



# Time to Act Our World. Our Children.

**2014 Interim Report  
November 2014**



**“The world must act to save a generation of traumatised, isolated and suffering Syrian children from catastrophe. If we do not move quickly, this generation of innocents will become lasting casualties of an appalling war.”**

**The Future of Syria Report (UNHCR)**  
**November 2013**

## Funding Summary

In 2014, a group of prominent leading philanthropists from Sweden, the United States, the Arab World and Monaco in addition to private-sector donors from around the world have contributed to TTA, organized fundraising events and assisted UNHCR's efforts to protect Syrian refugee children. A dedicated webpage for TTA's lead donors has been created on [timetoact.unhcr.org/lead-donors](http://timetoact.unhcr.org/lead-donors).

Thanks to the inspirational support of TTA's lead donors and supporters, over \$2.5 million has been raised in 2014 globally. Further funding and high-level support are expected to contribute to reach in 2015 the \$10 million goal.

**In 2014, Time to Act raised over \$2.5m and contributed to activities helping more than 593,465 Syrian refugee children.**

### In 2014 the Time to Act Appeal contributed to:

	Lebanon	Jordan	Turkey	Egypt
<b>Make psychosocial support available to children</b>	1,837 children received psychological support and 492 professionals were trained	8,269 children supported and/or assessed	Figures to be confirmed in final report June 2015	1,860 children & 746 families supported
<b>Provide financial support for Education</b>	Figures to be confirmed in final report June 2015	47,000 children received education grants and 872 families received cash assistance	80 schools were supported with teaching tools	31,000 children received education grants
<b>Provide primary health care</b>	80,188 children received primary health services and 14,660 received life-saving referrals	282,000 children vaccinated against polio and 2,163 received medical examination	10 prefab clinics were set-up	11,960 children vaccinated against polio
<b>Offer alternatives to "going back"</b>	13 community and recreational facilities setup	24,000 refugees participated in recreational activities	1,200 children received direct support and recreational activities	1,300 children participated in recreational activities
<b>Promote birth registration</b>	5,500 parents received advice and support on child birth registration	1,000 children were registered in Zaa'tari camp	Figures to be confirmed in final report June 2015	Figures to be confirmed in final report June 2015
<b>Deliver education</b>	81,028 children were provided with primary and remedial education	4,000 refugees benefited from various school rehabilitation and education projects	Figures to be confirmed in final report June 2015	Figures to be confirmed in final report June 2015

## Situation Update

As the recent statistics below show, more than 3.2 million Syrians have so far fled their country to neighboring countries. Over 50% of them are children and young people under the age of 18. For the vast majority of them, education has been seriously interrupted or even come to a complete standstill.

As their time in displacement prolongs, the lack of access to education for the majority of school-aged Syrian children presents a significant challenge to them, their families and their country, making the future of all of them even more uncertain.

