

Topics

1 Overview

2 Statistics

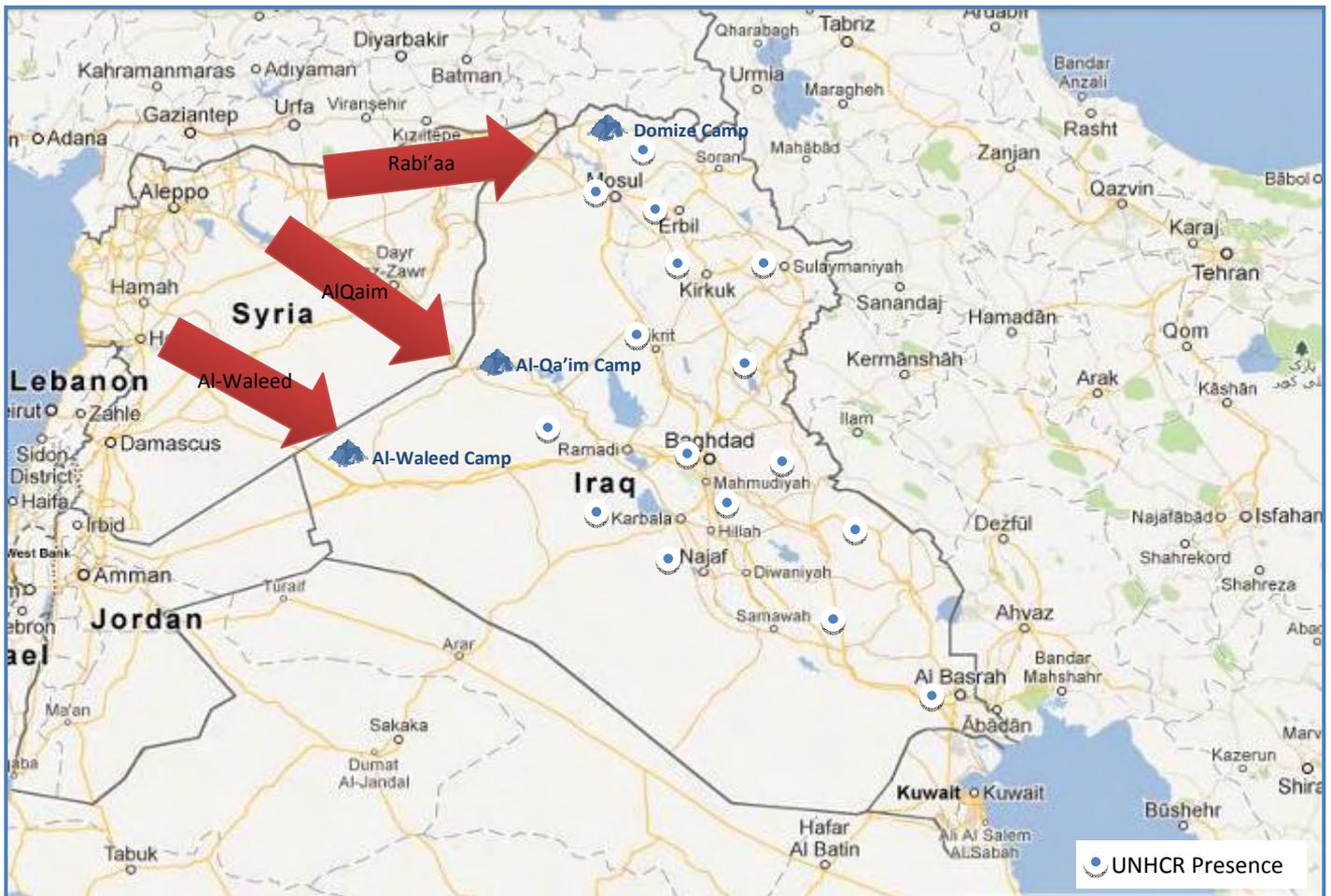
3 Sector Updates

4 Syrian Refugees/Iraqi Returnees

5 Coordination

Syrian Refugee Brief

Location	Total
Duhok	36,494
Erbil	9,292
Sulaimanyah	2,716
Al-Qa'im/Anbar	8,406
Other Governorates	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,982</b>



Iraqi – Syrian Border Points

MoDM/DDM/Local Authorities  
Agencies: UNHCR | UNICEF | WFP | WHO | IOM  
NGOs: IRW | Qandil | ISHO | IRC | HARI | KAR | ICDO

## 1. Overview

### Syrian Refugees

As of 21 November 2012, a total number of 56,982 Syrian refugees arrived in Iraq. New refugees enter Iraq through Al-Waleed and Al- Rabiaa. Al-Qa'im is still closed only 10 cases with 42 individuals crossed the border in Al-Qa'im last week.

