

UNICEF Syria Crisis Sub-regional Situation Report Jordan/Lebanon/Turkey/Iraq

18 June 2012

Situation Highlights:

- The third high-level meeting of the **Syria Humanitarian Forum** took place in Geneva on 5 June 2012, with the participation of around 300 participants, including from member states, UN agencies and NGOs.
- Humanitarian agencies in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey are currently revising the **Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP)** due to the increase of numbers of refugees. The revised RRP will be presented to donors in Geneva on 28 June 2012.
- **77,199** registered refugees to date in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq, over half of them children and adolescents (UNHCR, June 2012).

Programme Highlights:

- In Jordan, UNICEF and partner Noor al-Hussein Foundation supported some 600 vulnerable Syrian children and family members with psychosocial activities in Ramtha.
- UNICEF Jordan, in collaboration with NGO partners and the Ministry of Education, will begin school-based remedial education classes and recreational activities this month, targeting 5,500 vulnerable Syrian and Jordanian children in 16 directorates.
- To date, more than 500 people, including about 70 children, have attended UNICEF-supported hygiene awareness sessions in transit facilities in Ramtha, Jordan.
- In Lebanon, teachers, facilitators and social workers were trained by UNICEF's implementing partner Iqraa on a balanced literacy approach. The teachers are currently applying their learning in ten Summer Day Camps in the north and the Bekaa, aiming to reach 400 Syrian children in the next five weeks.
- The WASH assessments in Lebanon have been finalized and UNICEF expects the final reports this month. NGOs have already started developing proposals based on the preliminary findings.
- In Turkey, UNICEF procured 100 Early Childhood Development (ECD) Kits, 100 Recreational Kits and 150 tents (to serve as Child Friendly Spaces), expected to provide around 10,500 children with access to recreational, cultural and psychosocial activities.
- In Iraq, UNICEF and its partners established two Child Friendly Spaces that provide opportunities for recreational activities for around 125 Syrian children in the Domiz camp.

Situation Overview

The third high-level meeting of the **Syria Humanitarian Forum** took place in Geneva on 5 June 2012, with the participation of around 300 participants, including from member states, UN agencies and NGOs.

Humanitarian agencies in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey are currently revising the **Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP)** due to the increase of numbers of refugees. The revised RRP will be presented to donors in Geneva on 28 June 2012.

Impact on Syrian Children in the Sub-region

The combination of escalating levels of violence, disruption of services and livelihoods threatens to put more children's lives at risk. To date, **77,199** people have fled the violence in Syria and registered as refugees in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq (UNHCR, June 2012). It is estimated that **around half of all displaced Syrians are children and adolescents**, who continue to face interruption of schooling; limited access to basic services; and psychosocial distress caused by witnessing violence and displacement.

In Lebanon, **20,702** Syrian refugees are registered in the North and the Bekaa, and an estimated 50% of the registered are children. At the same time, it is estimated that over **26,900** Syrian refugees are receiving assistance throughout the country, with around 2,250 unregistered refugees in Tripoli and 4,000 in the Bekaa. Recent field assessments have revealed newly arrived refugees in several villages in North Bekaa and local authorities have been contacted to confirm numbers and needs. There are more limited concentrations of refugees in the Beirut area where 913 have been registered with UNHCR. There are around 1,300 Syrians entering Lebanon on a monthly basis (UNHCR, June 2012).

In Jordan, **24,151** Syrians are now registered with UNHCR, of whom an estimated 50% are children, with **500** more awaiting registration. In addition, local organizations estimate up to 50,000 Syrians in Jordan are in need of assistance. Displaced Syrians in Jordan are concentrated in northern governorates and in Amman. Over the past two weeks, an average of 120 Syrians have crossed illegally into Jordan each day.

