Iraq:RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE-FEBRUARY

SOCIAL COHESION & LIVELIHOODS

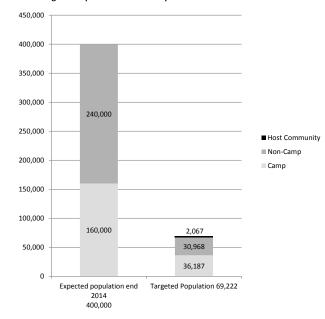


225,548 Syrian Refugees are currently registered

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Livelihood Working Group has formally established and the Working Group ToR was adopted.
- Business Development Trainings was provided to 45 Syrian refugees in Qushtapa Camp by DRC. The training covered components such as record keeping, managing stock, profit and loss accounts, writing a business plan, etc.
- Total of 147 refugees in Darashakran camp received small business set up support and vocational training by IOM
- An assessment on livelihoods is in progress for all camps by REACH
- UNHCR continue to support 273 refugees for job-placement and income generation in Al Quim Camp in Anbar

Total targeted Population VS. Total Population End 2014





REFUGEE POPULATION IN IRAQ:

225.548

Current Refugee Population

400,000

Expected Refugee Population by end-2014

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

An ability to secure sufficient income is one of the key needs, with assessments showing that Syrian refugees in Iraq are not financially self-reliant, and struggle to find sustainable livelihood opportunities.

Up to 86 per cent of Syrian refugees say they have insufficient household income, 15 per cent report lacking food security, and up to 27 per cent saying they are unable to access sufficient food for their families through the local market.

As the Government and host communities in KR and Anbar extend their generosity in hosting Syrian refugees, the rising numbers in 2013 is impacting services and economies in local communities.

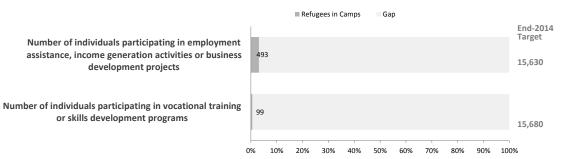
While Government policy allows registered refugees to work, difficulties in finding employment outside of the informal sector (where 80 per cent of refugee households reporting having someone employed) are a reality, as is competition within and between the host and refugee populations in the community.

For refugees living outside of camps (more than 60 per cent of the population), financial difficulties are exacerbated by competition for rental housing potentially driving up costs and leading to overcrowding and occupancy of substandard accommodation like unfinished buildings, tents and crowded apartments.

These difficulties in sustaining livelihoods mean that interventions that strengthen labour markets and increase vocational training opportunities, to the benefit of both refugee and host communities, should be a priority.

An Age and Gender Diversity approach to these interventions is required to overcome some of the barriers, including cultural ones that might particularly restrict women's access to livelihood and self-reliance activities.

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS:



Targets based on expected population of 400,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq by end-2014. There are currently 225,548 refugees.