



## JULY HIGHLIGHTS:

**Registration and access to territory:** UNHCR registered 2,413 Syrian refugees (62% Al Hassaka and 19% from Aleppo). This includes 720 recorded as new births.

- 282 refugees were identified with specific needs.
- 5,612 Syrians arrived in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) through Peshkhabour border crossing. This includes 1,392 admitted on humanitarian reasons for 15-day entry visas and 4,220 readmitted after previously being allowed to return to Syria.
- 2,142 household assessments were conducted for 8,333 Syrian refugees in KR-I. Resulting notably to:
  - Referrals for multi-purpose cash assistance;
  - Legal assistance;
  - Registration.

**Resettlement:** 73 individuals were submitted for resettlement after identification and assessment of most vulnerable cases.

**Community-Based Protection in KR-I:** The Outreach Volunteers (OV) programme led to improved community engagement through new initiatives on community capacity building, mobilization, awareness raising, and information dissemination. Coordination continues with camp management to support the development of an effective and user-friendly community feedback mechanism (e.g. new complaint boxes with clear messages were installed in the four refugee camps in Erbil).

**Child Protection: UNICEF, with partners, has rolled out** The Strategic Framework for Sustainable Child Protection Programming for Refugees. The framework covers:

- Psychosocial support
- Strengthening child protection through community-based entities
- Case management.

In Erbil, to operationalize this new strategy, together with the Directorate of Social Affairs (DOSA), the partners conducted consultations with community members to:

- Explain the role of the community;
- Clarify roles and responsibility for the collaboration;
- Conduct regular quarterly reviews on the implementation.

**SGBV: Awareness-raising sessions were conducted to partners in KR-I** on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). These sessions led to increased reporting with corresponding response mechanisms for both survivor's assistance and the perpetrators.

To address information gaps on survival sex amongst aid workers and case management agencies, a technical and practical guidance on SGBV is being developed by the SGBV sub-sector partners.



Summer break after school year in Kawergosk refugee camp, Erbil, July 2017, UNHCR. O.Zhdanov

## NEEDS ANALYSIS:

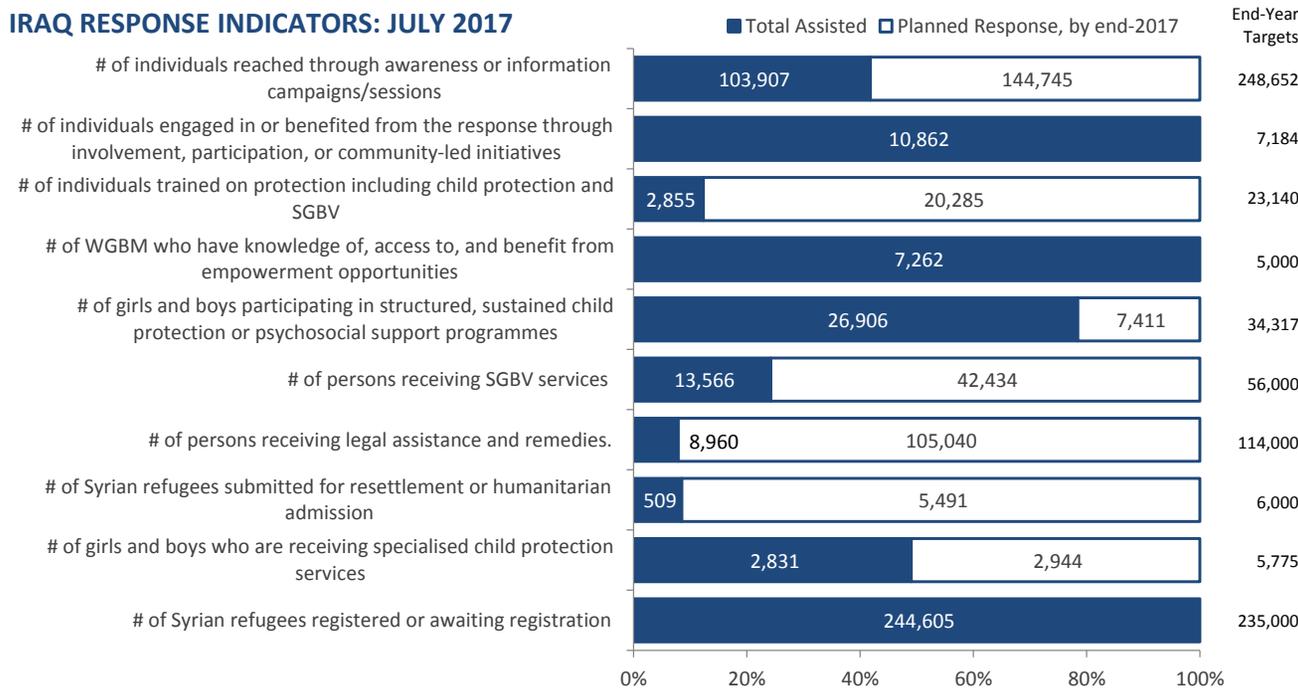
**Refugees, IDPs and Host Community Context:** While the host community has endured the impact of displacement, the deterioration of security in the rest of Iraq (resulting in big number of IDPs in KR-I, where about 97% of all Syrian refugees in Iraq live), the financial crisis affecting the public and private sectors of the economy and affecting directly the livelihood resources of Syrian refugees living among host communities.

