# **SITUATION REPORT**

# MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

APRIL 13, 2021

### **SITUATION**

Instability in several Middle Eastern countries has caused humanitarian crises throughout the region:

- In Syria, the ongoing civil war has pushed millions of people into poverty and caused rampant inflation. Many Syrians have fled to neighboring countries.
- In Iraq, the conflict with Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has internally displaced more than 1.4 million Iraqis.
- Jordan hosts refugees from many countries, the largest group being over 660,000 Syrian refugees.
- Lebanon is three years into an economic crisis, its recession only worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic, an influx of Syrian refugees, the Beirut port explosion and political turmoil.



Photo: ACT Alliance



#### **RESPONSE**

Lutheran Disaster Response is supporting ACT Alliance appeals for Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. Implementing partners — such as the Lutheran World Federation, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, and the Middle East Council of Churches with its Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees — will provide humanitarian support for people affected by the ongoing conflicts. The responses will develop the resilience of refugees, returnees, internally displaced people, and host communities through the improvement of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, vocational training, cash assistance and education opportunities.

## **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

#### **Pray**

Let us pray for the people who have been affected by the Middle East crisis. May God's healing presence give them comfort and hope in their time of need.

#### Give

Contribute to Lutheran Disaster Response (Middle East Crisis).

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