

Weekly Report  
Public Health and Nutrition Jordan  
Week 39 HIS  
Report Date October 7<sup>th</sup> 2013

## 1. Operational Highlights and Situation update

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- Number of new arrivals increases with 3,708 arriving between the 29th September to 6th October
- 8 staff of Mafraq Public Health laboratory trained in rotavirus testing and kits provided; capacity to test for rotavirus is a major advance in the public health outbreak response for residents of Za'atari camp and of Mafraq Governorate.
- 46,777 health services were provided by the Ministry of Health hospitals in Irbid from January to September of which 6051 were admissions to hospitals and 1775 were surgeries (more data section 5).
- UNICEF delivered the second shipment of 2,033,810 doses of Measles-Rubella and 390,000 doses of Polio vaccines which will be used during the upcoming National Immunization Campaign (NIC)

## 2. Population

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Total Syrian persons of concern in Jordan as of 6th October is 536,405 registered Syrians. The registration backlog has been cleared. New arrivals numbers have increased with 3,708 new arrivals registered between 29th of September to 6th October 2013.

Table 1:

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|---|---------|
| Total active Syrians registered with UNHCR in Jordan                              | 536,405 |
| Number of Syrians waiting to be registered with UNHCR                             | 0       |
| Number of persons collecting WFP ration in Zaatri*                                | 109,332 |
| Number residing in Emirati Jordanian Camp as of 6 <sup>th</sup> October           | 3,921   |
| Number of new arrivals from 29 <sup>th</sup> September to 6 <sup>th</sup> October | 3,708   |

\*first distribution cycle in September

## 3. Coordination and Assessments

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- Two laboratory specialists from the Centres for Disease Control (CDC) have undertaken a three week mission to Jordan facilitated by UNHCR in order to: a) assess the present laboratory capacity of each of the Za'atari health facilities, the Mafraq Public Health laboratory and that of the Women's and Children's Hospital in Mafraq; b) liaise with the national Central Public Health Laboratory (Amman) and the Ministry of Health (Mafraq, Amman)

- concerning priority actions for up-grading the lab facilities in Mafraq; c) initiate the process of establishing two diarrhoeal disease sentinel sites in Za'atari. **Outcomes:** the specific needs (e.g. additional lab equipment, staff training) for up-grading the Mafraq lab facilities have been identified and agreed upon with the Ministry of Health (MoH). Funding support from CDC and UNHCR for the defined up-grade are being finalised. Mafraq Public Health laboratory was equipped to undertake rotavirus testing on 3<sup>rd</sup> October; laboratory workshop by CDC, MoH, the CPHL and UNHCR for all health agencies in Za'atari was conducted focusing on specimen collection techniques for key diseases of outbreak potential; diarrhoeal disease surveillance will be established in two sites in Zaatri.
- Jordan Valley Rapid Assessment planning meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> of October with participation of MedAir, Oxfam, JHAS, EMPHNET, Aman Association, UNHCR and MOH. **Main outcomes:** Assessment sites will include North and Middle Jordan Valley (Irbid and Balqa governorates); sampling will be purposive and targeting worst affected areas; tools will be developed based on IASC/Initial Rapid Assessment tool and will include Key Informant interviews, focus group discussions, observation, facility visits and household visits. Assessment will focus on health but will include WASH components, education, non- food items and shelter; data collection phase is planned for November.
  - JHAS Outreach team conducted assessment in September in Al Ramtha; 1000 families totalling 5.490 family members were interviewed. **Main findings:** 100 or 1.8% were pregnant and 2.4% lactating women; 2% were unaccompanied women with children; many families were found living in commercial stores with only one room often with poor ventilation; difficulties were expressed accessing medical services due to the distance, and the high cost (for unregistered refugees). The majority of unregistered receive medical services in JHAS clinic in Ramtha or Irbid; large numbers of school age children are not in school (reasons given include cannot afford, not registered with UNHCR, and children have to work).
  - National Health Coordination Meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September. **Main outcomes:** Reproductive Health sub-working group and Nutrition Sub working group will invite interested NGOs to co-chair; the Terms of Reference of the Health Sector Working group will be circulated and revised; three Task forces to be led by NGOs and Ministry of Health are proposed one Non-Communicable Diseases; one for community health and one for assessments; draft TORs will be

#### 4. New arrivals

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- From 25<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October IOM medical team vaccinated 546 new arrivals against polio, 1,589 against measles and 508 were provided with Vitamin A. Since 16<sup>th</sup> April, 49,025 children and adults from 6 months to 30

- years have been vaccinated against measles and 14,480 children (0-5 years) against polio. 13,364 children (6-59 months) were provided with vitamin A.
- From 25<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 IOM medical team provided health checks for Syrian refugees upon arrival to Za'atri camp for 2,311 individuals; 76 individuals with medical conditions requiring immediate referral or treatment (red cases) and 272 individuals with non-urgent medical conditions (yellow cases ) were referred to camp health clinics.

