



UN Weekly Inter-agency Situational Report - JORDAN

Syrian Refugee Response update

20 - 26 December 2012



This update provides a snapshot of the United Nations inter-agency response to the influx of Syrians into Jordan. The response is led by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and is undertaken in full coordination with the Government of Jordan.

I. Highlights

- Due to a UN declared Level 3 Emergency situation in the region, including Jordan, in regards to the Syrian refugee crisis, WFP is advancing the procurement of food stocks for 50,000 beneficiaries for 1 month to help respond to a scenario of a sudden influx of 100,000 people.
- UNHCR Supply Management Section in HQ has begun prepositioning stock for 100,000 new arrivals to Jordan as per contingency planning.
- UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and IOM visited the new camp in Zarqa (Murajieb Al-Fhood or MAF) on 19 December as part of the initial contingency planning assessment to establish who/what/where for the new camp, and the following has been discussed:
 - o UNHCR to follow up on strategy for MAF camp management
 - o Establishment of Inter-Agency Distribution Centre / Humanitarian Hub.
- UNHCR visited the border area, inspecting the border reception conditions and is considering what support can be provided to Rambasa camp (near the border) in line with contingency planning so that reception conditions in anticipation of new arrivals are improved.
- UNICEF started the distribution of baby clothing kits including winterized clothing for all children 0-1 year old in King Abdulla Park KAP and Cyber City CC, and for children under the age of 5 in Za'atri camp.
- IMC conducted a five-day training on Nutrition in Emergencies for 22 participants from Ministry of Health, NGOs, WFP, UNICEF and UNHCR, emphasizing infant and young child feeding practices and appropriate use of breast milk substitutes, maternal anemia, and monitoring of nutrition interventions.
- UNHCR will start coordinating with GoJ to develop basic rules/regulations in order to improve law and order in Za'atri camp.

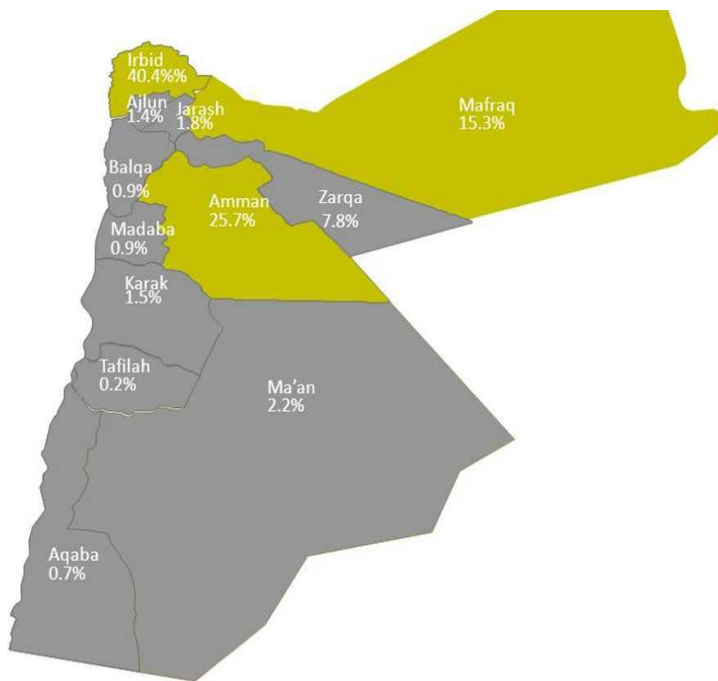


II. Situation Overview:

UNHCR recorded the arrival and registration of 8,764 Syrians over the past week (3,910 new arrivals in Za'atri camp, and registration of 4,854 Syrians in the urban setting) while at the same time, issuing registration appointment slips to another 4,290 individuals. **The total population of Syrians registered or awaiting registration appointments as of 25 December 2012 is 163,088** (71,832 active individuals and 46,709 pending registration appointments). The Government of Jordan estimates that 250,000 Syrians have entered the kingdom, the vast majority residing in host communities. As the situation in Syria persists, large numbers of Syrians continue to cross the Jordanian border seeking asylum.

Those aged between 18-35 represent the highest percentage of the population at 28.3 per cent, followed by ages 5-11 at 21.2 per cent, and ages 0-4 at 19 per cent. Women and children represent the highest percentage at 78.8 per cent of the overall population.

Figure 1: Distribution of Syrians in Jordan, As of 25 Dec 2012



As of 25 Dec 2012, 40.44% of Syrian refugees have settled in Irbid, 25.71% in Amman, 15.30% in Mafraq; 7.77% in Zarqa, 2.19% in Ma'an, and 1.76% in Jarash.

