struggling to adjust to long-term social, economic and demographic shifts and pressures associated with displacement.

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA). With UNHCR's support in Jordan there is an Inter-Sector/Cluster Working Group (ISCWG), along with 8 sector working groups. UNOCHA Lebanon supports an effective humanitarian response within the context of the Syrian crisis, and in line with the Crisis Response Plan in Lebanon. In Lebanon, there are 13 sector working groups. UNOCHA Syria supports the Syria coordination structures including eight sectors and two clusters, sub-sectors, inter-

sector coordination mechanism and the Syria Humanitarian Country Team under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated, complementary, efficient and timely the ACT Members will continue to participate in sector related cluster meetings, as well as the national and regional INGO forums.

ACT Alliance

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance has been responding to the Syria crisis since 2012, and continues to help people affected by the crisis.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance continues to monitor the situation and is prepared to conduct an assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities, in order to provide the best possible response.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ACT forum are preparing ACT appeal (SYR181) – follow on response to provide shelter, critical health care, WASH and hygiene needs, education, safe and adequate food, livelihood activities, protection/psychosocial support, and cash assistance to approximately 400,000 affected persons in the coming months.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org), and Senior Finance Officer Lorenzo Correa (Lorenzo.Correa@actalliance.org)

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