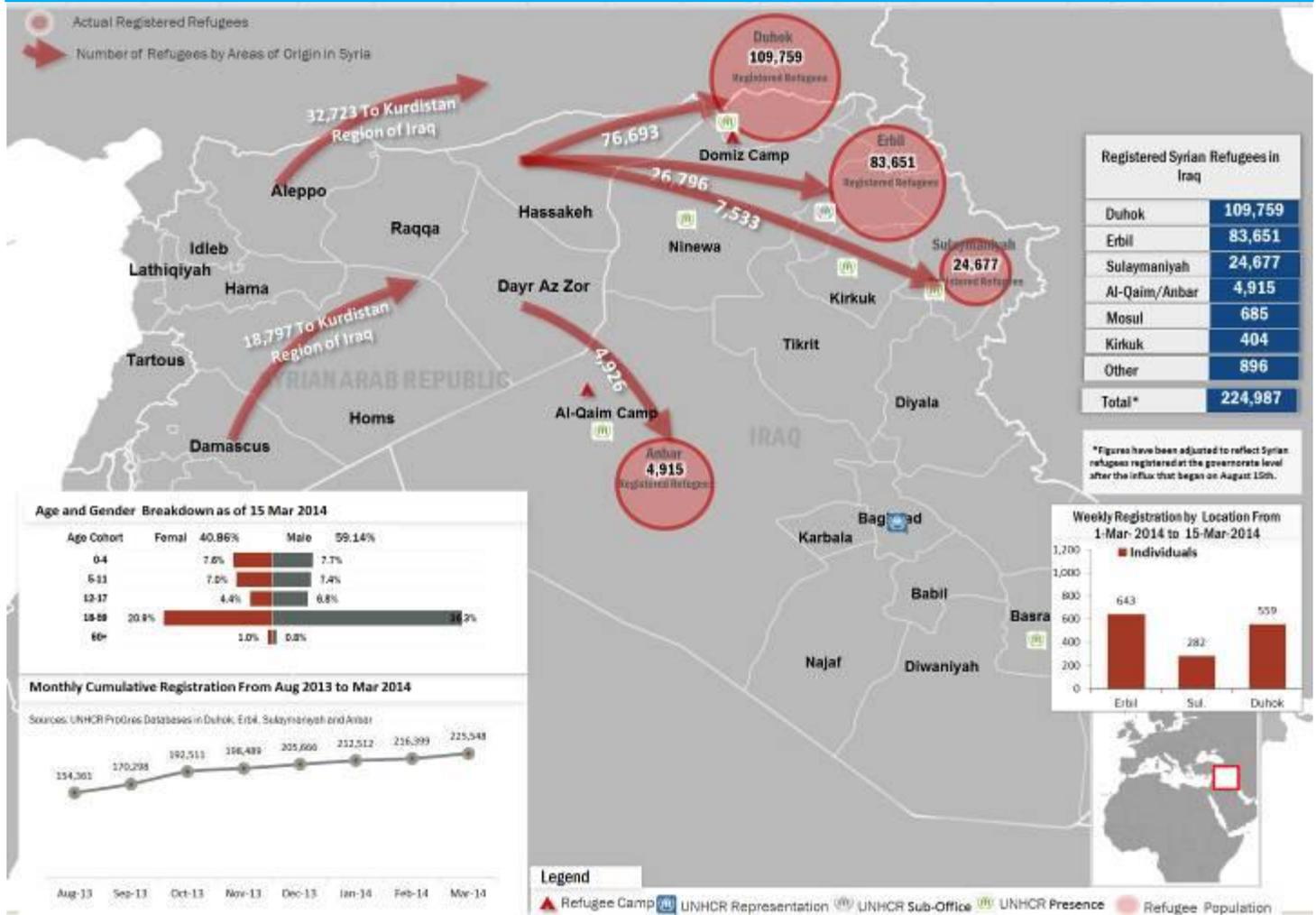


Situation in IRAQ

Inter-agency Update No. 60

1 – 15 March 2014



Donor contributions to the Syrian Response in Iraq, 2012-2014:



Funding has also been received from PRIVATE DONORS, Emergency Response Fund, OCHA, and in-kind and cash donations from the local population.

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/>

irqpi@unhcr.org

MOMD | DDM | DGC | Local Authorities

Agencies: UNHCR | UNICEF | WFP | WHO | IOM | UNDP | UNFPA | FAO | UNESCO | UN-Habitat

