

UNICEF Syria Crisis Sub-regional Situation Report Jordan/Lebanon/Turkey/Iraq

2 July 2012

Situation Highlights:

- The revised UNHCR-led **Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP)** was launched on 28 June 2012, as a result of the coordinated efforts of 44 international and national agencies involved in the refugee response. UNICEF's revised funding requirement from the RRP is **US\$ 20,026,000**, targeting around **90,000 Syrian children and adolescents** in the sub-region.
- **91,673** registered refugees to date in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq, over half of them children and adolescents (UNHCR, July 2012).

Programme Highlights:

- UNICEF Jordan, in collaboration with partners and the Ministry of Education, began school-based summer holiday remedial education classes, targeting **5,500** vulnerable Syrian and Jordanian children in 15 directorates. UNICEF distributed 64 education kits and 28 psychosocial kits to public schools hosting the summer activities.
- UNICEF Jordan procured **3,000 baby hygiene kits**, which are prepared for distribution in transit sites in the coming weeks.
- In Lebanon, the **Education Rapid Assessment**, supported by UNICEF, was completed and presented to partners. **WASH assessments** were also completed, highlighting urgent water issues in the North and Bekaa.
- UNICEF Iraq and partners established a Child Friendly Space operating in two shifts that provides opportunities for recreational activities for around **125 Syrian children** in the Domiz camp.

Situation Overview

On 28 June 2012, UN agencies and partner organizations appealed for urgent new funds to help meet the needs of growing numbers of Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq. The RRP requirement which stood at US\$ 84.1 million in March was raised to US\$ 193 million to allow participating agencies to meet the growing needs of the Syrian refugees in the sub-region. UNICEF's funding requirement now stands at **US\$ 20,026,000**.

Impact on Syrian Children in the Sub-region

The combination of escalating levels of violence, disruption of services and livelihoods threatens to put more children's lives at risk. To date, **91,673** people have fled the violence in Syria and registered as refugees in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq (UNHCR, July 2012). It is estimated that **around half of all displaced Syrians are children and adolescents**, who continue to face interruption of schooling; limited access to basic services; and psychosocial distress caused by witnessing violence and displacement.

In Lebanon, **25,411** Syrian refugees are registered in the North and the Bekaa, and an estimated 50% of the registered are children. At the same time, it is estimated that over **29,000** Syrian refugees are receiving assistance throughout the country, with around 2,250 unregistered refugees in Tripoli and 2,000 in the Bekaa. In the last weeks, registration was delayed in several locations due to roadblocks near Tripoli and in Walid Khaled. Approximately 650 Syrian refugees crossed into Walid Khaled due to heavy fighting in several Syrian villages, namely Tal Kalkh and Quassair. It is still estimated that around 1,300 Syrians are entering Lebanon on a monthly basis (UNHCR, June 2012).

In Jordan, **27,344** Syrians are now registered with UNHCR, of whom an estimated 50% are children, with **500** more awaiting registration. In addition, local organizations estimate up to 50,000 Syrians in Jordan are in need of assistance. Displaced Syrians in Jordan are concentrated in northern governorates and in Amman.

According to the Turkish Government, the number of displaced Syrians currently sheltered in tent camps on the border totals **33,079** (July 2012). In Northern Iraq, **5,839** Syrian nationals of Kurdish origin are registered with UNHCR, (July, 2012) in collaboration with the Department of Displaced and Migration (DDM). Currently, 347 Syrians are awaiting registration, which brings the total assisted population in Iraq to more than 6,000 people. The Government of Iraq estimates that 7,000 Syrian nationals have crossed into Iraq since February 2012. There are just over 2,000 people currently residing in the Domiz camp, with the remaining residing with family, friends or others in Erbil, Dohuk, and Sulaymaniyah.

On 23 March 2012, the UN and its humanitarian partners issued an appeal for US\$ 84 million to help Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq. The Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP) outlines the response needs for Syrian refugees who have fled the country since March 2011, as well as anticipating the needs of future arrivals. The plan is an inter-agency framework led by UNHCR and the result of a coordinated effort between seven UN agencies including UNICEF, 27 national and international NGOs, and host governments. UNICEF's funding requirement from the RRP was US\$ 7,416,000 in March 2012.

