

# The Regional Dimension of the Syria Conflict

Amin Awad

*Director for the Middle East and North Africa  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*





## Situation Overview

- Large levels of displacement
- Complex conflicts
- Threat to regional and global peace & security
- Erosion of the Middle East social fabric





## Numbers at a Glance

January 2013: 550,000 Syrian refugees

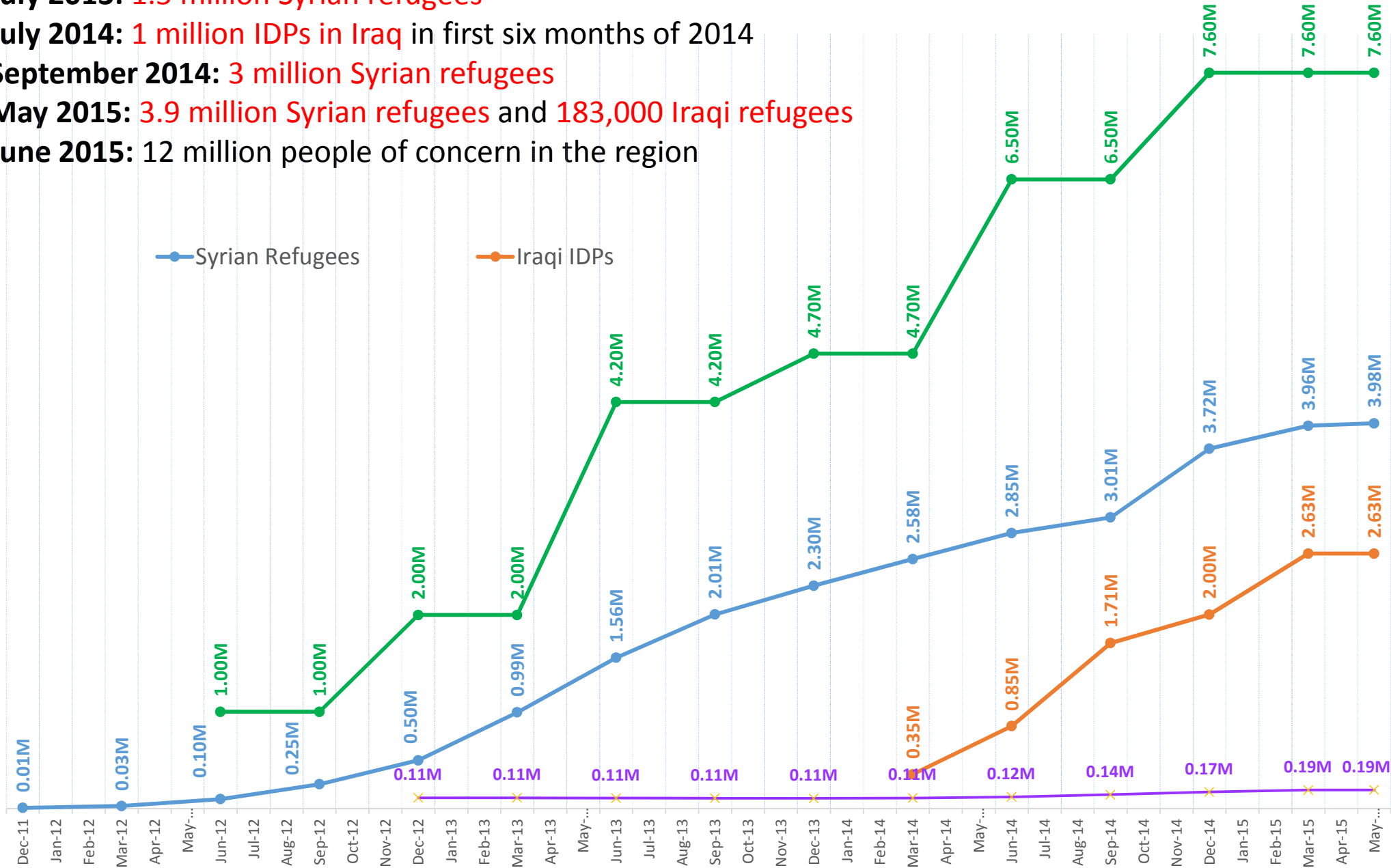
July 2013: 1.5 million Syrian refugees

July 2014: 1 million IDPs in Iraq in first six months of 2014

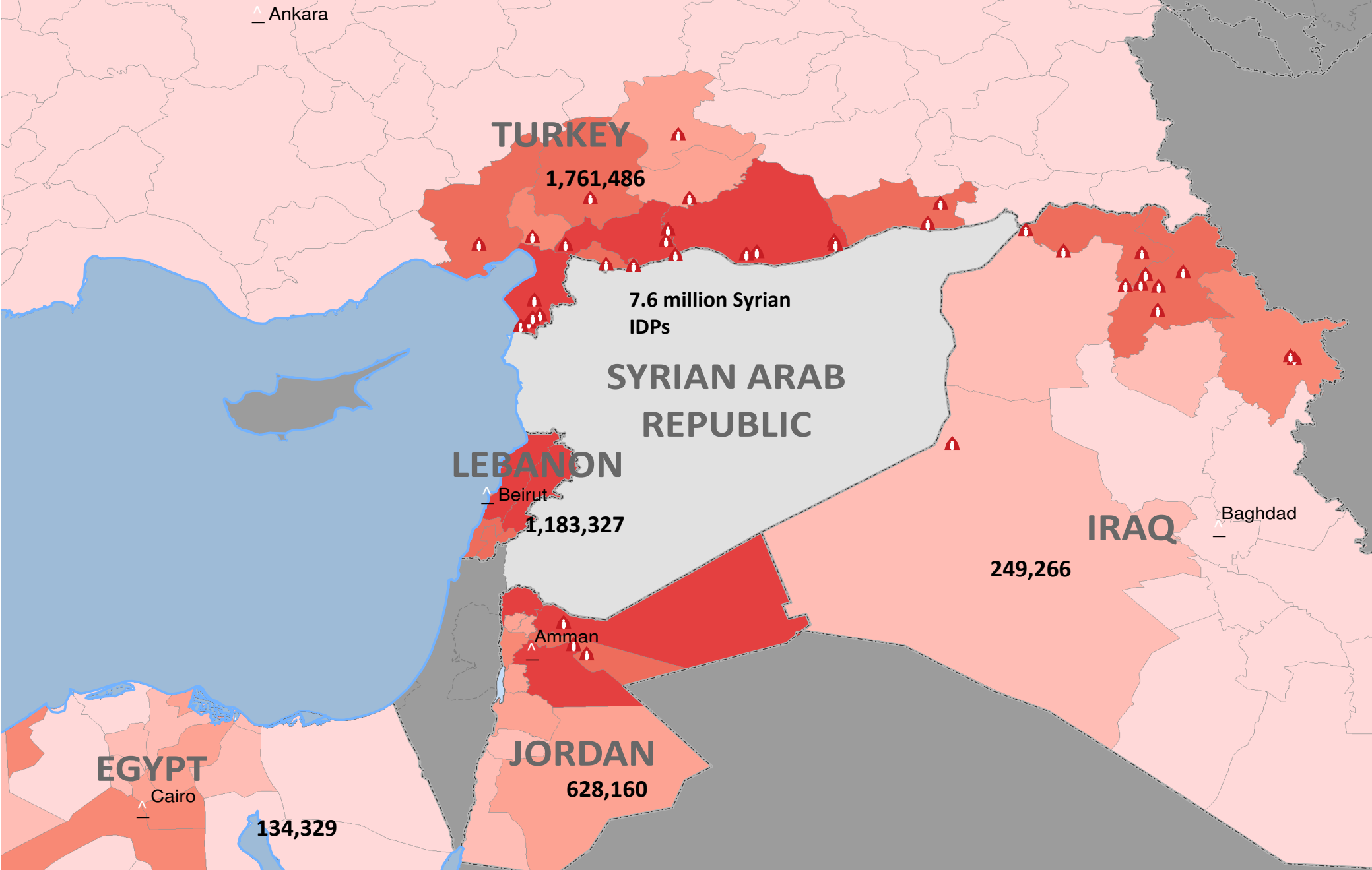
September 2014: 3 million Syrian refugees

May 2015: 3.9 million Syrian refugees and 183,000 Iraqi refugees

June 2015: 12 million people of concern in the region

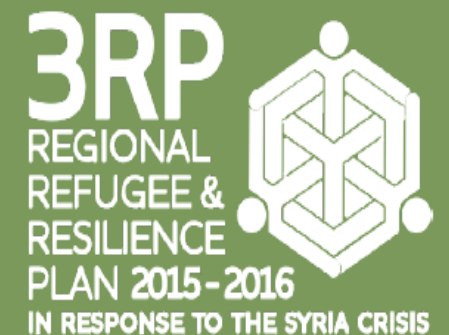


# Syria situation: Regional Impact



# 3RP Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan for Syrian refugees

- **Country-driven, regionally coherent plan**
- **Consolidated framework to address refugee protection needs**
- **The Resilience component provides an integrated response to build long-term sustainability**
- **Aligned with existing emergency national plans**
- **Funding requirements: 5.5 billion**