NGOs: ACF | ACTED | DRC | FRC/ IRCS | HAI | HI | IMC | INTERSOS | IRC | IRW | KURDS | MAG | Mercy Corps | NRC |

PEOPLE IN NEED | PU – AMI | QANDIL | Relief International | SC KR-I | SCI | STEP | TGH TRIANGLE GH | UPP | WarChild UK

| WARVIN



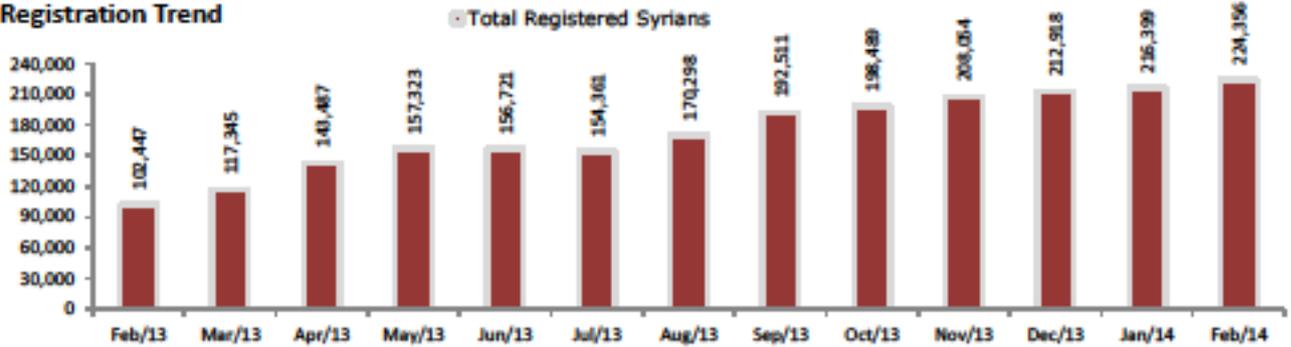
Registration Unit

Total Registered
Up to Date

Individuals
224,987

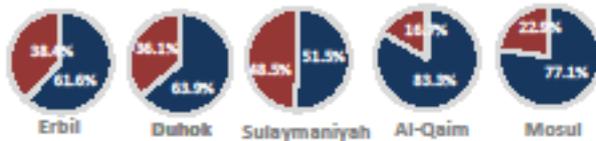
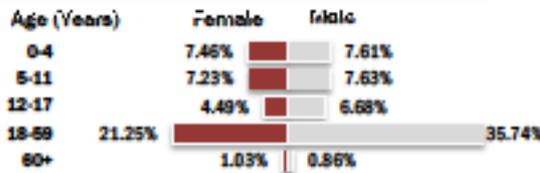
Households
80,595

Registration Trend



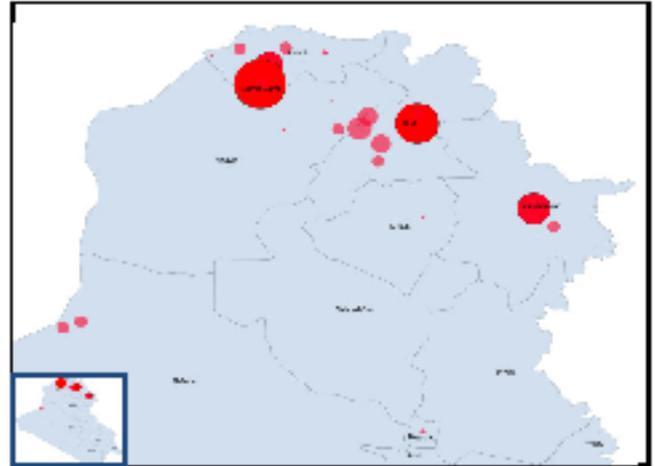
This profile is based on **203,958** proGRES registered persons (Level 2) and **21,029** level 1 registration* individuals. The total is **224,987**.

Age and Gender Breakdown

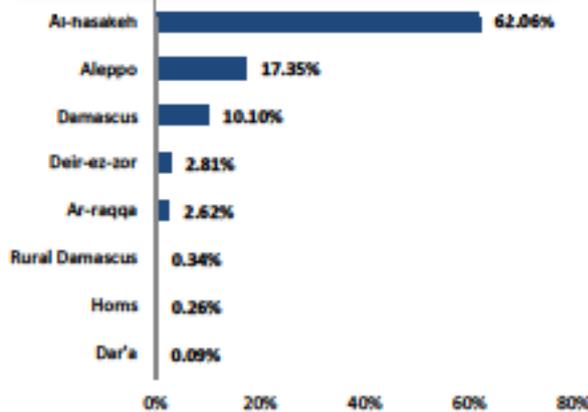


% Women and Children % of Adults

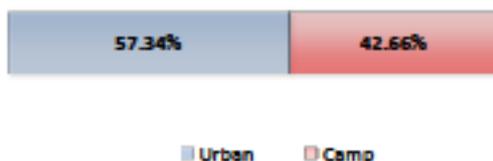
* Level 1 registration is progressively replaced by level 2 registration



Place of Origin



Camp and non-camp population comparison



Governorate	Individuals	Households	% Total
Duhok	109,759	37,642	48.78%
Erbil	83,651	30,749	37.18%
Sulaymaniyah	24,677	10,270	10.97%
Anbar	4,915	1,235	2.18%
Mosul	685	210	0.30%
Kirkuk	404	131	0.18%
Other	896	358	0.40%
Total Iraq	224,987	80,595	100%

