

Update No. 2

Syria Regional Refugee Response

Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey

26 April 2012



This weekly update provides a snapshot of the United Nations and its partners' response to the influx of Syrian refugees into Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq. The response is led by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and is undertaken in full coordination with host Governments. The next update will be issued on Thursday, 03 May 2012.



©UNHCR Jordan – Syrian Refugee Arrivals in Jordan

I. HIGHLIGHTS

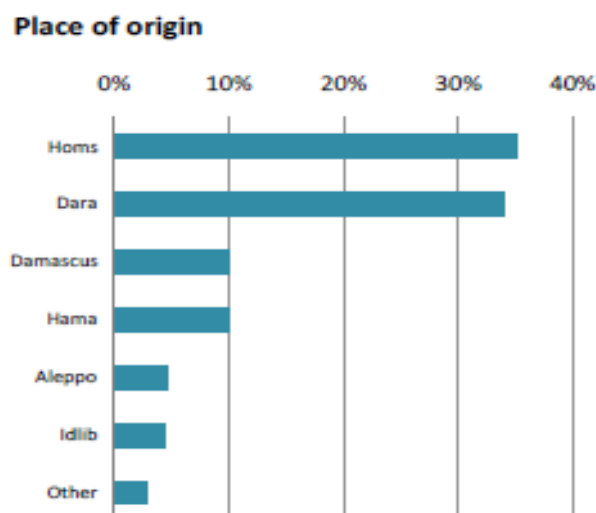
- The second Syria Humanitarian Forum took place in Geneva on 20th April. The Regional Humanitarian Coordinator (RHC), Mr. Radhouane Nouicer, briefed the Forum on the humanitarian situation in Syria, as well as on priority actions contained in the draft Syria Response Plan. The UNHCR Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC), Mr. Panos Moutziz, updated participants on support provided by host governments and the humanitarian community to Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey.
- The Syria Regional Response Plan, which was launched on 23rd March in Geneva, with a financial requirement of USD 84.5 million, has received 19%* funding so far. UNHCR and partners have appealed to donors to respond urgently to agencies' calls to provide lifesaving support for refugees.

* Not adjusted to exchange rate fluctuations/pledges made are in the process of being re-confirmed.

II. JORDAN

Highlights

- The total number of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR currently stands at 11,748. Their primary locations continue to be in the cities of Amman, Ramtha, Mafraq, Irbid, Zarqa and Ma'an. 4,251 Syrians are currently awaiting registration, while around 30,000 have been identified by local organizations as in need of immediate assistance.
- UNHCR Jordan Representative met with the Jordanian Prime Minister and discussed joint efforts in response to the ongoing arrival of Syrian nationals.
- WFP started to provide hot meals for new arrivals and other Syrians at the transit (Beshabshe) facility in Ramtha.
- UNICEF will take the lead in emergency WASH interventions in all camp-like settings in coordination with the Jordanian Government and UNHCR.
- As a contingency measure and in order to de-congest the transit facility in Ramtha, the Jordanian authorities have identified two sites: Cyber City, a building that can accommodate up to 600 persons; and King Abdullah Park, where 80 containers with a capacity of 800 individuals are being established. Both locations are around Ramtha city in areas hosting Syrians.
- Following assessments and home visits undertaken by International Relief and Development (IRD), UNHCR has issued the first 20 ATM/Cash cards with Iris Scanning software enabled, for extremely vulnerable Syrians.



Protection/Security

Refugee registration reached a new monthly record, with over 5,164 Syrian refugees presenting themselves at the Amman office since April 1st of this year. This brings the total number registered to 11,748 since the beginning of the unrest in Syria in March 2011.

Assistance/Outreach

UNHCR continues to work on the identification of extremely vulnerable Syrian refugees for cash assistance, with help from IRD. Furthermore, UNHCR has issued the first ATM/Cash cards with fraud prevention Iris Scanning technology enabled. Notably, only 3% of those registered will, based on vulnerability criteria, qualify to receive cash assistance. To date, UNHCR has provided over 10,000 Syrian refugees with some 100,000 daily meals. WFP has now begun assuming the lead role in the food sector, and is distributing hot meals daily to those at the transit facilities. The Ministry of Health (MOH) has informed its health facilities to grant free access to Syrians at all levels of care, and continues to provide medical care at the Ramtha transit facility. Reproductive health kits have also been provided in Ramtha clinic by UNFPA. In addition, two static clinics are operational in Mafraq and Ramtha for Syrians and two mobile medical units are providing primary healthcare in the north, centre and south of Jordan. UNICEF and partner organizations continue to support displaced Syrian children and family members with psychosocial support and remedial education.

