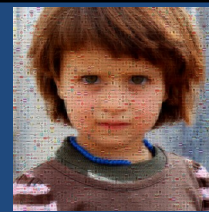


INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

10 - 16 May 2014



This situation update is prepared by UNHCR Office of the Director, Middle East and North Africa Bureau. It provides a snapshot of the inter-agency regional humanitarian response in full coordination with host Governments and 157 partners across the region.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced on 13 May that he has regretfully accepted the resignation of Lakhdar Brahimi, the Joint United Nations-League of Arab States Special Representative on the Syria crisis, who will step down at the end of May. Mr. Brahimi presided over two rounds of peace talks between the Assad government and opposition representatives in Geneva in January and February 2014.
- WFP is facing a serious funding shortfall for the coming months. While internal advanced funding mechanisms have so far enabled WFP to limit the effect on programmes in both Syria and the region, there are currently limited prospects of additional contributions coming in to support operations from August onwards.
- At least 17 people drowned after a boat sank in international waters between Libya and the Italian island of Lampedusa on 13 May, adding to the rising death toll from boat accidents in the Mediterranean Sea. UNHCR estimates that more than 170 people, including Syrians, have died at sea trying to reach Europe so far this year, including those who lost their lives off Greece, Libya and Italy and in international waters.

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REGIONAL FIGURES

2.7 million Syrian refugees have fled to neighbouring countries and North Africa

51% of the Syrian refugee population are under 18 years of age

76% funding gap in the 2014 Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP6)

Total number of refugees registered and awaiting registration **2,789,987**

Registered Refugees **2,720,534**

Awaiting Registration with UNHCR **69,453**

TURKEY
743,008
registered.

LEBANON
1,069,723
Registered: 1,015,942
Awaiting reg.: 53,781

IRAQ
223,113
Registered: 207,441
Awaiting reg.: 15,672

EGYPT
137,430
registered.

JORDAN
593,346
registered.

N. AFRICA*
23,367
registered

* Morocco, Algeria and Libya

Sources AFAD, Government of Egypt, Government of Iraq, Government of Jordan, Government of Lebanon, UNHCR Regional Datawarehouse, Common Operational Dataset (COD), UNGIWG, Natural Earth, UNCS

0 25 50 100 150 200 Kilometers

The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Refugee population as of 19 May 2014, based on available data. For updated figures, please visit <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees>

LEBANON: EVICTION A GROWING CONCERN FOR VULNERABLE FAMILIES

- Refugee families residing in informal settlements are facing heightened risk of being evicted by landlords. This is due to an increasing inability to pay rents, increased consumption of water and electricity, and in part growing discontent amongst host communities.
- UNHCR is in discussions with local authorities at the central and local levels to find a sustainable solution to the problem of evictions across the country. Extensive efforts are also being exerted to implement institutional support programmes, which benefit both local and refugee populations.
- Intersos, DRC and UNHCR conducted a vulnerability assessment in two informal settlements in Central Bekaa in light of reports of an impending eviction affecting over 60 families. Agencies have managed to delay evictions and continue to work to relocate the most vulnerable families to different locations, including collective shelters. In Anfeh, north Lebanon, 30 refugee families living in a tented settlement were asked to relocate by the landlord.
- UNHCR and Coopi are currently working to mitigate the situation including through the provision of cash for rent to the most vulnerable families.



A young Syrian refugee walks past shelters in Tripoli's Al Tanak district.
UNHCR | S. Malkawi

EGYPT: ONGOING EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN PROTECTION SPACE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

- New arrivals of Syrians into Egypt have been nominal since the introduction of visa requirements on 8 July 2013 for Syrians to enter the country. There has also been a shift in perceptions and the level of sympathy afforded to the Syrian community following incidents surrounding Egypt's own political unrest.
- Most Syrians in Egypt are scattered in urban neighbourhoods, renting and sharing accommodation, and benefit from access to public education and health care.
- UNHCR continues to advocate and engage with the relevant Egyptian authorities to maintain a favorable protection space and meet the protection needs of Syrian refugees in Egypt.
- Since January 2014, UNHCR Egypt is aware of the arrest of 421 people in Egypt, mostly from Syria, for attempting to irregularly depart the country by sea. Some 116 of these individuals are detained at five police stations in Alexandria and El Beheira Governorates who have been arrested for having attempted irregular departure by sea.
- UNHCR's implementing partners Caritas and Resala have been providing emergency assistance to detainees in the form of food, blankets and medical care.
- Egyptian authorities have been conducting regular releases of groups of people from detention shortly after their arrest. Those released consist mostly of families, children and the elderly and those with immediate relatives in Egypt. Egyptian authorities are reportedly issuing three-month residency permits to Syrians who are being released.
- UNHCR continues to conduct awareness sessions for Syrian refugees and community leaders on the dangers of irregular movements as well as the importance of respecting Egyptian laws and regulations, particularly obtaining the residency permits on UNHCR Asylum Cards. Participants are also briefed on the services that UNHCR provides and how to access them.
- On 6-8 May, UNHCR conducted a three-day workshop in Cairo on international refugee law for 22 Egyptian judges and prosecution assistants in collaboration with the Human Rights Sector of the Egyptian Ministry of Justice. The workshop focused on the need to adopt national legislation for asylum in Egypt. At the end of the workshop, the participants recommended that future Egyptian asylum regulations include clear procedures for adjudicating asylum claims, legal aid, access rights, naturalization, and the role of UNHCR in the census of refugees, facilitation of repatriation and resettlement of refugees to third countries.