**Consequence of these financial crises in KR-I:** An increasing number of out-of-camp Syrian refugees requested relocation to camps, resulting in long waiting lists and negative coping mechanisms.

**Consequences of Under-funding:** By late June 2017, the sector has received about 26% of the total amount required: some USD 38 million. This funding gap has reduced the capacity of all the sector, particularly the sub-sectors of Child Protection and SGBV. Partners in these sub-sectors were not able to implement the minimum slandered responses.

**Resettlement:** Inadequate opportunities compared to the needs of most vulnerable refugees whose only viable protection solution is resettlement.

## IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JULY 2017



Leading Agencies: UNHCR, Vincent Gule, gule@unhcr.org





### 57,257 Syrian Refugees and members of impacted host communities were assisted by food sector in camps and non-camps as following:

- **In camps:** 55,817 Syrian refugees received food assistance through food vouchers in 8 camps (Domiz 1&2, Arbat, Basirma, Darashakran, Gawilan, Kawergosk and Qushtapa) and unrestricted cash distributions at Akre camp ( chart below).
- **In non-camps:** 1,440 Syrian refugees and impacted members of host community were supported on

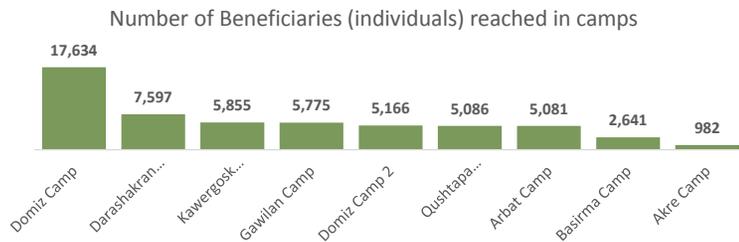
### JULY HIGHLIGHTS

**In camps:** a total of 55,817 Syrian refugees received assistance from WFP in July 2017 under the regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO). All beneficiaries received IQD 22,000 (USD 19) per beneficiary, per month. Data collection by WFP and UNHCR for the Joint Vulnerability Assessment (JVA) of Syrian refugees started late July 2017 in Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah, both inside and outside camps. Preliminary findings on the food security levels and livelihoods of refugees are expected to be available as of late August 2017.

WFP launched a resilience pilot project to train Syrian refugees in digital skills and online freelancing. The training is taking place at the American University of Iraq – Sulaymaniyah and supported by WFP's Innovation Accelerator, based in Munich. 100 refugees from Arbat camp have been recruited and will be trained until 30 August 2017.

FAO, in collaboration with Directorates of Agriculture, is planning trainings on greenhouse vegetable production for Syrian refugees in two camps (Qushtapa in Erbil and Domiz 1 in Duhok).

**In non-camp areas:** to reduce long-term dependence on emergency food assistance and enable people to recover as quickly as possible, FAO has assisted 1,440 persons (Syrian Refugees and members of impacted host community (720 persons in Khabat area in Erbil and 720 persons in Amadia area in Duhok). The assistance included: 5,760 hens (23 hens/family), drinking equipment and 48 metric tons of poultry feeding. This assistance will provide meat (30 Kg/family/year), eggs and incomes from the sale of surplus eggs.



Lead Agencies: WFP, mohamed.shwan@wfp.org, FAO, Fadel El-Zubi, fadel .elzubi@fao.org

### Needs Analysis

FAO is in need for USD 1,133,946 to expand its current livelihood intervention programme and reach a larger number of Syrian refugees and their host community in and out of camps.

WFP faces a net funding requirement of USD 2.9 million for the refugee operation in Iraq over the next six months.



Syrian refugees families and members of impacted host community receive laying hens in Khabat district , Erbil, KR-I, FAO/Iraq

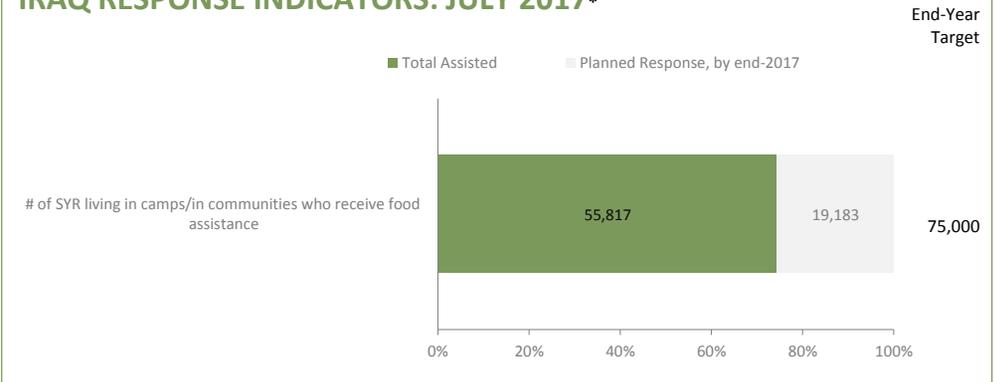


Syrian men wait by the checkout tills in Darashakran refugee camp. WFP/Craig Browne

