

TURKEY

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

3- 14 November 2014

KEY FIGURES

211,000

Family tent beneficiaries

12,640

Sanitary napkins beneficiaries

2,291,423

Baby diapers donated

1,059,278

High and medium thermal blankets donated

213,800

Hot plate cookers beneficiaries

128,800

Jerry cans donated

62,245

Electric heaters donated

1,460,538

Clothing beneficiaries

342,000

Mats donated

167,840

Kitchen sets beneficiaries

200,000

Foam mattresses donated

SITUATION IN SURUC

Since 4 November, according to AFAD information note from 11 November, there were no reported new arrivals in the region of Suruç until the 13 November when 368 persons were admitted. The total number of Syrian refugees who entered Turkey since the siege of Kobani started is reported by authorities to be 192,411.

Arrivals

Registration is required for Syrian refugees to have access to assistance services, including health services and core relief items-CRIs. To this end, resources from pre-registration have been reallocated to biometric registration to increase the rate of full registration. The Syrian refugees are receiving their ID cards in two to three days. Urgent cases are prioritized and the card is issued on the following day of registration. As of 13 November, the cumulative number of biometrically registered Syrian refugees is 36,462.

Shelter

According to AFAD, the rough estimation of Syrian refugees in Suruç town and villages ranges between 40,000 and 60,000 persons. The map below shows the distribution of Syrian refugees by district.

Another 30 tents have been set up to accommodate around 900 Syrian refugees at YIBO. UNHCR provided these families with blankets and foam mattresses.

Estimated figures of Syrians living in the central districts of Suruc as of 04 November 2014 (Source: AFAD & Suruc Sub Governorate)



However, the need for more shelters presses on. As YIBO School has reached its capacity, the Şanlıurfa Deputy Governor has expressed the idea to set up two to three additional extension of residential areas to should the need for more shelters continues.

According to AFAD Information note of 11 November, the total refugee population at Onbir Nisan Temporary Accommodation Centre is 950. AFAD Ankara assigned a team of social workers and first aid specialists to Onbir Nisan to meet with the residents and assess their conditions and try to provide women with psychosocial assistance. After reports that some women are not comfortable bringing their needs and concerns to AFAD male staff, UNHCR has dedicated female staff to visiting families and try to address women issues. All information gathered is subsequently shared with AFAD and the proper response is given.

The construction of the new camp in Suruç with capacity for 30.000 persons by Turkish authorities is on-going and reported to be finalized in 2 months. The new camp will enable to provide Syrian refugees who are staying in temporary transit shelters proper shelter that is prepared for the winter. UNHCR is supporting this new camp with non-food items.

Distribution of Assistance

On 03 November, UNHCR officially introduced Concern and ASAM as new *Implementing Partners* for core relief items distribution on the Suruç area to the humanitarian community and Turkish authorities. UNHCR has already begun to train the new implementing partners on distribution of relief items during emergencies.



Syrian refugee family collecting mats and foam mattresses during distribution in Suruç Town. UNHCR/E.Argunhan

Psychosocial support for children refugees



Syrian refugee children visiting the Gaziantep zoo on 05 November UNHCR/L.Kovacova

As part of the UNHCR-funded Gaziantep Community Centre's programme for children's psychosocial activities, implementing partners IMC/ASAM promoted a visit to Gaziantep zoo for a group of 34 Syrian urban refugee children from Gaziantep. The center's psychologist explained that this initiative aims to increase the children's sensitivity to their surroundings, teach them how to act as part of a group and to take care of each other. Many children took part together with their younger or older siblings. Educational and psychosocial activities are extremely important to create a sense of normalcy, promote social interaction and break the monotony of life in asylum.

Given the fact that the vast majority of Syrian refugees are living outside of the camps, the community centers are a priority operational area for UNHCR and at the core of its urban outreach strategy. The range of services delivered by the centers is cross-cutting in nature and engages protection, basic needs, support on education, health, psycho-social support and livelihoods assistance and services.

In Urban settings, reaching out to refugee families with information about their rights is a big challenge. The IMC/ASAM Community Centres aim to bridge this information gap. Since its establishment, it has proven to be a successful model not only for providing children-specific activities, but also legal counselling, language courses and provision of important information about public services to which they are eligible under Turkey's temporary protection regime. UNHCR is looking as a priority to continue to expand the presence of community centers throughout the country in 2015 within the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) framework.

GENERAL REFUGEE RESPONSE IN TURKEY

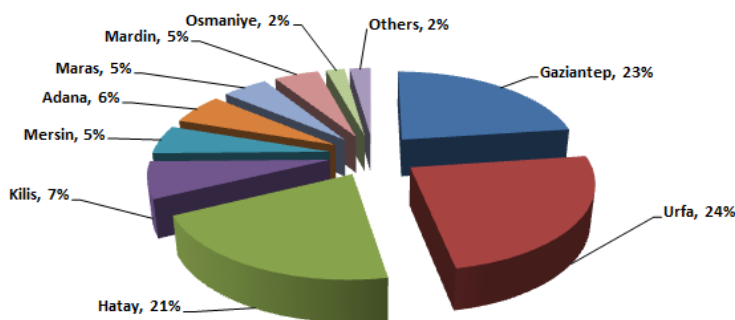
The UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations Janet Lim came to Turkey on mission from 7 to 11 November. Ms. Lim visited Istanbul where she met with UNHCR staff, visited the ASAM/IMC Community Centre for Syrians and HRDF Refugee Support office and was briefed on the situation of refugees in Istanbul. She continued her Turkey visit on Gaziantep to take part on an international panel about “Women victims of war” organized by the Mayor of Gaziantep, Ms. Fatma Sahin, accompanied by Ms. Carol Batchelor, UNHCR Representative in Turkey, as well as to visit the Syrian refugees in temporary accommodation centres around the Suruç area. In one of the centre’s rub hall tents, she was hosted by a Syrian family from Ayn al-Arab (also known as Kobani), who shared their thoughts and feelings about displacement, the assistance that they have received in Turkey and future plans.



