



**UNHCR**

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

## General Situation and Response 19 for Kurdistan

*This update provides a snapshot of the UNHCR response to the influx of Syrians into Kurdistan. The response is led by UNHCR, and is undertaken in full coordination with the Government of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, UN agencies as well as international and national NGOs. The next report will cover the UNHCR response to the influx of Syrians into Iraq.*

### I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

Due to the announcement of the Iraqi Prime Minister to re-open the borders between Syria and Iraq, a number of new arrivals were witnessed during the last week. A total number of 81 families comprising of 330 individuals and 278 single men entered Kurdistan Region during the last few days. These new arrivals were registered for the first time by UNHCR. In addition, arrivals who had entered the KR during the past weeks but had been residing in the community continue to approach UNHCR and DDM for the registration in progress.

In Domiz camp, 64 new arrival families comprising of 254 individuals and 189 singles were registered during the last week. In Erbil, 16 families comprising of 68 individuals and 60 singles were registered, while Suleimaniya had registered 1 family comprising of 8 individuals and 29 singles. It is to note that Syrian new arrivals are increasingly approaching UNHCR for registration in order to acquire residency.

Due to the return of many singles to Syria during the last week, the Residency Directorate had halted on the issuance of the residency permits to the Syrian new arrivals. In addition to the 150 singles Syrians who have reportedly voluntarily returned to Syria last week, another group of 300 singles had similarly returned in the last few days. The reasons of the departure remain unknown and allegedly single men return with the objective of securing the Kurdish areas following the withdrawal of the regular Syrian army. The residency directorate had announced that the issuance of the residency permit would resume starting the first week of August.



## II. Situation Overview

As per information from the KRG, the continuous deteriorating situation in Syria has so far resulted in some 10,000 persons who were displaced and sought sanctuary in the Kurdistan Region. The total number of Syrians registered with UNHCR and DDM in the KR has reached 9,053 with a total number of 7,096 registered with UNHCR and DDM in Dohuk, 1,540 registered in Erbil and 417 registered in Suleimaniya.

The camp population in Domiz has reached 2,146 individuals, among them 350 families comprising of 2,040 persons, and a number of 106 singles, 64 among them live in tents while 42 continue to live in the mosque. The number of singles in the camp has reduced in the past week due to their departure for Syria. Some continue to live in the mosque, as electricity connection in the singles areas is still not completed.

DDM continues to conduct screening interviews for the single deserters, so far, out of 900 singles screened and interviewed, 249 are army deserters who had renounced to military activities and sought protection in Domiz camp. The majority of the singles interviewed were found to be young men who were subjected to compulsory military service; they had served beyond the required period and were not released by the regular army given the security circumstances prevailing in Syria. When given the opportunity for a short leave, they fled Syria and entered the KR illegally and without proper documentation except for the military identity card. Following the screening, DDM considered many as persons in need of international protection while decisions for others are yet to be made.



## OVERALL GOAL: Emergency Protection Including Assistance -STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

### 1. Fair protection process and documentation

#### 1.1. Administrative institutions and practice: overall practice:

The Residency Directorate in Duhok halted on the process of granting 6 months temporary residence to the Syrians living in Domiz camp during the last week. So far, 398 families comprising of 1,780 individuals and 700 singles inside and outside Domiz camp have been provided with residency permits valid until the end of the year. The permit grants its bearer free access to public services. UNHCR conducts awareness campaigns to inform the Syrians new arrivals on the procedures required to acquire residency and the residency directorate had observed flexibility to grant the permit based on UNHCR's certificate and identity documents.

Level two` registration through ProGress continues in all governorates (Erbil, Suleimaniya and Duhok). Out of the total Syrian population registered, 3,334 were registered through ProGress and issued with documentation.

