

SITUATION REPORT No.5, 26 AUGUST 2013

RESPONDING TO THE INFLUX OF SYRIAN REFUGEES

IRAQ COUNTRY OFFICE

HIGHLIGHTS

- To date, over 44,000 people have crossed the border of which approximately 50 per cent are children. Fifty-two per cent are above the age of 18 and 3 per cent are above the age of 60. The gender breakdown is 47 per cent female / 53 per cent male.
- At Sehela border, the CP team identified 45 separated children (including 4 from Sunday), four unaccompanied children and 24 Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) cases.
- In Kawrgosk UNICEF has identified two parcels of land that is raised above the camp for the placement of 2 water tanks of 45,000 litre capacity each. The land is being levelled today, with construction to start tomorrow. The tanks should be operational within 48 hours.
- In Arbat, UNICEF participated in a meeting with the Director General of Social Affairs (DGSA) concerning the secondment of social workers to provide psychosocial support to children in Arbat. Four social workers have been assigned by the DGSA and will commence work on 28 August for one month.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The border was opened on Sunday and refugees continued to cross, albeit in much smaller numbers. The border area was reported to be quiet for much of the day.

Daily statistics of Syrian refugees crossing the border (UNHCR)

Date	Border crossing point	Persons
15 August	Peshkhabour	Up to 7,000
17 August	Peshkhabour	Up to 13,500
18 August	Sehela	Up to 7,500
19 August	Sehela	Approximately 5,100
20 August (as of 2pm)	Sehela	Approximately *4,500 (500 on the way)
21 August	Sehela	Approx. 4,200
22 August	Sehela	Approx. 2,200
23 August	Sehela	Border closed
24 August	Sehela	1,700
25 August	Sehela	1,550
26 August	Sehela	TBC
Total		More than 46,000

New Syrian arrivals in each location (UNHCR)*

Governorate	Location	Population (persons)
Erbil	Kawergosk Camp	Approx. 15,000 (160 families in Kawrgosk town)
	Bahrak warehouse (temporary Shelter)	Approx. 4,030
	Qushtapa temporary site – Formerly Kawa site	Approx. 2,272 refugees are in schools and other buildings in Qshtapa area. Another 1,100 arrived in Shinaz park on Sunday evening.
	Basirma temporary site	75 families and 27 singles transferred from other locations in Basirma (3-4,000 persons continue to be accommodated in schools and mosque, another 1200-1500 persons in schools in Hariri).

Suleimaniyah	Temporary accommodation (Arbat facility) in schools until new site is complete	900 persons are in tents. 2,300 persons are accommodated in schools, a mosque and library.
People outside temporary sites		Approx. 23,000

- *These figures are estimations based on the best available information at the time of reporting.*

The total number of Syrian refugees in Iraq prior to the new influx was 154,635 persons.

UNICEF RESPONSE

SEHELA BORDER

The border was open on Monday but, at the time of writing, estimates on the numbers crossing have not yet been released by UNHCR.

WASH

UNICEF distributed 816 cartons (12*0.5 litres) of drinking water and 10,000 litres of non-potable water. Cleaning is continuing as per normal in the expanded area.

Child Protection

On 26 August the CP team identified 45 separated children (including 4 from Sunday), four unaccompanied children and 24 Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) cases.

Bajed Kandala (New transit centre next to border)

Nothing new to report.

SULIEMANIYEH

Arbat (Transit Camp)

A meeting took place today with the Government Emergency Cell (GEC) at which UNICEF made a presentation on current activities in the camp. The first camp management meeting will be held tomorrow. It will discuss coordination and agree on technical working groups. The GEC stipulated that all visits by VIPs and the media be coordinated through them. Refugees will be issued residency cards in the coming couple of days which will then allow them free movement around Kurdistan.

WASH

WASH activities being implemented by IRC is continuing. As of today IRC have a staff member permanently stationed at the site to coordinate and oversee activities. Water quality testing was undertaken today and the results were within the acceptable range. UNICEF / IRC delivered 80,000 liters of non-potable water for latrines and showers, and water bladders.

Child Protection

UNICEF participated in a meeting with the Director General of Social Affairs (DGSA) concerning the secondment of social workers to provide psychosocial support to children in Arbat. Four social workers have been assigned by the DGSA and will commence work on 28 August for one month. They will undergo training in Child Protection in Emergencies next week.

ERBIL CAMPS

Kawrgosk (Permanent Camp)

Five tents were delivered to Kawrgosk today – for 1 hospital / 2 for education and 3 for CFS.

WASH

UNICEF has identified two parcels of land that is raised above the camp for the placement of 2 water tanks of 45,000 litre capacity per tank. The land is being levelled today, with construction to start tomorrow. The tanks should be operational within 48 hours.

The distribution of hygiene kits is on-going with an additional 100 distributed today in cooperation with the Barzani Foundation. UNICEF's WASH implementing partner, NRC, will install WASH facilities in the temporary school tents when they arrive tomorrow. This will include three toilets and facilities for hand-washing and drinking.

Water supply – An agreement was made with the government for UNICEF to take over tankering and increase the amount of tanks which, when the two 45,000 litre tanks are operational, will significantly increase the volume of water available in the camp.

Site plan – UNICEF is still awaiting the site plan for Kawrgosk. It has now been advised it will be available on 27 August. UNICEF will now be providing the Mayor will daily updates on WASH activities.

Education

The three tents for the temporary school are being delivered today and the ground leveling is in progress. They will be erected by Peace Wings, UNICEF's implementing partner. The tents will hold 12 classes.

Child protection

UNICEF Child Protection Sub-Working Group met today, 26 August, to share information and coordinate activities. Eight partners and government attended. The members endorsed the establishment of the working group and as a first task will complete a 3W and finalize the terms of reference for the group. The working group also agreed to hold child protection in emergencies training in the coming weeks for partners working in protection and child protection in the camps and transit areas.

The CPU tent will be erected tomorrow.

Qushtapa (Temporary Camp)

UNICEF is in discussion with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to deliver the comprehensive package of WASH services. Proposal pending.

Basirma (Temporary Camp)

UNICEF is in discussion with KURDS to deliver the comprehensive package of WASH services – proposal pending.

Bahrka (Temporary Camp)

A joint assessment mission team was deployed on 26 August to undertake an education and WASH assessment.

WASH

The WASH team noted that the Barzani Foundation (BF) has implemented some WASH infrastructure for the 4,000 camp residents. In addition, it was observed that the camp has been fully electrified, a fully functional health clinic and well-stocked pharmacy, and garbage collection is taking place twice daily – all of which is being provided by the KRG or BF.

As a result of the mission UNICEF is procuring 25 bathroom kits for immediate dispatch to the camp.

Education

In the absence of a school in the camp, the Barzani Foundation and the Mayor have agreed to provide UNICEF with a school site located near the health clinic. BF will provide all the tents and caravans UNICEF requires. UNICEF will meet with DoE tomorrow to finalize the start date of school activities.

Child Protection

The Government agreed to provide a space for a CPU and CFS. Recreational kits will be delivered tomorrow.

MORE INFORMATION

Dr. Marzio Babilie – Representative – mbabilie@unicef.org

Dr. Jorge Caravotta – Emergency Coordinator – jcaravotta@unicef.org

CAMP AND TRANSIT AREA LOCATIONS

