

## KEY FIGURES

**614**

Individuals completed the biometric registration at the UNHCR Registration Centres in Kawergosk, Qushtapa, Darashakran, and Basirma camps

**139**

Cases of unaccompanied/separated minor are being managed in Duhok

**2,855**

Residency documents were issued for Syrian refugees in Erbil governorate

**677**

Families received winterization kits in Sulaymaniyah governorate

## FUNDING

**USD 474, 040, 412**

Requested by agencies for the Iraq response through the RRP6.

**30%**

Funded (USD 143,022,799) for 2014 (RRP6).

## PRIORITIES

- Winterization of camps and shelters (i.e. replacement and repair)
- Advocacy for inclusion of non-registered refugees for camp assistance programs

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

**215,387** Syrian refugees

## IRAQ

### INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE - SYRIA

16-30 September 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Resulting from recent attacks by ISIL-led armed groups in Kobane (Turkey), Syrian refugees are arriving in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I), crossing the Turkish-Iraqi border illegally. By end September, 50 families (245 individuals) arrived in the KR-I. The majority are arriving to Duhok and are sheltered at Gawilan refugee camp and were provided with CRIs. Five families (35 individuals) arrived to Basirma camp in Erbil and were transported by IOM with the support of local authorities.
- The tent-to-tent needs assessments to identify vulnerable families for distribution of winter assistance was completed in all four Erbil camps.
- The trend of Syrian refugees from urban areas moving to camps (Erbil governorate) continues. One of the challenges relates to concerns by authorities to register relocating refugees in camps due to capacity limitations. To this end, UNHCR continues to advocate with the authorities for the inclusion of the most vulnerable individuals in the assistance programs for the camp population.
- The 2014-2015 school year started and schools at refugee camps are active and serving nearly 4,500 Syrian students settled in camps in Duhok governorate. The new academic year for the Syrian refugee students started in Arbat permanent camp as well, (Sulaymaniyah governorate). In Erbil, all camp-based primary schools within the camps are operating.
- The enrolment rate remains low in refugee primary schools (Erbil governorate) due to the cost of school supplies, in particular text books and uniforms. UNICEF is reviewing the issue and providing necessary assistance.
- 4,354 Syrians returned from KR-I to Syria (3,756 were UNHCR registered).



*A Syrian boy leaves his classroom in Qushtapa refugee camp, Erbil. UNHCR/N.Colt.*

## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Operational Context

- The political situation in Iraq is progressing as negotiations between Baghdad and Erbil continue with the aim of solving outstanding issues. During a visit by the Iraqi speaker of Parliament to Erbil, the Kurdistan Region's Prime Minister confirmed that the Kurdish Ministers will return to Baghdad after the Eid holiday. In addition to that, it is reported that the new Iraqi Prime Minister Al-Abadi is planning to visit Erbil in the near future.
- The security situation remains tense in many parts of Iraq, including Ninewa Governorate and across much of central parts of the country. Kurdish (Peshmerga) forces, supported by Iraqi governmental forces and the anti-terrorist coalition airstrikes, are waging attacks on the areas controlled by ISIL-led armed groups.
- The continuing conflict in different parts of country, coupled with the Baji refinery stoppage, has impacted the economy, particularly the market sector. Petrol prices have increased from 500 Iraqi Dinars to 900 per liter. The property market has also been affected by the conflict.
- The humanitarian crisis in the country, namely the estimated 1.8 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), is putting pressure on authorities and host communities. The Head of the Iraqi High Committee on Displacement visited IDP sites in the KR-I and confirmed the GoI intention to continue assisting the IDPs and others affected by the ongoing conflict and hostilities.
- As a result of the recent security development in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I), the pontoon Bridge at Peshkabour border crossing point (connecting KR-I and Syria's Semalka border) has become a humanitarian corridor for the exchange of various commodities between KR-I and Syria.
- Reports indicate that some 200 people are waiting on the Syrian side of the Peshkabour border crossing with more families expected to arrive as attacks on Kurdish areas in Syria continue.