\*Planned response based on full funding of 3RP for an expected direct beneficiary population of 235,000 Syrian refugees and 1 million members of impacted local communities by end-2017. **By 31 July 2017, 244,605 Syrian refugees (80,204 households) live in Iraq:**

- **97%** = 236,132 live in Kurdistan Region-Iraq (KR-I): Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah.
- **3%** = 8,473 live in other locations in Iraq.
- **62%** = 151,655 live in non-camp/urban areas.
- **38%** = 92,950 live in 9 camps in KR-I: 4 camps in Erbil (Basirma, Darashakran, Kawergosk, Qushtapa), 4 camps in Duhok (Domiz I and II, Akre, Gawilan and 1 camp in Sulaymaniyah(Arbat).

### IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JULY 2017\*





## OVERVIEW:

**80,504** refugee children are aged 3-17 years as of July, 2017. Currently, **37,121** are enrolled into formal and non-formal education programs, while **46,000** have no access to any form of education.

## HIGHLIGHTS:

The sector activities in Iraq focus mainly on three governorates (Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah) in Kurdistan Region-Iraq where 97% of Syrian refugees are living. The sector's objectives continue to be **access to education, improving quality of education and strengthening the education system.**

### Access to Education:

- Discussions and preparations for back-to-learning campaign is ongoing in coordination with relevant education partners and Ministry of Education at district levels.
- The 116 scholars who have been selected for DAFI scholarship to participate in tertiary education system have now finished the first academic year in the KR-I public universities.
- The eLearning initiative for Syrian refugees has started with an initial batch of 300 beneficiaries identified.

### Improving quality of Education:

- In Sulaymaniyah, work for the rehabilitation of 7 refugee schools is ongoing, 60% accomplished and schools will be handed over by the beginning of the study year.
- Training sessions on School-Based Management approaches started for 23 school committees to empower the trainees on playing active roles in fostering quality education for refugee children.

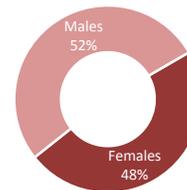
### Strengthening of Education System

- An online data collection tool (Kobo) was rolled out to assess the education situation in camps and non-camp areas in KR-I. This tool provides adequate information to all of the sector's relevant partners for planning purposes of the sector's response.



Murad answers a question during class at the education partner-supported school in Akre Refugee Camp.

Gender Disaggregation of Refugee School aged Children Supported



## NEEDS ANALYSIS:

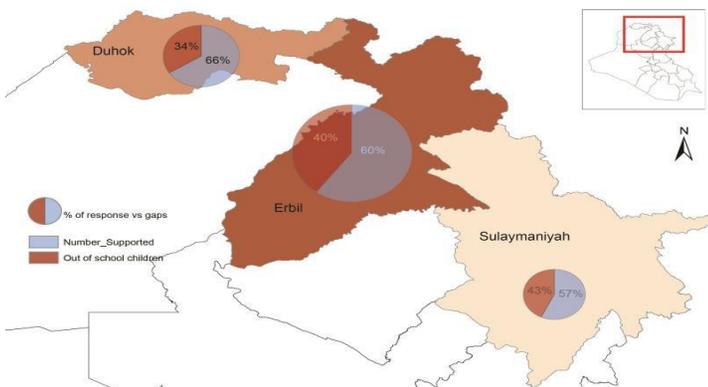
### School Age Children (Reached and Gap)

Age Group	Camp	Urban	Total	Reached	Gap
3 - 5	9,259	13,264	22,523	1,427	21,096
6 - 14	18,924	25,500	44,424	32,074	12,350
15 - 18	5,816	10,216	16,032	3,620	12,412
			<b>82,979</b>	<b>37,121</b>	<b>45,858</b>

- Limited funding negatively impacted the implementation of planned activities under 3RP such as schools construction/rehabilitation.
- Lack of pre-school education services (Early Childhood Education 3-5 years) both in camp and out of camp hindering access to education.
- The issue of language of instruction for refugee children continues to be a barrier to access education and the limited numbers of Arabic schools in urban areas remains a constraint.
- Extreme weather conditions are affecting summer school attendance rates: cooling facilities in schools need improvement.
- Difficulties of teacher recruitment. The teachers find better salaries and/or opportunities in the private sector or started migration to other countries.

- Financial constraints at family level to cover transportation, uniforms, books, and stationaries are negatively impacting access to education.
- Lack of education system and facilities for children with disabilities remains a challenge.
- Cases of bullying and discrimination against Syrian refugees children have been reported in schools. There is a need for reinforcement of teachers' code of conduct.
- Lack of graduation certificates from youth and adolescents prevents them from pursuing higher education levels.

