

# IRAQ: RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE - APRIL

# EDUCATION



**11,950 children have benefitted from distribution of school and recreational kits.**

## APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:

The distribution of children, teacher and recreational kits will benefit 11,950 children. All the camp schools have received recreational kits that will provide resources for a number of sporting activities. UNICEF through their partner NRC and the MOE will provide after school sports, with particular focus on those that attract girls, which will provide a forum for the children to learn and practice social and cooperative skills. The summer schools will provide a catalyst to introduce these activities but is assumed that they will continue on a regular basis in the next academic year.

In April, UNICEF and Save the Children undertook consultations with 84 children and youth on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). These were part of a regional consultation programme on DRR which aimed to: (i) increase awareness of policy-makers on children's agenda on DRR to help influence policies; (ii) ensure inclusion of children's messages on DRR in the Regional Platform agenda in the Arab States in 2014, and (iii) increase visibility of UNICEF and the Children in a Changing Climate Coalition in the post-2015 HFA 2 agenda in the MENA Region and the World Conference on DRR in 2015.

Peace Wind Japan screened grade 1-9 children in seven camps for ENT, dermatology, ophthalmology and dentistry and provided appropriate treatment including provision of glasses and hearing aids.

The Education Working Group to advocate with the Ministry of Education over certification for the children in the camp schools who have been following the Syrian curriculum. Whilst the Ministry of Education has not formally outlined their plans for certification they have circulated a timetable for examinations for the camp schools following the Syrian curriculum, for all grades including translational grades 9 and 12.

A draft code of conduct was developed as one of a number of mitigating actions to combat violence in schools. This will be reviewed by the sector and then advocated for implementation at both Ministry and Directorate level.

263 teachers were trained in this month on ECD, PSS and Positive Discipline. This will benefit over 6000 children with improved quality and protection in the school. UNHCR Erbil funded 6 projects (2 in Erbil and 4 in Duhok cities) under Quick Impact projects (QIPS). The interventions are expansion of school capacity and improvement of sanitation facilities or renovation. The projects, benefiting 836 Syrian children, are ongoing with close monitoring from local NGO REACH and UNHCR.



## NEEDS ANALYSIS:

With a large number of school aged refugees in the urban areas the education sector recognizes the need to have a greater understanding of the situation for school aged refugees in the urban area. This is necessary to ensure that there is a targeted sector approach that meets the actual rather than perceived needs. A database for Arabic schools had already been developed but has not been updated since September 2013. This will be a priority for the sector in the next month.

Coordination of the Education sector has been greatly strengthened over the last few months with an increase in membership, regularity of meetings and representation at the inter-sectorial working group meetings. However stronger sector planning is necessary to ensure there is not duplication of effort, there is greater coordination with governorate level and finally a consensus on sector advocacy messages.

While access to education in camp schools is high, these schools lack teachers with appropriate training to deal with the emotional needs of their often-traumatized students. Absent psychosocial support mechanisms have meant that schools both in urban and camp have witnessed an increase in corporal punishment which has contributed to increased dropout rates.

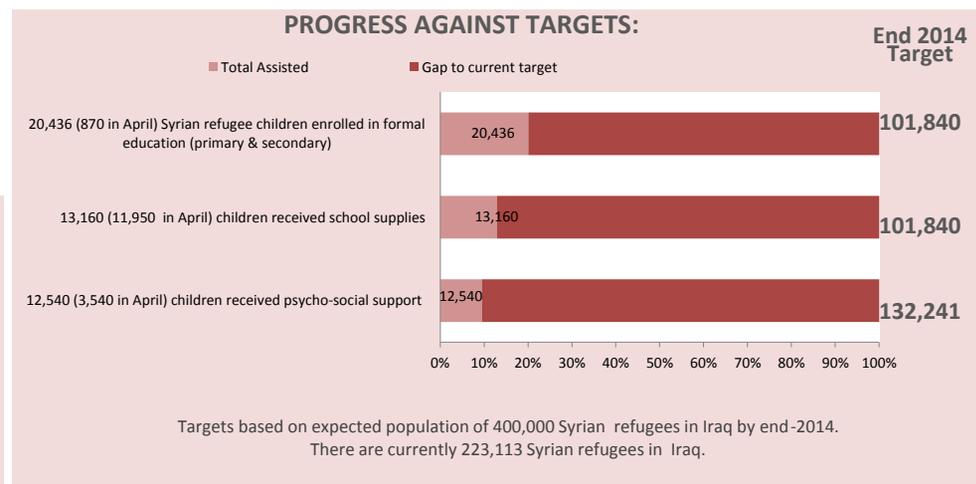
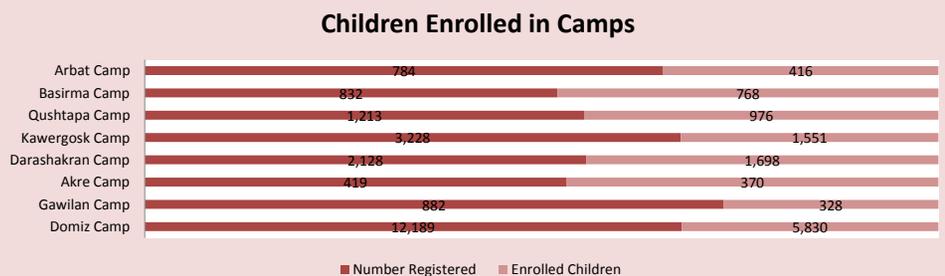
## SYRIAN REFUGEE POPULATION IN IRAQ:

**223,113**

**Current Refugee Population**

**400,000**

**Expected Refugee Population by end-2014**



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Participating Agencies: Save the Children, Norwegian Refugee Council, STEP, Triangle, Peace Wind Japan, IRC, REACH.