

Topics

1 Overview

2 Statistics

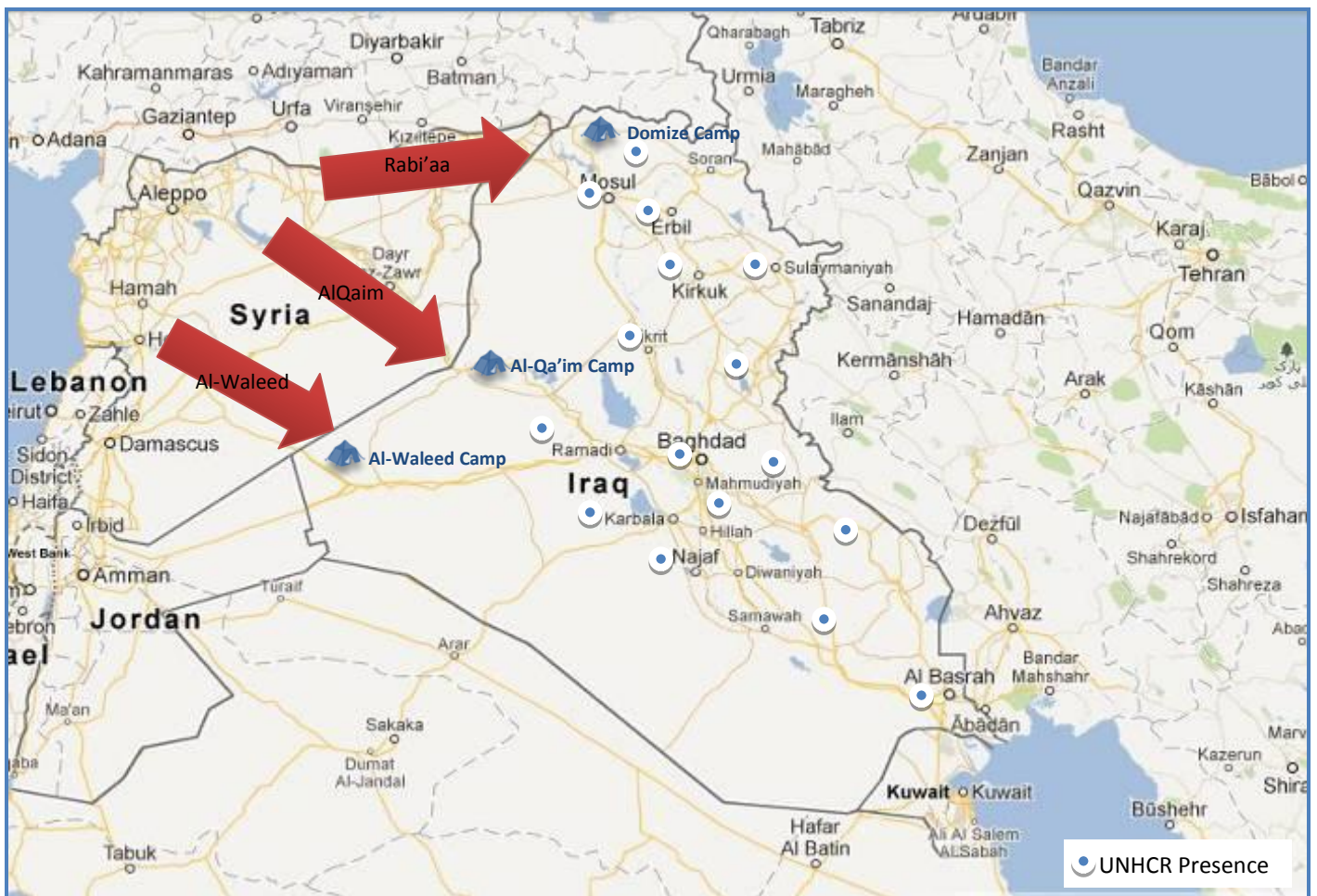
3 Sector Updates

4 Syrian Refugees/Iraqi Returnees

5 Coordination

Syrian Refugee Brief

| Location | Total |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Dohuk | 49,893 |
| Erbil | 14,209 |
| Sulaimanyah | 3,573 |
| Al-Qaim/Anbar | 8,904 |
| Other Governorates | 95 |
| Total | 76,674 |