Refugee School Aged Children against Sector Achievements and Gaps as of July



## IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JULY 2017\*

Indicator	Total Assisted	Planned Response by end-2017	End-Year Target
# of teachers and education personnel receiving incentives (f/m)	1,325	964	2,289
# of classrooms constructed, established or rehabilitated	65	1,210	1,275
# of children (3-17 years, g/b) receiving school supplies	1,130	57,140	58,270
# of teachers and education personnel trained (f/m)	857	4,219	5,076
# of children (5-17 years, g/b) enrolled in informal non-accredited education		14,699	10,620
# of children (5-17 years, g/b) enrolled in formal general education	30,004	5,896	35,900
# of children (3-5 years, g/b) enrolled in ECCE and pre-primary education	1,427	10,323	11,750

\*The Numbers visualized above are based on the reports retrieved from Activityinfo as provided by the partners involved in the Refugee response as of July 2017.

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**JULY HIGHLIGHTS:**

The **first objective** of the shelter sector according to 3RP 2017 is to provide sustainable and adequate shelter units to the refugees living in 9 camps throughout KR-I (4 camps in Duhok, 4 camps in Erbil and 1 camp in Sulaymaniyah). This objective is achieved through 3 phases:

**Providing emergency shelter units:** tent and land (space of about 37.5 sqm).

**Improving the emergency units** by including concrete slabs, Kitchen, family latrine and shower, walls of 60 cm height and roof with tent.

**Upgrading the improved units** raising the walls to 2.8 m high and change the roof-tent to a weatherproof roof.

All these phases are also accompanied by continuous **care and maintenance** of camp facilities (roads, electricity and camps infrastructure).

The **sector's main interventions are in camps**, where about 96% (17,160) shelter units are improved and work continues for the remaining 4% (669 shelter units). Shelter improvement works continues for 395 units (in Erbil camps) for which funds are made available. Also, between January and July, 325 shelter units were upgraded.

**Erbil camps:** Improvement works are at their final stages. In Qushtapa camp, 80 units will be completed in August and the remaining 315 shelter units will be completed in Kawergosk camp in September.

**Duhok camps:** The camp management has launched a multi-functional team (MFT) to conduct a **shelter rapid assessment situation** in Domiz 1 camp in Duhok (the largest Syrian refugee camp in Iraq with some 8,500 households). The team advised to **upgrade 1,500 shelter units** (1,200 in Domiz 1 and 300 in Domiz 2). This upgrading work will be funded by Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED).

- Maintenance of electricity networks has also started in both Domiz 1 and Gawilan camps.
- Upgrading of 488 shelter units has started in Gawilan camp. The upgrading assistance is operationalized through providing construction material and cash for work (labor payment) to refugees who will themselves implement the work. So far, 120 families were assisted.

The **second objective** is to provide shelter assistance to vulnerable refugees and impacted community members living **out of camps** (in urban and rural areas). The majority (62%) of refugees live out of camps, in rented dwellings. Comparatively to camp dwellings, the sector has been less active. To fill this gap of assistance, multiple processes are in place:

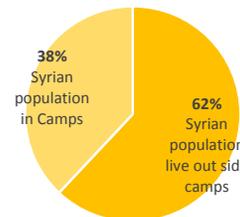
- Sectoral cross-cutting efforts are being made where livelihoods-agriculture assistance and multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) is being provided. For example, the Basic Needs sector provides MPCA for most vulnerable families. According to their needs, the families spend the cash assistance that includes renting costs.
- Quick Impact Projects or Community Support Projects: 13 projects (6 health, 4 WASH, and 3 education) are under implementation, to which the shelter sector has provided technical support and monitoring the implementation. Further projects are being considered for the remaining part of the year.



UNHCR Technical staff, Yousif Abdalla in Arbat Refugee Camp inspecting shelter construction works. Suly Governorate, August 2017, M.Nowak/UNHCR

**Overview of Shelter situation of the Syrian refugees (80,194 households/HHs):**

- 22,280 Households (HHs) live in shelter units in camps
- 57,914 Households(HHs) live in rented dwelling in non-camps (urban and rural areas among host community)



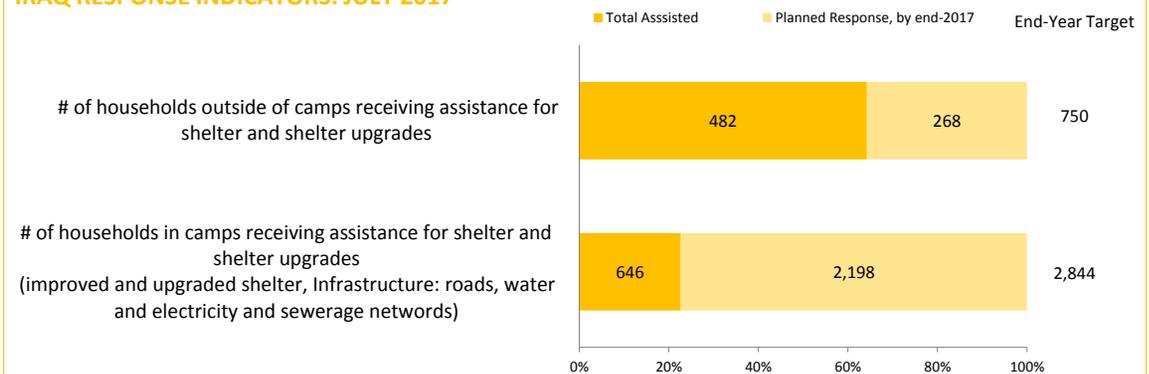
The **third objective** is to provide support to local government for camp coordination and management. Considering protracted refugee situations, where most of camp populations live there for at least 4 years, all the 9 camps are thus supported by UNHCR through its partners. UNHCR promotes support to local authorities for a future hand over of the camps.

