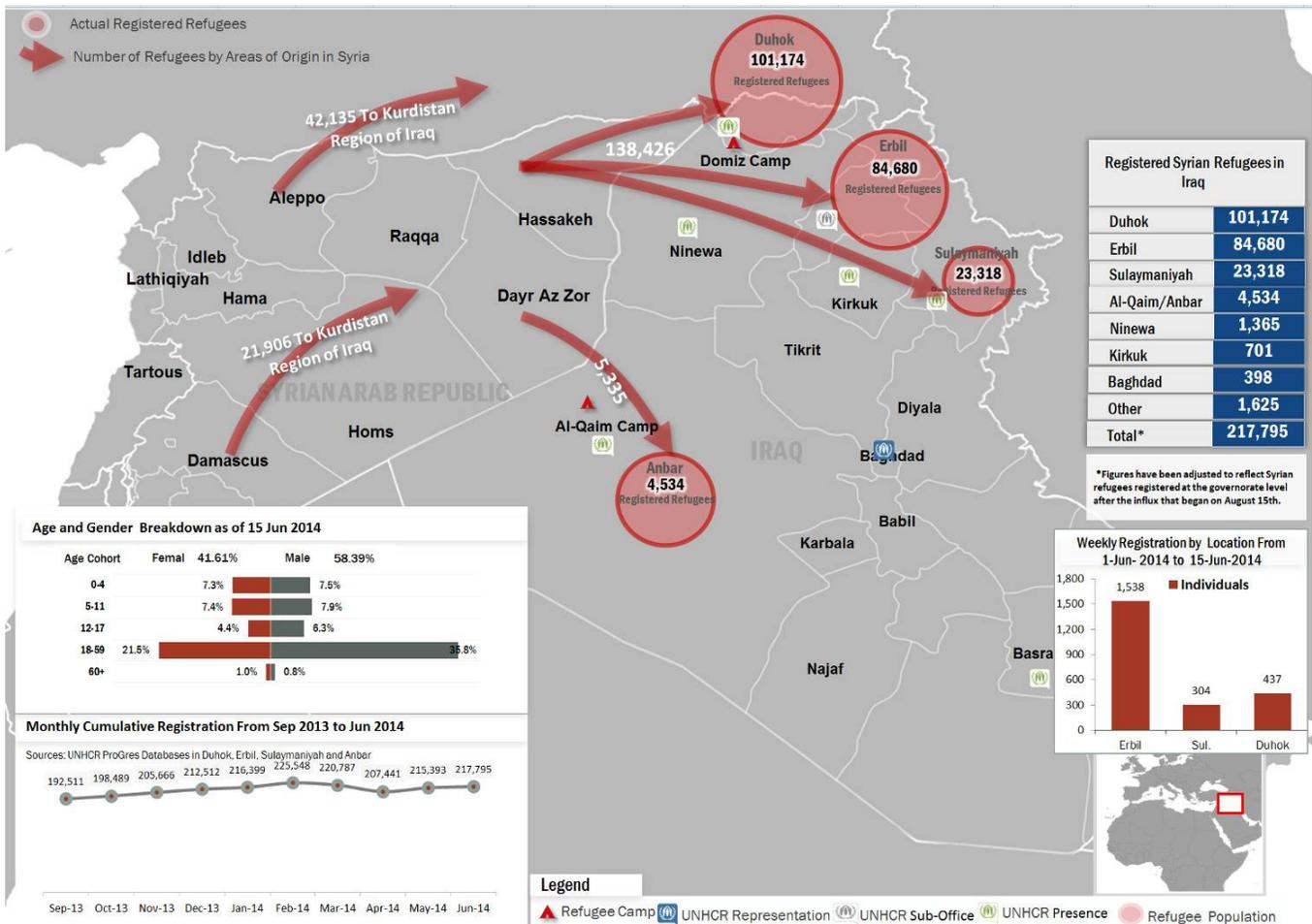


# Situation in IRAQ Inter-agency Update No. 66 June 1-15 2014



## Donor contributions to the Syrian Response in Iraq, 2012-2014:



Funding has also been received from PRIVATE DONORS, Emergency Response Fund, OCHA, and in-kind and cash donations from the local population.

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/>

[irqpi@unhcr.org](mailto:irqpi@unhcr.org)

MOMD | DDM | DGC | Local Authorities  
 Agencies: UNHCR | UNICEF | WFP | WHO | IOM | UNDP | UNFPA | FAO | UNESCO | UN-Habitat  
 NGOs: ACF | ACTED | DRC | FRC/ IRCS | HAI | HI | IMC | INTERSOS | IRC | IRW | KURDS | MAG | Mercy Corps | MSF | NRC | PEOPLE IN NEED | PU – AMI | PWJ | QANDIL | Relief International | SC KR-I | SCI | STEP | TGH TRIANGLE GH | UPP | WarChild UK | WARVIN

# Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

**UNHCR Registration Trends for Syrian Persons of Concern** 15 Jun 2014



**Registration Unit**

**Total Persons of Concern**

**225,475**

**Individuals**

**225,475**

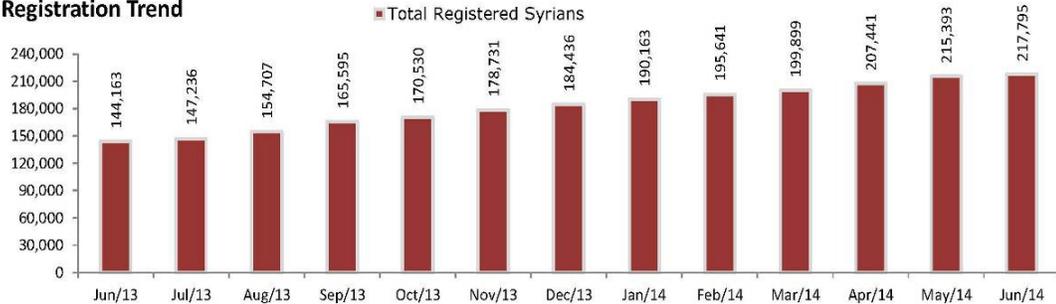
**Households**

**81,594**



**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency  
Iraq

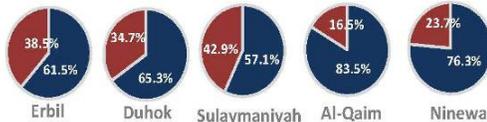
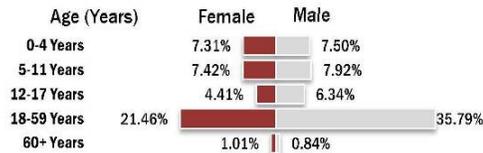
## Registration Trend



This profile is based on **217,795** and **7,680** The total is **225,475**

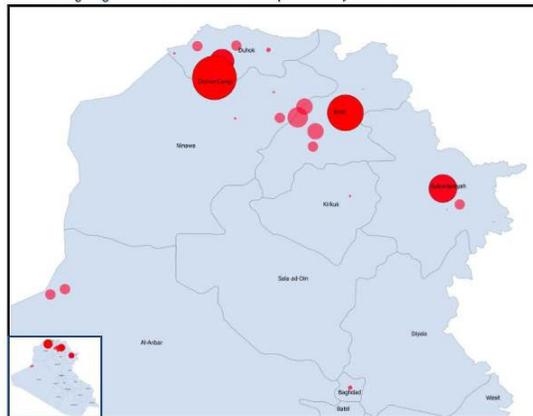
proGres registered individuals  
Awaiting registration \*  
individuals

## Age and Gender Breakdown

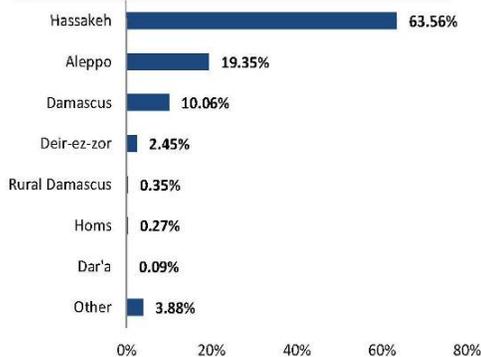


■ % Women and Children ■ % of Adults

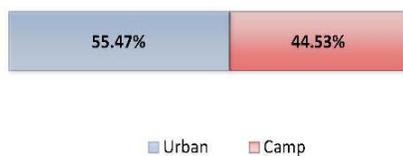
\* Awaiting registration refers to those previously fixed as level 1



## Place of Origin



## Camp and non-camp population comparison



Governorate	Individuals	Households	% Total
Duhok	101,174	33,708	46.45%
Erbil	84,680	32,589	38.88%
Sulaymaniyah	23,318	10,402	10.71%
Anbar	4,534	1,150	2.08%
Ninewa	1,365	444	0.63%
Kirkuk	701	235	0.32%
Baghdad	398	218	0.18%
Other	1,625	694	0.75%
<b>Total Iraq</b>	<b>217,795</b>	<b>79,440</b>	<b>100%</b>

Camps Registered Population			
Camp	Individuals	Households	% Total
Al-Obaidi Camp	1,534	322	1.58%
Akre Settlement	1,408	347	1.45%
Bajid Kandala Transit Camp	172	48	0.18%
Domiz Camp	66,541	21,981	68.62%
Gawilan Camp	2,536	652	2.62%
Basima Camp	2,712	622	2.80%
Darashakran Camp	7,253	1,537	7.48%
Kawergosk Camp	8,769	2,289	9.04%
Qushtapa Camp	4,209	1,027	4.34%
Arbat Camp	1,841	518	1.90%
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,975</b>	<b>29,343</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 1. Highlights

A multi-donor mission comprising of representatives of six countries (Luxembourg, Norway, Ireland, the Netherlands, Kuwait, and Finland) was conducted in the KR-I. Donor representatives visited one of the Syrian refugee camps in Erbil (**Kawergosk**) and met with refugee families as well as different agencies operational in the camp. The group also visited a refugee school, distribution site and the primary healthcare center. The mission was accompanied by the UNHCR Representative, the Coordinator (Northern Iraq), Protection and Field staff. The donors met with key Ministers and other officials of the KRG.

Significant progress was made in registration. The Registration teams in **Kawergosk**, **Basirma** and **Qushtapa** camps, completed registration of the residual caseload. A total of 900 individuals from the Syrian caseload began receiving their residency IDs starting on 12 June. 439 Syrians including 80 newly registered Individuals, 160 new born additions and 199 individuals on family addition have undergone final registration at **Domiz**.

The relocation from Gawilan transit to **Gawilan** permanent site that was constructed by UNHCR-PWJ was completed on 3 June. Each family of 7 or more persons received 2 plots.

A sub-national polio campaign started on 15 June and will last for five days. It will target children under-5 in high risk areas including refugee camps and locations with high concentration of refugees and IDPs.

At **Al Obaidy**, taking into consideration the current security breaches ISHO made available stock of flour, kerosene and diesel for two months to ensure the basic services available to refugees.

**“Living on borrowed time in Basirma”**: An account of a brave family who came to KRG from Syria on foot, a journey which was too much for the youngest family member to survive. Story on p. 12.

