



**ISLAMIC RELIEF**

**SYRIA EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**2012-2014**

Cover photo: Syrian children displaced from Homs sit in a tent in Idlib camp, near the Turkish border, Qah area, Idlib suburbs.

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# Highlights

- Islamic Relief's (IR) Syria Emergency Response has supported **7,126,795 people** in Syria and neighbouring countries: Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, and Iraq, since 2012.
- More than **223 projects** have been implemented to support the most vulnerable Syrians in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Iraq in various sectors since 2012.
- Interventions varied from providing food aid, non-food items, education support, shelter assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, and medical assistance.
- Islamic Relief is very grateful for the financial support provided by IR partners and institutional partners who have contributed with their remarkable funds to support the most vulnerable Syrians in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Iraq with approximately **£122,516,744** since 2012.





A Syrian woman, 87, receives a food parcel with IR staff, Aleppo.

# Syria Crisis

## Key Figures



**12.2 MILLION**

People in need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria



**3,341,249**

The total number of Syrian refugees

Number of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries:

Turkey	1,165,279
Jordan	622,865
Lebanon	1,158,995
Iraq	231,843
Egypt	138,212



An estimated

**1.2 MILLION**

houses have been damaged.



**7.6 MILLION**

internally displaced persons.



A grandmother sits with her grandsons after they lost their father in Alshohada' massacre, Idlib suburbs.



Almost **60%**

of public hospitals in Syria reported as either partially functioning or non-functioning.

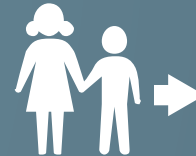


More than **1,500**

schools are occupied by armed forces or used as collective shelters and over 3,000 have been damaged in the conflict.



In Syria,  
**5,090,000**  
children are in need.



Outside Syria, there are

**1,649,941**  
registered refugee children and children  
awaiting registration.



More than  
**1 MILLION**  
children are in hard to reach areas.

## References

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

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# Executive summary

Syria is at the centre of one of the world's most critical humanitarian emergencies. Syria is now besieged by internal conflict that has uprooted millions of families. An estimated 3.2 million people fled the country and have taken refuge in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt.

Many refugees have lost family members, witnessed violence, and fled the destruction of their homes and cities, only to find themselves still living in fear abroad. The humanitarian needs of refugees are increasing with no sufficient funds to meet those needs. The security situation in Syria has deteriorated with ongoing violence in the north and east Raqqa, Hassakeh, Deir ez Zour and Idlib governorates. The intensification of conflict in Idlib continues to limit the provision of humanitarian assistance to the people in need. Damage and destruction in Syria is also expected to lead to a fuel shortage and a significant reduction in safe drinking water, and the health system is collapsing due to the destruction of hospitals and a critical shortage of medicine and equipment.

Conflict in Syria has also caused widespread damage to civilian infrastructure, in particular to school facilities; reports indicate that across Syria more than 1,500 schools are occupied by armed forces or used as collective shelters and over 3,000 have been damaged by the conflict.

Islamic Relief has been providing assistance and support for both internally displaced people in Syria and Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries through its field offices and missions in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. This update highlights briefly our humanitarian intervention since 2012 to support Syrians during these hard times.

From 2012 to 2014, Islamic Relief has implemented more than 200 humanitarian projects in many sectors reaching more than 7 million Syrians. Islamic Relief secured £122,512,744 from our partners and institutional partners.

We would like to thank all donors for their generosity and support. We would also like to thank our field staff for their dedication and invaluable work.





# Syria emergency response

Since 2012, Islamic Relief has been working to protect Syrian refugees and internally displaced Syrians by meeting their basic needs, improving access to education and medical care, and providing basic items such as tents, food items, safe WASH facilities and other necessary NFIs.

In 2014, we provided life-saving assistance, basic services, education support, and capacity building activities to support Syrians made vulnerable by the ongoing crisis. Islamic Relief intends to continue providing support for Syrians in 2015. The Syria emergency response includes not only providing humanitarian assistance for Syrians in Syria and neighbouring countries but also providing support to the affected host communities.

# Objectives

- **Protecting life and dignity:** promote protection and access to affected people.
- **Life-saving assistance:** provide life-saving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance to people in need, prioritising the most vulnerable.
- **Effective coordination:** strengthen harmonised coordination through enhanced joint planning, information, management, communications and regular follow up and monitoring.



Head of Syria operation and Syria mission distribute winterisation items for Syrian children in Aleppo.

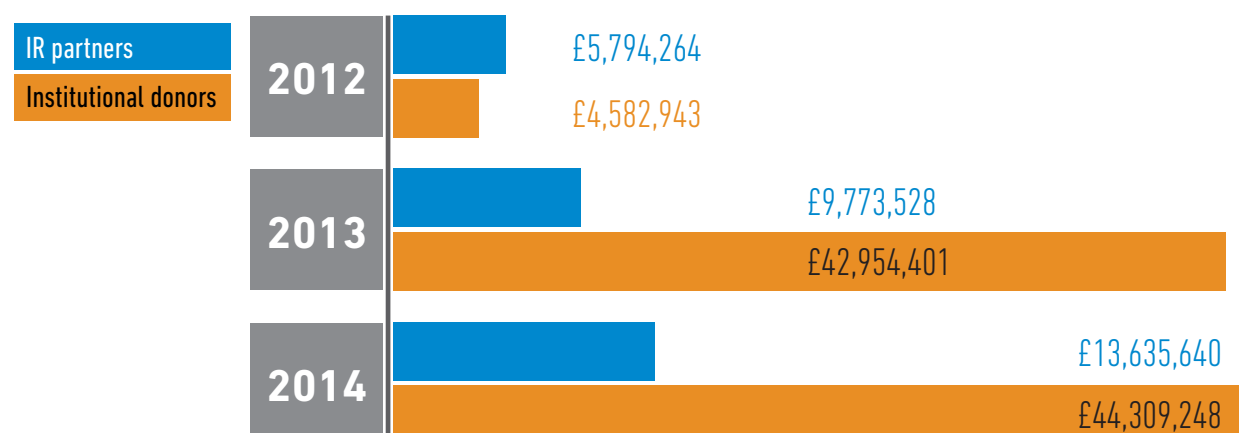
# Three years of funding

Since Islamic Relief started responding to the Syria emergency, Islamic Relief has secured approximately £122,516,744 from IR partners and institutional donors. In 2014, Islamic Relief implemented emergency interventions with a value of £57,944,888 from a total funding of £64,639,249.