**NEEDS ANALYSIS:**

To reach above mentioned three objectives, the **main requirements in the 9 camps in KR-I** are:

- Continuous care and maintenance for all camp infrastructure. There is urgent need to pave the roads Kawergosk and Qushtapa camps.
- Improvement of 555 shelter emergency shelter units in Kawergosk and Darashakran, Erbil.
- Upgrading of the majority of shelter units in all camps.
- Finding solutions for the overcrowding areas in Domiz 1 (Duhok). Initially, the camp was built in emergency situation without any site planning. As a result, the camp is overcrowded, shelter units need improvement and upgrading, and the camp infrastructure requires improvement. Moreover, in Kawergosk, Erbil, some 500 families live under the minimum standard space per person.

**IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JULY 2017**





## JULY HIGHLIGHTS:

The main objectives of the health sector are to 1) Improve access to Primary Health Care 2) Strengthen health institutions and 3) Strengthen reproductive health services for refugees and members of impacted host communities.

### Curative:

- **Patient Consultations:** 20,537 consultations were conducted in PHCs in the 9 camps. The Health utilization rate (visit/person/year) in July is 3.0 and lies within the expected range of 1-4.
- **Referrals:** 1,436 patients were referred from the PHC to secondary and tertiary health facilities for further investigations and/or hospitalization.
- **Mental health services:** 555 patients attended services.

**Prevention:** Routine vaccinations is available in all 9 camps

### Promotion:

- In Domiz 1 and Akre camps (Duhok), 66 community leaders and focal points (26 females, and 40 males) were elected to transfer health messages to camp populations. IOM emergency health team has provided awareness sessions on health topics including general personal hygiene, diarrheal, respiratory and skin diseases, focus on signs and symptoms, modes of transmission, treatment and preventive measures on communicable diseases.
- Health promotion campaign on acute diarrheal disease prevention was conducted by EMERGENCY, in Arbat camp (Sulaimaniyah).

**Coordination:** Preparation of handover of the PHC in Arbat camp (Sulaimaniyah) to the DoH.

### Capacity Building:

- In Duhok governorate, DoH started training primary health care staff on Mental Health Gap Action Program (mhGAP) for the aim of integration of Mental Health and Psychological Services(MHPSS) within PHCCs.
- In Erbil, 8 staff were trained:3 members of UPP recruited psychosocial counselors and 5 PUI staff on the evidence-based package Problem Management + (PM+).



Triage, Darashakran refugee camp PHCC, Erbil

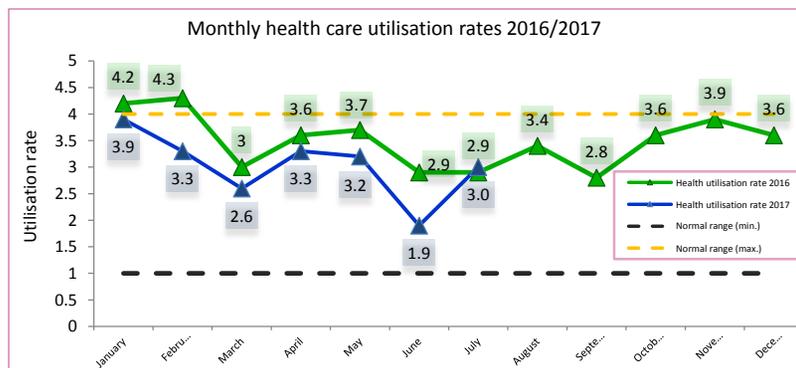
• UNHCR conducted an assessment to selected health facilities in KR-I in order to renovate/rehabilitate or provide medical equipment through Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) or Community Support Projects (CSPs).

**Reproductive Health (RH):** Anti-natal care and family planning services are available in all camps. They are provided by DoH with the support of UNFPA. Since January 2017, 3,511 (525 in July) women have attended anti-natal care in camps.

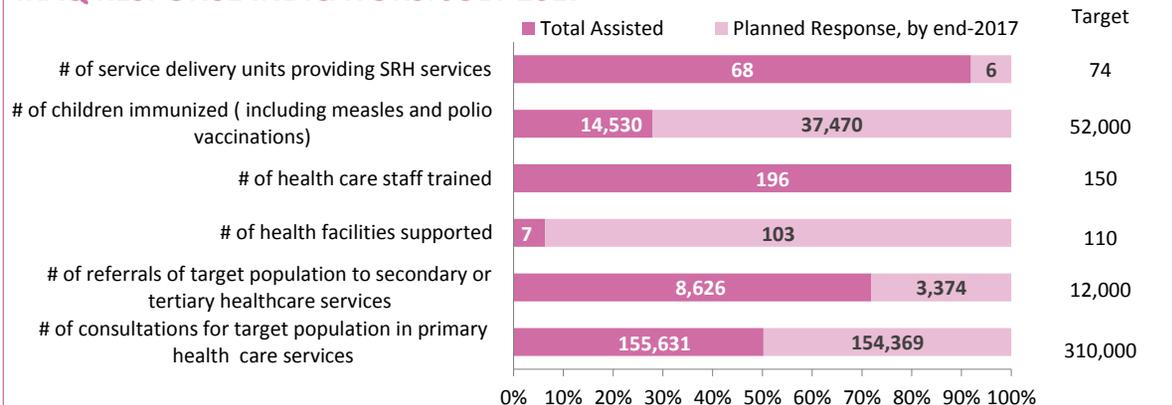
## NEEDS ANALYSIS:

