

Update No. 5

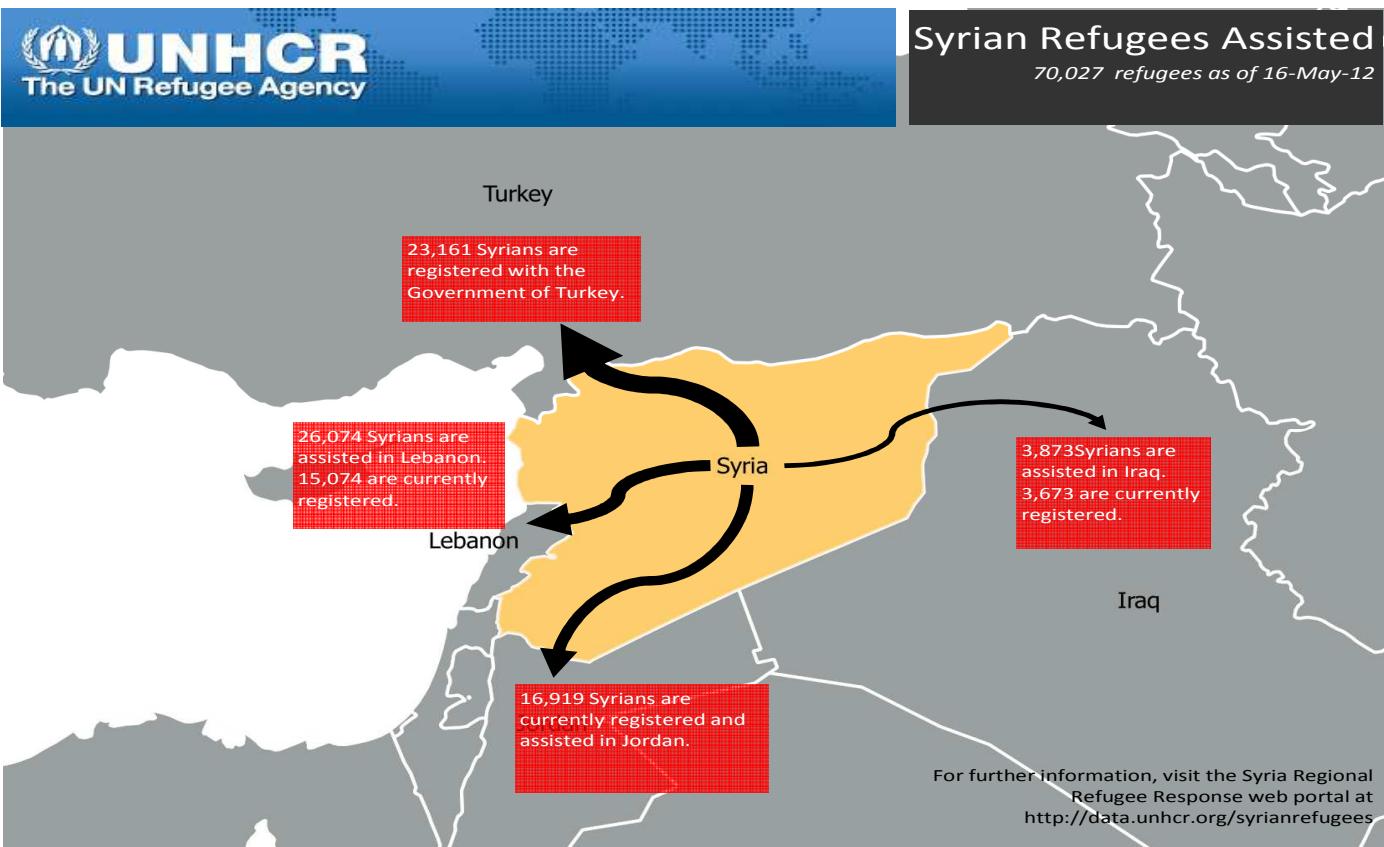
Syria Regional Refugee Response

Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey

16 May 2012



This weekly update provides a snapshot of the United Nations and its partners' response to the influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. The response is led by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and is undertaken in full coordination with host Governments. This report covers the period from 10 to 16 May 2012. The next update will be issued on Thursday, 24 May 2012.



HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of registered and assisted Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey has reached 70,027 persons this week. This marks an increase of 2,359 persons from last week. The total number of Syrian refugees registered in these countries currently stands at 58,827 persons.
- An agreement of USD 0.5 million was signed by the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO) and UNHCR for the construction of the King Abdullah Park refugee hosting site and for supporting the refugee registration operation in Jordan.
- The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoHE) in Lebanon has appointed focal points within the Ministry to support the work of UNHCR and partners. This work will include liaising between UNHCR and public schools in the area to facilitate the implementation of educational activities.



@UNHCR Jordan/2012/Bartolini

II. JORDAN

Highlights

- The total number of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR stands at 16,919. They are primarily located in the cities of Amman, Ramtha, Mafraq, Irbid, Zarqa and Ma'an.
- The opening of the new Cyber City transit site on 7 May 2012 brings the total current capacity of transit sites (Beshabsha, King Abdulla Park and Cyber City) at the Ramtha border area to 1,250 individuals. The transit sites witness a high turnover, since the majority of the Syrians hosted in the sites are bailed out by Jordanians a few days after arrival.



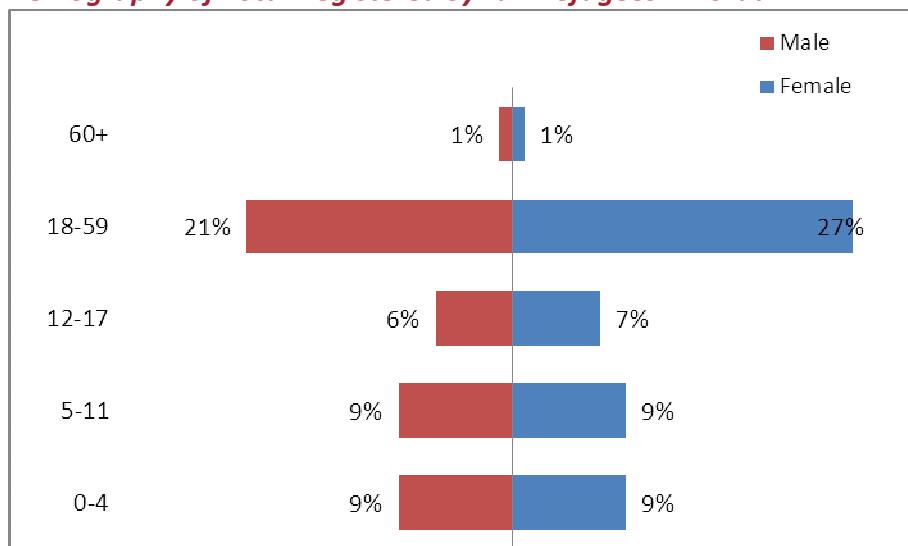
JHCO-UNHCR Agreement Signing/ 15.05.2012

Source: Addustour Newspaper

Protection/Numbers

- UNHCR maintained a daily field presence in the reception/hosting facilities in the north, carrying out protection interviews for survivors of violence, Unaccompanied Minors/Separated Children, and any other protection vulnerability.
- During the reporting period, 300 individuals have on average been registered per day in Amman and 60 per day in Ramtha. The rate of arrivals from Syria remained a constant trickle during the reporting period, with 37 to 142 arrivals reaching the Beshebsha transit site every day. The trend continues to remain lower than four weeks ago, when up 400 crossed per day. Two percent of those registered in Amman are male and in Ramtha the breakdown by gender is half and half. 85 percent of those registered in Ramtha are from Homs, seven percent from Daraa and the rest from various other Syrian cities.

Demography of Total Registered Syrian Refugees in Jordan



Assistance/Outreach

Transit Sites in Al-Ramtha: During the past weeks, local Community-Based Organisation Kitab al Sunna, UNHCR and the Jordan Health Aid Society (JHAS) rehabilitated the 6-storey building at Cyber City. Assistance is provided through an inter-agency effort comprising of UNICEF, ACTED, UNHCR, WFP, UNFPA, IOM, JHAS, and Noor Al-Hussein Foundation. UNHCR and JHAS have put in place site maintenance teams in order to improve the management and living conditions in transit sites in Jordan. The next transit site to open in about two weeks will be the “King Abdullah Park” container site, currently under construction by the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO) and UNHCR. **Site assessment for contingency sites in Mafraq:** On 9 May, UNHCR with local authorities assessed the suitability and capacity of three new sites in Mafraq, potentially used for tented camps if necessary. This brings the capacity of all sites available (open and contingency sites) to 17,500 individuals. **Health:** UNHCR’s implementing partner, the Jordan Health Aid Society (JHAS), is providing primary health care to Syrians through its established clinics, especially those in Mafraq and Ramtha, as well as through mobile medical units. Syrians can also access JHAS and Caritas-operated clinics in Amman. Syrian refugees further have free access to health care in government-operated hospitals in the Mafraq governorate in the north and to a primary health care clinic in the Ramtha Beshabshe transit centre. UNHCR’s Exceptional Care Committee (ECC) met on 2nd May and approved 19 Syrian Cases. The ECC is a joint board composed of UNHCR and WHO staff, as well as independent doctors that review cases that exceed a JD 1,000 per treatment limit and are submitted by Caritas and the Jordan Health Aid Society (JHAS). **NFIs:** To strengthen assistance to vulnerable Syrians living with the host community, some 660 NFI vouchers were produced. The vouchers will be handed out to vulnerable Syrians identified through local committees in the governorates, with participation from local community organisations, the governor’s offices and UNHCR.

