

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 22 August.



Pre- Departure Medical Check. Ramtha Border Crossing.

@ IOM Jordan.

Highlights

- ➔ **Syria:** IOM started delivering Non-Food Items (NFIs) in Syria to **1,195** displaced persons in **4** collective centers around Damascus.
- ➔ **Syria:** **806** Third-Country Nationals (TCNs) have been evacuated out of Syria and have returned home thanks to IOM assistance.
- ➔ **Jordan:** IOM has transported a total of **10,470** persons since the opening of the Za'atri camp on 29 July.
- ➔ **Lebanon:** IOM has initiated its distribution of shelter items to 138 Lebanese returnees.
- ➔ IDPs in Syria, and Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Iraq who are accommodated in schools are in **danger of staying without shelter** since the new school year resumes in September.
- ➔ As of 22 August, UNHCR reports that **69,828** Syrian refugees have been registered in Turkey, **43,474** in Jordan, **38,777** in Lebanon, and **15,096** in Iraq.²

SITUATION OVERVIEW

SYRIA The UN estimates that approximately **2 million** people in Syria are in need of humanitarian assistance, and around **1.5 million** people are internally displaced persons (IDPs).¹

Areas where IDPs have sought refuge in Syria are unprepared and frequently unable to cope with such a large influx of people. Large numbers of IDPs are occupying public buildings such as schools and universities, however schools are due to open again in September and there is no clarity regarding alternate solutions for the IDPs². In areas of mixed ethnicities (Jeramana, Seida Zeinab) where many IDPs have taken shelter, reports of minorities being harassed and threatened have increased.

To date, IOM has received requests from embassies to assist **3,705** TCNs. Governments and embassies continue to approach IOM requesting assistance in the evacuation of their citizens.

One of the biggest obstacles faced by TCNs who are wishing to leave Syria is the lack of travel documents, sometimes held by recruitment agencies or employers, thereby increasing requests to IOM for assistance for documentation and repatriation.

IOM provides repatriation assistance from Damascus airport through 7 different airline companies. IOM is in the process of finalizing the first evacuation of TCNs from Aleppo airport.

JORDAN The Syrian refugee population in Za'atri Camp, Jordan has reached **11,506** individuals.

LEBANON In Lebanon, most Syrians are staying with host families or renting apartments, however, an increasing number are seeking shelter in schools in the North and the East of the country, a sign that local communities are no longer able to absorb the continual flow of refugees. When the school year resumes in September, finding shelter will become more challenging.

IRAQ As is the case with Lebanon, according to local authorities at Al Qaim, refugees will have to evacuate the schools buildings since they will be needed at the end of September. Syrian refugees will have to relocate to one of two camps in central Anbar or in Al Qaim, or alternatively find an Iraqi sponsor to rent a house.

Movement of individuals of different nationalities was observed across the Rabia'a crossing point. Over the past week, **116** TCNs have crossed, the majority originating from the Arab Gulf countries, Turkey, Jordan, Egypt, and Iran. Most continue to home countries directly from Erbil, Iraq.

¹[http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004BE3B1/\(httpInfoFiles\)/9D8B8577B60AF792C1257A5D00441674/\\$file/syria-press-release-aug2012.pdf](http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004BE3B1/(httpInfoFiles)/9D8B8577B60AF792C1257A5D00441674/$file/syria-press-release-aug2012.pdf)

TURKEY

On 17 August, IOM participated in an EU meeting chaired by the UK on Syria crisis planning. The objective of the meeting was to discuss consular handling of any influx of their nationals from Syria and to share relevant information on how many of their nationals remain in Syria.