### Achievements



#### Protection

#### CAMP

##### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR monitored the relocation of 236 cases from Domiz-1 camp to Gawilan camp.
- In Duhok governorate, child protection actors have noticed an increase in cases of early marriage; a quick survey has been conducted to help explain whether there is an increase in reporting/identification of such cases, or if there is an increase in the early marriage pattern.
- During the reporting period, the protection networks in Erbil refugee camps launched a campaign against early marriages for camps in Erbil governorate. The campaign is linked to the commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child on 11 October that will be marked with activities targeting children, adolescents, women and men.
- Currently there are 139 cases of unaccompanied and separated children. In recent months, an increase in the identification of separated girls has been observed.
- In Akre, a protection support group for women at risk and early marriage started operating in the Community Centre. About seven girls aged 15 to 18 gather twice per week to knit and discuss their concerns.
- Issuance and renewal of residency documents for Syrian refugees continues in four camps and urban areas in Erbil governorate. In Kawergosk camp, the issuance and renewal of the residency document proceeds at a regular pace. An estimated 7,000 individuals have been issued or have received a renewal of their residency documents since the process was launched in October, 2013. By the end of the reporting period, around 4,400 residency documents have been issued to the eligible population in Darashakran camp. During the reporting period, a total of 2,855 residency documents were issued in Erbil governorate.

- The PARC/Qandil legal team assisted 59 Syrian refugees in obtaining birth and marriage certificates in Erbil governorate, and identified 14 cases requiring assistance with processing civil documentation in Erbil camps.
- Camp School administrations reported a significant number of school drop-outs by adolescent girls in the first phase of school for the 2014-2015 academic year. UNHCR is following the matter with SGBV and child protection actors.

## NON-CAMP

### Achievements and Impact

- During the reporting period, 65 Syrian households (182 individuals) were registered. By the end of the reporting period, 1,978 cases (3,522 individuals) were registered, including new registration, updates and transfers to Erbil from other camps/urban areas.
- UNHCR met with the Residency Department and Security, and PARC lawyers to discuss the situation of the Syrian asylum seekers who don't have any marriage documentation and as a result cannot be registered as married couples, hence unable to rent a house. An agreement was reached with the Residency Department and Security to solve this issue, which enables those refugees to obtain a security code and thus be able to rent.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Two serious SGBV cases referred for resettlement have been approved; dates of departure are still unknown.



## Durable Solutions

### Achievements and Impact

- Pre-assessment interviews were conducted with 80 cases of Syrians residing throughout the KR-I (though concentrating on Basirma camp), of which 50 were prioritized and 30 deprioritized.
- Having met the Sweden quota in August, and with submissions to the US suspended until October, UNCHR RST/resettlement activities in September focused on case identification. In addition to interviews conducted at the UNAMI compound in Erbil, case identification missions were undertaken to the camps in Erbil governorate, as well as Duhok. Case Identification interviews were conducted with 36 cases, and 24 cases were reviewed at the Case Identification stage, out of which eight were prioritized for further RSD/resettlement consideration (sixteen were deprioritized).
- Merged RSD/RST interviews were suspended in September, pending commencement of submissions to the US.
- During the reporting period two cases (seven persons) were accepted for resettlement to Sweden.



## Education

## CAMP

### Achievements and Impact

- UNICEF and MoE launched an advanced training programme for all teachers working in primary schools across the camps within the Erbil governorate. The training covers the areas of psychosocial support, education methodologies, project management, as well as monitoring and evaluation.
- NRC launched an education support program that includes ongoing teacher development and community participation through a Parent Teacher Association (PTA).
- The new academic year for the Syrian refugee students started in Arbat Permanent Camp. In parallel with this ceremony, the 12-classroom school built by UNICEF was officially inaugurated by the General Director of Education. 612 Syrian students are attending classes there.
- Barzani Charity Foundation distributed school bags and stationery to the children attending primary schools for the new academic year starting September, 2014.



*School Bags Distribution by Barzani Charity Foundation at Basirma camp. UNHCR*

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Darashakran and Kawergosk refugee camps, secondary schools have not been opened. Salaries for teachers remain the main issue. In these two camps, school infrastructures are in place and teachers have been recruited and trained.
- In Qushtapa camp, the construction of the permanent school is ongoing. NRC is requesting a space in the old temporary school area for the School Support Program. The request has been shared with UNHCR technical team for consideration.