Coordination

UNHCR held meetings with ILO and the Ministry of Labour on the issue of child labour, as well as a meeting with UNFPA, UNICEF and various NGOS and CBOs to discuss an action plan on the issue of early marriages amongst Syrian refugees. During the reporting period, inter-agency coordination meetings took place for Ramtha, Mafraq, Karak and Ma'an governorates. The new “site coordination” forum also met that UNHCR convened to discuss the management and sector activities in transit sites. Meetings also took place with the Mayors and municipality staff of Ramtha and Mafraq on the selection of quick impact projects with International Relief & Development Organization (IRD). UNHCR published a contact list of all actors involved in the Syria situation response in Jordan, and will shortly finalise 3W information for Ramtha and Mafraq districts.

III. LEBANON

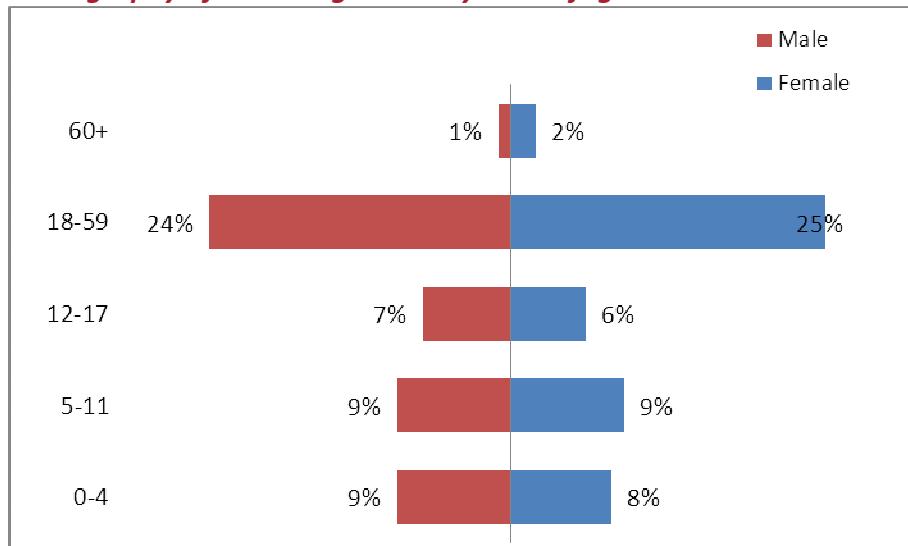
Highlights

- UNHCR and partners are working with the Government, local authorities and international and national partners assisting some 26,074 Syrian refugees throughout the country. More than half of them, 15,074 have been jointly registered by UNHCR and Lebanon’s High Relief Commission (HRC) in the North. UNHCR and partners are assisting an additional 3,000 Syrian refugees in Tripoli and 8,000 in Bekaa, who are pending registration.
- UNHCR and partners are working to improve information sharing that pertains to primary healthcare services (available medications, doctors, etc.).

Protection/Numbers

There are more limited concentrations of displaced people known to be residing in Beirut and the surrounding areas, some 817 of whom have been registered by UNHCR. UNHCR is also receiving reports of Syrian displaced in other areas of Lebanon and assessment missions are being taken to ascertain with greater accuracy these reports and potential needs.

Demography of Total Registered Syrian Refugees in Lebanon



Assistance/Outreach

Distribution: Hygiene, food and baby kits were distributed to 429 Syrian refugee families (2,145 people) in Tripoli and Halba. In the Bekaa Valley, receiving food, hygiene and baby kits were distributed to some 2,865 Syrian refugees. **Shelter:** Members from the refugee community began painting and rehabilitating the electricity in the Monseh collective shelter in the North. The rehabilitation of the 18 mosques in Aarsal in the Bekaa Valley is underway and technical assessments on the rehabilitation of 30 unfinished buildings were completed. Each building will serve as a small collective shelter and host approximately four families.