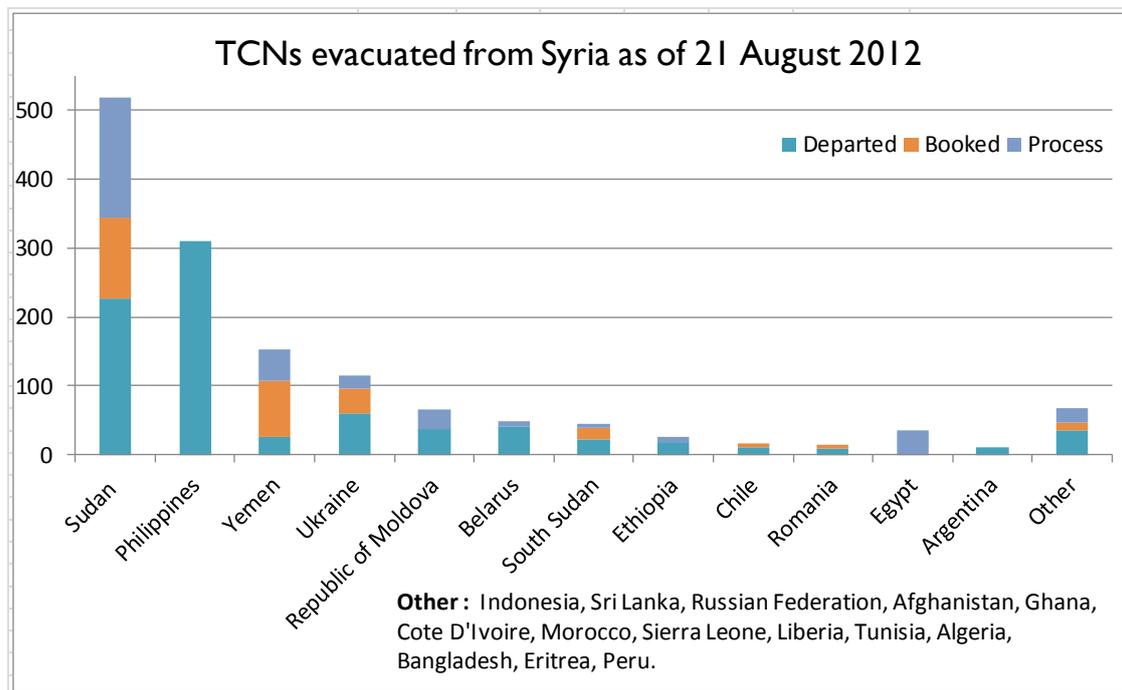
Turkish authorities continue to facilitate entry into Turkey. Four new refugee camps have been set up to cope with the influx: two in Gaziantep, one in Kahramanmaraş and one in Osmaniye. It already has eight camps - five in Hatay, two in Şanlıurfa and one in Gaziantep - and a camp of prefabricated housing for 12,000 people in Kilis province.³

Turkey's foreign minister Ahmet Davutoğlu stated that "If the number of refugees in Turkey surpasses 100,000, we will run out of space to accommodate them. We should be able to accommodate them in Syria. The United Nations may build camps in a safe zone within Syria's borders."⁴

Country Operations

1. Syria Operations

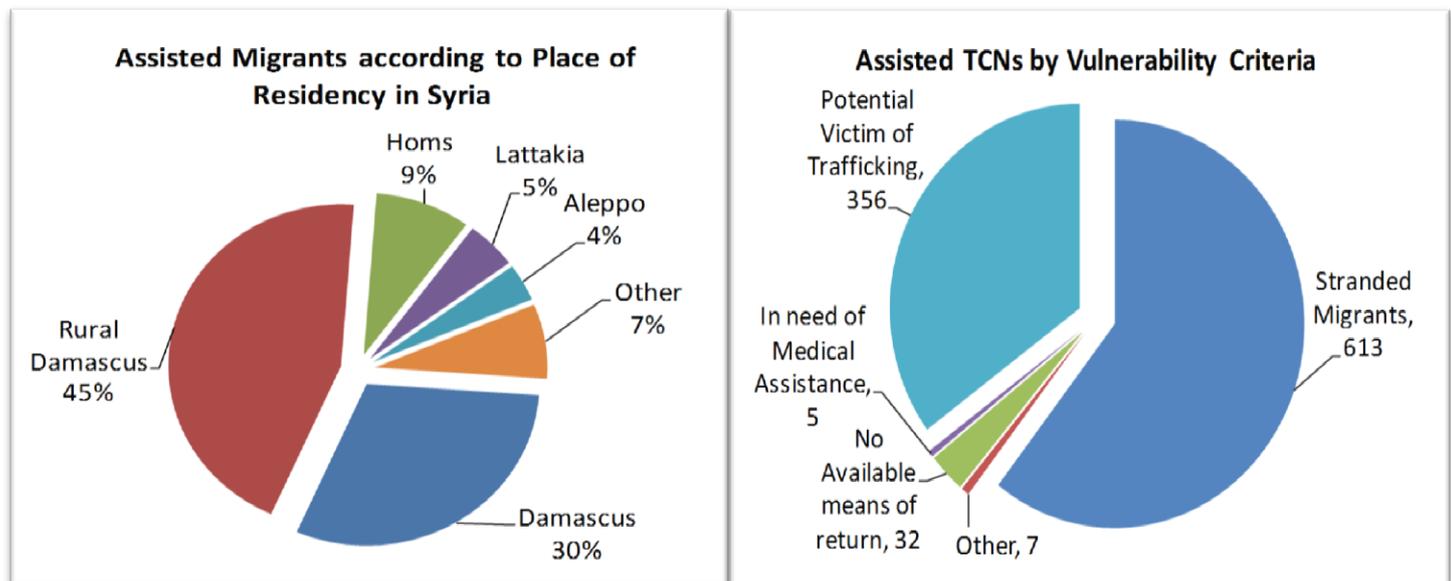
In close liaison with embassies and partners, IOM continues to provide evacuation assistance to TCNs and vulnerable migrants affected by the crisis in Syria. As of 20 Aug, IOM repatriated **806** TCNs. In addition **272** TCNs are booked to depart soon. Presently, **346** TCNs are in the process of registration.



