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## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Despite the ongoing violence that continued to engulf the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria), UNHCR was able to mount a large-scale humanitarian operation inside the country that reached some 3.4 million internally displaced people (IDPs) across all 14 governorates. Often operating in dangerous conditions, UNHCR staff delivered assistance and core relief items (CRIs) to needy populations in both government and oppositioncontrolled areas, across front lines and in hard-to-reach areas. UNHCR also provided winterization support to more than a million people.
- The number of Syrian refugees in the countries neighbouring Syria went beyond 2.4 million by the end of 2013, an increase of 320 per cent since the end of 2012. As the coordinator of the Syria Regional Response Plan, UNHCR worked alongside governments and more than 150 other partners, including NGOs and other organizations, in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Protection and assistance were delivered to Syrian refugees in both camps and urban areas through registration, cashassistance programmes and CRI supplies. Palestinian refugees in Syria and those living in countries not covered by UNRWA's mandate (Egypt and Irag) were also assisted. Yemen was host to more than 241,000 refugees, mostly Somalis, in 2013. The country also held more than 306,000 IDPs. With

- the support of IOM and UNHCR, the Yemeni Government hosted a regional conference on asylum and migration that adopted the Sana'a Declaration on mixed migration and created a mechanism for future regional collaboration.
- UNHCR delivered much-needed assistance to some 66,000 Malian refugees in Mbera Camp, located in a remote area in the south of Mauritania. Those assisted included more than 31,000 refugees who arrived in Mauritania in 2013. UNHCR also issued travel documents to some 2,000 refugees who returned spontaneously to Mali during the second half of the year.
- Mixed-migratory movements were seen in the Middle East and North Africa region throughout 2013. While the Sinai route was curtailed during the year, the flow of refugees, asylum-seekers and economic migrants through Yemen and Libya continued. In Tunisia, UNHCR and the Tunisian Red Crescent provided emergency assistance to 600 survivors of boat tragedies, some 200 of whom were asylum-seekers.
- Significant progress was achieved in 2013 in resettling refugees from the Shousha and Salloum camps at the Libyan border with Tunisia and Egypt, respectively. By mid-2013, UNHCR had closed Shousha Camp.

## | Working environment |

The pace and scale of refugee flows from Syria into neighbouring States, as well as to countries in the North Africa subregion, overwhelmed the social and economic infrastructure of host countries. At the same time, enormous humanitarian needs continued to grow within Syria, where it was estimated that, by the end of the year, more than 9 million people were in need of assistance.

The working environment in North Africa was no less challenging. With the number of Syrian refugees in the subregion increasing significantly in 2013, additional pressure was brought to bear on UNHCR operations, particularly in Egypt and Libya. In addition, more than 31,000 Malian refugees arrived in Mauritania in 2013 as a result of continuing insecurity in Mali.

The outflows of people attempting to reach Europe by sea increased drastically,

particularly from Libya, with more than 27,300 departing in 2013. Some, including Syrians, lost their lives during the perilous journey across the Mediterranean. However, 2013 witnessed positive developments too, such as Morocco's acceptance to provide asylum to UNHCR-recognized refugees and to issue them with residence permits.

# | Working with others |

UNHCR worked in close coordination with partners in five countries, namely Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, on the Syria Regional Response Plan for refugees fleeing the conflict and affected host communities. The plan identified the need to prepare for a figure of 4.1 million Syrian refugees and 2.7 million people in affected host communities in 2014. It included strategies for UNHCR to work with more than 150 national and international partners.

# Achievements and impact

- More than 2.4 million Syrian refugees were registered by UNHCR in the countries neighbouring Syria by the end of the year. The host governments estimated the total number of Syrians, including unregistered refugees, to be around three million. In addition, more than 31,000 Syrians have sought asylum in some 90 countries outside the region.
- In the countries neighbouring Syria, UNHCR coordinated the delivery of food vouchers or cash assistance to some 2.3 million refugees and host community members. In addition, more than 144,000 tents and other temporary and emergency shelters were distributed, while around 840,000 people benefitted from shelter assistance and housing rehabilitation. Working closely with the host countries and partner organizations to avoid a lost generation, UNHCR provided around 359,000 children with educational supplies, grants and other forms of support to make sure they attended school, and facilitated the vaccination of some 1.5 million refugees against polio and measles.
- In October, the High Commissioner convened a High-Level Segment on Solidarity and Burden Sharing at UNHCR's annual Executive Committee meeting to ensure continued attention to

#### 2013-2014 SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE PLAN

As the conflict in Syria has grown, so has the inter-agency humanitarian response. The 2013 Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP5) was the result of the combined efforts of over 100 local and international partners, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies, across five countries: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. This planning process was led by UNHCR at country level, as well as regionally in respect of the overarching principles and priorities of the response. It included close collaboration with governments, as well as consistency with the Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan (SHARP) which addressed the needs of Syrians remaining within their country.