**IDP Crisis:** *As a result of the ongoing armed conflicts in Ninewa and other areas in central and north-central Iraq an estimated half million inhabitants of the affected areas – Mosul in particular – were forced to flee their homes to seek refuge in safer areas in the central and north-central parts of Iraq, but particularly in the three northern governorates of Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah, where hundreds of thousands, by initial KRG estimates, are hosted. The extremely volatile situation has made it most challenging to reach and assist IDPs in central and north-central Iraq, hence a limited number of IDP families have been reached with assistance, particularly in Ninewa. As to KR-I, the IDPs’ needs are being addressed as much as the available limited funds permit. Moreover, to accommodate as many of the IDPs who cannot provide for themselves in KR-I as possible, as of 15 June, five transit sites were in various stages of development. The response has been multi agency, following a cluster-like approach, whereby coordination is being led by the UN Integrated Coordination Office for Development and Humanitarian Affairs (ICODHA) in close cooperation with KR-I authorities. It includes assistance to IDPs in urban areas as well as those at the transit sites. The crisis will impact the Syrian response in northern Iraq, where potential for increased cost of living such as rent and food, and possible shortages of fuel (already seen) could result from the IDP influx.*

### 2. Border update

**Peshkabour and Sehela:** The Peshkabour-Semalka borders opened on 10 June, for returns only.

**Al Qa'im:** During the reporting period, control of the border point was lost by ISF to Armed Opposition Groups (AOGs), leaving the border open both ways. ISF retook control of the border on 17 June, which was then lost to ISIS on 20 June, again leaving the border open. With ISF increasingly losing control over the border point and Al-Qa'im town, and with active military activities getting closer to Al-Obaidy, UNHCR is most concerned about the physical security of some 1,500 refugees accommodated in Al-Obaidy camp.

**Rabia'a:** As of 15 June, Kurdish (Peshmerga) forces are in control of the border, and has maintained it closed in both directions, except for humanitarian aid convoys if and when such occur.

### 3. Response by sector and location

#### ✓ *Reception, Registration and Protection*

20 Syrians underwent UNHCR proGres registration at **Gawilan, Akre** and **Bajet Kandala** camps. A total of 900 individuals from the Syrian caseload began receiving their residency IDs starting on 12 June. 439 Syrians including 80 newly registered Individuals, 160 new born additions and 199 individuals on family addition have undergone final registration at **Domiz** Registration center-including family reunification. 948 UNHCR certificates were renewed there for 3,255 Individuals.

The Registration teams in **Kawergosk, Basirma** and **Qushtapa** camps, led by UNHCR Senior Registration Assistants, have completed registration of the residual caseload. Respective notification has been conveyed to the camp authorities to encourage them to inform asylum seekers who have not yet completed their registration with UNHCR to do so as soon as possible. For this purpose a fourteen-day grace period has been given, providing an opportunity to asylum seekers to obtain proper UNHCR documentation.

As of 15 June, **217,795** Syrian refugees have been registered with UNHCR, whilst 7,680 individuals were awaiting registration. 44% of registered refugees are currently residing in camps, whilst the remaining 55% are non-camp based.

Since 10 June, a total of 535 cases of 1,048 Individuals and 336 non-registered individuals (total returnees: 1,384 individuals) were counseled by UNHCR team at **Bajet Kandala** to ensure the voluntary nature of their return, and were further advised on the non-admission criteria applied by the KR-I before they eventually crossed back to Syria.

As the **Qushtapa** camp administration prepares for the relocation of 224 families to the permanent site constructed under the UAE project, the Protection Unit compiled and shared a list of extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs) to ensure they are prioritized and assisted with transportation along the process.

The number of Syrian refugees in **Al Obaidy** Camp is 317 cases (1,535) individuals with 822 cases (2,967) individuals settled in the town of Al Qa'im. The total number of Syrians returned to Syria from Al Qa'im to 6,770 individuals and the main reasons for return include: a) improvement of the security situation and basic services in Abu Kamal; b) family reunification; c) lack of freedom of movement; d) the supplied items of food parcel are not sufficient for the asylum-seekers' needs; e) lack of income; and f) lack of health care. Moreover, with the fall of Al-Qa'im border area in ISIL's hands, and with the latter rapidly moving towards Al-Qa'im town, and with active heavy fighting getting closer to Al-Obeidi camp, a large number of refugee families, fearing for their lives, are inclined to take the risk and return to Syria.

#### ✓ *Child Protection*

## ***Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update***

Celebrations for the International Day for Children took place with the participation of the Child Protection Units, Child-Friendly Spaces, UNICEF, Save the Children, ACTED, and IRC in **Domiz, Gawilan, and Akre** camps. The activities included entertainment as well as raising the profile of some serious concerns such as child labor and violence against children.

In **Qushtapa** camp, the Protection network group dedicated a case management session to discussing two child-at-risk cases which were identified by the Office. An intervention plan was compiled to ensure the children's continuous access to psychosocial support services.

The Multi-Functional team (MFT) comprised of UNHCR Protection/Field staff and implementing partner PARC/Qandil carried out a snap-shot assessment of the waiting areas within the Registration centres in **Kawergosk** and **Darashakran** camps. As a result, the proposal was made to create the child friendly corners in the aforementioned areas.

UNICEF supported recreational activities at 11 CFSs across the KR-I, with approximately 350 children attending each facility daily. UNICEF is in the process of enhancing the registration system at the CFSs, and replacing tented CFSs with caravans. Other activities include improving the WASH facilities in **Kawergosk** camp and the **Dohuk** area camps, and establishing a new CFS in the permanent camp in **Sulimaniyah**. Protection and Community Services are jointly collecting information about new born babies in **Arbat** camp in 2014 to ensure that they are all registered on the parent's documents.

