

Over two million primary health care consultations for Syrian refugees so far in 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

In Turkey, training on emergency obstetrics was conducted by the Provincial Health Directorate on 27-28 October for Turkish service providers. The participants were from seven provinces in south-eastern Turkey where the majority of Syrian refugees live.

In Lebanon, a project to improve the consumption of iodized salt was launched together with the Ministry of Public Health and American University of Beirut. This was in response to a study carried out by the University which showed that around 75 per cent of Lebanese elementary school children presented mild iodine deficiency.

In Jordan, over 850 children between the age of six months and 59 months were screened for malnutrition in Zaatari and Azraq camps. Moderate Acute Malnutrition and Severe Acute malnutrition cases were provided with therapeutic supplementary food products. The malnutrition cure rate in Zaatari camp is 100 per cent, while in Azraq camp it is 78 per cent.

In Iraq, over 24,000 patient consultations were conducted in the camp-based primary health care centres and over 1,000 patients were referred to secondary and tertiary hospitals for further investigation or hospitalization. In addition, more than 9,000 patients attended mental health services in the camps. The frequent turnover of staff in health facilities in refugee camps remains a challenge.

In Egypt, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the Government on access to primary and referral curative care services for refugees, asylum seekers and other Persons of Concern. The MoU includes construction of five healthcare facilities in Cairo and Giza and 25 hospitals in Sharkeya, Qalubeya, Dakahleya, Damietta and Giza provinces, with provision of incubators and ventilators to support Neonatal Care Unit as well as supporting intensive care units to extend life-saving services.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The Syria crisis continues to place a huge strain on public health infrastructure across the five countries and has resulted in overwhelming patient caseloads, overworked health staff and shortages of medicines and equipment. Support by 3RP partners for the construction, expansion, and rehabilitation of health facilities needs to be further scaled up.

Vulnerable populations continue to be at heightened risk of communicable diseases due to overcrowding, substandard housing, limited access to safe water and sanitation, and varying degrees of access to primary health care (PHC) services. Management of non-communicable diseases also remain a major challenge. With the conflict now in its sixth year, the need to enhance mental health care services is becoming increasingly critical.

Access to reproductive health care services remains a key concern across the region with around four million women and girls of reproductive age assessed to be in need of special attention. Among children, improvement of health care services for newborns and need for routine immunization against vaccine-preventable illness remains a priority. The need for health and hygiene messaging is also a key focus area.



A nurse taking vital signs of a patient in Gawilan primary health care centre in Dahuk Governorate

Sector Response Summary:



5,387,300 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end of 2016
2,120,490 assisted in 2016



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



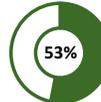
4,740,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2016
4,780,900 currently registered



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.54 billion required in 2016
USD 2.41 billion received in 2016



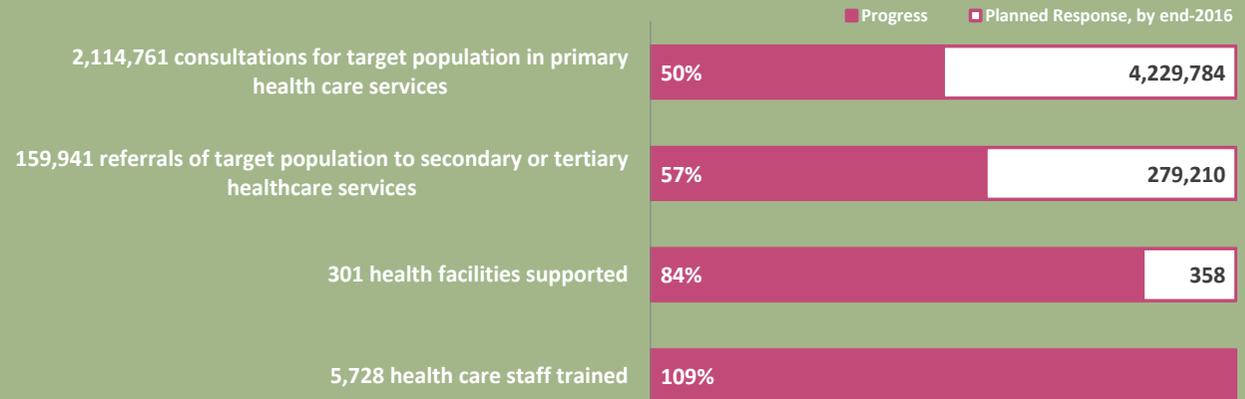
PARTNERS CONTINUE EFFORTS AT INCREASING THE IMMUNITY OF CHILDREN AND SUSTAINING POLIO FREE STATUS IN 3RP COUNTRIES

On World Polio Day on 24 October, Health partners acknowledged the hard work done to keep the 3RP countries polio free, and urged countries to maintain vigilance and guard against the virus being re-introduced. So far in 2016, Partners have reached over 21 million children under the age of five in the 3RP countries with polio vaccination. Despite the gain, serious challenges remain, for example, conflict limits consistent access to high-risk populations such as in Iraq, and this continues to hinder efforts to vaccinate every single child under five, and compromises surveillance and early warning systems.

Observing the Day, partners in Iraq together with the Ministry of Health organised a week-long nationwide polio immunization campaign in 16 out of the 18 governorates through which over 25,000 Syrian refugee children under five years of age were vaccinated. Mobile vaccination teams at the Syria-Iraq Peshkhabour border crossing reached more than 1,500 children under 15 years with polio vaccine. During the campaign, special attention was given to the most vulnerable children in camps, informal settlements, and host communities.

Polio resurfaced in Iraq in 2014, after 14 years of absence in the Middle East. An 18-month multi-country, multi-partner outbreak response, including more than 50 rounds of polio campaigns, successfully stopped the spread of the virus and again made the Middle East polio-free. Iraq also conducted two national polio immunization rounds in February and April 2016, reaching over 91 per cent of the targeted population.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - OCTOBER 2016



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. Progress and targets may change in line with data revisions. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 31 October 2016