Camps Population			
Camp	Individuals	Households	% Total
Domiz Camp	58,500	10,000	60.94%
Al-Obaidi Camp	1,781	385	1.86%
Kawergosk Camp	13,339	3,662	13.90%
Darashakran Camp	7,500	1,800	7.81%
Qushtapa Camp	4,541	1,012	4.73%
Basima Camp	3,180	762	3.31%
Arbat Camp	3,000	853	3.13%
Akra Camp	1,423	350	1.48%
Gawilan Camp	2,726	723	2.84%
Total	95,990	19,547	100%

1. Highlights

- Kristalina Georgieva, the EU Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, visited northern Iraq during the reporting period. She met with Kurdistan Regional Government authorities, UNHCR, ACTED, NRC and other EU humanitarian partners as well as Syrian refugee families. During her visit, the ECHO Commissioner visited the Peshkabout border. She also visited Domiz camp and subsequently also travelled to Erbil to meet with Syrian refugees living in non-camp locations.
- International Women's Day was celebrated in camps and non-camp locations across Iraq.
- On 3 March, some 918 Syrian nationals crossed the Peshkabout border into northern Iraq.
- Derike Secondary School, the first secondary school in Domiz was officially opened. The school was built by the International Rescue Committee and UNESCO, and is run by UNESCO in collaboration with UNHCR and the Department of Education.
- UNHCR met with the General Director of the KR-I Residency Department to discuss issues related to the issuance of residency permits to UNHCR's persons of concern, as well as problems surrounding the re-admission of refugees and asylum seekers who are / were in possession of valid residency permits
- The Biometrics System for registration will be rolled out in northern Iraq in April.

3. Border update

Al Qa'im

The border remains closed since 29 March 2013. Syrians with valid visa are still allowed to cross the border toward Iraq after they obtain prior approval from Iraqi authorities. More medical cases of Syrians are received at the clinic of Border. Patients return back to Syria the same day after receiving the appropriate treatment.

Peshkabout and Sehela

The Syrian border with northern Iraq at Peshkabout remained open throughout the reporting period, except for 5 March on account of it being an official holiday in the Kurdistan region. On 3 March, some 918 individuals were admitted into the region. Originally from conflict areas inside Syria, these individuals had fled their homes earlier and had been waiting for some time on the Syrian side of the border with the intention to crossing into northern Iraq to seek asylum.

UNHCR undertook missions to the Transit Center at the border to provide technical support to the registration, mass information and medical team on identification and assistance to vulnerable families and individuals. UNHCR teams had discussions with the other teams operating at the transit center on the importance of consistent messaging on services available and the need for systematic identification of vulnerable families and individuals as well as providing targeted services.

4. Response by sector and location

✓ Reception, Registration and Protection

Al Qa'im

More than 6,500 Syrian refugees have voluntarily returned to their country of origin from Al-Qa'im so far. Main reasons behind return include improvement in security situation, limitations in freedom of movement, lack of income and health care facilities etc.

Meanwhile UNHCR renewed six asylum seeker certificates during this reporting period



Voluntary return in Al Obaidy @ UNHCR/Omer

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

Kurdistan Region

UNHCR met with the General Director of the KR-I Residency Department, in which a number of key issues were discussed including mapping the way forward to review previously expressed concerns and inconsistencies in practice regarding issuance of residency permits to UNHCR persons of concern, as well as problems surrounding the re-admission of refugees and asylum seekers who are / were in possession of valid residency permits

On 5 March the American University in Suleimaniyah organized a forum on "Navigating Challenges in the Middle East" under the auspices of the Institute of Regional and International Studies (IRIS). Topics included Iraqi oil policy, Realities of Investing in Iraq and the future of ethnic/sectarian conflicts in the Middle East were discussed by international scholars and local politicians. It was a two days forum and high profile people attended it such as the Prime Minister and former Prime Minister of Kurdistan, the son of the Iraqi president, the Turkish foreign minister, the Iraqi minister of higher education, Iraqi MPs, Iraqi foreign minister, American, Turkish and Iranian scholars, American officials such as Zalmay Khaleel Zad and Brett McGurk. UNHCR also attended the event on the afternoon of 5 March.

Registration: By mid-March the capacity and infrastructure is expected to be in place so that all remaining individuals registered in Level 1 are progressively being registered in accordance with Level 2 standards. The process is expected to be completed within one month. Following the completion of this exercise, Level 1 registration will be fully decommissioned and capacity will be maintained so that Level 2 registration will be exclusively used, even in the event of another mass influx

At end of February, a web-based consolidated Intranet database became operational at each registration centre which includes basic bio data from all proGres instances and all records of Level 1 data. This allows for records to be searched and to prevent double registration. Data cleaning exercises are also on-going at each registration centre.

In addition, biometrics system is expected to be rolled out in northern Iraq next month, which will be conducted in parallel with a planned verification exercise. UNHCR is in the process of putting place the necessary equipment and support services, as well as preparing an SOP that would spell out methodology for the exercise.

