



# THE SYRIA CRISIS

Jordan - Sumaya Agha for Mercy Corps

## WHO WE ARE

**Mercy Corps is a leading global humanitarian agency saving and improving lives in the world's toughest places.** Poverty. Conflict. Disaster. In more than 40 countries, we partner with local people to put bold ideas into action, helping them overcome adversity and build stronger communities. Now, and for the future.

## THE SITUATION

The Syrian war is one of the most complex humanitarian emergencies in recent memory. Millions of people are on the run inside Syria. Traumatized refugees – half of them children – are also fleeing to five neighboring countries. The politics are fraught and tensions are high. Water is running out. Houses and jobs are scarce. The crisis could easily destabilize the entire region and cause ripple effects that last for years.

Most people who leave Syria do not end up in the formal refugee camps run by governments and aid organizations. Exhausted and desperate, they show up on family doorsteps – in host communities that cannot meet the daily needs of their own people. Competition for scarce resources can trigger new conflicts.

Mercy Corps has 35 years of practical experience working in complex crisis situations like the one in Syria. We partner with local people to resolve urgent

issues while developing solutions that will continue to provide the support they need over the long term. We know how to help war-shocked families cope today – and rebuild tomorrow.

## HOW WE'RE HELPING

**Mercy Corps is helping nearly 2 million people inside Syria and in the neighboring countries that are hosting refugees.**

Our internationally recognized programming is providing critically needed services, including:



- **Emergency food assistance**
- **Clean water, shelter and sanitation**
- **Winter survival supplies**
- **Psychosocial support** to help children heal from the trauma of war
- **Conflict resolution** to help refugees and host communities resolve tensions over scarce resources.

# SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

## Families Fleeing Violence

There are more than 2.5 million Syrian refugees in five host countries. More than **11.8 million people** are in need of assistance inside and outside Syria.



1 in 5 people is a Syrian refugee

### LEBANON

944,397



1 in 11 people is a Syrian refugee

### JORDAN

577,786

### EGYPT

134,694

### TURKEY

619,642

### SYRIA

6.5 million people internally displaced

### IRAQ

225,560

As of March 2, 2014. Source: UNHCR <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/syria.php>; UN OCHA <http://syria.unocha.org/>

## WHAT WE DO

Mercy Corps has decades of experience responding to complex disasters like the Syrian war. In recent years, we have helped survivors after the Haiti earthquake, the Horn of Africa drought and the Japan tsunami.

Our approach is distinct:

- **We leverage local logic.** Our teams live in the communities we are helping. We speak the language and partner with local people to solve the challenges they face.
- **We are committed.** Complex challenges require an integrated, long-term approach. We work with communities until they recover, rebuild and become more resilient.
- **We take risks.** We keep pushing for bolder and better solutions to the complex challenges of life in the world's toughest places.
- **We have proven impact.** Mercy Corps is recognized as a leading global humanitarian agency: innovative, efficient and improving millions of people's lives each year.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

As the Syrian war enters its fourth year, we must do more to relieve the intense suffering of millions of people who need immediate humanitarian assistance.

Our ability to respond with urgency and stay beyond the emergency depends on the generosity of our donors.

- 1 Donate to our Syria Crisis Response. Your gift will help refugees survive and begin to rebuild their lives. Visit [mercycorps.org](http://mercycorps.org) or call **888.842.0842**.
- 2 Create your own Syria Crisis fundraising page. Visit [mercycorps.org/fundraising](http://mercycorps.org/fundraising) to mobilize your community to help.



45 SW Ankeny Street  
Portland, Oregon 97204

888.842.0842  
[mercycorps.org](http://mercycorps.org)