Food insecurity. An estimated 6.3 million people are highly vulnerable to food insecurity and in critical need of food and agricultural support. The crisis has severely limited food production, marketing and imports. With localized drought in much of the country, food production is expected to further decline. Livelihood loss, deepening poverty, inflation and steep depreciation of the Syrian pound have further eroded families’ ability to meet basic needs and cope. Many report reducing the number of meals and opting for cheaper and less nutritious foods. The most vulnerable groups will remain unable to produce or access adequate food to meet basic needs this year, necessitating continued and expanded provision of multiple forms of emergency food and agricultural assistance.

Agricultural production downturns exacerbated by low rainfall. Despite the potential of agriculture to address mounting food availability and access constraints, little has been invested to support recovery of the sector. Latest assessments confirm low 2012/13 cereal production and anticipate low output for 2013/14 (18 percent below last year’s poor crop and around 52 percent below the 2001-2011 average) due to drought conditions in the main crop production areas, reduced areas under cultivation, limited access to farmland and inputs. These factors, coupled with decreased capacity of farming populations to generate income and access food in highly affected areas, increasingly hinder food security.

Livelihood constraints. Agriculture-based livelihoods face severe constraints across the value chain – from production to market. Major constraints include: restricted access to land due to violence; internal displacement; reduced availability and increased cost of farming inputs (seeds, fertilizers, animal feed, veterinary supplies, etc.); damage to land, farming equipment and infrastructure (including irrigation and storage), and market disruption.

Food availability, access and utilization. The significant drop in food production in Syria and disruptions in trade have negatively affected food availability and heavily impacted small-scale producers and workers along the supply chain of most agricultural commodities. Food price increases and removal of government subsidies have reduced the real income and purchasing power of poor households, forcing a change in dietary consumption and increasing malnutrition levels in host communities. For most Syrian refugees, humanitarian assistance is the primary source of food (e.g. 70 percent of refugees in Lebanon and Egypt are food insecure). Furthermore, refugee camps and impoverished host communities are highly exposed to outbreaks of food- and water-borne diseases.

Landless and smallholder farmers and farm workers. In affected areas of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, marginal, small-scale farmers and livestock breeders have suffered major income losses. Causes include: limited ability to access and tend fields (due to hostilities in border areas); reduced availability of irrigation water; two to five fold increases in agricultural input prices; reduced marketing opportunities for traditional export crops; and a consequent 20-40 percent net drop in farm-gate prices. With increasing availability of Syrian labour, farm wages for the family members of landless and marginal farmers have decreased by 25-30 percent.

Transboundary animal diseases (TADs) and plant diseases and pests. There is severe threat of TADs, and crop diseases and pests due to: (i) the collapse of veterinary, sanitary, phytosanitary and plant protection services inside Syria; (ii) increasing uncontrolled movement of unvaccinated/untreated livestock, seed and planting materials from Syria into Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon; and (iii) weak veterinary, sanitary and phytosanitary inspection services (i.e. surveillance and control) of those countries. Localized outbreaks of some significant diseases and zoonoses have been reported in all countries.

Data availability. A comprehensive analysis on food security and livelihoods across the region is needed to adequately project future needs and enable governments and humanitarian actors to adequately plan for them.
**2014 Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan (SHARP) - Revised**

**SYRIA**

**PLANNED BENEFICIARIES**

128,500 HOUSEHOLD

**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS**

USD 43.6 MILLION

**FUNDING RECEIVED**

USD 7.6 million

**Priority areas of intervention**

1. Emergency support to household crop production (wheat and barley)  
   **FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 28.000.000

2. Emergency support to small-scale herders (feed, veterinary inputs, technical support)  
   **FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 10.000.000

3. Backyard food production (poultry and vegetable)  
   **FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 4.000.000

4. Cash-for-work (rehabilitation of damaged critical on-farm irrigation canals)  
   **FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 900.000

5. Coordination and leadership of the Food and Agriculture Sector  
   **FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 676.000

**2014 Regional Response Plan (RRP 6)**

**COUNTRIES:** IRAQ, JORDAN, LEBANON AND TURKEY

**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS**

USD 20.8 MILLION

**FUNDING RECEIVED:**

USD 5.75 million

**Interventions by country**

**IRAQ.** Improving food and nutrition security and income generation  
- Improving livelihood resilience (vulnerable Kurdish farming communities hosting Syrian refugees).  
**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 3.739.435

**JORDAN.** Emergency control of TADs  
- Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farming families hosting Syrian refugees (Irbid and Maafra).  
- Emergency food security and nutrition interventions (Syrian refugees).  
- Support to food security and livelihood emergency programming.  
**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 5.000.000

**LEBANON.** Emergency vaccination and targeted feeding of livestock (grazing along Syria-Lebanon border)  
- Recovery of smallholder agricultural production (Lebanese returnees and host communities) and reinforcing farming community resilience to the crisis  
- Rehabilitation of dairy subsector to improve food and nutrition security.  
**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 8.767.500

**TURKEY.** Micro-gardening initiatives in selected refugee camps  
- Recovery of smallholder agricultural production and marketing in impoverished border areas.  
**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS** USD 3.250.000

**RESPONSE FAO 2014**


Donors: Belgium, UK and USA

**SHARP 2014**

**REACHING 65 500 FAMILIES IN SYRIA.**

Cereal production (wheat or barley). Around 31,000 families will receive cereal seeds for the 2014/15 winter campaign. The expected production is enough to feed families for a year and secure some much-needed income.

**Animal feed and veterinary service.** Approximately 34,500 families will benefit from veterinary support, helping them to keep their animals healthy and productive.

**RRP 6**

**REACHING 30 800 FAMILIES – LEBANON.**

Targeted livestock feeding. Preserving livelihoods at risk in border areas.

Emergency vaccination and training of extension staff. Safeguarding livelihoods and reducing the risk for transboundary animal diseases to spread.

Farmer field schools. Strengthening dairy and poultry production.

**FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD ASSESSMENT – JORDAN.**

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**2013 ASSESSMENTS**

FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (May-June)

FAO/WFP Joint Rapid Food Security Needs Assessment (Nov.)

FAO Agricultural Livelihoods and Food Security Impact Assessment and Response Plan for the Syria Crisis (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey) (Feb.–March)