



New Arrivals Report  
Akkar



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*(September-December 2012)*

**Summary:**

Estimated/reported number of new comers in the covered period (Sep.-Dec. 2012) by location;

| Area                   | September  |            | October    |            | November   |            | December   |            | Total Reporte d | Total Assiste d | %         |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
|                        | Report ed  | Assiste d  | Reporte d  | Assisted   | Reporte d  | Assisted   | Reporte d  | Assisted   |                 |                 |           |
| Halba and Minieh       | 154        | 44         | 383        | 136        | 286        | 139        | 459        | 168        | 1282            | 487             | 38        |
| Wadi Khaled            | 246        | 11         | 236        | 43         | 103        | 92         | 144        | 162        | 729             | 308             | 42        |
| Akkar el Atika         | 31         | 36         | 24         | 15         | 62         | 63         | 62         | 71         | 179             | 185             | 103       |
| Bireh                  | 26         | 11         | 24         | 10         | 27         | 36         | 36         | 20         | 113             | 77              | 68        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>457</b> | <b>102</b> | <b>667</b> | <b>204</b> | <b>478</b> | <b>330</b> | <b>701</b> | <b>421</b> | <b>2303</b>     | <b>1057</b>     | <b>46</b> |
| % of assisted by month | 22         |            | 31         |            | 69         |            | 60         |            |                 |                 |           |

The average number of assisted families during the a/m period is **46%** of the overall number of families reportedly arrived to DRC North Lebanon operational area (Akkar region). Notably, DRC almost doubled its response capacity in November and December 2012 due to the allocation of additional resources (human and logistics).

**Nationality and place of Origin:**

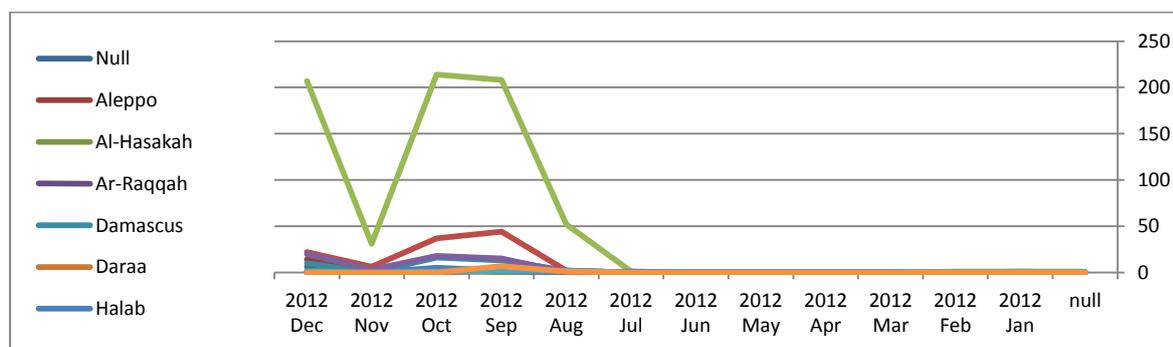
The statistics show that **67%** of the assisted HHS are **male headed** while (33%) of them are female headed. As for nationality, the majority are Syrians 99% with a limited percentage of Lebanese and Palestinians 1%. The main place of origin of the assisted families is **Homs 71%**, followed by Hama (11%), Aleppo (6%), Idlib (5%), Damascus and rif. Damascus (6%), Lattakia (1%).

**PSN (broken down by type) of assisted HHS;**

**27%** of the assisted families have one or more **PSN**. 85% out of them are women at risk, 4% have one or more disability, 3% have children at risk and 4% are unaccompanied/separated children and elderly at risk.

**Date of arrival:**

The protection monitoring assessments demonstrate that the majority of the assisted families reportedly arrived to Akkar in **October and December 2012**. However, when breaking down by place of origin, the trend is different as shown in the below chart:





**Reason for fleeing Syria:**

The majority of the assisted families stated they left Syria and sought refuge in Lebanon due to the **destruction of their houses (52%)** and insecurity in place of origin (38%), while 10% for fear of being arrested. The statistics show that 52% of the families were displaced once, while 48% more than one time (within Syria and to Lebanon).

**Access to Lebanese territory:**

**64%** of the assessed families **entered Lebanon legally** from different entry points: **Masnaa (59%)**, Dabbouse (31%), Abboudieh (8%) and Arida (2%).

**36%** families entered **illegally** from different crossing-border sides: **Wadi Khaled (60%)**, Akroum (9%), Abdeh (3%), Beka'a (10%), while the rest did not want to mention it.

**Reason for illegal crossing:**

**58%** of the assisted families crossed illegally as were **not allowed to enter together**, 28% due to political activism, 6% because of problems related to their documentation and 5% due to financial reasons.

