

*This situation report on the Syrian refugees is meant to convey the latest developments on the crisis that triggered many to leave their country seeking a safe haven in Jordan, as well as to cast a light on Caritas activities pertaining to this issue.*



## 1. Recent Developments

July saw a significant drop in number of refugees' influx into Jordan in over a year, according to UNHCR that stated that some 6,700 Syrians crossed illegally into Jordan last month, and some 7,500 crossed via checkpoints, compared with a previous monthly influx that once stood between 50,000 and 70,000.

A UNHCR recent Syrian Refugees Inter- Agency Weekly Update has stated that some 6000 persons flee Syria on a daily basis, with around 1.9 million Syrian refugees resided in the neighboring countries and 79 per cent are dwelling in non-camp settings.

The drop in number of refugees entering the country is attributed to the ongoing violence along the Jordanian-Syrian border that UN officials say has led to an over 70 per cent slump in the number of Syrians fleeing to the country, amid recent reports saying that the rebel

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forces have made significant gains on the ground, occupying many border military units and posts close to Jordan. However, the numbers are expected to mount significantly once rebel forces completely seize all border points and facilitate the movement of refugees to Jordan.

Meanwhile, Jordanian authorities have repeatedly seized large piles of weapons destined for Syria and has successfully foiled 20 attempts to smuggle arms into Syria over one month. According to the Jordan Armed Forces, five Syrian nationals have been detained, attempting to smuggle dozens of anti-tank and surface to air missiles, in addition to hundreds of automatic rifles believed to be sent for rebel forces. Similarly, northern border troops have seized various weapons and large amounts and drugs that were to be smuggled into the kingdom.

The UN refugee agency has issued an internal self-evaluation report, which has been issued in Syria under the title “From slow boil to breaking point”, has made it clear that many Syrians who have escaped their country are now desperate to escape from UN refugee camps, where women are not safe and teenage boys are recruited as soldiers to fight in the conflict that has so far claimed the lives of more than 100,000 including 2014 fighters from both sides since the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan. The report has added that organized crime networks are operating in Zaatari Camp, which has been described as “lawless in many ways”, with resources that are constantly stolen or vandalized; refugees are paying up to \$ 500 to middlemen to get out. Violent crackdowns by Jordanian police are expected attempting to wipe out crimes and smuggling. The UN report has also stated that many Syrian children were not attending school in Jordan and Lebanon, but the UN official said there was evidence that many were attending seditious religious schools as well other evidence of a new trend of minors, Europeans and North Africans from Tunisia and Algeria, who had crossed into Syria for the Jihad, repeating of the so-called “Birds of Paradise”, children trained by Al Qaeda to carry out suicide bombings in Iraq, the report concludes. This comes amid United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights statement, calling for an independent investigation to be conducted on information stating that the armed rebellion has carried out mass executions of Syrian troops loyal to President Bashaar Al Asaad in “Khan Al Asaal” town in Aleppo during July, where UN chemical weapons’ inspectors are expected to visit the town very soon to verify alleged news that chemical weapons have been used by Syrian troops and the rebel forces in addition to two other suspected sites.

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Meanwhile, the UN refugee agency is trying to cope with a massive humanitarian crisis; with some 5000 Syrians flee their country to neighboring countries on a daily basis. After one year of establishing the Zaatari Camp, which has become a small temporary protracted city that has become the fifth Jordanian city in terms of population density and the world's second biggest camp that has all types of commercial shops, educational, medical and entertainment facilities and costs some \$1 million a day to run. The latest UNHCR registration statistics have brought the number of registered and pending registration Syrians to some 517,000. Political observers fear that the current refugee crisis could permanently alter the demographics of Jordan, just as the Palestinian exoduses of 1948 and 1967 did, making the country as home to a largest population living in Diaspora.

