

JORDAN INTER-SECTOR WORKING GROUP UPDATE

April 2015



This update is a coordination tool to improve communication between sectors and up to the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF). It focuses on processes, rather than achievements. The latter are covered through separate monthly sector dashboards, available through the inter-agency portal and at <http://data.unhcr.org/jordan/sectors/>

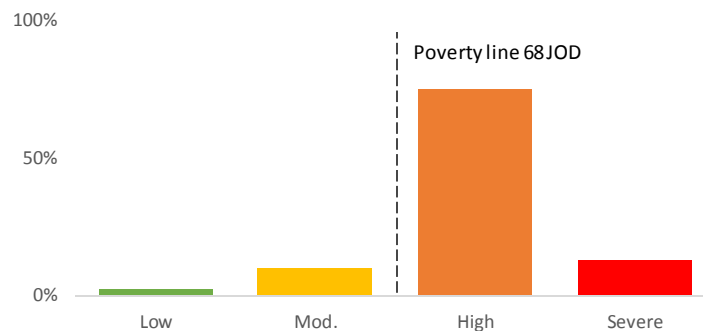
I. General / Inter-Sector Update



Vulnerability Assessment Framework:

The Vulnerability Assessment Framework, or VAF, baseline report is to be released in mid-May. The VAF includes a Welfare model, based on econometric statistical regression, and a series of sector models, developed in consultation with the refugee sectors. Since mid-2014, over 45,000 home visits have been conducted, creating a significant data set for analysis. As part of the validation process, however, a baseline survey was conducted in early 2015, using a randomized representative sample.

The VAF welfare model results show that 86% of Syrian refugee individuals are living below the Jordanian poverty line of 68 JOD per capita per month, and are therefore rated as being highly or severely vulnerable. This corresponds with 68% of family units or 'cases'. 10% of refugee individuals, or 6% of cases, are living below the abject poverty line of less than 28 JOD. This implies that highly and severely vulnerable families have larger family sizes.¹



In May and early June, specific sessions on the application of the VAF will be held with urban coordination teams in Irbid and Mafraq. Specific maps and products for urban coordination are under development. Key next steps include finalization of the MoUs on data sharing that will allow selected partners to access VAF data on refugee households, to facilitate the targeting of assistance.

For more information on the VAF, including details on modelling nuances and how this can be applied for targeting purposes, please refer to the portal page at:

http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/working_group.php?Page=Country&LocationId=107&Id=69

¹ The Welfare score applies predicted rather than actual reported expenditure. The findings are broadly in line with the 2014 WFP/REACH Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME), which found that without WFP food assistance, 85% of Syrian refugees would not have economic access to sufficient food.

II. Sector information



BASIC NEEDS

Winterization: the final Winterization task force meeting partners reflected upon the lessons learnt from the 2014-2015 Winterization cycle and suggestions were made for next year's scheme. A final report outlining the assistance given and the findings made is to be published shortly.

VAF: The Basic Needs WG has set up a task force to examine how the VAF could be adapted and refined for the sector's analysis needs. For the purpose of targeting, criteria of the Basic Needs vulnerability tree will be developed to incorporate both a wider, yet more refined scale.

Expansion of RAIS: Similar to the RAIS Winterization module, the WG wishes to create a module that will allow organisations to quickly cross-check if there is duplication on projects all year round. This will help widen the number of beneficiaries receiving assistance.

Activityinfo: Additional indicators are being added to Activityinfo so that more detailed information can be provided on the Dashboard, subsequently allowing for greater transparency on the information shared.

Azraq Camp Update: the retrieval of the gas cylinders for the heaters was finalized in April. There will be a summer shoes distribution planned for end-June, donation from IOM.



EDUCATION

Minimum Operating Standards for IFE: The ESWG reviewed the minimum operating standards for Informal Education (IFE) in camps. IFE curriculum will include literacy and numeracy (Math, Arabic/English classes and cultural studies) and may also include computer, English lessons, life skills, PSS, technical skills and post basic learning. Programs will target children between the 6 and 24 years.

Sector Achievements:

- Non-certified/Informal skills trainings: 10,500 Syrian and 3,919 host community children received non certified informal and basic skills training in April.
- 174 children (100 boys and 74 girls) with special needs received inclusive education and PSS services.
- 5,407 children (2,649 girls and 2,758 boys) were provided with individual education kits including, uniforms, school bags and stationary.



FOOD SECURITY

Targeting and Appeals: WFP's targeting and tiered assistance introduced in April saw 33,466 excluded from assistance, 240,773 receiving half assistance of JOD10 (US\$14) and 191,248 receiving full assistance of JOD20 (US\$28).

