

SUMMARY

The ongoing war in Syria, now stretching more than a decade, has left the region with enormous challenges as well as opportunities to respond to myriad needs. People uprooted from their homes struggle for survival amid an economic crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic, and continuous threat of attacks.

The conflict has left more than 12 million people—5.6 million refugees and 6.7 million Syrians displaced within their country—in need of humanitarian assistance, with over 6 million of them children. Basic necessities such as food, water, fuel, and healthcare are unaffordable or unavailable to most people in need.

World Vision’s Syria Refugee Response started in 2012 in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey. In FY21, we helped more than

1.1 million refugees and displaced people in the region—more than half of them children—with life-saving child protection, WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene), health services, livelihood assistance, food security, and education.

To protect vulnerable children and families in the region from COVID-19 infections, we scaled up prevention measures to limit the spread of disease and strengthened health systems and the capacity of workers. We also provided services remotely in some cases, and when necessary, provided families with technical tools and training to use them.

World Vision also continued to advocate for children’s rights and raise awareness of their ongoing situation. Thank you for your support in helping to meet their deep needs.



World Vision supported a livelihood project in FY21 that enabled Imad, a Syrian refugee living in Turkey with his two children, to develop his skills and start a sewing shop.

HELPING DISPLACED PEOPLE AND REFUGEES IN NEED

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1,119,623 people benefited from our Syria Refugee Response in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey, with 579,573 (52%) of them children
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588,000 displaced people in Syria benefited, including 280,871 children (48%)
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483,692 refugees in Lebanon benefited, including 270,927 children (56%)
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46,443 refugees in Jordan benefited, including 26,819 children (58%)
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1,488 refugees in Turkey benefited, including 956 children (64%)

COUNTRY UPDATES

SYRIA

World Vision and our local partners are reaching an average of 400,000 displaced people per month in Northwest Syria with WASH assistance. We provide emergency water, rehabilitate water and sewage facilities, collect solid waste, and maintain water pumping stations.

In education, World Vision and local partners helped 94,704 children and teachers in Northwest Syria in FY21 through our remedial and catch-up program, psychosocial support, back-to-learning campaign, and learning supplies distribution. We also raised their awareness about risks to child protection, including early marriage, child labor, and domestic violence.

Our team launched a multifaceted response to help mitigate and prevent the spread of COVID-19, including reorganizing operations at our health facilities to minimize infection and establishing isolation units in communities. We provided personal protective equipment to frontline workers and the general population, conducted trainings on infection control, mobilized the community, and raised awareness about hygiene, social distancing, mask wearing, and vaccination.

World Vision's response also featured WASH UP!, a behavior-change program that teaches children not only how to practice healthy hygiene, but also empowers them to encourage their friends, families, and communities to do the same. We adapted WASH UP! to support the socio-emotional needs of Syrian refugee children, many of whom have experienced significant trauma.

LEBANON

Lebanon continued to endure multiple crises in FY21. The country dealt not only with Syrian refugees, COVID-19, and massive economic collapse, but also the lingering aftermath of the Beirut blast in August 2020. People face both drastic increases in prices and dire shortages of food, medicine, and fuel. To respond more directly to urgent needs, World Vision has created a separate Lebanon crisis response. Reporting for that response will start in FY22.

In FY21, we worked with partners to support nearly 484,000 Syrian refugees within Lebanon with food security, child protection, WASH, and education.

To help meet basic needs, World Vision provided multipurpose cash grants to 29,215 of the most vulnerable refugees in the Bekaa Valley. Their ability to earn income diminishes in the winter because of lack of agricultural or construction work. Without support, they cannot afford the warm clothes, blankets, and fuel needed to live in an area with frequent snowfall and subzero temperatures.

We reached 3,158 children with basic education and psychosocial support, conducted remotely because of COVID-19 concerns. This included early childhood education and teaching in Arabic, other foreign languages, and math, along with mental health activities.



“I used to live a happy life back then in my small town, until the shelling started and many of my relatives passed away. The shelling used to frighten me. ... The sound of helicopters filled the town and we had no place to stay. ... We live in a small tent and our living conditions are very challenging and difficult. ... I had no friends until I started going to the ‘educational tent’ [a program run by a World Vision partner]. I want to go there every day. Whenever I see the tent, the fear inside of me goes away.”

—Layan,* Syria

*Name changed to protect identity

JORDAN

In FY21, World Vision reached 16,882 refugee children, youth, and caregivers in Jordan through our programs in early childhood, school feeding, youth empowerment, alternative education, and remedial education. We taught new and less qualified teachers to build basic competencies in remedial and catch-up education programs, and created a practical handbook with best practices.

We rehabilitated WASH facilities in schools, in part to help promote retention of children most at risk. In the past year, we targeted nine schools in the northern governates of Jordan by installing wastewater treatment systems to reduce environmental hazards and introducing best environmental and health practices for children and teachers. We also facilitated WASH UP! to promote proper hygiene for children and raise their awareness of water conservation.



“I work in collecting iron when I don’t go to school so I can help my parents [in] paying the debts and buying vegetables. I feel bad when I see my friends not working, but I have to work. I dream of becoming a teacher to teach the children that cannot go to school. ... If I had money, I would take my family out on a picnic to have some fun time. We never do that because we cannot afford it. ... The [World Vision] teachers were very nice and tender with us. They taught us about our rights; it is my right as a child to be in school, to play and have fun, and to be able to express my thoughts.”

—Walaa, Lebanon*

TURKEY

World Vision supported a livelihoods project in Turkey in FY21, training aspiring entrepreneurs to plan and successfully operate a small business. Trainees submitted their business proposals for evaluation by a committee of experienced businesspeople.

The committee provided 60 trainees—70% Syrian refugees and 30% Turkish citizens—with in-kind grants of \$3,800 apiece to help them start and register small businesses, such as sewing. Those chosen had developed proposals with the greatest potential to lead to profitable microenterprises.

PROJECT TARGET UPDATE (FY21-FY23)



THANK YOU

Life as a refugee in the Syria region can be overwhelming. Your generous support enables World Vision to help meet basic needs, improve bleak conditions, and reflect the love of God. Thank you for joining us in our work to transform lives and bring hope to vulnerable children and their families.

**Name changed to protect identity*



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For more information visit:
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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God’s unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.