### ✓ **Mass Information**

UNHCR partner Un ponte Per (UPP) launched a campaign tackling early marriage issues among Syrian refugees in Iraq, including lack of education opportunities and premature pregnancies. The campaign, which began on 9 June in **Gawilan** camp, will be rolled out in other camps across northern Iraq in the coming weeks. The flyer prepared for the campaign is available to download here: <http://bit.ly/TyIzro>

UNHCR is looking into setting up a directory website for Syrian refugees in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. UNHCR partner ACTED sent a bulk SMS on fire-safety to the refugees living in **Darashakran** and **Kawergosk** camps, reaching out to nearly 13,000 people.

### ✓ **SGBV**

During the reporting period, UNHCR in cooperation with DMC, DoH, UNICEF, UPP, ACF, and PU-AMI, conducted two campaigns in **Domiz** and **Gawilan**, on the disadvantages of early marriages with parents and teachers, including presenting key messages from the part of community members and specialized health workers.

In **Domiz** UNHCR identified and followed up on 2 new SGBV/CP cases, in which one of them was identified and referred by UNFPA. Ongoing psychosocial assistance is being carried out by UNHCR and UNFPA. In **Gawilan** the Women's Listening Center referred 16 SGBV cases; case intake and interviews are ongoing. In **Akre**, follow up and assistance of 14 SGBV cases referred by different actors is on-going. In **Bajet Kandala** transit centre a case of a child at risk of SGBV was identified at the border. The child was identified while a family member was attempting to return to Syria with the child without parental consent; UNHCR team is following up with the family.

### ✓ **Shelter/Infrastructure**

During the reporting period, KURDS finished the rehabilitation of the residency office in **Domiz**, which is now ready for handover. The construction of a conference hall, next to DMC office, has started by a Turkish private company. The hall will host community meetings, seminars, trainings and similar activities.

## Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update



Construction of conference/meeting hall in Domiz (UNHCR S. Gammah)

The relocation from Gawilan transit to **Gawilan** permanent site that was constructed by UNHCR-PWJ was completed on 3 June. Each family of 7 or more persons received 2 plots. UNHCR distributed relocation leaflets information through UPP, 3 days prior to the relocation, and arranged for transportation for families to move their belongings. A total of 402 families (2,045) persons were relocated to 482 plots. UNHCR team from Erbil and Duhok has officially handed over the PHC to the DoH.



UNHCR provided transportation for families to move their belongings in Gawilan (UNHCR/ R. Hussein)



Belongings near new shelters in Gawilan (UNHCR/R.Hussein)

UNHCR and KURDS continued making improvements at **Peshkhabour border crossing** to facilitate the movement of new arrivals as well as returnees across the Tigris River. The improvements include construction of stairs, rails to facilitate access of boats to the disembarkation area. KURDS also completed construction of shade for the registration area and installation of container for the Asayesh at the Peshkhabour border crossing. The activities are aimed at improving the reception and processing of new arrivals.

## Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update



Improvements for the disembarkation point at Peshkhabour (UNHCR A. Ghazal)

On 1 June MoMD commenced work on retaining walls in **Basirma**. MoMD started working on the construction of the mosque from 1 June. Land for the mosque was demarcated by the government engineer.

### ✓ **Water and Sanitation**

At **Domiz**, FRC finished the construction of 21 new sewage holding tanks in Shorash and Kharbat, replacing the old unlined pits, and will start constructing 240 tanks under the funding of UNHCR, ERF, and UNICEF. UNICEF is developing the Master Plan for sanitation, drainage and sewage, including detailed specifications and bills of quantity. UNICEF, through a PCA with the NRC, is supporting on-site sanitation. FRC was able to reach 5,755 households during its awareness campaign on “Connect the Toilet and Clean the Small Drainage”. KURDS started constructing the remaining 3,800 meters of open draining channels.

The construction of internal water distribution for the PHC at **Gawilan** is 100% completed. ACF finalized construction of the water distribution network in the transit area. PU-AMI continued its daily cleaning activities of the shared toilets as well as dislodging of the holding tanks and support in solid waste collection up to the last day of refugees being present in the transit area.

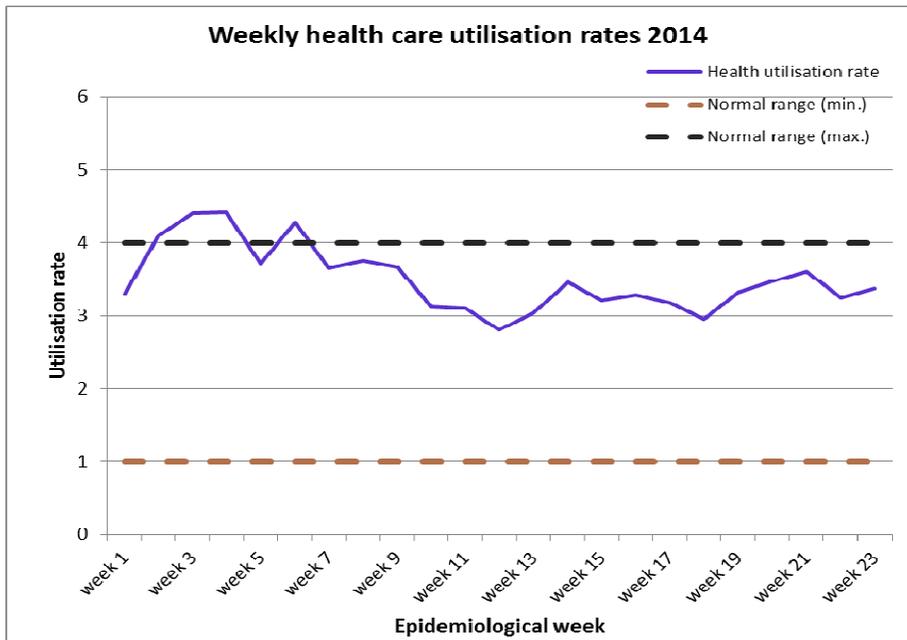
UNICEF, through a PCA with KURDs, has completed the sewage design for **Qushtapa** camp. UNICEF, through a PCA with KURDs, has developed the design of a water system for **Basirma** camp.