Coordination

The first geographical coordination meeting took place this week, at Ramtha. The meeting was attended by Government officials, representatives from the local governorate, community based organizations,

along with UN partners and national/international NGOs operating in the area. This is part of an effort to enhance coordination mechanisms beyond Amman, into areas where there are large Syrian populations. Mafraq was also host to a geographical coordination meeting with an expectation that such meetings will be rolled out to other governorates with a significant number of Syrian refugees in the coming reporting period .

III. LEBANON

Highlights

- UNHCR and the Lebanese Government's High Relief Committee (HRC) have jointly registered and assisted more than 22,000 Syrian refugees in northern Lebanon.
- The number of Syrian refugees currently registered with UNHCR and HRC stands at 11,174, with an additional 10,826 refugees being assisted but not yet registered.
- The World Food Programme (WFP) has received formal agreement from the Government to work in Lebanon. WFP intends to provide food under the form of food vouchers, targeting displaced Syrians and host families. Tripartite WFP/HRC/UNHCR meetings will take place soon to discuss and agree on priorities and modalities.

Protection/Security

The Syrian refugee population is concentrated in north Lebanon, with over 9,500 in the Wadi Khaled area and an estimated 3,000 in Tripoli. Latest assessments show approximately 8,500 displaced Syrians in the Bekaa Valley. This increase is due to further outreach and verification exercises showing that there are more displaced families in the area. In the Bekaa, registration will be made through local municipalities. In the Beirut area, over 700 Syrian refugees have been registered by UNHCR.

Assistance/Outreach

1,763 families were assisted so far this month with both food and non-food items. Rehabilitation is underway for 20 new unfinished houses in Rama and Monseh, each with the ability of hosting 6 displaced families. International Medical Corps (IMC), extended psycho-social support services to two hospitals in Tripoli: Rahma and Dar el Shifaa. Registration for remedial classes is underway with approximately 300-400 children signing up. UNHCR and partners will be conducting classes through public schools in Aarsal and Ain. UNICEF is responding to children's most critical needs by partnering with the Ministry of Education to allow free access to public schools for Syrian children as well as supporting parents in tackling the invisible costs of schooling, including supplies, transportation, and meals.

Coordination

UNHCR is in the process of mapping local and international NGOs as well as community-based organizations active in Tripoli and surrounding areas to facilitate the design of UNHCR and partners' programme response in these areas. Inter-Agency Coordination meetings take place every 2 weeks in Beirut, Quobayat and Bekaa. Sectoral meetings (Distribution, Health, Education, Protection, Shelter, and WASH) are also taking place twice a month in Quobayat and Bekaa.