Country	2012 Income - GBP	2013 Income - GBP	2014 Income - GBP
Syria	£3,951,812	£8,989,771	£9,543,000
Jordan	£2,312,400	£28,125,543	£35,463,113
Lebanon	£1,399,093	£2,309,865	£3,989,927
Iraq	£2,585,627	£11,965,945	£8,948,847
Egypt	-	£2,931,800	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,248,932</b>	<b>£54,322,924</b>	<b>£57,944,888</b>

**TOTAL INCOME (2012-2014) £122,516,744**

## Source of Funding

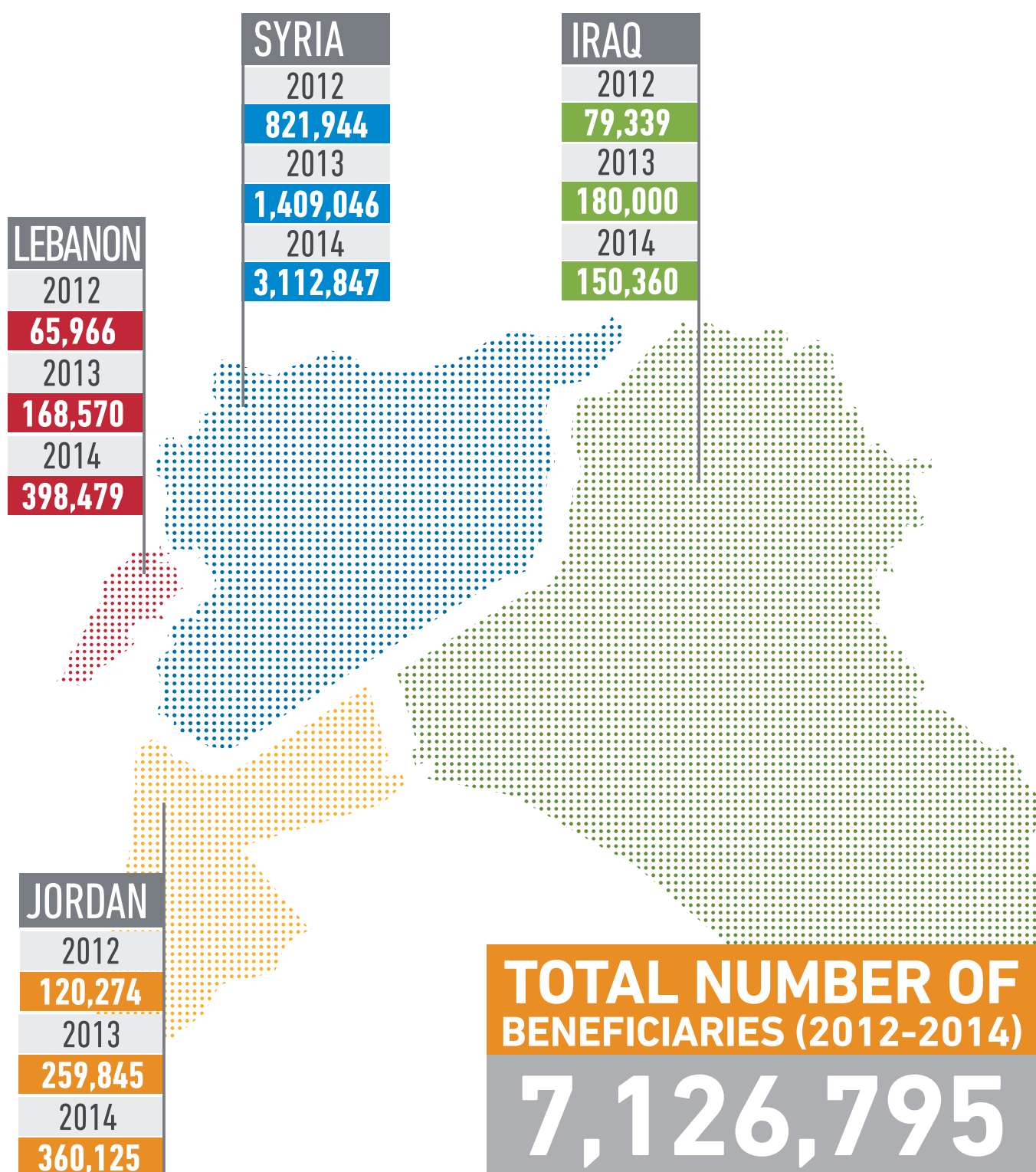


Funds for the Syria emergency response secured from IR partners and institutional donors since 2012 are as follows:

Country	Islamic Relief partners	Institutional donors
Syria	IR Germany, IR Canada, Middle East, Emerging Market Project, IR UK, IR Switzerland, IR USA, IR Sweden, IR South Africa, IR Australia, IR Spain, IR Ireland	German Federal Foreign Office (GFM), Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), Undisclosed donor
Jordan	IR USA, Middle East, IR Canada, IR Malaysia, IR UK, Emerging Market Project, IR Switzerland, WAQF, IR Germany, IR Sweden	World Food Programme (WFP), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), Department for International Development (DFID), Spanish Development Agency (ACEID), German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Lebanon	IR Australia, WAQF, IR UK, IR Switzerland, IR USA, Middle East, IR Canada, Emerging Market Project, IR South Africa, IR Sweden, IR Ireland, IR Italy, IR Malaysia, IR Mauritius	World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Iraq	IR UK, IR Germany, IR Netherlands, IR Canada, Middle East, WAQF, IR Malaysia, IR Australia, IR USA	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP), and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

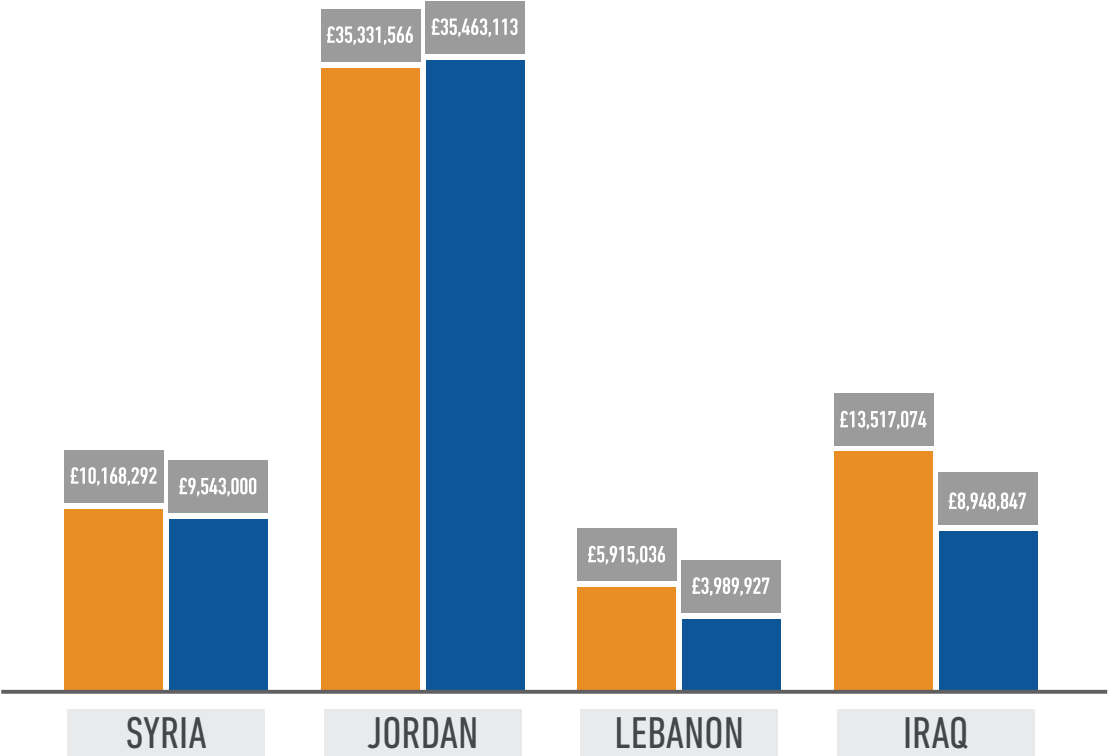
# Beneficiaries

Islamic Relief has reached 7,126,795 people in Syria and neighbouring countries since 2012 through its humanitarian and urgent assistance in various sectors (food, NFIs, WASH, health, education, psychosocial support).



