

This report is produced by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on its humanitarian response to the effects of the crisis in Syria. The summary covers events and activities between 27 July and 3 August.



NFI distribution in Anbar, Iraq

Highlights

- 632 Third Country Nationals (TCNs) have been returned home in the past seven months. Bookings for 144 individuals have been made in the past week, and an additional 148 are ready to be booked. Another 1,012 requests for evacuation assistance are currently being processed.
- Twenty-five countries have requested IOM to provide travel assistance to their nationals stranded in Syria.
- The Government of Jordan opened its first official refugee camp on 29 July in Za'atri. IOM provided transportation services to 1,570 Syrians from temporary camps and border crossings to the new camp.
- IOM primary health care providers in the King Abdullah Park camp have assisted 10,701 patients to date.
- IOM continues to provide NFIs to refugees in Iraq, Lebanon, and Turkey. In the past two days 100 NFI kits were distributed in Anbar, Iraq and 210 hygiene kits given to new Syrian arrivals in Baalbeck, Lebanon.
- IOM has requested **US\$ 22.2 million** to increase delivery of humanitarian assistance and critical operational activities for the next 90 days.
- The IOM Director General approved the allocation of **US\$ 500,000** from IOM's internal Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism (MEFM) to facilitate the continuing evacuation of Third Country Nationals (TCNs) from Syria, emergency refugee transportation, and health programmes.

Situation Overview

SYRIA As armed violence increases in Syria's most populous city of Aleppo, thousands of residents are seeking shelter in schools, mosques and public buildings. The Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) and other national associations continue to register a substantial amount of displaced families each day who need urgent assistance.¹

JORDAN **38,883** registered Syrian refugees in Jordan are receiving assistance. The Jordanian government estimates that approximately **150,000** Syrian refugees have entered Jordan since March 2011.² IOM provided transportation assistance to 1,570 refugees from temporary camps and border crossings to the newly opened Za'atri refugee camp.

¹ UNHCR website for updates on Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan on the most updated figures on Syrian Refugees. <http://www.unhcr.org/5017c73e9.html>.

² Id.

- LEBANON** In Lebanon, **34,096** displaced Syrians are receiving assistance from the Government of Lebanon, UN, and NGO partners. Of this number, **31,596** are registered. Estimates of the total number of Syrians in Lebanon as a result of unrest in Syria are much higher.³
- IRAQ** The number of Syrian refugees to Iraq continues to increase. UNHCR reports that there are currently **12,073** refugees registered.⁴
- TURKEY** **2,000** individuals have reportedly crossed the Hatay border into Turkey in the last four days. Currently, arrivals from Syria are assisted in the border provinces of Hatay, Gaziantep, Kilis and Şanlıurfa. According to the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there was no substantial increase in new arrivals at the Ceylanpınar camp, which had a total camp population of **44,038** as of July 30.

Country Operations

1. Syria Operations

As of Aug. 1, IOM Syria has provided repatriation assistance to 632 TCNs, and an additional 144 are scheduled to depart in the following week. 148 individuals are ready to be booked and another 1,012 specific requests are being processed. Currently, 2,500 TCNs have been registered. Twenty-five countries have requested IOM to assist their foreign nationals to return home. The majority of cases have departed from Syria on commercial flights, and others from Turkey and Lebanon. IOM is preparing to deliver NFI kits in most affected communities for displaced Syrian families. The primary challenges to NFI distribution is the security situation and ensuring a verifiable monitoring and evaluation process.

In coordination with OCHA, IOM has forged contingency plans to address humanitarian needs if the situation in Syria further deteriorates.

2. Jordan Operations

IOM provided transportation assistance to 1,570 refugees from temporary camps and border crossings to the newly opened Za'atri refugee camp. Additionally, IOM transported 13 Syrian nationals to a smaller facility, Cyber City, which is a designated site for vulnerable families and individuals.

Primary health care services have been provided by IOM to 10,701 patients in the King Abdullah Park site. Medical teams conduct fit-for-travel screenings on all refugees transported to the Za'atri camp.

IOM Jordan is actively conducting coordination meetings with Jordanian government representatives and relevant embassies on potential assistance for TCNs, including designation of a host site.

3. Iraq Operations

On July 31, IOM reported that 145 Iraqis had returned from Syria through the Rabi'aa border, in Ninewa. The total number of Syrians living at the Al Qaim Transit Receiving Center (TRC) in Anbar has reached 3,185 individuals. There are still no reports of Syrians entering Lebanon through the Al-Waleed border point.

³ Id. at 1.

⁴ Id.

IOM teams conducted a quick needs assessment on new arrivals of Syrians and Iraqi returnees to determine the most appropriate response. Priority needs are shelter, NFIs and income. At the Al Qaim TRC, IOM provided 100 newly arrived families with NFIs. (To date IOM has distributed NFI packages to over 3,000 Syrian Refugees in Iraq). IOM field teams continue to locate and identify Iraqi returnees, and to support their registration with the Ministry of Migration and Development (MoMD).

