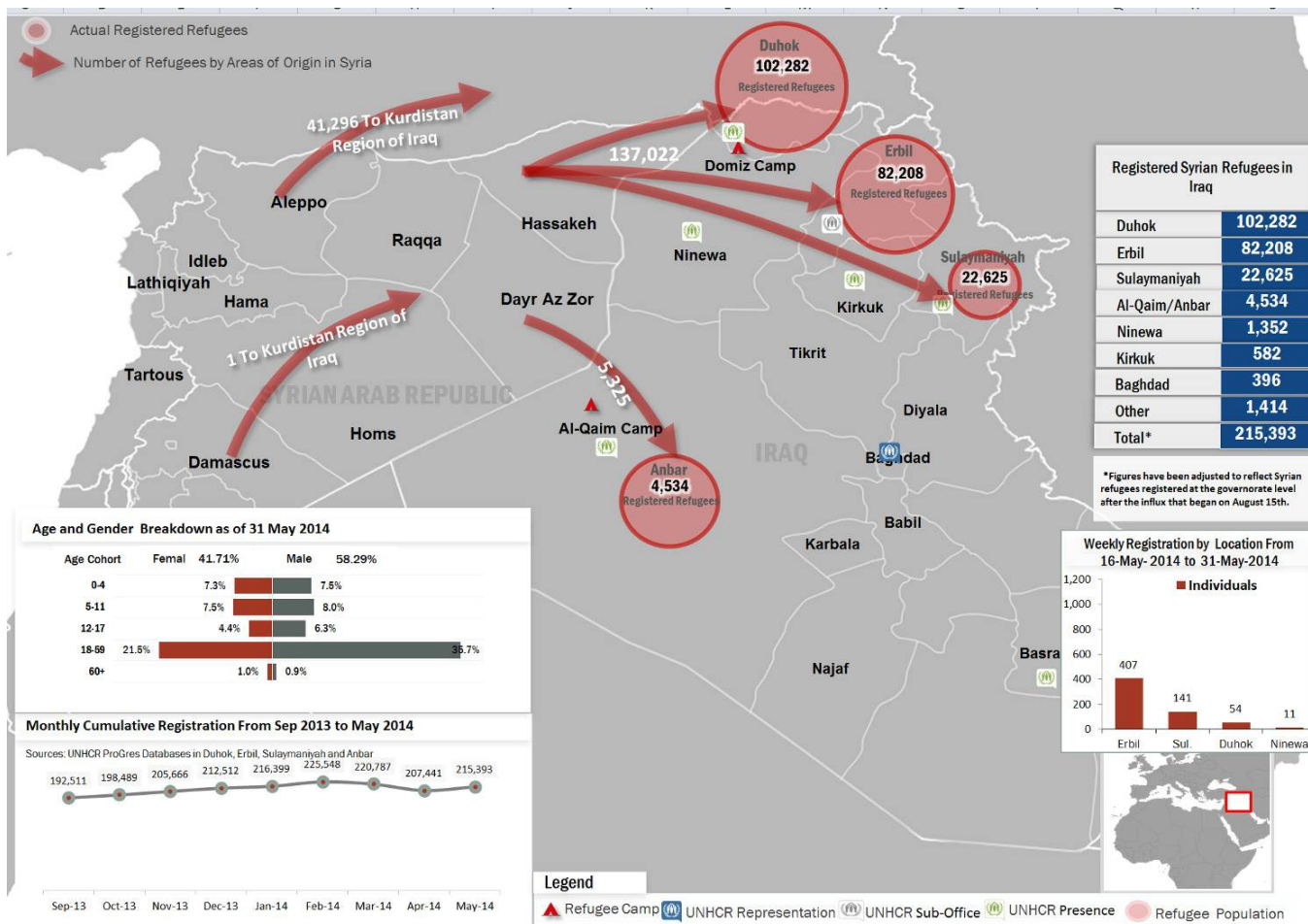


Situation in IRAQ Inter-agency Update No. 65 May 16-31 2014



Donor contributions to the Syrian Response in Iraq, 2012-2014:



Funding has also been received from PRIVATE DONORS, Emergency Response Fund, OCHA, and in-kind and cash donations from the local population.

