

TURKEY

EXTERNAL UPDATE

11 December 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

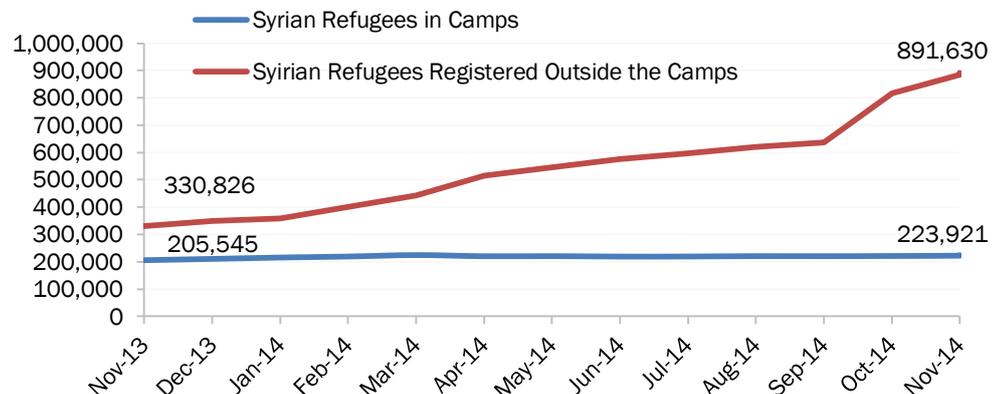
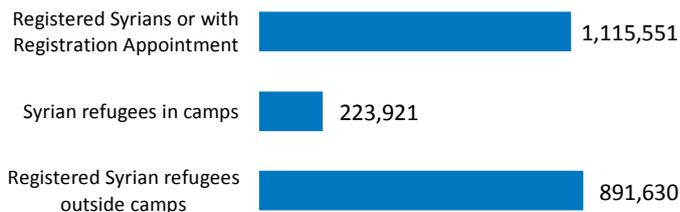
- There are no more admissions related to the 19 September influx from Kobane since 13 November, when 368 Syrian entered Turkey.
- The cumulative number of individuals admitted remains 192,417 according to AFAD. So far, 52,314 Syrian refugees have been biometrically registered.
- Over 22,000 blankets and 11,000 mats have been delivered to Oncupinar and Nizip 1 and 2 camps. On 05 December, 600 heaters were delivered to Viranşehir camp
- Around 600 children living in the Altinozu TEKEL Camp, in Hatay, took part on the Altinozu Children Festival on 27 November.



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The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Syrian Refugee Population in Turkey

A total of **1,655,992** Syrian refugees:



KEY FIGURES

211,000

Family Tent beneficiaries

12,640

Sanitary Napkins beneficiaries

167,840

Kitchen sets beneficiaries

24,038

Plastic Sheeting units

62,245

Electric heaters

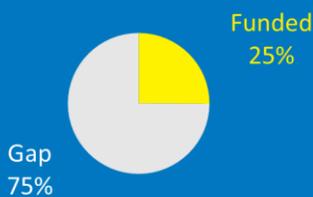
342,000

Plastic Mats

FUNDING

USD 310 million

UNHCR Turkey operation



USD 497 million

Interagency Regional Response in Turkey



SURUÇ INFLUX

Admissions

There have been no more admissions since 13 November, when 368 Syrian entered Turkey, and the cumulative number of individuals admitted remains 192,417 according to AFAD. So far, 52,314 Syrian refugees have been biometrically registered.

The sub-governor of Suruç estimates that there could be up to 40,000 vehicles and 1,000 persons waiting on the Syrian side of the along the border with Turkey. So far, over 3,000 vehicles have been admitted, but they are parked and not allowed to circulate. It is estimated that around 500-600 people are waiting across the Yumurtalik border crossing, the one closest to Suruç, for their vehicles to be admitted. Around 200 food packages are sent from Turkey on a daily basis to these people who are spread along several border crossings points.

Shelter

Both AFAD run temporary shelters are operating at capacity. YIBO is currently hosting 8,110 individuals while the Onbir Nisan shelter hosts 1,160 refugees, which is slightly over its maximum occupancy of 1,100.

