OVERVIEW

| 81,405 | 50.3% Females, 49.7% Males | 57% are youth, 19.9% are under 5 years old | 1 in 5 households are headed by women | Average of 80 births per week, and 14,000 weekly consultations | Place of origin: Dara’a: 53.4%, Homs: 14.9%, Damascus: 7.5%, Hama: 4.4%.

Location: Mafraq Governorate, Northern Jordan
Opening: 29 July 2012

GENERAL INFORMATION

Approximately 430,000 refugees have passed through the camp. Of those an average of: 120,000 returned to Syria; 60,000 received bailouts from Jordanian nationals to formally leave the Camp; 160,000 left the camp to urban areas informally; while approximately 80,000 remain in Zaatari. UNHCR has witnessed a steady rise in returns, predominantly to the southern Syrian Governorate of Dara. There were 1305 returns in July. The daily rate of return is 50-100 persons, drawn from refugee families in urban areas, and from within the Camp itself.

The principal drivers for return concern reunion with family members who remained in Syria, increasing vulnerability, a lack of livelihood opportunities, and a desire to continue education. UNHCR provides protection counselling to families wishing to return to Syria at a formal returns centre.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Zaatari provides daily support to Syrian refugees, including: core-relief items and shelter to every family (some 24,000 caravans have been installed), an average of 35 liters of water per person, 2,100 calories per day, plus complementary food; education and health care. Expenditure per refugee, per year, is USD 1,900. Refugees receive 20 JD every month via debit cards which they can use to buy food from 2 supermarkets operated by Safeway and Tazweed inside the camp, while around 17.8 Metric Tons of bread is distributed daily.

Three schools are operating in the camp, all on a double shift basis, with girls studying in the mornings, and boys in the afternoon. 15,500 of an estimated 28,000 school age children are currently enrolled. 13% of children in Zaatari are engaged in child labour. There are a total of 27 community based centres in camp which provide psychosocial support services, support child protection case management, and offer recreational activities for children, in addition to 7 playgrounds and sports courts.

2 field hospitals are operating in the Camp, with 55 beds. There are 9 primary health care centres, 1 delivery unit, with 120 community health volunteers. The focus of service provision concerns communicable diseases including diarrhea, respiratory tract infections as well as non-communicable diseases; including hypertension, cancer and diabetes, in line with wider trends in the Middle East. Addition challenges concerns long term care needed for war wounded, as well as increasing the coverage of the routine immunization for children.
FROM EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO EARLY RECOVERY

Economy

- There are an estimated 2,500 refugee shops generating an estimate of 10 million JD per month. The Ministry of Trade and Commerce envisages a gradual legalization of shops within the camp, which will allow for increased regularization, including the integration of environmental and health standards. 60% of the working age refugee population earns some form of income.

Water

- 3 boreholes have been constructed in the camp, providing 3.8M litres of water per day. An integrated piped water supply system to the household level is currently under construction and will be fully operational in the first quarter of 2016. At present, water distribution takes place via a network of some 65 trucks delivering water within the camp’s districts and streets.

Sewage and Solid Waste

- A waste water treatment plant has been constructed which treats much of the wastewater; collected and transported using a fleet of sewerage trucks. To further reduce the environmental impact, and costs, an interim wastewater collection system is being established to collect wastewater from households, with a subsequent phased connection of tanks to the network through a piped sewage system connected to the wastewater treatment plant. 750 m³ of solid waste is collected every day and transferred to external garbage facilities. Recycling projects involving refugees are ongoing to reduce and re-use solid waste.

Energy

- Following the regularization of the electrical supply within the older western section of the camp (districts 1, 2 & 12) electrical connectivity has been expanded across the camp to cover all 12 districts at minimal cost; with the time-limited daily service provision from 7pm to 5am in place to manage operational costs. In addition, an increase in the use of renewable energy is underway following the provision of solar lanterns, and a wider construction of a solar power plant within the Mafraq governorate planned in 2016 to provide a sustainable source of energy.

Higher Education

- In response to limited opportunities available for refugees wishing to access accredited higher education in spite of the high demand; whether for recent graduates of secondary school, or students who were forced to interrupt their university studies, partnerships are being established with educational institutions in Mafraq to provide accredited skills training for both Syrian refugees residing in Zaatari and Jordanian students within the Governorate.

Targeting vulnerability

- To ensure that assistance is provided to those most in need, humanitarian actors in Zaatari are transitioning towards a unified approach to target NFI and ultimately cash assistance to vulnerable groups within the Camp’s population. This will include a substantive research to assess the scope of the social safety net structure provided to the Camp’s population, while providing a greater understanding of the camp population’s social networks.

PRESENCE IN THE CAMP


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