UNICEF pump-tested two boreholes at **Arbat** Camp, and through partner THW is installing new pumps. Work on these water systems is commissioned to begin next week. 16,000 litres of clean water were distributed in the camp by IRC and UNICEF. One latrine unit and one shower unit were installed in the camp.

### ✓ **Health**

The consultation rate/ person/ year in **KR-I** reached an average of 3.3 and is within the expected range of 1 – 4 consultations/ person/ week.

## Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update



Graph 1: average weekly consultation rates in all camps, 2014

In **Dohuk** and **Erbil**, medical committees were established and trained in DoH to assess persons potentially eligible for resettlement for medical reasons. The same process started in **Sulaymaniyah**.

WHO has engaged a team of cholera experts who started to assess the risk of cholera in refugee camps and will lead the development of Cholera preparedness and response plans for each governorate. The team will work together with government partners, UN agencies and NGOs who will take a leading role in the preparedness and response to potential outbreaks.

A sub-national polio campaign started on 15 June and will last for five days. It will target children under-5 in high risk areas including refugee camps and locations with high concentration of refugees and IDPs. In **Kawergosk** camp, UNICEF vaccinated 1,623 girls and boys under 5 (U5) years old on the first day of the campaign. In support of the campaign, UNICEF and implementing partners conducted social mobilization through interpersonal communication, tent-to-tent and thorough dialogues with mothers on the importance of vaccination to prevent disability and death among children.

In **Domiz**, up to 3,812 persons with acute, chronic and mental health conditions have benefited from the health services provided by MSF, DoH/ IMC and Kirkuk foundation center. In addition preventive health services including EPI, growth monitoring and reproductive health are provided by DoH with support of UN agencies. In June PU-AMI started working as a new partner in Domiz 2. The organization will work closely with the team of DoH/ IMC to provide curative services. Construction of a new health posts started in Domiz 2.

Renovation works of the **Gawilan** WASH facilities have been completed and the PHC building has been handed over to DoH Dohuk. All health partners will start providing services in the new PHC compound from the second half of June onwards. In total 960 patients received treatment for acute, chronic and mental health conditions during the reporting period.

At **Bajet Kandala** transit centre, consultations were conducted by MSF 3 days per week in a tent serving as temporary health post. To improve working conditions two rooms were identified within the reception centre for the use as health post, minor adjustments to the site will be done in June.

In the four camps in Erbil governorate a total of 6,286 primary health care consultations have been conducted. A female gynecologist started working in **Qushtapa** and will provide services 5 days per week to female refugees in the camp. IMC started working in **Qushtapa** and **Basirma**. The team will provide curative

## ***Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update***

care 4 days per week in coordination with existing DoH health team. In addition a team of specialists including of pediatrician and dermatologist will visit both camps once per week.

At **Arbat Transit Camp**, a total of 1,502 patients received treatment for acute and chronic health conditions during the reporting period. EMERGENCY, an Italian based INGO, will provide curative services in Arbat permanent camp once the population moves. Preparation works started including the purchase of furniture and equipment for the new PHC.

### ✓ **Core Relief Items**

At **Domiz**, NRC and UNICEF distributed hygiene kits in two rounds to 5,000 families that have more than 7 persons, children below 6 year-old or disabled persons. The distributed packages included items such as toilet paper, towels, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, washing powder and sanitary napkins. Qandil started summer distribution of 2 water jerry cans to help families store clean drinking water, and one rechargeable fan per family; 4,564 families already received their items. Qandil distributed over 8,000 visibility bags as part of summer assistance.

At **Gawilan**, Qandil distributed 140 baby diaper packages for children age 0-2 year-old and sanitary napkins for 403 women. ORYX Petroleum in coordination with Goran Group distributed air coolers covering 425 families, and committed to providing small refrigerators and fire extinguishers for each family in the camp.

At **Gawilan** and **Akre**, IOM distributed packages that include items such as rechargeable fans, cool-box, floor mats, soap and detergent, covering all families residing in the camp.

At **Al Obaidy**, taking into consideration the current security breaches, on UNHCR request, ISHO made available stock of flour, kerosene and diesel for two months to ensure the basic services available to refugees.

### ✓ **Food**

The delivery of additional food stocks from WFP suppliers in Turkey has been delayed. The delay occurred as a result of changes in the laboratory testing of the food items to ensure compliance with Iraqi food standards. Therefore, WFP will not be in a position to make timely provision of its monthly food assistance to the Syrian refugees for June in **Basirma, Darashakran, Kawergosk** and **Qushtapa** camps. The delays may be up to two weeks or more, depending on the camp.

WFP is in the process of mobilizing the remaining food parcels in country in order to complete the partial food distribution which was conducted in **Akre** camp in early June and provide immediate assistance to the Syrian refugees in **Arbat** transit camp who received food more than a month ago.

Pending finalization of the lab testing, loading, transportation and delivery of the new food stocks in Erbil, WFP has initiated local purchase of food parcels for a partial distribution in the affected camps. The remaining monthly food entitlements will be distributed once the new food consignment is received.

In **Al Obaidy**, the food pipeline has been halted. The 1,671 Syrian refugees received their monthly food rations in early June. However, in view of the ongoing security situation, WFP no longer has access to the region and will face serious challenges in servicing the camp.

The monthly distribution of food vouchers in **Domiz I and II** started since 4 June. To date, 19,395 food vouchers have been distributed targeting 47,880 beneficiaries and injecting over US\$1.4 million into the local economy.