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/>

irgpi@unhcr.org

MOMD | DDM | DGC | Local Authorities

Agencies: UNHCR | UNICEF | WFP | WHO | IOM | UNDP | UNFPA | FAO | UNESCO | UN-Habitat

NGOs: ACF | ACTED | DRC | FRC/ IRCS | HAI | HI | IMC | INTERSOS | IRC | IRW | KURDS | MAG | Mercy Corps | MSF | NRC | PEOPLE IN NEED | PU – AMI | PWJ | QANDIL | Relief International | SC KR-I | SCI | STEP | TGH TRIANGLE GH | UPP | WarChild UK | WARVIN

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

UNHCR Registration Trends for Syrian Persons of Concern

31 May 2014



Registration Unit

Total Persons of Concern

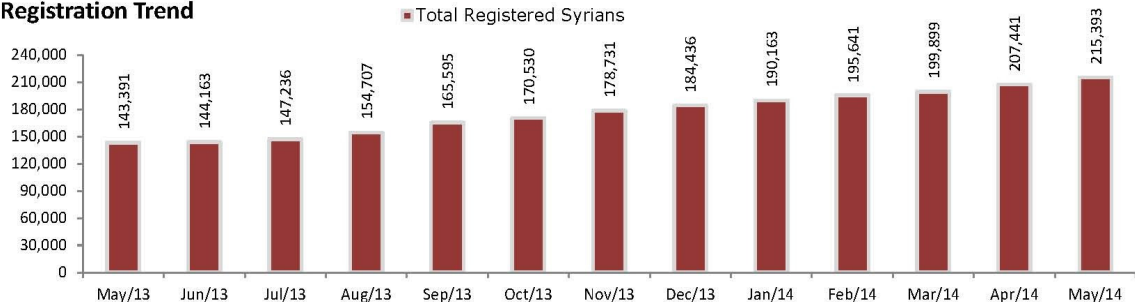
Individuals

226,174

Households

81,262

Registration Trend

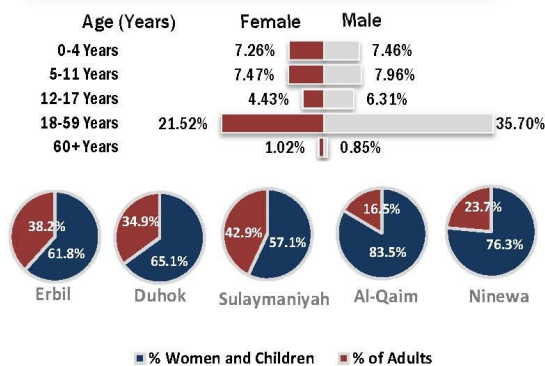


This profile is based on
and
The total is

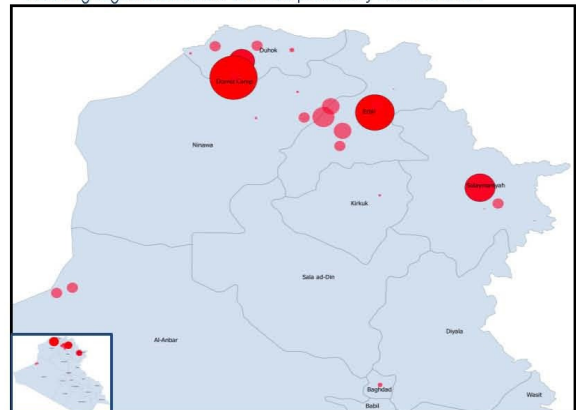
215,393
10,781
226,174

proGres registered individuals
Awaiting registration *
individuals

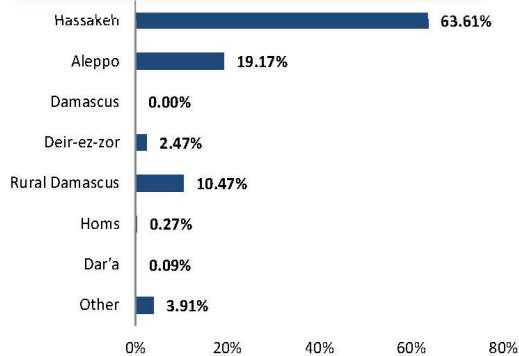
Age and Gender Breakdown



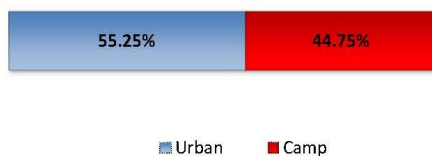
* Awaiting registration refers to those previously fixed as level1



Place of Origin



Camp and non-camp population comparison



Governorate	Individuals	Households	% Total
Duhok	102,282	34,280	47.49%
Erbil	82,208	31,319	38.17%
Sulaymaniyah	22,625	10,077	10.50%
Anbar	4,534	1,150	2.10%
Ninewa	1,352	438	0.63%
Kirkuk	582	193	0.27%
Baghdad	396	218	0.18%
Other	1,414	606	0.66%
Total Iraq	215,393	78,281	100%

Camps Registered Population **			
Camp	Individuals	Households	% Total
Al-Obaidi Camp	1,534	322	1.59%
Akre Settlement	1,398	344	1.45%
Bajid Kandala Transit Camp	301	112	0.31%
Domiz Camp	69,033	22,859	71.62%
Gawilan Camp	2,559	665	2.65%
Basirna Camp	1,704	384	1.77%
Darashakran Camp	7,130	1,511	7.40%
Kawergosk Camp	8,485	2,200	8.80%
Qushtapa Camp	4,135	1,001	4.29%
Arbat Camp	106	44	0.11%
Total	96,385	29,442	100%

** Refers to those who have undergone level 2 registration

1. Highlights

- The issue of space in camps in Erbil Governorate for new arrivals continues to be a serious challenge.
- The KRG is facing difficulties in supporting the camps due to the KR-I's budget shortfalls (resulting from the halting of budget payments), which has meant a significant number of public sector workers have not been paid for months, including teachers and health staff working in the Syrian refugee camps.
- Construction in Arbat Permanent camp is ongoing. The erection of 512 tents in Blocks A and B is complete.