Place of origin for Syrian refugees are as follows: 47.3% from Dar'a, 31.7% from Homs, 8.3% from rural Damascus, 4.1% from Hama, and 2.7% from Aleppo.

Religious background for Syrian refugees is mostly Muslim Sunni at 99.36% and the remainder are Muslim (unspecified) Christian, Druze, Eastern Orthodox Isma'ili, Roman Catholic, Muslim Shia, Yezidis and other religious backgrounds.

Protection

In Za'atri camp, 53.4 per cent of the population is female, and moreover 34.9 per cent of the cases are female-headed households. 4.4 percent of the population has been identified as persons with specific needs: 22 children identified at risk, 331 unaccompanied or separated children, 785 women at risk, 155 persons with disabilities, 83 older persons at risk, 145 pregnant or lactating women, 269 with a serious medical condition, 132 single parents, 44 torture cases, and 7 with legal and physical protection needs.

UNHCR identified 15 new unaccompanied, 9 separated children and 3 newly reported SGBV cases in Za'atri camp last week.

Out of the urban registered population, 33.6 per cent are female-headed households while 26.6 per cent are single males. In addition, the office was able to identify that 8.2 per cent of the registered population are individuals with specific needs: 1,774 persons with serious medical conditions, 1,073 persons with

specific legal and physical protection needs, 823 women at risk, 802 tortured victims, 748 persons with disabilities, 519 unaccompanied or separated children, 131 children at risk, and 252 single parents.

During this week, UNHCR followed up on 3 child protection cases in King Abdullah Park, 7 child protection cases in Cyber City, 1 SGBV case in Mafraq, 1 child protection case in Amman, 2 separated child cases in Zarqa and 2 in Ajloun.

At four help desks placed in Mafraq, Ramtha, Irbid and Zarqa, a total of 419 cases (1,225 individuals received registration appointment slips; while 63 Syrian cases (175 individuals) approached the desk for renewal appointment slips.

UNHCR continues to transport refugees from Irbid to Amman for registration on the weekends, with 534 individuals transported via bus for registration purposes, an effort to expedite registration process.

Community mobilization

UNHCR in collaboration with IRD, worked with all families in Za'atri camp who were scheduled to relocate from temporary area into a pre-fab or tented area in the camp. During this week, the team contacted 149 families in this regard, out of 336 families that were relocated over two weeks. UNHCR provided counselling to 31 refugees with disabilities and assessed vulnerability of 6 families which were part of the relocation process.

Monthly community based protection working group meeting was held, attended by 16 implementing and operational partners during which the results of the participatory assessment conducted by UNHCR were presented, and plan of action for information dissemination was discussed.

Child protection and Gender Based Violence (GBV)

UNICEF currently operates 21 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in the camp, including three for youth. UNICEF has 9 functional Child Protection Committees in Za'atri, consisting of 76 female members and 51 male members. On average more than 1,200 children per day attended the activities in the spaces.

UNICEF and UNHCR chaired a 'case conference' with SCI to review the cases of unaccompanied children in the camps. Action points for each agency have been documented and are being followed-up. These will now take place every Sunday morning in Za'atri. SCI has been provided with the new case management forms that they will be using for best interests assessment and family tracing verification and reunification for all unaccompanied children. These will be introduced to UNHCR and Noor Hussein Foundation staff in the New Year.

UNICEF started the distribution of baby clothing kits that included winterized clothing for all children 0-1 year old in King Abdulla Park KAP and Cyber City CC, and for children under the age of 5 in Za'atri camp.

An inter-agency weekly child protection and gender based violence working group was conducted in Za'atri camp, as well as the youth strategy meeting, in which actions plans were discussed. Additionally, an inter-agency camp coordination meeting was held in Cyber City and King Abdullah Park for the same purpose.

UNHCR identified 15 new unaccompanied and 9 separated children in Za'atri camp last week; follow-up actions initiated.

During the last week, UNICEF attended the Northern Area Coordination meeting in Mafraq to discuss the inter-sectoral intervention of UN agencies and other NGOs on child protection related issues in host communities. Additionally, UNICEF met with the Ramtha Education Directorate in order to discuss ideas to enhance the child protection system in place and to improve the response of urgent cases.

Child labor training was carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor (MoL) and Islamic Center Charity Society (ICCS). The training aimed to strengthen the capacity of volunteers to conduct awareness raising sessions in the host communities.

