

# INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

27 June - 3 July 2013



This update provides a snapshot of the inter-agency regional humanitarian response in full coordination with host Governments and 126 partners across the region. Published weekly on Thursday, the next update will be available on 11 July 2013.

## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Ongoing fighting and the risk that the Syria conflict will spill over into bordering countries may be jeopardizing refugees' access to protection in neighbouring countries. The conflict in Syria is exacerbating intersectarian tensions in Lebanon, with shelling and violence becoming increasingly widespread in the north and eastern border regions.
- The security situation in countries receiving Syrian refugees is highly volatile. In Iraq, countrywide bombings continued, resulting in widespread casualties. In Egypt, mass protests on 30 June - the one-year anniversary of the inauguration of Egypt's first democratically elected president - mobilized millions of people across the country.
- Host Governments are urged to keep borders open to asylum seekers. In Iraq, the Peshkapor border crossing between Syria and the Kurdistan Region, which is hosting 95 per cent of Iraq's Syrian refugees, has been closed since 19 May and the Al Qa'im border crossing has been closed since 29 March.
- Refugees and host Governments and communities require continuing financial and operational support to address the refugee crisis. Refugees in non-camp settings in particular are challenged by high commodity prices and costs of living.

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## REGIONAL FIGURES

**1,736,162** refugees fleeing Syria have sought protection in neighboring countries

**1,167,398** refugees registered in the first six months of 2013

**51%** of refugee population are under 18 years of age

**105,276** children provided with access to psychosocial support services by UNICEF

**1,066,265** refugees targeted for WFP food assistance in June

**77%** of refugees live outside camps in urban and rural host communities

Total Number of Refugees **1,736,162**

Registered Refugees **1,540,045**

Estimated Refugees Awaiting **196,117**

**TURKEY**  
**397,071**  
refugees  
including awaiting  
registration

**LEBANON**  
**582,854**  
refugees  
including awaiting  
registration

**IRAQ**  
**159,465**  
registered  
refugees

**EGYPT**  
**87,527**  
refugees including  
awaiting  
registration

**N. AFRICA\***  
**12,332**  
reg. ref.

\* Morocco, Algeria and Libya

**JORDAN**  
**496,913**  
refugees  
including awaiting  
registration

Sources UNHCR Regional Datawarehouse, Common Operational Dataset (COD), UNGIWG, Natural Earth, UNCS

0 25 50 100 150 200 Kilometers

The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Refugee population as of 3 July 2013, based on available data. For updated figures, please visit <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees>

## Lebanon: alternative solutions for steadfast demand for shelter

- There are now more than 1,400 known localities hosting Syrian refugees across Lebanon. With the demand for shelter continuously on the rise, the search for alternative shelter solutions has become more acute. UNHCR and the Refugee Housing Unit (RHU) has developed a shelter prototype that would be sustainable, durable and ultimately reduce the overall costs to provide a temporary home for displaced people. The first unit was assembled at UNHCR's office in Beirut and twelve more units are expected and will be installed and tested by refugee families in the coming weeks.
- Securing shelter for new arrivals and relocating refugees from unsafe and unhygienic environments is a top priority. IOM is working with local municipalities to identify abandoned or derelict public buildings which can be renovated to accommodate families currently living in makeshift camps or unable to pay the high rents demanded by landlords in the area.
- Twenty-one prefabricated wooden houses have been built in the North (six in existing collective shelters, three in New Tikrit, two in Ibra, and ten in different locations agreed upon with the Ministry of Social Affairs). In west and central Bekaa, a similar project is underway to complete 14 such prefabricated houses.
- UNRWA has been responding to much needed shelter rehabilitation for Palestine refugees from Syria in Lebanon, and has so far upgraded eight collective shelters housing 87 families. Eleven additional shelters have been approved for rehabilitation, and will provide shelter for an additional 88 families. Rehabilitation works are currently being carried out on four shelters in Saïda, six in Tyre and one in the Central Lebanon Area.

## Danish Refugee Council: NFI and cash assistance for the most vulnerable

- The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) continues to provide ongoing non-food item (NFI) and cash assistance to the most vulnerable displaced Syrians in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon. Since January, DRC programmes have provided 263,349 displaced Syrians with NFI/cash support. In Lebanon alone, more than 190,000 Syrians have been assisted with basic NFIs in North, South, and Bekaa Governorates.

- Lebanon - Last week, the DRC field team reached a record 2,100 households (10,500 people) in eight hours from one distribution location in Tripoli.

