OVERVIEW OF FUNDING NEEDS

overall humanitarian appeals

132.5 million

28% FUNDED

REGIONAL SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE

2024

DON'T THINK THE WORLD UNDERSTANDS WHAT IT EANS TO BE A WOMAN LIVING IN SYRIA TODAY. IT IS LLED WITH DANGER, GRIEF, AND STRUGGLE, LLY AFTER THE ECONOMIC CRISIS."



In light of the extensive humanitarian needs in 2024, compounded by economic collapse and ongoing mass displacement, women and girls throughout Syria and refugee hosting countries are more reliant than ever on humanitarian assistance, making the consequences of underfunding both significant and far-reaching.

Despite the continuing efforts of humanitarian actors, the Syria crisis remains one of the world's most complex humanitarian and protection emergencies. In 2024, 16.7 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance — the highest number since the onset of the crisis in 2011. This includes 8.4 million women and girls, around 4.1 million of whom are of reproductive age. Meanwhile, more than 6.3 million Syrian refugees remain in five neighbouring countries – Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt, nearly half of whom are women and girls who face mounting risks of violence, exploitation, and lack of access to essential services.

Hostilities and health outbreaks continue to place lives at risk

As of year-end 2023, civilian life and humanitarian assistance are severely impacted by artillery shelling, air strikes, land mines, and unexploded ordnance, creating fear for millions of Syrians who have known nothing but conflict and displacement since 2011.

The basic service capacity in Syria continues to erode, with critical systems like water, sanitation, and public health under severe pressure due to minimal development investment. The region faces recurrent disease outbreaks, waterborne diseases, an extended drought and water crisis, vaccine-preventable illnesses, and food insecurity, leading to increased mortality and morbidity. This includes higher rates of malnutrition and a growing need for humanitarian assistance. Rural Damascus, Idleb, Ar-Raqqa, Quneitra, and Lattakia have reported alarming Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) levels, with Lattakia experiencing an emergencylevel GAM prevalence of 10 percent. Over 12.9 million people in Syria require food assistance, and the cost of a food basket has dramatically increased, doubling since January 2023 and quadrupling over two years.

As Syrians face these challenges, the economy has further deteriorated, sparking some internal migration as families seek livelihoods and better access to services. High inflation, currency depreciation, and rising commodity prices have escalated humanitarian needs, increasing poverty and dependence on aid. Since February 2023, the Syrian pound has lost about half of its value against the US dollar.

This multifaceted crisis perpetuates vulnerability cycles, particularly affecting those most in need, including individuals with disabilities. The increasing reliance on unavailable basic services exacerbates vulnerability and strains social cohesion. Active conflict and military operations, including shelling and airstrikes, especially near frontlines, have hindered humanitarian access, impacting both aid delivery and the population's access to services.

In October 2023, the most significant escalation of hostilities since 2019 occurred in northern Syria and Deir-ez-Zor Governorate, displacing over 120,000 people in north-west Syria and affecting numerous health facilities, schools, and water systems.

Women & girls continue to pay the steepest price

In addition to many women and girls lacking access to quality sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, gender-based violence (GBV) continues to pervade the daily lives of Syrian women and girls impacted by the crisis, as shown by assessments and focus group discussions conducted by UNFPA. Their lives are marked by mutually reinforcing forms of violence and gender inequality, often exacerbated by discriminatory attitudes based on age, displacement status, disability, and/or marital status. This has created an environment in which the health and lives of women and girls are consistently at risk, and in which they're devalued, controlled, exploited, and then blamed for the violence they face.

"Things have gotten much worse in recent years," explains Sali, a young woman living in Areesha camp, who was forced into a child marriage when she was 14, shortly after the crisis erupted. Fortunately, she was able to access services at a UNFPA-supported Safe Space, which helped her overcome her trauma. "The situation is the same for so many girls around me, but many are not able to find support as I did."

Unsurprisingly, women and girls throughout Syria and the crisis region are telling UNFPA that the violence against them has become normalised. Harassment, intimate partner and family violence, child and forced marriage and subsequent pregnancies, and sexual violence and exploitation are consistently reported, while new trends, such as various forms of technology-facilitated gender-based violence, have also been observed in recent years.

Adolescent girls in particular face a wide range of challenges that usually accompany them throughout their lives. It usually begins with restrictions on movement and domestic violence, and progresses as the girl grows up to include child and forced marriages, domestic violence, early pregnancy, sexual violence, and sexual exploitation, among others. Girls are also being denied their right to an education, which further limits their life prospects and can entrap them in an unending cycle of violence and exploitation.

Syrians & host communities still face an uphill battle

Among the more than 6.3 million Syrian refugees dispersed across neighbouring countries, women and girls confront heightened vulnerabilities due to the prolonged crisis, with GBV posing an increasing threat. Many find themselves in densely populated and precarious environments where the danger of harassment, assault, and exploitation is everpresent. The deteriorating macroeconomic situation, exacerbated by the war in Ukraine, has pushed numerous families towards harmful survival strategies, including child and forced marriages.