# 2014 Funding

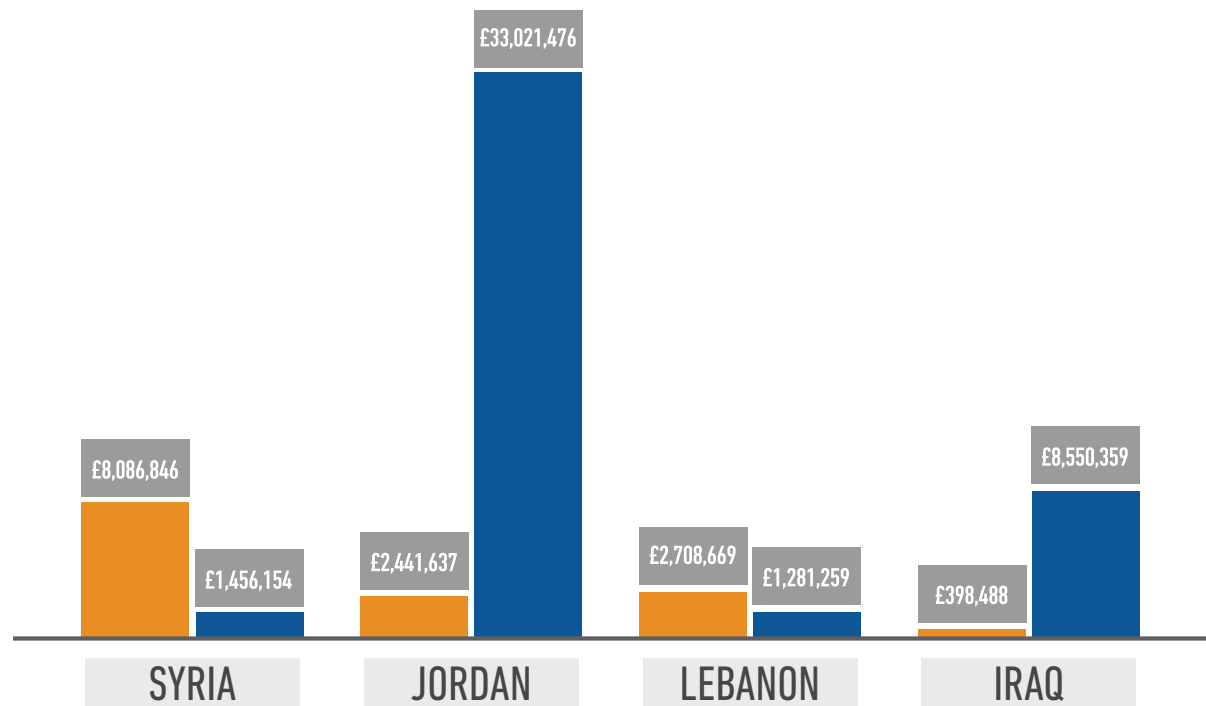
In 2014, Islamic Relief signed project agreements with donors from two main sources: IR partners and institutional donors with a total value £64,931,968. We have so far received £57,944,888 (to 31 December 2014), and expect this figure to increase as some projects are ongoing and due to finish in 2015.



<b>TOTAL SIGNED CONTRACT</b> <b>£64,931,968</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME RECEIVED</b> <b>£57,944,888</b>
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# Source of funding

Islamic Relief secured funds from both IR partners and institutional donors as detailed below:



TOTAL FUNDING FROM ISLAMIC RELIEF PARTNERS  
**£13,635,640**

TOTAL FUNDING FROM INSTITUTIONAL DONORS  
**£44,309,248**



Canned meat distributed for Syrians during Ramadan.

# Intervention

IR intervention varies from country to country, based on regular and ongoing need assessments to ensure timely and needed intervention.



## Food security and nutrition

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Food items  
Dates  
Baby milk  
Bread  
Canned meat  
Wheat flour  
Fresh meat (Qurbani)



## Shelter and non-food items

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Tents	Mattresses	Portable gas
Rental subsidy	Kitchen kits	Garbage bags
Caravans	Children toys	Diapers for babies
Hygiene kits	School kits	Heaters
Clothes and shoes	Heaters and stoves	Washing machines
Blankets	Fan	Carpets
Baby kits	Pillows	



## Health

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Drugs and medical disposables  
Medical equipment  
Hospitalisation assistance (referring patients to hospitals)  
Emergency medical kits  
Ambulances



## Education and psychosocial support

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Recreational activities for Syrian children  
Education support for Syrian children  
Supporting schools by providing equipment and furniture



## WASH

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Drinking water for Syrian refugees  
WASH facilities in Syria for Syrians

# ACHIEVEMENTS BY COUNTRY

## Dreadful winter for Syrian refugees

Winter has always been hard for the hundreds of thousands of refugees but the accumulation of the conflict and its impact, plus several cold winters, has taken its toll. It has been years of suffering for Syrian refugees since the war in Syria started. Many have experienced the death of loved ones, the loss of their home, a long and difficult journey to find refuge, and the trauma of poverty. Many do not have the strength to face another winter.


In the first week of January, a powerful winter storm brought snow, heavy rain, high winds and hail to the Middle East, killing at least two Syrian refugees and injuring others. Snow, hail and cold temperatures descended upon the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, which is home to some 400,000 Syrian refugees.

This snow also settled over refugees in Za'atari camp in Jordan, and where hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees were living in poor conditions in Ramtha and Mafraq in northern Jordan.

Islamic Relief worked to alleviate the suffering of Syrians by providing items to help them cope with winter. More than 500,000 Syrians benefitted from our winterisation intervention. For winter 2014/15, Islamic Relief Jordan supported about 11,140 vulnerable Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities across northern areas of Jordan with various winterisation items such as blankets, clothes, vouchers, gas heaters, gas cylinders, mattresses, hygiene kits, and carpets.

