

Iraq

25 November 2019

Since the start of military action in North East Syria (NES) on 9 October, **16,829 individuals** have crossed into the KR-I seeking refuge.

5,037 Syrian refugees have obtained clearance to reunite with family members in KR-I, or to otherwise reside outside of camps.

A total of **334 new arrivals have voluntarily returned to Syria** in recent weeks.

KEY FIGURES

16,829

New arrivals
since 14 October 2019

234,840

Syrian refugees in Iraq
as of 31 October 2019

KEY STATISTICS

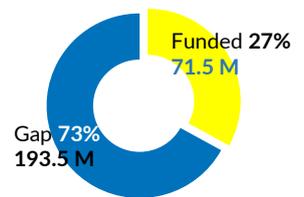
| | Individuals |
|--|-------------|
| Average daily arrivals since 17 November | 134 |
| Bardarash camp population | 9,634 |
| Gawilan camp NES population | 1,824 |
| Estimated new arrivals who have left camps | 5,037 |

Figures as of 24 November

14,417 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR
Out of whom **47% female | 53% male | 51% children**
Main areas of origin Qamishli (34%) | Ras al Ain (34%)

FUNDING AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2019

USD 265 M
requested for 3RP in Iraq²



²3RP appeal preceding NES influx

Operational Context

As the situation remains unstable in North East Syria, some Syrian refugees are forced to flee their homes and to seek safety across the border in neighbouring Iraq. Refugees are crossing through two main informal points, Sehela and Al Walid. The two main camps receiving the new arrivals remain Bardarash and Gawilan camps. As both locations are now reaching full capacity, the authorities are identifying an additional site. Coordination mechanisms remain the same with twice weekly interagency coordination meetings ongoing at Bardarash camp and a fortnightly inter-agency coordination meeting in Duhok.

Achievements

During the period between 17- 23 November, newly arriving Syrian refugees have benefited from the following assistance:



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

- As of 24 November 2019, 14,417 Syrian refugees have been registered with UNHCR, out of whom 47% are female, 53% are male, and 51% are children. Main areas of origin of those registered are Qamishli (34%) and Ras al Ain (34%), Ain Al Arab (10%), al-Hasakeh (8%) and al-Malika (6%). At-risk and extremely vulnerable individuals are being fast-tracked for registration.

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

- Reunification of newly arrived refugees with relatives outside the camps continues. 5,037 refugees have so far been cleared to leave.
- Protection assessments for 46 cases, mostly for pending reactivation, were conducted by relevant partners at the camps.
- Identification of unaccompanied and separated children is ongoing along with Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) and Child Protection assessments. As of this week, 40 BIAs (20 in Bardarash and 20 in Gawilan) were conducted by protection partners in response to children-at-risk.
- 135 persons with specific needs were identified, counselled and referred to relevant service providers.
- Community Outreach Volunteers (COVs) conducted community mobilization activities, as well as information dissemination and sensitization activities in Bardarash and Gawilan camps. Key messages were about anti-fraud, registration process, basic hygiene, fire prevention and other available services. They also assisted families of persons with specific needs.
- A total of 105 new arrivals have voluntarily returned to Syria during the reporting week bringing the total to 334 individuals returning. Pre-return rapid surveys and protection counselling are conducted for families/individuals who express their wish to return to Syria. Individuals who wish to return are supported by Assayesh and return through Peshkabour crossing point. Overall, the reasons for wanting to return include: desire to reunite with their families (33%); lengthy Assayesh clearance procedures to depart camp, tied to restriction on freedom of movement (31%); Quality of services (including medical treatment) in the camps not meeting expectations of refugees (12%); relatively safer conditions in Syria reported by family members (8%); lack of livelihood opportunities (6%) and others reasons including financial challenges, monitor property, homesickness etc. (10%)

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Need for residency documents for new arrivals in camps.
- Participatory refugee/community leadership structures needed in Bardarash; and ensure inclusion of new arrivals in participatory process in Gawilan—efforts are ongoing.



BASIC NEEDS

Achievements and Impact

- All new arrivals continue to be provided with core relief items.
- 1,000 blankets were distributed for children in need in Gawilan.
- The distribution of one carpet per family has started in Bardarash camp.
- Fire extinguishers distribution has been concluded in both camps. Fire prevention awareness continue to be conducted in both camps.
- 125 children benefitted from cash for baby clothes (US\$ 40) in Gawilan camp

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Kerosene provision for January and February 2020 has not been secured yet.
- Additional fire extinguishers and fire-risk mitigation activities needed.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- New arrivals receive to the camps receive ready-to-eat Immediate Response Rations, followed by FFRs after 2 days. 2,803 families have received IRRs (around 14,015 people).