Arbat Permanent Camp /UNHCR K. Ali

2. Border update

Al Qa'im: The border remains closed since 29 March 2013. Syrians with valid visa are still allowed to cross the border toward Iraq after obtaining prior approval from Iraqi authorities. Medical cases of Syrians are received at the border clinic and patients return back to Syria the same day after receiving the appropriate treatment.

Peshkabour and Sehela: Peshkabour/Sehela border crossing remains closed for new refugees. Some NGOs were allowed to send humanitarian aid into Syria from KR-I through the Peshkabour border. Sehela border point remains closed.

Rabia'a: Rabi'a border crossing remains closed.

3. Response by sector and location

✓ Reception, Registration and Protection

KR-I

As of 31 May 2014, 215,393 Syrian refugees have been registered with UNHCR, whilst 10,781 individuals were awaiting registration. 44.75% of registered refugees are currently residing in camps, whilst the remaining 55.25% are non-camp based.

During the reporting period, a total of 360 registered cases (517 Syrian nationals), have voluntarily returned to Syria, which brings the total number of **registered Syrians returned to Syria to 28,199 individuals**.

Erbil: The issue of space in camps in Erbil Governorate for new arrivals continues to be a serious challenge. Hundreds of families have recently travelled to the already overcrowded camps and are currently living in the shelters of relatives. Authorities consider the new arrivals to be 'visitors' and are not permitting them access to formal registration procedures, without which they cannot access food, shelter or residency documents.

UNHCR, in collaboration with PARC and InterSoS will convene a series of legal awareness sessions in Erbil camps for Syrian refugees. The upcoming theme shall cover the labor law and the government competent authorities that protect employee rights.

Sulaymaniyah: Directorate of Residency has suspended issuance of residency permits to the Syrian refugees in Sulaymaniyah due to a server breakdown; there is a significant number of pending residency permits to be issued.

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

During the reporting period, 197 individuals have been registered in Sulaymaniyah. Meanwhile, 272 certificates for the Syrian refugees have been renewed.

Two new families were registered in the camp and two new tents were erected. Currently, the estimated number of refugees in the Arbat Transit Camp, having undergone level 1 registration, is 568 families / 2656 individuals, in addition to 84 singles.

Bajed Kandala transit centre (Dohuk): A total of 25 Syrian families comprising to 111 individuals are currently hosted in the Bajed-Kandala transit centre. All essential services are available to this group of Syrians. UNHCR maintains daily presence throughout week days to ensure coordination and provide protection/community service and field support.

Al Obaidy

The number of Syrian refugees in Al Obaidy Camp is 318 cases (1,535) individuals with 821 cases (2,967) individuals settled in the town of Al Qa'im.

A Syrian refugee family consisting of seven family members, previously living in Fallujah, came to Al-Obaidy camp and was interviewed, registered and provided with services including tents and CRIs.

✓ Mass Information

On 30 May 2014, a second round of the Keep Kawergosk Clean Initiative of massive cleaning of the camp took place. Unlike the first round whereby the campaign was managed by humanitarian actors, the refugees were exclusively responsible of the cleaning activity asking humanitarian actors to be observers. This was a marked improvement in refugees taking ownership of their camp environment.

UNHCR developed posters, flyers and messages for adults and children for a week long campaign in Kawergosk camp to promote environmental protection and encourage positive behaviours vis-à-vis hygiene and sanitation. Key messages on the need to keep the environment clean and healthy were also distributed through SMS, Facebook and community meetings.

The inter-agency Protection Working Group (PWG) endorsed the questionnaire and indicators for a mass communications survey among Syrian refugees living in camps in KR-I. The survey, which aims at assessing how refugees access information and identifying information gaps, will take place in early June. Ahead of this, UNHCR held Focus Group Discussions with more than 60 refugees in Dohuk, Domiz camp, Akre, and Gawilan camp to assess the level of knowledge of the refugees vis-a-vis available services and identify the most preferred source of information for refugees. Interviews show that refugees living in camps prefer receiving information through community meetings, printed materials and the Internet, while refugees living in urban areas mentioned telephone, SMS and the Internet.