Islamic Relief Lebanon (IRL) distributed hundreds of winterisation items such as blankets, mattresses, carpets, heaters and fuel to families in preparation for the arrival of the bad weather and continued providing assistance throughout the winter season. IRL also helped repair shelters damaged by the strong winds. Islamic Relief's staff in Turkey distributed winterisation items for internally displaced people in Syria. These included blankets, mattresses, plastic sheets and clothes. Islamic Relief Iraq provided emergency support for Syrian refugees in Kurdistan-Iraq and North Iraq.





Syrian refugee children try to get warm during the snow storm that swept across the Middle East in the first week of January 2015, Alrajaa camp, North Syria.

An elderly Syrian woman receives a food parcel, blankets and mattresses, Alriaa camp, Idlib suburbs.



# SYRIA

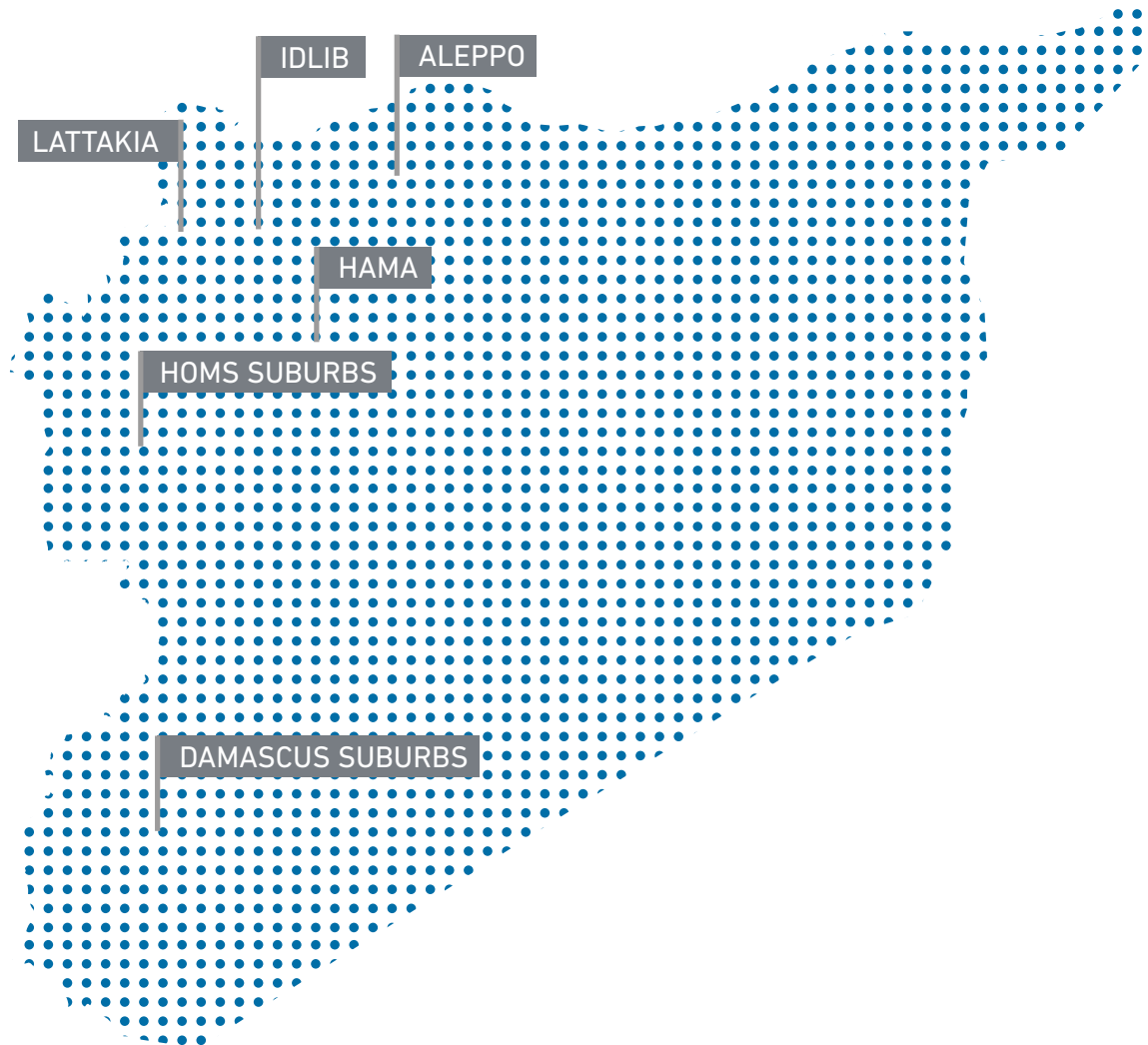
## The Context

The conflict in Syria is getting worse, making it harder for humanitarian organisations to reach the people who need help. Within the country, the health system is under considerable pressure, with hospitals and clinics destroyed in 12 of Syria's 14 governorates.

## The Response

Islamic Relief is working to alleviate the suffering of internally displaced persons (IDPs) despite the challenges on the ground. The team capacity is slowly increasing, with 29 members and around 20 volunteers at the end of 2014. In Syria, we are working in partnership with several local organisations to implement humanitarian and life-saving projects. We are also establishing a systematic framework in areas of operation to ensure better coordination of our work and better response to urgent needs. Islamic Relief also worked through local partners to reach Syrians in besieged areas in suburbs of Homs and Damascus.

# Areas of Intervention



A Syrian father and his son receive fresh meat, Tyba camp, Idlib suburbs.



A Syrian child who lives in a refugee camp receives a Ramadan food parcel, Alshohadaa camp, Idlib suburbs.



Establishing water wells inside Syria.  
Alimdad camp, Idlib suburbs.

# Type of Intervention



Items	Quantity	Number of Beneficiaries
Food parcels	74,055	370,275
Wheat flour	1,907 Ton	381,320
Dates	113 Ton	282,500
Daily fresh bread	75,000 bread/day	375,000
Fresh meat (Qurbani)	46,000	230,000
Canned meat	223,368 Canned	372,280



Blankets	73,655	122,000
Baby's cot	232	232
Mattresses	13,249	33,122
Plastic sheet	5,860	29,300
Clothes	31,200	31,200
Shoes	12,960	12,960



Water well	3	4,500
Hygiene kit	43,000	215,000
Shower and WC units	23	3,220
Baby kits	150	150
Plastic bowl	4,209	21,000



Medical disposables	10,798,238	522,748
Dialysis kit	6,250	1,562
Medicines	59,345	8,478
Multivitamins	2,880,000 Capsules	96,000

**TOTAL BENEFICIARIES**

**3,112,847**

Supporting field hospitals with medical equipment inside Syria.

## Networking and coordination



- Islamic Relief's office in Turkey is an active member of the Humanitarian Coordination Meeting led by UN OCHA and is also a member of the NGO Forum for INGOs active in the Northern Syria. It takes part in the cluster meetings and is voting with other international NGOs in the assistance.
- Islamic Relief's Syria operation in Turkey also has a good relationship and partnership with Syrian local and international organisations who are active in Syria in addition to the local committees in Syria.

