

No Lost Generation

Congregational Federation
Syria Appeal 2019-20

Bringing hope to young people in Syria

In 2019 our Federation is supporting an ambitious Christian Aid project providing education, training and support for young people whose lives have been affected by the conflict in Syria.



Christian Aid/Tracey Shelton

The Rahman family was forced to flee their home in Damascus.



Christian Aid/Robin Prime

Young refugees from Syria hope to return home from Lebanon to complete their education.

Before the war, almost all of Syria's children were enrolled in primary school, but today the country's school enrolment rates are among the lowest in the world. Young people are also disproportionately affected by catastrophic unemployment rates, which are at 90% in some areas, compounding the trauma, isolation and poverty they are experiencing.

Humanitarian experts are increasingly calling for more humanitarian aid to ensure children and young people living in conflict zones can stay in education.

Irina Bokova, former UNESCO Director General, noted: 'Returning to school may be the only flicker of hope and normality for many children in countries engulfed in crises [...] Education must be seen as part of the first response when crisis hits.'

Working together with their local partner in Syria, Christian Aid is running a project to ensure young people affected by conflict can access education and training. This will help to transform young people's lives, reduce their vulnerability to joining armed groups, and support peaceful, cohesive communities.

Through the project, over 5,500 children and young people in Syria will be provided with education, psychological support, vocational training, and community initiatives.

Key activities include:

- Rehabilitation and upgrading of schools, colleges and youth clubs which have been damaged in the conflict. This work will also provide the opportunity for 90 young men to gain experience in basic construction skills, enhancing their future employability and potential to earn a living.
- Remedial secondary school education and literacy courses in line with the national curriculum.
- Vocational training in nursing for young people to support youth employment while also addressing the chronic shortage of nurses.
- Access to formal educational qualifications through scholarships with online education providers.
- Psychosocial support through youth-friendly spaces, sports activities and referral mechanisms, enhancing community engagement and giving young people a voice and tools to solve problems.
- Opportunities for young people to volunteer in disaster response, first aid and community services with the Civil Defence/White Helmets, and to form their own local disaster response committees, increasing the capacity to respond to emergencies such as aerial bombardments.

For more information or to make a donation visit
congregational.org.uk/Syria

Match funding means all donations are worth
TEN TIMES as much!

