

IRAQ: RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE - OCTOBER 2014

PROTECTION



Out of 223,923 refugees in Iraq:
223,596 are registered and 327 are waiting for registration

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS:

Verification and biometric registration of Syrian refugees is being implemented in Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah Governorates. By the end of the month iris scanning of 11,346 individuals was uploaded in the regional database and their individual data was verified and updated in ProGres. During the reporting period the back-log in registration was further reduced to 327 persons awaiting registration. UNHCR received some 13,500 refugees from Kobane; 8,153 individuals have been registered in various camp and non-camp locations across the region.

The Peshkhabour border remains closed in principle for new arrivals, however, in some instances individuals from Kobane have been admitted by the authorities. UNHCR border monitors also observed some commercial traffic across the borders. Arrivals from Kobane mainly entered through the Ibrahim Khalil border crossing with Turkey based on an understanding between Turkey and KR (I).

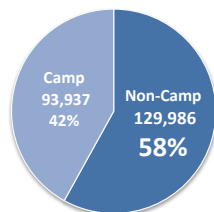
Protection monitoring and co-ordination of protection activities in all camps in KR-I continued. The arrest and detention of 5 NGO refugee staff was reported, access to legal aid was not possible during the investigation period. Protection network meetings have been regularly held in camps and urban environments to improve protection service delivery to the refugees. The identification of extremely vulnerable refugees in urban areas for cash assistance continues. In Sulaymaniyah UNHCR and its partners conducted a participatory assessment for refugees in camp and non-camp areas. The results of the participatory assessment will be presented in November 2014.

A total of 659 children participated in the "Paint outside the Lines" project to develop creative channels for expressing fear and anxiety. As a result, two semi-permanent exhibitions have been set up in Domiz and Darashakran refugee camp. Child protection partners held various "Prevention of early marriage" campaigns in the context of the International Day of the Girl Child.

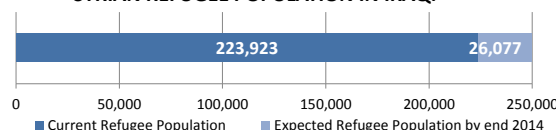
The SGBV SWG formed two task forces on quality assurance and capacity building to enhance the implementation of SGBV activities at the grass root level. Further, the team developed a model for community-based protection network following focus group discussions with urban refugees in Erbil Governorate. The SGBV SWG started the preparations for the 16 days of activism together with the High Council for Women in the KR (I).

The merged refugee status determination and resettlement procedures for the Syrian caseload continued to be implemented: 6 new cases (23 persons) have been submitted, and 9 cases (46 persons) have been re-submitted for resettlement at the request of the resettlement country. During the reporting period UNHCR received acceptance notifications for 25 cases/ 87 persons. Pre-Assessment screening was undertaken in 98 cases, out of which 44 cases were prioritized and 54 deprioritized. Case identification interviews were conducted for 45 cases across KR-I. 31 cases were reviewed at this stage of which 17 were prioritized for further RSD/resettlement consideration (14 were deprioritized).

Population :
Camp
vs
Non-Camp



SYRIAN REFUGEE POPULATION IN IRAQ:



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Safeguarding, monitoring and advocacy for asylum and protection space remains a key activity of UNHCR and its partners. The impact on protection space for refugees is considerable due to the conflict in Iraq and the arrival of large numbers of internally displaced in the Kurdish region as well as some 13,500 newly arrived refugees from Kobane via the Ibrahim Khalil border.

The newly arrived refugees have been installed in Gawilan, Arbat, and the Erbil refugee camps; UNHCR and partners are stepping up services to respond to the needs of these new arrivals but space is becoming an increasing challenge in the already overcrowded camps. Many new arrivals stay outside the designated camps partly due to the overcrowding and there are particular protection concerns for UAM/SCs who are leaving the camps prematurely. The delay in the issuance of residence permits to urban refugees will be further analyzed in light of possible future support to the authorities.

The prevention of and the delivery of appropriate responses to instances of SGBV remains a priority for the sector. Community based protection mechanisms will be further developed to support prevention and response to SGBV in camps and urban areas. The identification of child protection needs and responses for all children at risk, and especially those who have been identified through MRM monitoring, in the camps and in urban areas continue to require strengthening. Coordination of all actors and case management aspects are in need of improvement.

Ensuring the equal participation of communities' self-identified male and female refugee representatives in camps and urban areas will strengthen refugees' ability towards self-reliance in protection and assistance, including for the most vulnerable refugees, and facilitates access to information in a timely manner. Clear procedures, referral mechanisms, and human resources are put in place to facilitate the identification of the most vulnerable refugees, including those in need of resettlement as a durable solution. New refugees need information pertaining to available services and entitlements in camps and urban areas, existing refugee communities' role in the dissemination of information is essential.

On resettlement, 6 cases were prepared and 9 cases have been re-submitted. Although submissions to the US have resumed, the lack of spaces for dossier submissions for urgent cases remains of great concern.

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS*:

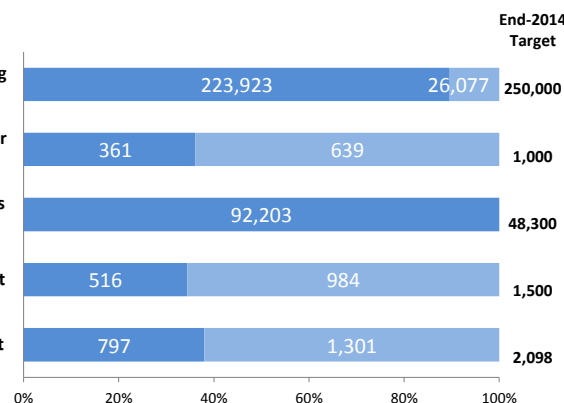
223,923 (9,888 in October) Syrians registered as refugees or awaiting registration with UNHCR

276 (25 in October) Syrian refugees submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission to third countries

92,203 (5,653 in October) children with access to psychosocial services (Through child and youth friendly spaces only)

516 (in October) child protection cases receiving specialized support**

797 (222 in October) SGBV cases receiving specialized support



*Due to situation in Al-Qaim, the data collection pertaining the indicators could not take place.
**The indicator data for the month of October will be reported in the November 2014 dashboard.

Targets based on expected population of 250,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq by end-2014. There are currently 215,303 Syrian refugees in Iraq.

Leading Agencies: UNHCR Jacqueline Parlevliet, parlevli@unhcr.org.