Iraqi – Syrian Border Points

MOMD | DDM | Local Authorities

Agencies: UNHCR | UNICEF | WFP | WHO | IOM

NGOs: IRW|Qandil|ISHO|IRC|HARIKAR|CDO|RIRP|ACTED|SavetheCHILDREN|NRC|MuslimAid|IKL|CDO

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

iraqpi@unhcr.org

1. Overview

Syrian Refugees

A total of **76,674** Syrian refugees are now registered in Iraq. In Al Qa'im, Anbar governorate, the population decreased slightly during the reporting period and is now 8,904. The number of Syrian refugees in the Kurdistan Region (KR), Erbil, Dohuk and Sulaymaniah governorates, is 67,675. The Domiz Camp in the KR is hosting an estimated 35,000 people. There are 95 registered Syrian refugees in other governorates.

There is no change in the Al-Qa'im border closure; exceptions continue to be made related to medical emergencies and family reunification. A number of Syrian voluntary returns were recorded over the week through Al-Qa'im, bringing the total number of Syrians repatriated to 333 cases (1,598 individuals). The voluntary return to Syria was suspended by the authorities for several days but resumed on January 20th.

Despite continued cold and windy weather, temperatures in the KR improved in comparison to the previous week. While the KR was blanketed in snow on January 8th and 9th, including Domiz Camp, there has since been a reduction in precipitation. This led to an increase in registration; over 7,000 new Syrian arrivals were recorded in the KR during the reported period.

On January 15th a high-level UN delegation presided by the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Ms. Jacqueline Badcock.

Iraqi Cross Border Movement

According to UNHCR's Border Monitoring reports, 2,024 Iraqis returned to Iraq from Syria during the reporting period. Al-Waleed continued to receive the largest number of returnees where 1,333 crossed into Iraq.

As at 22 January 2013, the total number of Iraqis crossing the border into Iraq (since 18 July 18th, 2012) is **68,122**. This number includes returnees who are registered with Syria as refugees and those who are not. It also includes individuals who cross the border for their private related reasons on a daily basis.

Statistics collected at the border continue to indicate that Baghdad is still the governorate receiving the largest number of Iraqi returnees, followed by Anbar, Ninawa, Diyala, Nasiriya, Babil, KRG, Kirkuk and Salah Al Din.

In contrast 1,002 Iraq individuals crossed the border to Syria, bringing the total number of Iraqis who crossed the border to Syria to 36,601 individuals since July 18, 2012.



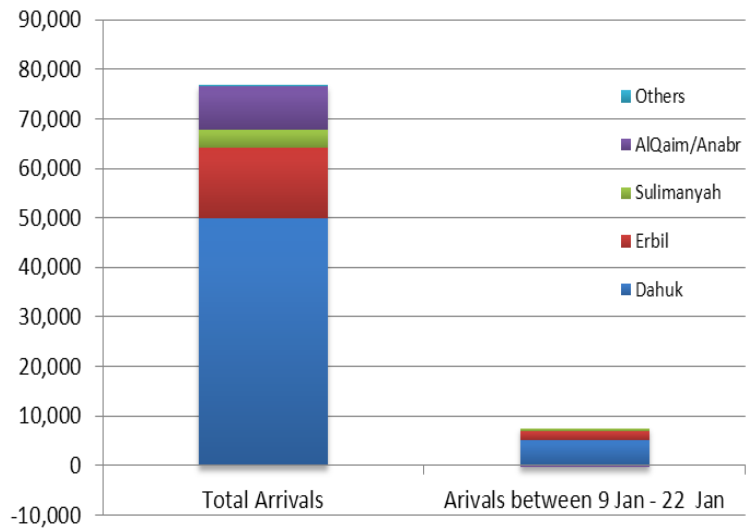
The reporting period witnessed the official closure of Al-Waleed and Rabiaa Crossing Points at the Iraqi-Syrian borders on January 13, 2013 by decree from the central government. The closure lasted for five days and affected Iraqis, Syrians and transport trucks on both sides of these points:

- 1) Al-Waleed is the busiest Iraqi-Syrian border point and receives a daily average of 170 Iraqi returnees and 105 departures to Syria.
- 2) Rabiaa Border point is known for high numbers of transport trucks crossing daily between Iraq and Syria.
- 3) Al-Qaim crossing point continues to receive Iraqis and Syrians (urgent medical cases and family reunification for Syrians only).