• **Lack of Medicine:** Shortage of medicine remains a key concern in public facilities, particularly for patients with chronic diseases due to the high number of refugees and IDPs who overstretched the health system. In addition, there is lack

- **Health facilities rehabilitation:** Continued support to MoH is required for health care facilities in urban areas in a deteriorated economic situation affecting most services in KR-I.
- **Health staff:** Irregular payment of salaries due to the ongoing financial crisis in KR-I has affected the provision of health services at public health facilities.
- **Disease surveillance:** Control and prevention of communicable diseases need to be strengthened in close cooperation with other sectors (e.g. WASH, Camp Management).
- **Gap in health promotion activities:** Given the lack of funding, some camps lack health partners to provide health promotion services.
- **Need to revise the planned figures 2017 targeted facilities:** A higher number than planned of the reproductive health services, health facilities, staff for health training and children immunization.



## IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JULY 2017



Leading Agencies:  
Ministry of Health (MoH - KRI)  
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WHO, Dr. Muhammad Fawad Khan, khanmu@who.int





### Overview

#### In camps:

- 20,343 (92% of the target for winter 2016-17) households received seasonal support through cash or in-kind assistance. This target does not cover the requirements for winter 2017-18.
- 2,466 (18% of the end year target) households received core relief items in-kind.

#### Outside of camps:

4,411 households (149 households in July) benefited from the Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) program.

### JULY HIGHLIGHTS

- UNHCR, jointly with WFP and the KRSO (Kurdistan Statistics Office) initiated a Vulnerability Assessment (CJVA) exercise in all three governorates. This assessment aims primarily at helping WFP review its food assistance programme but will provide a better understanding of the socio-economic conditions of Syrian refugees in the KR-I so as to better inform programming.

#### In camps:

- CRI assistance targeted new arrivals who arrive to the camp/shelters with no or lack of any household materials. The NFI provided gives families the opportunity to restart and improve their living conditions. New items were provided to selected families in replacement of worn out ones, or those lost in fire incidents.
- 110 Households received Basic needs assistance: Full Core Relief Items Kit for newly arrival families and replenishment of old or torn items for other families, and replacement of Core Relief Items for households benefited from Non-Food Item (NFI): Full Core Relief Item kits to newly arrived families and replacement of CRI items.

#### Outside of camps (Urban, peri-urban areas):

- Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) was provided to cover gaps in assistance (e.g. shelter, primary health care, seasonal non-food items) for identified vulnerable families. The objective of the MPCA is to emphasize crisis-affected families' ability to prioritize their own needs, upholding the dignity of the beneficiaries and providing market support to host communities impacted by the displacement.

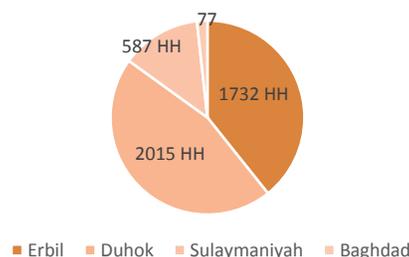
#### Leading Agency:

UNHCR, Bola HAN, hanb@unhcr.org, on MPCA : Alma Dozic DOZIC@unhcr.org



Cash for CRI distribution for the vulnerable new arrival Syrian Refugees, July 2017, UNHCR\_Hayder Salman

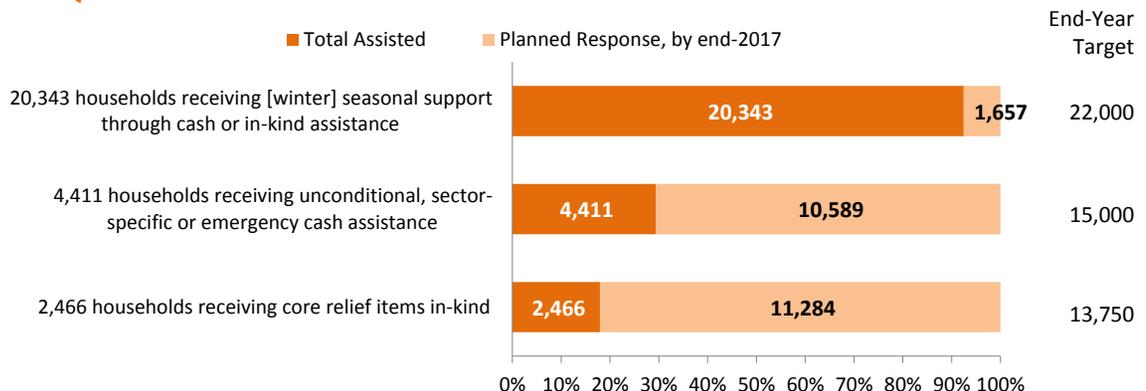
Basic Needs through Cash Assistance  
Number of beneficiaries (Households/HH) from January to July 2017/  
per Governorate



