



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

General Situation and Response

Update number 12

irqpi@unhcr.org

This update provides a snapshot of the UNHCR response to the influx of Syrians into Iraq. The response is led by UNHCR, and is undertaken in full coordination with the Government of Kurdistan Region of Iraq, UN agencies as well as International and national NGOs.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- An estimated 20 to 25 families and 100 to 120 singles continue to enter the KR and to approach DDM and UNHCR for registration on a weekly basis. This represents an increase in the number of Syrian new arrivals compared to last week. It is to be noted, however, that the overall number of arrivals remains low in comparison with the month of April. As per statements by some new arrivals, this can be attributed to increasing smuggler fees and tightened security control over the Syrian border with Iraq.
- UN agencies, while continuing their efforts in dealing with the situation of Syrians in Domiz camp, are expanding efforts to reach out to vulnerable Syrians in host communities.
- WFP is planning to start the distribution of food rations in Domiz camp in July, and UNICEF, in partnership with ACTED NGO, has set up a child friendly space in Domiz camp to provide informal education and psychological support for children and their parents.
- The revision process for the Regional Response Plan for the Syria Situation is underway, for programmes running until end of December 2012, with a population planning figure of 15,000 individuals in Northern Iraq, 5,000 in Baghdad and 5,000 in Anbar governorate. The revised plan will be finalized by June the 14th.



general view of Domiz camp

II. Situation Overview



Distribution of NFI to new Syrian arrivals

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As per information from Iraqi government sources, the on-going unrest in Syria has resulted so far in some 6000 Syrian nationals having crossed into Iraq since February. The total number of Syrians registered with UNHCR and DDM in the KR has reached 4,941. The ongoing arrival trend suggests that with sustained unrest in Syria, combined with an open door policy of KRG, UNHCR will continue to register on average 1,000 Syrians per month.



Cooking area under construction

In terms of border crossing, during the month of April, the daily rate of persons crossing into Iraqi Kurdistan illegally stood at 100 to 150. However, since mid-May, the rate decreased to 50 persons crossing daily. This decrease may be attributed to military control and operations on the Syrian side of the border with Iraq, combined with increasing smuggler fees. An estimated 20 to 25 families and 100 to 120 singles

continue to enter Duhok Governorate and approach DDM and UNHCR for registration on a weekly basis. In Erbil, some 2 families and 30 singles approach UNHCR for registration weekly. As of the 10th of June, 40 singles are awaiting registration in Erbil, while in Duhok, 50 families comprising 225 individuals and 200 singles are awaiting registration. In Suleimaniya, new single arrivals were registered so far during the week with no more arrivals awaiting registration. These figures are communicated through the security services that register the new arrivals at the border; it is to note, however, that the families often relocate to live temporary with family members, and only approach DDM and UNHCR for registration and relocation to Domiz camp at a later stage, when the resources of the hosting families are drained. The camp population numbers 1,238 persons, including 1,098 individuals in family composition and 140 sin-

gles, while 450 singles continue to live in a mosque nearby the camp.

**OVERALL GOAL: Emergency Protection Including Assistance
-STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

1. Fair protection process and documentation

1.1. Administrative institutions and practice: overall practice:

On the 5th of June 2012, the Ministry of Interior issued a Ministerial Note authorizing the residency directorate in Duhok to grant temporary residence for 6 months to Syrians living in Domiz camp. The residency directorate met with UNHCR team in Duhok and agreed to start issuance of residency cards on the 10th of June. The directorate requested the assistance of UNHCR to transport the Syrian new arrivals to the residency directorate in order to acquire residency cards. The process should be extended to other Syrian new arrivals scattered in Duhok Governorate. UNHCR is meeting with MoI to agree on extending the residency also to those Syrians living in Erbil and Suleimaniya cities.

In order to maintain the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum in Domiz camp, UNHCR jointly with

DDM, has put in place a system whereby DDM will conduct screening interviews for single Syrians in order to identify combatants who may not need or deserve international protection. Those found to be genuinely seeking asylum will be relocated to small tents and provided with assistance, while deserters who did not renounce military activities will be separated from civilians. A similar system will be put in place in Erbil and Suleimaniya. In Suleimaniya, DDM continues to receive and register new Syrian nationals and refer them to UNHCR for a complementary registration. Given the limited capacity of the host community, the Governor of Suleimaniya has relocated 72 new Syrian singles to a military compound known as the "Peshmerga" compound where Syrians are provided with assistance, UNHCR is yet to access the compound

and to find out whether the relocation was meant to separate singles from the civilian families. In Erbil, BDM continues to refrain from registering Syrian new arrivals; the latter are registered by UNHCR only.