In Kurdistan Region, 4,463 new Syrian arrivals entered the region during the week. The number of the new arrivals into KR increased in comparison with the previous two weeks. Between 600 to 1,000 new arrivals arrived in Kurdistan daily bringing the total number of the Syrians in the KR to 48,502 refugees.

Moreover, 35 cases/61 individuals are accommodated in five different governorates.

### Iraqi Cross Border Movement

According to UNHCR Border Monitoring reports, during the reporting period, some 1,378 Iraqis crossed into Iraq from Syria. All three border points (Al Waleed, Rabi'aa and Al-Qa'im) remained open for Iraqi returnees. Al-Waleed continued to receive the largest number of returnees (1,017).

As of 21 November, the total number of Iraqis crossing the border into Iraq since 18 July 2012 is 55,728 including 5,997 by air. This number includes returnees who have been registered with Syria and also those who have not been registered yet. It also includes individuals who cross the border on their private issues and reasons on a daily basis. During the same period, some 1,088 Iraqis crossed back into Syria. Totally, about 20,000 Iraqi returnees crossed back into Syria.

Statistics collected at the border continue to indicate that Baghdad is still remains the governorate to receive the largest number of Iraqi returnees, followed by Anbar and Ninewa.

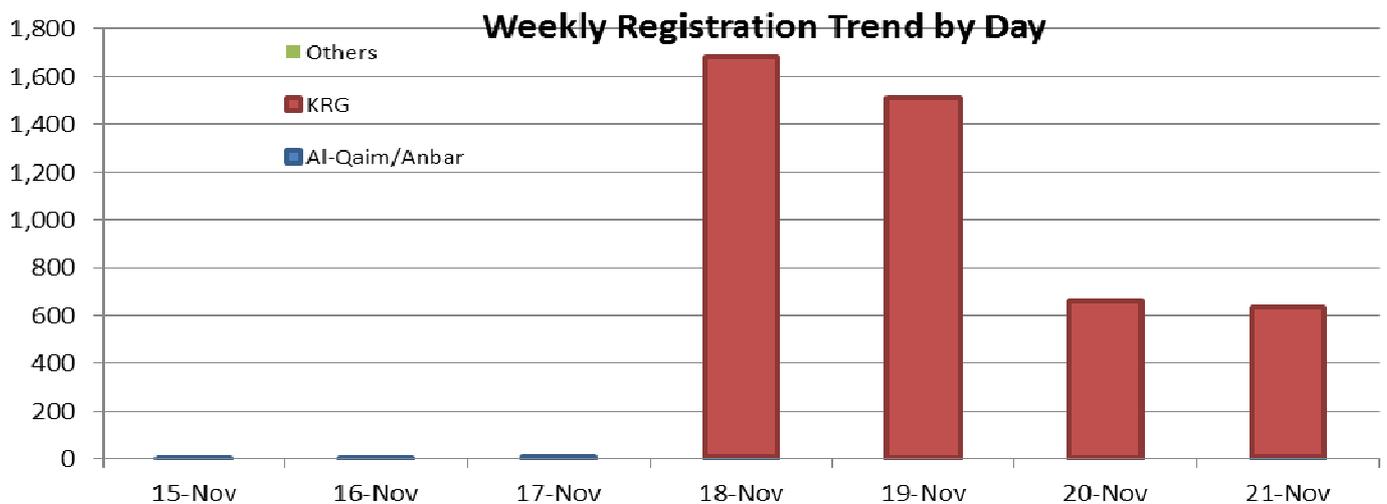
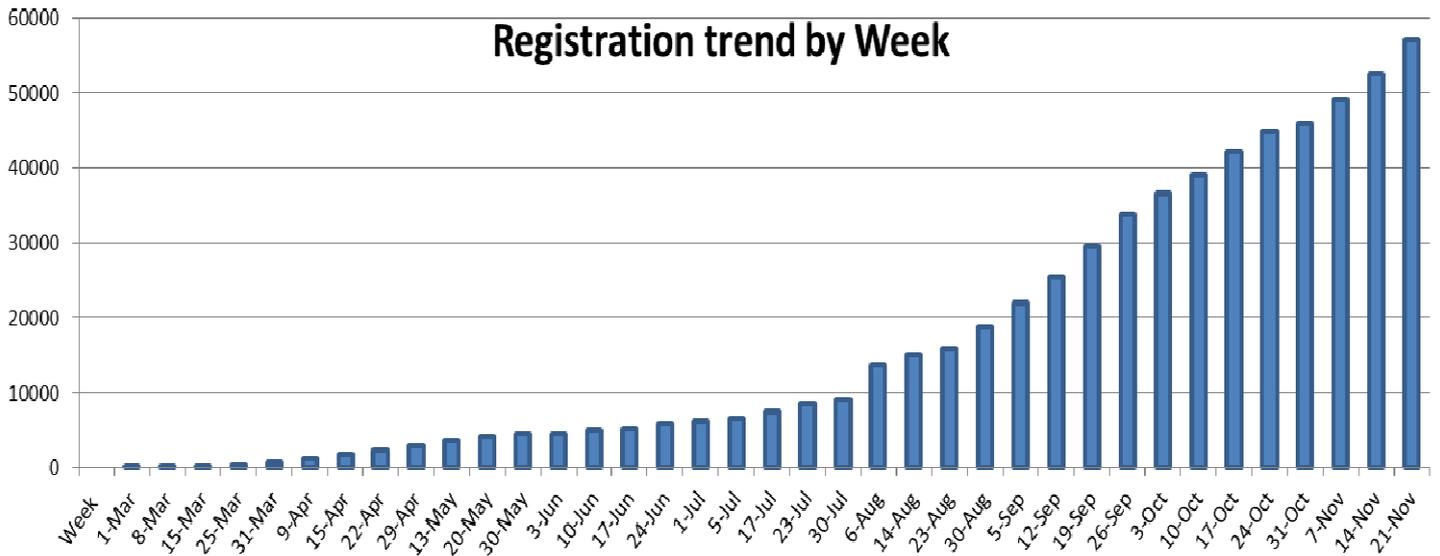
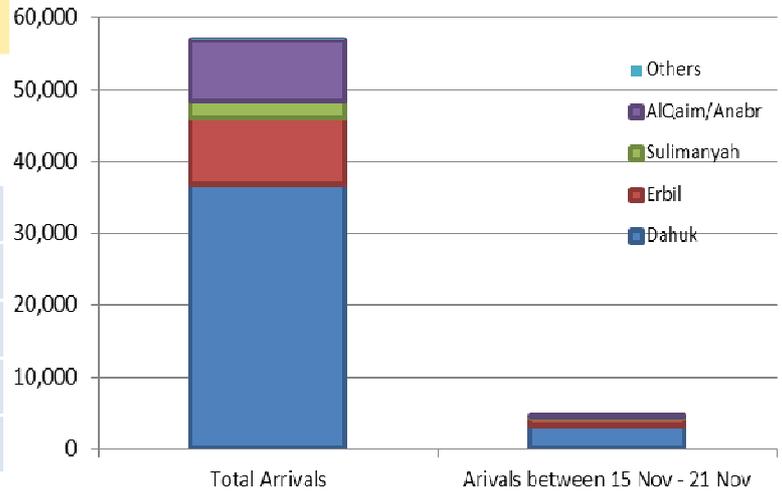