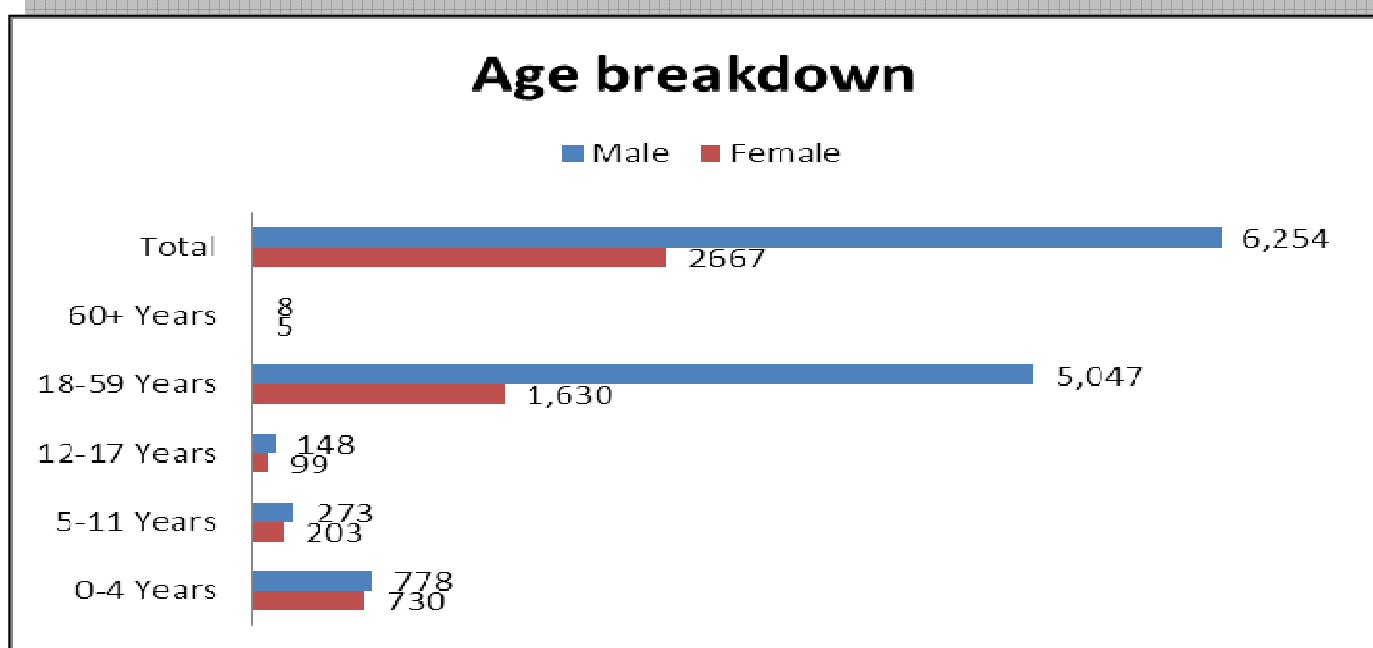
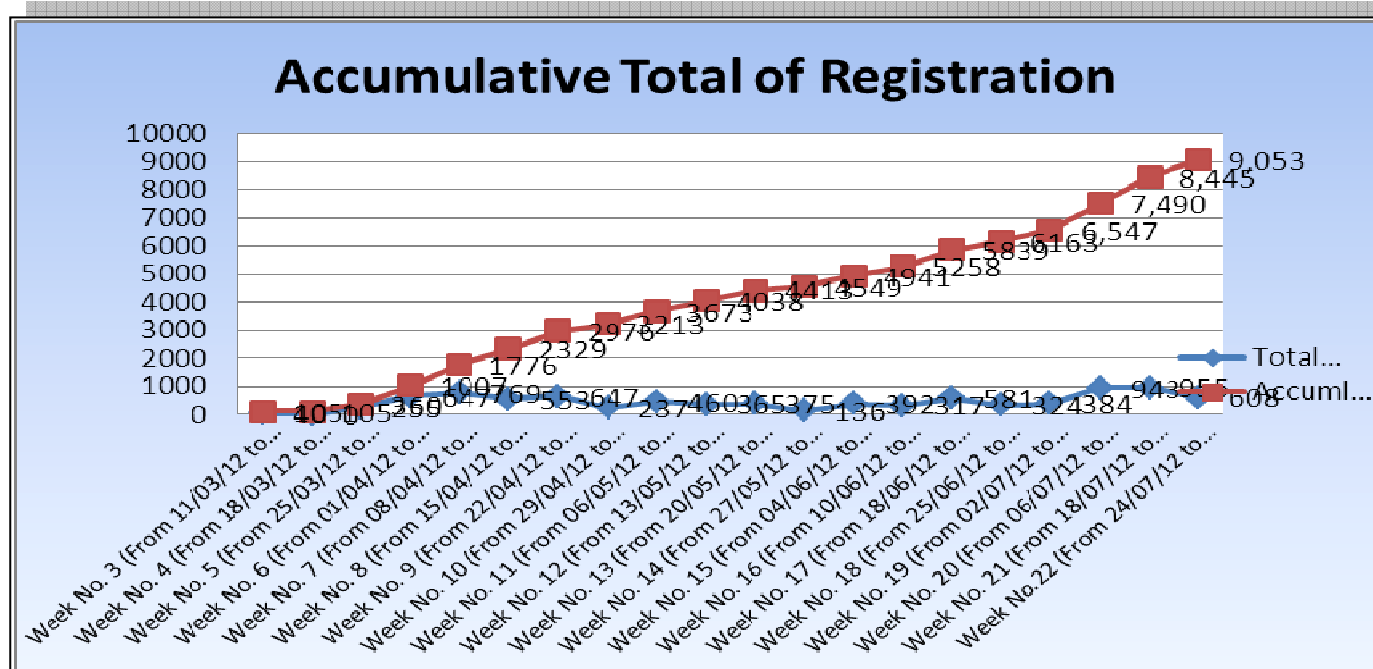
Increased number of families continues to approach UNHCR in Duhok seeking reunification with family members either living abroad or in other neighbouring countries, UNHCR continues to provide legal counselling to those families and had liaised with ICRC to initiate family tracing.