*In response to the increasing number of Syrian refugees crossing the borders into neighbouring countries, the RRP was revised on 28 June 2012, extending the planning period from March to December 2012 and increasing the funding requirement to US\$ 193,222,611, of which **US\$ 20,026,000 is requested by UNICEF** (please see funding table below for details).*

UNICEF Programme Response to Date

Programme Response in the Sub-Region

As UNHCR's key partner in providing support to **91,673 registered Syrian refugees** in the sub-region (of whom **an estimated 50% are children and adolescents**), UNICEF is focusing on areas where it has a comparative advantage. In doing so, UNICEF is supporting displaced Syrian children, as well as children of host communities with a view to provide equitable services to all those in need.

Throughout the sub-region, UNICEF has prioritized the facilitation and promotion of increased access to formal and informal education for all children within host governments' schooling systems (other than Turkey due to language constraints), as well as provision of psychosocial care through the establishment of recreation opportunities and establishment of referral systems where needed. The response undertaken by the UNICEF Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq Country Offices is summarized below:

Jordan

UNICEF Portion of RRP Budget for Jordan: US\$ 14,800,000

Total RRP Budget for Jordan: US\$ 84,930,919

In Jordan, 27,344 Syrians are now registered with UNHCR, with 500 more awaiting registration. In addition, local organizations have estimated 50,000 Syrians in Jordan as in need of assistance.

UNICEF Representative in Jordan undertook a field visit to Mafraq to meet with the Governor and the education and water authorities, as well as visiting UNICEF-supported school-based summer activities and child protection partners. The Stadium transit facility in Ramtha, where single Syrian males were housed, has been closed. The single males have been moved to a purpose-built transit site at King Abdullah Park.

Child Protection: To date, UNICEF and partners have reached more than **6,500 vulnerable Syrian children** and family members with psychosocial activities in Ramtha; case management and referrals in key areas of Jordan; and 'better parenting' sessions to empower Syrian parents with enhanced knowledge on basic health, nutrition, and protection issues for their children. UNICEF continues to monitor the situation of vulnerable Syrian children together with partners, and maintains close collaboration with UNHCR to refer urgent child protection cases identified through field visits.

UNICEF has signed agreements with Mercy Corps to build playgrounds for displaced Syrian children in two transit facilities in Ramtha, and with the Family Guidance and Awareness Centre to provide psychosocial activities and remedial education to vulnerable Syrian children and family members in Zarqa. The Child Protection and Gender Based Violence Working Group discussed a separate Child Protection contingency plan, and the Child Labour Sub-group agreed to resume meetings to determine the scope of child labour among Syrian children, including the discussion of the existing response and development of an action plan.

UNICEF partner Zenid organized an open day to inform the Syrian community in Ma'an of the psychosocial, remedial education and awareness raising activities they offer.

Education: By June 2012, the number of Syrian children attending public schools in Jordan had reached more than **7,300**. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education to provide these children with free access to education. UNICEF, in collaboration with partners and the Ministry of Education, began school-based summer holiday remedial education classes on 17 June, targeting **5,500 vulnerable Syrian and Jordanian children** in 15 directorates. Already, 3,000 Syrian and 500 Jordanian children are attending these activities. UNICEF partner Save the Children International is providing recreational activities and psychosocial support in 40 public schools to complement these activities. UNICEF has also distributed 64 education kits and 28 psychosocial kits to public schools hosting the summer activities.

Save the Children Jordan and UNICEF held eight awareness raising sessions in Zarqa and Amman to inform people about the summer activities in schools. Some 275 Syrian parents and 565 children attended these sessions, and 1,000 brochures about the activities were distributed. Monitoring visits of the summer activities in schools are ongoing, with all the schools having already received at least one visit.

WASH: UNICEF is providing assistance to meet the urgent WASH needs in all three transit facilities in Ramtha. To date, nearly **9,000 displaced Syrians** have benefited from this support. Water conservation and hygiene awareness sessions are also provided in the facilities. To date, more than **800 people**, including 100 children, have attended these sessions.

UNICEF met with the water company responsible for Jordan's northern governorates, and outlined proposed projects to repair and maintain water systems in support of host communities. In addition, UNICEF and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation met in Ramtha to agree on strategies, priorities and targets for the sector, as well as discussing areas for immediate and medium term actions.

3,000 baby hygiene kits (of 9,000) were procured and prepared for distribution in transit sites in the coming weeks. UNICEF undertook an assessment of WASH needs and areas for potential intervention in Ma'an. UNICEF has signed an agreement with Mercy Corps for projects to boost water supply to host communities in Ramtha and Ma'raq.