According to the Turkish Government, the number of displaced Syrians currently sheltered in tent camps on the border totals **27,405** (June 2012). In Northern Iraq, **4,941** Syrian nationals of Kurdish origin are registered with UNHCR, (June 2012) in collaboration with the Department of Displaced and Migration (DDM). 465 Syrians are currently awaiting registration, which brings the total assisted population in Iraq to more than 5,000 people. There are around 1,300 individuals currently residing in the Domiz camp, the remaining are residing with family, friends or others in Erbil, Dohuk, and Sulaymaniyah.

*On 23 March 2012, the UN and its humanitarian partners issued an appeal for US\$ 84 million to help Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq. The Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP) outlines the response needs for Syrian refugees who have fled the country since March 2011, as well as anticipating the needs of future arrivals. The plan is an inter-agency framework led by the UNHCR and the result of a coordinated effort between seven UN agencies including UNICEF, 27 national and international NGOs, and host governments. **UNICEF's funding requirement from the RRP is US\$ 7,416,000; representing 8% of the total RRP funding requirements** (please see funding table on the last page for details). Should current refugee flows continue as per current trend, and should funding be made available, UNICEF aims to be in a position to assist up to **40,000 children and adolescents in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, including children of host communities**. The RRP is currently being revised due to the increase of numbers of refugees. The revised RRP will be presented to donors in Geneva on 28 June 2012.*

UNICEF Programme Response to Date

Programme Response in the Sub-Region

As UNHCR's key partner in providing support to **77,199 registered Syrian refugees** in the sub-region (of whom **an estimated 50% are children and adolescents**), UNICEF is focusing on areas where it has a comparative advantage. In doing so, UNICEF is supporting displaced Syrian children, as well as children of host communities with a view to provide equitable services to all those in need.

Throughout the sub-region, UNICEF has prioritized the facilitation and promotion of increased access to formal and informal education for all children within host governments' schooling systems (other than Turkey due to language constraints), as well as provision of psychosocial care through the establishment of recreation opportunities and establishment of referral systems where needed. The response undertaken by the UNICEF Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq Country Offices is summarized below:

Jordan

UNICEF Portion of RRP Budget for Jordan: US\$ 4,116,000 (as of March 2012)

Total RRP Budget for Jordan: US\$ 39,645,749

In Jordan, 24,151 Syrians are now registered with UNHCR, with 500 more awaiting registration. In addition, local organizations have estimated 50,000 Syrians in Jordan as in need of assistance.

Child Protection: To date, UNICEF together with partners has provided psychosocial activities, awareness raising, case management services and counselling sessions to **more than 5,000 vulnerable Syrian children** and family members in Jordan. In the week to 7 June, UNICEF and partner Noor al-Hussein Foundation supported some 600 vulnerable Syrian children and family members with psychosocial activities in Ramtha. In the same period, International Medical Corps, in partnership with UNICEF, provided case management and referrals to 60 vulnerable Syrian children and family members across Jordan.

To date, **320 Syrian parents** – including 30 men – have attended 'better parenting' sessions conducted by UNICEF partners to empower Syrian parents with enhanced knowledge on basic health, nutrition, protection issues to provide better care for their children. UNICEF continues to monitor the situation of vulnerable Syrian children together with partners, and maintains close collaboration with UNHCR to refer urgent child protection cases identified through field visits. As part of the World Day against Child Labour, the Ministry of Labour, ILO and UNICEF, held a Panel Discussion on this theme on 12 June, where the plight of Syrian children was raised. UNICEF chaired the Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence Working Group meeting, as the

working group prepares to develop a sector specific contingency plan. UNICEF is finalizing an agreement with Mercy Corps to build playgrounds for displaced Syrian children in two transit facilities in Ramtha.

Education: The number of **Syrian children attending public schools in Jordan has reached more than 7,300**. UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education to provide these children with free access to education. UNICEF, in collaboration with NGO partners and the Ministry of Education, will begin school-based remedial education classes and recreational activities this month, targeting 5,500 vulnerable Syrian and Jordanian children in 16 directorates.