- Jordan - Interventions have focused heavily on cash assistance to vulnerable populations in Amman, Karak, and Ma'an Governorates. In the past few months, DRC in partnership with JHCO and CARE



DRC | B. Nixon

International, has provided 19,925 Syrians with cash assistance in Amman and is currently continuing its cash assistance programme to an additional 8,600 Syrian households in Amman, Karak, and Ma'an.

- Iraq - DRC is working in Al Qa'im camp to provide critical assistance in the form of specialized medical equipment (toilet seats, crutches, etc.) and wheelchairs for people with disabilities. The Iraq programme has also provided hygiene kits, protection kits, and infant care kits including nutrition items to over 1,500 Syrians in Anbar, Sulaymaniyah and Erbil Governorates.

## Lebanon: child protection and SGBV interventions expanded

- Terre des Hommes is preparing to open two additional child-friendly centres in Arsal municipality in the Bekaa, targeting 200 children in the area to take part in psychosocial activities to help prevent early marriage and provide safe spaces.
- Women and girls survivors or at risk of violence are soon to benefit from alternative accommodation established by UNHCR, UNICEF, DRC, and Abaad. These shelters, which will be established in the Bekaa, North and South regions during the coming month, aim to provide vulnerable refugee women and girls with immediate safety and protection.
- In June, 380 women and girl survivors or at risk of gender-based violence received psychosocial support, counselling, family planning and nutrition awareness sessions at four Women and Girls Community Centres run by the International Rescue Committee.

## Iraq: Livelihood assistance to build resilience

- IOM is implementing a UNHCR-funded capacity building programmes to assist Syrian refugees in Duhok and Erbil that allow refugees to develop sources of income which will enable them to obtain a degree of financial independence.
- Over the week, forty individuals enrolled in vocational training and are being trained to operate/manage grocery shops and internet cafes, as well as sewing and hairdressing. In addition, 30 in-kind grants were distributed and eight business plans were approved. Since January 2013, 132 beneficiaries have benefited from IOM livelihood assistance.

## Promoting hygiene to minimize impact of communicable diseases

- To promote safe hygiene practices and combat the potential harmful impacts of bacteria and parasites in the hot and crowded camp settings, hygiene promotion is underway in Za'atri camp (Jordan) and Domiz camp (Iraq) to help prevent disease among the more than 160,000 people living in the camps.
- Iraq - The incidence of diarrhoea in Domiz camp continues to decline from peaks observed earlier in the year. Hygiene promotion activities for Transit 7 camp in Iraq started on 26 May 2013. Sixty hygiene promoters managed by Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) had reached 4,694 families (22,138 persons) by 27 June with diarrhea disease and measles vaccination awareness (62 per cent of the target population).
- Jordan - Twelve teams of 15 Syrian community health workers are implementing an eight-day campaign in Za'atri camp. Teams are walking from tent to tent to reinforce hand-washing and proper waste disposal, as well as maintaining safe water chains, safe food handling and personal hygiene. The teams also look out for cases of diarrhoea and distribute oral rehydration salts or refer children to medical clinics, when necessary. The 125 workers, including nurses, health educators and pharmacists, completed training organized by UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO and other partners in preparation for the campaign.

## Vaccinations continue, preventive measures reaping results as incidences continue to fall

- Jordan - In Za'atri, the number of health consultations per week have reduced in the last few weeks. The weekly rate of clinical visitations has declined to less than 9 per 100 refugees per week from peak of 21 per 100 refugees eight weeks ago. No new measles cases have been reported in Za'atri camp. Ministry of Health and partners are continuing the mass measles vaccination campaign in northern Governorates. At least 75 per cent of the targeted population have so far been vaccinated. The More than 460,000 refugees, including 74,325 non-camp refugees, have been vaccinated against measles since the beginning of the exercise. IOM and Jordan Health Aid Society continue to screen new refugee arrivals for tuberculosis and provide vaccination for polio and measles.
- Iraq - in the past two weeks, two suspected measles cases were identified in Domiz camp. As of 22 June, a total of 385 cases have been reported (attack rate 1.0%, case fatality rate 0%). In a survey carried in late May, vaccination coverage for measles for children older than 12 months was observed to be greater than 90 per cent.
- Lebanon - The total number of confirmed cutaneous leishmaniasis continues to grow. In the Bekaa, 250 confirmed cases are now reported. New treatment centres have been operationalized across the country. UNHCR contributes to consultation costs for all Syrian nationals. Vaccinations against measles and polio, and vitamin A administration continued in North Lebanon and the Bekaa.
- Turkey - all new arrivals in camps are medically screened and children are vaccinated.



