



1,905 persons in the camps are assisted in April

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:

Mercy Corps trained 336 18-25 year old Syrian refugees at a business and life skills training. This basic business and life skills training will be followed by vocational training in tailoring, beauty salon skills, computer skills, and English and Sorani language training.

IOM provided business management trainings, basic stall (shops) and In Kind Grant (IKG) packages to 340 Syrian refugees (280 in Darashakran and 60 in Basirma camp.

DRC conducted Business Development Training (BDT) for 236 beneficiaries in Dohuk and 49 beneficiaries in Basirma Camp. Refresher BDT courses were done in Dohuk for the 50 beneficiaries. In Qushtapa Camp, business and procurement plans for grant have been evaluated and completed. Job placements were done in Erbil for 41 refugees and 25 host community members, mainly in construction, malls and oil stations.

In Al-Obaidi Camp, continuation of the projects started in 2013. These projects are opening of 10 shops in the camp, providing hatcheries to 24 female households, bakeries providing bread and tuk-tuks for transportation inside the camp.

In Anbar, surveys about non-camps refugees are conducted to identify suitable projects for the future Quick Impact Projects (QIPs).



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

An ability to secure sufficient income is one of the key needs, with assessments showing that Syrian refugees in Iraq are not financially self-reliant, and struggle to find sustainable livelihood opportunities.

Up to 86 per cent of Syrian refugees say they have insufficient household income, 15 per cent report lacking food security, and up to 27 per cent saying they are unable to access sufficient food for their families through the local market.

As the Government and host communities in KR and Anbar extend their generosity in hosting Syrian refugees, the rising numbers in 2013 is impacting services and economies in local communities.

While Government policy allows registered refugees to work, difficulties in finding employment outside of the informal sector (where 80 per cent of refugee households reporting having someone employed) are a reality, as is competition within and between the host and refugee populations in the community.

For refugees living outside of camps (more than 60 per cent of the population), financial difficulties are exacerbated by competition for rental housing potentially driving up costs and leading to overcrowding and occupancy of substandard accommodation like unfinished buildings, tents and crowded apartments.

These difficulties in sustaining livelihoods mean that interventions that strengthen labour markets and increase vocational training opportunities, to the benefit of both refugee and host communities, should be a priority. An Age and Gender Diversity approach to these interventions is required to overcome some of the barriers, including cultural ones that might particularly restrict women's access to livelihood and self-reliance activities.

REFUGEE POPULATION IN IRAQ :

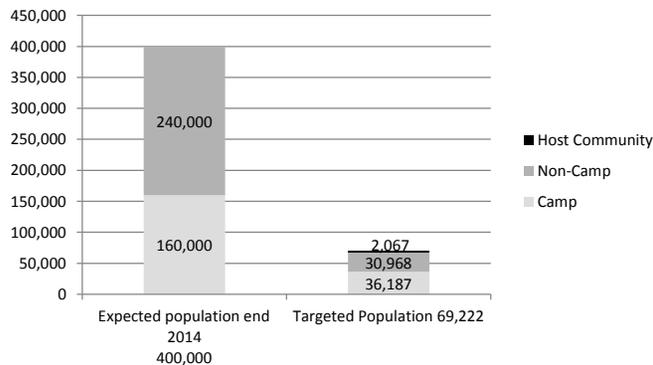
223,113

Current Refugee Population

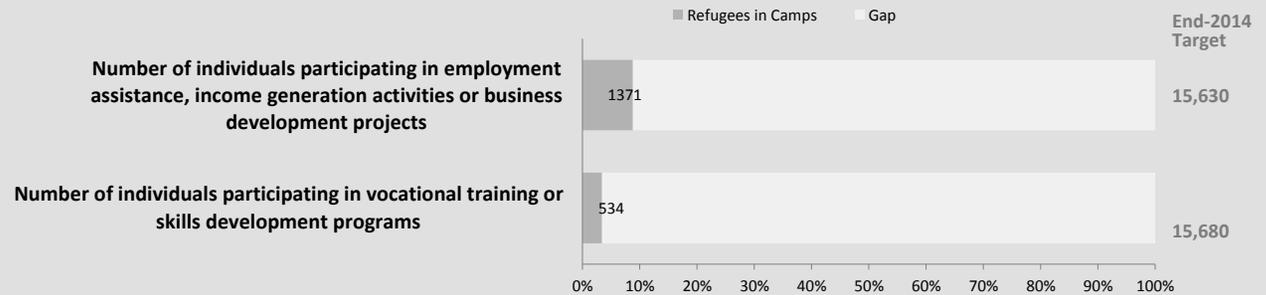
400,000

Expected Refugee Population by end-2014

Total targeted Population VS. Total Population End 2014



PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS:



Targets based on expected population of 400,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq by end-2014. There are currently 223,113 refugees.