Spontaneous & verified returns

During the reporting period; 504 cases of 916 Syrians registered with UNHCR in KR-I have returned to Syria bringing the total number returned since the start of 2014 to 2,182 cases / 3,736 individuals. Since January last year, more than 25,000 Syrian nationals registered with UNHCR have returned to their country of origin.

Camps

Domiz Camp: The residency office issued a total of 1,076 new residency permits and renewed 4,226 residency permits.

During the reporting period, 182 protection interviews were conducted with refugees. Meanwhile challenges faced by families residing with other families in Domiz continue. Some families who are considered guests are not considered for assistance and distribution by different organizations.

Gawilan Camp: DMC conducted a census during the reporting period. Meanwhile UNHCR conducted 27 protection interviews on matters including child protection, birth and marriage registration, security, and SGBV.

About 150 residents of Gawilan demonstrated at the entrance of the camp demanding residency permits. The demonstration was peaceful and lasted about 90 minutes on Sunday, 9 March.

In addition, newly married couples residing in Gawilan camp now have access to legal marriage documentation. DMC negotiated an intermediary process (until they receive residency permits) where Barderash courts will issue marriage certificates to Gawilan residents if they bring verification letters from Asayish to the court.

Transit sites

Arbat Transit Site: 43 cases comprising 152 individuals were newly registered in Arbat Transit Camp during the reporting period, while 179 cases comprising 282 individuals were registered at CDO (level 2).

Given the fluid nature of the caseload in Arbat Transit Camp, the number of in-camp residents keeps changing. The number of those registered at the registration centre in the transit camp is therefore not the same as the actual numbers residing in the camp. UNHCR is in the process of finalizing the tent to tent survey for population fixing.

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

Mostly issues such as lack of electricity and related to water and sanitation are being addressed on a day to day basis.

Another fire incident occurred in Arbat Transit Camp and again for the same reasons, i.e. too many electrical appliances used on a single wire. This time however there were no casualties but the tent and belongings burnt completely.

✓ Shelter/Infrastructure

Al Obaidy

As part of UNHCR livelihood projects, the bakeries continue producing traditional bread to the refugees in Al Obaidy Camp.



Bakeries @ ISHO/Laith

Kurdistan Region

Camps

Domiz Camp: During the reporting period, UNHCR assessed 21 cases that were affected by heavy rains, and found that 13 of them needed NFI assistance and referred all 21 cases to DMC for provision of other items such as carpets.

UNHCR made available three large tents with the capacity to accommodate 72 persons to be used as temporary shelter for those needing shelter during the rain.

DMC has installed 12 monitoring towers around the camp that were funded by MOMD as part of security improvement measures.



Monitoring tower in Domiz @ UNHCR/ S.Gamah)

Gawilan Camp: During the reporting period, the construction of 500 plots through the MOMD has continued.

The construction of internal roads in permanent site, a 13 km stretch with sub base, is ongoing. Up to 90% of the work is complete.

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

Transit sites

Arbat Transit Site: 25 new tents were erected in the transit camp during the reporting period for newly arriving families. 10 latrines and 9 showers were also installed.

As the number of new families joining the camp is increasing, with limited expansion area and WASH facilities, UNHCR is prioritising families who are directly arriving to the Suleimaniyah Governorate and in are urgent need of shelter. It is possible that some refugee living outside camps are registering in the camp in anticipation of the upcoming relocation of the transit camp population to the permanent camp. As a result, facilities and available expansion of land in the transit camp are being stretched.

61 newly erected tents in the camp were connected with electricity and were provided with cables and switch boards. The new expansion Section Q of the camp needs to be linked up with electricity. UNHCR is following up with the electricity department.



Internal roads in Gawilan @ UNHCR/ B.Amin)

✓ **Child Protection**

Al Obaidy

A psychologist conducted a survey for all children attending the CFS to assess their psychosocial condition in the camp. Activities like chess, drawing, snakes and ladders, and puzzles continue in the CFS.

In addition, on 13 March, UNHCR in collaboration with partners IRC and AFKAR celebrated Women's Day in the CFS.

Kurdistan Region

Camps

Basirma Camp: Partner monitoring (mainly through semi-structured focus group discussions) in Basirma identified a number of child protection concerns:

- The ease with which children (individuals up to 18) are able to go out of camp alone, with the permission of the security guards; it is believed children mainly go out looking for jobs and to sell goods available (including those received during distributions). Since scarce job opportunities are actually available, however, interviews highlight that men and women living in the camp are afraid that children can get involved in illegal or exploitative activities.
- Some concerns regarding the state of and use by children of existing recreational activities run by camp residents.
- High rates of drop-outs from schools. Reasons identified include lack of family support / prioritization of education, in particular for girls; poor student / teacher relations; challenges faced by children with disabilities.

Domiz Camp: BIA/BID interviews were conducted for 9 unaccompanied and separate children during the reporting period. The five Child Friendly Spaces continue to provide services to an average number of 3000 children and youth per week.

Gawilan Camp: While UNICEF activities for children are ongoing in both Gawilan camp and Akre temporary sites, there remains a need to further improve the quality and variety of services.