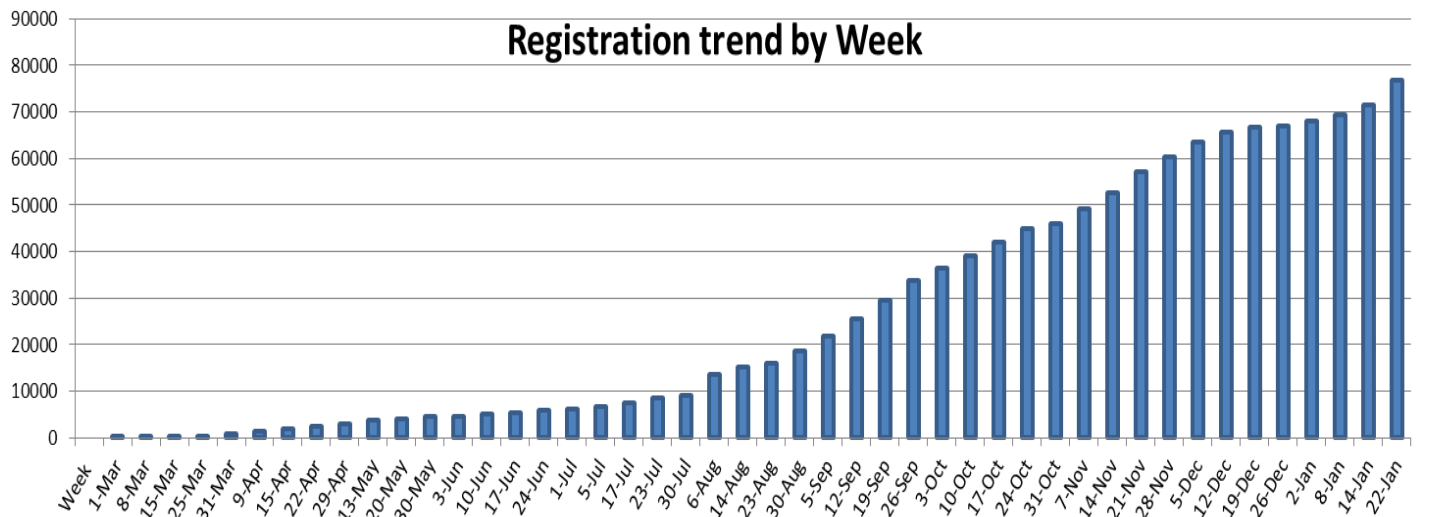
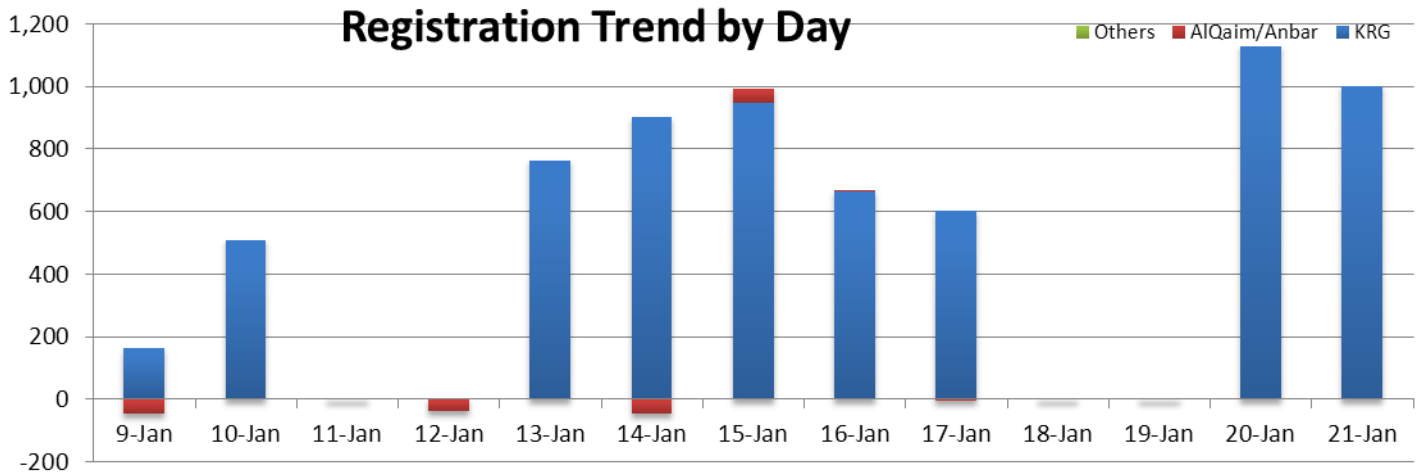
2. Statistics