Education: Stressing the importance of children's education remains a priority. Parent committees meet twice a month in each of the social development centers to discuss and address the issues and concerns with sending their children regularly to school and remedial classes. Efforts to assess the needs, gaps, and ways to strengthen the current programme for Syrian children continued last week in the Bekaa Valley.

Health: A medical team including a doctor, nurse and health counselor visited Syrian refugees in the Berquael shelter and conducted medical consultations with 44 residents. In the Bekaa Valley, the number of secondary health cases, such as pregnancy and baby deliveries, is on the rise and partners continue to explore cost coverage options, such as cost-sharing and raising the issue with donors. **WASH:** Coordination with the WASH group remains an important facet of shelter maintenance, ensuring that collective shelters are receiving adequate amounts of clean water for its residents. WHO and UNICEF launched a hygiene awareness Campaign in the Bekaa Valley.

Coordination

Inter-Agency Coordination meetings take place every 2 weeks in Beirut, Quobayat and Bekaa. Sectoral meetings (Distribution, Health, Education, Protection, Shelter, and WASH) are also taking place twice a month in Quobayat and Bekaa.

IV. IRAQ

Highlights

- UNHCR registered a total 3,673 individual Syrian refugees, and 200 Syrian persons await registration.
- Two cases of TB have been identified in the Domiz camp, the family of one case is being given prevention medicines. Both cases were taken to hospital and are being treated.

Protection/Numbers

Among the 3,673 Syrian refugees registered, there are 389 families, comprising 1,563 individuals and 2,110 singles. An estimated 10 families and 40 singles continue to enter Dohuk Governorate daily. In Dohuk, an estimated number of 5 families and 200 singles are in the process of being registered. In Erbil, an estimate of 5 families and 30 singles approach UNHCR for registration weekly. The new arrivals in Erbil continue to be hosted by family members and the local community.



@UNHCR Iraq/2012

Assistance/Outreach

Shelter and Infrastructure: 226 tents were established in Domiz camp in the families' section and the construction of walls and casting foundations of 56 tents have been completed in the singles' section of the new site. **Health:** Following WHO's assessment of the needs for additional equipment required for improving health services to women, recommendations were made for a separate facility for child care unit in the health caravan and a connection with electricity and water. WHO also recommended the distribution of leaflets about tuberculosis and gave some tubes for T.B. tests to the medical unit in the camp. **WASH:** Kurds local NGO, through the IOM fund, has completed the construction of the concrete base for the installation of 21 m³ metal tank that arrived to the site. The water supply is steady and above the standards, however, beneficiaries have requested an additional 30,000 liters of potable water per day for the families' section. **Nutrition:** Barzani Charity Foundation continued to assess the needs of the Syrian refugee families in terms of food rations and distributed dry food items. The Dohuk Department for Displacement and Migration (DDM) continued provision of three hot meals to Syrian refugee singles in Domiz camp, however, DDM reported that by end of May it will stop provision of hot meals due to budget constraints. WFP further plans to carry out a nutrition survey to assess the needs and adequacy of food rations for refugees. **Education:** Initial information of available education facilities and a list of identified teachers in the camp have been prepared and shared with the Department of Education (DoE). DoE plans to accommodate all the school age children in the existing school by using the facilities during the summer holidays as of end of May. The additional prefab six classroom-cabinets will also be used.

Coordination

A third inter-agency coordination meeting was organized with various stakeholders involved in providing assistance and response in Domiz camp in Dohuk. The meeting aimed at briefing the Government Authorities, Diplomatic Missions in Erbil, UNCT, IPs INGOs, NNGOs on the progress achieved so far in responding to and assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq. Sub-Working Groups for each sector were established to determine the needs, gaps, indicators and interventions in the key sectors of health, education, WASH, protection, community services, psycho-social assistance and shelter.

V. TURKEY

Highlights

- The overall number of Syrian refugees in Turkey now stands at 23,161 persons.
- There was a minor drop in the total population of various camps after the announcement of the ceasefire.
- Between the 8th and 14th of May, 579 Syrians arrived in Turkey and 66 returned back to Syria.