Jordan and the Syrian opposition are currently in talks over the opening of a representation office in Amman, according to the Syrian National Coalition (SNC) that has released a press statement announced that the Jordanian government has given its initial verbal agreement to allow the coalition to open its first official representative office in Jordan to handle political and refugee affairs as early as September. However, this agreement does not represent a change in Jordan's position calling for a peaceful political solution to the Syrian crisis and to help the coalition's efforts to raise support for Syrian refugees' population. As part of the arrangement, Jordan will allow Syrian opposition leaders to travel freely between Jordan and rebel-controlled areas along the Jordanian-Syrian border. Accordingly, Jordan has allowed the Head of SNC Ahmed Al Jarba to cross its borders to visit Daraa city, where he performed Eid prayer, inspected the rebel forces and residents before he returned to Jordan the same day.

The SNC, which has been granted diplomatic recognition by 24 states since its formation last November, currently has a strong presence in the Zaatari Refugee Camp in northern Jordan and has unofficial offices in Amman and Irbid.

With the ongoing influx of Syrians to Jordan and in attempt to ease the pressure on Zaatari Camp, Jordan is set to finalize preparations for its third Syrian camp. The facility is expected to receive its first refugee families early September, according to UNHCR, as the agency and the Jordanian government are preparing the final steps to complete the Mkheizen Al Gharbieh camp located 20 Km west of the eastern city of Azraq, built on 60,000 dunums plot of

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land. The camp is designed to host up to 50,000 Syrians in its initial phase, according to UN officials, with and expandable capacity of up to 130,000.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is going to launch a counter trafficking program, targeting Syrian refugees and host communities. Assessments made by several humanitarian organizations highlighted the need to carry out this task. The assessments cited human rights violations such as child labour and early marriages. The initial phase of the program, co-financed by the Japanese government and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), will be implemented in the northern government of Mafrqa. The program also seeks to bring the local community and Syrian refugees together in a bid to reduce social tension and promote cohesion. Moreover, the program will also include several awareness raising and capacity building sessions in addition to direct assistance, both cash and in-kind for families who are most in need to prevent them from falling victim to trafficking. IOM has been implementing a vocational training, held in cooperation with the British Council along with conducting classes to combat illiteracy, which aims to avoid survival sex and child labor as some 30,000 Syrian children are currently working in Jordan, mostly as street peddlers and agrarians, according to Secretary General of Ministry of Labour.

Meanwhile, The Regional Spokesperson of UNICEF has noted that there are 241,000 Syrian refugee children in Jordan, including 60,000 in Zaatari Camp. The agency has requested \$150 million from donor countries to continue implementing its programs in Jordan and has received \$80 million, which is considered temporarily sufficient to implement its programs for Syrian refugees in Jordan. Currently, UNICEF, in cooperation with its partners, is providing 4 million water liters on a daily basis in Zaatari Camp, in addition to 9 friendly youths spaces and playgrounds, 27 children friendly safe spaces, immunization to camp new comers aged 6 months- 30 years old against polio, measles, and running 2 schools that host 12,000 children. A total of 1,300 Syrian students residing in Jordan will sit for their high school examinations. The exams will take place in several Ministry of Education's departments and in cooperation with the Higher Examination Committee affiliated with the Syrian National Coalition.

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Director of Syrian refugees' affairs has explained that the Iris Scanning technique will be implemented in two weeks, starting from the Zaatari Camp. Following the scanning process, Syrian refugees will be given new electronic cards and will be registered again more accurately in an aim to facilitate the procedures pertaining to their residency information and distribution of assistance. He has also added that the overall number of Syrians in Jordan is 1.3 million, including 551,013 since the outbreak of the crisis in March 2011, and the refugees' number inside the camps is 137,115, while the rest are scattered in the governorates. The number of Syrians who have obtained the special services cards is 444,468, noting that the Directorate of Syrian refugees' affairs will put an end to all types of smugglings from and to outside the camp. More recent statistics have been provided by Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO), which has stated that urban refugees comprise 75 per cent of total refugees' population distributed in different governorates: 30 per cent in Amman, 45 per cent in the northern region, 15 per cent in the middle and 3 per cent in the southern region. JHCO has indicated that charity organizations have not received any in-kind assistance this year for the Syrian refugees on the occasion of Eid Al Fiter, unlike former years when JHCO received much assistance during Ramadan and before the Eid.

