



JULY HIGHLIGHTS:

Out of 218,040 refugees in Iraq:
216,465 are registered and 1,575 are waiting for registration

As 31 June 2014, 216,040 Syrians were registered with UNHCR (80,181 households), the decrease is primarily due to spontaneous return and completion of level -1 registration exercise. An estimated 1% of the population is pending for registration at the end of the reporting period.

The general protection situation has been largely affected by the continued influx and displacement of IDPs from south and central Iraq. UNHCR's ability to operate and reach out to its beneficiaries remained limited due to restrictive security requirements, especially places like Zummar and Telseen.

The border point at Peshkhabour remained closed for incoming refugees, however, since 10 June 2014 it has been open only to process the return of Syrians from KR-I back to Syria. In July, 4,078 Syrians spontaneously returned to Syria, bringing the total number of Syrians returned during the current year to 16,967.

The Registration unit has commenced the verification exercise at the Erbil urban registration center, having installed biometrics equipment with the support of a DIST mission. All Erbil governorate proGres servers have been upgraded to accommodate IrisGuard technology. Respective registration staff went through initial training on the use of this technology.

The joint UNHCR-Erbil Residency Department verification exercise continued and processed 613 individuals and 300 individuals were issued with the permit. The pace has been slow due to certain procedural issues and the advent of the holy month of Ramadan.

Single male refugees across in all the camps in Erbil continue to experience delays in obtaining residency permits due to elaborate clearance process by Asayish and apparent priority given to the families. UNHCR has taken up the matter with the authorities, which could become a protection concern, curtailing their freedom of movement.

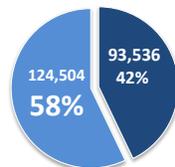
In Sulaymaniyah, with the relocation of 422 Syrian refugee families from Arbat Transit Camp (ATC) to the new permanent camp, the first phase of relocation has been completed. Remaining will follow soon in the second phase.

The Residency Department in Sulaymaniyah stopped issuing residence permits to Syrian asylum seekers who have been registered in Erbil.

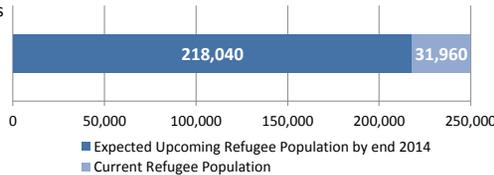
SGBV SWG lead by UNHCR has been intensively working on mainstreaming SGBV issues in Shelter, Camp management, Education, also considering other sectors soon. At the same time SGBV became a key protection concern during the current emergency crises, therefore, UNHCR is intensively working on strengthening the coordination in all KR-I, specifically Duhok Governorate. UNHCR conducted three workshops in the three governorates for strengthening the capacity of the SGBV SWG.

Population :
Camp
vs
Non-Camp

■ Camp ■ Non-Camp



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NEEDS ANALYSIS:

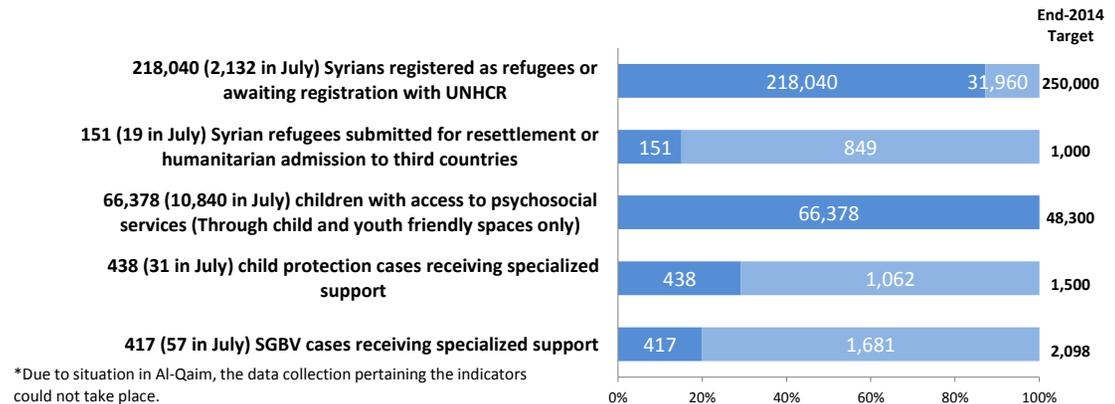
The sudden influx of IDPs has impacted the engagement with refugees due to limited resources and urgent required action. It would be vital not to have a diluted focus on the refugee program, amid dealing with IDP response.

Safeguarding asylum space remains a key activity of UNHCR and its partners. Identifying persons in need of international protection mixed migration movements is challenging, as well as ensuring access to asylum for those new arrivals who initially enter as persons who seek medical assistance or for family visits, and at a later stage seek to submit asylum applications. Ensuring timely and accurate registration is also key. This includes ensuring reliable mechanisms are in place to update the data base on a regular basis with regard to specific needs that may have been identified at the registration stage or later in the process of obtaining asylum.

Prevention of and ensuring appropriate responses to instances of SGBV remains a priority for the sector. The reporting of instances of SGBV, and a proper analysis of the data, will be facilitated once the GBV IMS system is fully operational in the camps and for the urban population. Identifying child protection needs and responses for all children at risk in the camp needs to be strengthened.

Ensuring the equal participation of communities' self-identified male and female refugee representatives in camps and urban areas will strengthen refugees' ability towards self-reliance in protection and assistance, including for the most vulnerable refugees, and facilitates access to information in a timely manner. Clear procedures, referral mechanisms, and human resources will be put in place to facilitate the identification of the most vulnerable refugees, including those in need of resettlement as a durable solution.

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS*:



Targets based on expected population of 250,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq by end-2014. There are currently 218,040 Syrian refugees in Iraq.

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Participating Agencies: Ministry of Interior (MoI)-Iraq/Permanent Comity (PC), Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MODM)-Iraq, Ministry of Interior (MoI)-KRI, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNAMI Human Rights, IOM, ACF, ACTED, ACTED-REACH, CDO, DRC, Handicap International, Harikar, Heartland Alliance, InterSOS, IRC, Kurdistan Save the Children, KURDS, MAG, Mercy Corps, Mine Advisory Group, NRC, PAO, STEP, Triangle, UPP, War Child UK, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.