



BY THE NUMBERS

400,000+
people killed

1 million+
people injured

13.5 million
people in need of assistance

4.8 million
people have fled the country

6.6 million
people internally displaced

Source: UN OCHA, "Syrian Arab Republic: Crisis Overview," Jul 2016

NEW INFORMATION AND HIGHLIGHTS

Through livelihood programming and basic needs support in Syria, Jordan and Iraq, LWR is reaching more than 340,000 people affected by the crisis in Syria.

SITUATION REPORT

Crisis in Syria

September 9, 2016 | No. 2

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- In March 2011, Syrian security forces opened fire on demonstrators, who were protesting the arrest and torture of several teenagers in the city of Daraa. The violence prompted nationwide protests calling for the resignation of President Bashar al-Assad. The government continued its use of force against demonstrators and by the summer of 2011 armed rebellion had erupted, launching Syria into civil war.
- The chaos afforded the Islamic State (IS) the opportunity to take root in the country, which has drawn regional and world powers into what many are calling a 'proxy war' and further complicated the conflict. A U.S.-led coalition began launching airstrikes against IS targets in Syria in September 2014. Russia began launching airstrikes a year later, purportedly against IS, but coalition forces claim that Russian airstrikes are targeting rebel groups in civilian areas to further Assad's military agenda.
- Since 2011, multiple sources estimate that more than 400,000 people have been killed and more than one million have been injured. The violence and total destruction of cities and towns has forced 4.8 million Syrians to seek asylum outside of the country and has displaced 6.6 million, who cannot, for a multitude of reasons, leave Syria.

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE EFFORTS

- In the largest forced human migration in modern history, Jordan (with 656,198 refugees), Lebanon (1,033,513), Iraq (249,395), Turkey (2,724,937) and Egypt (114,911), as well as several European countries, such as Germany, struggle to accommodate the bulk of Syrian refugees within their borders.
- ACT Alliance has issued a funding appeal for \$9.3 million USD to respond to the needs of refugees in Jordan and Lebanon and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Syria.
- UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) released its [2016 Syria Humanitarian Response Plan](#), calling for \$3.18 billion USD. To date, only 33.7 percent of required funding has been raised.
- The International Syria Support Group's (ISSG) brokered ceasefire from February 27, 2016 has broken down and ground battles as well as air strikes have resumed in full force.

LWR – ACTIONS TAKEN AND NEXT STEPS

- Through livelihood programming and basic needs support in Syria, Jordan and Iraq (detailed below), LWR is reaching more than 340,000 people affected by the crisis in Syria.
- In Syria, LWR provided 13 cash-for-work activities designed to ease the economic strain on 1,500 IDPs, who have few income-generating options, by giving them the opportunity to work on community development projects, such as building or restoring community centers, child care centers, hospitals, and community kitchens, and a training workshop to repair and distribute second-hand clothing.
- In Jordan, LWR is offering 16 workshops to train 400 Syrian women refugees on how to start their own business and will train 48 volunteers from these workshops to support the distributing of material resources, such as LWR Personal Care Kits and clothes, to nearly 26,000 Syrians refugees in the country.
- In the Dohuk region of northern Iraq (Kurdistan), LWR is working with 2,656 refugees, IDPs and members of host communities (52% of which are women) to increase food security, offer community-based psychosocial support, improve water systems and sanitation, and restore livelihoods through skills trainings.
- LWR is shipping Mission Quilts, Baby Care Kits, School Kits and Personal Care Kits to Armenia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Serbia and Syria for distribution amongst refugees and IDPs. Since 2011, Lutherans have sent more than \$7 million of Quilts and Kits reaching more than 337,000 people.
- LWR is also supporting ACT Alliance members in providing humanitarian support to refugees fleeing to Europe. ACT members are providing hygiene items, winter coats and blankets, emergency shelter and psychosocial support in Hungary, Serbia and Greece.
- We continue to remain in contact with our local partners on the ground and ACT Alliance to determine additional needs and how LWR can assist to meet these needs.

LWR IN THE COUNTRY

LWR has been supporting Syrian refugees fleeing the violence from the civil war and the Islamic State (IS) since 2011 throughout the region and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Syria since 2015.



Syrians work on the roof of a children's nursery undergoing rehabilitation as part of cash-for-work programming in Homs, supported by LWR.

For additional information about LWR's response to the crisis in Syria and other emergencies around the world, please visit lwr.org. You can also join the conversation about how LWR is assisting those affected by the crisis and how you can help at facebook.com/LuthWorldRelief or twitter.com/LuthWorldRelief.



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