UNHCR's partner Un Ponte Per (UPP) has developed and distribute the second issue of Rojen Me, a magazine for Syrian refugees in Domiz camp. The magazine is available to download at: <http://bit.ly/1oJpWv5>

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

✓ Shelter/Infrastructure

KR-I

Domiz: ACTED and IRC are currently funding the construction of two libraries in the camp; one library will be for children and another for adults. The construction of the second PHC that was funded by the MoDM is completed.

Kawergosk: Construction of Block 1 Shelters (approximately 512 tents) has been completed (tents foundation with kitchen) and construction of the latrine and shower remains ongoing by UNICEF and NRC.



Construction of new library in Domiz /UNHCR S. Gammah

Gawilan: The relocation from the transit to the permanent site that was constructed by UNHCR-PWJ started on 26 May. Based on relocation criteria, each seven member family will be given two plots. The relocation criteria also include recommendations from community service members to refer vulnerable cases that require specific placement or additional space.

Qushtapa: 374 tents construction have been completed at the UAE site and 150 kitchens have been constructed at the previous site.

The Construction of phase (2) containing 224 construction plots has been completed.



Gawilan relocation in progress /UNHCR/ G. Gubaeva

Qatari Red Crescent (QRC) completed the water network and the sewage system in phase 2. A meeting between government, UNHCR and DRC has been held to prepare a work plan for relocating of refugees from tents to the completed shelters in phase (2).

An arrangement has been agreed between Department of Electricity in Qushtapa and DRC to move and re-install the current electrical poles from the tented camp to the UAE site. Directorate of Electricity started moving the poles to connect the electricity to each family in the new UAE site.

Relocation Progress - Gawilan Camp 26-31 May 2014

Date	Total families relocated	Total plots accommodated
26-May-14	40	47
27-May-14	60	64
28-May-14	51	60
29-May-14	51	61
30-May-14	Day off	
31-May-14	50	58
TOTAL	252	290

Basirma: A UNHCR Rub hall has been erected by DRC to be used to house UNHCR's CRIs. On 19 May ACTED handed over the distribution area to the camp manager DRC. The distribution area is constructed by UNHCR aiming to provide a proper space including waiting area for refugees during the distribution process.

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

Arbat transit camp: Construction in Arbat Permanent camp is ongoing. The erection of 512 tents in Blocks A and B is completed. The Electricity Dept. started installing and connecting power to the tents. A number of 300 tents are connected. The head of Electricity Dept. in Arbat mentioned that connection of tents to the power will be complete as soon as the relocation starts.

Al Obaidy: ISHO continues to fix the external lights within the camp.

✓ *Water and Sanitation*

Basirma: WASH Joint assessment team (UNICEF/UNHCR) visited on 29 May and assessed MoDM construction works and discussed the provision of water in the camp. The team identified several gaps.

Gawilan: ACF installed two water reservoirs and agreed to provide an additional water tank to the permanent site due to increased water consumption during summer. Premiere Urgence-Aide Medicale International (PU-AMI) community health members raised awareness among the community on water availability and use.

Arbat transit camp: IRC established six latrines and two showers in Arbat Transit camp. KURDS began the process of connecting the borehole with the main storage tanks in Arbat Permanent camp.

Al Obaidy: The routine maintenance of the public latrines continues by Afkar Society.

✓ *Child Protection*

KR-I

Domiz: 210 adolescents and youth (aged 18-30 years) benefited from services provided by the Youth Friendly Space run by UPP. The services provided by the centre include: internet / computer services, volleyball, table football, art, and library.

Basirma: UNICEF has terminated its sub-agreement with DoLSA regarding the Child Protection Unit in Basirma due to poor implementation of the project there. UNICEF is currently reviewing several proposals submitted by different actors.

Darashakran: Two children who suffer from disabilities and kidney disease have been referred to the resettlement team for further advice. Three other children suffering from thalassemia / anemia have been referred to the clinics in camps and medical unit for advice. Two children without birth certificates have been identified. The cases have been referred to relevant sections for follow up.

Al Obaidy

Activities such as sports, computer programs, drawings and educational shows continue to be implemented in the Child Friendly Spaces. Additionally, children were given the opportunity to participate in a play at the CFS.



Youth Friendly Spaces: Due to the increased temperatures, focus is on indoor activities. Sport shoes have been provided to sport teams. Flower painting is a new activity for youth.



AFKAR held an exhibition/celebration for the girls who completed sewing courses. Representatives from UNHCR, MoDM, IRC, ISHO, IRW, school teachers, Community leaders and UINCEF attended the exhibition.

CFS and YFS activities in Al Obaidy /UNHCR/Haitham

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

✓ **Core Relief Items**

KR-I

Akre: Qandil distributed 100 baby diapers packages for children and 410 sanitary napkins for women.