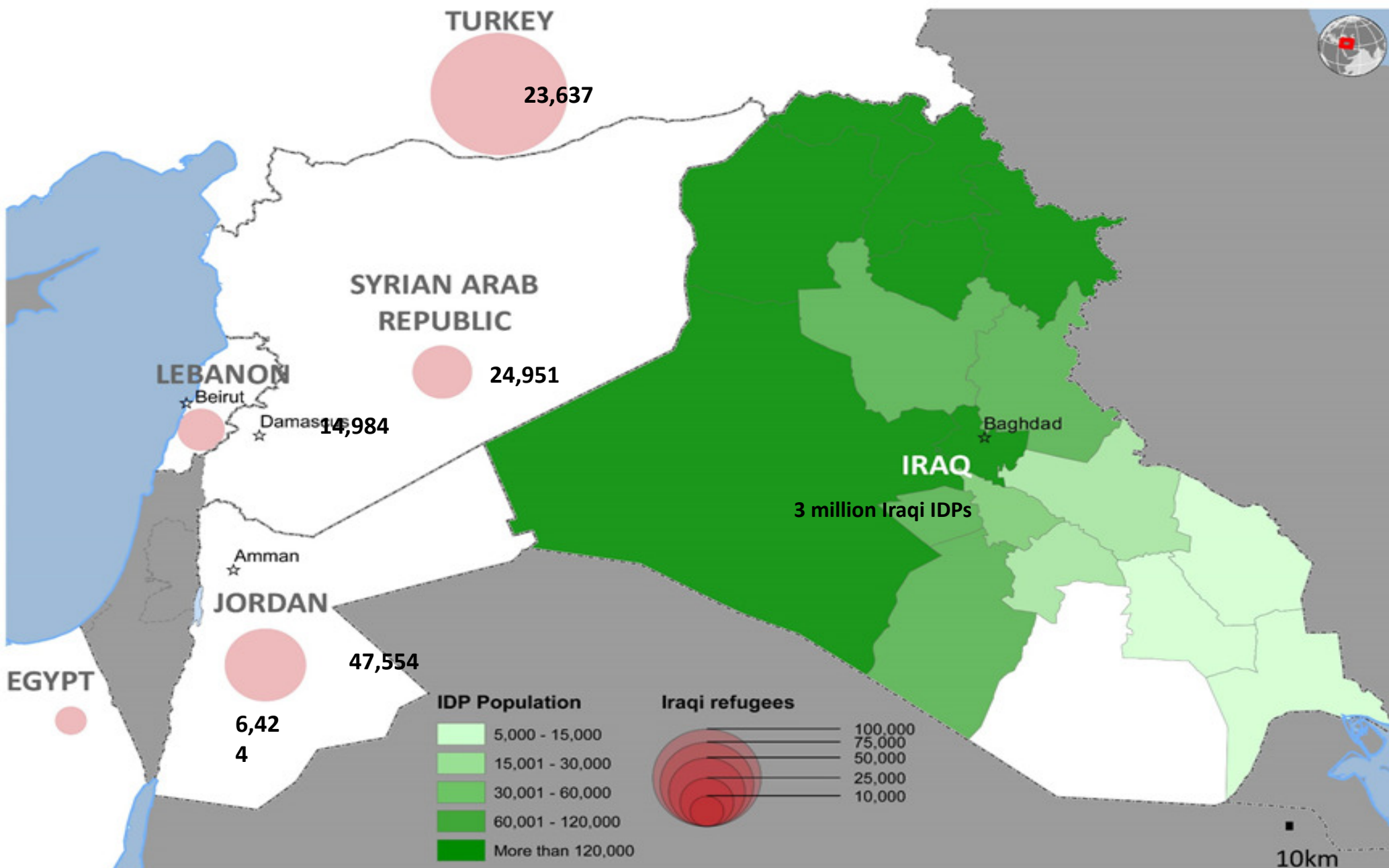


## UNHCR Operation in the Syria situation

- Protection as a priority
- Innovation as a driver of efficiency
- Partnership
- Achievements in 2015



# Iraq situation





# Challenges

A black and white photograph of a young girl with long, light-colored hair, wearing a striped dress. She is looking down and to the right with a somber expression. In the background, a banner with the UNHCR logo and the text 'Free Age' is visible. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark grey rectangle on the right side, which contains a list of challenges.

- **Shrinking protection space**
- **Unprecedented impact on host countries**
- **Protracted nature of the conflict**
- **Widening gaps between growing needs and financial resources**
- **Syria operation the largest in UNHCR's history**



## 2015 and beyond

- 4.27 million Syrian refugees by end-2015 (projected)
- Iraqi refugees in the region may exceed 320,000 by the end of 2015
- Ongoing violence and displacement
- Syria and Iraq crises continue to demand enormous resources