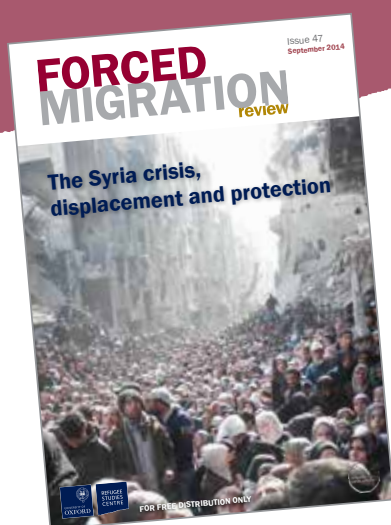




The Syria crisis, displacement and protection

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From the Editors

The numbers of displaced people in Syria make this the largest IDP crisis in the world, with possibly also the largest number of people who are 'trapped'. In addition, the number of refugees from Syria continues to increase – Syrian refugees themselves, Iraqi and Palestine refugees, and others.

The official status, physical conditions and social reception of the refugees have not been uniform either across geography or across time so far and will no doubt continue to shift. With no obvious sign that the crisis inside Syria will die down in a manner or time that is predictable, the international community has an opportunity to set up, starting from now, an effective response to what will clearly become protracted displacement.

While the conditions in neighbouring countries and responses further afield will continue to evolve, a pattern of needs, lacks and problems has already

emerged. The authors of articles in this issue offer observations that could be of value in increasing the level of protection for the displaced and in shaping assistance to both the displaced and the countries and communities that are 'hosting' them.

We are grateful to Kathrine Starup of the Danish Refugee Council and to Dawn Chatty of the Refugee Studies Centre for their assistance and input as special advisors on this issue.

At the same time as publishing an issue on Syria, we are also publishing a special supplement on 'Innovation and refugees', reflecting current discussions around humanitarian innovation and the outcomes of a recent conference held by the Humanitarian Innovation Project of the Refugee Studies Centre. The contents of the supplement can be found on the back page of this Listing.

www.fmreview.org/syria/editors

The Syria crisis, displacement and protection



The inheritance of loss

Nigel Fisher (United Nations)

As the civil war in Syria drags on, the scale of displacement continues to increase. While the crisis may be prolonged, refugees and IDPs need support now for their protection, their recovery, and both their immediate and their long-term prospects.

www.fmreview.org/syria/fisher



Development and protection challenges of the Syrian refugee crisis

Roger Zetter (Refugee Studies Centre) and Héloïse Ruauudel (independent)

The Syria Regional Response Plan 6 (RRP6) 2014 provides an increased focus on early recovery, social cohesion interventions and a transition from assistance to development-led interventions, alongside the continuing large-scale humanitarian assistance and protection programme.

www.fmreview.org/syria/zetter-ruauudel

"...displacement is the manifestation of the ugly fact of impunity that rides rampant in Syria. If ever an armed conflict were characterised by the absence of proportionality and distinction, Syria's civil war must be so characterised."

(Nigel Fisher, former UN Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Syria Crisis)

Graffiti on a wall in Homs, Syria:

"When I leave, know that I did all I could to stay."

The refugee crisis in Lebanon and Jordan: the need for economic development spending

Omar Dahi (Hampshire College/Carnegie Middle East Center, Beirut)

The most effective way to tackle the Syrian refugee crisis is for neighbouring states to assume a leading role in development spending, infrastructure upgrading and job creation, particularly in the most underdeveloped regions of those countries.

www.fmreview.org/syria/dahi

Syrians contributing to Kurdish economic growth

Anubha Sood and Louisa Seferis (Danish Refugee Council)

The circumstances for both successful livelihoods programming for refugees and for contributing to the local economy are present in the Kurdish region of Iraq.

www.fmreview.org/syria/sood-seferis

The role of host communities in north Lebanon

Helen Mackreath (American University of Beirut)

Research conducted in Akkar, north Lebanon, suggests that the role played by the host community demonstrates good local capacity which should be built on to encourage further civic engagement and empowerment.

www.fmreview.org/syria/mackreath

Refugee activists' involvement in relief effort in Lebanon

Frances Topham Smallwood (University of Amsterdam)

A cadre of educated middle-class Syrian refugees dedicated to improving conditions for Syrians at home and in Lebanon are building a civil society in exile but face obstacles to consolidating their presence and becoming more effective.

