

08-21 June 2014

SYRIAN REFUGEE RESPONSE **JORDAN** INTERAGENCY UPDATE



Syrian and Jordanian teenagers drawing the impact of war on families on a UNHCR spread-out tent ©UNHCR/F. Riller

#NoLostGeneration



HIGHLIGHTS

- **Syrian refugee population in Jordan surpasses for the first time 600,000 since the beginning of the conflict in Syria** – On 21 June, UNHCR had registered 602,169 Syrian refugees in Jordan.
- **Global forced displacement tops 50 million for first time in post-World War II era** – The UN refugee agency reported on World Refugee Day (WRD, 20 June) that the number of refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people worldwide has, for the first time in the post-World War II era, exceeded 50 million people. Jordan stands as the second country hosting the most refugees per 1,000 inhabitants (88), after Lebanon (178).
- **Humanitarian partners commemorate World Refugee Day with refugee and Jordanian communities** – On WRD, humanitarian partners organized joint activities throughout Jordan in order to remind the strength and the resilience of the people forced to leave their homes because of war and human rights violations, and their contribution to host communities.
- **199,395 children receive immunization against polio** – IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF and WHO supported the Ministry of Health in the sub national polio immunisation campaign. This campaign specifically aimed at reaching children living in camps and hard-to-reach areas.

RRP6 Funding Status (as of 3 June 2014)

Financial requirements	US\$ 1,200,650,591
Funds received	US\$ 318,228,826
To be funded	US\$ 822,421,765

REGISTRATION

Active Syrian population registered with UNHCR

Between 8 and 21 June, UNHCR registered **4,695** Syrians:

- 1,389 in Amman
- 3 in Azraq
- 8 in EJC
- 349 in Irbid
- 2,748 in Raba Sarhan
- 198 in Zaatari

Camp population was:

- 85,186 persons in Zaatari
- 9,059 persons in Azraq
- 3,754 persons in EJC

Total active Syrian population registered with UNHCR

As of 21 June 2014

602,169



Urban

504,170

83.7%

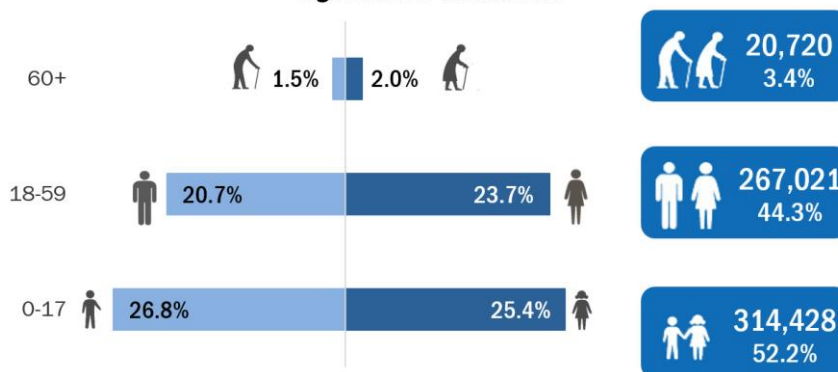


Camps

97,999

16.3%

Age-Gender Breakdown



PROTECTION

Humanitarian actors reinforce their intervention capacity on child protection and gender-based violence in camps and urban areas

Save the Children (SC), International Rescue Committee (IRC) and UNHCR facilitated three trainings on child protection and gender-based violence (CP-GBV) standard operating procedures. 53 women and 16 men, working or on specific CP-GBV issues or in other sectors of intervention, took part in the trainings.

The CP-GBV working groups in Zaatari prepared orientation sessions for protection and other sectors' staff in the 12 districts in Zaatari. Preparation included (i) the identification and training of 15 staff from various CP-GBV organisations who will conduct the orientations in the districts and (ii) the development and dissemination of the plan to all relevant actors in Zaatari. More particularly, UNICEF and IRC are working on the implementation of standard operating procedures and referral pathways in UNICEF-supported child friendly spaces. Trainings, prevention and response activities are planned to continue until the end of the year.

In addition, CP-GBV working groups conducted orientation sessions for the "Amani" campaign in Zaatari and Azraq for a hundred protection staff from various organisations in order to lead campaign's activities. 13 organisations received the campaign materials including posters, notebooks, business cards, etc.

