

IRAQ

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE - SYRIA

16-31 October 2014

KEY FIGURES

During reporting period:

883

Individuals completed the biometric registration at the UNHCR Registration Centres in camps in Erbil

106

Cases of unaccompanied/separated minors arriving from Kobani identified in Duhok

1,214

Residency documents were issued for Syrian refugees in Erbil governorate

14,000+

Syrian new arrivals from Kobani in the KR-I (6,608 during the reporting period)

FUNDING

USD 474, 040, 412

Requested by agencies for the Iraq response through the RRP6

32%

Funded (USD 151,637,253) for 2014 (RRP6).

PRIORITIES

Winterization of camps: distribution of winter kits (shelter and supplementary personal items)
Assistance to new arrivals fleeing Kobani

POPULATION OF CONCERN

223,923 Syrian refugees

HIGHLIGHTS

Syrian arrivals from Kobani

- A total of 6,608 Syrians from Kobani town who fled to Turkey have moved onward and reached the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) through Ibrahim Khalil Border crossing point during the reporting period, bringing the total number who have arrived in the KR-I since 25 September to 14,552 individuals, of whom 40% have stayed in Duhok, 50% have moved to Erbil and 10% have moved to Sulaymaniah.

Winter preparedness

- Winterization distributions started in the three governorates:
- 481 family winter kits (comprising five blankets, one plastic sheet and one water jerry can) were distributed in camps in Duhok governorate. A kerosene jerry can and a kerosene heater will be distributed to families in the second phase, which began 1 November.
- In Erbil governorate, Phase One has been completed for both, camp refugees and IDPs covering 2,170 refugee families. The winter relief items included quilts/blankets, plastic sheets and water jerry cans.
- Winterization activities were completed in Al Obaidy Camp (Anbar governorate). Activities included the replacement of family tents and providing the insulation kits as well as distribution of winter kits to the entire camp population including the unregistered refugees.



Replacement of tents and distribution of CRIs in Al Obaidy Camp by ISHO. ISHO/Kamil

- UNHCR has finalized preparations and launched the participatory assessment exercise in the operational area in Erbil. The participatory assessment is led by the UNHCR Community Services Unit and by Multi-Functional teams (MFT) comprised of UNHCR and partner agency staff. The assessment will support the 2015 detailed planning exercise expected to be completed in November.
- The new academic year started on 22 October across Iraq except in Duhok governorate. In Duhok, the start of the new academic year has been postponed to December 1 due to many schools still being used as housing by IDPs.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

SYRIAN ARRIVALS FROM KOBANI TO THE KR-I: As a result of ongoing fighting in the northern Syrian city of Kobani, 6,608 more Syrian refugees have entered the Kurdistan region of Iraq through the Turkish-Iraqi border checkpoint (Ibrahim Khalil) during the reporting period. As of 31 October, 7,234 refugees have been transported from the Ibrahim Khalil border to existing camps, namely Kawergosk, Basirma, Qushtapa and Darashakran, as well as a temporary accommodation center in Harir.

The reception arrangements were agreed with the Erbil Governor's office prior to the arrival of each group. The capacity of the existing refugee camps is not sufficient to cover shelter needs of new arrivals, thus the new arrivals are initially accommodated in the available buildings in the camps, such as Public Health Centers, mosques, schools, partners' offices, etc. Currently the majority of new arrivals prefer to arrange their own accommodation in urban areas rather than remain in the camps. Many are moving in with family already in the KR-I.

UNHCR has installed a large shaded area at the Ibrahim Khalil border where new-arrivals are provided assistance and counseling prior to boarding IOM buses which transport them to existing refugee camps.