Construction Works Begin in Al-Ubaidy Camp, Al-Qa'im

## 2. Statistics

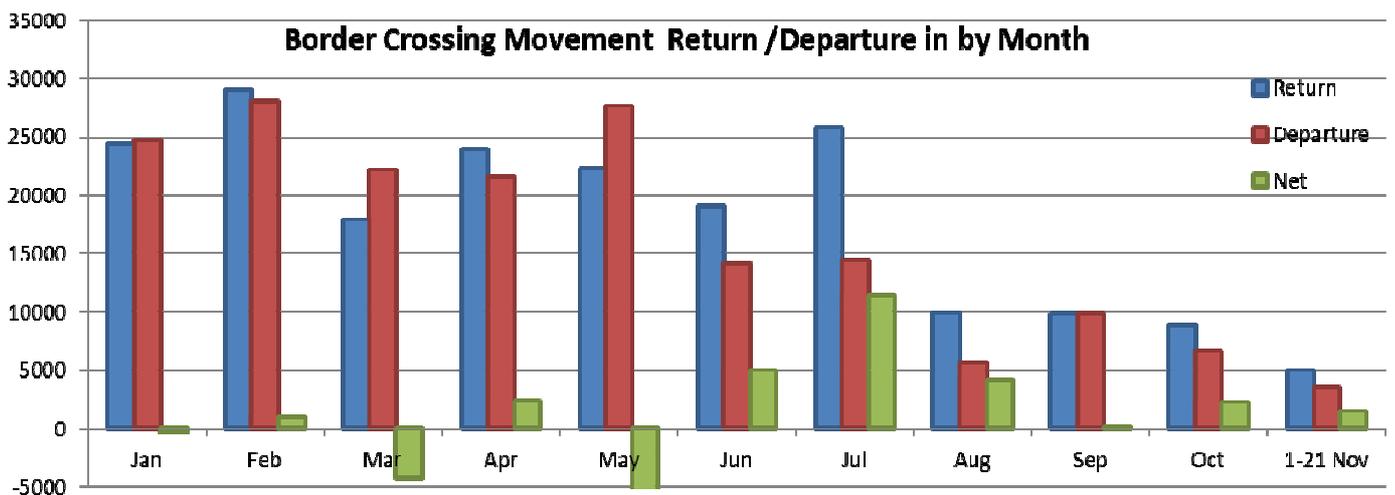
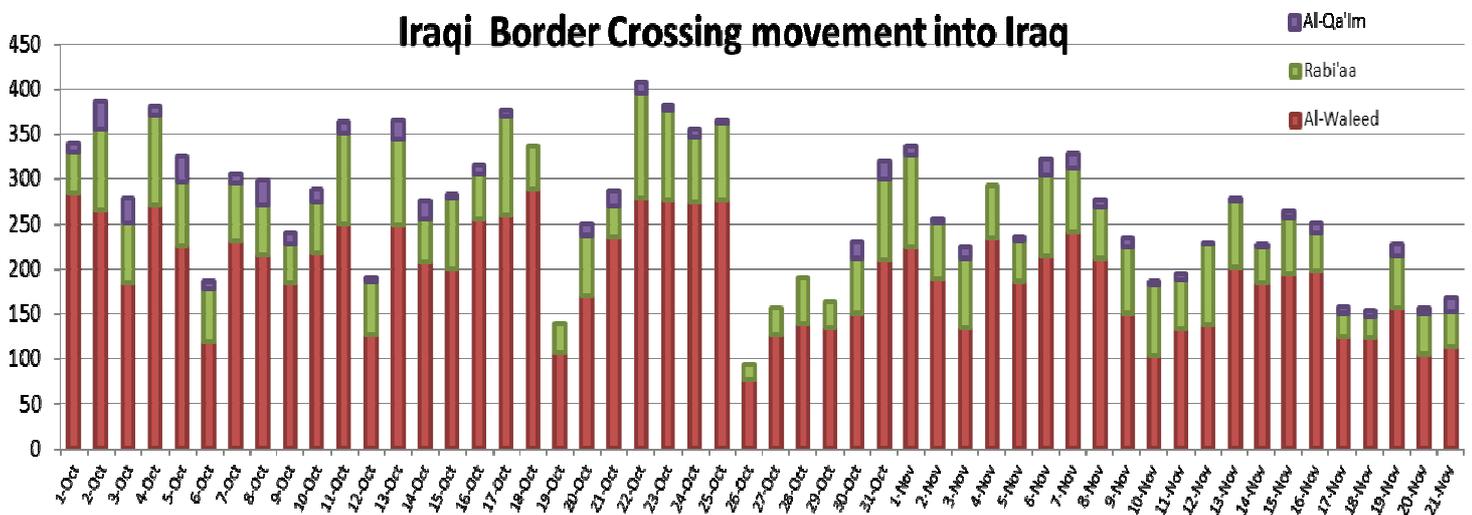
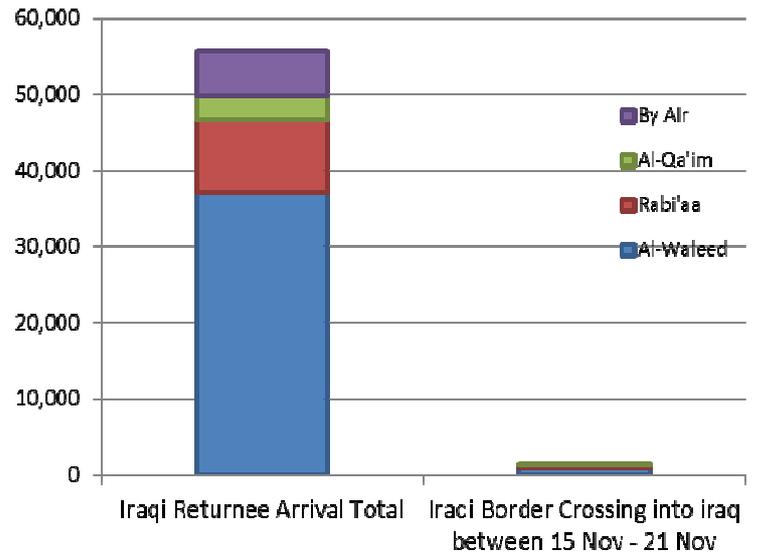
### 2.1 Syrian Refugees