## 5. Health services

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### Urban

- 12,085 services in total were provided to Syrians in all Public Health Centre (PHC) in Irbid in September; Dahiyet Al Hussain center was the highest provider of health services where 1550 services were provided to Syrians followed by Ramtha PHC which provided 1012 services.
- 6799 services were provided by all hospitals in Irbid in September to Syrians of which 654 were admissions and 141 were surgeries. Princess Basma Hospital provided 2588 services: Ramtha hospital 1755, Yarmouk Hospital 804, Princess Badeea Hospital – 531 and Princess Raya hospital – 286;
- UNHCR conducted town hall meetings with refugees in Ma'an, Karak and Tafleh. Main health findings. Many cases were not registered or had expired registration; women complained of lack of female gynaecologist. Public health centre clients were asked to copy the asylum seeker certificate and the MOI service card many times (2- 3 times) during every visit, which increased cost and time. Outcomes: Refugees were given information on health issues, type of services and access for valid and expired registration certificates; direct link made between Ma'ans Orphans and JHAS mobile team as well as with All Jordan Youth Commission in Al-Tafyeelah Governorate, in order to address complicated and urgent cases they may face.

### Zaatri

- Detailed planning of the health activities to be implemented during the registration verification exercise has been finalised. As part of the verification process, nutritional status assessment (MUAC) of all children 6 to 59 months and of pregnant and lactating women will take place. routine immunisation (EPI) in young children and tetanus toxoid in women of reproductive age will be provided. A patient health card will be distributed to all persons who are being registered. The health card will be used as a personal record for registering basic consultation data (e.g. date of consultation, camp health facility visited, diagnosis, treatment provided). The health card will be kept by the patient. Camp-wide messaging is being provided by the approximately 120 community health workers across all 12 districts in Za'atari.
- During the past two weeks, 372 children under five years old visited the eight Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) corners established in Za'atari. The

majority were cases of watery diarrhoea with no dehydration, while 29 were referred to health facilities and Diarrheal Treatment Units (DTUs) for further assessment. A total of 388 ORS sachets were distributed to children.

#### Azraq

- A joint agency visit (IFRC, IMC and UNHCR) was undertaken to the designated referral hospital (Jamil Tutanji). This tertiary facility, located ~45 minutes from the camp, will provide referral diagnostic, additional laboratory investigation and medical /surgical treatment, as required.
- Infrastructural development of Azraq camp continues with the initial ~200 temporary housing shelters in the process of being finalised. Pending the decision to open the camp to receive Syrian refugees, the IFRC staff contingent has reduced to six members with full scale up potential within 24 hours for stand-by international clinical staff to be deployed to Jordan.

## 6. Immunization

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- UNICEF delivered the second shipment of 2,033,810 doses of Measles-Rubella and 390,000 doses of Polio vaccines which will be used during the upcoming National Immunization Campaign (NIC)
- The National Immunization Campaign (NIC) micro planning in all 12 governorates and Za'atari camp is almost finalized. UNICEF started formative research on 20th September to assess and analyze perceptions, attitudes and practices of key stakeholders (parents, health care providers at central and district levels); based on the result of this formative research the IEC material will be developed and awareness campaign will be organized
- Three refugee mobilization planning meetings took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> for agencies working with refugees. The meeting was co-chaired by UNHCR and UNICEF. The purpose was to brief on the upcoming national vaccination campaign, discuss agency roles in the mobilization of refugees and determine IEC material needs of agencies. The result will be a mapping of all agencies mobilization activities in the field by geographical area and a distribution plan for the IEC material.