## Challenges

- The intense security issues have impacted access to some areas in Syria in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.
- The intensity of violence and fighting across Syria hindered our ability to access families in besieged areas of Syria.

# Never-ending journey of a tormented Syrian mother

Um Madyan, a 40-year-old woman from Idlib, Syria, narrates her story of displacement to Atma village, where she faced a severe winter in the refugee camp.

Um Madyan said "I used to live peacefully in a warm house with my husband (may he rest in peace) and my five children. We used to wake up in the early morning to have breakfast near the heater. My husband and I would head to our carpet and blanket shop in the middle of our village. There was constant bombing in the area, and our house was destroyed; my husband got a head injury and died instantly. I had to move to another village on the Turkish border for safety. We stayed there for a while, until I ran out of money and had sold most of my property. I decided to move with my five children to one of Atma's camps."

She continued "It has been eight months since then and we have suffered a lot and now we are suffering in the bitter cold and the snow storm. We are in urgent need of winterisation items to protect ourselves from the cold and the wind. I need clothes, especially for my children, and heaters to keep me and my family warm."

Um Madyan said they were sometimes so cold that they could not sleep. In one of the recent storms, the snow completely covered their tent, then melted, soaking it and all their belongings. They couldn't find a way to warm up.

Um Madyan added "We need new blankets, children's clothes, and waterproof boots. We are in need of heaters and plastic sheeting to prevent rain water coming in to the tents. My children can't stop shivering."

"I convey my gratitude to Islamic Relief staff for supporting us especially during these very cold days. May Allah (SWT) generously reward you."



Um Madyan tries to provide warmth for her children in the refugee camp, Atma camp, Idlib suburbs.



Um Madyan, a 40-year-old woman from Idlib, Syria, receives blankets.

Syrian refugees participate in peace-building awareness sessions.



# JORDAN

## The Context

According to UNHCR (2014), the number of Syrian refugees arriving in Jordan has fallen significantly since early October 2014. The Government of Jordan continues to extend protection to Syrian refugees within the country, but is increasingly concerned by the potential security implications of the crises in neighbouring Iraq and Syria. According to OCHA (2014), many refugees have settled in some of Jordan's poorest communities in the central and northern governorates. Thus, poor Jordanians face additional competition from Syrians in the local job market, as refugees often accept less than the national minimum wage. Moreover, out-of-school refugee children are being employed in jobs previously held by Jordanian adults, leading to increased child labour rates among refugees. Due to the serious

funding shortfall in December 2014, the World Food Programme (WFP) has announced that it will have to suspend food distribution to Syrian refugees in host communities, which constitute 85 per cent of the registered Syrian refugee population in Jordan.

At the end of 2014, the Government of Jordan announced it was unable to continue providing free health care for Syrian refugees at Ministry of Health facilities in Jordan. This created significant additional burden for the cost of treatment, analysis, consultation and medication for Syrian refugees with very little financial resources to pay for these services. This also led to increased demand for funding and support from humanitarian actors to fill the gap.



## The Response

At the onset of the Syrian humanitarian crisis in late 2011, Islamic Relief Jordan (IRJ) provided an emergency response to those affected by the violence in Syria and has since scaled up its capacity and operations across the country. IRJ has successfully introduced multi-sector interventions, being a lead organisation responsible for humanitarian assistance and focused on catering to the needs of the Syrian refugees in the northern part of Jordan as well as addressing the needs of the local host communities through its seasonal interventions and on-going Programmemes.

## IRJ is supporting the below mentioned beneficiaries in Jordan

- **Syrian Refugees:** Syrian refugees have been the main focus of IRJ since the Syrian crisis began. IRJ is supporting the Syrian refugees through the paper/e-voucher Programmeme, cash for shelter schemes, with education, NFI distribution and with medical assistance for those who are war affected.
- **Jordanian Host Communities:** Because of the impact of the high number of Syrian refugees on the local community, IRJ is also supporting the needs of the host country. We are running food, health, seasonal Programmemes (Ramadan & Qurbani), NFIs and winterisation projects.

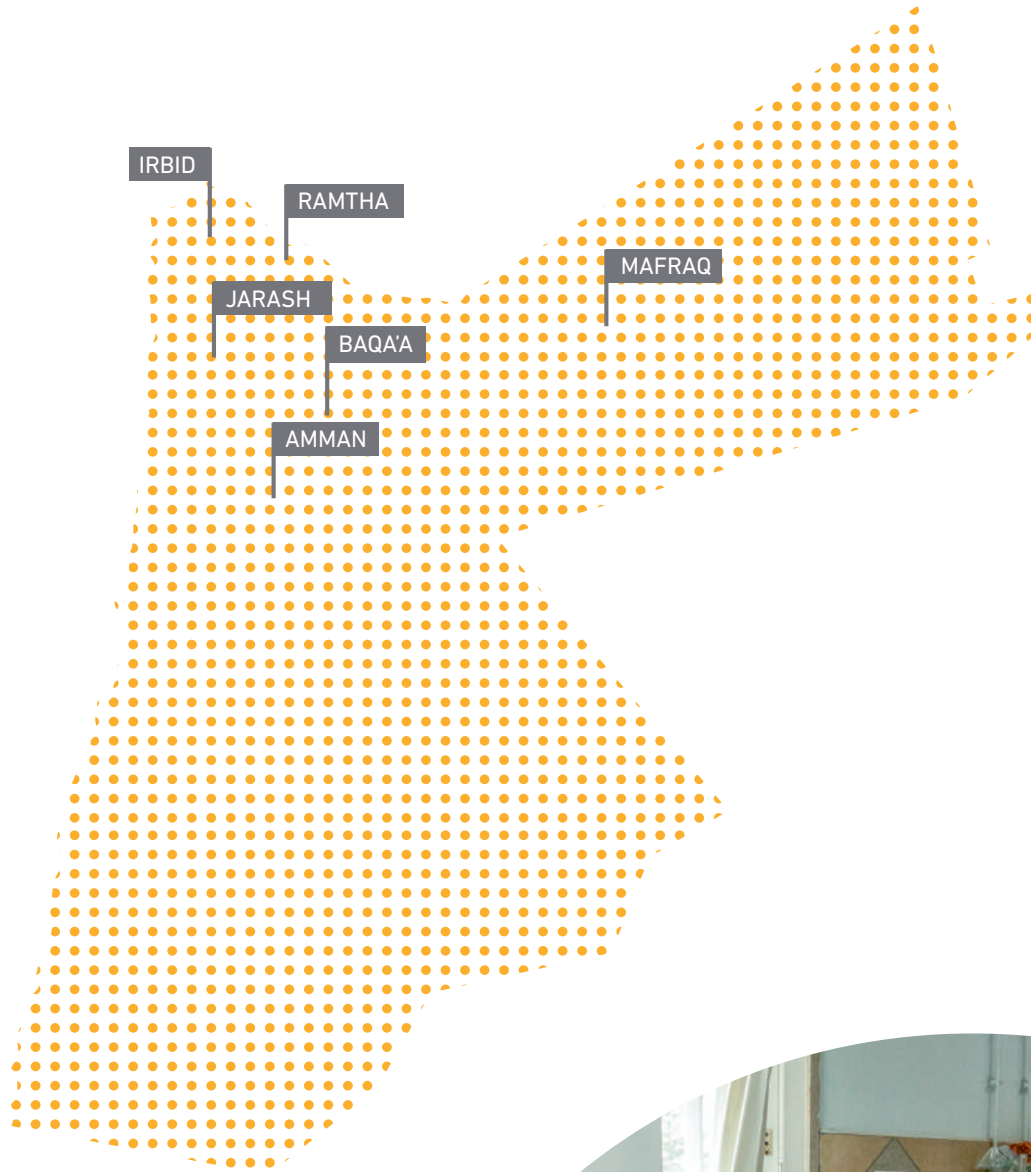


Syrian children in Jordan enjoy a colouring activity.