Meanwhile, Jordan Minister of Foreign Affairs predicted that number of Syrian refugees will make up 40 per cent of Jordan's population- which now stands at 6.8 million- by mid of 2014 unless the crisis ends.

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## 2. Caritas Response:

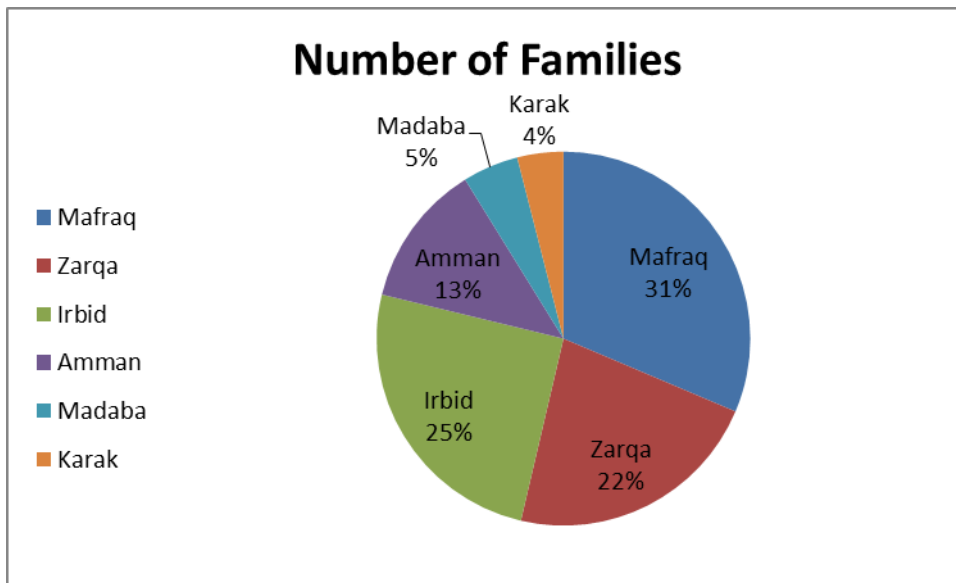


The following table and chart clarify Caritas Registration process until June 2013. Total number of registered individuals with Caritas Jordan came to **146,801** making up **27,792** households.

Date	Caritas Center						
	Mafraq	Zarqa	Irbid	Amman	Madaba	Karak	TOTAL
30.06.2013							
Number of Families	8720	6193	6984	3445	1343	1107	27,792
Number of Individuals	44908	28785	39738	21008	6373	5989	146,801
Average Family Size	5.15	4.65	5.69	6.10	4.75	5.41	
Average Daily Registration/Family	30	70	55	40	15	10	



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According to the CJ database that counts some **27,792** families (June 2013 statistics); urban refugees are mostly located in northern Jordan (Mafraq and Irbid) and central Jordan (Amman and Zarqa).

### **Caritas Jordan Emergency Response Plan 2013**

During 2013, CJ has honed and updated the CJ- ERP in line with UN-RRP5 to cover new areas of intervention that include: **Counseling, Awareness Raising, Income Generating Activities (IGAs), Reproductive Health Care (RHC), Mother and Child Care and Nutrition**, as follows:

#### **1. Emergency Humanitarian Assistance:**

The EHA intervention resumed in Feb.2013 and entailed the main emergency activities for the needy Syrian families, namely Bedding Materials (Mattresses, Cover Sheets, Pillows), Food Vouchers and NFIs Vouchers (Personal Hy-

giene items and Detergents), targeting **6774** households Syrian families, with 30% allocated for vulnerable Jordanians.