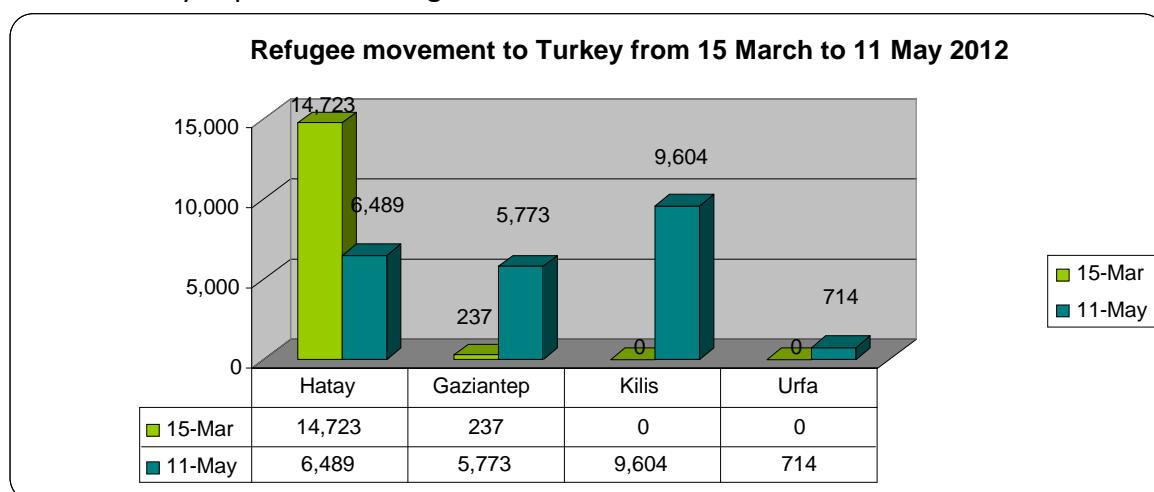
Protection/Numbers

The Government continues to undertake registration and extend temporary protection to Syrian refugees. UNHCR is regularly invited to observe the voluntary return proceedings of Syrian nationals having received protection under the temporary protection regime in the Republic of Turkey.

Syrian refugees in Turkey are assisted by the Turkish Red Crescent Society in the border provinces of Hatay, Gaziantep, Kilis and Sanliurfa.

Syrian refugees in Turkey by region as of 11 May 2012:

- Hatay¹: 6,489 refugees
- Gaziantep in Islahiye²: 5,773 refugees
- Kilis in Oncupinar container site: 9,604 refugees
- Sanliurfa in Ceylanpinar: 714 refugees



Assistance/Outreach

Campaign for refugees: The Tuzla municipality in Istanbul organized a tournament called 'Kindness Championship' in which 13,800 toys were collected by 1,457 students and distributed to Syrian refugee children in Kilis container site by 40 volunteer students. **Education:** Education classes are now underway for 4,251 Syrian children in the Oncupinar container site in Kilis that opened mid-March 2012. 805 students in Hatay tent sites, including 420 girls and 385 boys, are being educated in 35 classes. **Food:** The Turkish Red Crescent reports that food menus in Islahiye Camp are being prepared with the participation of six camp representatives (3 female and 3 male). **NFIs:** The Turkish Red Crescent stated that a store was established for clothes distribution where Syrian refugees can choose clothing according to their choice and size. **Vocational Training:** New vocational courses have commenced in Islahiye Camp that mainly consist of hair dressing and tailoring. Four sewing machines are located in two rooms in the Social Activities Facility.

¹ The refugees of the Kuyubasi/Karbeyaz, Yayladagi 2 (YIBO), Altinozu I (TEKEL) and Reyhanli camps in Hatay moved to Islahiye camp in Gaziantep and to Oncupinar container site in Kilis.

Coordination

The CERF request was approved for the UN response to Syrian refugees in Turkey, following the Government's communication that specific types of aid would be accepted. UNICEF, IOM and UNHCR will provide needed NFIs.

VI. STATISTICS

Statistics on Syrian Refugees in the Region

No. of Syrian Refugees	JORDAN	LEBANON	IRAQ	TURKEY	TOTALS
Registered and Assisted	16,919	15,074	3,673	23,161	58,827
Assisted (awaiting registration)	-	11,000	200	-	11,200**
TOTALS	16,919*	26,074	3,873	23,161	70,027

* An additional 2,500 persons are awaiting registration while some 30,000 have been identified by local organizations as in need of assistance, some of whom have been registered by UNHCR.

** Figures are based on estimates and therefore might vary.

END

For more information, please contact: Ms. Nahla Rifai, Reporting/Policy Officer, MENA, UNHCR – Geneva
rifai@unhcr.org