Al Obaidy

AFKAR NGO distributed 1,000 sets of summer clothes to camp children aged 0-18 years old. Al-Fagah council (host community) distributed vegetables and baby diapers upon coordination with Sheik Nader and UNHCR to camp refugees.



Distribution Activities in Al Obaidy /UNHCR/Haitham

✓ **Food**

KR-I

With the completion of the school year, WFP is ceasing daily high-energy biscuit distributions for primary students in Syrian refugee camps after the end of this school year. The school feeding programme is expected to recommence at the beginning of the next scholastic year.

The distribution of in-kind food assistance in other camps including Akre, Bajet Qandela transit camp, Arbat transit camp, Basirma, Qushtapa, Darashakran, Kawergosk and Gawilan also took place for the month of May. Distributions also consisted of individual food parcels comprised of commodities such as bulgur, rice, vegetable oil, tomato paste, salt and sugar.

Domiz: The monthly distribution of food vouchers targeting 76,000 Syrian refugees in Domiz camp began on 4 May. WFP continued efforts to open retailers inside the camp, limiting transportation time and costs associated with visiting shops located outside of Domiz.

Arbat transit camp: Save children International distributed 610 hygiene kits to the refugee families in during month of May 2014. YAO distributed 100 liters of kerosene, 98 portable air-coolers, 15 blankets, 15 mattresses, one plastic sheet, one kerosene jerry can and 13 tents to the newly arrived refugee families in the camp.

Al Obaidy

WFP through IRW completed the distribution of food parcels to 1,672 refugees in the camp.

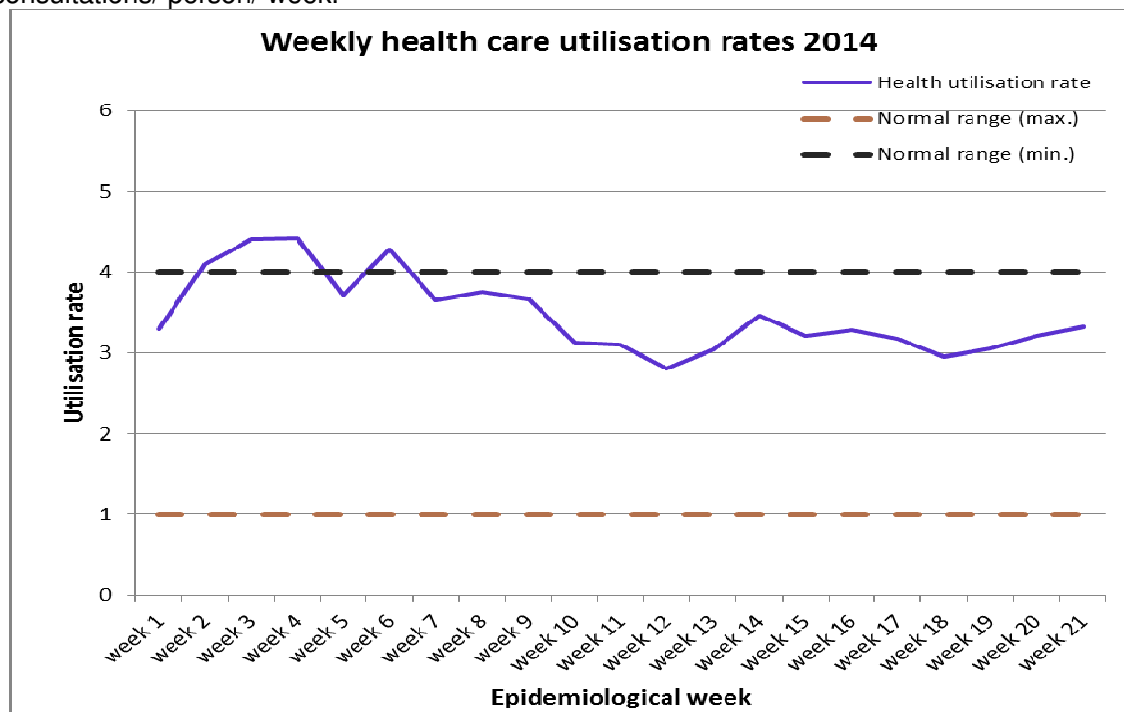
***Food Parcels distribution in Al Qaim
/WFP/Ziad***



Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

✓ Health

The consultation rate/ person/ year reached an average of 3.3 and remains within the expected range of one to four consultations/ person/ week.



Graph 1: average weekly consultation rates in all camps in KRI, 2014

KR-I

In the four camps in Erbil governorate a total of 6,056 primary health care consultations have been conducted.

In Dohuk a medical committee was established and trained in DoH to assess persons potentially eligible for resettlement for medical reasons. The same process started in Erbil and will be extended to Sulaymaniyah.

The second part of a large international medicine order has been received and will be handed over to MoH in early June for the usage in refugee camps in all three governorates.

