

**Syrian Persons of Concern in Iraq and return of Iraqi refugees:
Update 6 covering the period 22nd – 29th April 2012.**

• **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As of 29th of April 2012, 2,970 Syrian nationals of Kurdish origin were registered with UNHCR in northern Iraq, while some 20 families and 200 singles are in the process of being registered. An estimated 30 to 40 families and 50 to 65 singles continue to enter Duhok Governorate daily.. In Erbil, the number of Syrian families approaching UNHCR for registration remains limited. The new arrivals continue to be hosted by family members and the local community while they receive no assistance from the local authorities. In Suleimaniya, no new arrivals were recorded during the reporting period.



The new Camp in Domiz

• **OVERALL GOAL: Emergency Protection Including Assistance**

• **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

1. Fair protection process and documentation

1.1. Administrative institutions and practice: overall practice: See update Number 3

In Duhok Governorate the local authorities and mostly DDM remains committed to joint efforts with UNHCR in hosting and assisting new arrivals. While the essential services are in progress in Domiz camp, many singles continue to relocate to Erbil city, justifying their movement by insufficiency of space in the camp given the increased number of Syrian singles. As the authorities in Erbil have so far not provided any assistance to Syrians in Erbil, the latter continue to rely on family support and informal work to survive, while continuing to enjoy freedom of movement and access to informal job opportunities.

1.2. Quality of Registration and Profiling

As of the 29th of April 2012, UNHCR in Erbil, and DDM in Duhok have registered a total of 2,970 Syrians in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Among those are 312 families, comprising 1,269 individuals, and 1,701 singles. In Erbil, 32 families, comprising 130 individuals, and 453 singles were registered, In Suleimaniya, the number of registered remains without change, consisting of 2 families (6 individuals) and 60 singles; while in Duhok Governorate, 278 families, comprising 1,133 individuals, and 1,188 singles were registered, while some 20 families, comprising 100 individuals, and 200 singles are waiting registration and subsequent relocation to Domiz camp. Among the registered persons all over the KR, 27 are unaccompanied minors under the age of 18, of which 6 are single female. Duhok remains host to the largest number of Syrian new arrivals, with 2,321 individuals, followed by Erbil with 583 individuals and then Suleimaniya with 66 individuals.

Reporting period	Families	Singles + UAMs	Total Registered	Pending registration	Total arrivals
As of 31th March	21 families (79 individuals)	281 including 15 UAMs	360	400	760
As of 8th April	147 Families (604 individuals)	636 singles including 15 UAMs	1,240	1,000 individuals	2,240
As of 15th April	198 Families (803 individuals)	973 Singles including 15 UAMs	1,776	600 individuals	2,376
As of 22 nd April	240 Families (979 individuals)	1,350 Singles including 27 UAMs	2,329	800 individuals	3,129
As of 29th April	312 Families (1,269 individuals)	1,701 Singles including 27 UAMs	2,970	300 individuals	3,270

2-Basic needs and essential services (Dohuk)

2.1 Shelter and Infrastructure

As of April 29th, 198 tents were erected in the family section of Domiz camp, of which 12 were put up during the reporting period, and the construction of 60 cm eight wall around each tent and cast foundation of the tents' floor was completed. A list of 84 families was prepared for the distribution of non-food items during the fourth round, organized jointly by UNHCR and IOM and planned to take place in the coming days. 154 families were relocated to the tents.

UNHCR's implementing partner, Qandil, completed the construction of 75 cooking areas in the family section. Additionally, eight small tents were installed nearby the Mosque that initially hosted the singles. In the alternative site that has been allocated for the singles in

the northern part of camp, some 60 meters far from the families' section, an engineer from the Municipality of Fayda has divided the plots into sections to install additional tents and other services. The machines were provided by the Municipality to expand the camp in both the families and the single' sections. The work for the casting of 28 tent foundations had started.

During the reporting period, UNHCR had requested for the government' contribution for the provision of sub-base and water tankers needed for levelling roads in the families' section and for singles' new location, however, the sub-base has not been provided yet, this may cause some delay in the progress of work. To avoid any further delay in the provision of the sub-base, UNHCR is looking at alternative options to fill the gap.

2.2 Health Status

The health caravan in Domiz camp continues to be functional. During the reporting period a mobile dental team visited the site and provided dental healthcare assistance to new arrivals; another health team from the prevention section of the Directorate of Health in Duhok conducted hygiene promotion awareness for the families twice during the last week, while a third medical team conducted a vaccination campaign for the children. A private company, called "Distar", has provided infant formula milk, diapers and clothes for the children.