Location	Syrian Arrivals between 15 Nov – 21 Nov	Total Arrivals
Duhok	3,214	36,494
Erbil	1,071	9,292
Sulimanyah	178	2,716
AlQaim/Anabr	42	8406
Other Governorates	0	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,445</b>	<b>56,982</b>



## 2.2 Iraqi Returnees (Cross Border Movement)

Border Point	Iraqi Returnees (cross border) between 15 Nov – 21 Nov	Total Arrivals Since 18 July
Al-Waleed	1,017	37,068
Rabi'aa	293	9,592
Al-Qa'im	68	3,071
By Air	0	5,997
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,378</b>	<b>55,728</b>



## 3. Sector updates

### 3.1 Reception, Registration and Protection

#### Al-Qa'im

According to border monitors, Camp 1 accommodates 3,171 and during the reporting period, 29 Syrian refugees voluntarily returned to Syria. Camp 2 is now covering 4,035 refugees, 38 left the camp after they

were recognised as Iraqi nationals. Those who obtained Iraqi nationality were previously holding Syrian and Iraqi dual citizenship and Iraqi laws allow them to apply for Iraqi nationality if they prefer. A total of 29 Syrians left the camp for Syria.

In addition to the camps, 25 individuals are hosted by community in Al-Bert Village in Al-Obaydi District. Refugees are also hosted by sponsorship programme. Today, 1,198 (298 families) benefit from sponsorship programme. The asylum seekers covered by sponsorship programme have been registered and they received certificates.

## **Kurdistan Region**

During the week, UNHCR recorded a number of 4,463 new arrivals, comprising of 666 families (2,917 individuals) and 1,546 singles.

- New arrivals in Erbil: 162 families (648 individuals) and 423 singles.
- New arrivals in Suleimaniya: 18 families (80 individuals) and 98 singles
- New arrivals in Duhok: 486 families (2,189 individuals) and 1,025 singles.

An average of 600 to 1,000 individuals is registered in Domiz per day. The total camp population is currently estimated at around 23,000 individuals.

In addition to the new arrivals coming from Syria on daily basis, some urban refugees are also relocating to the camp due to the lack of job opportunities during winter and expensive life in main KR cities. It is important to note that the new arrivals are unable to be absorbed by the local cross border community support structures, are heading up to Domiz Camp that does also not have the needed capacity or are living in extremely deteriorating conditions in urban settings. The shelter conditions in urban areas are lacking the minimum requirements to host families with children and comprises of many cases of block walls with no door, windows, water or sanitation. Syrian new arrivals are constrained to rent unfinished houses using minimum resources.