Transit Sites

Akre: UNHCR protection interviews with families of over 45 working children, which was the initially estimated number of working children living in Akre Settlement. UNHCR has learned that there are more families with working children, and

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

will continue to follow up with them. In the meantime, the team will draft a summary report and refer to Community Services and Programme recommending a multi-sectoral intervention.

✓ **Water and Sanitation**

AI Obaidy

In collaboration with DoH, UNICEF through its partner Afkar maintained the camp water network and tested the water distributed to the camp.

CRI kits distribution to IDPs in AI Qaim @UNHCR/Omar



Kurdistan Region

Camps

Domiz Camp: During the reporting period, FRC and Qandil continued their dislodging activities in most parts of the camp. Also, FRC continued its assessment of the sanitary situation in Transit 3 and 4. A first draft of the WASH baseline for all camps and non-camp became available where most of the people reached by the questionnaire have listed sanitation as their most serious concern. The heavy rains have again affected the sanitary infrastructure in parts of the camp with deep erosion around grey water cesspools and some septic tanks.

Gawilan Camp: PU-AMI continued cleaning and maintenance of communal toilets and showers along with other activities such as hygiene promotion and hand washing promotion, garbage collection, drainage channel construction (25m) and water quality testing. PWJ is set to rectify the connections between the septic tanks and the cesspools which will take one week to complete.

Transit Sites

Akre: UNHCR and FRC conducted a joint visit to check on the WASH needs concluding that except for care and maintenance, all WASH needs will be covered by the new DMC/UNHCR sub-agreement.

✓ **Core Relief Items**

AI Obaidy

On 2 March, UNHCR in collaboration with ISHO started the March distribution of complementary food assistance (\$15) to the camp refugees. The distribution was completed on 9 March with some 1,770 beneficiaries covered. On 5 March, UNHCR distributed soap bars and shampoo bottles to the same number of refugees in the camp.

On 4 March, as part of UNHCR initiative to relieve IDPs from Ramadi and Fallujah, 40 new light weight tents were sent from AI Obaidy Camp to Heet and installed there for these IDPs. As well as, UNHCR distributed two CRI kits to two new families from Fallujah in AI-Obaidy District.



Complementary food assistance distribution@UNHCR/Omar



Kerosene, soap, and shampoo distribution@UNHCR/Haitham

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

On 6 March, UNHCR in collaboration with ISHO started the distribution of kerosene for camp refugees for the month of March. The process was completed on 11 March with some 378 families covered.



Kerosene Distribution to camp refugees in Al Qaim@UNHCR/Haitham

Kurdistan Region

Camps

Transit Sites

Arbat Transit Site: During the reporting period, YAO distributed CRIs to 26 new families (101 persons) in Arbat Transit Site and to 18 individuals who joined family members in the camp.

Bajid Kandela: During the reporting period, UNHCR through DMC distributed 300 babe diaper packages to the new arrivals for their infants.

✓ Food

Al Obaidy

On 3 March, WFP through its partner IRW started the distribution of food parcels to the camp refugees and completed the activity on 12 March. Total beneficiaries were 1774 individuals.



Food Parcels distribution in Al Qaim@ WFP/Monkith

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

✓ Mass Information

In view of developing a mass information strategy for KR-I, field visits, meetings with partners, and focus group and random interviews with 82 refugees (46 men and 36 women) were organized in Basirma, Darashakran, Kawergosk, Qushtapa and Erbil (Kasznasn and PARC) to gain an insight on how refugees access information and what are their views on suitable mass information channels and products.

Camps

Key findings show that refugees have basic knowledge of the organizations workings in the camps, their mandate and available services. Most refugees in the four camps recognize the role of ACTED and DRC in camp management and distribution of distributions of humanitarian assistance (food, kerosene), but thought information is not always accurate and timely. According to the refugees, a number of distributions carried out by local organizations like the Barzani Foundation, are not announced and fail to reach out to the entire refugee population. It appears that such distributions take place with no coordination with camp managers.

The refugee community seems to appreciate the face-to-face communication through the community mobilizers and the mass information teams. However, the latter seem to lack the knowledge to provide satisfactory feedback on matters beyond the scope/mandate of their organization/activity.

Amongst the most preferred sources of information, refugees listed community meetings, SMS and printed materials. The information that matters the most to the refugees includes a) alerts on distributions, events and available services, b) updates on residency issues, and c) job vacancies.

✓ Health

Al Obaidy

DoH/AI Qa'im in collaboration with PHC conducted Polio vaccinations campaign in Al Obaidy Camp On 3-6 March, Some 399 cases were covered. The United Iraqi Medical Society started the green initiative in the camp's PHC.

On 15 March, DoH in collaboration with PHC conducted a vaccination campaign in the camp and covered 31 cases. PHC is preparing for Children Health Workshop, which is planned to be in the camp from 23-25 March.



PHC activities in Al Qai'm @ UIMS/Mahmood



UIMS Green Initiative @ UIMS/Mahmood



Kurdistan Region

Camps

Qushtapa camp: UPP started implementing health support in Qushtapa camps from the beginning of March. The UPP team consists of social workers and a community psychiatrist coming every Monday from 9am until 2pm. Regarding the referral mechanism, all physical and other health cases need to refer to PHC, and all mental and psychosocial problem needs to be referred to UPP.

