

SYRIA REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey

20 July 2012



This weekly update provides a snapshot of the United Nations and partners' response to the influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. The response is led by the UN Refugee Agency and is undertaken in full coordination with host Governments, UN agencies, and NGO partners. This report covers the period from 13 to 19 July 2012. The next update will be issued on 26 July 2012.



Syrian refugee children@ Firas Alsabgan / UNHCR 2012

GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Syrian refugee population in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey is steadily growing. Currently, some 119,618 Syrians are being assisted in neighboring countries. This represents an increase of about 8,842 Syrian refugees during the last seven days.
- A massive outflow of Syrian refugees, fleeing primarily Damascus towards Lebanon, took place during the past 48 hours, and resulted in some 18,000 people crossing the borders. In consultation with the Government of Lebanon, UNHCR and partners are now at the border area responding to the crisis.

REFUGEE NUMBERS

Number of Syrian Refugees	JORDAN	LEBANON	IRAQ	TURKEY	TOTALS
Registered and Assisted	34,050	29,986	7,490	42,682	114,208
Assisted (awaiting registration)	2,400	2,500	510	-	5,410
TOTALS	36,450	32,486*	8,000**	42,682	119,618

-An estimated 18,000 Syrian refugees are currently at border points fleeing Syria to Lebanon (*).

- As per information from the local authorities, **more** than 8,000 Syrian nationals have crossed into Iraq since February 2012 (**).

-Figures are based on estimates and thus may vary.

-Some 50,000 have been identified by local organizations as in need of assistance, some of whom have been registered by UNHCR. According to the Government of Jordan, there are some 120,000 Syrians in Jordan.

JORDAN

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of Syrian refugees in Jordan reached 36,450. Some 400 to 700 Syrians continue to cross the border on a daily basis.
- The three transit sites are under significant pressure due to over congestion as the number of new arrivals has increased. UNHCR is accelerating the preparations of the Za'atri camp in coordination with the Jordanian Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO).

Protection / Numbers

- Registration:
 - A total number of 34,050 Syrians are registered with UNHCR Jordan, with an average of 450 registrations per day. Eighty percent of the registrations took place in the past four months. Additional 2,400 are awaiting registration.
 - Irbid in the North of Jordan remains the area with the highest concentration of Syrians (40%), followed by Amman (24%), Mafraq (16%), and Zarqa (7%).
 - For the second week running, the majority of those who registered at the Ramtha transit sites are from Dara'a (54.88%), followed by Homs (37.75%).



@Ivan Bartolini/UNHCR Jordan 2012

Assistance / Outreach

- Ramadan Preparations: UNHCR will provide dates and 800 Iftar meals during the month of Ramadan in four tents in host communities in Ramtha, Mafraq, Zarqa, and Amman. It will also upgrade and expand the kitchens in Bashabshe and Cyber City to enable families to cook and prepare for Ramadan. In addition, WFP will provide the main Iftar meal, as well as the late night "Suhoor" in Bashabsheh, Stadium, and King Abdullah Park.
- Water and Sanitation: UNICEF is responding to the growing water and sanitation needs at all sites.
- Quick Impact Projects (QIPs): The Mahassi project (repair of the nitrate filtration system) has been finalized. Other ongoing QIPs include the rehabilitation of Ramtha Governorate building, and maintenance for the Hudood filtration station.

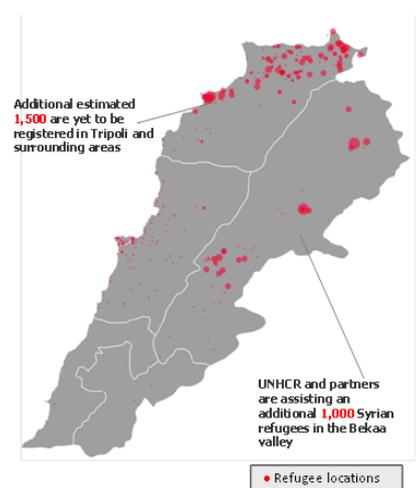
LEBANON

HIGHLIGHTS

- A number of 32,486 Syrian refugees are receiving assistance and support throughout the country.
- On the 18th and 19th of July, an estimated 18,000 Syrians crossed through the Masnaa borders into Lebanon, most of whom fled from Damascus. Individuals crossing indicated they were coming to Lebanon in response to security concerns but would go back to their homes once the

Protection / Numbers

- **Registration:** A total number of 29,986 Syrian refugees are being both registered and assisted. Another 2,500 are being assisted, but yet to be registered. The average waiting period between the time of arrival and registration dropped from two months long to one month in July, mainly because of the introduction of centralized registration in Akkar and Wadi Khaled.
- **Protection:** UNHCR Protection Staff visited the affected villages in Wadi Khaled where Syrian families are known to be residing. None of the families visited to date have expressed a desire to relocate.
- **Security:** UNHCR and DRC have established monitoring and assessment mechanisms to keep track of the security situation at the precarious border villages of North Lebanon where some 900 registered Syrian families live.
- **Education:**
 - UNICEF introduced a monitoring and reporting system for the established Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in North Lebanon that will help measure participation, impact, and gender equality of the interventions.
 - Save the Children (SCS) administered placement tests for children enrolled in the Summer Accelerated Learning Program (SALP) in the Bekaa. Some 500 children are expected to benefit from this program which will help them prepare for the next academic year at school.



