

Highlights:

- AFAD, QRC and UNHCR signed a Cooperation Protocol that will benefit Syrian Refugees in Turkey;
- Syrian refugees continue to arrive in Turkey.
- By the end of January 2014, nearly 600,000 Syrians were registered with AFAD, including both camp and non-camp population. The official estimate of the total number of Syrian refugees (as announced in November 2013) remains 700,000 refugees.

Cooperation Protocol signed upon receipt of 10 million Dollars contribution from Qatar

AFAD, Qatar Red Crescent (QRC) and UNHCR signed a Cooperation Protocol on 28 January upon the receipt of 10 million US Dollars in-kind contribution from the Government of Qatar to Syrian refugees in Turkey. The President of AFAD, the UNHCR Representative, and representatives from the Turkish Red Crescent and QRC attended the event, which was hosted by AFAD.

All parties underscored the worsening situation of the Syrian crisis and appreciated the international solidarity from the donors like the Government of Qatar.

It was agreed that QRC provides in-kind contribution with a value of 10 Million US

dollars for the winterization program. This Qatari grant comes at the command of His Highness Prince of the State of Qatar in order to relief the Syrian families facing the difficult circumstances and harsh cold, and in solidarity with the efforts of Turkey in providing relief services to the Syrians. The program includes: 7,000 highly-durable family tents and 315,000 high thermal blankets for Syrians inside and outside of camps who have fled Syria to seek protection in Turkey.



UNHCR, Qatar Red Crescent and AFAD signing a cooperation protocol to confirm their cooperation on provision of emergency winter relief materials to Syrian refugees through the funding provided by the State of Qatar. Photo: AFAD

Arrivals and returns

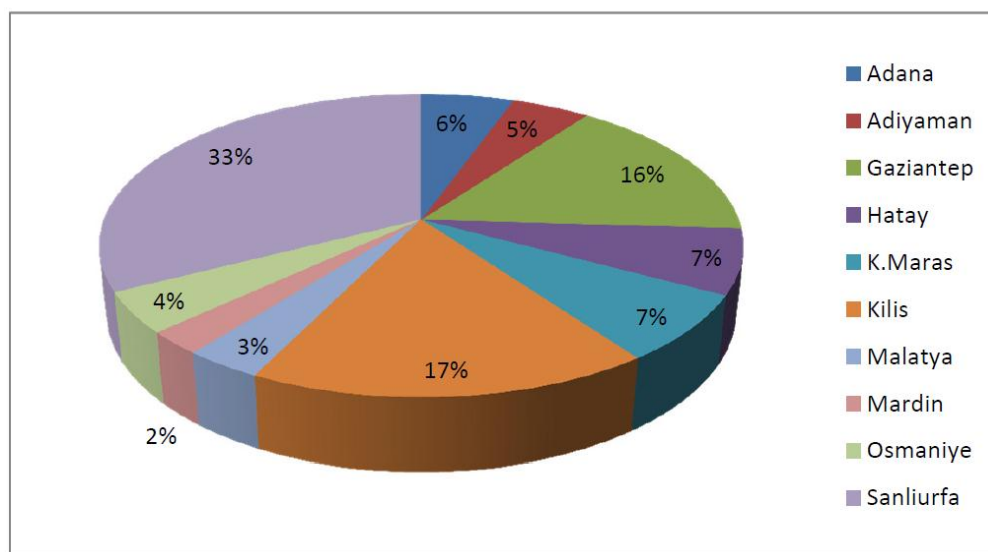
The media reported that due to recent clashes across the border of Karkamis and Kilis, there are many Syrians crossing to Turkey. Reportedly the increase in new-arrivals is also felt by both Coordination Centers in Gaziantep city center and Nizip town center; the number of Syrians registered by Gaziantep Coordination Center has reached over 100,000 and those in Nizip town reached almost 17,000 persons.

Local officials in Sanliurfa informed UNHCR that although the border gate of Akcakale is officially closed, the exit of about 4,000 Syrians was facilitated through this border crossing point to Tel-Abyad in Syria in the past two weeks. It is reported that these returnees are refugees who fled to Turkey during the first two weeks of Jan 2014 and have temporarily stayed with their relatives in towns or villages.

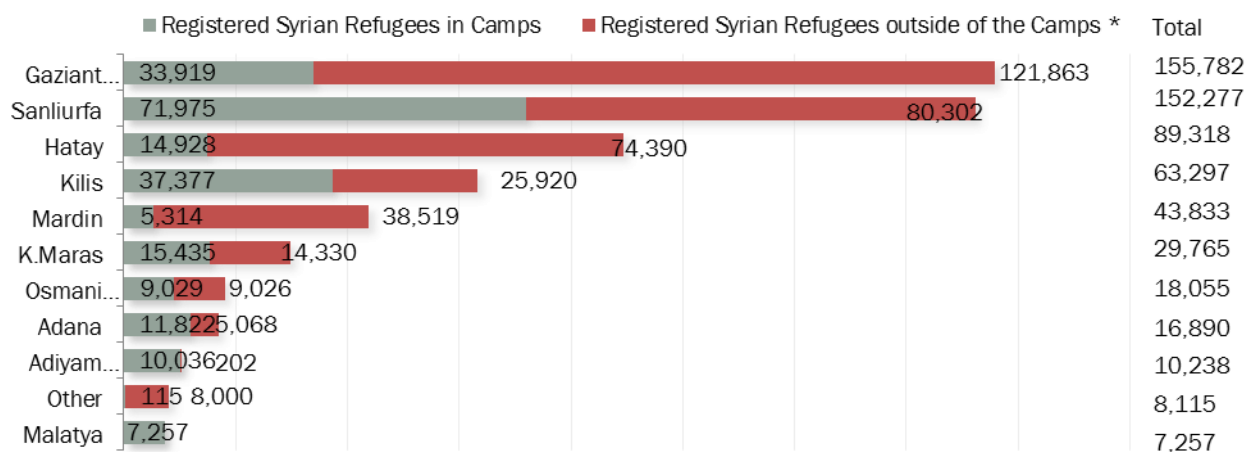
In Mardin, local authorities informed UNHCR that they facilitated the voluntary return of more than 61,000 Syrians through Kiziltepe - Senyurt border crossing point during 2013. Reportedly 64% of the returns took place in the last three months (Oct-Nov-Dec) of 2013 and majority of these returns were Syrians of Kurdish origin who found it safer to cross from Senyurt crossing point than other crossing points. It is not clear whether some of these returns are multiple returns.

Statistics

Registration in camps by provinces as of 31 January 2014 Total: 215,860



Population of Non-Camp Syrian Refugees Updated on: 31 January 2014



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