UNICEF conducted a two-day training for data collectors for the upcoming inter-agency Child Protection Assessment in host communities.

Shelter, Site Coordination and Management

As a follow up to the inter-agency visit to the new camp in Zarqa (MAF), it was assessed that Zarqa module is equivalent to the module in Za'atri with more space per each individual, but with less absorption capacity. Estimated absorption capacity of the new camp in Zarqa is between 15,000-30,000 people.

Up to date, UNHCR placed 2,138 donated prefabs from the Saudi National Council (SNC) in module 2, 3 and 5; UNHCR in collaboration with Saudis pitched a total of 672 tents in module 2.

UNHCR is currently constructing 18 kitchen blocks in module 3, 18 in module 5, and 2 in module 4; THW completed construction of 15 kitchen blocks in module 2 last week.

UNHCR completed mild voltage electricity supply line from Za'atri base camp to module 2 and 3, and in total 35 light posts were erected and cabling completed.

UNHCR finished the graveling of the ring road around Za'atri camp, and 5.5 km asphalt road is completed; 35,000sqm of base course was successfully done in module 4.

Food

WFP completed 2nd cycle of dry ration distribution for December, distributing 32,027 dry rations; distributed 3,905 welcome meals, 4,163 new arrival packages, and 62.97 tons of bread in Za'atri camp between 21st – 27th December.

Voucher distributions are on-going; to date, 40,667 vouchers have been distributed.

WFP and JHCO met with community based organizations (CBOs) in Za'atri camp on 18 December to discuss the selection process to be a partner for the voucher programme and introduce markets into the camp. WFP received the proposals on 23rd December and will be selecting CBOs for the voucher programme.

As part of further preparedness planning, WFP Jordan is considering Budget Revision to purchase food valued at 6 million USD to cover additional 50,000 in January and 160,000 in February (60,000 existing caseload and 100,000 new influx).

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

UNICEF handed over of 8 WASH blocks in Module 2 and 4 blocks in module 3. A total number of 308 toilets and 216 showers have been handed over by the contractors. Also, stage 1 set up in Za'atri Camp to receive 126 mobile toilets and 68 mobile showers. 10 more mobile toilets are allocated to the registration area and to persons with disabilities, therefore total number of mobile toilets on site is 151.

UNICEF/THW continue daily water quality monitoring and waste water and solid waste removal from Za'atri Camp, and are delivering some 1,500,000 liters of water per day and are evacuating some 400m³ of solid waste per day to the municipal site in Alqueider.

UNICEF/ACTED currently employs 262 refugees for Za'atri camp cleaning using a Cash-for-Work scheme including 234 cleaners (35 are women) and 28 supervisors (five are women). UNICEF is finalizing a

technical assessment on waste water treatment options available in order to identify suitable alternatives to apply in the Za'atri camp for waste water recycling.

Mercy Corps is preparing for the activation of the two new boreholes in Za'atri camp by end January 2013 upon the completion of two pumping stations and other installations.

Education

UNICEF and the Ministry of Education (MoE) are providing formal education for 3,450 students (56 per cent girls) registered in the Za'atri camp school. The school can accommodate some 4,200 children in double-shifts and is managed by UNICEF, in partnership with MoE and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). The school is staffed by some 200 Jordanian and Syrian teachers. MoE is recruiting additional administrative and teaching staff like Sports, Arts and school nurses.

In regards to the School Feeding Programme in Za'atri Camp WFP has purchased 54 tons of 75 gram date bars to distribute to children in schools on a daily basis as an incentive to attend and help them focus during their studies. Distributions are planned to start from mid-January.

UNICEF is coordinating with the Ministry of Education (MoE) to include UNICEF-supported schools in the activities implemented by the regular programme to combat/prevent violence in schools. The activities would include monitoring the violence at schools, messaging to school staff and provide teachers with alternative disciplinary measures for classroom management.

UNICEF has distributed 77 School- in-a-Box to cater for 3,000 Syrian children in the double shifted schools in Irbid, Ramtha, Mafraq, and Amman. The School-in-a-Box were distributed in three schools in Irbid, four schools in Ramtha and Maraqa, and four schools in Amman. The distribution of education kits aims to facilitate the quality learning of vulnerable children in schools.

During this reported period, SC Jordan, in partnership with UNICEF, has provided awareness raising sessions on education to some 2,000 Syrian family members in urban areas.