Following this targeting, 35,018 appeals were filed; 21,013 in Amman, 12,399 in the north and 1,606 in the south. This number is expected to rise as not all appeals submitted to partners have been received by WFP. The Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) appeals team started reviewing cases on 15 April and so far reviewed 656; 60 approved for full assistance; 176 approved for half assistance; 172 rejected; 248 require more information for a decision to be made (including home visits). An additional 977 ineligible appeals were received from beneficiaries who were not excluded or had their assistance reduced. The last day for submitting appeals was 30 April.

Impact of WFP reductions: Preliminary results for WFP's post-distribution monitoring for the first quarter of 2015 (conducted with 348 families in communities, again constituting a statistically representative sample) revealed households were employing multiple consumption and livelihoods coping strategies:

- 89% of respondents were relying on less preferred and less expensive food, cutting chicken, meat, dairy and fruit almost totally from their diet.
- 62% were reducing the number of meals eaten per day
- 55% were borrowing food or relying on help from relatives or friends
- 61% borrowed money for rent and 47% bought food on credit or borrowed money to purchase food – both classified as stress coping strategies
- 24% reduced essential expenditures on education/health; 13% sent under-aged children to work; and 20% withdrew children from school – all considered crisis coping strategies

2015 CFSME: Data collection for the 2015 Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise was completed. Preliminary findings will be available in early May.

Visits: WFP co-hosted the Joint Field Visit of the Executive Boards of WFP and several other UN agencies. Other Diplomats and governmental officials' visited camps; WFP regular coordination meetings in south and northern governorates were conducted as well.



HEALTH

Oral Polio Campaign: Sub-National Immunization Days (SNIDs) polio campaign started in 26th April (26th - 30th April in host communities) and is ongoing in refugee camps in May. A total of 373,622 children under the age of 5 living in 210 "High Risk Areas" of Jordan (such as informal tented areas, remote areas, hard to reach areas) (outside the camps) received polio vaccine during this first part of the SNID campaign. Several agencies are involved, including the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR, IOM, private sector, and civil society organizations. Refugees have been very keen and cooperative. When vaccinating children, they get their fingers painted and receive a token for the date for the vaccination. This token functions as a receipt for the follow-up verification assessment. These verification assessments will take place once the vaccination campaign is completed.

Health-related 3ws in Iraqi Refugees: In order to collect up-to-date information on health related needs, coverage and uptake of services for Iraqis a 3ws exercise was carried out between March and April 2015. There are approximately 47,390 (as of April 25th 2015) Iraqi refugees in Jordan of whom 21,499 (22.1%) arrived in 2014 and 3,141 (3.2%) in early 2015. 90% live in Amman and 4.6% in Zarqa. 9 organizations reported their activities: JHAS, Caritas, Aman, Jordan Women's Union, MSF France, IFH, CVT, IMC, IRD and Handicap International. Based on what was reported, an analysis was done to identify gaps. Main findings:

1. The availability of primary and secondary/tertiary care and support to access these services is satisfactory but most services concentrated in Amman with fewer services in Zarqa.
2. There are very few health related activities at community level.
3. No systematic support for infant and young child feeding activities.
4. TB programming specifically for Iraqis needs to be strengthened; though they have access to the national TB programme there is no active screening and directly observed treatment support.
5. More information needed on health status and needs and uptake of key services including family planning, SGBV services, disability programming and immunization.

New health policy: After several months of implementation of the new health policy of the Ministry of Health relating to access to health services for Syrians, some key observations can be made: Ministry of Health reports a reduction in Syrians accessing services though the burden is still significant e.g Ramtha primary health care centres report a 42% reduction and Princess Basma in Irbid report a 31 % reduction in inpatient admissions and a 57% reduction in the surgeries. There is a corresponding increase in use of some NGO/ Red Crescent facilities at primary health care level and some secondary services; Referral costs to access secondary and tertiary care has increased significantly from October 2014 to March 2015 even

with vulnerability targeting. There do not seem to be major returns to the camps specifically to access services but some of camp return may be related to contribution of health care to overall cost of living. Finally there is a need to continue to collect data on key outcomes (coverage of services, mortality, and coping mechanisms) as well as uptake of services.

War wounded: Although there has been a reduction in the total number of war wounded cases entering Jordan during recent months the cases received have been very complicated with life threatening injuries (50 % head injuries and 20 % maxillofacial). In the first week of April 29 very complicated cases were received in Ramtha hospital reflect the deteriorating security situation in Dara'a. The severity of the injuries and the services required has stretched existing capacities.

Reproductive Health

Joint UNFPA/UNHCR STIs orientation session: Held at Zaatari for 18 health care providers (Doctors, nurses and midwives) on 21st April 2015. The aim was to present the STIs syndromic approach (Diagnosis, management and follow up) followed by HIS reporting and case definitions.