Syrian new arrivals enjoy freedom of movement and no cases of refoulement were reported so far. In Erbil a case of Syrian of Arab origin was registered. The KRG has not shown any sign of discrimination towards Arab Syrians, hence maintaining an open door policy for all Syrians without discrimination. In Mosul, three cases of Syrian new arrivals of Arab origin have entered through Ninewa. They were arrested and are still under investigation in jail on the ground of illegal entry. UNHCR has managed to halt their deportation and is in the process of registering them as asylum seekers, thus ensuring they are protected against refoulement.



Distribution of waste containers.

1.2 Quality of Registration and Profiling

As of the 10th of June, UNHCR in Erbil, and DDM in Duhok registered an accumulative total of 4,941 Syrians of Kurdish origin. Among these are 501 families comprising 2,044 individuals, and 2,897 singles. In Erbil, there was no new registration of families and the numbers remain limited to 52 families, comprising 209 individuals, while 10 singles were registered bringing the total to 592 singles. In Suleimaniya, there was no new registration of families and the num-

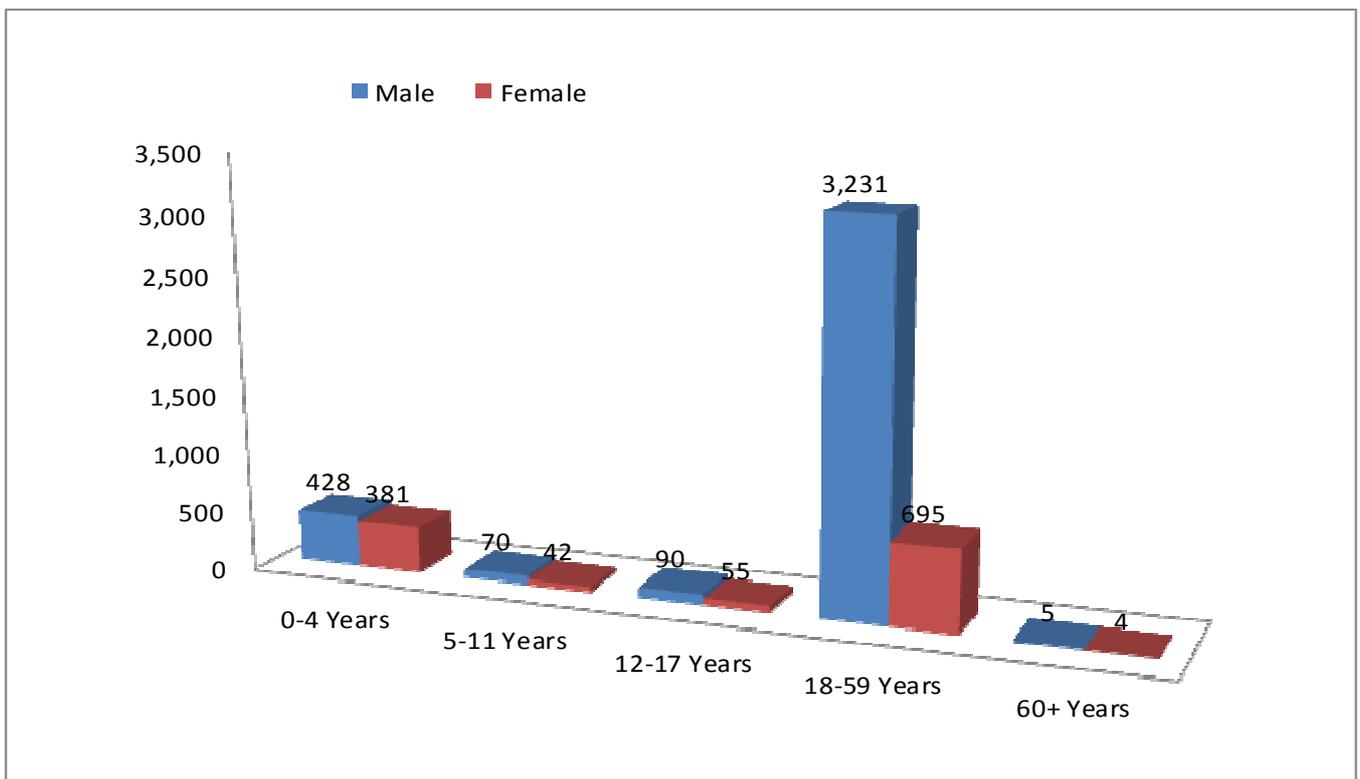
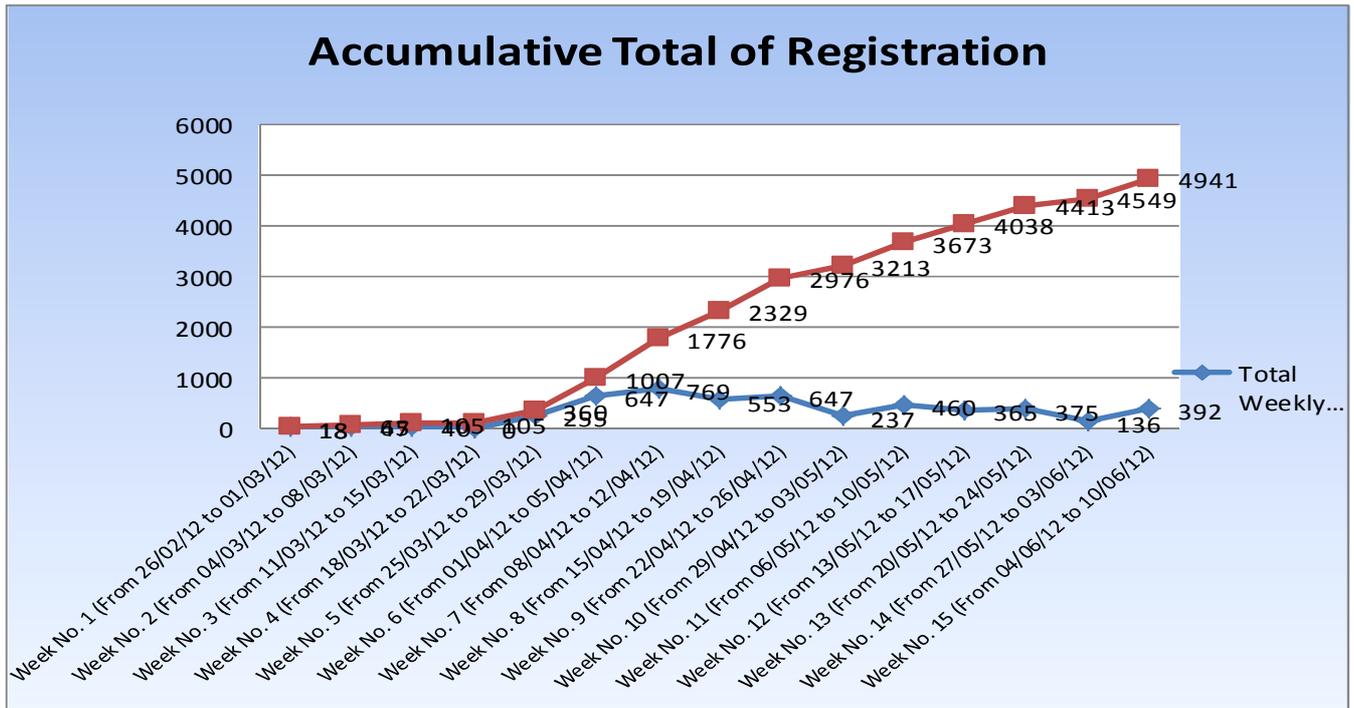
ber continues to be 21 families comprising, 67 individuals, while the number of singles has reached 267 comparing, compared to 171 last week. In Duhok Governorate, 428 families, comprising 1,768 individuals, and 2,038 singles were registered. 50 families comprising 225 individuals and 240 singles are waiting to be registered in the three governorates.