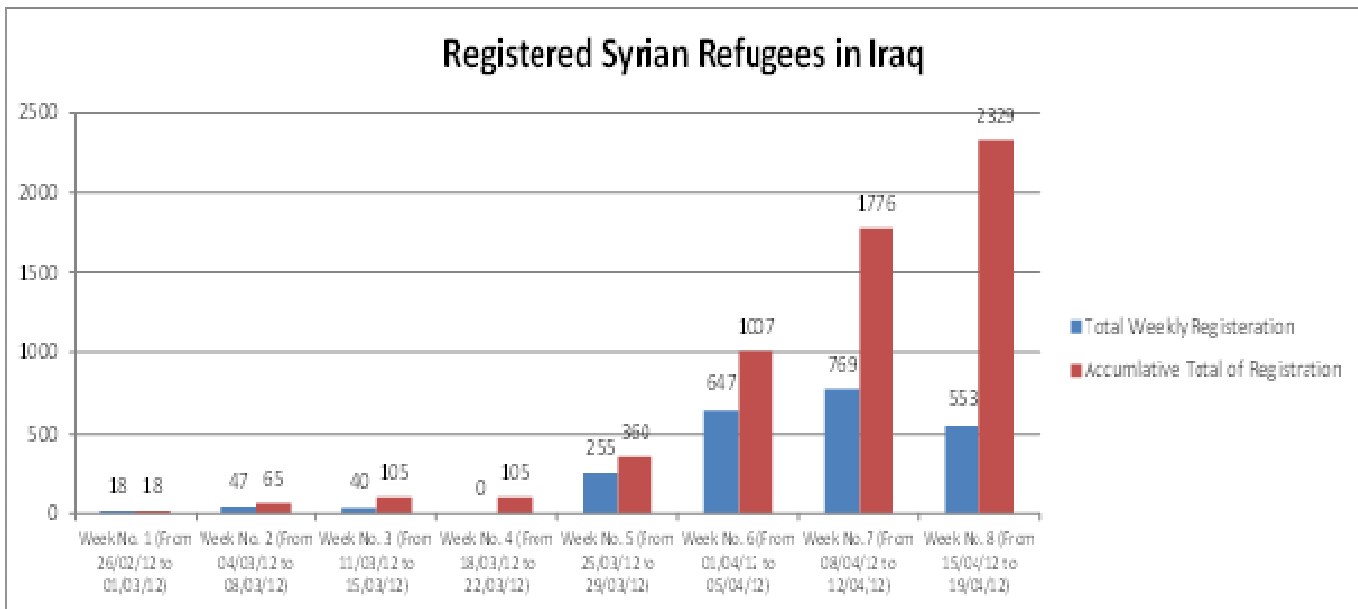
IV. IRAQ

Highlights

- UNHCR registered a total of 2,329 individual Syrian refugees, and 800 are awaiting registration.
- An estimated number of 10 to 15 families and 50 to 65 singles enter Duhok Governorate daily.

Protection/Security

Syrian new arrivals continue to have access to the territory, with no reported refoulement. In Dohuk Governorate, an estimated number of 60 families and 500 singles are in the process of being registered. In Erbil, the number of Syrian families approaching UNHCR for registration remains limited and are hosted by family members and the local community.



Assistance/Outreach

As of April 22nd, 186 tents were established in Domiz camp in the families section. A total of 90 families were provided with non-food items during the third round of distribution, organized jointly by UNHCR and IOM, bringing the total families who benefited from nonfood items distribution to 194. DDM continues to provide the single Syrian refugees with three hot meals a day; families are also provided with dry food through DDM. However, the need to supply the families with additional dry food rations is becoming increasingly needed. UNHCR has ordered the production of 6 caravans for school classes, and one caravan has already reached the site and was installed near the existing primary school to ensure additional space for school age children.

Coordination

UNICEF conducted a visit to Domiz camp in the last week with a view to assessing the refugees' needs in the education and nutrition sectors. The Iraqi Red Crescent is also planning a visit to the camp in the coming days in order to assess the situation and to design future interventions.

V. TURKEY

Highlights

- The overall number of Syrian refugees in Turkey now stands at 23,942 persons.
- Syrian refugees from the seven camps in Hatay continue to be moved to the new camps in a. Gaziantep (Islahiye); b. Kilis (Oncupinar) and c. Sanliurfa (Ceylanpinar). The population in Hatay camps was thus reduced to 7,277, while the Gaziantep camp now hosts 5,787; Kilis hosts 9,207 and Sanliurfa hosts 1,626 refugees.

Protection/Security

The Government continues to undertake registration and extend temporary protection to all new Syrian arrivals.

