



More than 930,000 people have now received hygiene promotion messaging so far during 2014

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS:

Strategic planning and preparations for potential winter flooding is underway in Lebanon. Across the governorates, data are being collected on at-risk areas for flooding and mitigation measures are being prepared. In the coming weeks, planning sessions and workshops will be held to map out at-risk areas and develop appropriate measures. Meanwhile in known risk locations, such as Borj El Arab, septic tanks are being de-sludged, site drainage is being improved and local channels are being unblocked/de-silted.

In Akkar, construction of two main supply lines in Akroum and Machta Hassan are 90 per cent completed. Additionally, some 1,484 refugees received WASH services in collective shelters. In the Kfartoun and Akroum area, 299 small/substandard shelter units are nearing completion of WASH services as part of the shelter rehab.

In the south of Lebanon, a KAP survey was completed, which found that hygiene promotion had been having positive impacts in the area. The survey found that a notable increase in hand-washing has occurred as well as an increase from 0-74 per cent in HH level water treatment.

In Iraq, the WASH sector has started to implement winterization activities with the installation and rehabilitation of solar-powered water heating systems. The sector partners are also working on maintenance and drainage of grey and rainwater that becomes a problem during winter.

In Jordan's Zaatari camp, the drilling of borehole 3 is now complete to a depth of 500 metres, while the disinfecting of public water tanks is underway. In Azraq camp, 160 ceramic toilet seats have been installed in latrines to improve hygiene and reduce smell. Global Hand washing Day was celebrated on 15 October.



JEN staff facilitate activities with children on Global Hand Washing Day (15th October).

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Historically water-scarce, the region is facing even worse shortages in the coming year as precipitation levels fall below average. Ageing and inefficient water systems add to the problem, with both Jordan and Lebanon reporting over 50 per cent water loss through leakage in some locations. RRP actors are concerned that water shortages may impact domestic food production, livestock availability, and livelihoods while increasing retail prices for food products and reducing informal labour market employment.

Sixty-five per cent and 43 per cent of refugees in camps in Jordan and Iraq respectively have their water needs met through boreholes, with the balance of the water needs met through expensive water trucking. RRP partners are working to develop sustainable strategies, though these will require additional up-front investments.

Twenty three per cent of Syrian refugees in the region living outside of camps report having inadequate access to water. Refugees living in substandard shelter, including informal settlements, face the greatest difficulties in accessing safe water and largely depend on water trucking. Refugees living in standard housing are able to access water from municipal systems. Nonetheless, RRP partners are providing municipalities with water to meet the increased demand on their grids.

Refugee camps depend on costly desludging trucking, and RRP partners are working with government officials to find more sustainable, cost-efficient and eco-sensitive approaches to addressing wastewater disposal. Poor sewage and sanitation is a significant factor contributing to water-borne diseases, increasing presence of vectors, posing public health risks, especially as many families lack the means to purchase basic hygiene items.

SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE REGION:

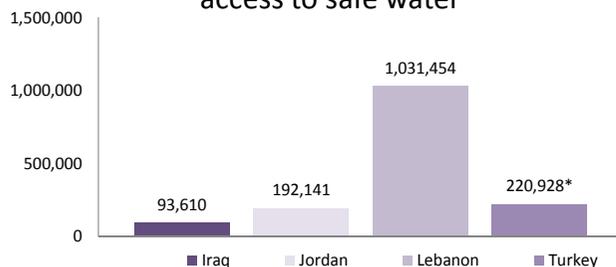
3,181,848

Refugee Population, end-October 2014

3,590,000

Refugee Population Planning figure, end-2014

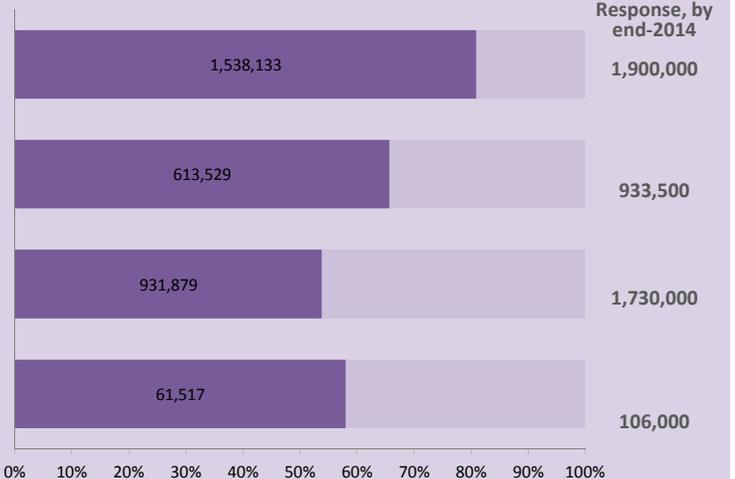
1,538,133 individuals assisted with access to safe water



*Overall figures include full camp-based population of refugees in Turkey benefiting from WASH services

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO OCTOBER 2014

1,538,133 individuals provided with access to safe water*



Planned response based on full funding of RRP6 for an expected population of 3.59 million Syrian refugees in the region by end-2014. As at end-October 2014, there were 3.18 million refugees in the region and the overall RRP6 appeal was 51% funded.