The MoMD, Civil Defense, UNHCR, Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS) and IOM are coordinating to establish a camp in Al-Kasek, 45 km from the Syrian border. UNHCR and IRCS will erect 200 tents for Syrian refugees and Iraqi returnees who cannot return back to their places of origin.

4. **Lebanon Operations**

IOM distributed 210 hygiene kits to new arrivals in Baalbek and facilitated the repatriation of TCNs from Argentina, Chile and Peru. Based on a quick needs assessment of displaced Syrian and Lebanese families in Wadi Khaled, IOM plans to assist the most vulnerable households through provision of traditional shelter materials.

5. **Turkey Operations**

According to authorities in Ceylanpınar, approximately 2,600 new persons were received during the week of July 23-30. Additionally, an estimated 3,000 individuals voluntarily repatriated to Idlib and the surrounding villages.

IOM has engaged in dialogue with the General Director of Security on TCN assistance and a potential presence for IOM at the border, which would be in coordination with the Turkish National Police (TNP).

Security

Major military operations in Aleppo continue, while other smaller incursions are occurring across the country. The resulting security conditions create operational challenges.

Migrant Stories

Hassan Ali⁵ is a Syrian refugee who fled violence to Northern Iraq in March. He paid a smuggler 1500 USD to protect himself, his wife and children and lead them to the border. They were abandoned halfway, however, and told to continue on their own. Despite fear of being arrested by border guards, Hassan had no choice but to continue walking through the middle of the night. After being lost for hours, the family made it to the Iraqi border.

After staying with relatives for a few days, he and his family moved to the Domiz Camp, where they have been living since the beginning of April. Hassan states, "I am very grateful for the assistance given to me by IOM. I honestly don't know where we would be without it. We left the violence and the fighting in Syria with nothing, and my relatives in Kurdistan already have eight family members to care for. I don't know what we would've done..."

⁵ Individual's name has been changed for security reasons. Syria Crisis 2012 Update, Response in Iraq, 31 July, 2012 at 3-4.

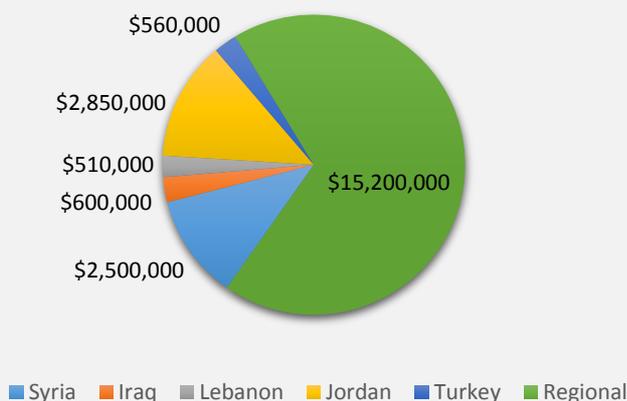
Hassan now often helps IOM deliver goods during NFI distributions, and is looking forward to the day he can return to Syria and be with the rest of his family.

Funding and Expenditures

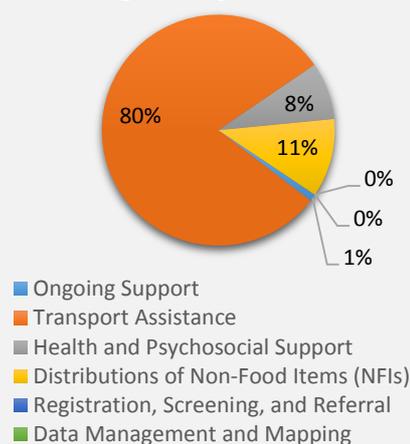
All Syrian response activities are implemented with support from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Slovakia, and the IOM Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism (MEFM). The CERF has financed activities in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Turkey. IOM has also received a contribution from Slovakia for the installation of a water tower completed at the Domiz camp in northern Iraq. The MEFM has dedicated US\$ 500,000 to increase IOM capacity in critical locations and to ensure adequate continuance of emergency operations. The MEFM has received support from the United States, Turkey, South Africa, Romania, Mauritius, and the Bahamas.

IOM appealed for a total of US\$ 22.2 million to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs at a regional level. The details of the appeal are available at <http://syriandevdevelopment.files.wordpress.com/2012/07/iom-appeal-syria-crisis.pdf>

Regional and Country Funding Requirement



Programme Specific Funding Requirements



*Regional activities (TCN evacuation; contingency planning; data management and mapping) relate to a regional appeal and response covering all affected countries.

Current Donors to the IOM MEFM



Current Donors to the Syria Response