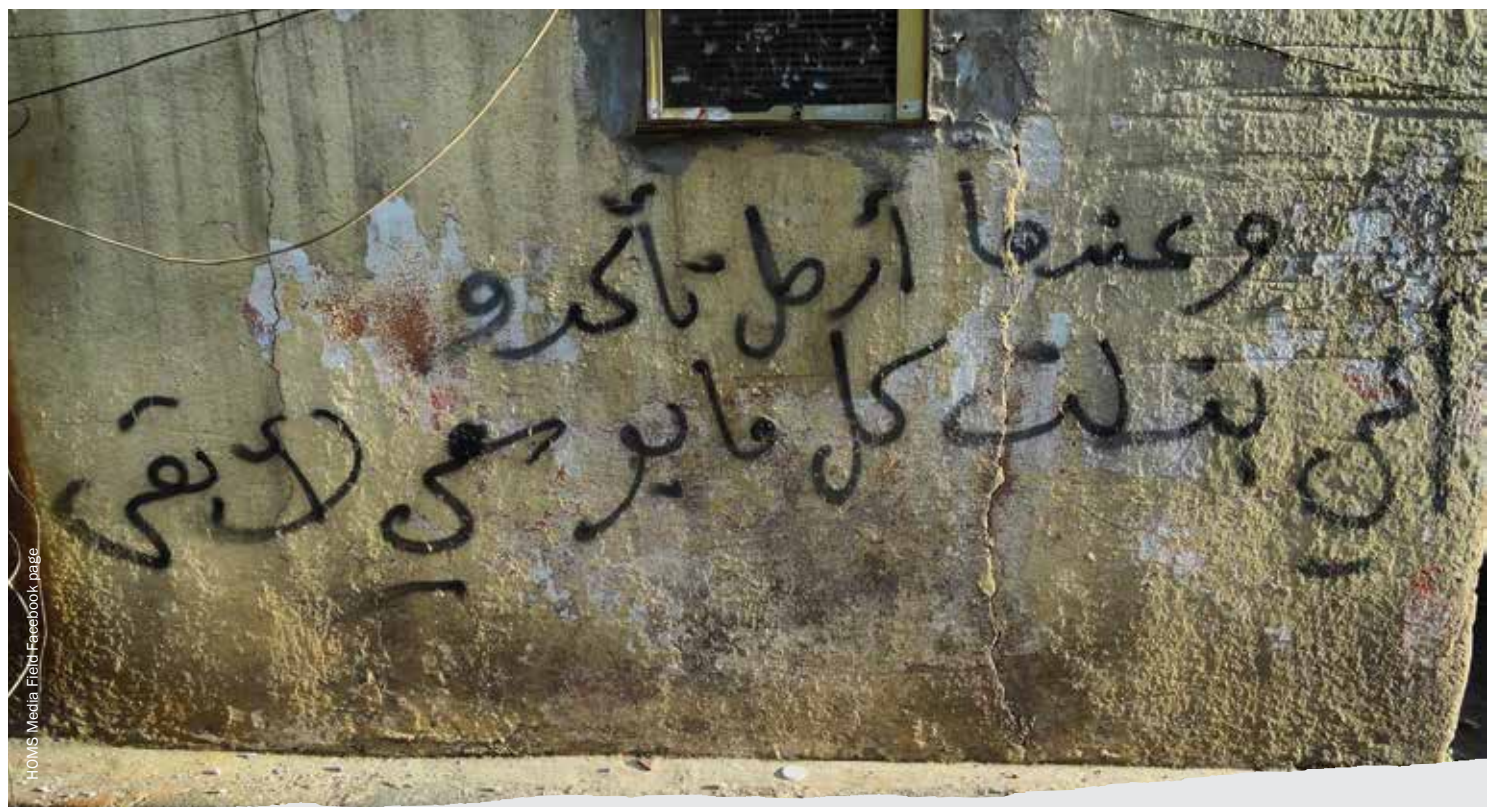
www.fmreview.org/syria/smallwood

Coping strategies among self-settled Syrians in Lebanon

Cathrine Thorleifsson (University of Oslo)