#### **2. Medical Assistance:**

Through the main Emergency Appeal (EA) project, Caritas Jordan has focused on Medical Assistance for **5000** Syrians and Jordanians,

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which includes Primary Health Care, Secondary Health Care, Reproductive Health Care, Medical Humanitarian Assistance, Child Health Nutrition and Health Awareness.

**3. Education Assistance:**

Targeting **2080** students, introducing different educational approaches; enrolling **700** Syrian students with *Non-Formal Education classes and educational activities*, **300** Jordanian students with *intensive education course*, **600** Syrian students at risk of drop-out with *Informal education activities*, **300** (15-40 aged) for *life skills training* and **30** People With Disabilities (PWDs) engaged with *therapy Education for Disabled*, in addition to **150** children (4-5 years) enrolled in pre-school KG learning.

**4. Tailored Assistance:**

CJ has equipped seven field teams all over Jordan to address **3500** Syrian households' specific needs, providing different Detailed Assis-

tance such as Dry Food, Fresh Food, Clothes and Shoes, Baby Kits, Infant Formula and Diapers, Shelter Improvement, Rent Assistance and Fumigation service.

**5. Mother and Child Care:**

CJ has placed an emphasis on well-being of the extremely vulnerable groups, thus has reflected careful attention towards Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) and Children Under 5 (CU5), providing Infant Formula and Diapers, Baby kits, Health kits, Infant Kits, counseling sessions, awareness sessions, Natal Health Care (NHC) and Healthy Nutrient Food.

**6. Income-Generating Activities (IGAs):**

Cooking, Sewing and Babysitting are the main IGAs activities provided to Syrian females provided by Caritas Jordan through 6 training levels; Theoretical, Practical, Employment skills, Entrepreneurship, Material Activity and Home Follow-up visits for **230** females.



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### Current projects during 2013:

#### 1. Emergency Appeal (EA44)



Until June 2013, Caritas Jordan received **98 %** of additional funds to cover new services.

The secured amount (\$1,329,762) for Emergency Appeal (EA 44), in addition to the revision until 30th of June 2013, have permitted Caritas to receive Syrian and Jordanian patients in areas of interventions (Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Karak and extend the services to other underserved areas such as Balqa). So far, the project has managed to respond to the medical needs of Syrian and needy Jordanians who receive primary and secondary health care services through Caritas Centers, as well as mother and child health care, reproductive health along with awareness raising and counseling sessions and a provision of food and non-food items.

With the additional funding, the project has managed to target 5,650 individuals instead of 5000 (as planned in the revised budget before). Those will receive primary health care services, while 3,137 individuals are expected to receive secondary health care services as outpatient instead of 2,643, and 350 inpatient cases as planned.

Furthermore, the revised EA44 project has assigned more services to start in July 2013, which allocated 100 cases for Medical Humanitarian Assistance, 267 cases for Reproductive Health Care instead of 100, 272 cases instead of 100 for Child Health Nutrition Care for 3 months, adding monthly Chronic Medication for 190 Chronic patients for 6 months, in addition to 10 Counseling sessions, 10 Health awareness sessions and 5 Social awareness sessions for 500 beneficiaries. Meanwhile, monthly provision of Food Items (FIs) and Non-Food Items (NFIs) have reached 123 families instead of 500 families as planned in revised budget.