The inter-agency requirements presented in the 2013 Syria RRP amounted to USD 3 billion. It was funded at the unprecedented level of 71 per cent by the end of the year, resulting in substantial coverage of protection and basic needs for Syrian refugees in the region, including during the region's coldest winter in decades.

Building on UNHCR's strengthened coordination capacity at country level and

regional refugee coordination office in Amman, the planning process for the 2014 Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP6) in late 2013, with over 150 partners and all concerned national governments, yielded clear strategic priorities. The goal was to ensure cost-efficiency, impact and effectiveness, as well as accountability towards both refugees and donors.

Owing to the scale of the Syrian refugee crisis, and its unprecedented burden on host countries and communities, an important aspect of the RRP6 was to focus on strengthening local service delivery and resilience, thereby promoting social cohesion and enhancing refugees' and host populations' protection. With the likelihood of the refugee crisis becoming protracted, RRP6 also integrated the first building blocks of a longer-term development approach, upon which stabilization processes in the region will depend. The inter-agency requirements presented in the 2014 Syria RRP amount to USD 4.2 billion - the largest ever humanitarian appeal. This amount includes USD 1.35 billion for UNHCR's activities.



the heavy costs borne by the countries hosting Syrian refugees and secure international commitments to share some of the burden.

- Inside Syria, almost 3.4 million individuals were supplied with CRIs in the course of 2013. In addition, nearly 208,000 IDPs and refugees received cash assistance, 173,600 benefitted from protection activities and more than 991,000 were provided with health care. However, the humanitarian needs remained far greater than could be addressed by the assistance provided.
- UNHCR strengthened its partnership with the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC). Council members pledged unprecedented support for UNHCR's activities related to the Syria situation and other operations around the globe. Kuwait hosted the first Syria Humanitarian Pledging Conference in January 2013, which resulted in commitments of more than USD 1.5 billion by donor countries.
- At the end of 2013, Yemen hosted some 241,000 refugees, mostly Somali nationals, and received more than 65,000 new arrivals from the Horn of Africa. The total number of IDPs in the country rose above the 306,000 mark by the end of the year. UNHCR worked closely with the authorities to assist refugees and implement the recently-adopted national IDP policy. To address the challenges arising from the mixed-migration and refugee flows, the Government of Yemen, supported by IOM and UNHCR, hosted a Regional Conference on Asylum and Migration in November 2013.
- In Iraq, UNHCR helped the Government to end the prolonged displacement of some 950,000 IDPs. The focus here was on the sustainability of returns, brought about by greater attention

to self-reliance, community-based activities and capacity building among local NGOs. Interventions in settlements focused on shelter reconstruction/rehabilitation, livelihoods, basic services and education. A community-based approach reinforced the coexistence of displaced people and their host communities.

- Libya counted some 53,000 IDPs at the end of the year. UNHCR conducted protection monitoring at IDP sites, promoted the physical safety of IDPs and supported their access to basic services, including health care and education.
- In Mauritania, 66,400 Malian refugees were living in Mbera Camp as of December 2013. UNHCR and the authorities worked closely on a biometric registration programme for the refugees, in order to direct assistance towards the most vulnerable and prevent cases of fraud or double registration. The programme is expected to be completed in 2014.
- UNHCR welcomed the growing interest among States in developing national asylum systems. In Morocco, the issuance of a new national migration and asylum policy led to the reopening of the Bureau des réfugiés et des apatrides and the provision of residence permits to UNHCR-recognized refugees. In Tunisia, the organization worked closely with the Ministry of Justice on a draft asylum law. UNHCR provided expertise and advice and conducted workshops and seminars for Tunisian government officials, lawyers and magistrates. In other countries, including in Algeria, Egypt and Libya, UNHCR significantly reduced the refugee status determination (RSD) backlog.
- Durable and innovative solutions, including resettlement, were made available for refugees in the region. In 2013, almost 6,000 Iraqi refugees and 1,250 Syrian nationals were submitted



---- Undetermined boundaries

#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In 2013, UNHCR's initial Executive Committee-approved budget for operations in the Middle East and North Africa region was USD 593 million; by the end of the year, UNHCR's overall financial requirements for the region stood at USD 1.6 billion Contributions for the region reached unprecedented levels throughout 2013, rising to over USD 1 billion by the end of the year.