**Family members left behind in Syria:**

37% of the families stated that they do not have any family member left behind in Syria, while **63%** reported to have **family members in Syria** due to engagement in political activities, missing/arrested/injured or for financial reasons.

**Supporting separated children:**

**2%** of the assisted families have the custody of **children separated** from their parents as missed/killed in Syria or not able to flee to Lebanon.

**Willingness to register with UNHCR:**

The statistics show that **98%** of the assisted families are willing to register with UNHCR, while 2% are unwilling.

**Living Condition:**

**42%** of the assisted families are **hosted** by their relatives, 40% rent apartments, 13% live in tents and 3% either in collective shelters or public buildings.

**Average rent fees:**

The average rent fees for those renting apartments is approximately **179\$ per month**.

**Average number of rooms per family:**

Rented/hosted apartments have in average **2 rooms per family**.

**Type of assistance:**

The average number of **days between the assessment and delivery of assistance** is approximately **17**, with in December was reduced to 11 due to the allocation of additional resources (logistics and human).

The most requested items by the assisted families were: **blankets (42%)**, **mattresses (26%)**, fuel voucher (10%), food items (5%), kitchen sets (4%), hygiene kits (3%), cooking gas, heating stove (2%), jerry cans (2%), and baby kits (2%) and others (4%- torch, dignity kits, etc.).

**Coordination with other actors:**

Along with the emergency NFI kit, DRC distributed 926 food parcels and 250 cooking gas stoves provided by the World Food Programme (**WFP**) to the most vulnerable newly arrived HHs;



DRC established coordination on WASH activities with the Premier Urgence (**PU**) whereby DRC is going to refer all cases of non-registered, new arrivals and pending registration that come across during assessment and/or distribution to PU for the provision of hygiene kits, water tanks and rehabilitation of sanitation facilities, starting from January 2013; DRC has agreed to collaborate with the International Rescue Committee (**IRC**) in the distribution of 2,500 Dignity Kits provided by the latter starting from mid-January 2013. The kits will be distributed to all new arrivals women and girls of reproductive age (13-49) affected by the Syrian crises, as well as older women to assist meeting basic needs.

**Partnership with local actors:**

DRC reached out to the local leadership in Akkar (**Mayors, Head of Municipalities**) to assist in the identification and referral of new arrivals HHs. In addition, the local leadership played an important role in nominating active and reputable refugee as well as local community members with the ability to detect new arrivals HHs and act as **community focal points** for DRC;

**2 field coordination meetings** with local and international actors took place at the beginning of December 2012 to discuss the geographical coverage for new arrivals in Akkar. Efforts to identify local NGOs with outreach capacity to provide emergency assistance in uncovered areas (e.g. tented settlements) will continue in 2013 along with exploring a wider engagement of refugee focal points and local leadership in Akkar.

Cases of persons with specific needs identified among the new arrivals HHs were referred, as needed, to local NGOs for rent, medical and cash assistance.

**Number of community FPs and training conducted:**

DRC has established a network of **35 community FPs** (17 Syrians and 18 Lebanese) with the objective of having one local and one refugee FP per each designated area in order to ensure neutrality and wider geographical coverage.

DRC has agreed with UNHCR to facilitate a joint training for their community FPs on the unified code of conduct and the identification of cases for persons with specific needs. The training is scheduled to take place during the second half of January 2013. All 35 community FPs have signed the DRC code of conduct. In addition, regular monthly meetings were organized with the FPs to discuss gaps, challenges and needs of new arrivals.

**Implementation methodology:**

DRC has opted for a **door-to-door assessment and distribution** methodology in Akkar in compliance with the original weekly average of 80-100 new arrivals HHs per week. An initial needs-assessment visit followed by another distribution visit was paid to each newly arrived family. Over the course of the 4 months, DRC increased the number of HR (see MR1 and 2): the team is currently composed of 1 border monitoring and 4 outreach workers divided in 4 main geographic areas (Wadi Khaled and Akroum; Halba and Bireh; Minieh and surroundings; Akkar el Atika) and coordinated by DRC's North Protection Manager. The NFIs were provided based on assessed needs and vulnerability, for a total of kit/value between 150-180\$.

**Recommendations:**

- Scale up the HR and logistics capacity;
- Scale up the network of community FPs;
- Train the FPs on the code of conduct and the identification of persons with specific needs;
- Organize/chair regular new arrivals coordination meetings with local and international partners;
- Standardize the NFI emergency kit in order to save time and simplify the logistics and procurement process;
- Enhance the M&E system (e.g. post distribution monitoring, focus group discussions, individual interviews, complaint mechanism);
- Recruit ad-hoc staff to follow up on individual protection issues and referrals.