



### FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

On the 23rd February, IOM inaugurated a new market area in Qushtapa Camp which includes 20 business premises.

In-kind grants were distributed to Syrian refugees selected to run the businesses. Businesses established included a mobile repair shop, grocery, coffee shop, and barber shop. Mobile motorbike services and electrician businesses were also supported.

Vocational training activities for both non-camp and camp refugees were completed by DRC and IOM with over 150 beneficiaries across the two projects. Graduates will be supported through further in-kind grants, small business support or job placements.

220 Syrian refugees in Domiz camp, Duhok were provided with free access to Information Technology (IT) facilities through IOM Community Technology Access (CTA) center.



### NEEDS ANALYSIS:

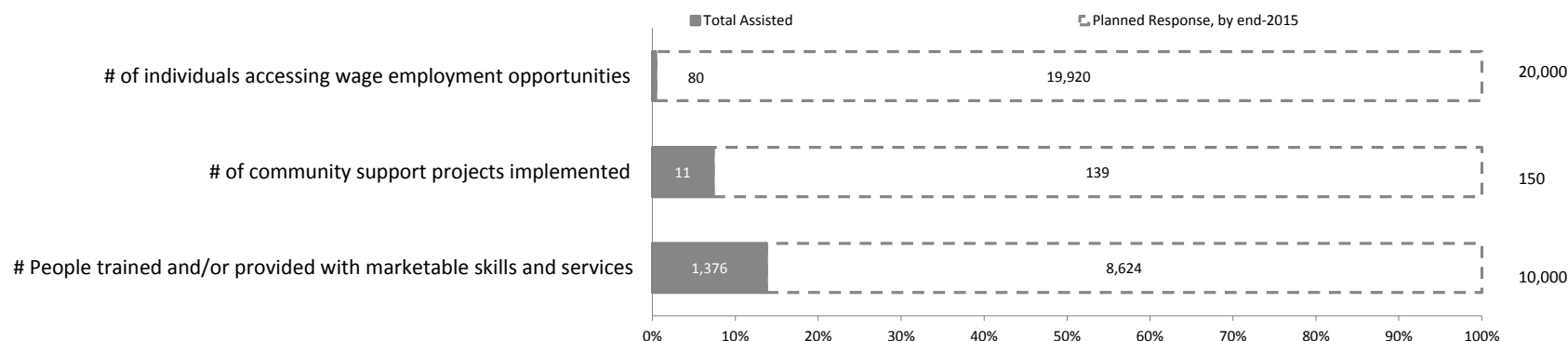
Although achievements have been made in supporting Syrian refugees build marketable skills, the ability of the refugee population to find a sustainable job opportunity is still severely limited. As of February 2015, **only 5%** of the 2015 target for Syrian Refugees to be assisted with access to wage employment had been reached.

As found in the REACH Multi-sector needs assessment (MSNA Feb 2015) the majority of Syrian households in both camp and non-camp settings reported that the greatest barrier to accessing employment has been an increase in the competition between IDPs, refugees and low skilled laborers from outside of Iraq to access a very limited number of job opportunities. This matches the results of the EMMA assessment completed in late 2014 on the limited capacity of the labor market to absorb the refugee, IDP and host community caseloads in KRI. As a result, many refugees are left without stable access to income and rely on limited livelihood support to provide for their families.

In order to assist Refugees in accessing **sustainable livelihood opportunities**, agencies need to explore networking with formal employers, development of under-utilized markets (agricultural processing) and asset building activities for small businesses in non-camp settings.

### IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS - FEBRUARY 2015

End-Year Target



Planned response based on full funding of 3RP for an expected direct beneficiary population of 250,000 Syrian refugees and 1.5 million members of impacted local communities by end-2015.

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