



Syrian refugees carry mattresses and blankets distributed in Al Qaim refugee camp in Iraq. **Al Qaim Camp, Iraq © IOM 2013**

### REGIONAL RESPONSE

For activities implemented in Syria, please consult the full situation report.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- ⇒ **Iraq:** IOM enabled urgent medical assistance to vulnerable Iraqi returnees from Syria.
- ⇒ **Jordan:** In the past week, IOM facilitated transportation of **10,542** Syrian refugees from border areas to Za'atri camp.
- ⇒ **Lebanon:** IOM targeted **34** refugee families for livelihood support assistance and completed the mapping of priority/emergency needs of Lebanese returnees in Bekaa Valley and south Lebanon.

IOM's Regional Response is focused on the following activities:



Provision of Emergency Shelter Materials



Distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs)



Needs Assessments/ Needs Analysis



Emergency Healthcare and Referrals



Transportation: Transport assistance for refugees; Resettlement assistance for refugees; Repatriation of stranded and vulnerable migrants

## Iraq Operations



الله أكبر



**Post-Distribution Assessment of Non-Food Items (NFI).** IOM field staff report that further distributions of winter NFIs are required to meet the needs of newly arrived Syrian refugees and Iraqi returnees. IOM staff report that refugees inside the camps are in need of NFI and food kits, hygiene kits, and clothes. For those living outside of the camps, the priority needs include household items and in particular, kitchen supplies, kerosene heaters, rechargeable lights, and stoves. As of 5 February, IOM has distributed **6,112** NFI kits to over **27,750** Syrian refugees in Iraq and **46** kits to **265** Iraqi returnees.

**Assistance to Extremely Vulnerable Iraqi Returnees.** IOM field support staff identified and referred a family in need of emergency assistance to the National Directorate of Health who provided medication and mobility assistance to a disabled child in the family. After follow-up, IOM staff referred the case to the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) in order to ensure the family received assistance through a livelihood support program - the Program for Human Security and Stabilization (PHSS). IOM staff is monitoring the needs of vulnerable refugees and returnees through regular camp, site, and home visits.

## Jordan Operations



**Emergency Transportation of Refugees.** In the past week, IOM facilitated the transportation of **10,542** Syrian refugees from border areas to Za'atri camp. From July 2012 to 6 February 2013, IOM has facilitated the transportation of **135,557** Syrians from border areas to Za'atri camp. IOM facilitates transportation from the border with Syria; from Thnebe, the furthest location, it can take up to two hours by bus to reach the Camp. Initially, refugees felt it was safer to cross the border at night

however IOM had to increase operations to operate 24 hours in January 2013 after refugees also began arriving during the day.

**Emergency Health Assistance.** During the pre-departure medical assessments, IOM identified **55** refugees with medical conditions who were referred to health actors for treatment upon arrival at Za'atri camp. On 30 January, at a Health Coordination Meeting, IOM and partners stressed the urgent need for ambulances for the transportation of medical patients within and beyond the camp. Since March 2012, IOM has screened **107,875** Syrian refugees for tuberculosis (TB) and provided **51,147** Syrian refugees with TB awareness-raising activities in the camp, transit centers, and host communities in Jordan. IOM has confirmed **38** TB cases to date, and is providing follow-up treatment for **35** cases.

**Security situation.** The security situation within the camp has deteriorated as residents protest against poor living conditions including lack of access to water and intermittent electricity supply. IOM and partners are exploring options to improve security of staff to enable them to continue to provide essential services.

**Construction of New Camp.** Construction of the new camp in Marjeeb Al Fahood, a stretch of arid plains some 20km east of Zarqa, is nearing completion. IOM and partners are in discussion with the Government to determine the roles and responsibilities of humanitarian partners at this site. The camp is expected to be opened later this month.

## Turkey Operations



An IOM expert was deployed to Turkey on 28 February to reinforce operations to assist Syrian refugees in Turkey. IOM met with government representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) to discuss ways in which IOM could complement/reinforce the Government response in terms of distributing non-food items (NFIs), healthcare and psychosocial support, transport, and technical support. IOM also held meetings with

UNHCR, the Resident Humanitarian Coordinator and the UN Country Team to discuss current operations and explore areas for partnership.

A two-day IOM field mission was organized to Gaziantep and Kilis to observe assistance in the field and to meet with local governors responsible for the roll-out of the Government response in these areas.

## Lebanon Operations



**Providing assistance to vulnerable returnee and refugee families.** In the past week, IOM Lebanon launched two new projects:

- ◆ **Iraqi refugees:** Targeted livelihood support to vulnerable Iraqi refugees who fled Syria into Lebanon - 34 families were identified, profiled, and targeted for assistance. The families arrived in Lebanon in early September 2012 and they will be provided with livelihood support assets to assist them with creating sustainable sources of income to help them earn a living and decrease dependency.
- ◆ **Lebanese returnees:** Emergency Support for Vulnerable Lebanese Returnees who fled from Syria to Lebanon seeking refuge - IOM completed the initial phase of the project which involves mapping the needs of returnees in Bekaa Valley and south Lebanon. IOM will begin phase two which includes the procurement and distribution of NFIs in the coming weeks. The project will last for six months and will benefit **7,250** persons.

### FUNDING UPDATE

IOM's humanitarian work in Syria and the neighbouring countries has greatly benefited from the support from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Chile, China, Cyprus, Germany, Switzerland (SDC and FOM), The Philippines, UNHCR, the UK and the US (for a total amount of USD 9 million), as well as IOM's emergency fund.

In January 2013, IOM appealed for USD 35 million for the period from January to June 2013 to support the repatriation of stranded migrants and provide emergency aid to the internally displaced and other conflict-affected people in Syria and neighbouring countries.

To date, pledges and contributions against this January appeal amount to USD 4.4 million.



**Left** - A refugee waits to receive her NFI kits from IOM teams in Al Qaim camp in Iraq. **Right** - Beneficiaries register for assistance at Al Qaim Camp in Iraq. During the distribution which began on 29 January, IOM distributed blankets, carpets, kerosene heaters, plastic storage containers, rechargeable lights, coolers, jerry cans, mattresses, pillows, and plastic sheets to vulnerable Syrian refugees living inside Al Qaim camp and to those in need that are living in surrounding areas. © IOM 2013

### IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY:



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