On 13 June, UNICEF and UNHCR sent text messages to some **7,100 Syrian families** with school aged children to inform them about the upcoming summer activities in schools. Some 2,000 leaflets informing parents and communities about access to education and health services available to Syrian children in Jordan have been distributed through partner organizations. UNICEF and partner Save the Children Jordan (SCJ) are supporting displaced Syrian children and family members with information about school enrolment and necessary case management. UNICEF has signed agreements with East Amman Charity (EAC) and Save the Children International (SCI). EAC will deliver informal education, recreational activities and life skills training to vulnerable Syrian children and adolescents; SCI will provide psychosocial support in 41 schools to complement remedial education activities taking place during the school holidays.

WASH: UNICEF is providing assistance to meet the urgent water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs in all transit facilities in Ramtha. These facilities accommodated a peak of **1,300 individuals** at the one time during the reporting period. Solid waste management and hygiene awareness sessions are also provided in the facilities. To date, more than **500 people, including 70 children**, have attended these sessions.

UNICEF will install solar water heaters to provide hot water at the Cyber City transit facility in the coming weeks. UNICEF is also working to assess the capacity of public water sources in Mafrq and Ramtha to identify possible areas of intervention to support the host community. UNICEF held a meeting with the Minister of Water and Irrigation this month, to agree on the governmental role and support for ongoing WASH-related issues.

Lebanon

UNICEF Portion of RRP Budget for Lebanon: US\$ 2,250,000

Total RRP Budget for Lebanon: US\$ 28,997,551

In Lebanon, more than 26,900 displaced Syrians are receiving assistance, 20,702 of them registered with UNHCR (June 2012). Latest estimates are that a further 4,000 are in the Bekaa valley and 2,250 in Tripoli. In addition, 913 refugees have been registered in the Beirut area. The number of people arriving on a daily basis continues to increase and verification is ongoing.

Protection: To date, UNICEF Lebanon has supported the establishment of **11 Child Friendly Spaces, expected to benefit 1,000 children**. 45 teachers, community workers and caregivers have been trained on psychosocial interventions, as well as identification of psychosocial difficulties and referral mechanisms.

During the reporting period, a PCA was signed with Association Culturelle and discussions have been held with several other NGOs on the provision of psychosocial support to children and their families. UNICEF is working with partners to monitor service delivery against programme commitments and to identify service gaps. UNICEF is also working with partners to collect information on incidents of grave violations of child rights. Meetings were held with partners to improve the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence emergency response, focussing on how to coordinate service delivery, identify service gaps and provide training to service providers. In the next coming weeks, War Child Holland, Terres de Hommes (TdH-It) and Save the Children will provide trainings to their staff to build their knowledge and skills to implement Child Friendly Space activities according to global standards. UNICEF will provide an information session for partners on how to collect and report on incidents of grave violations of child rights.

Education: To date, 32 teachers, facilitators and social workers have been trained by UNICEF's implementing partner Iqraa on a balanced literacy approach where the teachers learn how to support each child to become a better reader and writer. The teachers are currently putting their training into practice in ten Summer Day Camps in the north and the Bekaa, aiming to reach 400 Syrian children in the next five weeks. The education needs assessment has been finalized and the first draft of the findings was shared and discussed. The final report will be launched on 20 June. In the coming weeks, UNICEF will regularly visit the

Summer Day Camps to provide onsite technical support to the partners to ensure that quality standards are being applied. PCAs are under development with Save the Children, Mouvement Social and Amel Association.

WASH: To date, UNICEF has distributed **1,467 hygiene kits, benefitting around 5,868 Syrian children** mainly in Akkar and Bekaa valley. The WASH assessments have been finalized and UNICEF expects the final report from ACF on 18 June for the Bekaa and from ACTED on 20 June for the North. Based on the reported findings, the NGOs have started to develop proposals for implementation of activities. A draft proposal was received from DRC for the procurement and distribution of baby hygiene kits and it is expected that the contract will be finalized shortly. UNICEF continues to chair the WASH working group and has developed a tracking matrix for activities in order to better coordinate between agencies.