## Health

### CAMP

#### Achievements and Impact

- Medical consultations remained stable and no outbreaks of communicable diseases occurred. The consultation rate/ person/ year remained stable at an average of 3.6 during the month of September and is within the expected range of 1 – 4 consultations/ person/ week.
- The national mass polio vaccination campaign for September was completed with 5.61 million children under 5 being vaccinated (98.5% of the target). In addition, the mass measles vaccination campaign continued in Duhok governorate, targeting all children aged 9 months to 15 years.
- In Duhok governorate, 5,397 persons with acute, chronic and mental health conditions have benefited from the health services provided in Domiz camp and Gawilan. In addition preventive health services, including the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI), growth monitoring and reproductive health are provided by DoH with support of UN agencies.
- In the four camps in Erbil governorate a total of 6,101 primary health care consultations were conducted including 269 consultations for mental health care. Renovation works continued in all PHCs to upgrade the WASH facilities and ensure accessibility of the Public Health Centres (PHCs) for persons with disabilities. A coordination meeting between different health actors and the camp management was held to improve coordination mechanisms within the PHC and strengthen feedback mechanisms with the camp administration. Key discussion topics were shortages of selected essential drugs, improvement of referral system and improvement of diarrhea surveillance. The meetings are planned to be held monthly in all camps in Erbil governorate.
- In Arbat camp, Sulaymaniyah governorate, a total of 673 patients received treatment for acute and chronic health conditions during the reporting period. Renovation works to upgrade the WASH facilities and ensure accessibility of the PHCs for persons with disabilities started.

- In Al Obaidy camp, Anbar province, health services continue to be provided by UIMS. A total of 312 patients received treatment for acute, chronic and mental health conditions. A three-day health workshop on nutrition was held for 36 Syrians refugees including six volunteers.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Diarrhea cases have increased in two camps over the last weeks but did not exceed the alert threshold. Health and hygiene promotion campaigns have been stepped up in all camps and cholera preparedness plans need to be completed.

#### NON-CAMP

##### Achievements and Impact

- IMC expanded its activities to cover Syrian refugees living in impacted communities in Erbil governorate. The project will focus on linking Syrian refugees to governmental PHCs through information campaigns to address current knowledge gaps on service availability and enhance health knowledge through behavior change communication.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The current IDP crisis impacts on access to health care for all population groups including refugees. Shortages of essential medicines occur frequently in public health facilities despite large medicine donations of humanitarian actors. While humanitarian actors are able to mobilize resources to cover gaps in medicines in refugee camps, population in urban settings have to purchase medications increasingly in public or private pharmacies.

## Food Security and Nutrition

#### CAMP

##### Achievements and Impact

- In September, WFP assisted all Syrian refugees residing in camps, reaching 99,593 Syrian refugees. In Domiz camp, where WFP provides Syrian families with vouchers valued at US\$31 per person per month, WFP assisted almost 66,000 refugees, injecting over US\$2 million into the local economy in September. In all other camps, WFP assisted refugees with food parcels, providing 2100 kcal per person per month and reaching a total of 33,734 refugees.
- For the occasion of Eid, Barzani Charity Foundation distributed 1,354 chickens to refugees in Arbat camp.
- Despite major road insecurity where WFP food stocks are stored in Erbil and routes to Al Obaidy camp in Anbar governorate, WFP delivered 1,100 individual food parcels to supplement the existing stock at the camp. Distribution to over 1,300 Syrian refugees residing in the camp began on 24 September and is ongoing.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- As a result of major funding constraints, WFP will be forced to scale back its assistance to Syrian refugees in October, decreasing its voucher value in Domiz camp by 20 percent. WFP vouchers in Domiz, which assist 70 percent of all Syrian refugees residing in camps in Iraq, will be decreased from US\$31 to US\$25 per person. WFP is currently working with government counterparts, partners, refugee representatives and UNHCR to inform beneficiaries of this change ahead of the October voucher cycle.
- Following WFP's announcement to scale back its food assistance operation in the region due to funding shortfalls, UNHCR commenced information sessions with Syrian refugees living in camps across the Kurdistan region of Iraq to hear their concerns and provide further clarification. The information campaign is done in coordination with WFP, refugee representatives and camp management. WFP agreed to continue providing updates on this matter through the inter-sector coordination system so that the refugee communities have timely information.
- Refugees in all other camps, some 33,000 people, will continue to receive individual food parcels; however these will run out in November if additional WFP funding is not received.



