



OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS:

Registration

2,153 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in the reporting period representing an increase of 57.5% from the previous month. Similarly, 739 new births were recorded and some 320 identified with specific needs representing an increase of approximately 62% and 63% respectively from the previous month.

Arrivals

2,574 Syrians were admitted to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) through the Peskhabour border crossing point on a 15-day entry visa mainly for family visits representing a decrease of about 30% compared to August 2017.

Protection Monitoring

UNHCR and partners carried out protection assessments at the household level through the protection monitoring tool (PMT) for 4,992 Syrian households (18,774 individuals) resulting in identification and mapping of key protection risks and profiles.

Community Based Protection

The 2017 Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) Participatory Assessment (PA) involved 120 focus group discussions (FGDs) and five semi-structured interviews across 41 locations, in camp and non-camp areas. UNHCR and its partners utilized the Age, Gender and Diversity approach in consulting 1,322 persons of concern (including 742 females).

The overarching concerns of refugees consulted include administrative and bureaucratic obstacles in exercising their rights; lack of employment opportunities due to the economic crisis; issues related to child protection with regards to child labour and child marriage; limited access to, and low quality of, education; poor housing and living conditions; reduction of assistance and services from humanitarian actors and local authorities. In addition, refugees informed that they are often consulted on the same issues by various actors, leading to assessment fatigue.

Sexual Gender Based Violence

Continuous coordination with related actors especially DCVAW awareness raising campaigns are supporting information dissemination with regards to delivery of services and are enhancing women and girls' knowledge and access to rights.

Child Protection

In Sulaymaniyah Governorate, child protection actors continue to support refugee children with routine child protection services and activities. During the reporting period, with the aim of increasing the quality of protection delivery, activities conducted to enhance partners capacity building. Moreover, partners conducted awareness-raising sessions for children on the importance of education. Partners have facilitated the creation of girls' groups for enhancing girls' engagement and to promote their participation in activities.

Child protection actors in Erbil invested their time in enhancing the capacity of community based child protection. Activities included training of community groups and members, linkage meetings between schools and Child-friendly spaces, coordination meetings and panel discussions between child protection committees and Department of Labour and Social Affairs (DoLSA).

In all governorates, continuous awareness sessions and outreach activities on preventing child marriage are being conducted.



A Syrian refugee child at Kawergosk camp who made a puppet out of raw material during a psychosocial activity, Erbil, IOM, Raber Aziz

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

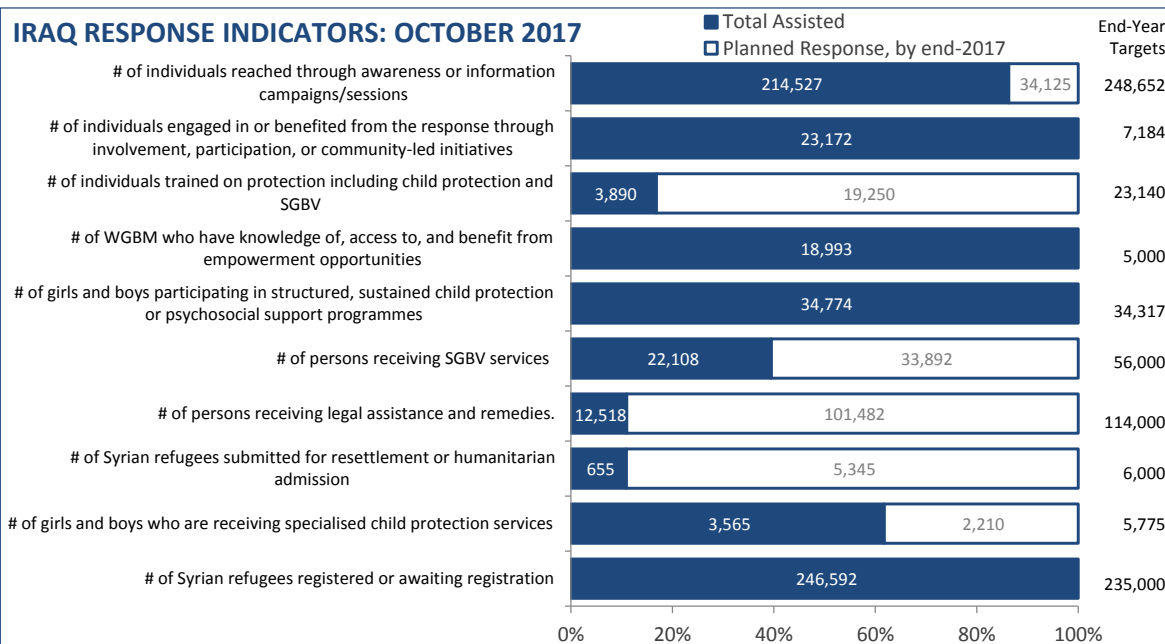
Improve dissemination of information for refugees on legal assistance and existing legislation.

Funding for refugee response, particularly for child protection, continues to be a challenge to ensure minimum services are provided.

Scale-up of community engagement to better represent and work with authorities and to promote access to rights.

Many refugees continue to lack access to employment and thus a sustainable income, severely affecting opportunities for self-reliance.

IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: OCTOBER 2017



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