Health and Nutrition: To date, a PCA was signed with YMCA and a participatory training on 'Facts for Life' for 15 community health workers from Akkar has been implemented in Tripoli. Pre and post test results were collected and analysed in order to ensure that the 15 trainers had the necessary knowledge to implement the community outreach sessions. In the coming weeks, two participatory trainings for 30 community health workers from Bekaa and Nabatieh will be conducted. This will be followed by 40 outreach sessions in the three districts of Akkar, Bekaa and Nabatieh, expected to reach 1,000 caregivers. Preparations for the nutritional survey are ongoing in coordination with the Ministry of Health, HRC, WHO, IOCC, ACF and WFP. The General Director of the Ministry of Health approved the survey and UNHCR has been informed about the initiative. TORs are currently being finalized, the questionnaire is under review and the agreement with ACF for the sampling is in its final stage. In the next coming week, a nutritional consultant will conduct a short visit to Lebanon to finalize the technical aspects of the survey.

Turkey

UNICEF Portion of RRP Budget for Turkey: US\$ 650,000

Total RRP Budget for Turkey: US\$ 12,356,800

The total number of displaced population in Turkey is currently 27,405 according to the Turkish Government, of whom an estimated 10,500 are children and adolescents (June 2012). The ten civilian camps are spread along the border over four provinces. The authorities are transferring newcomers as a priority to Kilis (Oncupinar), Gaziantep (Islahiye) and Sanliurfa (Ceylanpinar) so as to keep a balanced distribution among the camps. Families with children are given priority to Kilis and family reunification is criteria for the selection of one of these three camps when transferring people from Hatay.

Following visits to the camps, UNICEF found that overall investment, infrastructure and management of the camps by the Turkish authorities are above standards. Child-related services and plans are responding to basic needs. A request from the Turkey UN Country Team (UNCT) for funding from the Rapid Response window of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) was approved. UNICEF Turkey was granted funding to provide safe educational and recreational and psychosocial care for children affected by the Syrian crisis, in alignment with the RRP. Through the RRP, UNICEF plans to reach some 22,500 Syrian children with key interventions in education and child protection, and some 5,000 people with WASH interventions.

Protection: Following a joint mission with UNHCR to the camp in Kilis, it was determined that there are no unaccompanied minors in the camp. However, issues of legal guardianship and decision-making concerning separated children may need to be examined. Adolescents and youth in the camps are in particular need of qualified training and education, as well as creative and empowering activities, to help them avoid destructive behaviour, which may affect them and the rest of the camp community negatively. UNICEF procured 100 ECD Kits, 100 Recreational Kits and 150 tents (to serve as Child Friendly Spaces), which are expected to provide around 10,500 children, of whom around 3,000 children are under the age of five, with access to recreational, cultural and psychosocial activities. These supplies are expected to be delivered this month.

Education: Education is being generally provided by the Turkish Government in the camps and is planned to be expanded, in line with the Turkish curriculum. Turkish bilingual teachers are working and vocational training is being made available in most camps. Through the recently procured tents and education and recreational materials, UNICEF will help provide Syrian children of different age groups, especially adolescents and youth, in the camps with safe child-friendly learning environments.

Iraq

UNICEF Portion of RRP Budget for Iraq: N/A

In Northern Iraq, 4,941 Syrian nationals of Kurdish origin are registered with UNHCR, (June 2012) in collaboration with the DDM. 465 Syrians are currently awaiting registration.

Child Protection: UNICEF and its partners established two Child Friendly Spaces that provide opportunities for recreational activities for around 125 Syrian children in the Domiz camp. The Child Friendly Spaces are supported by ten community volunteers and were established through an existing Standby Agreement with the NGO partner ACTED, while mine Risk Education (MRE) is provided by the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA) with support from Handicap International and Mine Action Group (MAG). Psychosocial support continues to be provided for children in the Child Friendly Spaces in collaboration with the Mental Health Unit of the Directorate of Health in Dohuk through a trained mobile team. A two day workshop will take place in the camp in the third week of June to build the capacity of community mobilizers on how to run the Child Friendly Spaces and how to detect and refer urgent cases to the district authorities and existing local services.