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## 2. In-Kind Material

In cooperation with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Caritas is implementing a *Material Resources project* during 2013-2014. The project provides:

Items	Quantity
School Kits	39,988
Relief Kits	4,000
Hygiene Kits	15,000
Blankets	20,000
Infant Kits	1000
Medical Equipment	100
Bath Soap	10 (Carton)
Laundry Soap	20 (Carton)
Dried Vegetable Soup	1236

- Voucher System

During the summer of 2012, Caritas Jordan initiated voucher assistance for Syrian refugees as part of a new approach designed to respond more effectively to their needs in a way that was adapted to the local context. Voucher assistance is an excellent response modality for urban refugees in the Jordanian context where a well-functioning economy and market prevail. Caritas Jordan chose the Jordanian military cooperative network for the redemption of vouchers, which has a tremendous capacity in terms of national coverage and range of basic items (with the exception of clothing and shoes).

The voucher mechanism is highly appreciated by beneficiaries as a preferable option to food package distribution because it gives people choice through the ability to buy what they need according to their own priorities and taste. Members of Caritas staff also perceive it to be a very effective response, as well as a more dignified method than in-kind assistance.

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The chain of sales outlets such as the Military Consumer Corporation or Civil Consumer Corporation proved to be successful as it gave the Syrian consumers the opportunity to purchase their most needed items from their areas of living in easy and transparent means.

The Military Consumer Corporation (MCC) is an independent association that was established as a cooperative agency for the purpose of assisting local communities to provide basic food and non-food items with low prices, hiring the civilian people for the sake of decreasing the unemployment rate in Jordan. All the profits go to cover the operational cost and assisting the needy people by providing two national occasional food and NFI's packaging campaigns, besides assisting the retired military who are in need such as, handicapped, elders, and orphans.

- **Counseling Identification & Referral System**

**The Identification Mechanism:**

Method of work entails case studies by caseworkers in each center who meet with Syrians and conduct needs assessment studies. Caritas caseworkers assess Syrians living physical and psychological health conditions and build a mutual trust. Syrians are registered in the CJ appointments system to be assisted through counseling activities in each area. Each CJ staff member is well- trained on how to deal with each case file, respect privacy and determine types of services that are going to be granted.

Caritas Jordan receives GBV survivors in its premises, demonstrate a friendly approach and build trust with those who are willing to express themselves. Caritas psychologists will encourage survivors to talk, while case managers will determine what survivors' services are highly needed and act accordingly after obtaining survivors' consent and avoid being judgmental.

CJ-Counseling unit has reactivated the Referral System of the severe cases who are in need of advanced psychological treatment delivered by specialists or psychiatrists, People with Disabilities (PWD's), Mental Health Care patients, Victims of Violence, Learning for Disabili-

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ties and those who are requesting legal assistance, in cooperation and close coordination with different NGOs, CBOs and other specialized centers, as follows:

Referrals	Agencies
Gender- Based Violence -GBV	UN-protection UNIT
Mental Health Care	World Health Organization- WHO
Victims of Violence	Center for Victims of Torture- CVT
People With Disabilities – PWDs	Zein AL-Sharaf Development Center
Learning for disabilities	Noor Al-Hussein Foundation – NHF
Legal assistance	“Adaleh” for legal assistance
Family dispute resolutions	Family Protection Directorate- FPD

Caritas refers survivors of different local CBOs, governmental bodies, UNHCR protection unit, WHO and other international NGOs, based on types of services each women need and harms they have suffered as a result of violence that might be physical, verbal, emotional, sexual, legal and others. Caritas has an effective referral system dealing with active local NGOs such as Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), Zein Al Sharaf Centre, Jordan River Foundation (JRF), Family Protection Directorate (FPD), Centre of Victims of Torture (CVT), as well as forensic doctors, legal institutions such as Mizan and Adalleh, Dar Al Wefaq association for women sheltering and some education and vocational training centers such YWCA, Shneller and Cardinal centers. Caritas Jordan caseworkers have adequate experiences and demeanors in social work, holders of medical, humanities and law backgrounds and certifications. Caritas arranges frequent capacity building trainings on positive communication, peace-building, conflict resolutions and reconciliation, counseling, psycho-social support, stress management, advocacy and volunteerism.