2.1 Syrian Refugees

| Location | Syrian arrivals between 9-22 Jan | Total arrivals |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Dohuk | 5,076 | 49,893 |
| Erbil | 1,832 | 14,209 |
| Sulimanyah | 616 | 3,573 |
| Al-Qaim/Anbar | -132 | 8,904 |
| Other Governorates | 0 | 95 |
| Total | 7,392 | 76,674 |

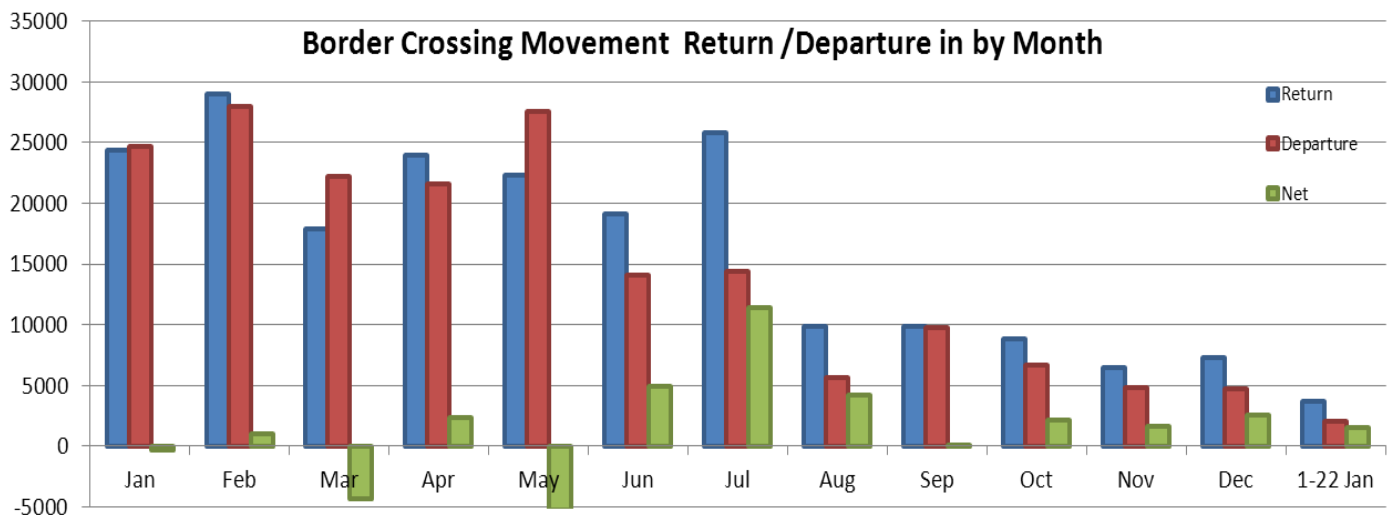
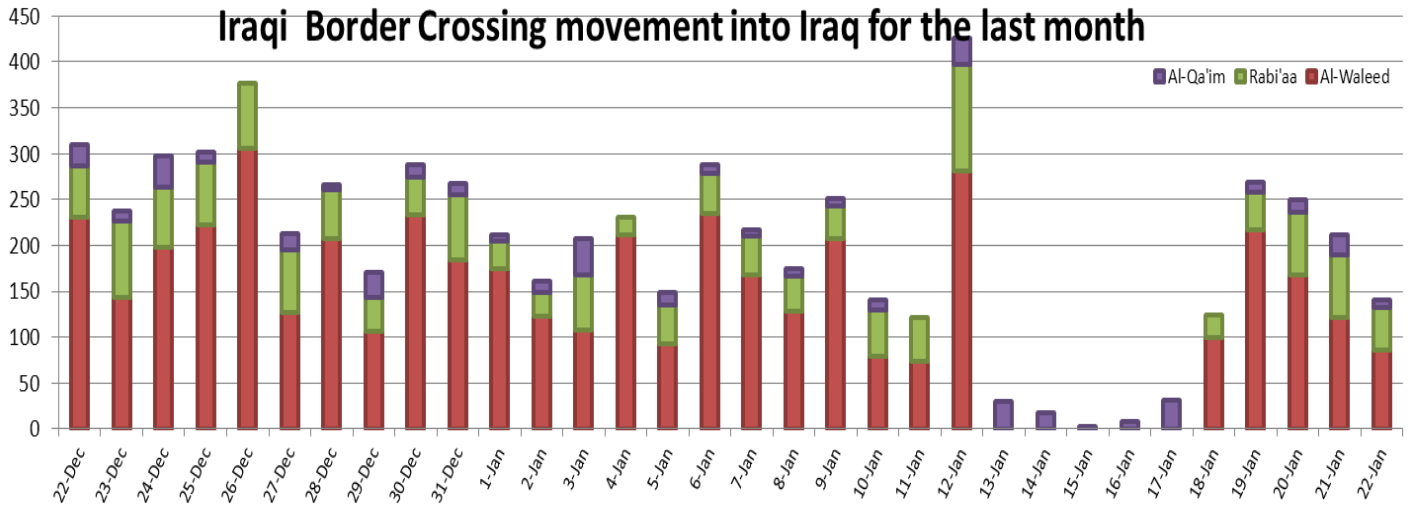
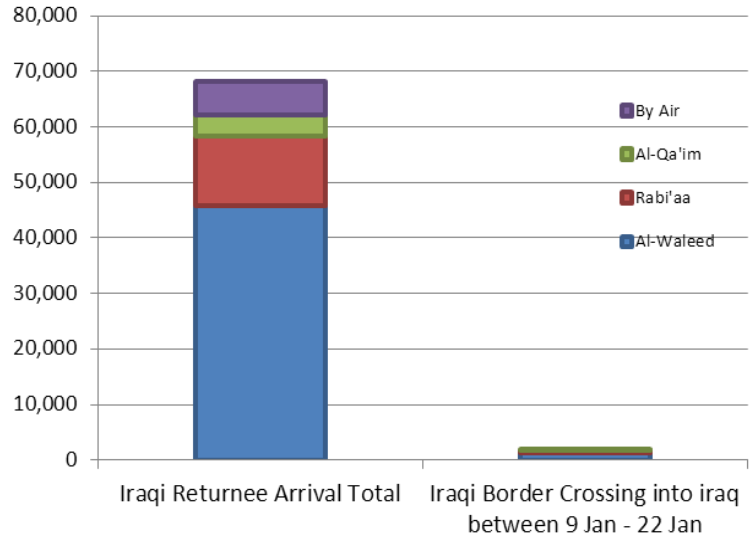