Carol Batchelor and Janet Lim were received by a Syrian refugee family at YIBO Transit Centers UNHCR/L. Kovacova.

Syrian refugee figures in Turkey

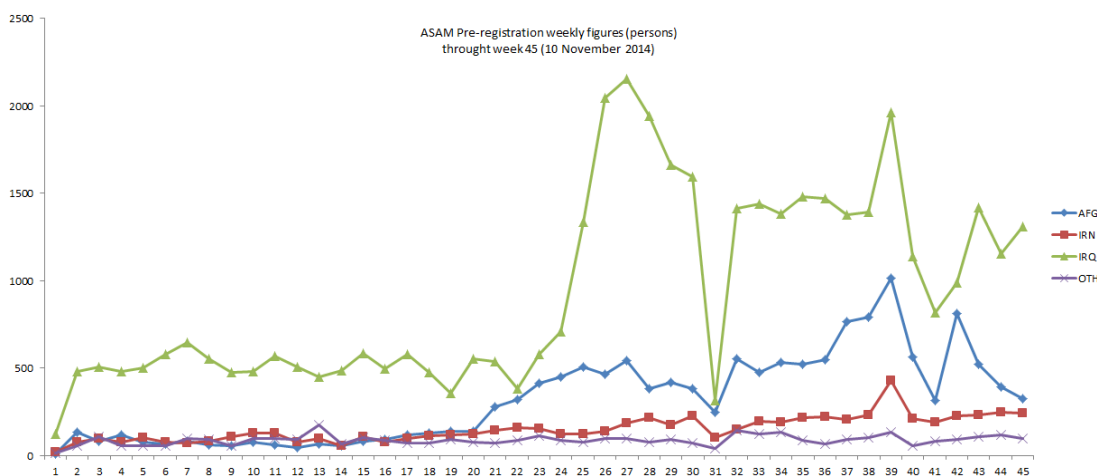
Estimated, Registered and Enumerated Non-Camp Syrians in SE Turkey as of 31 October 2014



AFAD published an information note on 31 October with updated information on the number of Syrian refugees in Turkey. According to AFAD, the total estimated number of Syrians in Turkey is 1,617,110. Of the total number, 220,928 are currently living in one of the 22 in camps and around 1.4 million Syrian refugees are estimated to be living in urban areas.

According to AFAD 34,792 Syrian children were born in Turkish refugee camps.

Response to increase in number of refugees and asylum seekers



UNHCR Turkey is expanding its protection and material assistance activities following the sharp increase both in Iraqi and Syrian refugees in the last few months in the South East of Turkey. In addition to the calls for expression of interest on Core relief items distribution for Syrians and assistance to Iraqi new arrivals, a call for expression of interest for

protection activities for Syrian new arrivals was launched on 28 October.

Building Turkish institutional capacity

Through its regular capacity building support, UNHCR has organized training sessions to a second group of junior field experts of DGMM. UNHCR provided training on various topics including principles of international protection, international human rights and humanitarian law, 1951 Geneva Convention, refugee status determination, interview techniques, RSD procedures under the Law on Foreigners and International Protection, appeal procedures under the LFIP, country of origin information research, country of origin information on Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan, access to rights and services by persons of concern and harmonization of persons of concern. The training was composed of interactive sections including case studies and role plays. The target population has been revised on the basis of discussions with the Government of Turkey and NGO partners. The current plan will provide assistance to all refugees in camps (up to 230,000 people) as well as 300,000 refugees in urban, peri-urban and rural areas. Winter clothing for all 530,000 refugees have been procured and delivery is expected from mid-November to mid-December. Distribution in the camps will be done by AFAD, while the distribution to refugees in local communities will be done through UNHCR partners.

Winterization



Refugee head of household received a heater from UNHCR in a refugee camp
UNHCR/E.Argunhan

UNHCR Turkey's winterization plan targets assistance to 300,000 refugees in host communities and some 120,000 refugees in camps. In total, if fully funded, 84,000 families will benefit from winterization assistance. The plan includes distribution of high thermal blankets to 84,000 families and winter clothing to a targeted refugee population of 60,000 households (300,000 people) not living in the camps.

The winterization programme also foresees replacement of 7,000 tents in camps, as well as the provision of 8,500 electric heaters. The target population has been revised on the basis of discussions with the Government of Turkey and NGO partners. The current plan will provide assistance to all refugees in camps (up to 230,000 people) as well as 300,000 refugees in urban, peri-urban and rural areas. Winter clothing for all

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AFAD is finalizing Nusaybin refugee camp to host 15,000 Iraqi refugees who are currently not offered shelter that is adequate for winter conditions in South East Turkey. While some 3,000 Yezidi refugees are hosted in Midyat camp, there are thousands of refugees from Iraq who are staying in temporary shelters in the region around Silopi that are not fit for severe winter conditions.

Donor Countries of UNHCR's Regional Syrian Refugee Programme for Turkey:



Other Donor Countries contributing to UNHCR's Regional Syrian Refugee Programme in alphabetical order including un-earmarked funding:



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