UNICEF supports Jordan Police and Security Department to better understand and react when facing child protection issues

UNICEF organised two workshops for the Juvenile Police Department (JPD) and Public Security Department (PSD). The first workshop (26-29 May) covered “Investigative Interviewing with Juveniles” for 20 JPD and PSD officers, including officers based in Zaatari. The second workshop (16-19 June) was on “Dealing with Juveniles in Emergencies”. The workshop involved 15 JPD and PSD officers based in Zaatari and Azraq. Officers were trained on topics necessary for dealing with children in conflict with the law, ensuring alignment with international standards.

Institutional and humanitarian partners work together on legal, documentation, early marriage and birth registration issues

On 16 June, the Ministry of Interior (Mol) and the Syrian Refugee Affairs Department (SRAD), with UNHCR, organized a roundtable on documentation and legal issues for Syrian refugees, focussing on early marriage and birth registration. 65 individuals participated in the event, including representatives of Ministry of Justice, Parliamentary legislative bureau and legal committee, SRAD, FPD, Ministry of Social Development, Sharia Court, NGOs and UN agency members working on forced and early marriages.

Participants formulated recommendations on: (i) the prevention of early marriage among Syrian refugees; (ii) the legal provisions relating to the prevention of early marriages; (iii) the mechanisms for providing a time-bound exemption for Syrian refugees from fines resulting from undocumented marriages; and (iv) issuing birth certificates to Syrian refugee children who have exceeded the period for registering their births without requiring a court decision (one year from the date of birth). Once compiled, recommendations will be presented to Mol for follow-up with the Parliament and the Cabinet.

BASIC NEEDS

NRC makes safer the distribution of non-food items for children in Zaatari



NRC staff counselling children on the fact that no children under the age of 16 years should collect non-food items on the replenishment site in Zaatari ©NRC/A. Yamin

For the third distribution in a row in Zaatari, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has been operating a children's booth at the non-food item replenishment site to respond to consistently high numbers of children trying to access distributions on behalf of their families. NRC staff interviewed and counselled children on NRC/UNHCR general policy that no children under the age of 16 years should be able to collect distributions due to safety concerns and fears of exploitation.

This is supplemented by proactive messaging in the community including in schools, learning centres and other child friendly spaces. Children also

receive leaflets to explain to their parents why they were not able to collect and to share catch-up dates when they can come to collect the items.

Based on assessment findings of the reasons why some children are called upon to collect, in certain limited circumstances, NRC will allow a child between the ages of 12-15 years to collect on behalf of the family and, at the same time, will refer vulnerable cases to relevant partners for further follow up.

The children's booth also allowed NRC to document and respond to cases of household vulnerability where there is no one else to collect. Outreach workers from IRC and International Relief and Development (IRD) now operate as part of the team responding to vulnerable children at the distribution site and cases are referred to UNHCR Community Services for follow up and monitoring.

EDUCATION

Ensuring continuity, enrolment and inclusiveness of Syrian refugee children in educational activities



UNICEF's implementing partners have finalized plans for summer activities in camps and host communities. Activities include remedial and informal classes, and trainings for Syrian assistant teachers and facilitators.

Since January 2014, in order to promote access to inclusive education, UNICEF partner Mercy Corps (MC) assisted over 750 children with disabilities to integrate in schools across Jordan. Over 800 parents, shadow teachers and community members have been reached with awareness-raising activities in camps and host communities.

FOOD SECURITY

Developing the e-voucher food system and distributing in-kind food assistance



WFP, in partnership with UNHCR, completed e-card distributions in the governorates of Aqaba, Zarqa, Ma'an, Tafila, Karak, Ajloun, Jerash, Balqa, Ramtha district in Irbid, Bayader Wadi Al Seer and Tabrbour districts of Amman. Distributions are ongoing in Irbid and Jabal al Hussein in Amman. WFP expects to complete the rollout by the end of July.

In addition, the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization for Relief and Development (JHCO) ensured the distribution of in-kind and voucher food aid to 855 vulnerable Syrian refugees disposing of a service card in Amman, Aqaba, Mafraq, Tafileh and Zarqa.

In anticipation of the holy month of Ramadan, WFP began distributing Saudi dates through JHCO on 9 June, reaching Syrian refugees and Jordanians in need. WFP and JHCO plan to reach 80,000 individuals by the end of August with 1,000 mt dates.