Refugees in Lebanon say that they prefer living outside camps where they have better opportunities to influence their situation.

www.fmreview.org/syria/thorleifsson



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Limited legal status for refugees from Syria in Lebanon

Dalia Aranki and Olivia Kalis (Norwegian Refugee Council)

Having limited legal status has direct negative consequences for Syrian refugees' access to protection and assistance during their stay in Lebanon. Limited legal status also increases the risks of abuse and exploitation.

www.fmreview.org/syria/aranki-kalis



Refugee by association

Blanche Tax (UNHCR)

Many Syrians, even when they have not been individually singled out, meet the refugee criteria on the grounds of being at risk of persecution because of a perceived association, in the broadest sense, with one of the parties to the conflict.

www.fmreview.org/syria/tax



Protection challenges of mobility

Melissa Phillips and Kathrine Starup (Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat/Danish Refugee Council)

It is easy to say that people fleeing Syria should stay in camps or satellite cities but people move on for a variety of reasons, and programmes and services must adapt to assist them.

www.fmreview.org/syria/phillips-starup



A duty and a burden on Jordan

Saleh Al-Kilani (Jordanian Ministry of Interior)

It is important to Jordan both that it protects its national identity and maintains its cultural obligations, and that it faces up to its humanitarian obligations.

www.fmreview.org/syria/alkilani

"Our lives were predictable [before]. We all knew the beginning, middle and end of our stories. Then this conflict occurred, and it has turned everything on its head. I can never go back to doing what I did before."

(40-year-old translator and English lecturer who is now responsible for emergency assistance distribution for up to 10,000 families per month in Aleppo; from article by Zerene Haddad)



For beneficiary-led protection programming in Jordan

Sinead McGrath (International Catholic Migration Commission in Jordan)

Despite the humanitarian community's clear focus on addressing the protection concerns of displaced Syrians, in Jordan the beneficiaries of many protection programmes have had limited influence on the shape of the protection response to date.

www.fmreview.org/syria/mcgrath



If Israel accepted Syrian refugees and IDPs in the Golan Heights

Crystal Plotner (Al-Marsad, Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights)

Could re-opening the Golan Heights to Syrians displaced by the conflict be a beneficial option both for those fleeing the Syrian conflict and for Israel's relations with its north-eastern neighbour?

www.fmreview.org/syria/plotner



Gender, conscription and protection, and the war in Syria

Rochelle Davis, Abbie Taylor and Emma Murphy (Georgetown University)

The struggles endured by men who remain inside Syria and the obstacles faced by others who choose to remove themselves from the fighting by fleeing the country demonstrate a need to redefine classic conceptions of vulnerability and to consider civilian men and their needs as part of a solution rather than a problem.

www.fmreview.org/syria/davis-taylor-murphy

This issue has been published with the assistance of the Regional Development and Protection Programme, a three-year regional initiative for Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, led by Denmark and with contributions from the EU, Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands, UK and the Czech Republic.

The impact of displacement on disabled, injured and older Syrian refugees

Marcus Skinner (HelpAge International)

In contexts of displacement it is critical to recognise that some groups in the population may require specific attention. Awareness of these needs has major consequences for the types of services required, and the way they are delivered.

www.fmreview.org/syria/skinner

The vulnerability of Palestinian refugees from Syria

Leah Morrison (Oxford Brookes University)

While Syrian nationals may eventually return to their home country, the future for Palestinians from Syria is increasingly uncertain. Meanwhile they are more vulnerable than, and treated worse than, most other refugees from the Syrian conflict.

www.fmreview.org/syria/morrison

The mental health of Syrian refugee children and adolescents

Leah James, Annie Sovcik, Ferdinand Garoff and Reem Abbasi (Center for Victims of Torture)

Mental health services can be key to restoring basic psychological functioning and to supporting resilience and positive coping strategies for children, adolescents and adults.

www.fmreview.org/syria/james-sovcik-garoff-abbasi

The inside story: internal displacement in Syria

Erin Mooney (ProCap)

With IDPs currently constituting two-thirds of those uprooted by the conflict, the 'inside story' of displacement in Syria requires much greater attention.

www.fmreview.org/syria/mooney

How the crisis is altering women's roles in Syria

Zerene Haddad (Jesuit Refugee Service, Middle East and North Africa)