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

- A total of 3,122 families have received Family Food Rations (FFRs) across Bardarash and Gawilan camps, covering around 15,610 residents (each FFR provides for a family of five for one month).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Consideration of implementation of possible cash modalities in lieu of rations is ongoing.



SHELTER

Achievements and Impact

- Infrastructure works are ongoing in Bardarash and Gawilan, including improvement of roads, cleaning of shelter surroundings, fumigation, installation of solar lights, and enhancement of common facilities.
- In Gawilan, tent bases and surrounding areas are being completed, refugees are being moved with the help of partners. A total of 438 families have been relocated thus far.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Upon identification of a new camp location by the authorities, partners will mobilize to ensure all necessary infrastructure is in place.



WASH

Achievements and Impact

- Installation and rehabilitation of latrines and bath units is ongoing in both camps.
- Hygiene promotion and advocacy campaigns are being conducted in both camps.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- A small increase has been reported of scabies and acute watery diarrhoea cases. Partners are following on the cases.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- The Directorate of Health in Duhok (DoH) issued a letter to camp management on prohibition of milk distribution to children under 2 years old unless there is a medical need, which is in line with DoH, Ministry of Health and World Health Organization standards.
- Reproductive health care is provided in both camps, services include anti and post-natal care, as well as referrals, awareness and counselling sessions.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Gawilan camp, with the increased number of consultations there is a need to provide more medicines and medical supplies.
- In Bardarash camp, the night shift in the primary health care centre has not started yet, the Directorate of Health is following up with the selected health actor to operate soon.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- An education ad hoc group has been established for NES refugee education response for an effective and timely response for the current urgent situation. The first meeting was held at the Directorate of Education, meetings will be organized on a biweekly basis.

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

- Non-formal education activities (PSS, sport and recreational activities) are operational in Bardarash using alternative space until temporary learning spaces (TLS) are ready. Education actors plan to establish a temporary learning space in Gawilan.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Documentation requirement for enrolment as many of the refugees have fled without their formal papers.
- As learning levels vary among the students, integration into existing classes may not be possible. In addition to the different curriculum and language in schools in Duhok.
- Secondary education remains a gap in the response.



LIVELIHOODS

Achievements and Impact

- Camp management in Bardarash is establishing a “job centre” for in-camp employment, as well as a market area.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- No specific livelihood and self-reliance programmes have been established to date. This remains a major gap with refugees reporting having little to no cash. According to current data, around 40% of individuals in the camp are of working age.

Thank you to partners participating in the response

Action Contre la Faim | ACTED | AISPO | Assayesh | Barzani Charity Foundation | Board of Relief and Humanitarian Affairs | CARE | Directorate of Health | Directorate of Labour and Social Affairs | DJCC | Directorate of Water Outskirts | Escape from Darkness | EJCC | GOAL | German Red Cross | Harikar | Heevie Organization | ICRC | IOM | Iraqi Red Crescent Society | Khalsa Aid | Lotus Flower | Lutheran World Federation | MedAir | Médecins Sans Frontières | Mercy Corps | Norwegian Refugee Council | Peace Winds Japan | Plain Compassion Crisis Response | Polish Humanitarian Aid | Qandil | REACH Initiative | REACH Iraq | Samaritan’s Purse | Save The Children | Seed Foundation | Triangle Génération Humanitaire | UNFPA | UNHCR | UNICEF | WFP | WHO | War Child | World Vision | ZOA

Special Thanks to Donors

Partners are very grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Syrian refugee response in Iraq as well as those who have contributed un-earmarked & broadly earmarked funds:

Canada | European Union | Denmark | Estonia | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Kuwait | Netherlands | Norway | Private Donors | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America