Syrian children receive education support through a DFID project.

# Areas of Intervention



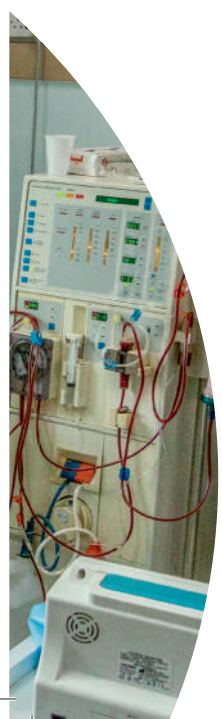
A Syrian refugee receives medical assistance through an OFID project.


# Type of Intervention



Sector	Number of Beneficiaries
Food assistance through vouchers	220,802
Ramadan food parcels	16,125
Fresh meat ( Qurbani)	1,083
Dates	83,975
Shelter assistance for Syrian refugees	6,020
Winterisation assistance for Syrian refugees	15,615
Education support for Syrian children	3,021
Life-saving health assistance	11,751
Improving health status of vulnerable Syrian refugees and treatments of host community	893
Providing prostheses for Syrian disabled people	45
Syrian orphans sponsorship	120
Education support for orphans	275
Peace-building promotion for Syrian refugees and host community	375

**TOTAL BENEFICIARIES**  
**360,125**





A Syrian child receives health care and assistance from Islamic Relief Jordan.

# Challenges

- 1. Increase in the needs:** the onset of the Syrian crisis has resulted in a high influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan. According to official UNHCR figures, there are 615,548 registered refugees in Jordan, some in urban settings and others in camps. The number of unregistered refugees is unknown. The population of Jordan is increasing, impacting on social cohesion and increasing the needs of both refugee and host communities.
- 2. Shortage of funds:** Funds have been affected in some projects such as the WFP food voucher scheme, and this has restricted IRJ's work. The support extended by IR partners has not been able to cover all the funding gaps.
- 3. Tension between refugees and host community:** Most of the local and international NGOs in Jordan are supporting mainly Syrian refugees although there are a lot of Jordanian families who need support. Pressure from the host community meant the Jordanian government stated that Jordanian communities must be included in all projects. This led to the creation of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) and Jordan Response Plan (JRP). This will help strengthen social cohesion but adds to the burden of funding the much-needed Programmes.



A Syrian refugee receives a heater in Al Ramtha, Jordan.



Syrian children in a Syrian refugee school in Bekaa, 2014

# LEBANON

## The Context

Lebanon is hosting the largest number of refugees per capita in the region; one in every four people in the country is a Syrian refugee. Of the over 1.1 million registered Syrian refugees in the country, more than 78 per cent are women and children (53 per cent children). The scale of the needs of refugees has consistently outstripped available resources and capacities across all sectors. This has resulted in rising tensions between Lebanese communities and refugees. According to UNHCR, at the end of 2014 there were 1,158,995 registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon. There are growing restrictions for Syrians, who need to enter Lebanon through official border crossings.

## The Response

Since the beginning of the crisis, Islamic Relief Lebanon (IRL) has been working to support:

1. **Refugees from Syria:** including Syrians, Palestinians and Lebanese.
2. **Lebanese host community:** assisting the most vulnerable families from the local Lebanese community.