Among the registered persons all

over the Kurdistan region, 30 are unaccompanied minors and separated children under the age of 18, of which 6 are single females living with other families. Duhok remains host to the largest number of Syrian new arrivals, with 3,519 individuals, followed by Erbil with 791 individuals and then Suleimaniya with 239 individuals as indicated bellow.

Reporting period	Families	Individuals in families	Singles + UAMs	Total Registered	Pending registration	Total arrivals
As of 31st March	21 families	79	281 including 15 UAMs	360	400 individuals	760
As of 8th April	147 Families	604	636 singles including 15 UAMs	1,240	1,000 individuals	2,240
As of 15th April	198 Families	803	973 Singles including 15 UAMs	1,776	600 individuals	2,376
As of 22 nd April	240 Families	979	1,350 Singles including 27 UAMs	2,329	800 individuals	3,129
As of 29th April	312 Families	1,269	1,701 Singles including 27 UAMs	2,970	300 individuals	3,270
As of 06th May	330 Families	1,341	1,830 Singles including 27 UAMs	3,171	315 individuals	3,486
As of 13th May	389 Families	1,563	2,110 Singles including 27 UAMs	3,673	270 individuals	3,943
As of the 20 th May	427 Families	1,711	2,327 Singles including 30 UAMs	4,038	243 individuals	4,281
As of 30th May	468 Families	1,872	2,541 Singles including 30 UAMs and SCs.	4,413	425 individuals	4,838
As of 3 rd June	479 Families	1,912	2,637 Singles including 30 UAMs and SCs.	4,549	450 individuals	4,999
As of 10 th June	501 Families	2,044	2,897 Singles including 30 UAMs and SCs.	4,941	465 individuals	5,406

