

This report is produced by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on its humanitarian response for the crisis in Syria. The summary covers events and activities until 26 September.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- ➔ To address the needs of vulnerable migrants and host communities caught up in the conflict in Syria and neighbouring countries, IOM has released its revised appeal amounting to USD 20.7 million.
- ➔ **Syria:** On 25 September, IOM started its first distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs) in Homs. The distribution continues in Damascus and Sweida Governorates and plans to expand operations to other areas in Syria are underway.
- ➔ **Jordan:** On 20 September, IOM's primary health care services in King Abdullah Park (KAP) were handed over to the Ministry of Health. IOM medical team is planning to begin TB screening and awareness-raising activities in Za'atri camp in October.
- ➔ **Lebanon:** On 24 September, the inauguration of the Social Development Centre took place in North Lebanon marking the rehabilitation and equipping of the Center by IOM, UNHCR, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), UNICEF and Save the Children, to provide psychosocial support to Syrian refugees and Lebanese returnees.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

**SYRIA** The security situation continues to deteriorate, with unpredictable violence throughout the country, particularly in the cities of Damascus and Aleppo. IOM continues to make efforts in providing emergency repatriation of stranded TCNs and distributing NFIs.

To date IOM has received 5,438 requests from embassies to assist stranded migrants in Syria.

Nationals of 30 countries were assisted by IOM to reach their countries of origin. The later include citizens from the Philippines, Sudan, Yemen, Ukraine, Romania, Egypt, Moldova, South Sudan, Belarus, Ethiopia, Chile, Burkina Faso, Argentina, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Guinea, Russia, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Ghana, Cote D'Ivoire, Morocco, Senegal, Tunisia, Liberia, Bangladesh, Algeria, Peru, Eritrea, and Mali.

**JORDAN** UNHCR reports **53,299** registered Syrian refugees in Jordan. Currently **31,942** Syrian refugees reside in Za'atari camp near Mafraq, Jordan. The weather is becoming noticeably colder, especially during the early morning hours.

The movement of Syrian refugees crossing the border into Jordan has further decreased from **3,052** arrivals last week, to **1,780** arriving this week due to the fluctuation of the security conditions.

**LEBANON** Over **65,000** displaced Syrians are receiving protection and assistance through the Lebanese Government, the UN and NGO partners. To date, **54,456** are registered with UNHCR. Over **400** Syrians arrived in the north of Lebanon (**82** families) this week from Homs and Damascus. Most entered Lebanon legally through the official Masnaa crossing point. These families settled in the North mainly due to family ties in the region. Many families reported facing difficulties in Syria while trying to cross the borders into Lebanon. As a result of the policy decision of the Ministry of Education, all Syrian refugee children are permitted to access public schools, and the registration period has also been extended to facilitate their enrollment. The Ministry also offered to assist schools that face capacity difficulties in accommodating Syrian students.

**IRAQ** The Al-Qaim border crossing point opened on 18 September after having been closed since 13 August. The total number of Syrian refugees in Iraq stands at **29,441**. **3,933** Syrian refugees entered Iraq in the past week.<sup>1</sup>

Over **35,267** Iraqis have returned to Iraq since 18 July. Most Iraqi returnees have indicated that they are heading to Baghdad, Diyala, or Anbar.

**TURKEY** The Prime Minister's Disaster and Emergency Management Directorate (AFAD) announced on Monday 24 September that the number of Syrian refugees in Turkey has reached **87,774**. In a written statement, AFAD stated that Syrians in Turkey had been welcomed and placed in a number of refugee camps located in Altinözü, Yayladağı, Reyhanlı, Apaydın and

Karbeyaz districts of the southern province of Hatay, and in the southern provinces of Şanlıurfa (in the Ceylanpınar district), Gaziantep (in the İslahiye district) and Kilis.

AFAD highlighted that Syrian citizens who have taken shelter in Turkey have been provided with lodging, food, health services, security, social activities, education, religious services, translation services and communications. The directorate added that a total of **127,053** Syrians have entered Turkey since the outbreak of the 18-month-long conflict and that **39,279** have voluntarily returned to Syria.

## COUNTRY OPERATIONS

### 1. Syria Operations

#### Evacuation assistance

In close liaison with embassies and partners, IOM has continued to provide assistance to TCNs and vulnerable migrants affected by the crisis in Syria. To date, IOM has assisted in the evacuation of **1,576** TCNs, and an additional **209** TCNs are booked for departure. **880** TCNs remain in the pipeline. The majority of TCNs assisted are women. IOM continues to receive requests from embassies for evacuation assistance. IOM also continues emergency evacuation of TCNs stranded in Syria, from Aleppo Airport. Within the next month, nationals **from** Moldova and Egypt are booked to depart from Aleppo with IOM assistance.