Syrians continue to be arrested in Rabiaa at the border upon illegal entry, lately several cases of arrest were reported during movement within the governorates. UNHCR succeeded to secure the release of a family comprising of two women, one of them is an elder and a child. Up to date, UNHCR still records 8 individuals kept in detention. Three new Syrian arrivals entered through legal border crossing point into Rabiaa and were relocated to a public school, 16 Syrians are currently living in a school – a location with little access to services.

## **3.2 Security**

### **Al-Qa'im**

Security forces of Iraq are responsible for providing security in both camps. No particular complains were received from refugees related to security related issues.

As a step for freedom of movement for Syrian asylum seekers in Al-Qa'im camps and to help the families to have better access for medication, ISF has started to facilitate the movement of individuals and families from the camp to Al-Qa'im city on the condition that sponsor should come to the camp and leaves his/her ID card. After Syrian returns back to the camp, the sponsor should come to the ISF office in the camps to report of the returning refugee to the camps.

### **Domiz**

No security updates, except for the new blood sampling unit opened next to DDM office in the camp gathered a large crowd of refugees. UNHCR followed up on its earlier request to increase the staffing of the blood sampling unit to meet the growing demand.

Conflict among the refugees was witnessed on 21 November over the distribution of the second hand clothes. However, refugees themselves quickly resolved the conflict.

Refugees report about cases of the theft of personal belongings in the singles area. Matter is being reported to the attention of the security team in the camp.

### 3.3 Assistance Update

#### Shelter / infrastructure

##### Al-Qa'im

The replacement of tents is continued in Camp 2 by involving Syrian refugees in the construction works. High turbidity in the Euphrates River affected the quality and quantity of potable water supplied to the camp from the water treatment plant. Water is being trucked in but the shortage of safe water still exists. In an effort to winterize the camps, 28 solar-powered water boilers were delivered to Camp 1. An eight day training to enhance the capacity of 20 water project operators within Al-Qa'im was completed.

A topographic survey for the land allocated in Al-Obaydi for Camp 3 was conducted and the design of the camp was completed. Construction is expected to start this week.

##### Domiz



*Syrian refugees planting flowers near their tents, Domiz Camp*

Shelter situation is exacerbating with increased numbers of new arrivals and increased trend of stay in the camp. This consequently placed immense pressure. In response to the growing need and pending completion of construction works in phase 5 that is planned to accommodate 1,000 families, a new transit centre was founded with 500 tents fully installed in the site. Although not all tents were fully connected to sanitation units, the entire 500 tents have already been occupied by families awaiting more durable shelter and others among new arrivals. UNHCR intends to set up another transit centre. Location has already been identified with a capacity to accommodate 500 families.

DDM advised on some final works being completed in Phase 4 by early next week. Meanwhile, UNHCR and DDM continued the selection of beneficiaries for the Phase 4. Following the discussion on the reliability of the lists provided by the sector leaders, 125 potential beneficiaries were physically verified by DDM and the representative of the community (On 20 November, UNHCR staff joined the verification). Out of them, only 93 were found persons meeting the criteria for potential relocation (2 were not reachable, 8 living outside the camp but are willing to return if tents are provided, 21 were mentioned by the refugee leaders that they have received allocated plots). Physical verification will be continued.

DDM and UNHCR have also agreed that selected beneficiaries will have to surrender their tents and the water tanks to the rub hall (to be further allocated for the families who miss it in the Phase 3). Those to be relocated from the transit areas will leave their tents and water tanks there and those tents will be made available for the new arrivals. Increasing pressure is being exerted on the staff involved in the beneficiary selection for the relocation for the Phase 4. Thus, verification team was approached by many families claiming that they have arrived in the camp earlier than the people mentioned in the list, provided by the sector leaders.