## 1.2 Quality of Registration and Profiling

As of 30<sup>th</sup> of July, UNHCR in Erbil, and DDM in Duhok and Suleimaniya have registered an accumulative total of 9,053 Syrians of Kurdish origin. Among these are 865 families, comprising of 3,655 individuals, and 5,398 singles. In Erbil, a total of 114 families, comprising of 498 individuals are registered. In Suleimaniya, a total of 22 families comprising of 75 individuals and 342 singles are registered. In Duhok Governorate, 729 families comprising of 3,082 individuals and 4,014 singles are registered. The number of the Syrians awaiting registration is unknown however it is reported that an increased number of families fleeing violence in Syria continue to enter the Kurdistan Region. Duhok remains host to the largest number of Syrian new arrivals with 7,096 individuals followed by Erbil with 1,540 individuals and then Suleimaniya with 417 individuals as indicated below.

*Bellow is a table showing the registration trends per month from the period of 26<sup>th</sup> February up to the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2012, and shows the steadily increasing numbers approaching UNHCR to register. Also is presented an age/gender breakdown of the registered Syrians. It is to note that the below table does not reflect or takes into consideration the number of asylum seekers who fled Syria prior to the violence.*

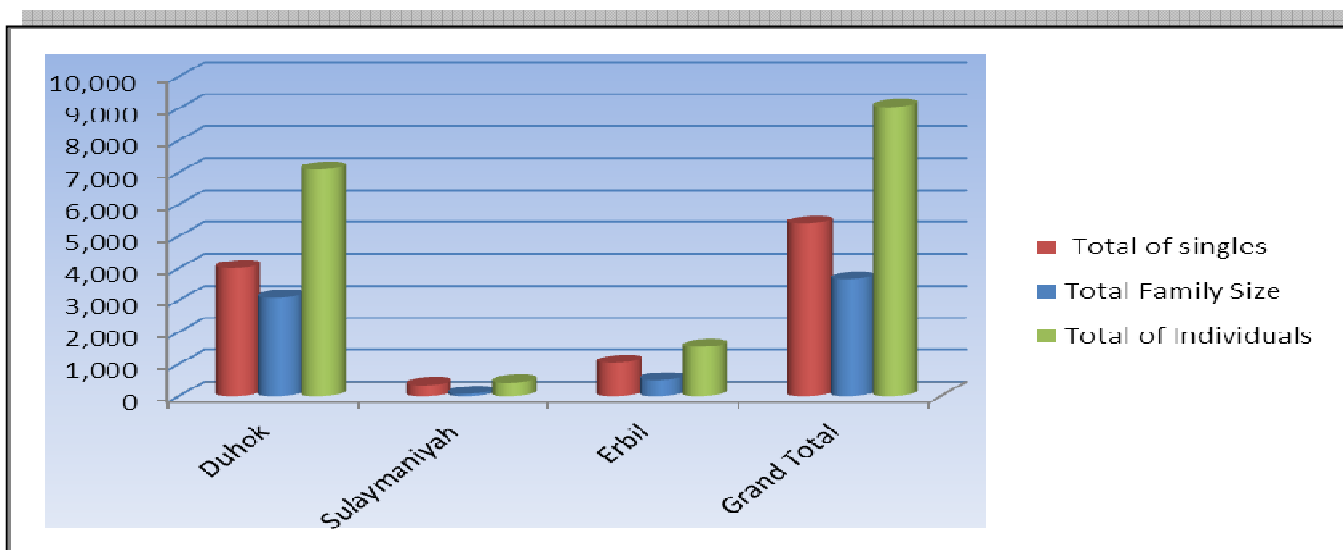




In terms of demographics, out of the 9,053 registered individuals, 29,46% are females and 69, 08% are males. Of the total population, 59,63% are single males, with the remaining made up mostly of head of families. With regards to the reason of flight, 48% have fled following participation in demonstrations, hence being wanted by the Syrian authorities, 31% are draft evaders, who have fled owing to fear of participation in the ongoing violence, while 13% had deserted the regular Syrian army.

