

## Syria Crisis Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report

### Iraq

Date: 06 September 2012

### IRAQ

#### Highlights

- 3,000 Syrians are currently stranded on the Iraqi border, facing an acute shortage of food and medicine. UNICEF is appealing to Iraqi authorities to allow these refugees access to the camps in Al Qaim, as well as for authorization to provide a mobile health clinic.
- UNHCR-UNICEF-WFP conducted a rapid assessment in Al Qaim to assess the programmatic and operational needs of Syrian refugees in Al Qaim, as well as of the Syrians at the border.

#### Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs:

Estimated Affected Population (Estimates based on initial figures from UNHCR Portal, 6 September 2012)			
	Total	Male	Female
Total Affected Population	18,682	9,341	9,341

There are currently 18,682 Syrian refugees registered in Iraq; the majority of them are in Northern Iraq (more than 3,000 in the Domiz camp) and the rest in the Al Qaim camps in Western Iraq. On the Syrian side of the border, 3,000 Syrians are currently stranded, facing acute shortage of food and medicine. UNICEF is appealing to Iraqi authorities to allow these people access to the camps in Al Qaim, as well as for authorization to provide a mobile health clinic. There are reports that the stranded people are drinking and using river water, and reported diarrhoea cases are on the rise. The informal distribution of food through voluntary donations is ongoing for these Syrians.

**Inter-Agency Collaboration and Partnerships:** A joint UNHCR-UNICEF-WFP international team conducted a rapid assessment in Al Qaim to assess programmatic and operational needs of Syrian refugees in Al Qaim, as well as for Syrians stranded at the border. The assessment covered living conditions, coping mechanisms, protection and gender-based violence, health and nutrition, food security, and education. Led by UNHCR, UN agencies are preparing the third version of the Regional Response Plan (RRP).

#### Programme response:

**WASH:** Children and their families in Al Qaim camp and reception centres and in the Domiz camp now have access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene practices. In Domiz, local authorities are distributing 470,000 litres of water per day to the camp. UNICEF and the Dohuk Directorate of Health (DoH) are conducting a ten-day hygiene promotion campaign targeting 580 families and 425 singles.

UNICEF completed the construction of 157 latrines, 156 showers, 41 septic tanks, 70 drinking water points, four 610,000 litre tanks, two 45,000 litre tanks, 30 wash basins and 5,500 ml of water networking in Al Qaim camps. In coordination with the Al Qaim health centre, UNICEF distributed 1,000 adult and 300 baby hygiene kits to the refugees in the reception centres, and 400 adult and 100 baby hygiene kits in the camps, covering the whole population in the camps. UNICEF will initiate the construction of WASH facilities at the school in Domiz camp that will serve around 600 students in the new school year. In Western Iraq, ten hygiene promotion teams are being trained by the DoH as hygiene mobilizers to carry out daily sessions in the camp.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results ( #)	% of Target Achieved
Emergency affected population provided with access to safe water	15,000	2,200	15%
Emergency affected population provided with access to soap and functional hand-washing facilities	15,000	2,200	15%
Emergency affected population with access to appropriately designed toilets	15,000	2,200	15%
UNICEF Operational Partners: Islamic Relief Worldwide – Iraqi Salvation and Humanitarian Organization			

\*In Al Qaim the current population of the camps is 2092; the maximum capacity of all three camps, once the construction is completed, will be 4335 people. The remaining refugees are currently receiving WASH facilities in the reception centres.

**Child Protection:** According to sources at the border, health, nutrition and protection issues remain critical for the 3,000 Syrians unable to cross the border into Iraq, and the interagency mission witnessed injured children among them.