- As a result of the budget crisis and the conflict with ISIS-led armed groups, kerosene and gas prices have increased significantly for the local population in KR-I, there is a shortage of kerosene in the market.
- Approximately 150 Peshmerga were sent to Kobani through Turkey to support the Kurdish fighting presence there, which is actively engaged with ISIS-led armed groups.
- Negotiations continue between the central Government and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq Government (KRG) but as of yet no agreement has been reached on the outstanding budget issue, nor on the disputed areas. National media are reporting that a high delegation from KRG will visit Baghdad soon to discuss these outstanding issues, as well as the provision of arms to Kurdish (Peshmerga) forces in order to strengthen their capacity to fight the armed groups.
- Negotiations continue between political parties in Baghdad over how to engage Sunni factions in the fight against ISIS-led armed groups.
- Small but significant military gains by the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) were reported, including Kurdish security forces recapturing the entire sub district of Zummar, and ISF capturing Jurf Al Sakhr in Babil. ISIS-led armed groups continue to consolidate their hold on Anbar, while Salah-ad-Din currently remains a military stalemate.
- The governorates of Anbar, Salah-ad-Din, and Ninewa remain inaccessible for humanitarian access.

Achievements



Protection

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- Following the advocacy by UNHCR, the Asayish (KRG intelligence and security) has started to legalize the stay of Syrians who have crossed to KR-I via Peshkabour border but who have stayed unregistered till now. UNHCR is identifying cases and is referring them to the Domiz Registration Centre to pursue the legalization of their status in KR-I.
- UNHCR is engaged in the identification and prioritization of newly arriving refugees at Ibrahim Khalil border point. A total of 588 vulnerable cases (mostly female headed households, those with serious medical conditions, elderly individuals, pregnant women and unaccompanied and/or separated children) were identified and assisted in the reporting period.
- UNICEF, in co-operation with its implementing partners, provided psychosocial services to a total of 5,653 children in Duhok, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah governorates. In total 480 children (152 girls and 328 boys) received specialized services from frontline workers. Cases referred included children with psychosocial disorders, cases of early marriage, child labor, physical abuse and gender-based violence.
- In Domiz camp, UNHCR registration certificates were renewed for 879 individuals.
- In Gawilan camp, 2,604 individuals from Kobani underwent level 2 registration, bringing the total to 5,001.
- In Dohuk governorate, UNHCR identified 1,892 extremely vulnerable families to be provided with camp winterization assistance.
- UNHCR successfully advocated for immediate assistance with DMC to 10 extremely vulnerable families for replacement of tents that were damaged by heavy rain last month in Domiz camp. Affected families were provided with additional plastic sheets and received new mattresses and blankets.
- The Child Protection Sub-Working Group continued to identify unaccompanied, separated, and vulnerable children arriving into KR-I at the Ibrahim Khalil border. 106 UASC were identified through 30 October, with a total of 128 new Syrian UASCs who have arrived to the KR-I since 14 October (114 boys, 14 girls).
- In Erbil, UNHCR mobilized existing partnerships to ensure timely and effective response to the new arrivals from Kobani, including early identification and assistance to cases with specific needs. Notably, a large part of the newly arrived Kobani population proceeded to leave the camps to live in urban centres within Erbil governorate. Rapid protection assessment of new arrivals from Kobani was conducted by protection teams. The vulnerable cases include female-headed households, unaccompanied/separated children, elderly and persons with medical needs and disabilities, who were referred for assistance to the service providers in the camps.
- At the end of reporting period, a total of 329 cases comprised of 883 individuals completed biometric-based registration (iris scanning) at UNHCR Registration Centres in Kawergosk, Qushtapa, Darashakran and Basirma camps.
- The Residency Departments in Erbil governorate camps issued and renewed 1,016 residency documents.
- During the reporting period, the Multi-Functional team (MFT) launched the first stage of a participatory assessment exercise in Kawergosk refugee camp (Erbil governorate). The first two days of the exercise included focus group discussions (FGDs) with women, men, youth and elderly.
- UNHCR partner Un Ponte Per developed and distributed a service directory for refugees in Gawilan camp. The guide is available to download here <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=7406> (English) and <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=7407> (Arabic)
- Following a large number of queries from Iraqis displaced by the conflict in western and southern Iraq, UNHCR developed and shared Q&As on asylum and resettlement in English, Arabic and Kurdish. The Q&As are available to download here: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B9fEkUOmYJUNdm01dndiem1lbEE&usp=sharing>

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNHCR registration of new arrivals at camps has been halted by the Asayish due to the continuous outflow of refugees from camps. It is expected that most of the refugee, who left camps to join relatives Erbil Governorate will approach the Erbil Urban Registration Centre in the coming days.
- There is a need to expand protection response, especially psychosocial support (PSS), alongside the monitoring of violations and Child Protection (CP) issues for children in camps hosting new arrivals from the conflict in Kobani.