Furthermore, Syrian refugees endure persistent challenges in their host countries, which hampers their efforts to heal from trauma and to rebuild their lives. These include language and cultural barriers, discriminatory attitudes, economic challenges, and many other challenges that can impede their access to work, education, healthcare, and essential services. For refugee women and girls, this often translates into an elevated risk of violence and exploitation and an obstructed path to legal redress. It also poses a key obstacle to their societal integration, leading to their marginalisation and social exclusion. This stark reality accentuates the critical need for interventions that are specifically designed to address the adversities faced by these women and girls and meet their distinct needs.

UNFPA stands with those impacted

And yet, despite the enormous challenges levelled against them, Syrians throughout the region refuse to give up. People of different ages and backgrounds, including women and girls who have survived genderbased violence, continue to demonstrate remarkable resilience and determination. Many rise above their challenges and traumas to provide better prospects and opportunities for their children and loved ones, while others defy circumstances to become artists, activists, innovators and influential voices in their communities.

In 2023, as part of its regional response to the crisis, UNFPA delivered sexual and reproductive health services to more than 2 million people, while more than 1 million were reached with services designed to prevent and respond to gender-based violence. In addition to reaching 300,000 adolescent girls with vital services, more than 145,000 women were provided with cash and voucher assistance, and more than 12,000 LGBTQIA+ individuals were served.

AFTER THE WAR, THE SITUATION FOR WOMEN AND SIRLS HAS BECOME JNBEARABLE IN MAN

YARA, a Syrian woman from Rural Damascus



\$132,528,976 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN APPEAL

28% FUNDED

The humanitarian landscape is increasingly complex, marked by a proliferation of global crises that compete for the attention and resources of the international community. This situation has led to significant underfunding of crucial humanitarian programmes, with dire consequences for the most vulnerable populations, particularly in conflict-affected regions like Syria.

UNFPA services are often irreplaceable

UNFPA-supported health facilities and safe spaces provide sanctuary and essential services to women and girls, including access to SRH care and protection from GBV. In Syria and similar contexts, these spaces are not just facilities for care but also hubs of hope and empowerment in otherwise bleak environments. However, with the growing number of global crises vying for limited funds, these safe havens are at risk of shutting down, leaving countless women and girls without critical support.

The closure of these spaces would have far-reaching and devastating effects. In many communities throughout Syria and the region, UNFPA-supported facilities are often the sole providers of quality, accessible SRH services and protection programmes. This care includes access to emergency obstetric and neonatal services, contraception, and clinical management of rape. The absence of such services could lead to a considerable increase in maternal and infant mortality as well complications from pregnancies. In areas where healthcare infrastructure is already decimated by conflict, the consequences of reduced or halted UNFPA operations could be catastrophic for millions of Syrian women and girls.

Safe spaces save lives

Additionally, the risk of GBV escalates when funding shortfalls force the closure of safe spaces. These spaces not only offer refuge and medical care but also psychosocial support and a sense of community. Without them, more women and girls become more vulnerable to violence, exploitation, and abuse. The protective environment that these spaces create is crucial in areas where the rule of law is weak, and societal norms often fail to protect the rights and wellbeing of women and girls.

Underfunding not only hinders the implementation of innovative programmes and community outreach

initiatives aimed at fostering gender equality and women's empowerment, but it also risks undoing much of the progress made in combating harmful social norms and practices, particularly in areas where patriarchal attitudes are already deeply entrenched. This not only threatens the physical and mental health of women and girls but can also significantly hinder their educational and economic opportunities, trapping them in cycles of poverty, dependence, and oppression. Consequently, the potential of a whole generation of young women to contribute to the development and stabilisation of their communities remains unrealised, further perpetuating systemic gender inequalities.

The international community must recognise the urgency of adequately funding UNFPA programmes to prevent a worsening of the already dire situation for women and girls in the most impacted regions.

"I KNOW THE WORL[
I WANT TO LIVE IN.
HELP ME BUILD IT,
AND I WILL NEVER
STOP WORKING."