Bellow is a table showing the registration trends per month from the period of 26th February up to the 10th of June 2012, and shows the steadily increasing numbers approaching UNHCR to register. Also presented an age//gender breakdown of the registered Syrians. It is to note that the below table does not reflect or takes into consideration the number of asylum seekers who fled Syria prior to the violence.



In terms of demographics, out of the 4,941 registered individuals, 23,82% are females, 77,39% are males, 58,63% are single males, with the remaining made up mostly of head of families. Underlining the vulnerability of the Syrians, 0,04% are single female head of households, and 0,61% are unaccompanied minors and separated children, among them 0,06% are girls under the age of 18 who are accompanied by families of men they are engaged to, while 0,55% are men under the age of 18 who participated in demonstrations and fled along with friends

or other family members. Underlining the reason of flight of the Syrian new arrivals to the KR, 44% have fled following participation in demonstrations and being wanted by the Syrian Government, 32% draft evaders who had reached the age of the military service to avoid being called, owing to fear of participation in the ongoing violence.

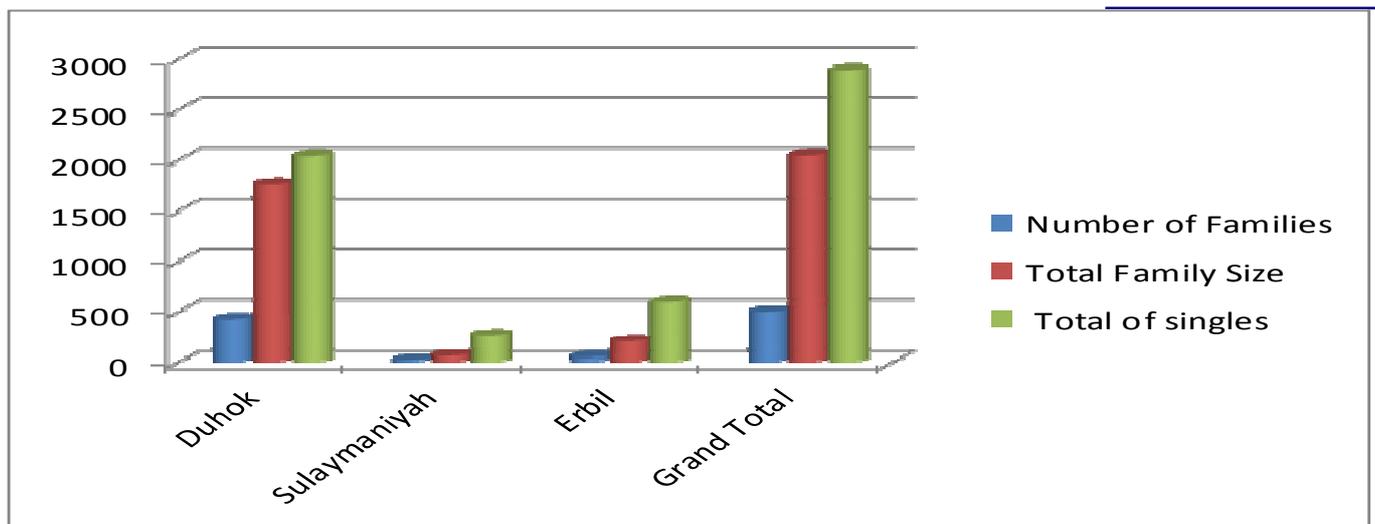
63% of Syrians registered with UNHCR are coming from Hasaka, 5% arriving from Damascus and 5% from Aleppo. 77,03% of them are settling in Duhok, in several districts of

Zakho and Semel, 16,21% are relocating to Erbil, while 676 to Sulaymaniya. This could be attributed to close family links and cultural ties that persons from Hasaka and Aleppo hold with the North-East of the KR.



UNHCR and DDM registering new Syrian arrivals

The table bellow illustrates the rate of arrivals to the different Governorates in the KR (Erbil- Sulaymaniya and Duhok). The KR's borders remain open to Syrian nationals fleeing unrest in Syria.