Two meetings to develop Cholera preparedness and response plans for each camp in Erbil governorate were held in DoH Erbil. Jointly DoH, UN agencies and NGOs discussed the different components of the plans and agreed on roles and responsibilities. The plans will be completed in June, preparations for the cholera preparedness and response plans in other governorates started as well.

Joined monitoring visits have been conducted to PHCs in all four camps in Erbil with the participation of DoH, UN agencies and NGOs. The aim of the visits was to oversee the function of the PHCs, enhance coordination between different health actors and identify areas in need of further support.

UNICEF continues to support the EPI, Baby Hut, and home-visit initiatives in refugee camps in Erbil Governorate. During the reporting period, ten volunteer nurses were trained to identify danger signs in mothers and new-borns, as well as provide referrals for additional services. The volunteer nurses also provide breastfeeding counselling and care for low-birth-weight babies.

Domiz: Up to 4,227 persons with acute, chronic and mental health conditions have benefited from the health services provided by MSF, DoH/ IMC and Kirkuk foundation center. Preparation for the construction of a new health post started in Domiz 2.

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

UNICEF supported capacity building for 26 volunteer nurses working on the home-visit initiative and baby hut program in Dohuk and Erbil refugee camps. Routine immunization activities are on-going, and a total of 570 under 5 (U5) children received routine immunization in Domiz Camp.

Gawilan: In total 982 patients received treatment for acute, chronic and mental health conditions during the reporting period, 64 patients were referred for secondary health care services.

UNICEF initiated the Baby Hut program in Gawilan camp and trained four Syrian nurses to support the initiative. Training included IYCF and breastfeeding counselling, in addition to how to utilize growth charts. Activities at the Baby Hut include breastfeeding promotion, and counselling for new mothers. To create an inviting environment, the Baby Huts also have a child friendly area for children to play while their mothers are receiving services.



Kawergosk: Women Empowerment Organization (WEO), UNICEF's partner, reported that 1,180 children (<5 years old) were vaccinated during the reporting period at the same time WEO awareness team conducted a polio awareness campaign in the camp.

On 22nd of May, 2014, the Camp Administrator reported during CCM, that the Directorate of Health in Erbil will send a team for fumigation twice a month starting from June. The team is fumigating around the camp, rather than inside the tents due to potential health issues. Five refugees have been appointed to do this work.

Qushtapa: A female gynaecologist started working in Qushtapa and will provide services five days per week to female refugees in the camp. Other camps are served by gynaecologists on rotating schedule.

Arbat transit camp: In total 1,044 patients received treatment for acute and chronic health conditions during the reporting period. Mental health services will be provided from June onwards.

During the child protection sector meeting, IRC reported that six cases of scabies were found in Arbat Transit camp. In addition, some cases of hepatitis among the pregnant women were reported.

Bajad Kandala transit centre: Consultations were conducted by MSF three days per week in a tent serving as temporary health post. To improve working conditions two rooms were identified within the reception centre for the use as health post from end of May onwards.

Al Obaidy

UNHCR team invited a veterinarian to provide an awareness session on the dangers of having livestock within the camp refugees. Community leaders and refugees involved participated in this session.

448 cases received treatment in the PHC during the reporting period and as following:

- Pediatricist: 145 cases
- Internist and cardiologist: 114 cases
- Gynaecologist: 88 cases
- Dentist: 79 cases
- Sonar test: 22

On 19 May, DoH/AI Qaim in collaboration with UNHCR and UIMS completed the polio vaccination campaign to children less than five years in the camp.



UIMS activities in Al Obaidy /UIMS/Mahmood

✓ Education

KR-I

UNHCR participated in the education working group meeting and discussions have been held on how to move forward to provide a more coordinated and effective educational response for Syrian refugees. A draft education working group work plan has been presented and shared.

UNICEF, alongside government actors, implementing partners and other UN bodies participated in a planning workshop to highlight achievements, identify gaps, and inform future planning for the Education sector. The collective identified key gaps in assistance including the provision of urban education, secondary education and interventions for adolescents and youth.

Kawergosk: UNICEF conducted consultation meetings with the community to determine the site for the location of a permanent school, which will also be informed by UNICEF engineers' review of both sites.

Darashakran: UNICEF began preparing a site for the construction of a permanent school with 12 classrooms in Darashakran Camp.

An opening ceremony on 21 May for a Kindergarten was organized in Darashakran Camp. The Kindergarten has been founded and built by Rwanga, a local organization. The construction of the Kindergarten followed world safety standards and is accessible for children with disabilities.



Sections of Rwanga Foundation newly inaugurated Kindergarten in Darashakran camp /UNHCR

On 29 May UNICEF removed the tented school and started preparing the land for constructing prefabricated school as replacement. The tented school was accommodating classrooms of grades 7- 9. UNICEF reported that the new prefabricated school will be ready for the next school season.