## Water and Sanitation

#### CAMP

##### Achievements and Impact



- At Domiz camp, 50 sewage holding tank are under construction (46 UNICEF funded, 4 UNHCR funded). Work is being done by FRC, which has also started digging eight holding tanks and will install 48 sanitation units in a process of construction of 58 new plots in Domiz 1.
- At Akre camp, the digging of five cesspools and installation of 10 latrines in Block C has been completed.
- In Qushtapa camp, the Department of Surrounding Water in Erbil (Government) has finalized the water networking at the UNHCR-constructed site (concrete slabs).
- UNHCR partner in camp management (ISHO) is providing essential and necessary maintenance to the WASH facilities in Al Obaidy camp.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Basirma camp, THW sewage system construction is ongoing. However, it needs to be sped up, especially in the eastern slabs area lacking WASH facilities where some of the refugee families were recently relocated. UNICEF's partnership agreement with KURDS for water trucking to the camp expired on 23 September. UNHCR will continue water trucking through ACF until completion of the temporary water networks in the camp in the next six weeks.



*ACF Temporary Water Network Establishment, Basirma camp. UNHCR*

#### NON-CAMP

- REACH started the cash for work project in Darato - the construction of 450m of open drainage channels.
- Water network repairs in Meserek, Gregarwe and Balquse camps have been completed.

#### Shelter and CRIs

#### CAMP

##### Achievements and Impact

- 275 families in Akre camp were provided with hygiene kits.
- Construction of the new Asayesh office in Domiz camp was completed and handed over on 28 September. Construction of the Civil Defense office was completed and handed over the same day.
- During the reporting period, 45 families (210 persons) from Kobane arrived to Gawilan camp, and are accommodated in MoDM plots.
- Winterization: The tent-to-tent needs assessments in all four refugee camps in Erbil to identify vulnerable families for distribution of winterization assistance was completed. The final results are being compiled.
- YAO distributed winterization kits to 677 Syrian refugee families in Arbat permanent camp. The items consisted of quilts/blankets, water and kerosene jerry cans, stoves, and plastic sheets.



***Distribution of winterization items. UNHCR/K.Ali***

- UNHCR and IRC conducted an assessment in Arbat permanent camp to identify vulnerable refugee families who are in need of shelter winterization kits, consisting of tent insulation/polystyrene kits. 55 female-headed households and 215 families with elderly members were identified for provision of winterization kits.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- 9,500 families are in need of the winterization package in the camps, and 4,500 vulnerable families in non-camp settings.
- Focus Group Discussions conducted with refugees in the four Erbil camps during the period 23 – 29 September revealed the refugees' serious concern that the cold season in tents is unbearable. Their priority needs include kerosene, kerosene heaters, plastic sheets, and bedding (blankets and mattresses).
- The school in Domiz-2 is not opened yet due to being occupied by DMC staff. The school will open as soon as the offices are 100% completed (the construction of three offices for DMC, Police and Asayesh in Domiz 2 is currently 85% completed).



## **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance**

### **CAMP**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- 115 individuals (including 65 females) were identified and enrolled in different vocational training courses during the reporting period. The project is part of the ongoing partnership between UNHCR and IOM in Domiz camp.
- The opening ceremony for the football stadium was held in Domiz camp. The stadium was built by UNFPA in coordination with DMC.
- The refugee committee suggested that psychosocial support be made available for the new arrivals from Kobane due to the severe suffering they experienced during their flight. Towards this end, UNHCR coordinated with Asayesh permission for the new arrivals to leave the camp (after UNHCR registration) for such support.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- During one of the regular meetings with the community representatives, it was reported that the issue of robbery is a serious concern in Gawilan camp. UNHCR discussed the issue with the camp management authorities and it was agreed to strengthen safety mechanisms in the camp.

### **NON-CAMP**

- 48 selected candidates took part in pre-employment trainings. DRC is in the process of job-placement for the candidates who completed the training. The DRC project is funded by UNDP.
- The refugee community in Duhok town and its surrounding areas continue to assist in the distribution of food and non-food items to IDP families.
- The REACH initiative established 12 new green-houses in Daratoo Settlement. 24 refugees have started harvesting crops and benefiting from previous similar projects.