Caritas caseworkers have signed code of conduct and ethics not to violate any regulations and abide by Caritas principles, always reminded about to keep information confidential, build trust and provide warm reception atmosphere to beneficiaries, as well as to demonstrate solidarity and mutual understanding with their beneficiaries.

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- **Coordination mechanism & UN WGs**

As a member of the UNHCR Syria Regional Response Plan 5 and the UNICEF Educational Working Group, Caritas routinely interacts with the CBOs, NGOs and UN agencies that also provide similar services to Syrian refugees in Jordan. The purpose of these networks is to exchange information, discuss lessons learned in working with this relatively new target population, and avoid duplication of services given the relatively large number of organizations working in the education sector.

In this regard, Caritas Jordan has hired a Liaison Officer to attend sectors working group meetings on a regular basis. His responsibilities entail create fruitful networks with acting UN and NGOs sectorial meeting, exchange expertise and lists of names of beneficiaries who receive same services from other organizations, as well as visit those NGOS and closely coordinate in referrals and putting bi-lateral work plans.

Because Caritas is a large organization with branches spread throughout Jordan, internal coordination is a key for projects success. Use of its unified database, as well as routine internal coordination meetings will ensure that all Caritas branches involved in projects are connected with each other, sharing lessons learned, and avoiding overlap of services.

- **30% allocation for Jordanians /CJ-Ramadan campaign**

Maintaining a strong, open relationship with the government is critical to successful service deliveries to beneficiaries; as such, Caritas will continue its close coordination, cooperation, and communication with Ministry of Social Development (MoSD), Ministry of Education (MoE) and Ministry of Health (MoH).

Caritas has always placed an emphasis on providing assistance to poor Jordanians, with an aim to defuse tensions and frictions between refugees and local communities in response to Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) directives as well as Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC). This trend has been applied to all Caritas-funded projects.

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Caritas encourages positive integration and interaction between the two communities, organizing events and activities that bring them together and help them accept each other, exchange experiences and skills and hone co-existence and integration.

During the holy month of Ramadan, Caritas Jordan, in cooperation with Ministry of Social Development ( MoSD) distributed food and non-food items to a number of Syrian and Jordanian families in Amman, Zarqa, Mafraq, Irbid and Karak. This gesture aimed at building strong relations and demonstrates solidarity, encouraging inter-faith relations and co-existence.

#### **Future prospects 2014:**

##### **Winterization campaign**

Caritas has started implementing winterization projects in cooperation with Caritas Germany and Caritas Denmark. Another project that is funded by Austrian government is likely to begin in November 2013. Some 11500 households are intended to receive thermal items to overcome the cold season.

##### **PHC & emergency clinics in Mafraq and Madaba**

In response to refugees' and local communities' tremendous medical needs, two new clinics are to be opened in Mafraq and Madaba. The clinics are expected to ease the transportation burdens on Syrian refugees and poor Jordanians who pursue proper medical treatment nearby and are also expected to support other humanitarian organizations in networking and referring cases to other organizations.

##### **IGAs for Syrian females**

Caritas Projects have tackled the issues of livelihoods and women empowerment. In this regard, many women undergo cooking, sewing and babysitting classes, in an aim to raise their capacities and provide them with beneficial working chances.



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### **Pre-schooling**

Caritas has embarked on receiving KG early learners, assisting mothers to provide those with early skills that can help them in the higher educational levels and increase the knowledge of mothers on how to use proper means in raising their children. This project is currently implemented in cooperation with Caritas Germany and supported by Caritas local partners and charity schools. KG pre-schooling learning has become one of the integral parts of a learning process that Caritas is offering to poor Syrians. Refugee children don't have opportunities to be enrolled in KG learning in Jordan as this type of education is not available in public schools, where Syrian refugees' children receive free education. Moreover, this type of education is carried out by private schools and institutions, which are not affordable by Syrian refugees.