RUBA, a young Syrian woman living in Idlib



IRAQ \$12,000,000 51% FUNDED

LEBANON \$17,000,000

31% FUNDED

WHOLE of SYRIA \$67,310,503

\$11,067,473

EGYPT \$11,000,000

	SYRIA APPEALS	OTHER APPEALS	TOTAL
SRH	\$51,442,189	\$4,235,000	\$55,677,189
GBV	\$47,899,446	\$5,425,000	\$53,324,446
SUPPLIES / COMMODITIES	\$16,027,341	-	\$16,027,341
OTHER	\$7,500,000	-	\$7,500,000
TOTAL	\$122,868,976	\$9,660,000	\$132,528,976

1,720,225

PEOPLE REACHED WITH SRH SERVICES

98% FEMALE

723,789

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GBV PROGRAMMING

92% FEMALE

295,686

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

14,471

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

90% FEMALE

8,852

LGBTQIA+ INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS SERVICES

14,093

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

100% FEMALE

10,901

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

79% FEMALE

UNFPA's regional response to the Syria crisis encompasses a comprehensive approach tailored to address the multifaceted challenges faced by affected populations across the region. Central to this response is ensuring access to critical sexual and reproductive health services and robust mechanisms for protecting against and responding to gender-based violence, with a strong focus on vulnerable groups such as women, adolescents, and girls.

UNFPA's strategy, deeply embedded in SRH-GBV integration, focuses on capacity building within communities and healthcare systems, aiming to enhance service delivery in challenging environments while fostering resilience among affected populations. Central to this approach is empowering marginalised individuals, including women and girls with disabilities and LGBTQIA+ individuals, in addition to actively combating harmful gender norms. Through concerted advocacy and policy work, UNFPA ensures that gender issues are intricately woven into every aspect of the response.

UNFPA collaborates with a range of partners, including local NGOs and women-led organisations, international organisations and INGOs, and government bodies, ensuring a coordinated and effective response to the ongoing humanitarian needs arising from the Syria crisis.

"WITHOUT THE URGEN"
CARE I RECEIVED FROM
THE UNFPA-SUPPORTEI
TEAM, I WOULD NOT
HAVE BEEN ABLE TO
HAVE A HEALTHY BABY.
THEY MADE ALL THE

NOUR, a woman from north-West Syria

OFSYRIA

	SYRIA APPEALS	OTHER APPEALS	TOTAL
SRH	\$ 29,737,907	-	\$29,737,907
GBV	\$ 18,512,596	-	\$18,512,596
YOUTH	\$ 1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000
SUPPLIES / COMMODITIES	\$ 11,560,000	-	\$11,560,000
OTHER	\$ 6,000,000	-	\$6,000,000
TOTAL	\$ 67,310,503	-	\$67,310,503

31% FUNDED

1,186,854

PEOPLE REACHED WITH **SRH SERVICES**

98% FEMALE

569,614

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GBV PROGRAMMING

93% FEMALE

23.856

PEOPLE REACHED WITH YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

70% FEMALE

236,391

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

11,105

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

91% FEMALE

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

100% FEMALE

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

77% FEMALE

UNFPA in Syria is adopting a nexus approach that integrates humanitarian interventions within long-term development initiatives. The 2024 strategy focuses on building institutional capacity and supporting static facilities to sustain impactful interventions. Focus will be given to the integration of SRH and GBV services and improving overall access for vulnerable women and girls. Efforts will be made to advance SRH services, including emergency obstetric care, family planning, and clinical management of rape. Furthermore, building the capacities of technical experts and partner personnel will be a priority, with a focus on resilience building and development response.

UNFPA Cross-Border Operations will strengthen SRH and GBV service integration in north-west Syria. This includes prioritising social inclusion by tailoring services to reach all groups in need, including persons with disabilities, older persons, and adolescent girls. Outreach teams and mobile service delivery points will also be supported to access hard-to-reach areas. Through its interventions, UNFPA will also promote a protective environment for women and girls through positive community engagement, challenging harmful behaviors and unequal social norms. Localisation will be supported by engaging local NGOs, particularly women-led and grassroots organisations, to build local capacity, promote ownership, and sustain transformative change.

SARA, a young Syrian woman living in Al Hol IDP camp in Syria

	SYRIA APPEALS	EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY	TOTAL
SRH	\$2,163,150	\$2,585,000	\$4,748,150
GBV	\$7,527,850	\$1,575,000	\$9,102,850
SUPPLIES / COMMODITIES	\$300,000	-	\$300,000
TOTAL	\$9,991,000	\$4,160,000	\$14,151,000

100,571

PEOPLE REACHED WITH SRH SERVICES

93% FEMALE

96,501

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GBV PROGRAMMING

87% FEMALE

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

In Türkiye, UNFPA will continue to provide SRH and GBV services to refugees, host communities, and earthquake survivors. Services will be delivered through women and girls' safe spaces, youth centers, municipal service centers, and key refugee group service units. The program will encompass reproductive health counseling, GBV case management, social cohesion activities, and empowerment programs. Efforts will focus on enhancing the capacities of health service providers and protection officers to address the urgent reproductive health needs of refugee women and girls. Lastly, UNFPA will continue supporting static and mobile service delivery units impacted by the earthquakes that struck south-east Türkiye on 6 February 2023.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