Graph 3: **Registration per Governorate**

*The table below illustrates the rate of arrivals to the different Governorates in the KR (Erbil- Suleimaniya and Duhok). The KR's borders remain open to Syrian nationals fleeing unrest in Syria.*



## **2-Basic needs and essential services (Duhok)**

### **2.1 Shelter and Infrastructure**

As of the 30<sup>th</sup> of July, 417 families comprising of 1,822 persons are residing in Domiz camp, in the family's section, and 64 singles are residing in the singles' section and 42 singles are in the mosque, however, 100 are working outside the camp in the community and return to the camp during the night. A total of 432 tents have been erected in the family' section and 144 in the singles' section, however, seeing the recent trend of return to Syria, the installation of tents for the singles has been put on hold. The current capacity on the singles side is to accommodate 400 singles , however the planning for extension of singles area in phase 3 and 4 will continue as contingency.

The work in the transit location has been completed including excavation of 24 septic tanks, casting roof of 24 septic tanks, installing 24 mobile latrines and installing 48 tents.



#### **Individual sanitation units with sewerage - Sector 1:**

The number of family plots is 211. The sector was divided between two contractors (Dosko and Zudam companies). The contractors have started working in building the individual sanitation units and closed sewerage for 211 families, which had been delayed due to camp residents already residing on the plots which created construction difficulties.

The work progress is as shown below:

Detail	Planned number	Performed	Estimated work progress %
Sanitation foundation	211	211	100%
Sanitation walls	211	183	87%
Sanitation roof	211	99	47%
Septic tanks	46	46	100%
Sewerage lines	3063 m	2800	91%

#### **Family plots - Sector 2:**

4 contractors are working in constructing tents foundations, walls, cooking areas and sanitation units for 214 plots (Zab company 70 plots plus Nipple, Dolub and Qalaat Ninewa companies- 48 plots for each). The relocation of 214 families will be organised during the week on installed tents who had been waiting in sector 1 and the hosr community.

Detail	Planned number	Performed	Estimated work progress %
Tents foundation	286	286	100%
Tents walls	286	286	100%
kitchen foundation	214	214	100%
Kitchen walls	214	214	100%
Kitchen roof	214	214	100%
Sanitation foundation	214	214	100%
Sanitation walls	214	214	100%
Sanitation roof	214	214	100%
Septic tanks excavation	54	54	100%
Pits excavations	54	54	100%
Sanitation works	214	200	94%
Tent installation	286	0	0

**Singles:**

A contractor (Salar Company) has started working with establishing 100 tents, cooking areas and sanitation units for singles. The work includes fixing a fence around the singles tents.

Detail	Planned number	Performed	Estimated work progress %
Tents foundation	44	44	100%
Tents walls	44	44	100%
kitchen foundation	100	100	100%
Kitchen walls	100	100	100%
Kitchen roof	100	100	100%
Sanitation foundation	100	100	100%
Sanitation walls	100	100	100%
Sanitation roof	100	100	100%
Sanitation works	100	100	100%
Septic tanks	17	17	100%
Pits with boulder	11	11	100%
Fence around singles tents	750 m. Length	750 m. length of poles and pole base cast	100%
gate	1	1	100%
Tent installation	44	0	0

**Transit area**

A contractor (Sobel Haditha Company) has started the work on 18 July; it includes establishing 48 tents with 24 sanitation units for new arrived families. The work includes fixing water tanks for each family.

Detail	Planned number	Performed	Estimated work progress %
Excavation of septic tanks	24	24	100%
Casting roof of septic tanks	24	24	100%
Installing mobile latrines	24	24	100%
Tent installation	48	48	100%

**Fence for family section**

A contractor (Shajarat Al-Rayan Company) has started working on 17 July with installation of fence around family section:

Detail	Planned number	Performed	Estimated work progress %
Site preparation	950 ML	950 ML	100%
Excavation of holes	450	400	88%
Poles installation and casting foundations	450	180	40%
Installation of chain link fence	1350 ML	0	0
Install of two gates	2	Work in progress	Work in progress

## 2.2 Health Status and psycho-social support

MSF has furnished the newly established cabin to be used by the Health Unit in the camp. One prefab room has been assigned as drugs store. MSF provided the necessary drug supplies to the Health Unit.