According to Health Centre report around 160-180 patients visit the centre every day. Every Sunday and Wednesday the doctors will present from 9 until 2 pm for referrals

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

Domiz Camp: During the reporting period, the health centre provided primary health consultation and services to over 4,000 individuals.

Gawilan Camp: The health centre continued to receive patients on daily basis, but only primary and basic medicines available; the vaccination campaign by Bardarash DoH is ongoing.

An updated list of individuals with chronic and serious medical conditions has been shared by PU-AMI. Currently, more than 25 individuals with little to no medical services available to them reside in Gawilan camp

Transit sites

Arbat Transit Site: A number of issues relating to the improvement of the health care delivery in the transit camp were discussed and agreed in the Health Sector meeting. Pertinent matters include problems realised by the refugees regarding language barriers with the Syrian doctors and staff; unavailability of permanent doctors and staff as medical staff are seconded on a rotational basis from various health centres; interfering in health service delivery by different agencies without authorization, issues relating to lack of adherence to DoH standards in record keeping such as registration of patients with chronic diseases and issuing them special booklets DoH undertook to look into these days and find a solution.

It was also agreed that the next meeting will take place in the camp and that refugee representatives will be invited to share and exchange information.

Akre: The health centre continued to receive patients on daily basis, but only primary and basic medicines available.

✓ Education

Al Obaidy

On 5 March, UNICEF through its partner Afkar celebrated the Teacher Day in Al Obaidy Camp School. During the celebration, students who got the highest grades in the mid-year examinations were rewarded. Upon instructions of DoE/Al Qa'im, camp school will open for students from Saturday to Thursday.

On 15 March, a meeting attended by UNHCR, DoE/Al Qa'im director, Afkar, UNICEF, community leaders, students' parents, and school staff was held in the camp school and all issues related to students and teachers had been discussed.



Teacher Day Celebration in Al Obaidy @ UNICEF/Noaf

Kurdistan Region

Camps

Domiz Camp: Derike Secondary School, the first secondary school in Domiz was officially opened. The school was built by the International Rescue Committee and UNESCO, and is run by UNESCO in collaboration with UNHCR and the Department of Education. Guests from relevant government departments and representatives of the humanitarian organizations attended the opening ceremony on 3 March.

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

Transit Sites

Arbat Transit Site: The enrolment of students in Amooda School in the beginning of March was 370. By mid-March, this number increased to 394 (199 male and 195 female). Due to overcrowded classes, UNICEF is erecting additional tents to accommodate new students.

✓ SGBV

Al Obaidy

Through the Women Listening Centre four cases were identified and three of them received psychological and legal support.

Kurdistan Region

NRC conducted a training on gender and SGBV for 120 camp-based Asayish officers in the Erbil Governorate during the reporting period. Four sessions with some 30 participants each were held. UNHCR protection staff opened each session with a presentation on the international protection of refugees.

Camps

Domiz Camp: Following a report about prevalence of sexual harassment in the reception center in Domiz camp, the Community Services team undertook a visit and discussions with residents. No concrete incidents were reported during the visit or the discussion. However, the team will continue to closely follow up and monitor the situation while at the same time continue to intensify awareness raising efforts.

Similarly, the team had a meeting with community representatives to discuss reports regarding increasing number of divorces in the camp. It was indicated during the meeting that the prevalence of divorce is indeed on the rise due to the socio-economic situation faced by the refugees in the camp. It was further reported that some men leave the camp for work, sometimes for extended periods of time.

Gawilan Camp: Follow up of four SGBV cases previously identified is ongoing.

✓ Community services

Al Obaidy

Up to 35 participants (15 female and 20 male) have participated in a computer course. Knitting and embroidery activities for girls in the camp have been arranged. The goal is to build and develop both the capacity and skills of girls. Each activity is arranged for 10 girls as a step to sew clothes for children. Football is on-going in the YFS.



CFS and YFS activities in Al Obaidy @ UNICEF/Edrees

Woman's Day Celebrations @ UNHCR/Nameer

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

On 4 March, in collaboration with UNHCR, Nabad Al-Hayat LNGO funded by Kuwaiti NGO, Al-Bunian campaign for relieving the Syrian refugees, distributed food parcels to the camp refugees.



Food Parcels distribution by LNGO in Al Obaidy @ UNHCR/Haitha

Kurdistan Region

Camps

Darashakran/ Kawergosk/ Qushtapa/ Basirma - International women's day was celebrated in all four refugee camps in Erbil. Activities organized for the occasion in each camp included exhibition of paintings, singings, poems etc.

Domiz Camp: International Women's Day was commemorated in Domiz camp in collaboration with Harikar and UNFPA, DMC DtVAW and more than 100 women members of the refugee community. In addition to discussions and messages regarding the event, women presented their arts and products from different income generation activities. The event was held at the Sardam Youth Center run by UNFPA.