Contacts

Ruben Nijs, 3RP Coordinator & Solutions Officer, nijs@unhcr.org

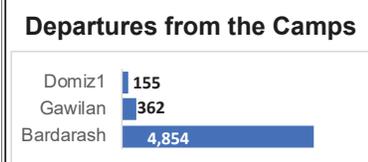
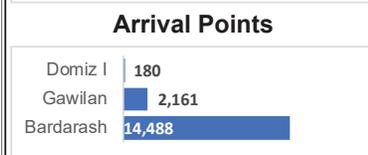
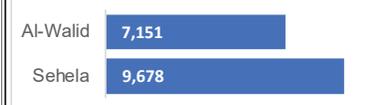
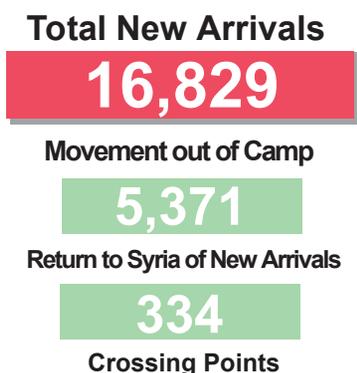
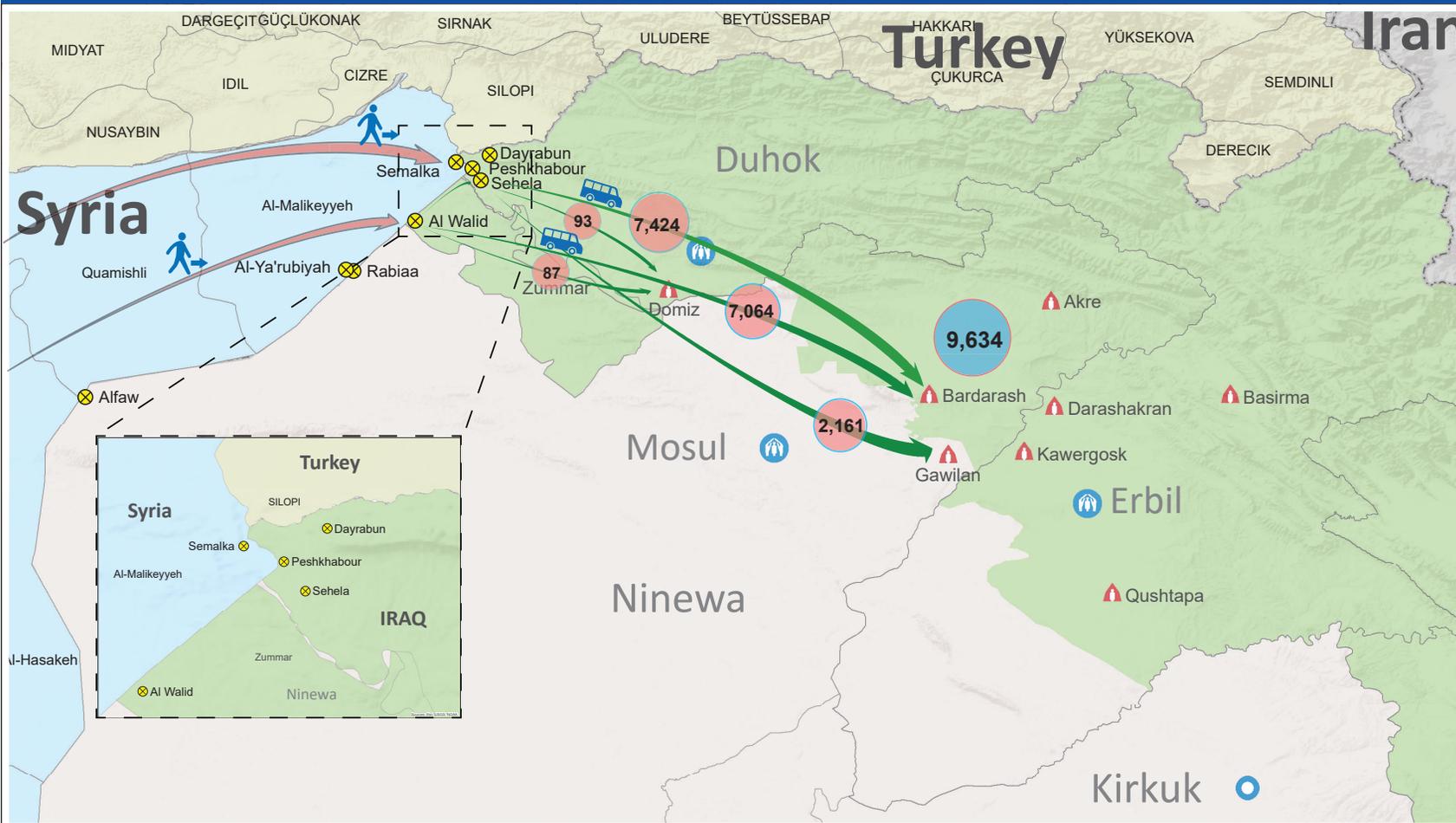
Yanet Bahena, External Relations Officer, bahena@unhcr.org

Marwa Hashem, Reporting Officer, hashemma@unhcr.org

Alejandro Staller, Associate Reporting Officer, staller@unhcr.org

Movement to IRAQ

24-Nov-2019



Legend

- UNHCR Sub-Office
- UNHCR Field Office

Type

- Refugee Camps
- Crossing Points
- Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI)
- Population Movement
- Population Displacement