UNHCR met with the new female social worker assigned by the Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Policies (FSP) to YIBO and shared the good practices of the women committee already in place in Onbir Nisan Temporary Accommodation Centre and other camps under the responsibility of AFAD. The Social Worker will organise the selection of the women representatives for each section at the centre and coordinate the meetings and identifications of needs.

At the Suruç municipality run Arin Mirxan Tent Site, there are reportedly 462 tents in with approximately 4,000 residents. Under the coordination of the Directorate of Family and Social Policies, four social workers speaking Kurdish are assigned to this camp. According to their psychosocial assessment, the vast majority of the population has been biometrically registered, in spite of their initial reservations, in order to have access to health services.

Local officials in Suruç informed that while the majority of the new arrivals crossed into Turkey on the 19 September influx are staying with their relatives/host community in the villages and there are also a considerable number of persons still living in Suruç town in private accommodations.

GENERAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

Winterization



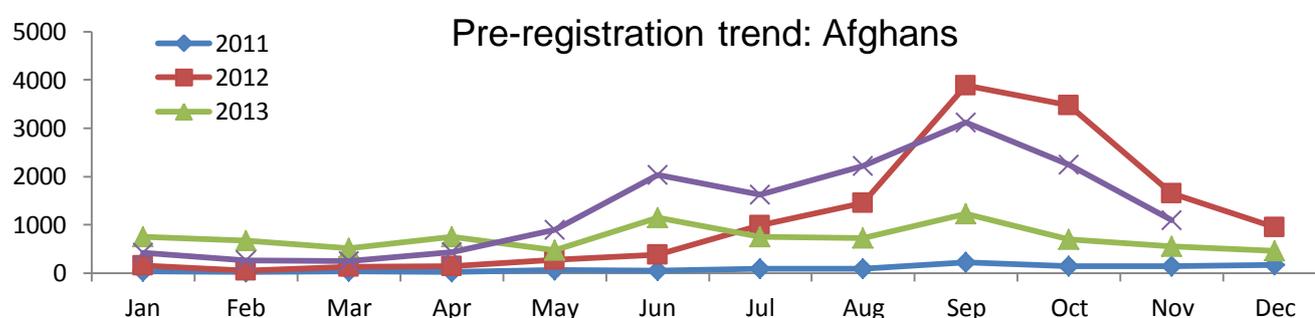
From the outset of the Syrian refugee emergency in Turkey, UNHCR has been supporting Turkey in providing core relief items, including blankets, sleeping mattresses, kitchen sets, jerry cans and cooking facilities, to meet the needs of the Syrian refugees. Thanks to the contributions from the State of Kuwait and other donors, UNHCR has supported Turkey's Syrian emergency response with core relief items amounting to USD 186.5 million, as of mid-November 2014, both inside and outside camps. So far, over 22,000 blankets and 11,000 mats have been delivered to Oncupinar and Nizip 1 and 2 camps. On 05 December, 600 heaters were delivered to Viranşehir camp.

Truck delivering heaters to Viranşehir Camps ©UNHCR/E.Argunhan

New Arrivals

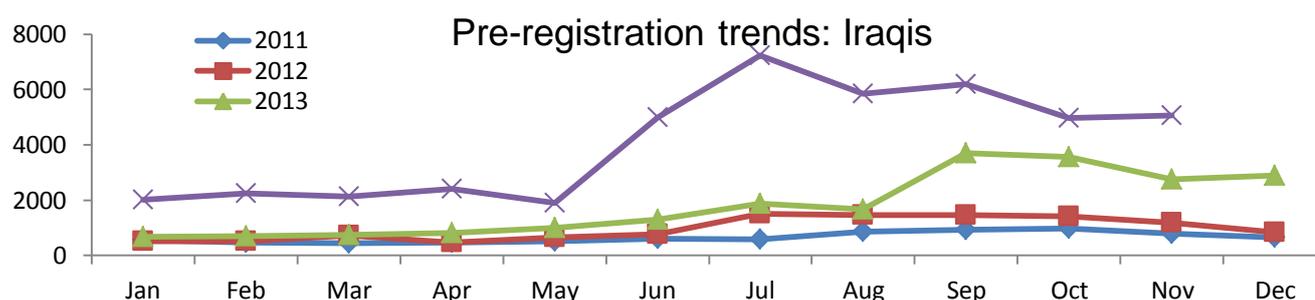
Afghans

The figures below reflect the number of Afghan asylum-seekers pre-registered from 2011 to 2014. In 2013 the number of Afghans approaching UNHCR or its implementing partner to claim asylum decreased from over 14,000 to 8,300 in 2013. However, 2014 has seen an uptick in Afghans pre-registration, particularly from June onwards. During the winter the number of arrivals tends to decrease..