A total of 218 families with different forms of vulnerabilities were identified and assisted during the reported week. The types of vulnerable individuals/families identified included chronic/acute medical cases, mental health and psychosocial cases, separated and unaccompanied minors, elderly refugees and pregnant minor.

Gawilan Camp: UNHCR identified nine vulnerable individuals during the reporting period. Assessments have been made for recommendation and provision of suitable assistance.

A meeting with ACF was held to discuss gaps in psychosocial services in Gawilan camp and to identify potential areas for intervention for ACF. It was agreed that ACF need to focus on household level awareness raising, identification, referral and group counselling techniques to address domestic violence, child protection and other vulnerabilities.

Transit sites

Arbat Transit Site: On International Women's day, students of the American University distributed flowers among the refugee women in recognition of their struggle to defend their rights and to survive.

Also the American University with the assistance of IRC conducted a seminar for the women in the camp. Issues such as women rights, the history of the International Women Day, and promotion of education were highlighted.

Akra: During the reporting period, four families with different forms of vulnerabilities were identified and recommended for cash assistance to alleviate their immediate needs. However, since there are no cash assistance programs at the moment, the matter is under discussion to explore options for the implementation of the recommended assistance. In addition, CS staff conducted 9 interviews with children who work (Child Laborer Case); a full report will be forwarded to the protection team.

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

✓ Psychosocial Services

Qushtapa Camp: The Camp volunteer organization Zhin, stated that they started health support recently in Qushtapa Camp. From their survey, Zhin found there were around 35 psychosocial cases needing medications. Also they declared that there were some special emergency cases need urgent support.

PWJ/WHO/DoH/ finished school health activities for Grade 1 to 9, by doing screening check for 840 individuals.

Gawilan Camp: During the reporting period, UNHCR held a meeting with ACF project manager to discuss gaps in psychosocial services in the camp and to identify potential areas for intervention for ACP.

Accordingly, it was agreed that ACF would need to focus at the household level awareness raising, identification, referral and group counselling techniques to address issues surrounding domestic violence, child protection and other forms of vulnerabilities. In addition, it was agreed that ACF need to consider engaging boys and men in the prevention and response to violence, harassment and abuse.

UPP continues to carry out mass information inside the camp for identifying people who need psychotherapy.

Discussions are also underway to formalize and enhance the referral pathway for psychosocial and protection assistance.

✓ Livelihoods

Camps

Domiz Camp: During the reporting period, ten individuals with professional and educational qualifications were identified and documented for potential employment opportunities.

Qushtapa Camp: DRC is carrying out business development trainings going on at the youth centre in Qushtapa town. So far one training has been completed with the participation of 27 individuals. The second training is ongoing and will be completed on 13 March. Some 25 individuals are participating in it.

Two more trainings, starting 24 March, are on the cards. The list of training participants was shared with Camp management for criteria checks and endorsement from both sides. DRC will also receive an updated list of vulnerable households from the mayor's office.

Gawilan Camp: The Community Services/Protection team established a 'job seekers' database similar to the one maintained by the team in Domiz Camp. During the reporting period, 14 individuals with different professional and educational qualifications were identified and documented

Transit sites

Arbat Transit Site: Two tailoring/sewing training courses are taking place in Arbat Transit Camp; one funded by IRC and the other by Samaritan's Purse International. The latter is an income generating activity for the refugee women as they are provided material to tailor clothes and sell them in the market.

5. Non-camp assistance

✓ Reception, Registration and Protection

In Dohuk, UNHCR through PARC engaged in advocacy related to two detention cases of Syrian adolescents detained in the juvenile centre, who were also registered and granted UNHCR certificates during the reporting period.

✓ Mass Information

UNHCR's field visits, meetings, and focus group and random interviews, in an effort to develop a mass information strategy for KR-I, has shown that Syrian refugees living in Erbil proved to have poor information regarding services available in town. Their main source of information is the PARC or friends and family members who are in touch with the PARC.

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

What matters most to them is information regarding residency issues and services/activities provided to support Syrian refugees in urban settings. Updates on formal education opportunities primary, secondary and higher education is of utmost importance. Amongst the most preferred sources of information, refugees in Erbil cited telephone, SMS, TV (Rudaw TV, around the time of the evening news program) and the Internet (Facebook).

Focus groups will be also held in Suleimaniyah and Dohuk in the coming weeks.

✓ *Child Protection*

Erbil

In the framework of durable solutions, a BIA and BID was conducted for a separated child living in non camp settings. A panel for the BID is scheduled to be organized in order to finalize the BID.

Suleimaniyah

A Syrian minor (13 years old) detained for lack of an identity document in the juvenile detention centre of Suleimaniyah, was released through UNHCR's efforts and re-unified with his parents in Bazian district.