RH SWG meeting: Held on 23rd April. The main issues covered included a review of the RH SWG Term of Reference (ToR) and Update on RH focal points list

Nutrition

Save the Children Jordan screened 260 children aged 6-59 months and 48 pregnant and lactating women in Raba Sarhan. Only one severely malnourished and one moderately malnourished cases were identified amongst children. Three malnourished cases were identified amongst pregnant and lactating women.



PROTECTION

SRS on Sexual Violence in Conflict: Visit of the SRS on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Ms. Zainab Bangura conducted her first visit to Jordan and other countries in the region to gain a better understanding of the needs of refugee populations from Syria who are affected by sexual violence. She met with protection actors including humanitarian agencies and government institutions like the National Council for Family Affairs, Family Protection Department and Ministry of Social Development.

Community Gatherings in Zaatari: Community Gatherings are still ongoing on weekly basis in all districts. Partners have shown an increase in attendance as essential community concerns were raised during the past weeks. During the reporting period, the topics included: challenge to access the two malls currently present in the camp, and cash for work in the camp, and its technical challenges. UNHCR is sharing the outcome and main action points in the monthly communique which is presented and discussed in the Zaatari CMC. The Community Mobilization WG is currently designing a feedback and communication structure to response to the concerns raised during the Community Gatherings.

Protection trainings:

- UNHCR conducted a training for 30 staff from Jordan River Foundation's (JRF) and Noor Al Hussein Foundation's (NHF) working in Amman, King Abdullah Park and Cyber City as well as from their centers in the South to improve the quality of case management services. The training covered UNHCR's mandate, Best Interest Assessment (BIA) and Best Interest Determination (BID).
- UNHCR and UNICEF conducted two six-day training sessions for humanitarian case management agencies, behavioral monitors from the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) and the Family Protection Department (FPD). 53 individuals working in Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, Mafraq and Zaatari and Mafraq benefited from these two trainings, bringing the total number of persons trained in 2015 on the new Alternative Care Guidelines to 80 individuals.
- IFH-NHF and JRF conducted refresher trainings on CP/SGBV SOPs for protection actors in Zaatari Camp and Amman respectively. These trainings will continue until September

Legal assistance 11, 821 (5685 female and 6,136 male) refugees and host community received legal assistance from agencies that provide legal counseling and representation.

For Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS), see under Health above.



SHELTER

Urban Shelter Projects: Preparatory works, by partners, for the upgrading of shelters, completion of unfinished buildings, distribution of SoKs, conditional cash for rent and awareness campaigns on HLP are progressing as planned. Implementation will commence upon approval.

Azraq Camp Construction Update: All T-Shelters in villages 2, 3, 5, and 6 allocated to implementing partners (NRC & Ministry of Public Works and Housing) have been constructed, with a total of 10,023 T-Shelters. The handover process is ongoing and expected to be completed by end of May.

- Multipurpose area (playground) completed
- Preparatory designs, BOQs, estimates for possible extension of the camp, if and when the need may arise, are ready
- 1,128 concrete flooring for T-shelters in Village-5 executed in April.
- 373 concrete flooring for T-shelters in Village 2 executed in April

This comes to a cumulative total of 8,398 T-Shelters with reinforced concrete flooring completed until the end of April in villages 3, 6, 5, and 2. All T-Shelters in villages 3, 5, and 6 now have reinforced concrete flooring.

- Azraq Camp Market: All 100 completed vendor stalls in village 3 and 6 have been handed over to UNHCR by the implementing partner, Ministry of Public Works and Housing.
- Multipurpose area (playground) completed
- Preparatory designs, BOQs, estimates for possible extension of the camp, if and when the need may arise, are ready.

Zaatari Camp Update: The restructuring of Zaatari is in process. The restructuring is an attempt to best utilize the camp space in line with minimum standards and preserving social fabrics to the maximum extent possible. It is a step towards having, as much as possible, a proper arrangements of shelters and a ‘final’ layout plan of the camp”. Camp restructuring involves the introduction of the new Shelter design including WASH, kitchenette and concrete flooring. In specific, the restructuring, targeting all districts in the camp, aims at:

- Improving the existing structures such as standalone prefab caravans, compounds, etc through the provision of design assistance to the families to best utilize the space they occupy
- Having an address system of the shelters through fixing the shelters in place
- Making the installation of infrastructure utilities (water, wastewater, electricity, roads, etc) effective and serve the purpose designed for
- Improving accessibility to services in all districts of the camp to the maximum extent possible
- Promoting protection of the families by preserving social cohesion and extended families structure
- Replacing, if and where possible, damaged prefab caravans that are beyond repairs, and providing additional prefab caravans to families with substandard space for living as much as possible
- Addressing the needs of persons with special needs to the maximum extent possible

Additional developments:

- 70 out of the planned 1,000 SNC prefabricated caravans delivered to district 9 of the camp
- 60 out of the planned 600 Qatari prefabricated caravans delivered to district 8 of the camp
- 13 out of the planned 39 Kuwaiti prefabricated caravans delivered to district 6 of the camp
- New bailout area is in progress (90% completed)



WASH

Support to the Sector: the Strategy Advisory Group (SAG) and the various Technical Working Groups (TWGs)/Task Forces were re-established. The SAG met to review the WASH Sector Strategy which includes for Zaatari, Azraq and Host Communities, as well as Social Mobilisation and Contingency Planning.