The minus sign indicates the net between new registration and spontaneous departure.



2.2 Iraqi Returnees (Cross Border Movement)

| Border Point | Iraqi Returnees (cross border) between 9-22 Jan | Total arrivals since 18 July |
|--------------|---|------------------------------|
| Al-Waleed | 1,333 | 45,826 |
| Rabi'aa | 497 | 12,467 |
| Al-Qaim | 194 | 3,832 |
| By Air | 0 | 5,997 |
| Total | 2,024 | 68,122 |



3. Sector updates

3.1 Reception, Registration and Protection

Al-Qa'im

Between January 9th and 22nd, 2013, 60 urban refugee families, consisting of 155 individuals, were registered with the UNHCR. In addition, twelve new families were registered in Camp 1 and two in Camp 2 under family reunification.

During the reporting period certificates were issued for four births and three marriages as well as six national Iraqi identification cards for refugees with dual nationality. One death was recorded resulting from a Hepatitis infection.

The number of voluntary repatriation cases reached a total of 1,598 individuals. A reduction in voluntary repatriation occurred in the last week largely as a result of heightened security concerns in Albu Kamal. While voluntary repatriation of Syrians continues to be monitored by UNHCR protection and registration teams in Al-Qaim, the agency is not encouraging return given the lack of conditions conducive to a stable return.



Activities at the Child Friendly Space in Al Qa'im Camp

Kurdistan Region

Syrian refugee families and singles continue to approach UNHCR office in Duhok (including Domiz Camp), Erbil and Sulaymaniya. During the last two weeks, UNHCR recorded new arrivals which comprises of 380 families (1,616 individuals) and 548 singles.

- Erbil: 49 families (187 individuals) and 116 singles.
- Sulaymaniya: 16 families (61 individuals) and 29 singles.
- Duhok: 315 families (1,368 individuals) and 403 singles.

