

IRAQ MONTHLY UPDATE - APRIL 2017

Basic Needs

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:

Distribution of second-hand clothes from a local clothing company was organized in Bnaslawa camp for Syrian refugees in Erbil Governorate by UNHCR partner agency, Qandil. The company is ready to donate on a regular basis including blankets, pants, baby clothes, shirts and pyjamas.

776 cases were referred for multi-purpose cash assistance in April from Erbil, Dohuk and Sulaymaniah governorate. Serious medical condition, child at risk, and physical/medical disability were reasons for 75% of the referrals.



Qushtapa refugee camp overview in Erbil Governorate. Othman Othman/ UNHCR 2017

NEEDS ANALYSIS

The lack of livelihoods opportunities in urban areas is pushing refugees to seek the option of moving to camps as an alternative in Erbil governorate. A substantial increase in the number of families signing up to live in the camp was noted. In Qushtapa camp with less than 2,000 plots, more than 900 families registered and are waiting to receive a plot in the camp.

Refugees who still lack residency permits can face limited access to the formal and more stable labour market. Residency permits are requisite to apply for jobs in companies, malls, NGOs, etc. Entrepreneurship is restricted as a partner/sponsor from the host community is always required. Refugees often face difficulties obtaining taxi and truck licenses. Precarious working conditions and unpredictable income push many refugees to pay their rent late and are subject to the stress of being evicted on a regular basis.

UNHCR's partner agency, YAO, is conducting an assessment of vulnerable refugee families in need of core-relief items in Sulaymaniah governorate camp. Needs in the summer months will be examined. UNHCR aims to provide additional water jerrycans, and plastic sheeting for shading the targeted communal areas.

* By 30 April 2017, 239,639 Syrian refugees (78,507 households) live in Iraq:

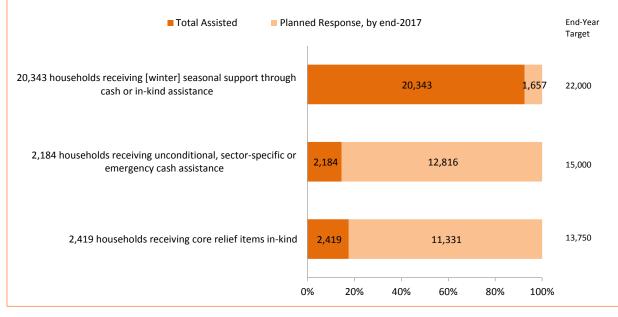
97% = 231,393 live in Kurdistan Region-Iraq (KR-I): Erbil Duhok and Sulaymaniyah. 3% = 8,246 Live in other locations in Iraq.

62% = 148,823 live in non-camp/urban areas.

38% = 90,816 live in 9 camps (Basirma, Darashakran, Kawergosk, Qushtapa camps in Erbil, Domiz I and II, Akre, Gawilan camps in Duhok, Arbat Camp in Sulaymaniyah).



IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: APRIL 2017*



Leading Agency: UNHCR, Bola HAN, hanb@unhcr.org; Co-leading agency: ACTED.