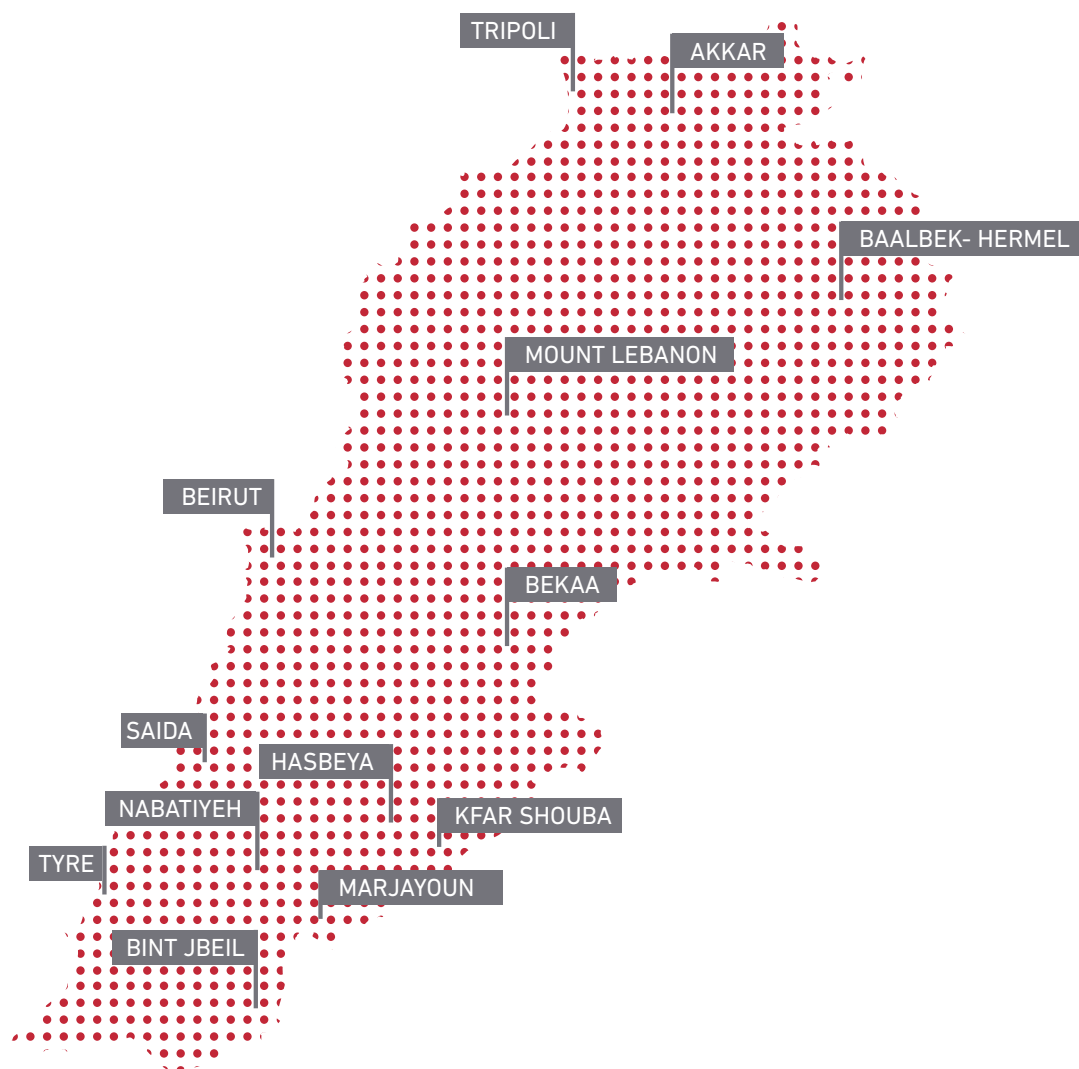
# Networking and coordination

1. IRL is a member of the Lebanon Humanitarian International NGOs Forum (LHIF).
2. A data sharing agreement was signed with UNRWA.
3. Participation in the relevant sector Working Groups led by UN agencies.
4. Attending regular meetings with other local and international NGOs.
5. An agreement with the Government of Lebanon was signed through the High Relief Commission (HRC).
6. Working in coordination with more than 30 local NGOs.
7. Working with the Lebanese municipalities and Palestinian people's committees.



Psychosocial support activity  
for Syrian children in Saida.

# Areas of Intervention



Fuel distribution for Syrian refugees in Lebanon.



Syrian grandmother in Lebanon with her grandsons receiving food parcel, kitchen set, blankets, mattresses, stove, fuel and new shelter.



# Type of Intervention

- Food:** distribution of food parcels, baby milk, Qurbani meat.
- NFIs:** distribution of hygiene kits, baby kits, nappies, kitchen set, blankets, mattresses, carpets, clothes, heaters, and fuel.
- Health:** provision of medications, primary and secondary health services, and ambulances.
- Child protection:** psychosocial support for Syrian children through recreational activities and trips, in addition to individual and group psychotherapy sessions.
- Education:** furnishing and equipping schools with desks and tools, distributing school bags and stationery.
- Shelter:** rehabilitation of shelters and providing refugees with tents.



Sector	Number of Beneficiaries
Food parcels	222,595
Meat packs	20,235
Milk	4,080



Tents	470
Blankets	25,553
Mattresses	13,499
Clothes	3,838
Hygiene	35,075
Kitchen set	3,700
Carpets	14,710
Protection set	4,440
Baby kit	1,437
Nappies	5,258
Heaters	15,150
Shelter	530
Fuel	19,950



Education support for refugee schools and Syrian children 1,164



Psychosocial support for children 1,300



Providing medical support for hospitals and Syrian patients 2 ambulances + 5,201 patients



Orphans sponsorship 294

**TOTAL BENEFICIARIES**

**398,479**

# Challenges

Syrian refugees receive medical assistance in Lebanon.

1. **Security situation:** the security situation in Lebanon is fragile, especially since the outbreak of war in neighbouring Syria. The border areas in Bekaa and north Lebanon witness frequent unrest due to clashes between the Lebanese army and armed groups especially in Aarsal. This situation creates significant challenges for IRL and other humanitarian actors to access some areas and can bring additional risk to deliver assistance to people living there.
2. **Increase in the needs:** the huge number of Syrian refugees who have fled to Lebanon results in massive needs for the refugees themselves as well as for the local Lebanese communities who host them. National services such as health care and education are unable to meet the demands of so many additional people in the country and Lebanon's economy is struggling.
3. **Shortage of funds:** the protracted nature of the Syrian crisis, as well as numerous other global disasters, has resulted in a shortage of funding for this humanitarian response. With such vast and ongoing needs, significant resources continue to be required in order to enable IRL and other actors to support those most affected and in need of assistance.

# Tribulations of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

As a result of the unrest in Syria for the past three years, the crisis has forced more than nine million people to flee their homes seeking safety. 6.5 million Syrians are internally displaced and more than three million fled outside Syria to the neighbouring countries. International humanitarian NGOs have been supporting the most vulnerable Syrians in Syria and in the neighbouring countries. UNHCR reported on 1 December 2014 that the number of registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon exceeded 1,144,762. Islamic Relief Lebanon has been supporting refugees from Syria since the beginning of the conflict.

Abdulrahman and his family have been living in Lebanon since the outbreak of the civil war in Syria. They are living in a tannery near a garbage dump which is unsafe for the children as well as an unhealthy place to live. Two of his children are suffering from inherited blood disorder thalassemia and require blood transfusions every two weeks; when they were in Syria they used to receive their treatment for free, but in Lebanon the medical

services are very expensive and they have no money to pay for it. Mustafa, one of the sick children, died earlier this year after an operation as he did not receive the needed medication and because of the unhealthy environment they are living in. Abdulrahman is also sick; he has back pain and is not working so is unable to support his family with food and medication.

When Abdulrahman came to Lebanon he asked for help from local NGOs but no one helped him. He finally came to Islamic Relief Lebanon asking for treatment for his sick children. Islamic Relief responded to his call by providing his children with medical services, and renting a house for the family so they could leave the place where they had been living. IRL also provided them with food, hygiene items, baby supplies, winterisation items and psychosocial support for the children. The aid from Islamic Relief has made a positive change in their life and alleviated their suffering by meeting their essential needs.



Safaa and her brother Mustafa who died standing in their home in Saida.



Abdulrahman and his family, including his son Mustafa, who later died. Here, they are happy after receiving aid from Islamic Relief Lebanon.

A Syrian refugee in Iraq receives food parcels.



# IRAQ

## The Context

Iraq has seen a resurgence of large-scale displacement and pressing humanitarian needs. The conflict in Syria forced hundreds of thousands of people to seek shelter in Iraq. About 231,843 Syrian refugees sought safety in Iraq – primarily in the Kurdish Region Iraq (KRI) – and more continue to arrive as the Syrian conflict continues. Though a number of camps have been established for the refugees, the majority live outside those camps and struggle to get by in the cities.

## The Response

Islamic Relief is working on supporting Syrian refugees in North Iraq by providing food items, NFIs, and winterisation items.