NON-CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- Child Protection: UNICEF is working with the Department of Labor and Social Affairs (DOLSA) in Sulaymaniyah Governorate to support children in continuing their education. A total of 63 children were assisted with access to school, of which 18 children initially dropped out due to having to work for their families.
- UNHCR, through Harikar-PARC lawyers, followed up on 10 detention cases by visiting jails within Duhok such as Zerka, Asayish and police detention centres to advocate or provide representation and to ensure that their legal needs were met.
- 84 children were provided with mental health support in Duhok, and 63 children received follow up psychosocial support.
- During the reporting period, the Residency Department in urban areas has interviewed 212 Syrian refugee applicants and issued 198 residency documents.



Durable Solutions (Refugee Status Determination and Resettlement)

Achievements and Impact

- Pre-Assessment screening was undertaken in 98 cases, out of which 44 cases were prioritized and 54 deprioritized. 16 cases were received as internal referrals. Of these, 14 cases were prioritized and two deprioritized.
- Field missions to Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah took place, as well as to camps in Erbil governorate. Case identification interviews were conducted in 23 cases across thre KR-I, and seven cases were reviewed, of which four were prioritized and three deprioritized.
- 15 initial RSD/RST interviews were conducted. 13 cases/63 persons were submitted to the USA in October, including 9 cases/46 persons previously referred for pre-screening and in relation to which additional work was required. One case (one person) was submitted to Denmark, and one case (five persons) was submitted to the UK under the Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme.
- As of 31 October 25 Syrian cases (87 individuals) have been accepted for resettlement to Sweden from those submitted in 2014.



Education

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- 8313 Syrian students are attending schools between grades 1-9 in Duhok governorate.
- 46 Syrian refugee teachers working in Darashakran refugee camp in Erbil governorate completed a 10-day pre-service training covering education methodologies and psychosocial support. UNICEF organized the training, in collaboration with the Ministry and Department of Education



Teacher training in Darashakran Camp.

UNICEF/ M. Pons

- NRC organized a tent-to-tent awareness campaign, meeting with all families of school-age children in order to deliver messages advocating education and to gather beneficiary feedback on specific education-related issues such as enrolment, attendance, special needs, views on schooling and challenges.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The Kurdish Government announced that starting in December, it will not pay refugee teachers' salaries, due to non-receipt of money from the central Government of Iraq. The majority of the affected teachers work in Duhok, with some in Erbil and a smaller number in Sulaymaniyah.
- The lack of Arabic-language textbooks remains a challenge in the majority of the camps. UNICEF and sector partners are working with MoE and DoE to resolve this issue.

NON-CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- The new academic year started on 22 October across the country except in Duhok governorate. In Duhok, the start of the new academic year has been postponed to December 1 due to IDPs still living in many schools.



Health

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- Medical consultations are ongoing and no outbreaks of communicable diseases have been reported. The consultation rate per person per year increased to an average of 4.1 and is slightly above the expected range of 1 – 4 consultations per person per year. The increase is related to the influx of new refugees who sought initial treatment in the camp health as well as due to an increase in upper respiratory infections with the onset of colder temperatures.
- In Duhok governorate, up to 7,664 persons with acute, chronic and mental health conditions have benefited from health services provided in Domiz and Gawilan camps. The Health Information System has been expanded to Akre refugee settlement.
- In Gawilan PU-AMI has increased the size of its team to provide medical services to the new arrivals in cooperation with a mobile medical team from DoH Bardarash. No serious health issues were reported during consultations in Gawilan; most patients reported minor illnesses, though many were in need of psycho-social care.
- In the four camps in Erbil governorate a total of 6,477 primary health care consultations were conducted including 232 consultations for mental health care. IMC deployed its mobile medical team to support medical treatment for newly arriving refugees in camps in Erbil governorate. No serious health issues were reported during consultations.
- In Arbat camp a total of 938 patients received treatment for acute and chronic health conditions during the reporting period. The Italian NGO EMERGENCY adjusted its working hours and increased staff capacity to ensure adequate health services for all in need.
- In Al Obaidy camp, health services continue to be provided by UIMS. A total of 226 patients received treatment for acute, chronic and mental health conditions. One of the key concerns in recent months has been higher consultation rates with complaints of the same illnesses and high demands for antibiotics. UIMS started health promotion and patient counseling and appropriate use of medicines. Consultations have now been reduced.
- Programs on Expanded Program for Immunization (EPI), Baby Hut, and Home Visits to Newborn continued successfully in the Syrian refugee camps.
- A polio campaign was undertaken among refugees during the reporting period. A total of 11,408 children under age five were vaccinated in Erbil camps and in urban areas.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The health status of newly arriving refugees needs to be closely monitored and access to obstetrics services in Erbil hospitals needs to be enhanced.