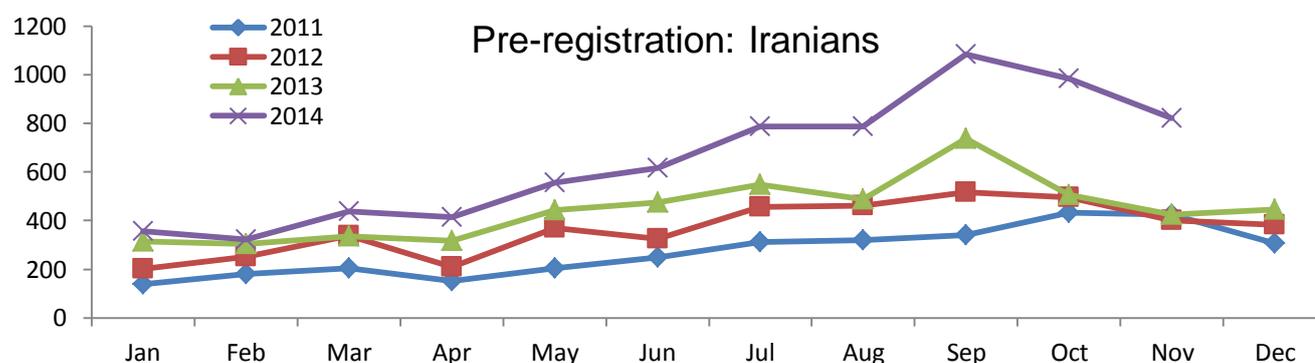
Iraqis

In 2013, the numbers of Iraqis increased significantly, particularly from May 2013 onwards, and this trend continues into 2014, with a significant uptick since mid-June 2014. The increase in arrivals is mainly due to the deteriorating security situation in Iraq and the recent recrudescence of ISIS offensive since June 2014. Due to the volatile security situation also in Syria, UNHCR continues to register an increase of arrivals of Iraqis who previously lived in Syria.



Iranians

The figures below reflect the number of new Iranian asylum-seekers from 2011 through August 2014. The numbers of Iranians claiming asylum in Turkey has risen each year. There is a noticeable increase in the summer months with the peak arrival month being September for the last two years. The increase in September 2013 was particularly pronounced as more Iranians applied for asylum in Turkey than in any month over the previous three years. However this monthly total has now been exceeded in both July and August of this year.



UNHCR supported a Children’s Festival at Altinozu, TEKEL Camp



Around 600 children living in the Altinozu TEKEL Camp, in Hatay, took part on the Altinozu Children Festival on 27 November. Around 50 of the invited children were also engaged in performing and co-organizing the several games, competitions and artistic activities including a concert, a puppet show, a music concert and a chess tournament. The event was developed and organized by the camp’s women’s committee with support from UNHCR, the TEKEL camp staff, several active residents of the municipality, as well as Syrian refugees, teachers and volunteers. “We have received great

support from the UNHCR [...] they always listened to us and understood what we need and helped us to achieve what we want”, said one of the leading members of the committee, who also described their biggest challenge in putting the Festival together to have been the difficulty in finding people in their own community to help with the event. They explained that some mothers did not fully embrace the initiative or were otherwise too taken by their daily activities to participate. At the end of the event, the objective of offering an alternative day to the harsh reality of life in refuge to the children was attained as some of the mothers who came to the event with their children expressed their gratitude to the organizers and UNHCR.



Donor Countries of UNHCR's Regional Syrian Refugee Programme for Turkey:



Other Donor Countries Contributing to UNHCR's Regional Syrian Refugee Programme in alphabetical order:



Contacts:

Selin Unal, PI Officer, unal@unhcr.org, Cell: +90 530 282 78 62

Bernardo Santos, Reporting Officer, santosr@unhcr.org, Cell +90 539 585 4643