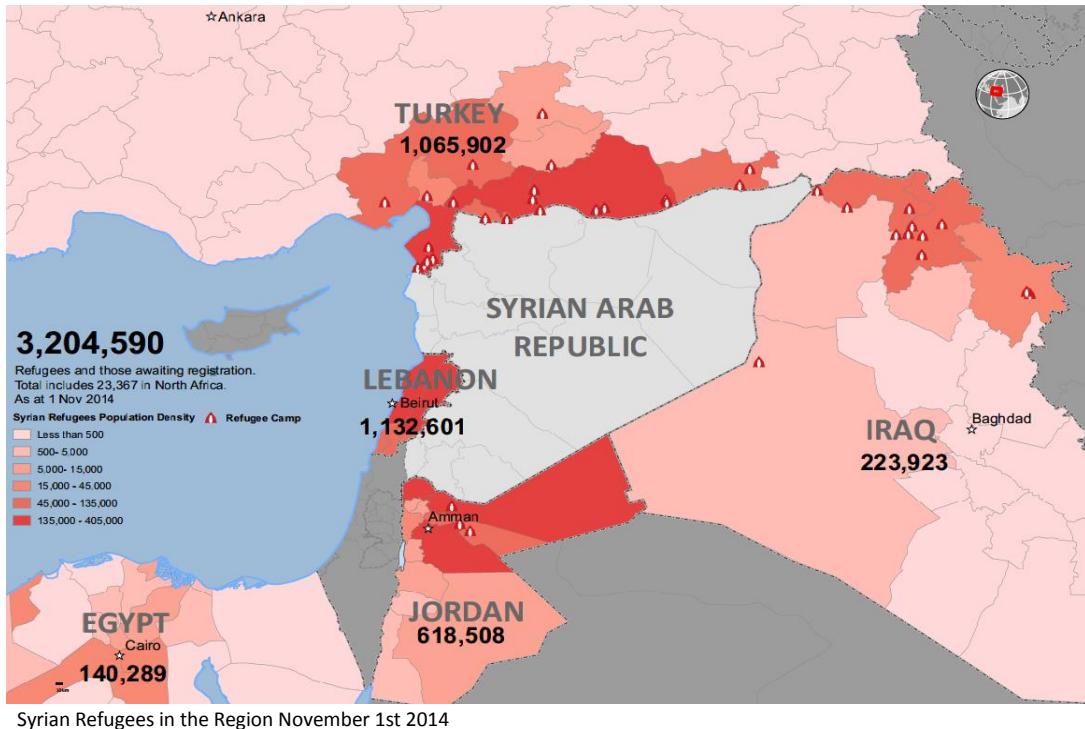
To address this immense challenge the UNHCR Time to Act Appeal (TTA) was launched in 2014 calling on leading philanthropists and concerned private individuals to join efforts with public donors and help

to provide Syrian refugee children with access to education to avert the specter of a 'lost generation'.

Thanks to the joint contributions and inspirational support of TTA's donors, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has been able to achieve a number of important goals enabling Syrian refugee children not only to go to school, but also to maximize the impact of the classroom education they receive and mitigate the negative consequences of the Syrian crisis on their future.

In the following report we have collected some of the ongoing activities implemented with TTA contributions in 2014 and some of the achieved goals. It also features stories from the field of affected refugee children.

The 2014 final report will be available in June 2015.



## Story from the field

### Mafaz's Story: There's no place like school...

For refugee children, who have survived the violent conflict in Syria, school is not just a place of learning but is also a safe place to be a child again.

We met with Mafaz in Basirma Refugee Camp, Iraq to hear why school is so important to refugee children like her. Mafaz is quietly determined to do her best: "*There's no life for a girl without education*" says the eleven-year-old refugee from Syria. "*It is school that can get me where I need to be, to a better future. When you study you can have a better understanding of your world. Languages for example, these can allow us to interact with other people. With school we can improve our lives.*"

Softly spoken but articulate, Mafaz says that when her home city in Syria was bombed last year she had never in her life felt such fear. Mafaz is not the only one. Of the hundreds of thousands of refugee children living in Northern Iraq under the protection of the UNHCR, many speak of sadness and longing for their home and everything that they once held dear.

*"What do I miss in Syria? I miss everything. I miss my school, my favourite teacher, my brothers, uncles and aunts who are still there. I miss the food. I miss so many things from Syria but because of the attacks and the situation it's not safe to live there so we had to leave."*



Along with her mother Waseela and younger brother Nawaf (9 years old), Mafaz left her home near the city of Al-Malikiyah in August 2013. With no money to pay for transport, they walked for four days to reach the border with Iraq and then, together with thousands of others, crossed over a temporary bridge and were met by UNHCR in Iraq. Today the family calls a one-room caravan in the Basirma Refugee Camp home.

Despite the strangeness of life as a refugee child, school has given Mafaz a sense of future again. "*Mafaz is very clever. I want her to stay in school and succeed, to have a better life than I can give her*" says Waseela.



[www.timetoact.unhcr.org](http://www.timetoact.unhcr.org)

**In France**

Cristina Davies  
[davesc@unhcr.org](mailto:davesc@unhcr.org)  
+33 1 44 43 48 60

**In the USA**

Ned McNeal  
[mcneal@unhcr.org](mailto:mcneal@unhcr.org)  
+1 917 922 0807

**In Sweden**

Sweden for UNHCR  
[info@sverigeforunhcr.se](mailto:info@sverigeforunhcr.se)  
+46 8 121 491 00

**All other countries**

Paola de Leo  
[deleo@unhcr.org](mailto:deleo@unhcr.org)  
+44 2077599520