- Seven small grant projects were handed over to eight Syrian refugee families in Domiz town. The projects included establishing four small markets, dying workshop, carpentry workshop, and sewing workshop. Another small scale project was handed over to refugees in Misreke.

## Working in partnership

- **3RP:** The 3RP planning process begun after the Amman workshop on 3/4 September with a series of Sector level meetings in which objectives and outputs were agreed to. This was followed on 16 September by a workshop attended by 128 Government officials and partners to validate the Sector responses prior to partners inputting their planned activities and budgets in support of the objectives.
- **Information Management:** The RRP6 Dashboards for August were produced and made available.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Agencies are grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

### Donors who have contributed to the operation:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| ■ Australia  | ■ Iraq            |
| ■ Austria  | ■ Italy           |
| ■ Canada   | ■ Japan           |
| ■ Denmark  | ■ Kuwait          |
| ■ European Union   | ■ The Netherlands |
| ■ European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) | ■ Norway          |
| ■ Finland  | ■ Sweden          |
| ■ France   | ■ Switzerland     |
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|  | ■ United States   |

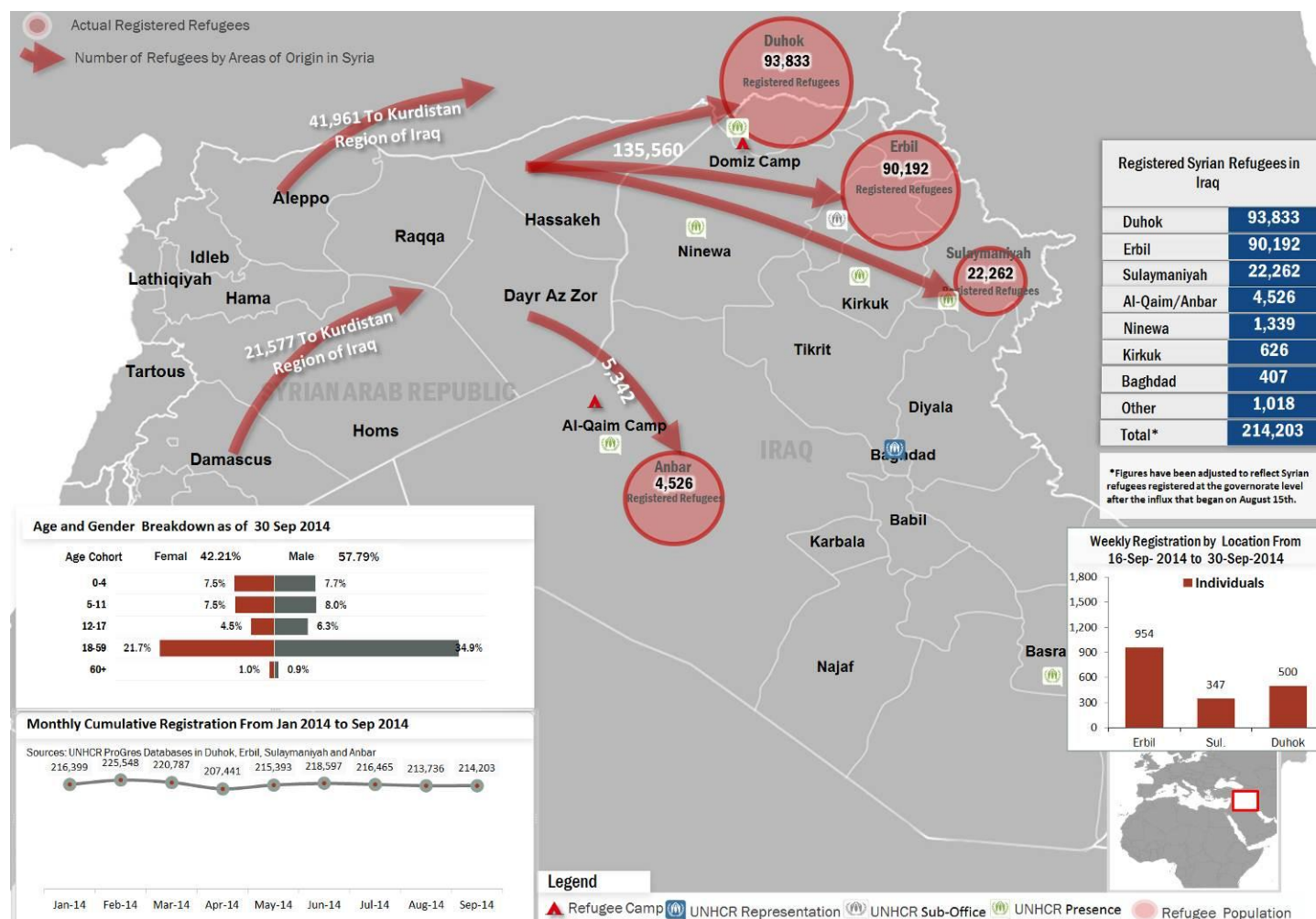
## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFS	Adolescent Friendly Space
CFS	Child Friendly Space
CRI	Core Relief Items (formerly known as non-food items/ NFIs)
DDM	Department of Displacement and Migration
DMC	Development and Modification Centre
DoE	Department of Education
DoH	Department of Health
HOFO	Head of Field Office
HOSO	Head of Sub Office
ISF	Iraqi Security Forces
KR	Kurdistan Region of Iraq (or KRI)
MOMD	Ministry of Migration and Displacement
PARC	Protection Assistance Reintegration Centre
PHC	Primary Health Centre
QIPs	Quick impact projects
YFS	Youth Friendly Space