The learning process through setting up pre-school KGs extends knowledge to infants who are in need for preparing themselves for formal education, learning alphabets, geometric and stories telling, dances, songs and poems.

Further, the activities entail disabled students who are facing learning hindrances and cognitive challenges.

Caritas Jordan provides them with educational therapy, physiotherapy in addition to awareness for parents on how to deal and react with their children needs and performances. the classes, the playgrounds, yards and amenities of each school in Latin and Melkite charity schools are allocated for the activities. These schools are very cooperative and keen on doing humanitarian work.

### **Education for disabled**

Caritas has also placed an emphasis on the special needs of the disabled, allowing them to enjoy a decent life like others do. Caritas has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with "Our Lady of Peace Centre" (OLOPC), one of the leading centers that handle medical, educational, shelter, food and non-food needs of those categories. Under this MOU, Caritas Jordan will refer disabled cases to the center to receive all basic their needs and services.

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### **Reproductive health care for mothers and Child**

Caritas Jordan takes a holistic approach to educating refugee children, meaning that Caritas examines and seeks to alleviate the underlying causes of parents' decisions not to send their children to school. As part of the standard care provided to all refugees who register in Caritas remote area centers, Caritas conducts full needs assessments with each beneficiary family to determine the level of health care, NFI or food vouchers, education or any assistance required by each family.

Generally, Syrian families come to Jordan with around 4 children. Some of the Syrian children have left schools in their country due to war conditions and destruction of educational facilities; others are not enrolled in schools at all since they are coming from rural areas, which lack sufficient schools as well as proper means of transportation. The curriculum in Syria is in Arabic and they start English language classes when students are 11 years (5th elementary). Some lost their school documents or the academic years and come to Jordan afterwards and because of this, they could not be registered in the Jordanian schools.

Caritas is expected to cover some 3000 beneficiaries that are served through three projects: Caritas Australia, PRM and EA.

### **Monthly provision of food and NFIs Vouchers**

The protracted stay of Syrian refugees is believed to exhaust their resources, amid prohibited work chances and increasing commodities prices. Jordanians are also affected with high rates of inflation, poverty and unemployment, which make their access to livelihoods extremely difficult. Therefore, Caritas will continue to support those categories of people and provide them with fundamental needs on a monthly basis.

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### 3. Additional Comments/ Remarks:

- ❖ German Ambassador in Amman has inaugurated the new Child and Family Protective Place for Syrian Refugees in Zarqa. The facility is supported by the German government in cooperation with UNICEF. With Germany's support, over 120,000 refugees in camps have access to clean drinking water, more than 44,000 Syrian children have access to schooling, and an additional 68,000 have been reached by psychosocial services and recreational programs, according to a German embassy statement.
- ❖ The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the UNDP have recently signed a memorandum of understanding within the framework of a project seeking to alleviate the impact of the Syrian crisis on Jordanian host communities in Irbid and Mafraq. The two sides will work to boost municipal services and improve waste management in the two governorates.
- ❖ WHO representative in Jordan has announced that the organization has decided to urgently support Jordan Ministry of Health with \$5 million. WHO has received this grant from Kuwait with an aim to fulfill the medical needs of Jordanians and Syrian refugees in the mostly populated areas, especially in the northern Governorates.
- ❖ Spain has announced a new contribution of 500,000 euros (around JD 469,749) to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as part of its efforts to support Jordan in hosting Syrian refugees, according to the Spanish embassy. Spain has also made a contribution of 450,000 euros (around JD 422,774) to UNHCR to support its financial assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugees living in urban areas of Jordan.
- ❖ The Australian government has recently announced an additional financial support of 21.5 million Australian dollars for Syrian refugees in different parts of the world, including those in Jordan. According to a statement issued by the Australian embassy, total humanitarian assistance presented by Australia for the refugees has gone up to \$100 million since the onset of the crisis in Syria in 2011.