HEALTH

"No child too far!" – Thousands of Jordanian and refugee children receive vaccine against polio

Under the overall coordination of Ministry of Health (MoH), humanitarian partners, including IOM, UNHCR UNICEF and WHO, took part in the first round of Sub-National Immunization Days (SNID) from 8 to 19 June. This campaign aims at immunizing Jordanian and non-Jordanian children against polio and raise awareness

about this disease, in camps, hard-to-reach and most impoverished areas of the country. In total 199,395 children under 5 years old have received a dose of oral polio vaccine. This figure includes 112,085 Jordanian children, 75,351 Syrian children and 11,959 children of other nationalities.



So far no cases of polio have been detected in Jordan, but the risk remains high due to the large influx of refugees. A high percentage of Syrian children are reported to have missed their routine vaccination while in Syria as a result of ongoing conflict. The multiple vaccination campaigns in the region aim to prevent polio transmission from one neighboring country to another. In 2013, more than 35 cases of polio were reported in Syria. So far this year, two cases have been detected in Iraq and one in Syria.

At the beginning of May, WHO Director-General Dr. Margaret Chan declared the international spread of wild poliovirus (WPV) a public health emergency of international concern following the International Health Regulations, making it the third public health emergency after Corona and H1N1 viruses. WHO made temporary recommendations to address this public health emergency.

A UNHCR-JHAS survey helps to understand the level of access and utilisation of health services by non-camp refugees

Compared to camp refugees, reliable data on health service needs of non-camp refugees is difficult to collect on a routine basis. To cover this gap, UNHCR, in collaboration with Jordan Health Aid Society (JHAS), carried out a telephone survey with 491 households, representing 3,463 persons (average 7.1 individuals per family).

The primary purpose of this survey was to provide programmatic support and develop a replicable tool for monitoring implementation of key activities. The survey focused on understanding (i) the access and utilisation of key health services by registered non-camp Syrian refugees and (ii) the challenges they faced in accessing health care services.

Global findings show that the Government of Jordan, UNHCR and partners have been successful in ensuring non-camp refugees have access to and utilise health care services. A high proportion of refugees have access to health care services through MoH facilities. More in details, the survey reveals that:

- 96.3% of refugees surveyed knew that UNHCR-registered refugees have free access to governmental services at primary health centres and hospitals;
- 65.8% were aware that refugees who cannot access governmental health services could seek services at UNHCR-supported health facilities;
- 10.5% of household members needed health care in preceding month;
- 95.3% of those who needed health care sought care;
- 90.8% of those who sought care were attended at first facility visited;
- 60.1% sought care for acute illnesses;

- 26.9% sought care for chronic diseases;
- Among those who were unable to get care or did not seek care, 18.4% said care was too expensive and 17.3% said first facility declined to give services.

**HEALTH ACCESS AND UTILISATION SURVEY
AMONG NON-CAMP SYRIAN REFUGEES**

JORDAN, MARCH 2014



Inter alia, JHAS and UNHCR formulated the following recommendations:

- To increase support to MoH facilities, especially in governorates where high numbers of refugees are found to be living;
- To develop communication efforts vis-à-vis refugees affected by chronic diseases in order to improve their access to medicine and health services;
- To generalize the distribution of immunisation card to all children (only 56% of the investigated children were in possession of their immunisation card);
- To undertake the necessary actions to guarantee all new-borns obtain a birth certificate (96% of the new-borns were in possession of a birth certificate).

The full report can be found on the Jordan page of the Syria crisis web portal data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/.

UNFPA and JHAS reinforce the capacities of reproductive health workers in Zaatari

On 11 June, UNFPA and JHAS trainer midwives provided antenatal care session at the *Médecins du Monde* (MdM) clinic. This training was part of the reproductive health campaign held in Zaatari and targeted women of reproductive age who never visited UNFPA/JHAS women clinic previously.

The next day, a first roundtable discussion on reproductive health protocols and antenatal care (ANC) was held at UNFPA/JHAS clinic. The discussion involved gynaecologists and midwives from UNFPA, JHAS, MdM and other health partners. UNFPA supported the distributions of the new version of ANC card to all reproductive health partners.

114 Syrian refugees receive secondary and tertiary care in May 2014

The Exceptional Care Committee (ECC) reviewed 214 cases during the month of May, including 114 Syrian refugees and 160 refugees of other nationalities. 160 cases were approved, 10 rejected and 44 left pending or waiting for final decision based on eligibility and vulnerability assessment.