## 7. Communicable diseases and outbreak prone diseases

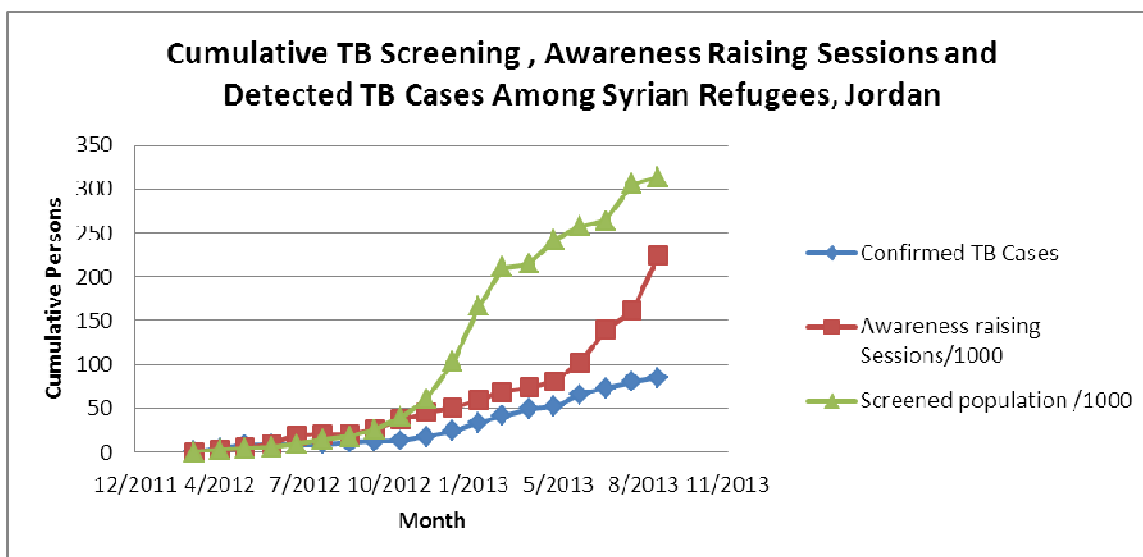
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- A laboratory workshop organised by CDC, MoH, the Central Public Health Laboratory and UNHCR for all health agencies in Za'atari was conducted focusing on specimen collection techniques for key diseases of outbreak potential (e.g. watery, bloody diarrhoea, meningitis, acute jaundice syndrome). Training on the use of a new specimen referral form also took place so as to strengthen the lab reporting system from Za'atari to the government public health/hospital laboratories.
- Permission has been requested from the Jordanian Food and Drug Administration (JFDA) for use of a medication (Pentostam) for the cases of cutaneous leishmaniasis that have been diagnosed amongst Syrian refugees

in Za'atari and Mafraq. A supply of Pentostam is available for importing to Jordan from Lebanon, pending JFDA approval.

## 8. Tuberculosis

- From 25th September to 1st October 2013 IOM medical team screened for TB 2,223 refugees (50% males and 50% females); one new case was diagnosed (confirmed extra-pulmonary TB). The total number of TB cases up to date is 85; 62 pulmonary TB including 3 MDR cases and 23 extra pulmonary. To date 27 cases completed treatment successful (20 pulmonary and 7 extra pulmonary).



## 9. Reproductive health

- IFH/UNFPA in EJC camp, conducted a 3-day MISP (Minimal Initial Service Package) for Reproductive Health in crisis situations training for 14 medical and para-medical personnel.
- UNFPA's implementing partners provided gynaecology and obstetrics consultations, antenatal and postnatal care consultations, and family planning methods (condoms, IUDs, pills, injectables) to 1863 women including 138 girls less than 18 years old this week. Services are available to women and girls regardless of their age and marital status. Those services were offered at UNFPA/Aman clinics covering Amman, the Southern governorates, and the Jordan Valley, and at UNFPA / JHAS clinics located in Amman, Mafraq, Ramtha, Irbid and Zarqa and in the refugee camps (KAP, CC, Za'atri).
- This week, IRC/UNFPA conducted a 5-day animation workshop for 8 Syrian girls aged 15-20 at the Za'atri camp. The outcome of this meeting will be two videos: one on early marriage and one on harassment. This workshop's objectives were to develop in a participatory manner prevention tools

around issues of importance to beneficiaries, while training and empowering young girls on video techniques / GBV prevention and awareness raising.

## 10. Nutrition

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- During the past week, 1,608 mothers and 889 children under five visited the four UNICEF/Save the Children Jordan (SCJ) Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) caravans in Za'atari and EJC camps. In addition, 2,530 children under five and lactating mothers received nutritional snacks.
- The second cycle of screening for moderately acutely malnourished (MAM) children aged less than five years has taken place as has the distribution of supplementary feeding (porridge) for the MAM cases and for the 90 individuals with cerebral palsy (CP).

## 11. Secondary and tertiary care

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- QRC in coordination with UNHCR has identified and selected 23 Syrian cases with congenital heart diseases for operations in Islamic hospital, Amman. This will start last week of October and is expected to last for 3 weeks.