NON-CAMP

- IMC and PU-AMI continue to provide health awareness campaigns to Syrian refugees living in Erbil governorate.
- At the Ibrahim Khalil border point, DoH Dohuk started to provide measles and polio vaccine to all new arrivals aged up to 30 years effective 15 October. UNICEF supported the Department of Health (DoH)/Dahuk to establish a fixed immunization team there. A total of 2,449 children of up to 15 years of age were vaccinated for polio and 2,270 were vaccinated against measles.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The current IDP crisis impacts access to health care for all population groups including refugees. Shortages of essential medicines occur frequently in public health facilities despite large medicine donations by humanitarian groups. While humanitarian actors are able to mobilize resources to cover medicine access gaps in refugee camps, populations in urban settings have been increasingly required to purchase medications pharmacies.

Food Security and Nutrition

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- WFP reached 100,152 Syrian refugees in October, assisting all refugees residing in camp settings. Over 65,000 beneficiaries were assisted with vouchers, injecting over US\$2 million into the local economy. All other beneficiaries were reached with individual food parcels which provided 2100 kcal/person/day.
- Food security partners, including WFP, are continuing their assistance to newly arrived refugees from Kobani, ensuring that all those moved to camps can meet their food needs. The Barzani Charity Foundation was requested to by the Government to provide hot meals in camps and is doing so until new arrivals are assisted with WFP food parcels. Thus far, WFP has distributed 3,374 individual food parcels to newly arrived refugees in Gawilan, Arbat and Qushtapa camps and will provide all Kobani refugees remaining in camps with food assistance as part of the November distribution cycle.
- Save the Children has also provided ready-to-eat rations, comprised of hummus, canned sardines, jam, dried bread, etc. for distribution to newly arrived refugees in Darashakran, Basirma and Kawergosk camps in addition to Harir Youth Centre. Each ration is sufficient for a family of five for two weeks and requires no cooking. Such rations are ideal for refugees who choose to remain in the camps for a short period before moving to host communities with relatives.
- Despite ongoing military operations in Anbar, WFP has been able to deliver food to Al Obaidy camp, meeting the food needs of all families in the camp for the month of October. The entire camp population – some 1,300 people – received WFP individual food rations distributed through WFP's cooperating partner, Islamic Relief Worldwide.



Distribution of food parcels at Al Obaidy camp by WFP through IRW.

IRW/Wisam

NON-CAMP

- WFP and the humanitarian community continue to advocate for assistance to vulnerable non-camp refugees. Currently, as per Government policy, food assistance is only provided to Syrians residing in camp settings.

**Water and Sanitation****CAMP****Achievements and Impact**

- 800 refugee families (768 already present and 40 families newly arrived) benefited from water trucking and solid waste disposal in Arbat camp, implemented by UNICEF and its partner IRC.
- UNICEF has been closely monitoring the WASH needs of the over 1,000 newly arrived Syrian families who crossed the Iraqi border fleeing the conflict in Kobani. UNICEF is assisting all Syrians in camps with water deliveries, basic sanitation requirements and will distribute hygiene kits.
- In response to the growing number of refugees from Kobani, who have been moved to Gawilan permanent camp (1,600 individuals), UNICEF focused on the completion of the water supply network, including household connections. The network is currently serving 800 families (4,000 individuals) with sufficient chlorinated water to meet the refugees' daily needs. Additionally, UNICEF, with the support of its implementing partner ACF, distributed 800 hygiene kits.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNICEF and its implementing partners are reporting limited ground space available in the refugee camps for new tents