61% FEMALE

D23 ACHIEVEMENTS ASOFQ3

LGBTQIA+ INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS SERVICES

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

48% FEMALE

2,515

PEOPLE TRAINED ON **VARIOUS TOPICS**

77% FEMALE

HILAL, a young Syrian woman living in Türkiye

	SYRIA APPEALS	OTHER APPEALS	TOTAL
SRH	\$6,750,000	-	\$6,750,000
GBV	\$6,500,000	-	\$6,500,000
OTHER	\$3,750,000	-	\$3,750,000
TOTAL	\$17,000,000	-	\$17,000,000

76,405

PEOPLE REACHED WITH SRH SERVICES

96% FEMALE

39,802

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GBV PROGRAMMING

92% FEMALE

18,062

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

11,105

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

91% FEMALE

7,735

2023 ACHIEVEMENTS ASOFQ3

LGBTQIA+ INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS SERVICES

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

100% FEMALE

PEOPLE TRAINED ON **VARIOUS TOPICS**

77% FEMALE

UNFPA Lebanon will continue providing essential SRH and GBV services to Syrian refugees, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinians, and migrant workers. The program will subsidise SRH service delivery for marginalised populations and scale up GBV integration within primary healthcare centers. The strategy includes strengthening networking and community-based interventions, expanding cash and voucher assistance programs, and investing in working with municipalities and youth to enhance social stability.

SANA, a young Syrian woman living in Lebanon



	SYRIA APPEALS	OTHER APPEALS	TOTAL
SRH	\$5,141,132	-	\$5,141,132
GBV	\$5,509,000	-	\$5,509,000
SUPPLIES / COMMODITIES	\$417,341	-	\$417,341
TOTAL	\$11,067,473	-	\$11,067,473

79,023

PEOPLE REACHED WITH SRH SERVICES

99% FEMALE

7,908

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GBV PROGRAMMING

96% FEMALE

5,973

PEOPLE REACHED WITH YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

74% FEMALE

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

99% FEMALE

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

86% FEMALE

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

72% FEMALE

UNFPA Jordan will build on the progress made in 2023 to integrate SRH services across different health platforms, focusing on system resilience and adaptability to changing needs. The strategy will emphasise multi-sectoral partnerships and coordination to ensure a holistic approach to SRH access and education. Quality assurance and accessibility of SRH services will be a significant focus, with special attention given to vulnerable groups like refugees and displaced persons. The GBV protection strategy will shift towards creating sustainable national partnerships, innovative behavioral change strategies, enhanced service delivery, strengthened coordination and response, and data utilisation for capacity building. Both the SRH and GBV components will enable a catalytic process towards resilience and developmentoriented programmes.

SALAM, a young Syrian woman living in Jordan

	SYRIA APPEALS	OTHER APPEALS	TOTAL
SRH	\$6,000,000	-	\$6,000,000
GBV	\$6,000,000	-	\$6,000,000
TOTAL	\$12,000,000	-	\$12,000,000

In Iraq, UNFPA's 2024 strategy centers on a comprehensive approach to address critical challenges, emphasising GBV mitigation and response. The plan includes community engagement, survivor support services, and policy development. SRH services will be enhanced through improved access to quality care and education. Youth empowerment initiatives will involve young people in decision-making processes, equipping them with skills and opportunities for development.

4.850

PEOPLE REACHED WITH SRH SERVICES

100% FEMALE

1,913

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GBV PROGRAMMING

90% FEMALE

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

167

2023 ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF Q3

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

99% FEMALE

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

WOMEN & GIRLS' SAFE SPACES SUPPORTED

YUMNA, a young Syrian woman living in Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq

	SYRIA APPEALS	SUDAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE APPEAL	TOTAL
SRH	\$1,650,000	\$1,650,000	\$3,685,500
GBV	\$3,850,000	\$3,850,000	\$7,700,000
TOTAL	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000	\$11,000,000

In Egypt, the focus of UNFPA's strategy in 2024 will address the growing humanitarian needs arising from the influx of Sudanese refugees since April 2023 and the ongoing Gaza crisis. UNFPA Egypt plays a critical role in the Inter-Agency Coordination team for the Refugee Response, collaborating with the Government of Egypt to develop a comprehensive '2024 Egypt Regional Refugee Response Plan.' This plan adopts a onerefugee approach, collectively targeting all nationalities of refugees with essential SRH and protection services, including Syrians, Sudanese, host communities, and others.

272,522

PEOPLE REACHED WITH SRH SERVICES

100% FEMALE

8,051

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GBV PROGRAMMING

94% FEMALE

94

PEOPLE REACHED WITH YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

86% FEMALE

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

2023 ACHIEVEMENTS ASOFQ3

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

76% FEMALE

WOMEN & GIRLS' SAFE SPACES SUPPORTED

ZEINA, a young Syrian woman living in Egypt



WE'RE GRATEFUL.

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