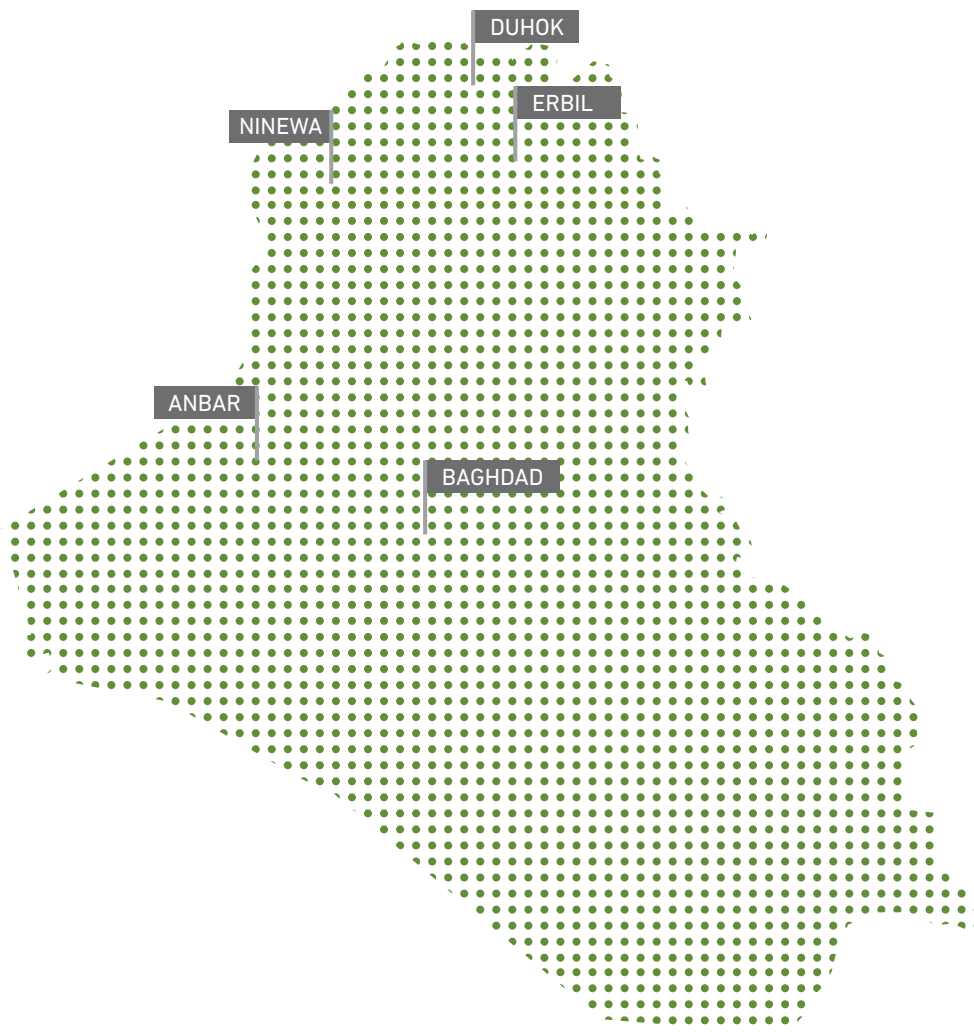
## Type of Intervention

Sector	Number of Beneficiaries
Food aid to Syrian refugees in northern Iraq/Domiz camp	73,000
Food aid to Syrian refugees in Qaem	1,700
Assistance to refugees and asylum seekers in the centre of Iraq (2014)	1,500
Health and hygienic promotion for Syrian refugees in Domiz Camp	65,000
Food: Ramadan	9,160

## TOTAL BENEFICIARIES

# 150,360

# Areas of Intervention



## Challenges

- The security conditions in Iraq hindered humanitarian assistance in inaccessible areas.
- Shortage of funds impacted our assistance to large numbers of refugees.
- Lack of access to education, employment and income-generating activities is exacerbated by the increasing cost of living.
- Livelihood sustainability, rental costs and food insecurity are major challenges for refugees.

Syrian children play happily under the rubble of their house, destroyed in heavy bombing in Aleppo.



## Future Plans

**Islamic Relief will continue supporting the most vulnerable Syrians as below:**

- 2015 Regional Syria Response plan will be in place to coordinate efforts.
- Prioritising the urgent needs of Syrians in Syria and neighbouring countries based on the needs assessment on the ground and monitoring visits conducted by Islamic Relief Syria in the field.
- Urgent winterisation response targeting the internally displaced families and Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, and Iraq by providing winter relief items and shelter support in critical weather conditions.
- Providing food aid, NFIs, medical assistance, shelter, education support, and psychosocial support for Syrian children.



## Syria

1. **Food support:** Islamic Relief will continue providing food assistance for internally displaced people inside Syria to overcome the difficult living conditions.
2. **Support for health service providers in Syria:** providing support and assistance for the health service providers is very critical especially in North Syria as the health situation is considered to be the worst in terms of the number of Syrian casualties and the scale of the bombardment. The continuation of conflict has exacerbated the humanitarian crisis for Syrian people, who have had to live with severe shortages of food, water, medicine and medical supplies. These conditions impact seriously on the health services provided to injured people.
3. **NFIs assistance:** providing non-food items such as blankets and clothes for displaced families inside Syria will be one of the main interventions that Islamic Relief intends to focus on to fill the gap in the NFIs sector in Syria.

## Jordan

1. **Capacity Building:** implementing a capacity-building project for local community-based organisations active in Jordan and building capacities in the area in partnership with them.
1. **Camp management:** focusing on camp management and food distribution in the north at four main refugee camps, North, Za'atari, King Abdullah Camp and Cyber City.
1. **Needs Assessment:** expanding the geographical presence and moving from the North to the southern part of Jordan. Conducting in-depth assessment for potential Programmmemes including food security and livelihoods.
1. **Sustainability:** focusing on sustainable projects as well as the emergency response projects.
1. **Coordination:** developing good coordination with active humanitarian actors for cross border assistance and expanding operations.

## Lebanon

1. **Continue distribution of food and non-food items:** IRL will continue providing food and non-food items especially for newcomers and vulnerable Syrian refugee families as well as Palestinian refugees and the Lebanese host community.
2. **Peace and stability projects:** the Lebanon Community Resilience Programmeme (LCRP) provides strategically targeted support to advance peace and stability in Lebanon. IRL will contribute to this by involving the local community in work for refugees from Syria and addressing the needs of both locals and refugees.
3. **Longer term outlook:** as the crisis continues, in addition to maintaining its emergency assistance, IRL will focus on longer term and development projects such as education, psychosocial support, livelihoods, WASH and health.
4. **New geographical areas:** IRL team will intervene in new areas of Lebanon and will expand the implementation of the activities to target more beneficiaries including all refugees in Lebanon with different nationalities in addition to the vulnerable people from the Lebanese community.

## Iraq

1. **Education support for Syrian refugees:** improve secondary education system to help Syrian refugees achieve in school.
2. **Winterisation support for Syrian refugees:** to save the lives of vulnerable Syrian refugees who are struggling to survive the winter conditions.
3. **Providing emergency relief:** given the huge needs, IR Iraq will continue to provide food and NFIs, including hygiene kits. IRW seasonal food aid during Ramadan and Udhiya (Qurbani) will always be directed as emergency intervention to refugee families in the IR Iraq operational areas who do not have regular food sources.



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