The new medical unit in Domiz camp

2.3 Supply of potable water

In order to increase the water storage capacity for the singles and to provide additional number of emergency bath rooms nearby the Mosque, where singles are hosted, UNHCR, through its partner Qandil, completed the installation of 10 emergency bath rooms between the Mosque and the 7 big singles' tents.

“Kurds NGO” has completed the construction of the concrete base for the installation of 21 water tanks. UNHCR Dohuk is negotiating with Qandil, “Kurds NGO” and the Water Department of Fayda an increase of the water storage capacity and the installation of internal water network for around 210 families. The proposal is under Qandil’s technical revision.



Filling the water tanks in Domiz camp

2.4 Nutrition

The Directorate of Migration and Displacement continues to provide the singles with three hot meals a day; families are also provided with dry food through DDM. However, the need to supply the families with additional dry food rations is becoming increasingly needed. WFP is coordinating with UNHCR in order to monitor the increased number of Syrian new arrivals. Should the number continue to increase, WFP shall look into the possibility of providing the Syrian families with food rations or vouchers.

2.5 Sanitation and Hygiene

UNHCR, through its implementing partner Qandil, has completed the installation of 10 emergency bath rooms for singles in the camp. Qandil has also provided 930 pieces of toilet soap, (3 pieces per single), 10 garbage containers, 135 garbage bags and 20 cleaning brushes to 310 singles; 150 families were also provided with garbage bags for one month, at a rate of 15 bags per family.



Garbage collection in Domiz camp

2.6 Services for persons with specific needs

UNHCR continued to conduct field visits to the Syrian families and singles to assess their needs. The UNHCR community services team has identified cases with special needs ranging from cases of pregnancies at risk, children with disabilities and cases of trauma. The Syrians in Domiz camp generally continued to report health concerns and requested the health team to extend its presence in the camp to address the health cases. UNHCR continued to ensure the concerns of the Syrian families and singles are tackled, and that the provided healthcare is improved, through coordination with the health directorate and referrals to other services providers that could provide wheel chairs to the children suffering physical disabilities.

2.7 Access to Education

UNHCR ordered the production of 6 caravans for school classes; the fabrication of these caravans has been completed and as of today the six of them had reached the site and were installed near the existing primary school to ensure additional space for school age children.

3. Security

The Asaayish security continues to ensure the security in the camp and the surrounding areas. No security incident was reported in the camp so far. The Assaysh has installed a cabinet for daily presence of security officers outside the camp. MAG team conducted Mine Risk Education Awareness Sessions for families and singles, and surveyed the new singles' site and the surrounding of the families' section and managed to remove two explosive devices (a mortar and a grenade).

4. Coordination and Partnership

In the context of joint efforts with other relevant actors to tackle the existing challenges, IRC has conducted a visit to Domiz camp with a view to assess the Syrians' needs and to look at eventual assistance. Meanwhile, UNHCR and DDM continue their coordination with IOM and relevant local authorities' structures.

UNHCR Erbil had called for a conference with all UN agencies, NGOs and INGOs in order to discuss the situation of the Syrians in Domiz camp and the provision of essential services, the conference will take place in Erbil in the coming days.

Iraqi Refugee Returnees from Syria movement trends

UNHCR Iraq Refugee Returnee monitoring conducted at Government of Iraq Returnee Centres and at the main taxi and bus stations in the reporting period observed the following trends:

There was no increase in number of Iraqis returning by taxi and/or bus in the last week from Syria at monitored locations. Most bus and taxi companies are still reporting 1-2 vehicles a day returning from Syria to Iraq with 1 sometimes 2 departing from Iraq to Syria.

There continue to be reports about possible increase in return (a combination of permanent, uncertain and temporary return) this summer, at the end of the school year in Syria and Iraq.

The number of Iraqi Refugees returning from Syria and choosing to register with the MoDM as permanent returnees continues at a steady level. No large increases are observed at monitoring locations throughout Iraq.

The total number of Iraqi national returning to Iraq from Syria and departing to Syria of all types (including commercial traffic) from all three Border Crossing was slightly higher in the weekly reporting period. The total volume of recorded cross border traffic continues to remain at comparatively low levels. Most Iraqis monitored at the border locations during the past week claimed to be returning for a temporary or uncertain time period, with only 12% claiming to be returning permanently. Al Qa'im border crossing remains closed by Iraqi authorities.

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