# ANNEXES

## Refugees by Areas of Origin in Syria



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### Links:

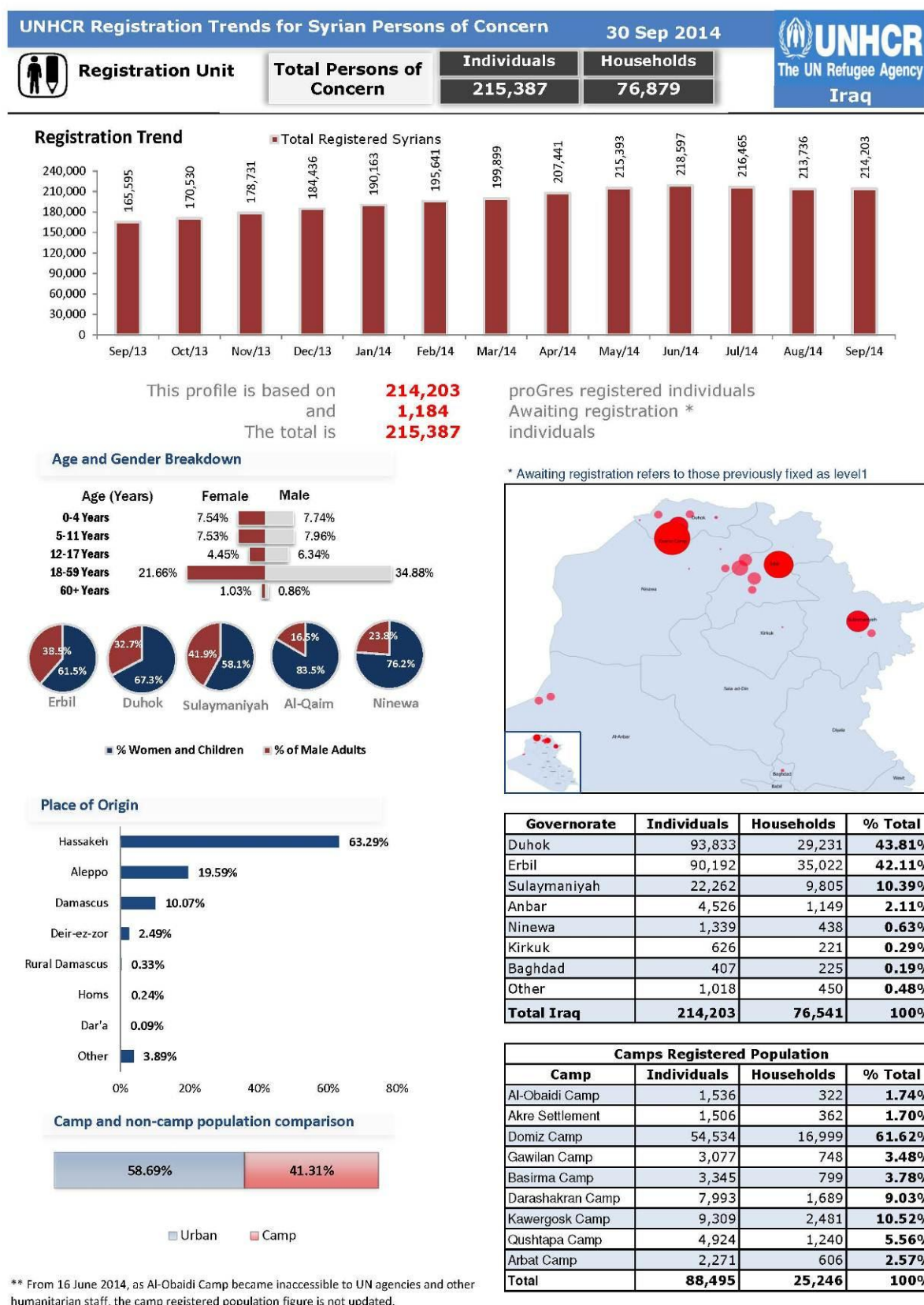
For information related to the Regional Response Plan (RRP6) please click on <http://www.unhcr.org/syriarrp6/>