On July 25th the Health meeting took place at DoH and was chaired by UNICEF and co-chaired by UNHCR. UNICEF has requested DoH to submit a proposal to UNICEF regarding Health Hygiene Promotion to be implemented as soon as possible in Domiz camp. UNICEF will conduct training session for a nurse who will be in charge of child and maternal health Unit in Domiz. UNICEF has provided DoH with two scales and two boards for the Health Unit in Domiz camp. DoH reported that the rate of Diarrhoea in Domiz camp reached 72% for children under (5) years. UNHCR is coordinating closely with UNICEF, WHO and DoH on ensuring preventative measures.

## 2.3 Supply of potable water

Water Department of Fayda continues provision of clean water by tankers to the residents of the camp in a rate of 200,000 liters per day. DoH continues providing chlorinate tabs to families and singles once every three days.

UNHCR through Qandil has started implementation of water project on 02 July for sector 1 and 2 through Kurds (LNGO). The work includes laying of more than 7000 polyethylene pipes, construction of 5 elevated storage tanks (23 m3 each) and drilling one deep well. The water project is in good progress where 3100 Meters Length (ML) of pipes have been fixed, 1500 ML of back filling with sand and soil covered, completed 80 water joints, three concrete water tank bases with 6 meters height each were completed, the new dug well was tested for 5 hours, the water productivity is 32 Gallons per minutes. The construction works for pump room has just started. The plan of the water department is to connect another two wells from the host community to have additional capacity for sector 1 and 2. Water system is 80% completed and is expected to be completed by end of next week and KURDS submitted a water project proposal for phase 3 & 4, incl. single area.



## 2.4 Nutrition

DDM continues the provision of two hot meals a day during the holy month of Ramadan to the single males and dry food rations to the families who have kitchen facilities. DDM will continue the distribution of food rations until WFP is able to take over by the first of August.

The host community distributed 470 packets of dates for 470 families of new Syrian arrivals in the camp and distributed 40 kgs of chicken meat to 40 families. WFP food trucks are expected to arrive in the camp on 01 August, one month food will be distributed upon arrival and the second distribution will be carried out on 01 September.

## 2.5 Sanitation and Hygiene

Fayda Municipality continued irregular garbage collection within both Families and singles sectors. UNHCR through Qandil installed 24 Latrines for new Syrian arrivals at the transit area. DDM has submitted a proposal to the Governor's office for funds approval for regular garbage collection.

## 2.6 Services for persons with specific needs

UNHCR continues its daily field visits to the Syrian families and singles in order to assess the needs and identify possible gaps. A vulnerability assessment exercise was carried out among the singles and identification of specific needs is on-going.



## 2.7 Education

UNHCR, through Qandil has provided the school with two big water cooler machines for the students and one small for the teacher which has been installed in the old Domiz School. On 25 July a committee from Sumel District DoE visited the school and conducted interviews with the students, the coordination and the school administration. As agreed in the Education SWG that 26 July is the deadline for students' registration. The total number of the students currently registered in the school is (139) from grade 1 to grade 9.

## 2.8 NFIs assistance

During the reporting week, UNHCR distributed 44 NFI packages and 43 tents for 176 singles. UNHCR staff off loaded 50 NFI packages and 100 pallets in the Domiz Rub- hall and off – loaded 100 NFI packages and 100 canvas tents in the DDM/UNHCR warehouse. DDM distributed 40 air coolers and 40 refrigerators for 40 families of new Syrian asylum seekers.



## 3. Security

The security situation within both singles and families sectors is stable and no significant incidents were reported. The absence of adequate security in the camp remains a major concern. The number of security staff compared to the size and population of the camp is limited. The fence around the single' sector was completed; while the fence for the families' section is under installation. Two guards were hired by UNHCR through Qandil for guarding the transit area following the installation of 24 latrines and 48 tents for the reception of new arrivals. Four hours daily cut of main power was observed during the reporting period, the need for accelerating the installation of electricity is crucial during Ramadan time and the increasingly hot weather in Domiz. The lack of constant electricity power had resulted in anger among the population.

## 4. Coordination and Partnership

- On 24<sup>th</sup> July, a meeting was held with MSF in Domiz camp, to discuss the issues of food distribution, health and water quality.
- On 25<sup>th</sup> July, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) coordination meeting took place in the Directorate of Development and Modification Center of Dohuk Governorate; specific WASH indicators and targets were agreed and DDM will submit weekly monitoring and progress report.
- On 25<sup>th</sup> July, UNHCR and UNICEF met with DoH, UNICEF requested DoH to submit a proposal about Health Hygiene Promotion focusing on the causes of Diarrhea, water quality and personal hygiene. Water department will conduct daily water quality test.

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