Assistance / Outreach

- **Food Assistance:**
 - The UNHCR and partners identified two additional centers in Wadi Khaled and Halba: The Rajem Issa School and Halba Technical School.
 - World Food Programme (WFP) and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) identified and assessed 54 local grocery shops in Akkar in North Lebanon in anticipation of launching the voucher system in August.

- WFP, DRC, UNHCR, UNFPA, World Vision and Action Contre La Faim (ACF) facilitated the distribution of food, hygiene, baby kits, and sanitary napkins in northern and central Bekaa through centralized distribution centers.
- The implementation of the food voucher system started in the Bekaa, benefiting over 1,200 persons.
- Shelter:
- DRC finalized the rehabilitation of the Ibra collective shelter in North Lebanon, which hosts some 120 persons.
- The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) provided 12 additional host families in North Lebanon with payments to start the rehabilitation of their houses, bringing the total number of houses receiving shelter rehabilitation payments to 135. NRC also helped 125 people (25 families) renovate their unfinished houses.
- Health: Access to essential secondary health care was seriously affected this week when on July, 10, the HRC publicly announced that it stopped covering the cost of secondary health care due to lack of funding. Current funding levels do not permit partner agencies from filing in for all coverage previously provided by the HRC. UNHCR is actively advocating for additional funding sources in order to fill this urgent gap.
- Quick Impact Projects (QIPS): The implementation of QIPS in Akkar has proven successful in both the displaced and local communities.
- Community Services: A soccer match was organized between a local team and displaced Syrians which helped ease tensions and strengthen ties

IRAQ

HIGHLIGHTS

- Local authorities agreed to the allocation of a new camp site, adjacent to the existing Domiz camp.

Protection / Numbers

- Registration: The total number of Syrian refugees of Kurdish origin registered with UNHCR and the Iraqi Department of Displacement and Migration (DDM) in the Kurdish Regional Governorate has reached 7,490. About 510 other Syrians are awaiting registration.
- Camp Population: The camp population in Domiz has reached 2,540 individuals. Among them are 2,040 persons (350 families) living in the family section of the camp, and a number of 500 singles who have relocated to small tents in a temporary site
- Residency Permits:
 - Duhok remains a host to the largest number of Syrian new arrivals (6,212) followed by Erbil (898) and then Suleimaniya (380).
 - The Residency Directorate in Duhok has granted residency permits valid for six months to a total of 2400 individuals, including 390 families comprising of 1,750 individuals and 650 singles. Based on instructions by the Ministry of Interior, Syrian new arrivals continue to relocate from Erbil and Suleimaniya to Duhok Governorates in order to acquire residency permit.

- **Education:** The newly opened Summer School in Domiz camp is now hosting 123 students of grade 1 to 9. They have all received textbooks and school bags. Another 94 students have been registered and will soon join the school.

Assistance / Outreach

- **Water:** UNHCR started the implementation of a water project through Qandil on 02 July for sector 1 and 2 through Kurds (LNGO). The work includes laying more than 7000 polyethylene pipes, constructing 5 elevated storage tanks (23 m3 each), and drilling one deep well. The water project is in good progress.
- **Food:** DDM will continue the distribution of food rations until WFP is able to take over by the end of July
- **Health:** The Mental Health Service (MHC) in Duhok has started its program to conduct regular visits to Domiz camp for the provision of counseling and assistance to individuals with psychological problems.

TURKEY

HIGHLIGHTS

-The arrival of Syrian nationals continues to show an overall upward trend. According to official figures provided by the government of Turkey, from the 24th of May to the 17th of July 2012 the total camp population has increased by 75%. The current population in camps has reached 42,682.

