

IRAQ: RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE - AUGUST 2014

PROTECTION



Out of 215,303 refugees in Iraq:
213,736 are registered and 1,567 are waiting for registration

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS:

The biometric registration system for Syrian refugees has been installed in Duhok and Erbil Governorates. By the end of August, iris records of 8,709 individuals were uploaded to the regional database and individual data verified and updated in ProGres. During the reporting period the back-log of registration cases was further reduced to 1,567 individuals. **The overall number of registered refugees has been reduced as a result of the verification and biometric registration, however, these figures are not final as the verification and biometric registration operation will be completed in February 2015.**

The issuance of the residence permits in Erbil continues, albeit at a slower pace due to reduced capacity of the Residency department. **The linkage between services and the possession of the residency card, compromises refugees' access to education in Erbil.**

The Peshkhabour border remains closed for new arrivals, however, in some individual cases UNHCR has been able to successfully intervene in family reunification cases. UNHCR counseled **2,556 individuals** who were **registered with the Office on spontaneous departure**. Some refugees referred to their fear for a possible spill-over of the conflict in the region as the main reason for their departure.

Monitoring and co-ordination of protection activities in all camps in KR-I continued. The conflict in parts of Iraq affected the refugee community greatly: refugees in Gawilan fled the camp during the events of early August but most have now returned. Al Qaim remains inaccessible.

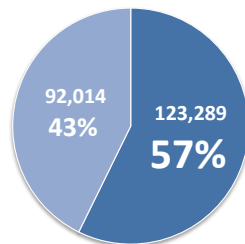
On the job training for staff in Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) management by the Department of Labour and Social Affairs. The CFS's and CPU's (Units) in Akre, Gawilan and Waar city were upgraded in August. Child protection services have been made available to urban refugee children in Erbil where 4 CFS/CPUs have been inaugurated. Two Best Interest Determination (BID) panel meetings were conducted in Duhok (4 cases/11 persons), in 3 cases resettlement was recommended as the only viable durable solution in the best interest of the child.

SGBV Sub-Working Group lead by UNHCR has been intensively working on mainstreaming SGBV issues in Shelter, Camp management, Education, also considering other sectors soon. At the same time SGBV remained a key protection concern, therefore, UNHCR is intensively working on strengthening the coordination in all KR-I, specifically Duhok Governorate. UNHCR conducted three workshops in the three governorates for strengthening the capacity of the SGBV SWG.

The merged refugees status determination and resettlement procedures for the Syrian caseload continued to be implemented and **100 most vulnerable refugees have been submitted for resettlement consideration.**

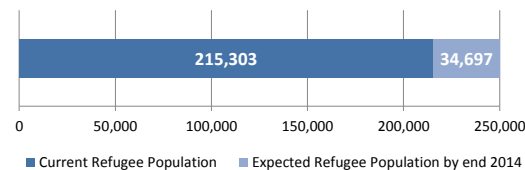
Population :
Camp
vs
Non-Camp

■ Non-Camp ■ Camp



Ivor Prickett

SYRIAN REFUGEE POPULATION IN IRAQ:



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Safeguarding, monitoring and advocacy for asylum and protection space remains a key activity of UNHCR and its partners. The impact on protection space for refugees of the conflict in Iraq and the arrival of large numbers of internally displaced in the Kurdish region resulted in more refugees returning to the camps from urban areas as the cost of living increased. Some refugees decided to return to Syria due to fear of a possible spill-over of the conflict in parts of Iraq. Further, there were delays in the issuance of residency cards reported in Erbil. The delivery of services to refugees has continued even though some resources (especially human resources) were temporarily diverted to respond to the humanitarian crisis in the KR.

Prevention of and ensuring appropriate responses to instances of SGBV remains a priority for the sector. The reporting of instances of SGBV, and a proper analysis of the data, will be facilitated once the GBV IMS system is fully operational in all camps and for the urban population towards the end of the year. Identifying child protection needs and responses for all children at risk in the camp and in urban areas continue to require strengthening. Further safety audits have been implemented in Erbil camps and the recommendations will need to be implemented to mitigate SGBV risks.

Ensuring the equal participation of communities' self-identified male and female refugee representatives in camps and urban areas will strengthen refugees' ability towards self-reliance in protection and assistance, including for the most vulnerable refugees, and facilitates access to information in a timely manner. Clear procedures, referral mechanisms, and human resources are put in place to facilitate the identification of the most vulnerable refugees, including those in need of resettlement as a durable solution.

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS*:

215,303 (3,373 in August) Syrians registered as refugees or awaiting registration with UNHCR

251 (100 in August) Syrian refugees submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission to third countries

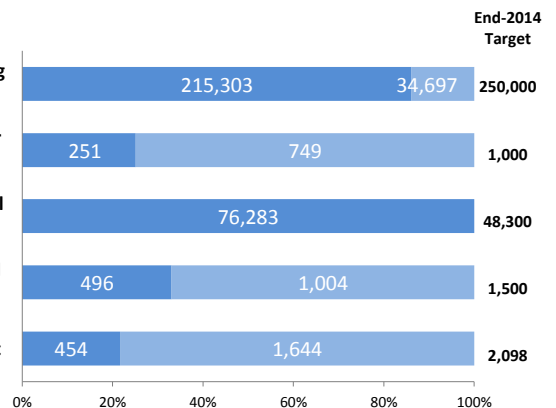
76,283 (9,905 in August) children with access to psychosocial services (Through child and youth friendly spaces only)

496 (58 in August) child protection cases receiving specialized support

454 (37 in August) SGBV cases receiving specialized support

*Due to situation in Al-Qaim, the data collection pertaining the indicators could not take place.

Targets based on expected population of 250,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq by end-2014. There are currently 215,303 Syrian refugees in Iraq.



Leading Agencies: UNHCR Jacqueline Parlevliet, parlevli@unhcr.org. Co-leading agency: Save the Children.

Participating Agencies: Ministry of Interior (MoI)-Iraq/Permanent Committee (PC), Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MODM)-Iraq, Ministry of Interior (MoI)-KRI, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNAMI Human Rights, IOM, ACF, ACTED, ACTED-REACH, CDO, DRC, Handicap International, Harikar, Heartland Alliance, InterSOS, IRC, Kurdistan Save the Children, KURDS, MAG, Mercy Corps, Mine Advisory Group, NRC, PAO, STEP, Triangle, UPP, War Child UK, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.