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

Qushtapa: UNICEF began construction on a permanent school with 12 classrooms in Qushtapa Camp.

Arbat transit camp: A total of 416 children completed their exams for grades one to nine at the school in Arbat transit site. The Ministry of Education will provide certification for those completing grade 9.

Al Obaidy

From 14-21 May, final exams for sixth graders were held; results have not been announced.

Upon approval of DoE/Al Qaim, 31 students (16 girls and 15 boys) from Al Obaidy camp will participate in the secondary school/3rd grade final exams planned to be conducted in the school of Al Obaidy sub-district on 2 June. Coordination with AFKAR has been made to arrange transportation for the students between the camp to the school.

✓ SGBV

KR-I

Basirma: Early marriage in Basirma camp continues to be an issue of concern following the recent report of marriage of seven girls (13-17 years) in the camp. Lack of livelihood opportunities for parents and lack of secondary schools were mentioned as the triggers for early marriages.

Domiz: The Women Listening Centre in Domiz camp received 84 women during the reporting period, of which 21 were SGBV cases and there remaining 63 were non-SGBV cases. Ten of the SGBV cases were referred for legal counselling while all of them received psychosocial services. The non-SGBV cases were mostly women with health issues, women with disabilities and other specific needs and female headed households seeking livelihoods support. They were referred to other service providers for respective services.

Gawilan: UNHCR followed up on previously reported SGBV cases and identified 14 for follow up assistance.

Akre: Twelve cases were reported in Akre as potential SGBV cases. Two of these cases have been verified with intake.

Arbat transit camp: The Civil Development Organization (CDO) conducted a community awareness session in Arbat. The session was about the hazards of early and forced marriages. Both male and female Syrian refugees (24 in total) attended the session.

Al Obaidy

Through the Women's Listening Centre, one case received psychological and legal support.

✓ Community services

KR-I

Domiz: The Community Services team facilitated recruitment of five male refugees at a local company in Duhok. In addition, the team identified and documented 22 professionally qualified refugees as potential job seekers. Currently the database of qualified refugees has more than 1,000 job seekers.

Home visits were made with 38 families composed of 119 individuals. Referral was made to UPP Psychosocial clinic for 23 individuals. 59 vulnerable families were identified and assisted during the reporting period.

The Orientation Field Workers conducted orientation for 481 families and 264 singles – reaching 2435 individuals in Domiz, Domiz2/Faida, Gawilan and Acre. The second issue of the Domiz Newspaper will be released on 1 June.

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

210 adolescents and youth (age 18-30 years) have benefited from services provided by the UPP Youth Friendly Space; the services include internet, computer, volleyball, table football, art and library.

Gawilan: During the last reporting period, the Community Services team referred 13 disability cases to DMC to participate in the relocation process; 3 (F); 10 (M).

Akre: The Community Services team compiled a list 60 cases of chronic diseases in Akre with the help of Harikar Community Services Staff. Also, the CS team assisted one woman with dental treatment in Gulan Hospital.

Bajet Kandala Transit centre: Three individuals with specific needs were identified in Bajet Kandala transit center 2 (M) and 1 (F). The families were referred for psychosocial assistance. The team will ensure that the families will be followed up during and after eventual transfer to more permanent locations (most probably Gawilan camp).

AI Obaidy

On May 25, UNHCR team and ISHO partner celebrated the graduation of 25 Syrian participants in the CTA project (English and Computer Science) funded by UNHCR and implemented by ISHO.

CTA Graduation Celebration in AI Obaidy /ISHO/Abdualrahman



✓ Livelihoods

KR-I

IOM will implement Livelihood projects in **Gawilan** and **Domiz**: A project agreement was signed with UNHCR covering 200 beneficiaries for vocational training and 25 beneficiaries for on-the-job training in Gawilan camp. Both groups will benefit from business development training. The projects target beneficiaries aged 17-35.

Darashakran: On 29 May Barzani Charity Foundation (BCF) commenced construction of sewing center as an income generation project for the women refugees in the camp. BCF reported that the swing centre will start producing free school uniforms for refugee students and other products to be sold as income generation.

AI Obaidy

As part of UNHCR livelihood projects, the bakeries continue producing traditional bread to the refugees in AI Obaidy.

4. Non-camp assistance

✓ Reception, Registration and Protection

In Dohuk, UNHCR screened and verified certificates one Syrian refugee for issuance of new UNHCR certificate.

✓ Food

Due to the ongoing insecurity in Anbar province and limited access, UNHCR and WFP are currently discussing ways to train and empower local staff to conduct a small Joint Assistance Mission exercise for Syrian refugees hosted in Anbar province.

✓ Education

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update

UNHCR IP CDO reported that the Syrian teachers of Sarikani School in Bazyan sub district, Sulaymaniyah, have not received their salaries for the last six months. CDO is in the process of advocating with the Education Department so that the teachers receive their salaries.