In close collaboration with the Government Emergency Cell and the Child Protection Committee in Dohuk Governorate, UNICEF initiated advocacy for the creation of a Protection Unit for children and women at the Domiz camp that will receive and respond to complaints from children and refer cases for assistance as necessary. MRE is provided for new arrivals and continues for those established in the camp. In collaboration with UNICEF, the Dohuk Child Protection Committee invited the children of Domiz camp to Dohuk for a lunch to celebrate International Children's Day (1st June). The Committee undertakes regular visits to monitor the situation of children and the ongoing activities in the camp.

Education: UNICEF convened the first Education Working Group Meeting in Dohuk, and reviewed the needs and actions required to initiate education activities in Domiz camp in early June. Efforts are being made to receive the Syrian curriculum including textbooks and other teaching materials to ensure educational continuity in the camp.

WASH: The WASH Working Group (UNICEF and UNHCR) will convene the first meeting at the Domiz camp this month to review the overall situation of water and sanitation in the camp. The working group will define indicators and develop a monitoring and reporting mechanism.

Inter-Agency Collaboration & Partnerships

Under the overall coordination of UNHCR in Jordan and Lebanon, **UNICEF is working with various partners** through emergency working groups and task forces that involve key Ministries, UN agencies and national and international NGOs. UNICEF continues to provide **leadership to the education, child protection (particularly psychosocial support) and WASH sectors.**

In **Jordan**, as lead agency for the Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence, Education, and WASH sectors, UNICEF co-chairs working group meetings for these sectors, discussing areas for potential collaboration and ways to strengthen coordination. UNICEF also continues to participate in fortnightly Syria Taskforce meetings led by UNHCR, as well as fortnightly area coordination meetings in Ramtha, Mafraq and Ma'an with relevant actors, including UN agencies, local authorities and NGOs.

In **Lebanon**, UNICEF actively participates in the UNHCR-led bi-weekly Inter-Agency Coordination Meetings for WASH, Education and Protection in the North and the Bekaa. During the reporting period an interagency workshop was held to revise the Regional Response Plan where UNICEF co-chaired the Education working group. UNICEF continues to chair the WASH working group meetings both in the north and in the Bekaa and during the reporting period, the Child Protection in Emergency Working Group was convened after being postponed.

In **Turkey**, the UNCT is closely following the humanitarian situation at the border provinces and has unanimously acknowledged and commended the emergency response of the Turkish Government to the crisis. UNICEF Turkey is paying special attention to the monitoring of the situation of women and children in the camps and to the specific rising needs of children and adolescents in the areas of education, ECD and protection. Since children and young people account for about 50% of all refugees crossing into Turkey, UNICEF plays a critical role in support of the UNHCR mandate.

In **Iraq**, UNICEF continues to participate in UNHCR-led inter-agency coordination meetings to review the situation of Syrian arrivals in the Kurdistan Region and to jointly discuss interventions and coordinate assistance.

The **UNICEF Regional Office** continues to provide surge capacity, leadership and oversight to support the response in the sub-region, in line with agreed inter-agency coordination mechanisms.

Communication

An article covering the work of UNICEF and partner Save the Children Jordan appeared on the UNICEF website on 4 June. It can be accessed at www.unicef.org/infobycountry/jordan_62553.html

Fund Raising - UNICEF Regional Response to the Syrian crisis (Syria excluded)

<i>Funding requirements in US\$ - Summary per sector per country</i>						
<i>Updated 21 March 2012</i>	Total	%	Jordan	Lebanon	Turkey	MENARO
Child Protection	2,350,000	32%	800,000	800,000	650,000	100,000
Education	3,710,000	50%	2,785,000	825,000		100,000
Health & Nutrition	606,000	8%	531,000	75,000		
Water, Hygiene & Sanitation	650,000	9%		550,000		100,000
Non Food Items	100,000	1%				100,000
Total Cost	7,416,000		4,116,000	2,250,000	650,000	400,000

Prior to the launch of the RRP, UNICEF received generous contributions from Norway (US\$ 536,970), Germany (US\$ 511,393), and the French National Committee (US\$ 393,186). UNICEF since then also recently received contributions from SIDA (US\$ 1.3 million), the Dutch National Committee (US\$ 664,011), the UK National Committee (US\$ 316,456), the Swiss National Committee (US\$ 275,635), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (US\$ 190,124), and the US Fund (US\$ 42,000).