³ <http://www.todayszaman.com/news-289929-turkey-begins-aid-distribution-on-syrian-border.html>

⁴ <http://www.todayszaman.com/news-289964-turkey-suggests-need-for-un-safe-haven-in-syria.html>

The graphs below depict the status of migrants in Syria based on data analysis of more than **1,000** migrants registered by IOM Damascus:



To date, IOM has distributed hygiene kits to IDPs in **4** collective centers in Damascus. **1,800** hygiene kits (for **9,000** IDPs) will be distributed by the end of August. By mid-September, IOM plans to reach a total of **13,500** beneficiaries in approximately **50** collective centers.

Table 1. IOM NFI Distribution. Damascus. 14 & 16 August. 2012.

Location	Number of Beneficiaries:	Number of Kits	Number of Families	Male	Female	Adult (Over 12)	Child (2-12)	Infant (0-2)
Fariz Daboos school	109	25	20	56	53	66	37	6
Somaya Al Makhzomyia	262	61	51	133	129	165	80	17
Adnan Kolaki (Barzeh)	309	70	31	159	150	92	199	18
Ghaliyah Farahat (Barzeh)	515	140	110	292	223	262	208	45

In parallel to its emergency response, IOM continues resettlement assistance for refugees hosted in Syria, and who have been approved for resettlement. Since January, IOM has provided transportation assistance for **2,800** refugees approved for resettlement to various countries including the USA, and an additional **374** are booked for departure.

2. Jordan Operations

Since 29 July, 2012, IOM has provided transportation assistance for a total of **10,470** Syrian refugees from border areas.

IOM also provided repatriation assistance to a 27 year-old Ethiopian woman and a 28 year-old Indonesian woman. Both worked in Syria as domestic workers.

Since the end of June 2012, **7,325** Syrians (39% females, and 35% children under 15 years of age) were provided with health care and referral services through IOM's Primary Health Clinic at King Abdullah Park (KAP), Jordan. To date, IOM has referred **65** cases for immediate health assistance

IOM has reached **33,018** Syrians with Tuberculosis (TB) awareness-raising and screening activities in Jordan since March 2012.

3. Iraq Operations

IOM plans to conduct needs assessment for **170** Syrian refugees and Iraqi returnees. **46** interviews have been completed and encoded. The remaining interviews will be encoded by next week. Interviews are conducted throughout Iraq, including Anbar province.

IOM is coordinating with local authorities of Anbar province through its implementing partners to assess and meet the needs of Syrian refugees in Al-Qaim, Iraq. As of 13 August, local authorities granted CSO approval to coordinate the distribution of food.



IOM's monitoring team interviewed 32 Afghan families in Karbala, Iraq, who have recently fled from Syria due to the deteriorating security situation. These families are unable to return to Afghanistan for security reasons and have been referred to UNHCR.

An IOM monitor interviews an Afghan national stranded in Iraq.

4. Lebanon Operations

A total of **967** individuals (**138** Lebanese returnee families) received assistance in Wadi Khaled, Akkar this week, in the form of shelter support items. These materials have helped improve the living conditions of returnees in the overcrowded and precarious shelter environments. The assistance was provided based on data generated through in-depth shelter needs assessment carried out by IOM earlier this month. Distributed items protect from natural elements and risks connected to poor hygiene and high temperatures in the small and overcrowded containers in poor rural villages.



IOM Distribution of Shelter Support Items in Wadi Khaled, Lebanon

The Wadi Khaled district comprises 24 villages covering a total surface area of 80,000 hectares. To better organize the distribution of shelter materials, IOM has created 6 groupings of 4 villages which will allow for a more efficient process. Per international SPHERE standards, the shelter construction support kit includes the following:

- Tarpaulin Plastic Sheets (roof) – 24 m²
- Tarpaulin Plastic Sheets (floor) – 16 m²
- Foundation – 1 Wooden Pole
- Ropes – 20 m
- Sieves nets – 5 m²
- Hammer
- Iron Pins
- Iron Rings



IOM Distribution of Shelter Support Items in Wadi Khaled. Lebanon

5. Turkey Operations

IOM visited three border points from 15 to 16 August. Observations confirm that the large majority of persons crossing the border prefer to remain outside the camps and not to be registered. IOM reports a high level of frequent back and forth cross border movements of Syrians as well as other nationalities.

Funding Update

In July 2012, IOM launched an Appeal for the Syria Crisis amounting to **US\$ 22,220,000**. The appeal **prioritizes evacuation** of stranded Third Country Nationals (TCNs), providing **transportation assistance, primary health care and psychosocial support as well as NFIs distribution**.

Funding requirements are being revised in the framework of the Humanitarian Response Plan and the Regional Response Plan, in coordination with the humanitarian community.

Americares has generously donated **US\$ 87,395** of in-kind goods, including medicines and medical supplies.

Consultations with IOM Member States and international partners will continue to prioritize beneficiary needs, and the necessary financial support to pursue IOM emergency operations in Syria and bordering countries.

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