### NEEDS ANALYSIS

- The end year target for winter support (22,000 households, from which 92% is covered by July 2017) need to be revised/increased as there is a need to provide support for winter season (November 2017 to February 2018).
- In Arbat camp, Sulaymaniyah, refugees frequently report the deterioration of their living standards. Due to decreased electricity power in the camp, demonstrations and tensions were observed. The lack of job opportunities is affecting the quality of life and has resulted in the increase in the demand of shelter in camp, as well as in queries for assistance and possibilities of resettlement.
- Under-funding restrains the planning process for Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA). Vulnerable families are identified but will not necessarily receive assistance.
- MPCA gap till the end year: 60% of the end year target (15,000 households) is planned to be filled depending on the availability of funds.

### IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JULY 2017





### JULY HIGHLIGHTS:

The objectives of the sector are to provide WASH facilities to the refugees in camps, out of camp and in education and health facilities, including sufficient quantities of safe water, appropriate sanitation facilities and good hygiene practices.

Depending on available, but limited funds, these objectives are mainly operationalized in the 9 refugee camps hosting some 38% of Syrian refugees/about 92,950 persons pursuing routine activities such as:

**Camps:** 4 in Duhok, 4 in Erbil and 1 in Sulaymaniyah

- **Provision of safe drinking water** through water trucking and water network (averaging 112 in Erbil, 76 in Duhok and 90 in Sulaymaniyah litre/person/day).
- **Operation and Maintenance (O&M)** of water networks, including water quality monitoring continued in collaboration with the government WASH counter parts regarding:
  - Dislodging of waste water.
  - Garbage collection.
  - Cleaning drainage open channels.

**Erbil: Construction of WASH facilities** including toilet, shower with roof and connections to septic tanks and main sewerage lines for 80 families in Qushtapa camp (90% of work accomplished) and 315 families in Kawergosk camp (ongoing).

**Duhok: Water provision:** Due to lack of water in the high areas of Domiz 1 camp (the largest Refugee camp in Iraq with a population of 32,306 Syrians), UNICEF in partnership with Directorate of Water (DoW) is increasing the storage capacity through construction/installation of 2 elevated tanks with a capacity of 30 cubic meters each with extending feeding pipelines.

In Domiz 1 & 2, due to inadequate pressure on the network and reduced quantity of ground water, 230 m3 of water trucked is provided on daily basis for 785 families (3,938 individuals).

- **Water quality:** During the water quality monitoring, 1,275 samples were tested, only 2.1% did not meet the standard, below 0.5 mg/l of Free Chlorine Residual (FRC) (at household level), and remedial actions have been taken to ensure compliance with quality
- **Hygiene promotion:** In partnership with DoH, 3,825 individuals in Domiz 1&2 had access to key messages for prevention of Acute Water Diarrhoea (AWD)/Cholera, among other priority messages of water conservation and menstrual hygiene management.
- **Care and maintenance** of WASH facilities continued in Domiz 1 & 2, with a total of 465 water cases reported, repair of 108 bathing shelters, 242 toilets, emptying of 115 cesspools & 5500 garbage bags were distributed. Six cleaning campaign were conducted in Domiz.



Water quality monitoring in Domiz refugee camp, Duhok. UNICEF

**Sulaymaniyah: Hygiene promotion:** Door-to-door hygiene promotion sessions and focus group discussions (FGD) on diarrhoea prevention continued, targeting 2,119 families. UNHCR is coordinating with the directorate of electricity to provide 24/7 hrs of electricity to operate the borehole.

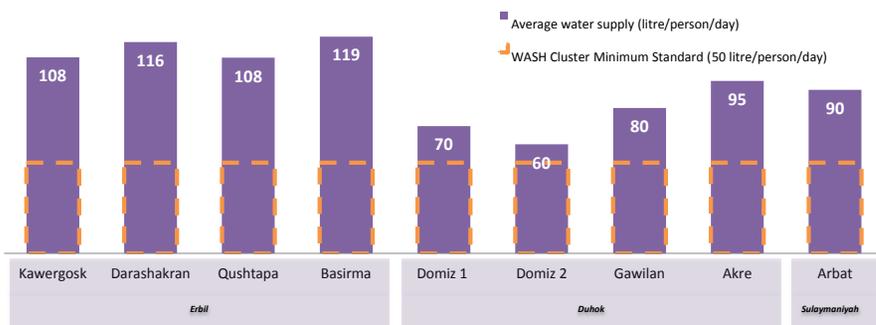
**Non-camp:** The Geophysical study for drilling of two new boreholes is completed in two quarters of Khabat district in Erbil. The planned drilling will provide water to an estimated 20,000 beneficiaries.