WFP: BROADENING REACH OF FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES

- Lebanon - By 24 April, over 697,000 registered Syrian refugees (91 per cent of those targeted under WFP's April distribution cycle) were reached by WFP and its cooperating partners. The majority was reached with e-cards that are directly redeemable in 302 local shops, while newly arrived refugees were assisted with one-of food parcels.
- Jordan – In Azraq camp, ACTED is distributing a one-week welcome in-kind food ration (rice, lentils, bulgur, sugar, oil and salt) and dates for each household, in addition to bread on a daily basis and food vouchers worth 5 JOD per person per week. The second April distribution cycle in Zaatari camp began on 16 April, with plans to reach over 99,000 camp residents. April's paper voucher distributions to refugees in host communities were concluded on 20 April, reaching 331,411 beneficiaries - 97 per cent of registered refugees living outside camps. WFP uploaded e-cards for an additional 113,104 beneficiaries who had already received e-cards as part of the ongoing transition from paper to electronic vouchers, reaching a total of 444,515 beneficiaries with voucher assistance in communities during April.
- Turkey - Following the recent extension of the E-Food Card Programme to two new camps (Ceylanpinar and Midyat) - an additional 23,000 beneficiaries - two more camps (Malatya and Kilis ElBeily), will be included in the programme starting May, increasing the case load by a further 31,000 people.
- Iraq - Food assistance to refugees in camp settings continued in April, reaching almost 107,000 people. WFP is providing food assistance in all ten camps hosting Syrian refugees, including the largest camp, Domiz, where WFP and its partner Islamic Relief Worldwide–Iraq operate a voucher programme. WFP plans to transition to voucher assistance across Syrian refugee camps and is working to build distribution sites and establish retailers in all camps.
- Egypt - Some 108,000 Syrian refugees and 4,000 Palestine refugees from Syria were targeted by WFP during the month of April. While WFP and partners are in the process of moving from geographical to vulnerability targeting, the current programme is being expanded to cover some 6,650 additional beneficiaries - identified by UNHCR and partners - in vulnerable areas across 20 governorates and 20 districts. To ensure beneficiaries are well informed regarding the modalities of the programme, WFP and partners are engaging in intensive messaging and providing additional staff to support beneficiaries at the supermarkets.

JORDAN: HUNDREDS OF NEW ARRIVALS SETTLE IN AZRAQ CAMP EACH DAY

- As of 10 May, Jordan's newly opened Azraq camp is hosting 3,960 Syrian refugees. The new arrivals mainly originated from Dar'a (28 per cent); Aleppo (20.8 per cent); and Homs (14.2 per cent).
- Partners including Care, International Rescue Committee, International Medical Corps and Handicap International are present in the reception area to receive vulnerable cases identified by UNHCR, and to provide appropriate services and follow-up. Upon arrival, families receive a set of core relief items including blankets, mats and mattresses, a bucket and jerry cans, hygiene kits, solar-powered lanterns, a gas stove and kitchen sets.
- Sixteen spaces have been created to provide specific services, including child- and youth-friendly spaces, recreational areas, centres for women and girls, and a mosque. Mercy Corps is conducting outreach to inform camp residents of available activities. The Ministry of Public Works, UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council have finalized more than 5,300 shelters with the capacity to accommodate some 26,500 refugees. UNICEF and its partners have established water supply infrastructure for up to 50,000 people, and sanitation infrastructure is in place for 30,000 people.
- Jordanian authorities manage the camp through the Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate in coordination with UNHCR, and 19 humanitarian organizations are involved in the provision of protection and assistance. Care is working closely with refugees to foster their involvement in camp management, to create a supportive community that contributes to the well-being, safety and dignity of residents.



Refugees arrive from the Syrian border at the Rabaa al-Sarhan registration centre, where they are processed by the Jordanian government and UNHCR. UNHCR | J. Kohler

UNHCR: STRATEGY TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

- UNHCR's [2014-15 Regional Public Health and Nutrition Strategy for Syrian Refugees](#) aims to ensure that Syrian refugees are able to fulfill their rights in accessing primary health care, and essential life-saving secondary and tertiary health services, to reduce mortality and morbidity.
- The strategy outlines ten objectives, including supporting adequate triage, health screening and age-appropriate immunization of new arrivals; supporting access to comprehensive primary health care; decrease morbidity from communicable diseases and outbreaks; supporting childhood survival and expanded programme for immunization; and supporting access to secondary and tertiary healthcare.
- The response is guided by key principles of access and equity, seeking to ensure that Syrian refugees have access to health services at similar or lower costs to that of nationals and to support mechanisms and safety nets for vulnerable refugees so that they can access services equitable. To promote sustainability, UNHCR uses an integrated approach to ensure that public health services for refugees are embedded into the national public health system; and focuses on the use of cost-effective, evidence-based interventions, including the use of essential medicines and rational use of diagnostics.