The security situation is worsening and it is very difficult for civilians to move. Refugees reported to UNHCR that in the area of Arbeen, in the outskirts of Damascus, violence is increasing. In the area of Harasta, abduction and rape reports are also increasing.

The refugees from Al-Hasaka governorate continue to flee due to lack of food, and economic hardship caused by general violence. Refugees explained that one pack of local bread reached 500 Lira, compared to the previous cost of 15 Lira.

On January 15th and 16th, the Protection Assistance Reintegration Centre (PARC) office in Erbil hired eight buses for 188 (58 families and 87 individuals) Syrian new arrivals from Koya district to Erbil city to facilitate their registration. All new arrivals received UNHCR certificate and residency cards from the PARC office.

On the 21st of January, UNHCR staff from the Dohuk office met with the UNFPA Representative, UN-Women, IRC and the governorate's office. UNFPA shared their plans to open development centre for women aimed at providing psycho social counselling services for women as well as vocational training. UN-Women advised on their intention of operating income generation projects targeting women.

IRC is establishing a listening centre as well as community centre for Syrian women living in Domiz camp.

Iraqi Returnees

During the reporting period 189 Iraqi Returnee families (1,134 individuals) were registered with the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MOMD). To date, a total of 6,247 Iraqi Returnees families (37,482) individuals) have been registered since 29 July 2012.

The MOMD is distributing four million Iraqi Dinar grant (IQD), especially in the governorates. Thus far, 3,123 households (50%) of the registered returnees have received the four million IQD grant.

UNHCR Iraq launched the distribution of a one-time cash grant of \$400 per family and \$200 for singles for all Iraqi returnees in November 2012, to meet immediate and short term needs. The total number of Iraqi returnee households who received UNHCR Cash Assistance is 3,256 households (19,536 individuals) in all governorates.

Due to the situation, many returnees lost some of their documents and need food ration cards; those requiring assistance are referred to the RICCs and PARCs.



3.2 Security

Al-Qa'im

A UNHCR mission to Al-Qaim was planned to depart on January 19th, but was postponed in view of the uncertain security situation in Anbar Province and notably the areas west of Ramadi, where armed clashes have been reported. Protests and road blocks in Anbar governorate are ongoing and the overall situation remains tense. Demonstrations took place in Camp 1 as a result of a food shortage, assistance which is normally provided by MOMD. UNHCR has taken immediate action to rectify the food supply problem.

On January 20th a roadside IED exploded in Al-Qaim, in proximity of the refugee camps, injuring two Iraqi police officers. This followed at least one similar attack reported in the previous week.

There are no reports of the presence of government or Free Syrian Army (FSA) forces in the immediate vicinity of Albu Kamal (Syrian side of the Al Qa'im border crossing).

Domiz

The overall security in Domiz Camp and in the KR is stable. UNHCR had a meeting with Asayish to discuss fencing the camp with two entry and exit doors. Two additional security stations i.e. one for police and one for Asayish, will be established inside the camp. Surveillance cameras are being considered.

3.3 Assistance Update

Shelter / infrastructure

Al-Qa'im

Construction in Camp 3, Al-Obaidy, is ongoing and is being implemented by the Iraqi Salvation and Humanitarian Organisation (ISHO) and Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW).

Ongoing works:

- Reinforced concrete for the school area is being poured (about 1350 m²).
- Water network installation supported by UNICEF has started, estimated completion is 20 days.
- Work began to install electricity in the camp: four electric transformers 250 KVA, 140 lightning poles and 11 high tension poles will be installed; the estimated completion time is mid February 2013.
- Graveling of all camp sectors is ongoing, progress about 80 per cent complete.
- Provision of furniture for the registration and admin caravans will start soon.
- Preparation of the foundation for the water tanks started.



Completed works:

- Installation of chain link fences for the admin area and registration caravans was completed.
- Installation of registration and admin caravans was completed.
- The demarcation of the clinic site plan was completed.

Domiz

Despite a reduction in precipitation, roads in the camp are muddy delaying construction works. During a meeting with the Governor of Dohuk (see under coordination), UNHCR highlighted the need for improving road conditions so that works can be completed in Phase 5.

In response to UNHCR follow up on road construction and electricity connection for the new school and the new market, the electricity department in the Governor's office is preparing a proposal to make the necessary connections.

The ISHO team installed a total of 450 family tents in transit area 4. All tents have been allocated among refugee families awaiting shelter.

