Shelter Working Group Meeting, June 2025

Date: September 24, 2025
Place: Habitat for Humanity Office
Chaired by: Lina Younis -UNHCR . Mohammed Alsalem – habitat for Humanity
Attendees: NRC, Habitat for Humanity, IOCC, Caritas, IRJ, Medair, and UNHCR.

Agenda:

- **Return Updates.**
- **JIF Multisectoral Needs Assessment Summary Report.**
- **Partners Updates.**
- **AoB.**

The co-chair welcomed the participants and started the meeting.

Action points:

- The working group co-chairs to follow up on arranging a meeting with the MoI.
- Caritas to share the data analysis results on cash for rent project.

<u>Updates on Returns</u>

- As of 20 September, over 155,000 refugees registered with UNHCR have returned from Jordan to Syria since 8 December 2024. Since the last report, around 4,100 refugees returned, representing a 9%decrease compared to some 4,600 refugees who had returned the previous week.
- Demographics of returnees remained similar to previous weeks, with women and girls representing around 49% of the total refugee returnees. Children accounted for around 43%, and men 18-40 years old made up around 19% of overall returns.
- he majority of refugees continue to return from host communities, primarily from Amman and Irbid. More details about the numbers and profile of returnees, including a section with insights on the skills level, are available on UNHCR Jordan's returns dashboard.
- On 24-25 September, UNHCR facilitated transportation for over 200 refugees from Jordan to Syria.
- Additionally, on 23 September, IOM in coordination with UNHCR facilitated a movement for around 40 refugees from Azraq camp. Overall, since the start of the

transportation initiative on 20 January 2025, UNHCR has supported nearly 9,300 refugees to return to Syria.

- Before departure, in-person interviews are conducted to ensure that returns are voluntary and well-informed, with counselling and information provided on available services inside Syria. The return process is closely coordinated with the UNHCR Operation in Syria to support refugees upon arrival at their final destination.

UNHCR updates on cash for voluntary return

- The project launched on 1st of September 2025 and aim to providing 70 JOD per family member who decide to return to Syria.
- The project is targeting 10,000 refugees who live in Zaatari and Azraq camps.
- Cash for return assistance is unconditional and based on refugee feedback. Based on the initial results of the intention survey conduct recently in addition to the focus group discussions where more than on thousand refugees participated in.
- So far, around 602 individuals have benefited for the cash for returns.
- Eligible refugees for the cash for voluntary return:

1. Families have a person with disability
2. Families have a person suffers from chronic disease or with critical health conditions.
3. Families headed by e female
4. Families have an elderly person (over sixty)
5. Families with size 10 or more. Have ten members or more

- More information on cash for assistance project can be found in the FAQ related document which is accessible through the following like:

المساعدة النقدية للعودة الطوعية الى سوريا – الإنتقال إلى المرحلة 2 - المفوضية السامية للأمم المتحدة لشؤون اللاجئين الأردن

JIF Multisectoral Needs Assessment Summary Report.

- JIF carried out a desk review of several partners' needs assessments and consolidated the relevant information into a single report.
- This report was recently circulated to the sectors, and the shelter working group members reviewed its findings during the meeting, providing feedback and insights specifically on the shelter-related section.
- **Partners Updates**

NRC

- In the phase of wrapping up three shelter – relate projects in the urban.
- NRC is collaborating with Medair on their new cash for rent project. NRC may provide Medair with a list of beneficiaries and the other related information.
- Operation in camps I on going and as usual.
- Shelter activities in the next year will be according to the 2026 planning and will be shared with partners once confirmed.

Habitat for Humanity

- Brief about the global shelter cluster strategy. The related document can be found through the following link:
https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fs3.eu-north-1.amazonaws.com%2Fcdn.sheltercluster.org%2Fpublic%2Fdocs%2FGSC-Strategy-2030.pdf&data=05%7C02%7Calsakr%40unhcr.org%7Cb095db20f1634f5003d508ddfc0a91ee%7Ce5c37981666441348a0c6543d2af80be%7C0%7C0%7C638943847652390062%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C80000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Gm5p%2BOS2lGngcQAJm01ORa7gEaeaXNEFCGSnw51DbR0%3D&reserved=0

- Updates on the OVR project which contains two main components: households and community is still ongoing in Hiteen camp. the project focus on conducting rehabilitation for the households in addition to maintain the water provision within the households. Between 150-200 households will be benefited from this project.
- The project also carries out activities related to maintain the drain system in the camp. around 15 identified sites have been targeted to solve the drain related issues.
- Brief about another project in east Amman target around 96 Jordanian and Syrian households and concern on conducting maintenance and rehabilitation.

IOCC

- Cash for rent project resumed.
- a Brief about the project on vocational training in repairing which targes 60 women will start soon.
- A project on vocational training targeting persons with disabilities in Amman, Irbid, and Karak governorate has started.
- On ramp installations project, so far 170HHs has benefited from the project in the camps.

Caritas

- Cash for rent target group which is 220 HHs have received their final payment.
- Now in the phase of data analysis for the project and will the result with the working group members once completed.

Islamic relief

- Repairing project targets 194 HHs is ongoing. Distribution of heating systems and tool kit took place in the governorates of: Ajloun, Jerash, Irbid and Mafraq for Jordanian and Palestinian. The project is carried out in coordination with MoSD and DPA.
- New fund is available for a new project that will take place in Alaghwar area. The project will target 16 HHs.

Medair

- Medair, funded by PRM, will implement a cash-for-rent project targeting 40 cases in Irbid and Amman.
- To enhance expertise in the shelter sector, Medair is partnering with NRC to identify eligible cases, focusing on nationalities not covered by NRC.
- The project will provide assistance to beneficiaries for a duration of six months.

UNHCR

- Brief on the recent coordination meeting held on the camps footprint reductions.
- The meeting attended by the co-chairs of the: shelter, WASH, Education and Health sectors.
- The meeting discussed the current situation and the impact of the return on the services provision within the camps. And how the relocation would be an option.
- A categorization for the camps districts and villages has been presented during the meeting. the categorization focused on the presence and the capacity of the infrastructure in the different areas of the camps.
- The presentation also highlighted the cost of the relocation within the camps.
- The exercise conducted by UNHCR technical unit on the cost of relocation and will be extended to the other main sectors to facilitate better analysis and understanding.
- The exercise will seek to determine the cost of relocation compared to maintaining the current situation.

AOB

Next Shelter WG meeting on October 29th, 2025 at 10:30 -12:30 pm, UNHCR Office Terrace meeting room.

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