✓ SGBV

During the reporting period, UNHCR continued to follow up on six SGBV cases in Duhok and provided them with access to psychological support and legal aid.

✓ Health

In Dohuk, the PARC team visited 42 (196 individuals) families and identified issues concerning medical/health and registration. Referrals were made for 15 families to receive appropriate medical services, while the rest were redirected to the UNHCR Protection team for registration related assistance. In addition, 17 individuals with different specific needs were identified and assisted.

✓ Community services/livelihoods

In Dohuk, DRC completed the distribution of small scale business grants to 140 families (5 from the host community), and is planning to do the same for another 60 families of which 35 are already identified (10 from the host community).

In Sulaymaniyah, UNHCR IP's CDO conducted an awareness session for the Syrian refugees in Saidsadiq district. The theme was domestic violence and how the Iraqi law addresses the issue. 34 refugees (26 female and 8 male) participated.

5. Stories from the Field

Taste of success at a family bakery in Domiz

It is mid-afternoon at Domiz refugee camp in northern Iraq and the storm clouds are gathering. People are busy making their way back to their temporary shelters as the rain starts to fall. But several customers are unable to resist a quick stop at the Rotaj sweet shop, tempted in by the brightly decorated cakes and trays of honey drenched baklava.

41-year old Narin says, "I buy Iraqi and Syrian sweets from the shop but I prefer the Syrian sweets because my children like them and the taste reminds me of my beautiful life back home in my village."



*Haitham (left) and his brother Samian sit outside the family sweet shop in the Domiz refugee camp in Iraq.
/UNHCR/Robinson/ Iraq-21/05/14*

Serving up the pastry is 28-year old shop manager Haitham, who fled to Iraq after he was unable to find work in strife-torn Syria. He and two younger brothers crossed the border 14 months ago. The three men were registered by UNHCR who also provided them with a tent. They joined an older brother who had already settled in the Domiz camp, along with his wife and child.

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In August 2013 Haitham and his brothers opened their shop and a small factory where they produce and sell their pastries. Back in Syria Haitham had worked as a restaurant manager and his brothers had trained as bakers. Combining their talents has turned into a recipe for success. Of the three sweets shops in the camp, the Rotaj is the most popular. Haitham says their small business brings in approximately \$1500 USD per month, which goes towards maintaining the shop and supporting all six family members. “We have to depend on ourselves. We share two tents and receive food vouchers, but it’s barely enough. This extra money really helps”, he says.

Like other small business owners in the Domiz camp, Haitham and his brothers are proud to be self-sufficient. They work around the clock to keep the shop afloat, rising early each day to bake 25 kilos of baklava, along with two decorated cakes, and more if there is a special event, such as a birthday or a wedding. Customers snap up the home-made baklava for \$5 USD per box.



21 May 2014, Haitham Fills a box with their home-made baklava which will sell for USD \$5. /UNHCR/Robinson

Haitham says he is content for now. “We are happy to be here in the camp because we are living with people of the same Kurdish ethnicity and it’s a real community.” He says when the conflict ends back in Syria, he and his brothers will return. But, he adds, not until the storm clouds clear, the country rebuilds and law and order is restored.

Catherine Robinson – May 28, 2014

6. Security

Al Qa'im

Security situation remains stable in Al Qaim and no major security incident has been reported during this reporting period.

KR-I

Security remains stable.

7. Coordination

KR-I

NTR

Al Qaim

Al Qaim team held a meeting with local authorities (Mayor, District city council) and relief committees responsible for IDPs to brief them about UNHCR activities and initiatives for Anbar IDPs.

Syria Crisis in Iraq: Bi-weekly Update



UNHCR meetings in Al Obaidy /UNHCR/Omer

For information related to the Regional Response Plan (RRP6) please click on <http://www.unhcr.org/syriarrp6/>

Announcements of all sector meetings along with respective agendas and minutes, and other information reporting sector-wide progress such as 3Ws, dashboards and camp profiles, are available on the inter-agency information sharing portal at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

8. Acronyms and abbreviations

AFS	Adolescent Friendly Space
CFS	Child Friendly Space
CRI	Core Relief Items (formerly known as non-food items/ NFIs)
DDM	Department of Displacement and Migration
DMC	Development and Modification Centre
DoE	Department of Education
DoH	Department of Health
HOFO	Head of Field Office
HOSO	Head of Sub Office
ISF	Iraqi Security Forces
KR	Kurdistan Region of Iraq (or KRI)
MOMD	Ministry of Migration and Displacement
PARC	Protection Assistance Reintegration Centre
PHC	Primary Health Centre
QIPs	Quick impact projects
YFS	Youth Friendly Space

Syrian Refugees Camps in Iraq

As of 15 May 2014

Total Number of Registered Syrian Refugees in Iraq is 225,409

