**Project Title:** Emergency Support to Disrupted Livelihoods in Affected Communities in Syria

**Rationale and Strategy**

Human development regressed by more than four decades during the conflict. Three out of every four Syrians live in poverty, with more than half of the population (54.3 per cent) living in extreme poverty unable to secure the most basic food and non-food items required for the survival of their households. Some 20 per cent of the population survive in abject poverty with households unable to meet their basic food needs, particularly in open conflict areas. Almost half of the population (45 per cent) fled their normal place of residence. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) constituted 33 per cent of the population living inside the country by the end of 2013. 1.54 million persons left the country as non-refugee migrants, another 2.35 million fled the country as refugees (SCPR, 2014). Displacement has serious socio-economic implications both in Syria and in neighbouring countries. Resources, community infrastructure and basic services are under significant pressures.

Given the protracted nature of the crisis, UNDP has been focusing since 2013 on restoring and stabilizing people’s livelihoods and strengthening community resilience, and in doing so, laying the foundations for an accelerated recovery path leading to development when a peaceful resolution is reached.

**Project objectives, expected results/outputs and target beneficiaries**

Adapting to the highly diverse situations in affected communities, UNDP resorted to an area-based response approach with different implementation modalities and with different types of local and international partners. Currently, UNDP is currently operating in twelve governorates (Aleppo, Damascus, Dara’a, Deir Ezzor, Hama, Al-Hassakeh, Homs, Idleb, Latakia, Er-Raqqa, Rural Damascus, and Tartous) either through field presence, outsourced personnel, private service providers and/ or partner NGOs. More than 60 national and international experts and development practitioners are based inside Syria, in Damascus and field offices. The extended network of partners and various implementation modalities are essential to overcome operational and access challenges, and ensure higher flexibility in response and resilience to security and other shocks in the target areas.

Work is guided by regularly updated governorate profiles, including a situation analysis of different socio-economic and vital sectors in the target governorate to update needs, priorities, local partnerships and risks. An area-based response plan is then developed/ updated in close consultation with local stakeholders.

This project is designed to assist approximately 4,750 affected people in Aleppo, Hama, Homs, and Idleb through the creation of 800 emergency employment opportunities for the rehabilitation of basic community infrastructure and/ or basic community services as well as supporting 150 small businesses in order to break the cycle of reliance on humanitarian hand-outs and create an enabling environment for early recovery. Tools, start-up grants and vocational training will be availed as part of the support package, as applicable.

The project targets directly affected and most vulnerable groups, including internally displaced households, hosting communities, families who have lost their breadwinners, youths and persons with disabilities. The project will strengthen the resilience of the Syrian people to cope with the conflict and its consequences, and enable those who were severely affected to rebuild their lives and improve their living conditions.

UNDP is already engaged in the implementation of households-level economic empowerment and basic infrastructure and services restoration in the above-mentioned Governorates. The new Kuwaiti contribution will expand the geographical scope and number of beneficiaries.

**Budget Breakdown**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Components/Outputs** | **Number of Beneficiary Households** | **Unit** | **Average cost per Unit (USD)** | **Total Cost (USD)** |
| 1.      Support to micro-business start-ups (vocational training, asset replacement, small start-up grants).  | 1,500 | Business | 600 | 480,000 |
| 2.      Generation of emergency employment opportunities for 4 months (30% Women)  | 1,500 | Worker | 1,030 | 154,500 |
| 3.      Technical expertise and personnel costs | 478,000 |
| National |   | Post | 24,000 | 288,000 |
| International (50% cost-sharing) |   | Post | 345,000 | 190,000 |
| 4.      Security cost-sharing (3%) | 37,500 |
| 5.      F&A (8%) | 100,000 |
| **Total**  | **1,250,000** |