#### Distribution of Non-food Items (NFIs)

On 25 September, IOM started its first distribution in Homs and plans to expand operations to other areas in Syria. The NFIs included hygiene kits and are designed to last one month. The following tables summarize NFIs current response.

Number of Collection Centers	23
Number of Kits	1,865
Number of Families	1,351
Number of Beneficiaries	7,714

Breakdown of beneficiaries				
Female	Male	Adult (Over 12)	Child (2-12)	Infant (0-2)
3,842	3,842	4,740	2,313	661
49.81%	50.19%	61.45%	29.98%	7.99%

*IOM NFI Distribution, Damascus (14 August - 26 September 2012)*

## Resettlement Assistance

In parallel to the emergency response, IOM continues to provide resettlement assistance for longstanding refugee cases in Syria. Since January, IOM has provided resettlement assistance for **3,376** approved refugees to various countries, mainly to the United States. An additional **348** are booked to travel in the coming two months.

## 2. Jordan Operations

### Transport assistance

To date, IOM has provided transportation assistance for a total of **33,628 Syrian** refugees from the Ramtha Police Directorate, Jaber Border (Mafraq), and transit sites to Za'atari Camp. From 19 to 25 September, IOM assisted **1,780** Syrian refugees.

Transportation Assistance	
Date[1]	# People
19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	363
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	388
21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	453
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	49
23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	4
24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	196
25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	327
<b>7-day Total</b>	<b>1,780</b>

### Health assistance

As a first responder agency, IOM provides all assisted individuals with fitness - to - travel health checks. From 19 to 25 September, IOM staff identified **35** individuals with injuries and serious medical conditions requiring immediate referral to a hospital or treatment upon arriving to Za'atri camp.

Since 28 June, 11,593 Syrians (40% females, 40% children under 15 years of age) had received health care and referral services through IOM's Primary Health Clinic at King Abdullah Park (KAP). This assistance was handed over to the Jordanian Ministry of Health on 20 September 2012.

To date, IOM has provided tuberculosis (TB) screenings to a total number of **16,116** Syrians and reached **20,792** Syrians through awareness-raising activities in Jordan, since March 2012. IOM's medical team confirmed **nine** TB cases at Za'atari camp. Beginning in October, the IOM medical team is planning to begin TB screening and awareness-raising activities in Za'atri camp.

## 4. Lebanon Operations

### Distribution of Non-food Items (NFIs)

The arrival of the winter season is becoming an increasing concern for a large proportion of Syrian refugees and Lebanese returnees in this particular crisis context. In response, last week IOM launched a round of NFIs distribution in the North and the Bekaa (Baalbeck and surrounding areas), consisting of winterization items (winter blankets) and household shelter support items (sealing unfinished buildings/precarious huts and metallic containers).

During the reporting period, IOM distributed winterization/shelter sealing items to **2,761** individuals (**476** families) in Baalbeck, Fekha and Labwe, in the Bekaa Governorate, and **3,912** individuals (**621** families) in Wadi Khaled and Akkar, in north Lebanon.

### Psychosocial Support

On 24 September, the inauguration of the rehabilitated Social Development Center took place, to be used by IOM, UNHCR, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), UNICEF and Save the Children to provide psychosocial support to Syrian refugees and Lebanese returnees.

IOM rehabilitated the Center with a handicapped entrance and sanitary infrastructure for children with special needs/disabilities in 2011. Indoor and outdoor equipment was purchased and installed to facilitate a range of specialized psychosocial activities for children with special needs, including problem solving and creative thinking activities, fine and gross motor activities and cognitive play. Activities implemented by IOM also include the provision of technical training and on-job coaching for Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA) community outreach workers to ensure the sustainability/lifespan of the initiative, beyond the project's implementation timeframe. It is anticipated that at least 100 children will benefit from the initiative on monthly basis.

## 5. Turkey Operations

### Distribution of Non-food Items (NFIs)

By the end of this week, IOM plans to begin the distribution of 15 containers (8 WC containers, 7 shower containers), which are expected to be functional within 10 days of their arrival date.

Beds	915
Kitchen sets	2,000
Tents	100
Pillows	12,810
Bed linen	9,000
Mattresses	2,500
Shower container	10

IOM Distribution of NFIs since June 2012

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