**Shelter and CRIs****CAMP****Achievements and Impact**

- UNHCR through Qandil has distributed 14 mattresses and 19 plastic sheets for families affected by the storm of 16 October in Domiz camp.
- In Gawilan, all communal tents in the old portion of the camp were found empty as the related families were relocated to the permanent site. DMC teams removed some 332 tents.
- Barzani Charity Foundation distributed NFIs funded by Canada to the new arrival,s covering 354 families from Kobani. The NFIs included kitchen sets, plastic sheet, pails, water jerry cans and blankets.
- The renovation works in Akre castle, the UNHCR offices, as well as the construction of the Asayish office are completed and ready for handover.
- A group called the Syndicate of Doctors in Sulaymaniyah donated cooking stoves, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, cooking gas cylinders, kerosene stoves and clothes to 136 newly-arrived Kobani refugees in Arbat Camp.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Adequate kerosene remains a major need for all families. Procurement of kerosene is in process and with current available funds, UNHCR will only be able to distribute 200L per family to the camp population, rather than the 400L required to cover the whole winter period.
- DRC also covered four tent structures of the old UNICEF school with plastic sheets in order upgrade them to host new arrivals from Kobani.

NON-CAMP

- Implementation of shelter assistance for the non-camp vulnerable refugees, through UNHABITAT, is in progress at 70% completion. The project is helping 225 families with improvements and repairs to basic shelter. There are concerns about requests by building owners for rental increases, and this will negatively impact the refugees who are already struggling to pay for shelter.

INTERAGENCY WINTERIZATION EFFORTS

- Distribution of winter items in Domiz and Gawilan camps started during the reporting period and will continue into the first week in November. All four camps in Duhok Governorate will be covered, targeting vulnerable families. 481 family kits comprised of five blankets, one plastic sheet and one water jerry can were distributed as of 30 October, and the remaining two items (kerosene jerry cans and heaters) will be distributed in the second phase.
- In Duhok governorate, UNHCR has been able to mobilize other partners to cover existing gaps, and five partners, IOM, IFRC, PWJ, UNICEF and SCI, have agreed to contribute some winter assistance.
- In Erbil, distribution of Phase 1 (winter relief items) aid took place on 30 and 31 October in Kawergosk, Darashakran, Qushtapa and Basirma camps. The package consists of plastic sheets, blankets and jerry cans.
- UNHCR commenced an information campaign through posters and flyers to inform refugees in Erbil and Dohuk about UNHCR's winterization response, distribution criteria and procedures.
- YAO distributed 64,500L of kerosene to 645 Syrian refugees in Arbat Refugee Camp. Each family received 100L for the month of November.
- ISHO completed winterization activities in Al Obaidy Camp. Winterization activities included the replacement of family tents and provision of insulation kits as well as distribution of CRI kits to all camp population including unregistered refugees, of whom 48 were provided with tents. 196 tents were replaced and the new ones provided with insulation kits.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Erbil camps, some tents were damaged by recent heavy rains and are in need of reinforcement and/or replacement.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR, DMC, IRC, NRC, and Harikar are conducting quick assessments in Domiz to identify the status of shelters in Domiz.
- The emergency response for the Kobani influx has been managed in close coordination with partner organizations and local authorities, including camp administration, police and Asayish.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- During the reporting period, UNHCR monitored two small business management trainings in Domiz camp for 61 individuals, selected from most vulnerable families
- In Erbil, UNHCR finalized preparations and launched a participatory assessment exercise. The camp-level assessment will focus on two themes, Livelihoods and Community Participation, and will target refugee populations of different nationalities including Syrian refugees. The assessment in urban area covered a wider range of thematic areas to garner better insight to their situation in terms of protection and assistance to urban refugees.
- The participatory assessment is led by the UNHCR Community Services Unit and by Multi-Functional teams (MFT), comprised of UNHCR and partner agency staff.



*Small business management training in Domiz camp.
UNHCR/R.Gawdan*

- Mobilization campaigns have been carried out to ensure community engagement in the participatory assessment exercises.