Despite such generous donor support, the needs still remained greater than the means available to address them. As a result, quick-impact projects and outreach activities could not be implemented as planned, and coordination with local communities in response to new arrivals was hampered. The sectors affected by the funding shortfall included water, education, health and sanitation and the distribution of non-food items. The priority given to the Syria situation cut into funds available for operations in Algeria, Egypt and Libya.

for resettlement, while another 4,300 Syrians were submitted for humanitarian admission, thanks to a special programme launched by Germany. By the end of 2013, more than 3,500 refugees across the region, originating from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan had been resettled as part of the Global Resettlement Solidarity Initiative. Shousha Camp in Tunisia was closed at the end of June and the remaining refugees were transferred to urban areas and provided with financial assistance and vocational training.

• In the context of the Western Sahara refugee situation, UNHCR continued with the family-visit flights under its Confidence Building Measures (CBM) programme for refugees in the camps near Tindouf in Algeria and their relatives in Western Sahara, linking families separated for almost 40 years. Some 20,000 individuals have benefitted from these visits since 2004, including some 2,800 in 2013. UNHCR also conducted two cultural seminars for 75 beneficiaries in the Portuguese Azores Islands, with the participation of refugees from the camps and Saharawi people from the Territory, as well as delegations from the Government of Morocco and the Frente Polisario. In addition, UNHCR

held two coordination meetings in Geneva on the implementation and planning for its CBM programme, that brought the two parties together (Morocco and the *Frente Polisario*) and the neighbouring countries (Algeria and Mauritania) as observers.

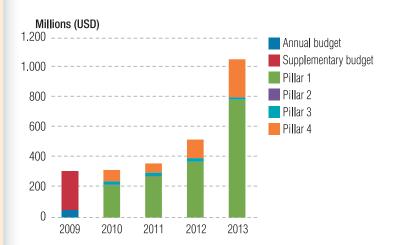
### | Constraints |

Difficult security conditions, coupled with political unrest, in many parts of the Middle East and North Africa region remained a major challenge throughout the year. Inside Syria, the deteriorating security situation severely restricted humanitarian access to the displaced populations. Complex humanitarian and security conditions also prevailed in other parts of the region, particularly Libya and Yemen.

Other constraints in the region included the unpredictability of displacement crises, a lack of solutions for protracted refugee situations, difficulties in targeting assistance to people of concern in urban areas, and mixed-migration flows.

Despite some progress in North Africa in the development of national asylum systems, protection space for refugees and asylum-seekers in the MENA region remained limited.

#### **EXPENDITURE IN MENA** | 2009-2013



# BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA | USD

Operation		Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 3 Reintegration projects	Pillar 4 IDP projects	Total
NORTH AFRICA						
Algeria	Budget	28,170,158	0	0	0	28,170,158
	Expenditure	15,088,547	0	0	0	15,088,547
Egypt Regional Office	Budget	62,946,148	102,472	0	0	63,048,620
	Expenditure	37,567,010	83,502	0	0	37,650,512
Libya	Budget	13,346,745	2,162,516	0	2,790,418	18,299,680
	Expenditure	6,091,071	315,749	0	313,536	6,720,356
Mauritania	Budget	30,181,042	0	0	0	30,181,042
	Expenditure	22,208,685	0	0	0	22,208,685
Morocco	Budget	3,268,226	0	0	0	3,268,226
	Expenditure	2,187,642	0	0	0	2,187,642
Tunisia	Budget	14,578,650	0	0	0	14,578,650
	Expenditure	8,200,166	0	0	0	8,200,166
Western Sahara:	Budget	10,381,830	0	0	0	10,381,830
Confidence Building Measures	Expenditure	4,696,222	0	0	0	4,696,222
Regional activities	Budget	130,128	100,000	0	0	230,128
	Expenditure	28,973	46,065	0	0	75,037
Subtotal	Budget	163,002,928	2,364,989	0	2,790,418	168,158,334
	Expenditure	96,068,315	445,316	0	313,536	96,827,166
MIDDLE EAST						
Iraq	Budget	182,852,932	1,322,163	27,304,149	82,250,093	293,729,337
	Expenditure	131,813,781	422,065	14,494,972	41,623,947	188,354,765
Israel	Budget	3,222,760	0	0	0	3,222,760
	Expenditure	2,865,152	0	0	0	2,865,152
Jordan	Budget	367,567,319	0	0	0	367,567,319
	Expenditure	234,034,387	0	0	0	234,034,387
Lebanon	Budget	361,634,286	439,775	0	0	362,074,061
	Expenditure	245,777,836	243,179	0	0	246,021,014
Saudi Arabia	Budget	4,157,450	295,922	0	0	4,453,371
	Expenditure	2,948,147	295,107	0	0	3,243,254
Syrian Regional	Budget	6,625,869	0	0	0	6,625,869
Refugee Coordination Office	Expenditure	6,277,210	0	0	0	6,277,210
Syrian Arab Republic	Budget	84,237,975	708,327	0	232,978,404	317,924,706
	Expenditure	40,801,875	295,870	0	190,783,725	231,881,470
United Arab Emirates	Budget	3,146,529	70,932	0	0	3,217,460
	Expenditure	1,859,948	54,407	0	0	1,914,355
Yemen	Budget	34,659,782	0	0	38,360,587	73,020,369
	Expenditure	24,326,121	0	0	21,231,648	45,557,769
Regional activities	Budget	12,514,949	807,711	0	0	13,322,660
	Expenditure	1,029,754	0	0	0	1,029,754
Subtotal	Budget	1,060,619,849	3,644,830	27,304,149	353,589,084	1,445,157,911
	Expenditure	691,734,211	1,310,628	14,494,972	253,639,320	961,179,131
Total North Africa and	Budget	1,223,622,777	6,009,818	27,304,149	356,379,502	1,613,316,245
Middle East	Expenditure	787,802,526	1,755,944	14,494,972	253,952,856	1,058,006,297

# VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA | USD

Donor	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
Andorra		10,190		10,190
Australia	14,937,181		4,081,633	19,018,813
Austria	1,439,791	881,954	679,348	3,001,092
Belgium	1,356,852			1,356,852
Brazil	150,000	250,000		400,000
Canada	17,741,022	2,921,130	4,868,549	25,530,700
Central Emergency Response Fund	15,624,830	10,693,523		26,318,353
Chile	100,000			100,000
Czech Republic	179,764			179,764
Denmark	2,311,366	1,602,985	10,020,154	13,934,506
Estonia	301,248			301,248
European Union	81,847,218	18,782,360		100,629,577
Finland	1,356,852		6,440,183	7,797,035
France	5,130,152	135,870		5,266,021
Germany	45,487,437	16,014,678		61,502,115
Greece			65,445	65,445
Hungary	40,706			40,706
Iceland	50,000			50,000
Iraq	9,965,812			9,965,812
Ireland	3,028,656			3,028,656
Italy	3,931,041			3,931,041
Japan	38,500,000	13,400,000	10,396,040	62,296,040
Kuwait	101,247,312		231,762	101,479,074
Latvia	68,871			68,871
Liechtenstein			107,991	107,991
Lithuania	26,237			26,237
Luxembourg	649,351	974,026	714,286	2,337,662
Malta	65,850			65,850
Monaco	194,805			194,805
Morocco			28,589	28,589
Netherlands	2,490,407		27,500,000	29,990,407
Norway	16,746,601			16,746,601
Poland		317,714		317,714
Portugal		66,313		66,313
Private donors in Argentina			691	691
Private donors in Australia			4,315,435	4,315,435
Private donors in Belgium			3,335	3,335
Private donors in Canada	48,450		408,722	457,172
Private donors in China (Hong Kong SAR)	42,842		540,559	583,401
Private donors in Egypt	45,806			45,806
Private donors in France			15,911	15,911

Donor	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
Private donors in Germany			3,588,838	3,588,838
Private donors in Greece			46,531	46,531
Private donors in Iraq	613,380			613,380
Private donors in Ireland			2,921	2,921
Private donors in Italy	144,937		756,077	901,014
Private donors in Japan	711,054		1,809,776	2,520,830
Private donors in Jordan	353		7,705	8,058
Private donors in Lebanon	33,000	20,000		53,000
Private donors in Monaco	169,096			169,096
Private donors in the Netherlands	1,771,817		78,983	1,850,800
Private donors in Portugal			65,445	65,445
Private donors in Qatar			624,334	624,334
Private donors in the Republic of Korea	22,290		85,496	107,787
Private donors in Saudi Arabia	200,000		115,145	315,145
Private donors in Spain			1,729,710	1,729,710
Private donors in Switzerland	189,209	83,436	938,250	1,210,895
Private donors in Thailand			13,848	13,848
Private donors in the United Arab Emirates	13,005,000	1,000,000	56,060	14,061,060
Private donors in the United Kingdom	1,592,320		215,040	1,807,360
Private donors in the United States of America	312,788	24,500	940,789	1,278,077
Republic of Korea	1,402,048	300,000		1,702,048
Russian Federation	10,150,000	650,000		10,800,000
Saudi Arabia	4,280,000	2,160,000		6,440,000
Slovenia			40,706	40,706
Spain	3,507,265		19,488	3,526,753
Sweden	1,507,592		13,516,998	15,024,590
Switzerland	6,289,042	4,398,832	998,902	11,686,777
United Kingdom	45,036,386	9,584,665		54,621,051
United Nations Development Programme	219,282			219,282
United Nations Emergency Relief Fund		504,611		504,611
United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS	50,000			50,000
United States of America	267,109,270	64,470,000	140,980,000	472,559,270
United Nations Children's Fund	153,200			153,200
Total	723,575,788		237,049,674	1,109,872,247