### NEEDS ANALYSIS:

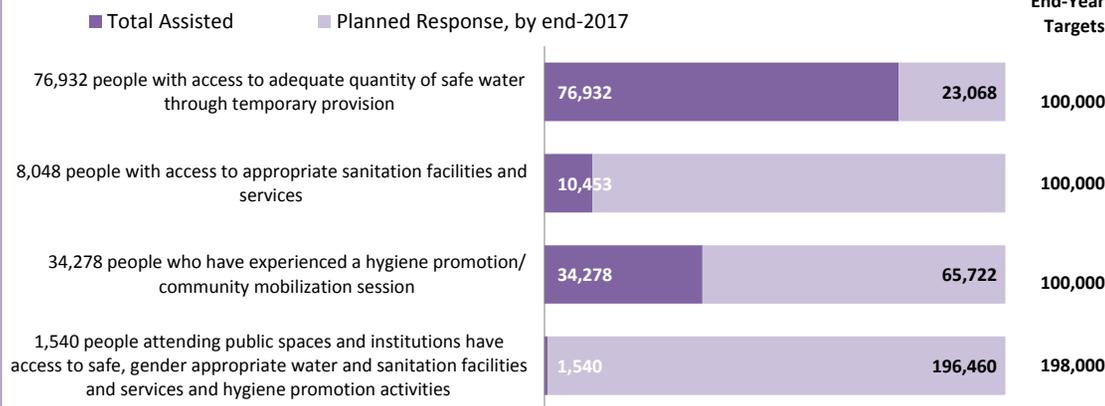
**Limited funding** for refugees undermining WASH response in refugee camps- affecting sustainability and improving service deliveries.

**Inadequate water supply and low water quality:** In Domiz 1 camp, supply of water is mainly provided through 15 boreholes from which 6 were closed due to: High turbidity of 45 NTU (above recommended threshold), presence of nitrates in the groundwater around the camp and over reliance on groundwater has led to excessive abstraction leading to some of the boreholes not operate at full capacity. A longer term solution is needed as proposed by GIZ to construct new water treatment plant that relies on surface water source from Mosul dam.

### ACCESS TO SAFE WATER SUPPLY IN CAMPS: JULY 2017



### IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JULY 2017





**OVERVIEW:**

**Employment** rates for Syrian refugees in the KR-I appear, on average, to be higher than for displaced Iraqis and impacted communities. For example, in **Erbil** governorate **80% of male refugees aged between 15 and 64 are employed**. This compares with rates of 53% for male IDPs and 70% for men from the host community. In Dohuk governorate, the employment rate for male refugees is 75%, compared with 63% for men from the host community and internally displaced men.

However, such figures should not be read to mean that refugees in general have more financial security than IDPs. Refugees do not have the benefit of access to elements of Iraqi state support that many IDPs do, such as grants made to displaced families, the Public Distribution System, and salaries for those with public sector jobs (which generally continue to be received, despite displacement). Reported figures for employment are based on samples and household surveys, and probably obscure under-employment.

**The livelihoods vulnerabilities** of Syrian refugees and impacted communities in Iraq in 2017 and beyond are multiple. If livelihoods opportunities do not improve, the debt vulnerability of refugees is likely to increase. Already, in 2015 and 2016, the largest share of refugees' average personal debt was incurred for domestic consumption costs, rather than the purchase of long-term assets as was the case for impacted communities. Compared with impacted communities and IDPs, refugees are still particularly vulnerable to exploitative and abusive employment practices. The very low levels of enrolment for refugees in secondary education limit the employment prospects of these refugees joining the workforce.

For many refugees, **the types of employment** they find are low-paying and insecure. Half of employed refugees and IDPs in Dohuk governorate work in construction, and daily waged labor in agriculture is the second most common job for refugees and IDPs. Beyond the present, there are risks and challenges for the coming years, regarding jobs and livelihoods for refugees and impacted communities. There is the risk that refugees become locked into a cycle of inferior access to services and inferior work and life opportunities. At the same time, there is the risk that resentment towards refugees and IDPs alike will increase, encouraged by erroneous and unchallenged assumptions about the capacity of the labor market to absorb new workers and grow.

To date, **the needs for temporary employment opportunities are covered and job-placement** support is progressing well. However, serious shortage of funding is observed for creating sustainable income and business opportunities and vocational training for marketable skills. Declining local economy hits refugees in protracted displacement hardest and they have exhausted all coping resources. It is reported that more and more refugees living outside of the camps now want to go back to the camp because they cannot afford the rent and other living expenses in the host communities.



Fast food shop in Sulaimanaya opened by two refugee men with the support by REACH

**NEEDS ANALYSIS:**

The focus of livelihoods aid has previously been on emergency livelihoods support, for example through creating short-term work opportunities (often labelled cash-for-work) on small community projects, with efforts being made to shift to investing in sustained employment opportunities. The balance needs to shift and focus on generating sustained employment and livelihoods opportunities, and increase refugees and impacted communities' capacity to generate opportunities.

Livelihoods-linked social cohesion measures include integrating various groups along a single value-chain, promoting joint innovation or entrepreneurship, and fostering inter-community economic activity. Furthermore, the direct interventions will be undertaken to strengthen community-based social mechanisms, facilitating dialogue and mediation in communities identified to be most vulnerable to conflicts, and promote inter-group interactions through community projects.

**IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JULY 2017**