DDM and UNHCR started joint monitoring in the singles area, so far inhabitants of 206 tents were interviewed during two days. Majority of the monitored tents are accommodating more people that initially projected. Some tents were occupied by up to 12 persons. Over 156 were absent, due to working daily outside the camp, they return mostly at night time. A total of 38 tents were found not to have water tanks (DDM is to address the issue), 42 had no sanitation units. DDM would provide them with the above-mentioned staff. Beneficiaries report of the absence of heaters/cookers, carpets as one of the major concerns. Many refugees do not have mattresses (151 persons) and quilts (211 persons). Many refugees feel that the priority is only given to the families in all distributions. One of the proposals to put forward by the field team is garbage

collection and environmental awareness raising campaign in the singles area, as it is highly littered. About 100 tents in the single are not supplied with the water for the last 4 days. DDM reported that more than 175 singles are living in the mosque and thus are in urgent need of tents.

#### *Phase 4*

Governorate started planning additional works to fix identified problems in the construction.

#### *Phase 5*

ISHO continued to keep up the good speed of works in the Phase 5. Today, ISHO reported about the completion of the erection of the walls of the cooking areas and installation of 896 roofs on the cooking areas. ISHO continued to work on the showers and latrines: so far 191 were demarked, for 134 wooden forms were made, for 78 the concrete floor was casted, walls were built for 29 and the roof erected for 1. The total planned number of units is 339.

#### *Water*

UNHCR completed its water project for Phase 3 and single area is underway with works being done in deep wells 1 and 2.

UNICEF confirmed its funding for water project in Phase 4 and Water and Sanitation for Phase 5. Works are to be start eventually.

#### *Sanitation*

UNHCR jointly with DDM continues to hire tankers for pumping out septic tanks regularly.

### **NFIs**

#### **Al-Qa'im**

Within winterization plan, UNHCR started its distribution plan for Syrian asylum seekers living outside the camps. The distribution of quilts, plastic sheets, water jerry cans and blankets is going on in Camp 1.

#### **Domiz**

A total of 247 families of 1,081 individuals and 33 single groups of 132 individuals have been registered for receiving NFIs.

In the new transit area, 54 families (227 individuals) benefited from the distribution of mattresses and quilts.

DDM also distributed cash assistance to 118 families and 461 singles and 149 stoves for families in new transit area. DDM also reported about the distribution of 700 blankets to newly-arrived families.

As part of the winterization package, 300 stoves were received from UNHCR Baghdad, 3,840 kerosene jerry cans, 7,000 blankets were received to the rub hall. Following the identified need for additional plastic sheets to cover the tents that leak in the rain, DDM committed to fill the gap as soon as possible.

### **Food**

#### **Al-Qa'im**

MoDM continued distributing food for refugees three times a day.

#### **Domiz**

WFP advised the food vouchers will not commence prior to the first week of December, while UNHCR and partners underline that there might be a gap of up to 5,000 persons who were not covered by the distributions. DDM is currently procuring food basket to fill in the gap in the camp.

No new cases of malnutrition were detected. In the past two weeks, 36 children under five (17 male, 19 female) were screened at the Growth Monitoring Unit with no cases of malnutrition detected. The cumulative number of under-five children screened during the last six weeks has reached 287. The growth monitoring

unit is providing breastfeeding promotion messages for mothers of children under age 1 and information on proper feeding practices and complementary feeding.

## **Health**

### **Al-Qa'im**

Thirty-seven children were vaccinated within the routine immunization programme. Totally, 247 children have now been vaccinated by this programme. There are concerns over access to antenatal care in Al-Qa'im after a woman delivered her baby in Al-Qa'im Camp 2 and ambulance services were not present to provide transport to the hospital. UNICEF is following up to determine the necessary steps to avoid future incidents.

With UNICEF's technical guidance, hygiene mobilizers (50% female) from Camp 2 are being trained by two doctors.

### **Domiz**

Around 500 tents were fumigated by DoH against snakes, scorpions and insects.

Both health partners (MSF and ASB) confirm that the main diseases among refugee beneficiaries in the camp are upper respiratory tract diseases and diarrhoea.

The health situation in Domiz Camp remains stable. As winter sets in, more children suffering from flu and/or upper respiratory infections are being brought to the primary health care unit for treatment.

During the reporting period, 58 children under five had diarrhoea and received treatment, while their mothers received information on proper feeding practices, including breast feeding. The antenatal care unit (ANC) in the PHC provided treatment to six pregnant women during the reporting period.