Lebanon

UNICEF Portion of RRP Budget for Lebanon: US\$ 2,476,000
Total RRP Budget for Lebanon: US\$ 56,024,940

In Lebanon, more than 29,000 displaced Syrians are receiving assistance, 25,411 of them registered with UNHCR (July 2012). Latest estimates are that a further 2,000 are in the Bekaa valley and 2,250 in Tripoli. The number of people arriving on a daily basis continues to increase and verification is ongoing.

Protection: To date, UNICEF Lebanon has supported the establishment of **11 Child Friendly Spaces**, expected to benefit **1,000 children**. 45 teachers, community workers and caregivers have been trained on psychosocial interventions, as well as identification of psychosocial difficulties and referral mechanisms.

During the reporting period, child protection working group activities including building capacities of the child protection respondents regarding child rights were conducted. In the coming weeks, a joint Child Protection and Education Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) will be signed with Save the Children for establishing Child Friendly Spaces and youth clubs.

Education: Currently, ten Summer Day Camps are being implemented by UNICEF's implementing partner Iqraa in the north and the Bekaa, benefitting **400 Syrian and Lebanese children**. A joint mission was conducted to Akkar, where UNICEF is already working, to map and assess the needs of Syrian refugees, including whether Syrian children were attending school.

The Education Working Group and other stakeholders will hold a one day workshop on 11 July to officially launch the Education Rapid Assessment, which is expected to form the basis for drafting a national education strategy and response plan. In the coming weeks, PCAs are expected to be signed with Amel Association and Save the Children. Amendments are also currently being made to the PCA with Iqraa to include the area of Deir El Ahmar in Bekaa valley with a summer day camp at the public school, expected to benefit more than 40 Syrian children.

WASH: To date, UNICEF has distributed **1,467 hygiene kits**, benefitting around **5,868 Syrian children** mainly in Akkar and Bekaa valley. During the reporting period, the final reports from the WASH assessments were received from ACF and ACTED. The findings show that there is a critical shortage in terms of potable water. In the Bekaa valley, the assessment highlighted that 70% of the families are not receiving assistance for potable water and in the north 45% of the assessed households have access to less than 7 litres per day, which is below the SPHERE standards for survival. In the north, findings also highlighted high levels of contaminated water and lack of latrines, leading to cases of diarrhoea.

Currently a PCA is being developed with ACF for the response in the Bekaa valley and it is expected that it will be signed within the coming weeks. A proposal is also being developed by ACTED. However, there is an urgent need for funding for implementation of activities in the north as UNICEF is underfunded in the WASH sector. A PCA with DRC for the procurement and distribution of baby kits is expected to be signed in the coming weeks.

Health and Nutrition: To date, **30 community health workers** have been trained on 'Facts for Life' in Akkar and Bekaa. During the reporting period, 37 outreach sessions were conducted on 'Facts for Life' topics in the same areas, reaching **925 parents and caregivers**. In the coming weeks, 60 outreach sessions will be conducted, expected to reach 1,500 new beneficiaries. Discussions will also take place with Medical Corps on the possibility of partnering to implement awareness campaigns in areas not covered so far. A PCA was signed with ACF for the implementation of a nutrition survey, expected to start on 9 July.

Turkey

UNICEF Portion of RRP Budget for Turkey: US\$ 1,500,000
Total RRP Budget for Turkey: US\$ 25,651,600

From 24 May to 25 June 2012, there has been a 36% increase in the total number of Syrians provided temporary protection by the Turkish Government. There are currently 33,079 Syrian refugees receiving protection and assistance in ten civilian camps in the four border provinces of Hatay, Sanliurfa, Gaziantep and Kilis. Families with children are given priority to Kilis and family reunification is criteria for the selection of one of these three camps when transferring people from Hatay. Newly arrived persons without families are continued to be transferred to the Ceylanpinar Camp in Şanlıurfa and the current population of the camp has exceeded 9,000 people.

Following visits to the camps, UNICEF found that overall investment, infrastructure and management of the camps by the Turkish authorities are above standards. Child-related services and plans are responding to basic needs. A request from the Turkey UN Country Team (UNCT) for funding from the Rapid Response window of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) was approved. UNICEF Turkey was granted funding to provide safe educational and recreational and psychosocial care for children affected by the Syrian crisis, in alignment with the RRP. Through the RRP, UNICEF plans to reach some 22,500 Syrian children with key interventions in education and child protection.