Health and Nutrition

From 19-25 December, IOM medical team screened 3,400 refugees for TB detecting 30 cases (24 pulmonary, 6 extra-pulmonary and 3 MDR). During the same time, IOM delivered TB awareness sessions for 1,401 refugees. Additionally, IOM medical team provided health checks for 4,371 individuals upon their arrival to Za'atri camp in the same week.

Since July 29, IOM referred 828 medical cases for treatment in the camp health clinics or outside hospitals.

19 health care providers in Za'atri were trained in diarrhoea case management including 3 paediatricians, 5 general practitioners, and 11 nurses; the staff received flow charts with the ABC plans for treatment.

397 children under the ages of 15 were vaccinated in Za'atri camp between 24th – 26th December, under the UNICEF/MoH measles and polio vaccination campaign, bringing the total number of children vaccinated in Za'atri camp to 10,588; in host communities (Ramtha, Irbid, and Mafraq) over 124,386 children are estimated to have been vaccinated against measles under the campaign.

Health coordination meeting in Za'atri camp took place on 24 December co-chaired by MoH and UNHCR with the following key outcome: Moroccan Field Hospital to provide refresher training for health agencies on initial management of burn victims; and strengthened measures to prevent fires by JHCO and other NGOs.

UNHCR visited and reviewed the referral system at the two government hospitals in Mafraq; agreement was reached with the hospitals on timely improving the feedback of patients referred to assist in patient management in Za'atri camp.

Nutrition

UNICEF and WFP have completed the analysis of data collected during the nutrition assessment; the final report, compiled by UNICEF, WFP and MoH will be disseminated by the end of December. Based on the results of the nutrition assessment, UNICEF and Save the Children-Jordan, will implement an infant and young child feeding programme in camps and host communities starting in January 2013.

Reproductive health:

Caesarean section rate in Za'atri is 13% of deliveries (desired between 5-15%), but this may not be capturing women referred outside the camp.

UNFPA trained 15 health service providers on Clinical Management of Sexual Violence on the 20th of December 2012; attendees were general practitioners, gynaecologists, midwives and psychiatrists from JHAS, WHO, MDM and MFH.

In the UNFPA/JHAS Women Clinic for the reproductive health services, 62 women were treated on 23 December (23 women under the age of 24, and 21 of them were pregnant) which brings the total number of health services provided at the clinic in Za'atri camp to 3,466 out of which 1,388 services were antenatal for pregnant women.

In the UNFPA/IFH Women and Youth Space, 42 beneficiaries took part in GBV and support activities on 23 December (40 females, 2 males – out of which 9 were under the age of 24); activities included one-to-one sessions on reproductive health, 8 one-to-one sessions on GBV, 2 support groups for reproductive health and 1 recreational activity.

Cash Assistance

During the reporting period, a total of 479 Syrian families/1,602 individuals (and 25 non-Syrian families/59 individuals) have been identified by UNHCR for cash assessment and were referred to Care International.

UNHCR processed 1,000 cases last week for cash assistance; 677 out of 1,000 cases have been approved during the reporting period.

Urgent cash assistance, in the amount of 100 JOD, was provided to 10 Syrian families/47 individuals by UNHCR, and another 3 Syrian families/5 individuals were referred to Care International for urgent cash assistance. In addition, community services counselled 16 Syrian families/78 individuals in regards to cash assistance.

Winterization

UNICEF/THW will start the winterisation of 90 existing and new WASH units in Za'atri camp this week. The intended upgrading of the old units will also include the addition of 5 new toilets per unit and also the installation of 90 prefabricated shower blocks, out of which 30 have already arrived in the camp. Winterization also includes the installation of gas boilers to provide hot water in WASH units. New prefab showers were already installed inside 16 old WASH units, each containing 5 showers.

NRC distributed 1,571 blankets, 1 gas bottle and 151 gas bottle refills on 26 December in Za'atri camp as part of winterization process which amounts to a total distribution of 4,349 winter packages, 34,511 blankets, 2,622 heaters and gas bottles, and 271 gas bottle refills.

IRD conducted two-day training on gas cookers maintenance for 20 Syrian refugees on 26 December in Za'atri camp; and IRD refilled 286 kitchens with 2 cylinders (with a total of 572 cylinders across the camp).

UNHCR counselled and referred 49 vulnerable families in Za'atri camp to NRC for winterization and heaters.

UNHCR collaborated with Jordan Armed Forces and NRC, and arranged for 200 NRC heaters to be provided to Jordan Armed Forces receiving refugees on the border (however the army requested 200 regulators in order to use the heaters properly).