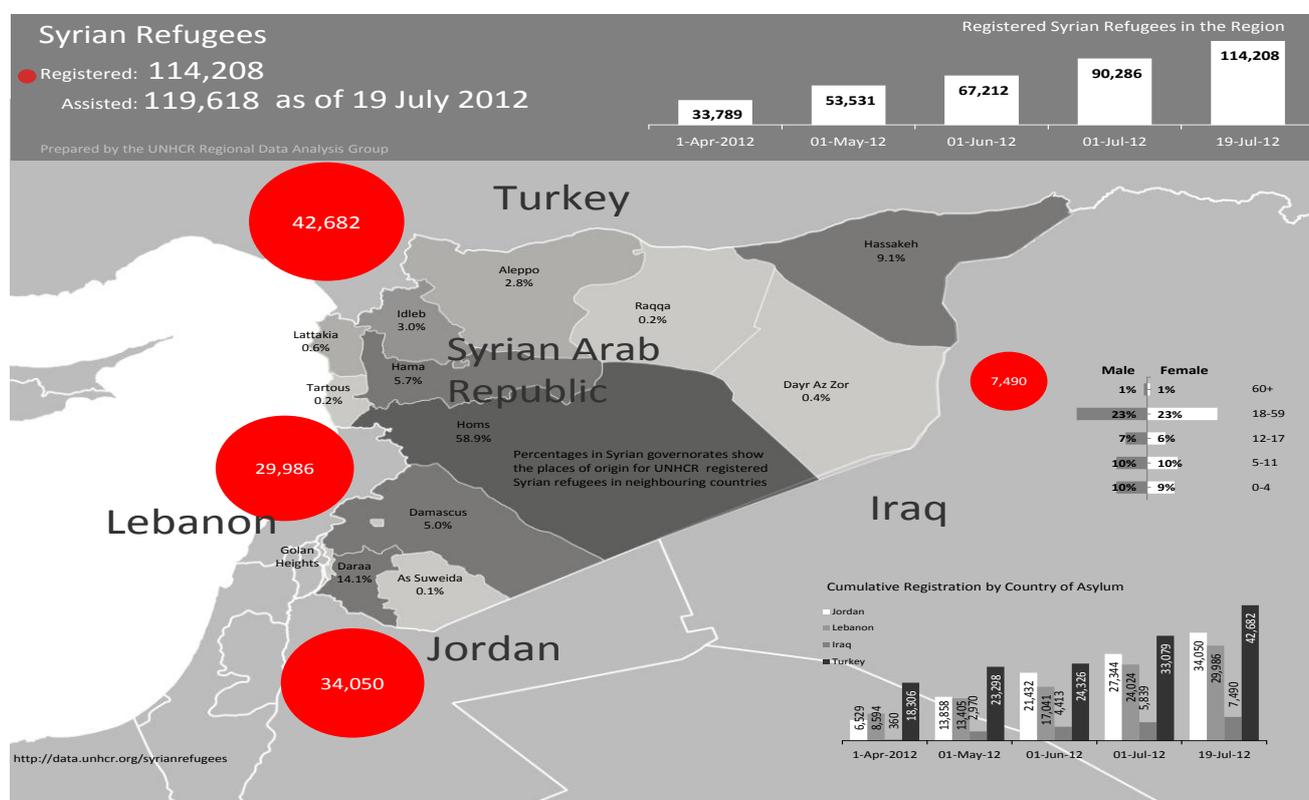
Protection / Numbers

- The Syrian population under temporary protection regime is hosted and assisted in 7 camps in the border provinces of Hatay (10,709), Gaziantep (6,610), Kilis (11,420) and Ceylanpinar (13,664). The majority of new arrivals are transferred to the refugee site of Ceylanpinar, in Sanliurfa.
- Upon the request of the Government, UNHCR staff was deployed to border provinces to cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other national institutions involved in the operation. The staff is based in Kilis, Sanliurfa, Hatay and Gazantep - Islahiye. Expert missions were also deployed to the field in order to provide technical support in site planning and information management.
- A camp was reopened in Southern Hatay to host a group of Syrian nationals of Turkmen origin.
- The Turkish Government has declared a temporary protection regime for Syrians, the core elements include: i) open border policy with admission to the territory for those seeking protection, ii) protection against forcible returns (non-refoulement) iii) access to basic registration arrangement, where immediate needs are addressed.

Assistance / Outreach

- **Food / Health:**
 - The Turkish Government is currently providing adequate food assistance and health services for Syrians registered in camps.
 - WFP has offered to extend its food voucher programme to Syrian nationals in Turkey, while UNICEF can help provide Syrian children with safe child-friendly learning environments in the camps.
- **Shelter:** UNHCR is supporting the Government of Turkey with the provision of Core Relief Items for emergency shelter. Given the international protection needs of people entering to Turkey, UNHCR is also coordinating UN Country Team efforts to support the Government as the situation unfolds.

OVERVIEW MAP



FUNDING UPDATES

- On 28 June the revised Regional Response Plan for Syrian refugees was launched by 7 UN agencies and 36 NGO partners, jointly appealing for USD 193 million to help Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, and Turkey. So far the appeal has been funded for USD 49.6 million or 26% of the total needs.
- A detailed financial tracking system is provided each last week of the month.

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