### ✓ **Community services**

14 families in **Domiz** were provided assistance, including recommendation for cash assistance to extremely 6 vulnerable families. Also, UNHCR provided assistance such as facilitation of registration with government and Asayish to 2 families with elderly member and single female household, 2 families with children with specific needs, 1 family seeking advice regarding family reunification abroad and 3 referrals to MSF and Kirkok foundation.

## ***Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update***

At **Gawilan**, Harikar continued to provide case management to vulnerable families. Referrals were made to the legal team, protection, DMC, IRC and DoH. UNHCR is also continuing to collect CV's for refugees interested in employment opportunities. 17 female and 5 male refugees could be offered jobs in a nearby factory where employment conditions were checked and found acceptable. UNHCR met with community volunteer groups organized by IRC for the purpose of strengthening systematic protection monitoring and identification of concerns among the refugee community.

**At Akre**, Harikar continued to provide case management to vulnerable families and coordinate with Asayesh, UPP and DoH; Harikar and DMC successfully mediated between 3 families the camp.

An organizing committee comprised of the Community Services and the PI Units led a preparatory process for the World Refugee Day (WRD) celebrations in the camps and in urban areas. The programs, which include a variety of creative performances by refugees of different ages, were finalized and shared with the relevant parties. The celebratory activities will take place on 18 June in **Darashakran, Kawergosk and Qushtapa** camps, on 19 June in urban area in Erbil and on 20 June in **Basirma** camp.

### ✓ **Education**

During the reporting period, a total of seven schools were operational in **Domiz**, including six nine-grade schools and one high school for grades 10-12. All schools, including in **Gawilan** and **Akre**, are now taking final exams. The six-grade school in Domiz 2 is not yet operational, thus 400 students from this location currently attend the schools in Domiz 1. Next year, they will join their new local school in Domiz 2. During the summer holiday months (July and August), UNICEF summer camps are planned to open for 4,200 children aged 6-15 years. UNICEF is also planning for major teacher trainings for all teachers in camp and some non-camp locations in August.

Two schools are operating in **Gawilan**, 1 high school (grade 10-12) and 1 basic school (grade 1-9). Currently, 413 students are attending the nine-grade school, and 84 are attending the high school. During the summer holiday months (July and August), UNICEF summer camps are planned to open for 300 children aged 6-15 years.

A nine-grade-school is now operating in **Akre**, currently attended by 370 students. The school year has been extended and will end on 24 July, to make up for a later school year start date. During the summer holiday months (July and August), UNICEF summer camps are planned to open for 500 children aged 6-15 years. UNHCR become aware of the high number of drop-outs and long-term absences in Akre school (45 cases) and will investigate the issue further. Harikar is currently collecting a list of 9 grade students interested in continuing their education in Akre City.

UNESCO formally opened a secondary school in **Kawergosk** camp. The Government, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNICEF and all actors working in Kawergosk camp attended the opening ceremony. The school will be maintained by the Public Assistance Organization (PAO), the implementing partner for UNESCO. In a period from July to August, the school will organize catch-up classes for the students to prepare them for the next school year starting in September. Around 250 students have been enrolled for the secondary school in Kawergosk refugee camp, with the majority of them being girls. Plans are underway to open a secondary school in **Darashakran** camp.

### ✓ **Livelihoods**

250 vulnerable families in **Domiz** were recommended to the livelihood program, and 21 men and women approached community services desk for inclusion in the job seekers' database.

In **Gawilan** IOM identified 13 refugees with black smiting, carpentry, and construction skills for business development and skills training as part of the livelihoods project that will be implemented in the camp.

25 (20 women, 5 men) members of extremely vulnerable families in **Akre** were identified for employment opportunities with a local recycling company in Akre. Daily transportation and lunch will be provided to the

## **Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update**

refugees. Also, UNHCR identified 3 jobseekers from the database for employment as social workers with UPP.

### **4. Non-camp assistance**

#### **✓ Reception, Registration and Protection**

##### **Dohuk**

UNHCR screened and verified certificates of 5 Syrian asylum seekers' families from the old caseload for renewal and issuance of new UNHCR certificates.

UNHCR referred 3 cases of Syrians seeking asylum to DMC for legalizing their status as they were admitted into Duhok with a 15 day permit.

UNHCR referred 4 Syrian asylum seekers (women) from the old caseload) to PARC/Community Services for social advice and reimbursement of medical bills based on UNHCR SOPs /criteria, 3 Syrian HoH to DRC for livelihood support, 2 disabled Syrian children to PARC /CS for medical support and 2 cases of refugees in Balqus to Azadi Hospital to get free medication.

During the reporting period, UNHCR received and counseled 6 Syrian cases with labor exploitation claims and advised 3 Syrian asylum-seekers on issues such as residency card renewal, UNHCR certificate update and issuance of prescription.

##### **Erbil**

After a series of meetings with the Residency Department and Asayish of Erbil governorate that have taken place over the period of more than a month, the Registration Unit commenced with active preparations for the joint UNHCR-Residency Department verification exercise, the objective of which is issuance of residency permits to Syrian asylum-seekers residing in Erbil governorate urban areas. For this purpose, Qandil has ensured rental of separate premises for the Erbil Residency Department branch and Asayish, as well as procured required equipment to facilitate the verification process.

Erbil Registration Unit intends to target the refugee population whose UNHCR asylum seeker certificates have expired or are expiring soon as the first stage. The procedure agreed with both government entities entails UNHCR verification and Asayish security clearance on one day, and issuance of residency permits to all aged twelve and above on the third day after verification. All parties to the process – UNHCR Erbil, Erbil Residency department and Asayish – have finalized relevant modalities of the process and intend to commence the exercise on 17 June.