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- ❖ The Chinese government has decided to provide Jordan with a new humanitarian assistance worth \$2.5 million to assist the Syrian refugees. The Chinese embassy has clarified that this is the third assistance provided by China to Jordan. Two former assistances had been provided as an emergency humanitarian assistance worth 15 million to assist Syrian refugees in Jordan in August 2012, in addition to financial assistance worth \$200,000 to provide aid to Syrian refugees in Jordan in early 2013 through IOM.
- ❖ The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that it will provide Jordan with a \$120 million soft loan to assist Syrian refugees. Japan provided Jordan with \$120 loan last year and has so far assisted Syrian refugees with \$95 million through international organizations since the beginning of the crisis and at least 40% of this amount or some \$37 million has been earmarked to Syrian refugees in Jordan.
- ❖ The World Islamic Charity Organization has said it will launch some projects for Syrian refugees in Jordan, namely providing 1000 houses, 2 schools, 2 hospitals and two mosques in the Zaatari Camp worth \$7 million. The organization launched similar projects in Turkey for Syrian refugees worth \$10 million, in addition to running other charity projects in Sudan, Pakistan and Somalia.
- ❖ The Saudi campaign for assisting Syrian refugees in Jordan has assisted pregnant Syrian women with normal and caesarean birthing operations in some Jordanian hospitals, especially those who have suffering from stress due to the health and psychological unrest, in addition to children who lack nutrients and suffer malnutrition. The campaign has also provided 35,000 Ramadan meals in the Zaatari camp.
- ❖ The Near East Churches Council Society concluded its food distribution during Ramadan. The society distributed during the holy fasting month 1150 food stuff to 1150 Syrian refugee families in Zarqa, Amman and Irbid, in addition to implementing 4 training programs for 200 Syrian refugee women.

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- ❖ Eight volunteers from the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) concluded an educational program that targeted boys at the Zaatari Camp. In addition, KOICA volunteers have been implementing activities that target people with disabilities in Mafraq, in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development.
- ❖ The Southern Mazar Centre for Orphans (Karak) provides monthly assistance to around 950 Syrian families. The center has recently distributed aid parcels to 650 Syrian families residing in the southern parts of Karak, with each parcel containing JD 35 worth of food, including meat and poultry.

#### 4. Restored Hope

*"I arrived to Jordan after a long difficult trip from Syrian to the Jordanian borders... since we escaped without any formal papers, we entered illegally and we were sent to a refugee camp"...*



Dalal Bader talking with Caritas Case worker at Caritas Center/ Mafraq area...photo by CJ

Dalal Khader Bader, a Syrian female refugee, arrived to Jordan in April 6, 2013 along with her 4 kids' 2 boys and 2 girls aged between 4- 14 years old, her mother, seven siblings and sister in law. Her husband passed away years ago and since then she has been the responsible of this big family.

In the camp they lived harsh moment as Dalal explains *"the camp is a total mess and it is not at all a place suitable for human be-*

*ings... my mother is sick and she needs regular medical care and the atmosphere in the camp was not healthy for her."*

With the help of a Jordanian family, Dalal and her family were bailed out of the camp. They went to Mafraq area where they managed to rent a small house.

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"The house we found is too small to fit 14 persons but we have no had no choice since we need this shelter". Says Dalal Her 14-year old son goes to work at a shop and he get some money on a daily basis to get only bread for the family. "food is a huge problem to us beside the rent of the house. We are a big family and we I need to provide food especially for my young kids." Explains she.

Dalal approached caritas Center in Mafraq area where she was received and registered to take the needed assistance.

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*"From Caritas I received a food voucher each month to get food for my family... I have the*

*opportunity with this voucher to go and choose what food I need and prefer for my kids".*

Dalal purchased meat, chicken and vegetables for her family "my kids were overwhelmed to see the food I brought with the vouchers... this meant a lot for me and it sure helped with easing the burden of the life conditions here" concludes Dalal

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