Protection: Following a joint mission with UNHCR to the camp in Kilis, it was determined that there are no unaccompanied minors in the camp. However, issues of legal guardianship and decision-making concerning separated children may need to be examined. Adolescents and youth in the camps are in particular need of qualified training and education, as well as creative and empowering activities, to help them avoid destructive behaviour, which may affect them and the rest of the camp community negatively. UNICEF procured 100 ECD Kits, 100 Recreational Kits and 150 tents (to serve as Child Friendly Spaces), which are expected to provide around **10,500 children**, of whom around 3,000 children are under the age of five, with access to recreational, cultural and psychosocial activities. These supplies are expected to be delivered within two weeks.

Education: Education is being generally provided by the Turkish Government in the camps and is planned to be expanded, in line with the Turkish curriculum. Turkish bilingual teachers are working and vocational training is being made available in most camps. Through the recently procured tents and education and recreational materials, UNICEF will help provide Syrian children of different age groups, especially adolescents and youth, in the camps with safe child-friendly learning environments.

Iraq

UNICEF Portion of RRP Budget for Iraq: US\$ 1,250,000
Total RRP Budget for Iraq: US\$ 24,850,321

In Northern Iraq, 5,839 Syrian nationals of Kurdish origin are registered with UNHCR, in collaboration with the DDM. 347 Syrians are currently awaiting registration.

Child Protection: UNICEF and its partners established a Child Friendly Space operating in two shifts that provide opportunities for recreational activities for around **125 Syrian children** in the Domiz camp. The Child Friendly Space is supported by ten community volunteers and was established through an existing Standby Agreement with the NGO partner ACTED, while Mine Risk Education (MRE) is provided by the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA) with support from Handicap International and Mine Action Group (MAG). In collaboration with the Mental Health Unit of the Directorate of Health in Dohuk, a trained mobile team continues to provide psychosocial support for children in the Child Friendly Space. UNICEF supported the training of nine people (5 female; 4 male) in capacity building of community mobilizers on how to run Child Friendly Spaces and how to detect and refer urgent cases to the district authorities and existing local services.

In close collaboration with the Government Emergency Cell and the Child Protection Committee in Dohuk Governorate, UNICEF continues to advocate for the creation of a Protection Unit for children and women at the Domiz camp that will receive and respond to complaints from children and refer cases for assistance as necessary. A protection meeting will take place in early July in Dohuk to consolidate efforts to establish a protection unit jointly with UNHCR and the Child Protection Committee in Dohuk.

Education: Efforts made by the Education Working Group to obtain the Syrian curriculum were not successful and a meeting was held in June to discuss the way forward in order to commence education activities in the camp.

WASH: The WASH Working Group (UNICEF and UNHCR) will convene the first meeting at the camp within the coming weeks to review the overall situation of water and sanitation in the camp. The working group will define indicators and develop a monitoring and reporting mechanism.

Inter-Agency Collaboration & Partnerships

Under the overall coordination of UNHCR in Jordan and Lebanon, **UNICEF is working with various partners** through emergency working groups and task forces that involve key Ministries, UN agencies and national and international NGOs. UNICEF continues to provide **leadership to the education, child protection (particularly psychosocial support) and WASH sectors.**

In **Jordan**, as lead agency for the Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence, Education, and WASH sectors, UNICEF co-chairs working group meetings for these sectors, discussing areas for potential collaboration and ways to strengthen coordination. UNICEF also continues to participate in fortnightly Syria Taskforce meetings led by UNHCR, as well as fortnightly area coordination meetings in Ramtha, Ma'raq and Ma'an with relevant actors, including UN agencies, local authorities and NGOs.

In **Lebanon**, UNICEF actively participates in the UNHCR-led bi-weekly Inter-Agency Coordination Meetings for WASH, Education and Protection in the North and the Bekaa. UNICEF continues to chair the WASH working group meetings both in the North and in the Bekaa.

In **Turkey**, the UNCT is closely following the humanitarian situation at the border provinces and has unanimously acknowledged the emergency response of the Turkish Government to the crisis. UNICEF Turkey is paying special attention to the monitoring of the situation of women and children in the camps and to the specific rising needs of children and adolescents in the areas of education, ECD and protection. Since children and young people account for about 50% of all refugees crossing into Turkey, UNICEF plays a critical role in support of the UNHCR mandate.

In **Iraq**, UNICEF continues to participate in UNHCR-led inter-agency coordination meetings and to closely monitor the situation of Syrian arrivals in the Kurdistan Region and to jointly discuss interventions and coordinate assistance. UNICEF will participate in the joint interagency rapid assessment that will take place from 2 to 9 July and will cover Syrian arrivals in Domiz camp, as well as those living in other areas of Dohuk, Erbil and Suleimaniyah. The findings will be used to improve the planning and delivery of services.