In Bainjan town, 35 km west of Sulaymaniyah, 194 Syrians are living in 20 incomplete government properties with permission of the authorities. The shelters are in very poor condition and families are using plastic sheets to cover the roofs for protection from rain and heavy winds.

Kasak

The preparation and levelling of the expansion site for 198 tents and for internal roads of the camp is ongoing by UNHCR.

The Ninewa authorities are installing the electrical transformer to provide power to the camp and the internal electrical poles. UNICEF is providing the sanitary units and connecting the internal water network to the tanks and IOM installed the water tank in the camp.

Water and Sanitation

Al-Qa'im

Supplements of water continue in Camp 1 and Camp 2 from the water compact unit. UNICEF and partners are following up with the required maintenance for the water network; maintenance for latrines in both camps is ongoing. In Camp 3, water network installation is ongoing as reported above.

UNICEF installed 27 solar boilers this week for female showers in Camp 2; these are in addition to the 24 boilers installed in Camp 1.

Duhok



A boy carries water in muddy, winter conditions, Domiz Camp

Families in phases 1, 2, 3 and 4 are receiving water from the system every other day. The Department of Displaced and Migration (DDM) continues to provide the camp with clean water through eight hired carriers. In addition, MSF hired four tractors for families in transit sites where muddy or narrow roads have made it too difficult for water carriers to reach.

Garbage collection by Artush Company, particularly in transit 1, 2, 4, and the singles area, requires proper monitoring. UNHCR met with DDM to address the issue.

WASH construction works by UNICEF will be completed by the end of January if the road conditions are permissive for heavy machinery to proceed.

Electricity

The DDM submitted a bill of quantities (BoQ) to the Duhok Governorate for providing transit 4, phase 7 and all working agencies' offices with electricity.

NFIs

Al-Qa'im

All new arrivals are provided with NFI kits upon entering the camp. In coordination with camp management, the MOMD team completed the January distribution of baby kits (diapers, infant's milk powder, bottled water) targeting children under 2 years old. Additionally, Save the Children started distributing clothes for ages 1-3 years in both camps and will start with ages 3-18 in the coming days in both camps.

The NGO Muslim Aid and UNHCR provided electric ovens for bread making; preparation to start the implementation was completed and the works on construction will commence soon.

Domiz

UNHCR continues to distribute NFIs, mainly to refugees living in the transit areas, and winter packages for new arrivals. DDM continued with the distribution of diapers, blankets, basic food items and kerosene heaters.

Japan Platform organization distributed 35,400 litres of kerosene to 354 families, each family received 100 litres and Islamic Kurdish Lead (IKL) distributed 300 carpets to 300 families.

UNICEF distributed children's winter clothes to 481 families (for 700 children under-five). The total distributed quantity is 1,323 families (2,194 children).

Urban Communities

UNHCR continues with winter distributions throughout the Kurdistan Region. Every Syrian family is receiving 220 litres of kerosene provided at government controlled rates and a thermal blanket for each individual from the KRG. In addition, a winter package with other essential items, including plastic sheeting for shelter, quilts, mattresses, stoves, and jerry cans is distributed to the most vulnerable families.

In addition to the kerosene and blankets, the KRG authorities have made available public buildings such as youth centres to UNHCR to carry out the distribution indoors and provided police security for safety during the distribution.

In Erbil, among the 1,290 Syrian families, 708 have already received kerosene for the winter, distributed by UNHCR. Moreover, UNHCR provided winter packages to 350 highly vulnerable Syrian families residing in harsh living conditions in urban communities.



Urban refugees receiving winter items from UNHCR, KR

donate essential household items to the refugees. highlighting winterization efforts.

Among the 220 vulnerable families identified in Sulaymaniya, thus far 107 received the winter package plus a food basket donated by the Civil Development Organization (CDO), a UNHCR implementing partner.

In Dohuk, 897 identified vulnerable families are also receiving winter packages.

Local organizations and individuals continue to kindly A UNHCR press release was issued to the media

Food

Al-Qa'im

Distribution of bread in Al Qa'im by Afkar Society for Development and Relief NGO is ongoing; the NGO intends to provide bread on daily basis in both Al Qa'im camps for 20 days starting on January 19th.