Feryal, 29, gives water to Zacharia, her four-year-old son, in the apartment they live in in Halat, Lebanon. Zacharia has cancer. In Syria, the trip to hospital became too dangerous. By the time they reached Lebanon, the cancer had spread to his brain, she says. UNHCR | L. Addario

The regional response for refugees fleeing Syria is the coordinated effort of 157 participating organizations, including 105 appealing agencies:

ABAAD | [ACTED](#) | ActionAid | [Action contre la faim](#) | Adventist Development and Relief Agency | [Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance](#) | Al Majmoua | [AMAN](#) | AMEL | [Arab Medical Union](#) | Arc en Ciel | [ARDD-Legal Aid](#) | Association de Charité Humanitaire | [Association Justice et Miséricorde](#) | Association of Volunteers in International Service | [BBC Media Action](#) | Beyond Association | [British Council](#) | CARE International | [Caritas](#) | Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre | [Catholic Relief Services](#) | Central Association for Kindergarten Supervisors League | [Centre for Victims of Torture](#) | Civil Development Organization | [Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli](#) | CONCERN | [Cooperazione Internazionale](#) | Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services | [DRC](#) | Family Guidance and Awareness Centre | [FAO](#) | Finn Church Aid | [Finnish Red Cross/Iraqi Red Crescent Society](#) | French Red Cross | [Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura](#) | GIZ | [Global Communities Partners for Good](#) | Gruppo di Volontariato Civile | [Handicap International](#) | Heartland Alliance International | [High Relief Commission](#) | Hilfswerk Austria International | [Human Relief Foundation](#) | Humedica | [ILO](#) | Institution for Family Health/Noor Al Hussein Foundation | [International Alert](#) | International Catholic Migration Commission | [International Children's Continence Society](#) | International Medical Corps | [International Orthodox Christian Charities](#) | International Relief and Development | [International Rescue Committee](#) | Internews | [INTERSOS](#) | IOM | [Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project](#) | Iraqi Youth League | [Islamic Relief Worldwide](#) | JBA | [JEN](#) | Jesuit Refugee Service | [Jordan Health Aid Society](#) | Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization | [Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development](#) | Jordan Red Crescent | [Jordan River Foundation](#) | Jordanian Women's Union | [KAFA](#) | KG | [KnK](#) | KURDS | [Lutheran World Federation](#) | MADA | [Madrasati Initiative](#) | Mines Advisory Group | [Mahmoud Mosque Society](#) | Makassed | [Makhzoumi Foundation](#) | Medair | [Medical Aid for Palestinians](#) | Médecins du Monde | [Mercy Corps](#) | Mercy USA | [Ministry of Public Health](#) | Ministry of Water and Irrigation | [Movement for Peace](#) | Muslim Aid | [NAJMAH](#) | National Centre for Culture and Arts | [NICCOD](#) | NRC | [Operation Mercy](#) | Organization for the Development of Women and Children | [Oxfam](#) | PEOPLE IN NEED | [Plan International](#) | Polish Centre for International Aid | [Psycho Social Training and Services Institute in Cairo](#) | PU-AMI | [Public Aid Organization](#) | QANDIL | [Qatar Red Crescent](#) | Questscope | [Rassemblement Democratique des Femmes du Liban](#) | Relief International | [Refugee Education Trust](#) | Refugee Egypt | [Resala](#) | RESCATE | [RESTART](#) | Royal Health Awareness Society | [Safadi Foundation](#) | SAWA | [SCI KR-I](#) | SCI | [SCJ](#) | Search for Common Ground | [Secours Islamique France](#) | Seraphim GLOBAL | [SHEILD](#) | Solidar Suisse | [Solidarités International](#) | Soins infirmiers et développement communautaire | [St. Andrew's Refugee Education Service](#) | STEP | [TADAMON](#) | Taghyeer | [TDH](#) | TDHI | [THW](#) | TRIANGLE GH | [UAE Red Crescent](#) | UNAMI | [UN Women](#) | UNDP | [UNESCO](#) | UNFPA | [UN-Habitat](#) | UNHCR | [UNICEF](#) | UNOPS | [Un Ponte Per](#) | UNRWA | [WAAJC](#) | War Child UK | [War Child Holland](#) | WARVIN | [WFP](#) | WHO | [World Rehabilitation Fund](#) | World Vision International | [Young Man's Christian Association](#) | Y-PEER

This report is prepared by UNHCR. Humanitarian response partners are invited to contribute to this report. For more information or to be added to the distribution list, please contact [Anna King](#), UNHCR Regional Reporting Officer | kinga@unhcr.org