Following the discontinuation of the UNDP/PAO legal aid project in the camps within Erbil governorate, a team of three lawyers has been deployed to provide legal counseling services under the expanded sub-project agreement with PARC/Qandil. A schedule has been circulated amongst the implementing partners to notify the community about the availability of legal counseling. It is expected that through the extended legal services, serious protection cases such as survivors of SGBV would be assisted in a more coherent way with access to legal procedures.

#### **✓ SGBV**

UNHCR continued to follow up on 6 SGBV cases in urban Duhok which are being provided with access to psychological support and legal aid.

UNHCR visited the Women's Shelter in Duhok town to identify protection gaps and opportunities for QIPs. In coordination with the shelter management, women living in the shelter, DOLSA and other suitable partners, a QIP proposal will be developed in the next few weeks.

#### **✓ Community services/livelihoods**

## ***Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update***

### **Dohuk**

29 (out of 60) DRC beneficiaries participated in Small Business Management Skills training; grants will be distributed by IOM. A further 31 beneficiaries have been identified to participate in Small Business Management Training. By the end of June both groups will receive grants to set up businesses. In addition to 140 who have already received grants, the total number of beneficiaries will be 200 by the end of June 2014.

The PARC team continued to carry out field visits to Duhok (Etute, New Land City), Zakho (Batufa, Begova and City Center) and Akre urban for 31 Syrian families (165 individuals), and made 44 referrals to specialized service providers. DRC enrolled two referred cases in their business skills training/small grant program.

UNHCR and Harikar continued protection monitoring visits and making referrals to service providers as necessary. Two cases of separated minors are currently being followed up on and will be referred to the Child Protection team.

REACH continued to enhance sport activities including supplying sport wear and trainings in football (30 players), volleyball (17 players), basketball and tennis. In addition, REACH started training courses on general fitness, and gymnastics.

Harikar continued to counsel persons of concern on health-related issues, including making referrals to health institutions. Generally, refugees demonstrate low confidence in the public health system in Iraq coupled with little knowledge on the available public health options. This results in high privately-borne medical costs that put families at greater risk of vulnerability. Those with no means for private medical care reportedly return to Syria to obtain treatment. Lists for potential health-related resettlements for severe cases are currently being updated and they will be shared soon.

UNHCR visited youth centre in Zakho and met a group of refugees from both genders on the role of volunteers in the protection and assistance of refugees in Zakho district and discussed the needs for building the capacity of the refugee community and the importance of mass mobilization/mass information in enhancing knowledge on rights of refugees.

UNHCR met with the refugee community in Waar City to brainstorm on steps to establish a formal refugee committee and strengthen the community participation, in which the refugees identified gaps in services such as limited livelihoods options, poor quality of health services and limited access and quality of education services in Waar city.

### **✓ Education**

### **Dohuk**

The Education Working Group has started coordinating a Back-To-School campaign for the academic year 2014-15, to be rolled out both to camps and non-camp areas. It focuses on information dissemination on how and where to enroll children for school. Key messages to prevent school dropouts are being developed, and a concept note is currently being drafted. A GPS school mapping and a non-camp education assessment to identify major concentrations of out-of-school children is also being coordinated.

During the reporting, 1,552 children attended Duhok non-camp basic Arabic schools; 4,393 students attended basic Kurdish schools; and 240 students in Arabic high schools. A GPS exercise is planned in cooperation with the Education WG to map the locations of all non-camp Arabic and Kurdish schools.

UNHCR is currently working on QIPs to improve the physical capacities and building conditions of two basic schools located in Semel (Dost and Barokh) and one secondary school (Rangin) in Zakho. Save the Children is also working on adding 9 additional classrooms to a basic school in Zakho (Halo) and 1 classroom in Zoz school, also in Zakho. Furthermore, Hiwa primary school in Duhok will be supported. Save the Children is planning to build six additional classrooms in Azadhi School in Sarsink. UNICEF and DoE plan to open two primary Arabic schools, one in Zakho and one in Semel, by September 2014.

## **Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update**

Save the Children will offer catch-up classes starting from the 2nd week of July for children, which will focus on children with learning difficulties and out-of-school children aged 6-15 years, in cooperation with the Education WG. UNHCR and Harikar will inform refugees accordingly through committees, community leaders, and the protection monitor teams.

### **5. Stories from the Field**

#### **Living on borrowed time in Basirma**

35-year old Aisha's eyes fill with tears as she describes how her baby boy fell ill as she and her children walked to the Iraq border to escape the fighting in Syria. The tiny 4-month-old never recovered and died shortly after they arrived at the Basirma refugee camp in northern Iraq. This was not Aisha's first loss. In Damascus, two of her other children were killed in front of her when an explosion went off as they stood in the street.

***Aisha and two of her children stand outside the family's caravan. She has lost three other children since the war in Syria began. Robinson/UNHCR/ Iraq-15/05/14***



Terrified, she and her four other children fled the country, with just the clothes on their backs. Her husband, 35-year old Kalid, had already travelled to Iraq for a double kidney transplant in Dohuk in February 2013.

Even though they are settled and happy to be far from the fighting, the family is struggling to make ends meet. Kalid, who worked as a hotel manager in Syria, is still recovering from the transplant and is too weak to work as a manual laborer. But the couple is hoping to become more self-sufficient by starting their own business. "We are in a very difficult situation because we have no work and no money. With the help of NGOs in the camp, we would like to open a small shop or restaurant in front of our caravan."

Right now they are surviving with the help of their neighbors, who have loaned them kitchen supplies, bedding and a television. Aisha says, "Everything we have is borrowed, including my husband's kidneys and the money we paid for the kidney transplant. We have to raise USD \$10,000 to pay that back."