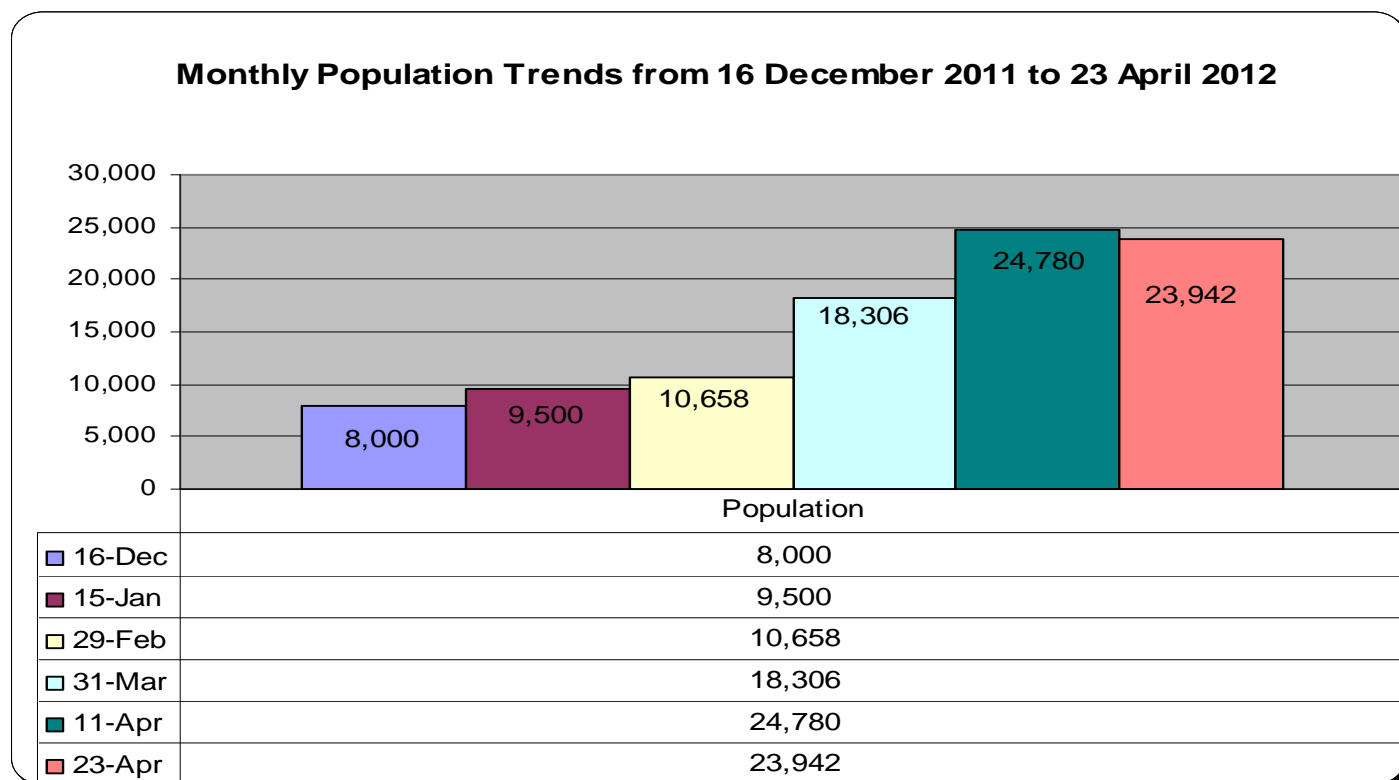
Assistance/Outreach

New arrivals are continuing to be settled in the newly established tent sites, prepared by the Turkish authorities and set up by the Turkish Red Crescent. Food, accommodation and medical assistance have been provided to the camp populations without interruption. Families with 3 or more children are transferred to the Container camp in Kilis. Single and/or couples without children are transferred to

Islahiye tent camp in Gaziantep and Ceylanpinar tent camp in Sanliurfa. It has been officially reported that 805 students in Hatay tent sites, consisting of 420 girls and 385 boys, are receiving education in pre-school, primary and secondary degrees in 35 classes. It has also been reported that preparations are ongoing to begin education for 3,561 Syrian children in Kilis.

Coordination

The UN Country Team remains closely following the humanitarian situation in the border areas and camps. UNHCR teams have been established in Kilis, Hatay, Gaziantep, and Sanliurfa to provide technical support to authorities in specific areas such as voluntary returns, registration, and other protection-related matters.



VI. STATISTICS

Statistics on Syrian Refugees in the Region

No. of Syrian Refugees	JORDAN	LEBANON	IRAQ	TURKEY	TOTALS
Registered	11,748	11,174	2,329	23,942	49,193
Assisted (awaiting registration)	4,251	10,826	800	-	15,877
TOTALS	15,999	22,000	3,129	23,942	65,070

END

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