



## **ASIA/SYRIA - Greek-Orthodox Patriarch: Help us help the Syrian people**

Damasco (Agenzia Fides) – The Greek-Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and all the East , through his department for ecumenical relations and development (DERD), has so far distributed 75 thousand survival kits and offered direct assistance to more than 280 thousand people, in conditions of discomfort and suffering because of the war in Syria. A report sent to Fides summarised concrete acts of the network for humanitarian initiatives supported by the Greek-Orthodox Church in Syria : programmes to distribute clothes, food, stoves, educative and psychological support for children and young people, interventions in the field of health-care. "Our sources are limited, and we call on our diaspora, our friends and collaborators to help us help the people of Syria" said Samer Laham, director of DERD. (GV) (Agenzia Fides 22/2/2013)