A demonstration took place on January 20th in Camp 1 due to a shortage of food normally provided by the MoMD; UNHCR intervened by supplying a complementary food parcel for one month. A second measure taken by UNHCR to counter the issue has been the distribution of a cash allowance for complementary food supplements in Al Qa'im camps. These steps were fully welcomed by the Syrian refugees.

Domiz

WFP started their second cycle of food voucher distribution to the refugees and DDM continues to distribute vegetable oil and rice as a one-time assistance for each family.

Japan Platform distributed 350 small food baskets to 350 newly arrived families consisting of 1,620 individuals. Food assistance continues to be coordinated with WFP.

Health

Al-Qa'im

Routine immunisation is ongoing in the camp health centre on a weekly basis. Specifically, UNICEF supported a measles vaccination campaign led by the Department of Health, which resulted in 1,959 children and youth being vaccinated against measles.

Domiz

The health center in the camp continues to provide services to over people on a daily basis; the Department of Health and supporting agencies are ensuring that adequate medicine stocks are available. Routine vaccination is ongoing as well as a measles campaign that reached 1,959 children and youth.

Urban Communities

WHO is ensuring that all Syrian urban refugees in Erbil are vaccinated through mobile vaccination teams. WHO also regularly monitors the status of the refugees in the health clinics.

Education

Al-Qa'im

Attendance in the Camp 1 school is 38.89 per cent for boys and 54.34 per cent for girls for the period from January 9th to 17th; regular mid year exams began on January 19th. The numbers may be decreasing due to the return of families to Syria, while no new arrivals were registered as a result of the continued border closure. Other possibilities for low attendance rates are being explored by UNICEF and include boys being engaged in income-generating activities within the camp and a lack of prioritization of school in the camp by parents. Measures to curb this include awareness messages on the importance of education and the organization of recreation and sport activities to attract children to school. These initiatives are being led by UNICEF and the Directorate of Education (DoE).

The Camp 2 school was established with 15 pre-fabricated classrooms and furniture provided by UNICEF, and was inaugurated in the presence of Al-Qaim DoE. Thus far, 748 children are registered and began attending the school.

Domiz

The (DoE) in Dohuk has 2,200 children registered and will move some of them to the newly completed schools at the start of the second semester on January 21st to ease congestion at the Qamishlu Basic School. The second and third school units in Domiz Camps were established with prefabricated classrooms provided by UNHCR and a private company respectively and are now ready to accept students.

4. Interviews with Syrian Refugees/Iraqi Returnees

NTR

5. Coordination

Al-Qa'im

On January 21st, Al Qa'im Camps were visited by a delegation from the U.S. embassy and included the Assistant Chief of Mission, the Director of USAID, and the Refugee Coordinator. The delegation visited the administration and registration offices and met with staff who summarized the services provided to camp based and urban refugees. The delegation also visited the school, a child friendly space, a rubhall and met with a number of Syrian families who requested for support on securing freedom of movement and resettlement services. Government authorities, military and community leaders were also greeted by the delegation



Other coordination efforts during the reporting period include a camp management meeting, and Emergency Cell meeting and a Protection Working Group meeting.

Kurdistan Region



The UNHCR Representative for Iraq visited the Domiz camp and witnessed the winter distribution to Syrian urban refugees in Dohuk and Erbil. The UN Humanitarian Coordinator, the WHO Representative, the UNAMI Public Information Officer, and WFP from Erbil joined the mission to Domiz. The mission members met with the Governor of Duhok, operational partners in Domiz and main government counterparts. They visited the camps facilities; i.e UNHCR registration offices, the rubhall, health centre, the new school and the WFP food voucher shop. A UN press release of the mission was issued.



UNHCR received a delegation from ECHO who visited Domiz camp including the new school, health centre as well as old camp phases and new transit sites. Bilateral meetings with implementing partners and the government were also arranged. On the following day, they visited the PARC offices in Erbil and witnessed the kerosene distribution to the Syrian urban refugees in Erbil for the winter cold temperatures.

From January 20th to 24th the UNHCR Deputy Representative for Iraq visited the Domiz camp and the PARC facilities in Dohuk and Erbil. He also attended the winter distribution for the urban refugees in Erbil and Dohuk.

Domiz

During the reporting period UNHCR held a live interview with Al Jazeera. UNHCR explained the development process in the camp, the near completion of phase 5 and the plans for the new phase.

UNHCR met with WFP Country Director and Deputy Country Director to discuss the voucher system and suggestions and the need to project for an incremental increase in numbers of beneficiaries.