## **Education**

### **Al-Qa'im**

Teaching and learning materials, including stationery, blackboards, recreation kits, first aid kits, sanitation kits, school bags, and tents, have been delivered to a warehouse in Al-Qa'im. The supplies will be delivered when the new school opens in Camp 2. The Camp 2 school will include 15 prefabricated classrooms with WASH facilities with UNICEF funding. The UNICEF-supported enrolment drive encourages children in the camp to go to school started in Camp 2. Preparation to provide psychosocial care teacher training in Camp 2 was completed, the training will start next week.

The UNICEF-supported Child Friendly Space (CFS) continued to provide recreation and psychosocial support to about 150 children daily. Child protection concerns continue to be monitored with cases referred to relevant government and non-governmental service providers. A training on safeguarding children was provided to CFS staff and volunteers to a more child-friendly approach.

### **Domiz**

Following a UNICEF-supported enrolment drive, 250 new children were registered at the Qamishlu basic school in Domiz Camp while 123 children enrolled in the school.

Construction of the new school in the camp is underway by KAR. The company was installing and connecting the air conditioners. Overall, school seems to be 80-85% completed.

The Child Friendly Space (CFS) continued to provide recreation and psychosocial support to 170 children daily. Two caravans were delivered to set up offices for the new Child Protection Unit (CPU), which is monitoring child protection issues, ensuring prompt response to child protection concerns and promoting child rights. UNICEF is supporting the Duhok Child Protection Committee to organize different activities to mark the Universal Children's Day at the school in Domiz Camp school.

## 4. Syrian Refugees/Iraqi Returnees

### Syrian Refugees

The new arrivals were mostly from Damascus, and Qamishli. The Damascus refugees informed about the new waves of sectarian violence in the outskirts of Damascus that had alarmed people to seek safety.

New arrivals living in urban settings reported concerns over their children not enrolling in schools due to the lack of transportation fees, school uniforms and assistance.

### Iraqi Returnees

During the reporting period, a total of 128 Iraqi returnee households (768 individuals) registered by MoMD. To date, a total of 5,173 Iraqi returnee households (31,038 individuals) have been registered by MoMD since 29 July 2012. Out of this number, 1,696 households have received the 4 million IQD grant. Of the registered Iraqi returnees, 65% are females and 35% males.

During the reporting period, 281 families (1,686 individuals) received the UNHCR cash assistance bringing the total number of households who received UNHCR cash assistance to 629 households (3,774 individuals).

Many of the Iraqi returnees interviewed by UNHCR have continued to request UNHCR assistance in providing medical assistance and shelters, since many of them departed Iraq since 2006 and sold their properties and quit their jobs.

Some interviewed returnees indicated that those Iraqis who are still living in Syria are staying there to protect their properties from being destroyed or stolen. Some Iraqis indicated that they have sold their properties with half their real prices especially in those Syrian cities with high rate of conflicts.

## 5. Coordination

### Al-Qa'im

On 19 – 20 November 2012, representatives from ICRC visited the camps to familiarize with the current situation and to follow up on tracing the lost and the detention of persons in Al-Qa'im camps. ICRC promised to coordinate with their office in terms of rehabilitation of the water compact unit in Camp 1 in addition to supporting the clinic unit.

### Domiz

On 21 November, UNHCR North had organized a coordination meeting with the participation of representatives from UN agencies, NGOs and consulates. The meeting was aimed at implementing UNHCR strategy to support Syrians living in urban cities.

UNHCR met a delegation from UNAMI and DSS aiming at assessing general security conditions at the camp.

UNHCR met a delegation from Human Rights Watch to discuss general issues related to camp and Syrian refugees.

UNHCR met a team from NRC HQ (Washington DC) and Baghdad who were briefed on general camp settings and main gaps. The team is conducting an assessment with the aim of fundraising for potential further intervention in Domiz Camp.

Camp coordination meeting took place in Domiz Camp with the participation of DDM, UNHCR, ACTED, WFP, NRC, MSF, ASB, UNFPA, IOM, Qandil, KURDS, BlackStar and other local NGOs.

UNHCR met the team of IRC to facilitate the provision of 6,000 winter packages. The team was introduced to other actors in the camp who are providing similar assistance to inform of composition of the packages and hence to avoid duplication.