



Camp-based refugees supported with water supply but more support needed to improve public water and waste systems

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY:

WASH partners continued to improve sanitation facilities in all eight refugee camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) with new sewage holding tanks and rehabilitation of toilets and showers, benefitting 90,417 Syrian refugees. In Erbil Governorate, construction of WASH facilities in Kawergosk and Qushtapa camps was completed. Some 50,700 Syrians currently residing in Domiz Camp in Dohuk Governorate benefitted from the construction of new sewage holding tanks and toilets, and the rehabilitation of showers.

The provision of essential WASH services continued to approximately 98,000 refugees residing in camps in Jordan, including the daily provision of over four million litres of treated water, maintenance of sanitation facilities, collection and disposal of over two million litres of wastewater and 800 cubic metres of solid waste, as well as the dissemination of key WASH messages in communities and schools.

In Lebanon, the WASH sector continued with basic service provision and development of new infrastructure across the country. Winterization activities for the sector have been challenging due to access issues at the height of the January storms, however 241 sites have benefited from the distribution of 603 drainage kits and 72 sites had more intensive flood preparation works. Five large water supply systems have been developed or improved at Municipality level (Rahbeh, Aanout, Borjejn-Mrejat, Barja and Tabbaneh) serving 28,200 refugees and Lebanese community members. Up to 30 smaller water systems have been completed, serving isolated Syrian groups.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Large refugee numbers add pressure on existing water, sanitation and hygiene services in host countries. Even before the emergency, Jordan was the fourth most water scarce country in the world, while Lebanon is already using two-thirds of its available water resources. In Iraq, the pressure on services in impacted communities is also acute because of the overlapping refugee and IDP crises.

Region-wide, the majority of refugees are living in local communities, and public WASH services are under stress. Authorities require support to improve and run public water, sewage, wastewater treatment, and solid waste collection and disposal systems. National WASH systems required investment even before the influx of refugees, with piped systems leaking up to 70 per cent of water in some areas.

As of the end of 2014, all of the refugees living in camps in Iraq and Jordan require WASH support, while in Lebanon - where all refugees live outside of camps - 28 per cent do not have access to safe water and 39 per cent don't have access to sanitation facilities. There are competing demands for safe drinking water and wastewater services from both local communities and the refugees living in impacted areas, exacerbating an already volatile social, economic and political environment.



Zaatari camp Mafraq, Jordan/UNHCR

IMPROVEMENTS TO WATER SERVICES IN JORDAN'S CAMPS EASING STRAIN ON LOCAL SERVICES AND REDUCING COSTS

The waste water treatment plant in Jordan's Zaatari camp is now processing 700 cubic metres of waste water each day, reducing by over 30 per cent the volume of waste water to be transported to the municipal treatment plant, 45km away.

The Zaatari plant is expected to be fully operational by mid-March, when it is expected to process over 90 per cent of the waste water generated from the camp.

It has been confirmed to partners that the planned water network in Zaatari will be constructed to a household level which will substantially reduce the costs associated with the provision of water across the camp.

Confirmation has also been received that the third borehole in Zaatari and the new borehole in Azraq meet Jordanian drinking water standards, and it is expected that the two new wells will be fully operational by early March.

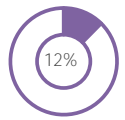
The authorisation of the third Zaatari well and the Azraq well will mean that the external tankering of water to the two camps will no longer be necessary which will substantially reduce the cost associated with water tankering and ensure more consistent water quality across the two camps.

These projects are examples of important investments being made in the response, with the goal of improving quality and efficiency while reducing the strain on local services and increasing their resilience.

Sector Response Summary:



1,798,108 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted by end-2015
222,842 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



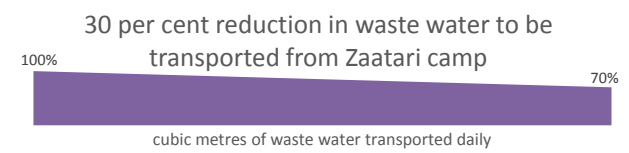
4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
3,787,715 currently registered or awaiting



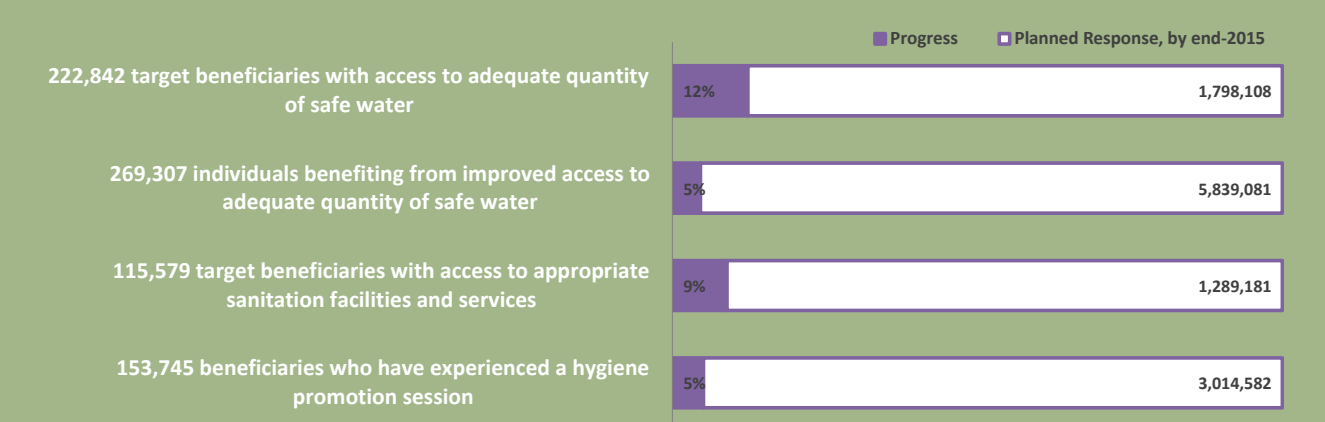
3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 212.26 million received in 2015



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY 2015



These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Targets are based on full funding of the 3RP and an expected 4.27 million refugees by end-2015.