In Northern Iraq, the UNICEF-supported Child Friendly Space is accommodating 50 to 60 children daily. 17 children were detected as requiring psychological assistance and referred to specialized care. In the UNICEF Child Friendly Space in Al Qaim, a UNICEF-hired facilitator will facilitate the implementation of activities for 100 children. A PCA was signed with Al-Safa Society to carry out activities in the Child Friendly Space and conduct screening of new arrivals. Additional UNICEF recreational and psychosocial kits to meet the needs of 2,000 children were shipped to Al Qaim, as well as 3,000 brochures on family care and protection. Advocacy is ongoing to engage the Ministry of Social Affairs in the emergency response. With UNICEF support, a Child Friendly Spaces expert will train local staff in Al Qaim, in the detection of psychosocial disorders. Community mobilization on the prevention of abuses and violations will also be carried out.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results ( # )	% of Target Achieved
Children with safe access to community spaces for socializing, play, learning	7,500	583	7%
Separated and unaccompanied children registered in family tracing and receiving family-based or appropriate alternative care	-	5	-
UNICEF Operational Partners: ACTED, Mental Health Unit (MHU), Child Protection Committee (CPC), Dohuk, General Directorate of Social Care and Development, Mine Action Group (MAG), and Handicap International (HI).Al-Safa society			

**Education:** An assessment requested by UNICEF and completed by the Directorate of Education (DoE) in Al Qaim, determined the number of Syrian refugee children in the camp in grades 1 to 9 as 982, of which 756 are between grades 1 to 6. The number of teachers within the refugee community in Al Qaim is put at 15. In Northern Iraq, UNICEF is working with the Dohuk DoE to provide an additional five prefabricated classrooms, WASH facilities, and teaching and learning materials for around 600 children. The five tents currently designated are inadequate to accommodate all Syrian children in Western Iraq. Therefore, UNICEF is planning to give more prefabricated classrooms to be used for the school. UNICEF received a request from the DoE to rehabilitate and equip the evacuated schools that were hosting refugees, and is currently completing an assessment of the damages in these schools. There is an urgent need for desks for 13 schools (500 desks for the camp and 2,500 for the Al-Qaim schools) to address the needs of refugees and host communities.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results ( # )	% of Target Achieved
School-aged children in affected areas in schools/learning programmes	2,100	146	24%
Children with access to psychosocial support in education programmes	1,500	-	-
UNICEF Operational Partners: DoE, AFKAR Society			

**Health:** Health care systems and referral protocols for refugees need to be strengthened. In Western Iraq, 564 patients visited 14 health clinics supported by UNICEF and received treatment and referrals to the hospital in Al Qaim, while others were referred to Al-Anbar specialized hospital. UNICEF delivered ten vaccine carriers to the Al Anbar DoH to be used by mobile health teams. A UNICEF-supported Tetanus Toxoid campaign for all pregnant women will begin next week, and UNICEF will continue monitoring the status of all children under-five and women in the camps and host communities in Al Qaim. UNICEF is supporting DoH to conduct screening to determine the health status of refugees.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results ( # )	% of Target Achieved
Children <5 receiving measles vaccination	647*	630	97%
UNICEF Operational Partners: DoH			

\* Al Qaim only

**Nutrition:** A rapid screening of 63 children from 5-59 months was conducted by the rapid assessment team and no malnutrition was detected. 10 weighing scales have been delivered to the DoH to conduct a rapid assessment and follow up. Western Iraq: Required action will be taken in accordance with the rapid assessment results.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners			Sector		
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved	Sector Target	Cumulative results	% of Target Achieved
Children <5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition enrolled in Therapeutic Feeding programmes	1*	1	100%	1	1	100%
Children <5 with Moderate Acute Malnutrition in supplementary feeding programmes	2*	2	100%	2	2	100%
UNICEF Operational Partners: Directorate of Health, Dohuk, WFP						

\* For Domiz only

### **Human Resources:**

	Number staff
Country Office staff	39
Temporary staff	6
Surge	0
Standby partners	0
Under recruitment	18
Standby partners: none	

**Next Situation Report:** 13 September 2012

**For further information, please contact:**

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