The significance of women as both distributors and recipients has been pivotal to the implementation of humanitarian assistance but also points to the burgeoning of a new social dynamic that has come about as a result of the upheaval caused by the war.

www.fmreview.org/syria/haddad

Mobility as a solution

Lucas Oesch (Groupe de recherches et d'études sur la Méditerranée et le Moyen Orient)

Not all those who have gone to Syria's neighbours are registered, nor do all these people regard themselves as refugees.

www.fmreview.org/syria/oesch

"...host communities should be seen not only as a vulnerable population in need of assistance but also, more usefully, as empowered actors with the potential to generate cohesive community initiatives."

(Helen Mackreath, American University of Beirut)

Innovation and refugees • www.fmreview.org/innovation FMR special supplement, also published in September 2014

In July 2014 the Refugee Studies Centre's Humanitarian Innovation Project hosted a two-day conference in Oxford to help define an agenda for humanitarian innovation. This FMR supplement contains articles relating to outcomes of the conference, aspects of the team's research, and additional articles drawn from a range of external actors (UN, NGOs, refugee communities) on different aspects of the theme of 'innovation and refugees'.



Introduction: refugees and innovation

Alexander Betts (Refugee Studies Centre)

Doing innovation well presents challenges for how we can work better together as organisations and with displaced people, and how we can break down traditional barriers between actors – all while upholding ethical principles and protection standards relating to displacement.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/betts



Innovation – what, why and how for a UN organisation

Alexander Aleinikoff (UNHCR)

The purpose of innovation is to make humanitarian work more effective and more reflective. We do innovation to improve human lives by doing things better. Innovation, for UNHCR, is a humanitarian imperative to be carried out with partners.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/aleinikoff



Learning curves and collaboration in reconceiving refugee settlements

Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar and Aparna Surendra (Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University)

A collaboration between UNHCR, Ennead Architects and Stanford University uses settlement design to promote innovation and further development in the refugee protection model but collaborators initially face a steep learning curve.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/cuellar-surendra



Technology, production and partnership innovation in Uganda

Moses Musaazi (Technology for Tomorrow Ltd)

Since 2007 a partnership between UNHCR, the Government of Uganda and 'MakaPads' inventor Moses Musaazi has helped provide affordable sanitary pads for thousands of refugee girls and women while substantially reducing UNHCR's expenditure on these essential items.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/musaazi



UNHCR Ideas: an online platform for change

Alice Bosley (UNHCR)

'UNHCR Ideas' aims to enable collaborative problem solving and idea generation among an online community.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/bosley

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Resettlement and livelihoods innovation in the US

Faith Nibbs (Southern Methodist University)

Conversations with multiple stakeholders in the US help to highlight barriers to economic self-sufficiency for resettled refugees and opportunities for innovative approaches.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/nibbs



Entrepreneurship and innovation by refugees in Uganda

Robert Hakiza (Young African Refugees for Integral Development)

In order to make a living, refugees have to be innovative, and refugees in Uganda have contributed tremendously to entrepreneurship and innovation in the country.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/hakiza



Innovation and refugee livelihoods: a historical perspective

Evan Elise Easton-Calabria (Humanitarian Innovation Project)

It is difficult to speak convincingly of 'new' or innovative practices towards refugees, especially in refugee livelihoods assistance, while there remains a significant gap in historical knowledge and institutional memory.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/eastoncalabria



Innovation for equity in Lebanon

Luciano Calestini (UNICEF Lebanon)

Innovative approaches in Lebanon aim to address, in two very different ways, the particular needs of the most vulnerable among the refugee and host populations.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/calestini



Innovation and new ways of working across sectors

Erik Abild (Norwegian Refugee Council)

Humanitarian actors will have to adapt to a changing world but it will not be easy or straightforward. Operations are changing as a result of innovations which bring many improvements but also throw up challenges.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/abild



Humanitarian innovation, humanitarian renewal?

Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (Peace Research Institute Oslo)

The continued evolution of the humanitarian innovation concept needs a critical engagement with how this agenda interacts with previous and contemporary attempts to improve humanitarian action.
www.fmreview.org/innovation/sandvik



Humanitarian Innovation Project resources

www.fmreview.org/innovation/hip