NON-CAMP

- REACH implemented a three month vocational training for 15 female beneficiaries in Summel aged 18-23 years. At end of the course, REACH will supply them with salon equipment and assist them in finding employment. REACH has also started a three month sewing and language vocational training for 30 beneficiaries in Summel; age 18-30. At end of the course REACH will also supply them with sewing equipment.
- REACH completed assessments for cash assistance of \$400 to 50 Syrian families living in Domiz city. The families have been selected in coordination with the DMC.
- UNHCR identified four cases of children from camps and urban areas that require heart surgery and could potentially be assisted by an NGO specializing in child heart surgery.

DONOR Information

Agencies are grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

Donors who have contributed to the operation:

- | | |
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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

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Dreams becoming reality for women in Domiz camp

Dohuk Governorate, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, October 30, 2014

The future seems more promising than ever for Dilbreen and 24 other women from the Syrian refugee community in Domiz camp in northern Iraq. They have been selected for employment in a sweets business making and selling candy at the camp, which will provide income for their families. All the women are heads of their households, so do not have anyone else providing income to their families.

The selection of the 25 women was part of a project on job opportunities for Syrian refugees in Domiz camp that UNHCR coordinated with its counterpart from Duhok Governorate, the Development and Modification Centre (DMC) which oversees Duhok's refugee population. The initiative itself came from an entrepreneurial refugee woman in the camp who saw an opportunity to find employment for others. Initially, she was only seeking a piece of land to start the business. UNHCR discussed the woman's proposal with the DMC, which was able to find a businessman who embraced the idea and agreed to sponsor it. Today, construction of the building is all complete, with only some machinery to arrive before the business may start.

The plan is to produce a variety of sweets, including popular traditional treats that satisfy local tastes, such as baklava, konafa, cakes and cookies. It will sell directly to customers and also distribute to shops in the area. If all goes well, the women and their families will benefit for months to come.

For Dilbreen, this is a major opportunity. She became the sole provider for her family after her husband died of a stroke six months ago. "It was unexpected," she said with tears in her eyes, "My husband was working in a restaurant, taking care of the family." All of a sudden, the future became uncertain. "I found myself the only person in the household who could bring food to the table," she added. Earlier this year, she tried her own business venture; she purchased clothing and returned to sell them in the camp. But the business failed. "People did not want to buy my items and preferred to go to the many shops in the camp, as they have more selection; the competition was strong," recalled Dilbreen.

As a resident of Domiz, her case is unique because she is originally from Iraq, but married a Syrian national. She lived in Damascus for 15 years before fleeing to the KR-I for safety. The family has lived in Domiz for the past two years in two small rooms. Dilbreen has three daughters and four sons; all are minors and considered refugees, except Dilbreen. As an Iraqi citizen, she is not eligible for refugee assistance. The rest of the family, however, receives food items along with other services that UNHCR and partners provide to Syrian refugees on a monthly basis.

Two-year-old Domiz camp shelters more than 65,000 Syrian refugees. The UNHCR community services team regularly identifies and selects refugees for job opportunities. The team uses specific criteria to determine potential beneficiaries. Extremely vulnerable families and female-headed households are usually prioritized. UNHCR recommends those selected to potential employers and follows up with the individuals until they start to work and generate income. On this specific occasion, UNHCR recommended 25 women for the interview process and all were accepted.

Dilbreen's 12 year-old son worked in a vegetable shop in the camp, earning 5,000 Iraqi Dinars (about \$4) daily, which is a big help, but he quit his job and is back to school now because she wanted him to receive an education.



*Dilbreen and her children meet with a UNHCR staff member at Domiz Camp.
UNHCR/R. Rasheed*

Dilbreen sees this new opportunity as a chance to help her family, so she won't have to rely entirely on aid. Although she is not yet certain how much her new job will pay, she is excited and can't wait to start. "This is the chance that I have been waiting for; my daughter will take care of the family while I can make money," said Dilbreen recently, "The business will be located inside the camp, within walking distance of my shelter, which is very convenient."

"I was praying and hoping to get a job inside the camp because I have to be near my children, Dilbreen told UNHCR." For Dilbreen and the 24 friends and business colleagues from Domiz, it's an opportunity to become more self-reliant, and to be empowered both as women and mothers.

