



**OVERVIEW:** 2,168 Syrians entered the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) through Peshkhabour border crossing representing a decrease of 50% from the previous month. Out of these, 744 were admitted on 15-day entry visas mainly for medical and family visits, and 1,424 readmitted to territory after they were previously allowed to return to Syria by KR-I authorities.

UNHCR registered 1,477 Syrian refugees including 414 recorded as new births, and 117 persons with specific needs. In terms of areas of origin, 63% are from Al Hassakeh, 20% from Aleppo and others from the rest of the country.

UNHCR and partners conducted 1,848 household assessments for 7,410 Syrian refugees in KR-I resulting in referrals for multi-purpose cash assistance and legal assistance among others.

In order to improve counselling during home-visits, UNHCR organized capacity building sessions with all refugee protection monitoring teams (PMT) in Duhok. The teams also disseminated awareness leaflets on the importance of birth registration as part of mainstreaming urban outreach and mass information.

The World Refugee Day was commemorated in Iraq through interactive activities such as songs, dances, paintings, poems, handicraft, and plays by refugees, IDPs and host community under the theme 'Arts and Culture'. These were aimed at contributing to more open, tolerant, sustainable cities as well as promoting social and well-connected communities. The event exhibited the resilience, courage and determination of women, men and children compelled to flee their homeland due to threats of persecution, conflict and violence.

UNHCR and partners continued identifying formal and non-formal refugee community structures both in camps and non-camp areas in KR-I with a view of mapping and assessing community capacities.

UNHCR and partner, Community Development Organisation (CDO) carried out a two-day training on code of conduct, identification of persons with specific needs and roles and responsibilities for 29 community outreach volunteers (COVs) in Sulaymaniyah. Similarly Un Ponte Per (UPP) and ACTED trained COVs on basic psychosocial support principles and community complaints and feedback mechanisms (CFM) in Erbil.

**Resettlement:** Due to uncertainties of the US resettlement programme, particularly on the newly identified cases, resettlement unit submitted vulnerable cases to the UK through their Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme (VPRS). Likewise, resettlement unit continued to pre-screen cases for further resettlement consideration with some 22% of the cases interviewed expressing disinterest in resettlement while 27% were deprioritised mainly due to incomplete family composition.

**Child Protection:** The Strategic Framework for Sustainable Child Protection Programming for Refugees was finalized and disseminated, with significant contribution from child protection partners. It covers psychosocial support, strengthening child protection through community-based entities and case management.

**Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)** With the diminishing economic opportunities in KRI, Syrian refugee women and girls face challenges in sustaining their livelihoods resulting in negative coping mechanisms such as child marriages, survival sex in addition to poor hygiene and nutrition as well as harsh, abusive and exploitative working conditions. In the course of addressing these underlying issues, SGBV partners provided SGBV services to some 1,353 Syrian refugees.

In view of the criticality of information dissemination on prevention and response to SGBV amongst the community, some 3,220 women and girls and 1,029 men and boys were reached during information campaigns.



Kawergosk Refugee Camp, Erbil. O. Zhdanov /UNHCR

### Protection Funding Status



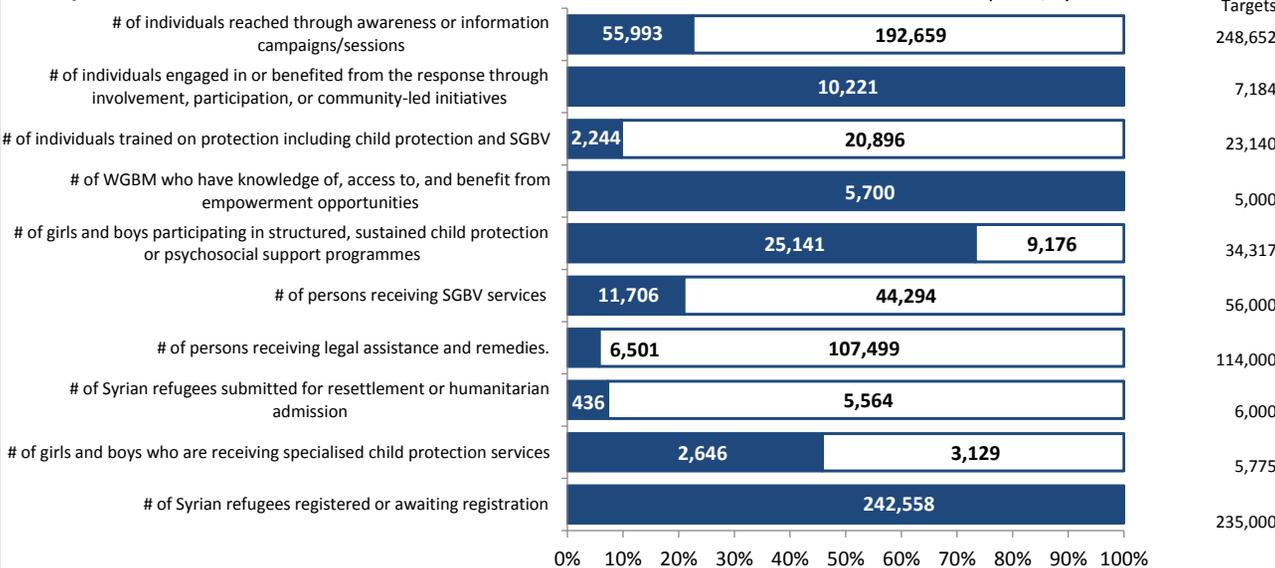
### Needs Analysis

Due to the deterioration of the economic situation of Syrian refugees, an increasing number of out-of-camp refugees expressed interest in relocating to the camps whose capacities are limited, leading to long waiting lists. The ongoing focus of submission to UK through the VPRS and the non-submission of cases to the US is inadequate in addressing the protection needs of cases requiring resettlement as the only feasible durable solution.

### By 30 June 2017, 242,558 Syrian refugees (79,573 households) live in Iraq:

- 97% = 234,262 live in Kurdistan Region-Iraq (KR-I): Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah.
- 3% = 8,296 Live in other locations in Iraq.
- 62% = 150,585 live in non-camp/urban areas.
- 38% = 91,973 live in 9 camps in KR-I: 4 camps in Erbil (Basirma, Darashakran, Kawergosk, Qushtapa), 4 camps in Duhok (Domiz I and II, Akre, Gawilan and 1 camp in Sulaymaniyah(Arbat).

### IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: JUNE 2017



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