*Hala, a mother and newly arrived Syrian refugee, just after crossing the Jordanian/ Syrian border with her family. Hala told UNHCR that her family had been through so much, moving from Homs to Damascus and then fleeing south for Jordan. UNICEF | S. Malkawi*

## Host Governments continue to extend hospitality to address the basic needs of thousands

- **Turkey** - Construction has begun on a transit centre to shelter an estimated 5,000 Syrians who are living in a makeshift camp in the southern border city of Kilis. The Deputy Governor of Kilis informed UNHCR that the site will have 40 rub halls and vulnerable refugees such as the sick and injured will be accommodated in 100 containers. Reportedly, 14 latrines will be constructed with a similar number of showers. The centre is expected to be operational in mid-July.
- **Iraq** - As per the agreement with the Government of Iraq, UNHCR transferred all refugees settled in Al Qa'im Camps 1 and 2 to Camp 3, Al Obaidy. The relocation took four days and was completed on 27 June. All services that were available to refugees in Camps 1 and 2 have also been transferred to Al Obaidy.

- **Jordan** - UNICEF partners the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief and World Vision are progressing with the construction of WASH facilities in the new Azraq camp, being designed for 10,000 people, with the first set of septic tanks now installed. A total of 4,744 tanks will be installed, which will serve up to 56,928 beneficiaries.

In Za'atri camp, UNICEF and Oxfam have finished decommissioning the temporary WASH blocks in module 4 of the camp and completed the hand-over of 48 new blocks (288 latrines and 240 showers) to WASH committees, which will serve up to 14,400 refugees in the area. The WASH committees are working to keep the blocks clean and properly maintained.



*In South Lebanon, many Syrian refugees are living in make-shift shelters and derelict and abandoned buildings. They are in need of shelter support items and non-food items including hygiene and baby care kits. IOM Lebanon*

The regional response for refugees fleeing Syria is the coordinated effort of 126 participating organizations, including 84 appealing:

ActionAid | [Action Contre la Faim](#) | Adventist Development and Relief Agency | [Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development](#) | The Lebanese Association for Development | [Lebanese Association for Human Promotion & Literacy](#) | Amel Association | [ARRD – Legal Aid](#) | Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale | [CARE International](#) | Caritas | [Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre](#) | Catholic Relief Services | [Centre for Victims of Torture](#) | Cooperative Housing Foundation International | [Children without Borders](#) | Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli | [Danish Refugee Council](#) | Finn Church Aid/Act Alliance | [FAO](#) | Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura | [GVC/Muslim Aid](#) | Handicap International | [Heartland Alliance International](#) | Institute for Family Health/Noor Al Hussein Foundation | [International Catholic Migration Commission](#) | International Medical Corps | [IOM](#) | International Orthodox Christian Charities | [International Relief and Development](#) | International Rescue Committee | [INTEROS](#) | Islamic Relief Worldwide | [JEN](#) | Jesuit Refugee Service | [Jordan Health Aid Society](#) | LDS Charities | [Lebanese Red Cross](#) | Lutheran World Federation | [Madrasati Initiative](#) | Medair | [Médecins du Monde](#) | Mercy Corps | [Movement for Peace](#) | Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development | [Norwegian Refugee Council](#) | Operation Mercy | [Oxfam GB](#) | Première Urgence – Aide Médicale Internationale | [Qatar Red Crescent](#) | Questscope | [Refugee Education Trust](#) | Relief International | [Restart](#) | Rene Mouawad Foundation | [Royal Health Awareness Society](#) | Safadi Foundation | [Save the Children International](#) | Save the Children Jordan | [Social Humanitarian Economic Intervention for Local Development](#) | Solidarités International | [Terre des Hommes](#) | Terre des Hommes Italia | [Terre des Hommes Lausanne](#) | German Federal Agency for Technical Relief | [Un ponte per](#) | UNDP | [UNESCO](#) | UNFPA | [UN-Habitat](#) | UNHCR | [UNICEF](#) | UNODC | [UNOPS](#) | UNRWA | [UN Women](#) | War Child Holland | [WFP](#) | WHO | [World Rehabilitation Fund](#) | World Vision | [YMCA](#) |

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