During the reporting period, UNICEF Jordan submitted further funding proposals to the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the European Union, Norway, United Arab Emirates Red Crescent, ECHO and the Arab Gulf Programme for Development. Meanwhile, UNICEF Lebanon received approval for CERF funds for WASH. Preparations have also been made for the submission of an ECHO proposal for WASH and Child Protection.

Note: All in all, UNICEF has thus far received around **US\$ 3.8 million** (more than 50%) against its sub regional RRP requirement of US\$ 7.4 million. **Additional funding is needed extremely urgently** for UNICEF to be able to continue to expand its programme outreach towards all Syrian children in need in the sub-region, alongside UNHCR and partners. These funding needs will be revised once the new RRP has been approved.

Operations

Human Resources

In order to respond to the needs and boost their current capacity for the emergency response to the Syria crisis, UNICEF Offices in the region have recruited international and national posts in the areas of emergency coordination, child protection, education, WASH, supply-logistics and information and reporting. 12 staff have already been deployed and additional human resources surge may follow, as needed.

UNICEF Jordan is strengthening staff capacity to support the emergency response. Staff already recruited for the emergency include a Child Protection Specialist, a Reports Officer, a WASH Officer, two Field Monitors and a Field Support Specialist. A Child Protection Officer from the UNICEF oPT office has joined the Jordan team to provide support for one month. A nutritionist is being mobilized to support a nutrition assessment for Syrian children and mothers.

UNICEF Lebanon's surge capacity currently comprises a Logistic Officer (MSB), a Communication and Reporting Officer (NRC), a Child Protection specialist (RedR), a WASH Specialist (Irish Aid), an Emergency Specialist, an Emergency Chief of Operations, a National Education Officer, a Logistic Assistant and a driver.

UNICEF Turkey is in the process of recruiting a Child Protection in Emergencies Specialist (SSA), an Education in Emergencies Specialist (SSA) and a national Field Coordinator (SSA).

UNICEF MENARO has recruited a Supply and Logistics Specialist, an Information Management Specialist, a Communication Specialist and a Fundraising and Donor Reports Specialist, to support UNICEF's sub-regional response.

Supply

Jordan: UNICEF is in the process of procuring 9,000 baby hygiene kits, utilizing a long-term agreement with a local supplier. UNICEF has procured 7,000 school kits, containing essential supplies to assist vulnerable children attending schools in targeted areas of Jordan. The kits are now in country and UNICEF is working with partners and community-based organizations to identify areas for distribution.

UNICEF Jordan also received emergency supplies stored in Zarqa Free Trade Zone warehouse transferred from UNICEF oPt. The supplies include education kits, recreational kits, as well as WASH items. The supplies have been released to UNICEF partners to be used in transit facilities and at the community level.

Lebanon: There has been no procurement or orders during the reporting period. UNICEF distributed 12 ECD kits, 6 recreational kits and 12 school-in-a-box to its partner Iqraa; 6 ECD and 12 recreational kits to War Child Holland; and 3 ECD and 3 recreational kits to Association Culturelle. The office will conduct a stock take during the coming weeks in order to distribute remaining Non-Food Items (NFIs) and to prepare for repositioning of new emergency contingency stock.

Turkey: 100 ECD kits, 100 recreational kits and 150 tents (to serve as Child Friendly Spaces) have been procured and are expected to arrive this month.

The next SitRep is planned for 2 July 2012

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