Once he is back on his feet, and the loan is paid, Kalid says he would like to leave the camp and re-settle in Europe where he can receive proper medical treatment and his children can continue their schooling. Aisha agrees, saying, "I am happy they are able to go to school here in the camp, but I would like to see my children get university degrees so they can have a better life." – story by Catherine Robinson

***Kalid sits in his caravan in the Basirma refugee camp. He is recovering from a kidney transplant and too weak to work. Robinson/UNHCR/ Iraq-15/05/14***

### 6. Security

The security situation remained stable in **Duhok**. The security situation became volatile in **Al Qaim**, as in other parts of Iraq. Clashes and shelling occurred during the reporting period, and led to a wave of IDPs fleeing towards other villages and the desert.

### 7. Coordination

For information related to the Regional Response Plan (RRP6) please click on <http://www.unhcr.org/syriarrp6/>

Announcements of all sector meetings along with respective agendas and minutes, and other information reporting sector-wide progress such as 3Ws, dashboards and camp profiles, are available on the inter-agency information sharing portal at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

### 8. Acronyms and abbreviations

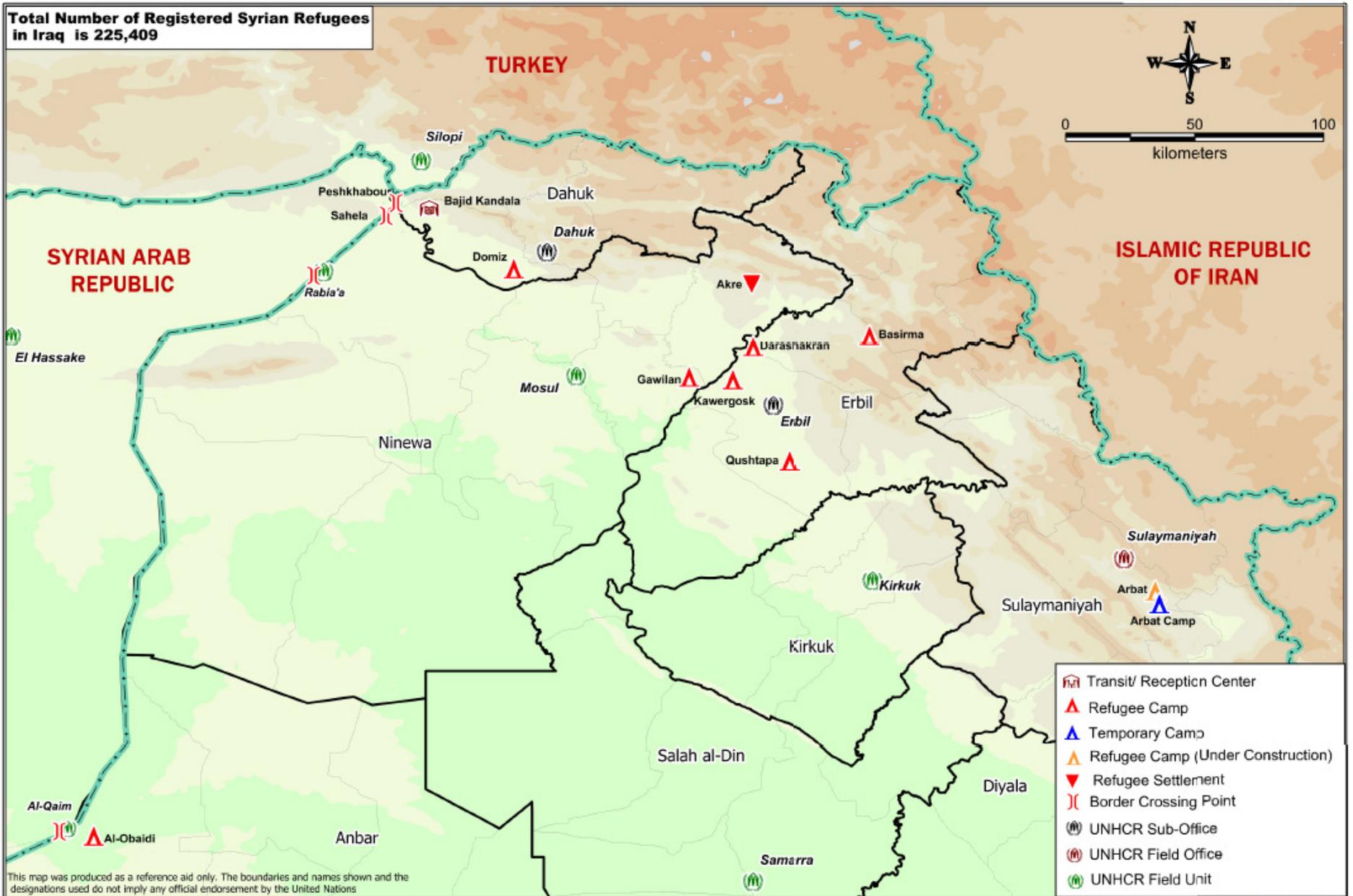
AFS	Adolescent Friendly Space
CFS	Child Friendly Space
CRI	Core Relief Items (formerly known as non-food items/ NFIs)
DDM	Department of Displacement and Migration
DMC	Development and Modification Centre
DoE	Department of Education
DoH	Department of Health
HOFO	Head of Field Office
HOSO	Head of Sub Office
ISF	Iraqi Security Forces
KR	Kurdistan Region of Iraq (or KRI)
MOMD	Ministry of Migration and Displacement
PARC	Protection Assistance Reintegration Centre
PHC	Primary Health Centre
QIPs	Quick impact projects
YFS	Youth Friendly Space

# Syrian Refugees Camps in Iraq

As of 15 May 2014



Total Number of Registered Syrian Refugees in Iraq is 225,409



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