2-Basic needs and essential services (Duhok)

2.1 Shelter and Infrastructure



Construction of cooking areas

Construction of cooking area

As of the 10th of June, 254 tents were set up in Domiz camp in the families`section and 35 tents in the Singles`section. The singles continue to report the need to be provided with electricity, latrines and bathrooms. The remaining singles in the mosque and in big tents seek relocation to smaller tents as well as assistance.

through its partner Qandil, has launched the construction of additional 50 tents for the families as well as bathrooms and cooking areas. Meanwhile, UNHCR and IOM have distributed NFIs packages to 140 singles living in 35 small tents, while Qandil has distributed garbage containers.

allocated by the Governorate to complement the distribution of the refrigerators to cover all the families. The host community has also donated 50 water coolers for families and 50 coolers and 50 shirts to the male singles.



Casting foundations of cooking areas

Casting foundations of cooking area

Casting foundations for 124 individual cooking areas and 75 roofs have been completed. Additional 11 cooking areas are under construction. 50 families are waiting to be relocated to Domiz camp given the lack of adequate support within the host communities, as resources are being drained; UNHCR,

In a joint effort to improve living conditions in Domiz camp, the University has donated 40 refrigerators and 40 cool-boxes to the vulnerable families. The materials were distributed by DDM; hence some 60% of the total population living in the camp was provided with such assistance. DDM informed that additional budget was

2.2 Health Status



Ambulance of health section in the Camp

Daily healthcare services are provided through the medical unit established in the camp by DoH. The average number of cases screened by the Medical Unit continues to be 40 -50 cases per day; no major health concerns were reported except for some cases of diarrhoea, skin diseases, and respiratory problems.

DoH has submitted a project proposal to UNHCR to conduct a survey on nutrition and growth monitoring for the residents of Domiz camp. The additional required cabinet for health will be delivered by Qandil on the 14th of June. this will facilitate the conduct of the growth assesment.

2.3 Supply of potable water

Fayda Water Department continues the provision of an average 90,000 litres of potable water by tankers on daily basis. DoH is distributing chloride tablets for family water storage tanks every three days.

2.4 Nutrition

DDM continues the provision of three hot meals a day to the single males, while providing dry food rations to the families. WFP is considering the provision of food rations to the population in Domiz as of July, while assessing the situation of other Syrians in preparation for distribution of food vouchers.

2.5 Sanitation and Hygiene

Fayda Municipality continues garbage collection in Domiz camp. The Municipality cleaned two septic tanks of the communal latrines in the family sectors.

2.6 Services for persons with specific needs

UNHCR continues its daily field visits to the Syrian families and singles to assess the needs and to identify possible gaps. The main concerns of the population in Domiz camp remains lack of job and livelihood opportunities. The few head of households and singles that have access to informal jobs are exploited by the employers and often denied salaries.

The single man with mental disability who was identified by UNHCR team has reportedly returned to Syria. The conditions of his return, given his disability, are unknown, but it was reported by DDM that his return was voluntary. UNHCR community services team has also identified two cases of single female head of households who requested to be reunited with their husbands abroad. The two women have been made aware of the family reunification process.

2.7 Access to Education

Several steps have been taken to secure education for school age children during summer time. Arrangements are in place to launch the summer education plan for 175 children; UNICEF is deploying efforts to secure the text books and the curriculum from Syria; teachers were selected from among the refugee population and discussion on their incentives are ongoing.

ACTED is running a children friendly space in the camp and has registered the children in preparation of various activities planned to take place in the camp.



Providing Portable Water



Provision of Water to Communal latrines

3. Security

The Asaayish security staffs are available in the camp around the clock to ensure the security of the camp and the surrounding areas. No security incident was reported during the reporting period.

4. Coordination and Partnership

On the 9th of June, the fourth Inter-Agency coordination meeting with the UN agencies and operational partners on the Syria Situation was held. The meeting, coordinated by UNHCR, was an opportunity to be updated on working groups' efforts as part of the Syrian Response. The event was also used to initiate the launch of the Regional Response Plan for the Syrian Situation (RRP) revision process. Guidelines, process and formats for the RRP were agreed on and shared previously.

In follow up, sector A UN Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) reviewed the progress to Domiz camp is planned for the 20th of June. RRP programmes until the end of December, based on a population figure of 10,000 individuals.

On the 10th of June, a coordination meeting was held in Duhok at the Governor office. The meeting aimed at seeking ways to improve electrical installation and power supply at Domiz camp, as well as replacement of the water tinkering with water supply in the camp.