The ECC is composed by UNHCR and relevant partners (JHAS, Caritas) and is in charge of approving exceptional access to costly secondary and tertiary health care. The ECC deals with Syrian and non-Syrians refugee cases.

SHELTER

T-Shelter, a durable solution to shelter refugees and to generate income activities for both Jordanian and Syrian communities

NRC has now constructed more than 2,400 transitional shelters (T-Shelters) in Azraq camp able to house more than 14,000 new arrivals.



Inside a T-Shelter under construction in Azraq camp ©UNHCR/J. Kohler

T-Shelters have been designed to avoid the need for distribution of costly emergency tents. T-Shelters are structured as lego kit, allowing for fast assembling of factory manufactured kit components on site and for reduced shelter investment costs. They have a structural life span of at least five years, providing an opportunity to be dismantled and re-assembled for re-use elsewhere. These more durable shelters provide better protection against harsh weather conditions in Azraq, where summer temperatures hover above 40 degrees and wind speeds regularly reach 80 kilometres per hour. T-Shelters also allow refugees to cook in their own home, based on lessons learnt from Zaatari.

As T-Shelters are produced locally, Jordanian enterprises benefit directly from technology transfer, while host communities can apply for new job opportunities. As they are invited to enrol in shelter finishing, maintenance and decommissioning works, refugees themselves can benefit from income generating opportunities.

SOCIAL COHESION

UNDP brings municipalities, Jordanian and Syrian communities to work together on outreach and civic engagement

In the framework of the project "Mitigating the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis on Jordanian vulnerable host communities", UNDP held a five-day training (18-22 May) focusing on community outreach in Mafraq. The workshop took place with the support of the World Bank, through the project "Jordan Emergency and Social Resilience". The training targeted nine municipalities of Irbid and Mafraq and was attended by 38 development planning staff members. Each municipality produced

a community outreach activity plan to enhance civic engagement and strengthen relations between local communities and municipalities. Activities were implemented under the theme of "cleanliness, planting and street beautification". Syrian and Jordanian communities collaborated to support municipalities in their efforts to answer the community's needs.

The training was organized as part of the project "Enhancing Communication and Outreach between Municipalities and Local Communities", in an effort to mitigate the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis on the most affected Jordanian host communities. From 31 May to 14 June, the nine municipalities implemented the plans that were endorsed by local communities.



Jordanian and Syrian teenagers taking part in a community cleaning initiative ©UNDP

WASH

UNICEF and Ministry of Water and Irrigation plan for water scarcity

UNICEF has started discussion with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MoWI) on a 20 million Jordanian dinars water scarcity plan. The plan is designed as mitigation against water scarcity created by low average rain fall and Syrian refugee impact on national water reserve. UNICEF is working with MoWI to prioritize the needs and interventions as per the vulnerability and scarcity criteria. Discussion is ongoing on how to approach the funding required to support these efforts.

Ensuring water self-sufficiency in camp settlements and developing household water network in Zaatari

UNICEF has finalized the agreement with MC for the drilling of the third and final bore hole in Zaatari. This will allow the phasing out of water trucking from external wells. UNICEF is finalizing the agreements with two partners to develop the project of water network at household level, as agreed by the WASH working group.

In Azraq, the second borehole's water quality is currently being re-tested. This well will be connected to the existing centralized water storage facilities and a main pipe will be placed, with connections to cover the camp, funding permitting.

SPECIAL EVENT

World Refugee Day, a day to remind the strength and resilience of the people forced to leave their home

Every year, the international community commemorates on World Refugee Day (WRD, 20 June) the strength and resilience of the people forced to leave their homes because of war and human rights violations, and their capacity to rebuild their life in dignity. In Jordan, humanitarian partners organized different activities for the benefit and sensitisation of both refugee and Jordanian populations.



Kids and teenagers of Azraq take part in a soccer tournament organized at the occasion of World Refugee Day ©UNHCR/J. Kohler

In Zaatari, building on the league developed by the Asian Football Development Project (AFDP) and UEFA, gathering more than 1,500 kids and a team of 70 coaches, humanitarian partners organized a soccer world cup between 16 and 20 June. The Washington Post took this opportunity to write the article [“The most important soccer is not being played in Brazil but in refugee camps in Jordan”](#). Similar sport activities were organised for kids and teenagers of Azraq.