Media Event: A media event to highlight the WASH components of the JRP and the importance of sustainable water resource management was jointly organised by MoWI, UNICEF and Oxfam on 27 April. The event highlighted the many challenges and opportunities to ensure the provision of sustainable water across the country and this was facilitated by visits of local and global media groups to key host communities and camps, to better understand the issues and the context.

Host Community:

- Work on eight of the 10 water and sanitation infrastructure projects in the Host Community continued, with two already completed and the remaining works expected to be completed by late August.
- To increase the access to appropriate water and sanitation facilities in identified vulnerable households, work has been completed in 850 of the households to date, benefitting approximately 4,250 people with work in the remaining 200 households underway and is expected to be completed by late May.
- Final works in the 12 schools in Mafraq and Irbid are underway and these are expected to be completed by early May. Works to improve the water and sanitation facilities in 36 Informal Tented Settlements are underway, which are being complemented by hygiene promotion sessions to raise the awareness on the importance of safe water storage practices and water conservation, as well as water quality and the source and impact of water borne diseases.
- After 5 months, the National WASH in Schools assessment has been completed in 3174 schools and the report will be finalised after verification visits have been carried out.

Camps Overall: Throughout April, the provision of essential WASH services continued to over 101,500 people in Zaatari, Azraq, King Abdullah Park and Cyber City camps, including the daily provision of over 4 million litres of treated water, maintenance of sanitation facilities, collection and disposal of over 2.4 million litres of wastewater and 800 m³ of solid waste, as well as the dissemination of key WASH messages in communities and schools.

Zaatari WASH Update:

- Progress was made in the transition to more sustainable services. Importantly, the remaining works on Borehole 3 in Zaatari were completed and the Ministry of Health has given the necessary permission for the borehole to be used for public consumption. To mark the occasion, the new water source was commissioned in a ceremony on 23 April, led by the H.E. the Secretary General of the Water Authority of Jordan, with representatives of the German and British governments, as well as NGO partners, UN agencies and stakeholders from Zaatari camp present. The new borehole will now enable the water needs of Zaatari to be met by the three boreholes with no further need for external tankering, except during peak demand periods during the hot summer months. To address this small shortfall, UNICEF is discussing options with the government to utilise the municipal connection as a back-up measure.
- To ensure the appropriate use of water, a seasonal water distribution plan was developed and approved by WASH sector partners and will be implemented in the first week of May. Complementary to this, all three agencies in Zaatari disseminated messages on the importance of water conservation, as well as new water network.
- The final design for the wastewater network will be completed by the first week of May.
- Complementary to the work on both networks, a Task Force on Community Mobilisation has been established and a plan on communication is under development, to ensure that the refugees and the key camp stakeholders are informed of the planned works, the timeframe, the implications of the

work on their caravans and the access to services. Focus Group discussions with community representatives and those who will be affected by the movement of the caravans have commenced.

- In terms of social mobilisation, 10 awareness sessions were held on menstrual hygiene in which 101 women participated. In the American and Bahraini schools in Zaatari, 3 sessions on water distribution were held and were attended by 70 people.

Azraq Wash Update: In addition to the provision of WASH services for over 17,700 people living in Azraq:

- The civil works for the wastewater treatment plant have scaled up considerably (the works on the basin are almost completed) and the plant is expected to be operational by late July. The borehole has been equipped and all the components of the system have been tested (generator, pumps, pipes, sand filters, chlorination system and filling point) with arrangements are underway with the Ministry of Health to certify the borehole for public consumption.
- Importantly, a children's photo competition was held in Azraq in which children documented what they see to be the key issues affecting their lives, which included WASH services.
- Due to the increasing population in Azraq and the rising temperatures, there has been a significant increase (72%) in the water consumption, and consequently, the volumes of wastewater collected and treated. As a result of the increasing numbers, preparations are underway to finalize the WASH services in two of the new Villages, Village 2 and 5, with only the WASH blocks in Village 5 to be completed.
- The WASH committees in the camp have stabilised (there was some movement around, and in and out of the camp over recent months) and the committees are now undertaking minor repairs of the WASH blocks as the committees have been given the necessary tools

III. Contact

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Jordan Refugee Response portal page at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=107>;

ISWG page http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/working_group.php?Page=Country&LocationId=107&Id=60