-By Husam Eldin Mustafa in Domiz Refugee Camp

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Links:

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

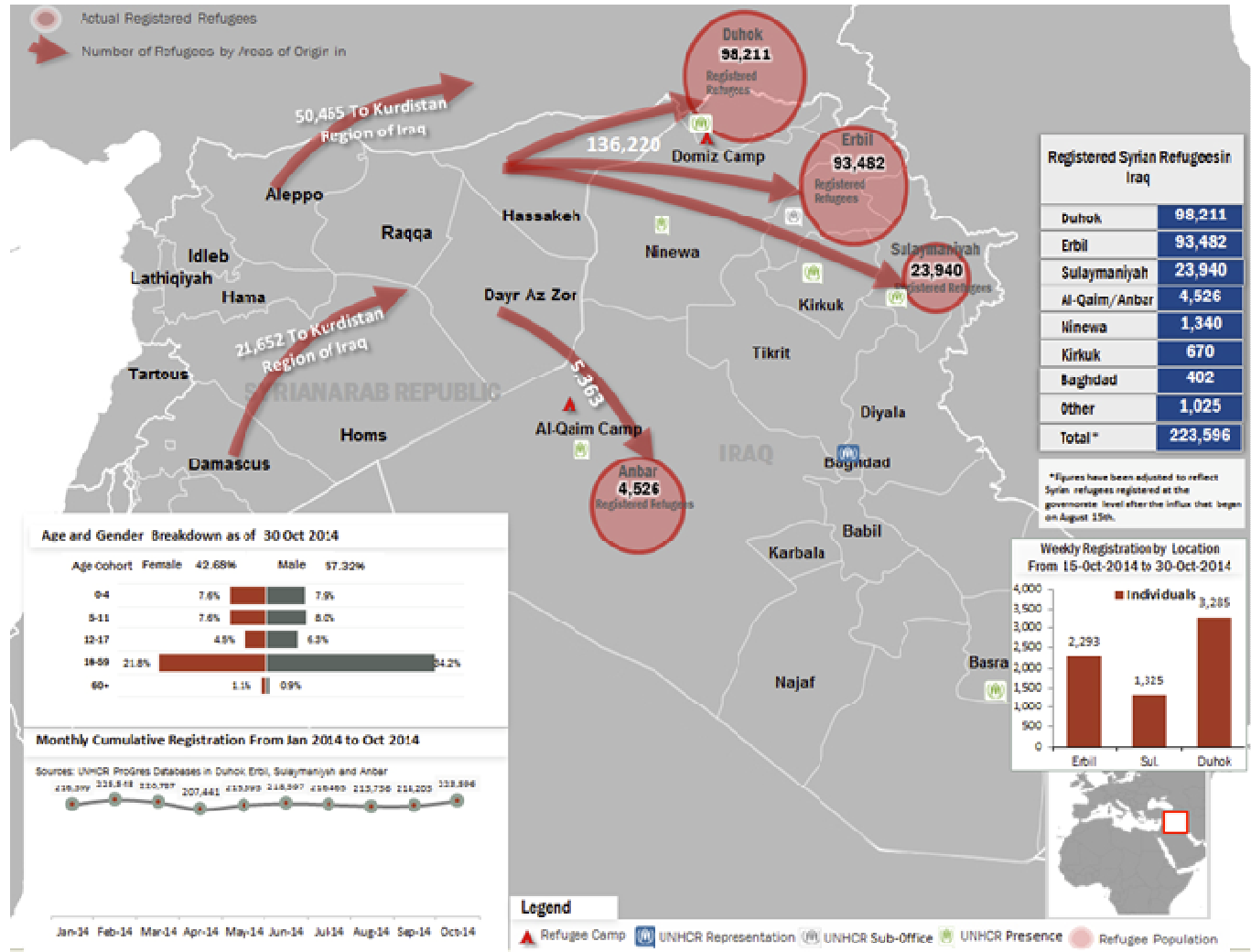
For information related to UNHCR's supply pipeline, please click on <http://data.unhcr.org/iraq/supply/>

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 at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

For more information on the work of UNHCR and our partners in Iraq, please follow us on Twitter at @unhcriraq and on Facebook at "UNHCRinIraq"

ANNEXES

Refugees by Areas of Origin in Syria



UNHCR Registration Trends for Persons of Concern