Dohuk

UNHCR attended and took part in Save the Children awareness campaign event in Fayda on 'How Humanitarian crisis impacts children's psychosocial wellbeing and protective environment, and how communities and parents can play a role in guaranteeing protection and well-being'. UNHCR presented a video on the importance of child birth registration and distributed leaflets on the issue. A number of families attending needed specific assistance and UNHCR with PARC protection assessed the needs of these families and is currently following up their cases (approximately 10 families with a few with children with disability or special needs).

✓ *Education*

A meeting was held with the British Council to discuss issues surrounding education for Syrian refugees, including higher education, and explore potential areas of co-operation.

✓ *SGBV*

Erbil

Follow-up was undertaken on an SGBV cases involving a minor. The family has expressed the need for a financial assistance while durable solutions options are being pursued.

Dohuk

UNHCR continued to follow-up on three SGBV cases, including two identified during the reporting period.

✓ *Community services/livelihoods*

Erbil

International Women's Day celebrations were held on 9 March in Sami Abdurahman Park with several activities organized to mark the occasion.

One individual case has been followed up and a Medical Assessment Form (MAF) will be filled for the case.

Suleimaniyah

The livelihood projects of Mercy Corps, Samaritan, REACH and YAO are still in the designing phase. In the first coordination meeting, it was agreed to establish a community centre in Bazian for providing livelihood trainings, language classes, linking job providers with job seekers and training the applicants on CV writing.

Syrian Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

An orientation session on Community Services was given by the Erbil CS Officer. Participants were from CDO and UNHCR.

As part of International Women's Day Commemoration activity, UNHCR organized and participated in a sapling activity whereby women from among the Syrian and Iranian refugees planted saplings in the new Arbat camp and Barika settlements as a symbol of peace.

Dohuk

UNHCR referred a number of urban refugees to DRC's livelihoods program to be assessed for the potential of becoming a beneficiary for DRC's small business development support

6. Security

Al Qa'im

Although one incident took place during this reporting period, the security situation remained stable in Al Qa'im.

Kurdistan Region

The security situation remains stable.

7. Coordination

Al Qa'im

On 2 March, an inter-agency mission took place in Al Qa'im to meet with IDPs from Fallujah and Ramadi residing in public buildings in Al Obaidy District to assess their living condition and needs. The mission also held a meeting with Al Qa'im local authorities and LNGOs in the UNHCR venue to discuss all the issues related to the IDPs.

On 10 March, the 28th Brigade commander and commander of the force guarding the camp visited Al Obaidy camp and met with UNHCR to discuss all the issues related to refugees and the camp security.



Inter-agency mission to Al Qaim

@ UNHCR/Raad

Kurdistan Region

Kristalina Georgieva, the EU Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, visited northern Iraq during the reporting period. She met with Kurdistan Regional Government authorities, UNHCR and other EU humanitarian partners as well as Syrian refugee families. During her visit, the ECHO Commissioner visited the Peshkabout, the border crossing point through which Syrian refugees continue to enter the Kurdistan region of Iraq. She also visited Domiz camp and subsequently also travelled to Erbil to meet with Syrian refugees living in non-camp locations.

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UNICEF facilitated a visit of a high level delegation from the Government of Italy to northern Iraq on 3 and 4 March. The delegation consisted of the Head of the Emergency Assistance Department of the Italian Development Cooperation Counselor Mario Baldi and the Coordinator of Emergency Thematic Area of the Central Technical Unit of the Italian Development Cooperation Marco Falcone. The objective of the mission was primarily to visit UNICEF project sites funded by the Italian Government in the Kurdistan region. The delegation also met with UNHCR and WFP to discuss the overall situation in northern Iraq as well as any gaps in the response of the humanitarian community

This week also saw the visit of a US delegation to northern Iraq. The delegation consisted of the senior refugee coordination for Iraq, PRM's Office of Policy, Resources, and Planning along with other officials attached to the US Embassy in Baghdad. The delegation travelled to Dohuk Governorate, where they visited the Domiz Camp and met with Syrian refugee families. In the Erbil Governorate, the US delegation visited the PARC as well as QIPs locations and other non-camp assistance programs.

For information related to the Regional Response Plan (RRP6) please click on <http://www.unhcr.org/syriarrp6/>

Announcements of all sector meetings along with respective agendas and minutes, and other information reporting sector-wide progress such as 3Ws, dashboards and camp profiles, are available on the inter-agency information sharing portal on the Syrian refugee response at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

9. Acronyms and abbreviations

AFS	Adolescent Friendly Space
CFS	Child Friendly Space
CRI	Core Relief Items (formerly known as non-food items/ NFIs)
DDM	Department of Displacement and Migration
DMC	Development and Modification Centre
DoE	Department of Education
DoH	Department of Health
HOFO	Head of Field Office
HOSO	Head of Sub Office
ISF	Iraqi Security Forces
KR	Kurdistan Region of Iraq (or KRI)
MOMD	Ministry of Migration and Displacement
PARC	Protection Assistance Reintegration Centre
PHC	Primary Health Centre
QIPs	Quick impact projects
YFS	Youth Friendly Space

Syrian Refugees Camps / Sites in Iraq

As of 28 February 2014

Total Number of Registered Syrian Refugees in Iraq is 225,548