For information related to UNHCR's supply pipeline, please click on <http://data.unhcr.org/iraq/supply/>

Announcements of all sector meetings along with respective agendas and minutes, and other information reporting sector-wide progress such as 3Ws, dashboards and camp profiles, are available on the inter-agency information sharing portal at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

For more information on the work of UNHCR and our partners in Iraq, please follow us on Twitter at @unhcriraq and on Facebook at "UNHCRinIraq"

# UNHCR Registration Trends for Persons of Concern



## STORIES FROM THE FIELD

### Syrian refugees aiding displaced Iraqis

*Bajet Kandala IDP camp, Duhok* - There are many ways to support some of the estimated 1.8 million Iraqis displaced by war. Six young Syrian men recently took a singular approach to that end. Nawan, Muhsim, Dilbreen, Ali, Habib and Nori traveled from their temporary homes at the Domiz refugee camp to Bajet Kandala camp for displaced Iraqis to help in the best way they could: cutting hair.

They set up an impromptu barber shop at Bajet Kandala, and the lines of those awaiting a trim were long.



**Refugee barbers from Domiz camp volunteer their skills at Bajet Kandala IDP camp. UNHCR / Liene Veide**

20-year-old Nawan worked as barber home in northern Syria, before he and his family fled their home for the comparative safety of Domiz camp.

“I wanted to be one of those supporting displaced people of Iraq, and barbering is something I know how to do,” says Nawan. He recalls how he felt when he arrived after fleeing conflict, and how others helped him. “Once I reached the Kurdistan region of Iraq, local authorities and many organizations were assisting me and other refugees. Now that I can support myself, I can help others.”

And there’s a lot of hair to cut at Bajet Kandala camp. The six barbers provided haircuts to 122 people in just four hours. Bajet Kandala is home to 16,000 displaced Iraqis, most of who fled Sinjar and neighboring communities in early August. The United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR), local authorities and other agencies supported by the European Union, Germany, Japan, US and other countries are providing the emergency needs here: shelter, food, water and sanitation.

The one-day barber shop was organized by UNHCR, IOM, and the Barzani Charity Foundation. The barbers offered their expertise, while aid agencies provided transportation and the tools of the barbering trade (scissors, combs and clippers).

UNHCR Community Services team member Rozhan Muhsen came up with idea. While talking to displaced Iraqis she saw the need. “Many of those people stayed up in the mountains for 15 days or more, and when they arrived in camp, had no way to cut their hair. I also thought it might boost their mood.” The idea caught on.

The six former barbers of Bajet Kandala signed on. Initially they are cutting hair free of charge, but they are not ruling out becoming entrepreneurs, already looking at turning their volunteerism into a small business.

- Liene Veide, Duhok, UNHCR