Using the tent as a symbol of displacement and art as a mean of expression, UNHCR and International Relief and Development (IRD) invited young Jordanians with Syrians and refugees of other nationalities to draw their history and life experience on three tents, each one having its own theme: the impact of war on families, the memories of past times and the hopes for the future. The three tents were inaugurated at the official WRD event organised in UNHCR premises and will be re-used in the future for sensitization purpose.

“We hope that through football, which is the world’s most popular sport, we can give Syrian children a little hope. We can see smiles on their faces, we can hear their cheers and we can feel perhaps some sense of community and togetherness, and that’s the essence of sport.”

AFDP board member Merissa Khurm

UNFPA and UNICEF’s partners held other activities in Zaatari, Azraq and EJC.

In Azraq, International Medical Corps (IMC) organized kite making from recyclable material, face painting, football and basketball activities for 149 children, while 47 women were invited to paint and write their ideas about a happy Syria. The paintings and quotes were displayed at the women and girls’ centre of the camp.

In Zaatari, over 1,500 refugee children and family members gathered at the five UNICEF-IMC adolescent friendly spaces and prepared essays, songs and poems, and performed music and dances.

Un Ponte Per Jordanian Women and UNFPA organized a community event in Zaatari village attended by 150 beneficiaries. Creative material was distributed, including protection messages as part of the Amani campaign and drawing activities were organized. The women and girls present benefitted from an awareness raising session on women protection and empowerment. The activities included both Syrians and Jordanians and provided the opportunity to work on community cohesion.



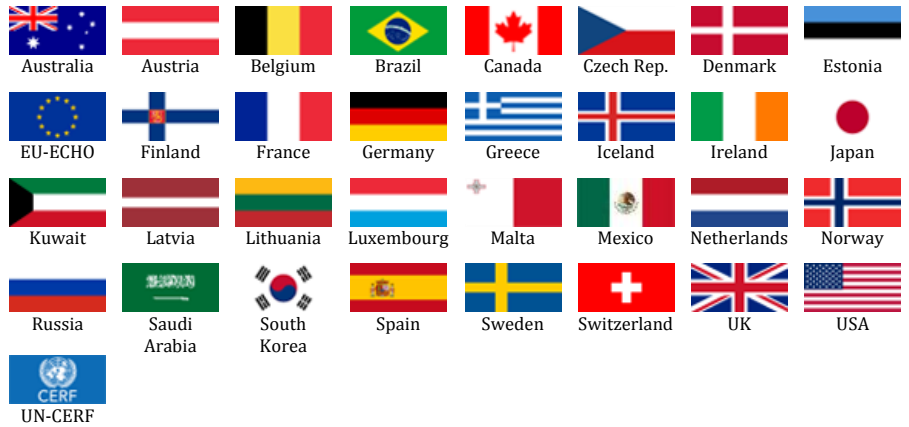
Young Syrian refugee girls enjoying writing their hopes on the "Let's wish board" during the World Refugee Day event organized in Zaatari ©IMC

MC conducted "fun fairs" in Zaatari and Azraq around the theme of "A World with Peace". The fun fairs included sports competitions, recreational and art activities, and face painting for children, in addition to a drawing and painting exhibition.

Terre des Hommes held activities in EJC involving 677 refugees in sports, televised sports programmes, music, face painting, drawing and painting.

According to the 2013 global report on forced displacements issued by UNHCR on 20 June, the number of people displaced within their own countries and across international borders because of violence and repression is the highest in recent memory. 51.2 million people were forcibly displaced, 6 million more than previous year. This massive increase result from major displacements in Africa – notably in Central African Republic and South Sudan –, and, above all, of the war in Syria. At the end of last year, nearly one out of five forcibly displaced persons in the world was Syrian (2.5 million refugees and 6.5 million internally displaced). Jordan is now the fifth largest refugee-hosting country in the world, with an average of 350 Syrians fleeing to the country every day in search of refuge. It is also the country hosting the most refugees per 1,000 inhabitants (88), after Lebanon (178)

Donors to the humanitarian response in Jordan



Have contributed to this report

This report is produced by UNHCR on behalf of humanitarian organizations working on the Syrian refugee response in Jordan. The report is based on information provided by the UN Refugee Agency and partner agencies. For more information, please contact Marc Fawe at fawe@unhcr.org.

Additional reports and publications can be found on the Jordan page of the Syrian refugee response web portal data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/.