The **UNICEF Regional Office** continues to provide surge capacity, leadership and oversight to support the response in the sub-region, in line with agreed inter-agency coordination mechanisms.

Communication

The requirement for urgent funding to scale up the humanitarian response for Syrian refugee children was highlighted in a news note carried on UNICEF's global website and social media, and provided to UNICEF National Committees (http://www.unicef.org/media/media_65196.html).

A story highlighting UNICEF's support of psychosocial and education assistance for Syrian refugee children in Jordan was published on [unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org) and social media. The story was also distributed to UNICEF National Committees (http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/jordan_62661.html).

Fund Raising - UNICEF Regional Response to the Syrian crisis (Syria excluded)

<i>Funding requirements in US\$ - Summary per sector per country</i>						
<i>Updated 28 June 2012</i>	Total	%	Jordan	Lebanon	Turkey	Iraq
Child Protection	3,980,000	20%	1,600,000	880,000	1,500,000	
Education	5,925,000	30%	5,200,000	725,000		
Health & Nutrition	750,000	4%	400,000	100,000		250,000
Water, Hygiene & Sanitation	9,371,000	47%	7,600,000	771,000		1,000,000
Total Cost	20,026,000		14,800,000	2,476,000	1,500,000	1,250,000

Prior to the launch of the RRP, UNICEF received generous contributions from Norway (US\$ 536,970), Germany (US\$ 511,393), and the French National Committee (US\$ 393,186). UNICEF since then also recently received contributions from SIDA (US\$ 1.3 million), the Dutch National Committee (US\$ 664,011), the UK National Committee (US\$ 316,456), the Swiss National Committee (US\$ 275,635), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (US\$ 190,124), and the US Fund (US\$ 42,000).

UNICEF Jordan has further funding proposals submitted or in discussion with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the European Union, United Arab Emirates Red Crescent, ECHO, BPRM, ERF and the SAID Foundation. UNICEF Lebanon participated in an ECHO meeting in Amman where ECHO's Humanitarian Implementation Plan for the region was presented. This was followed by a field visit to host communities in Bekaa with the Lebanon ECHO DG. UNICEF Lebanon is also following up on proposals submitted to the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Norwegian Embassy and the United Arab Red Crescent, and is currently developing proposals to the EU and the Emergency Relief Fund.

Note: UNICEF has thus far received around **US\$ 5 million** (around 25%) against its revised RRP requirement of US\$ 20 million. **Additional funding is needed extremely urgently** for UNICEF to be able to continue to expand its programme outreach towards all Syrian children in need in the sub-region, alongside UNHCR and partners.

Operations

Human Resources

In order to respond to the needs and boost their current capacity for the emergency response to the Syria crisis, UNICEF Offices in the region have recruited international and national posts in the areas of emergency coordination, child protection, education, WASH, supply-logistics and information and reporting. 14 staff have already been deployed and additional human resources surge may follow, as needed.

UNICEF Jordan is strengthening staff capacity to support the emergency response. Staff already recruited for the emergency include a Child Protection Specialist, a Reports Officer, a WASH Officer, two Field Monitors and a Field Support Specialist. A nutritionist has been mobilized to support a nutrition assessment for Syrian children and mothers.

UNICEF Lebanon's surge capacity currently comprises a Communication and Reporting Officer (NRC), a Child Protection specialist (RedR), a WASH Specialist (Irish Aid), an Emergency Specialist, an Emergency Chief of Operations, a National Education Officer, a Logistics Assistant and a driver.

UNICEF Turkey's recruitment of a Child Protection in Emergencies Specialist (SSA), an Education in Emergencies Specialist (SSA) and a national Field Coordinator (SSA) is on hold pending discussions with the Government of Turkey.

UNICEF MENARO has recruited a Supply and Logistics Specialist, an Information Management Specialist, a Communication Specialist and a Fundraising and Donor Reports Specialist, to support UNICEF's sub-regional response.

Supply

Jordan: UNICEF has procured 3,000 baby hygiene kits, utilizing a long-term agreement with a local supplier. These kits will be distributed in transit centres in coming weeks. UNICEF has procured 7,000 school kits, containing essential supplies to assist vulnerable children attending schools in targeted areas of Jordan. The kits are now in country and UNICEF has begun distribution to schools hosting summer activities.

Turkey: 100 ECD kits, 100 recreational kits and 150 tents (to serve as Child Friendly Spaces) have been procured and are expected to arrive within two weeks.

The next SitRep is planned for 16 July 2012

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