

# INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey

20 - 26 July 2014



This situation update is prepared by UNHCR Office of the Director, Middle East and North Africa Bureau. It provides a snapshot of the inter-agency regional humanitarian response in full coordination with host Governments and 163 partners across the region.

## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- On 30 July, the Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos briefed the Security Council on the first cross-border operation under SC Resolution 2165 (2014). The operation was carried out on Thursday, 24 July, from Turkey through Bab Al Salam border crossing into Syria and included food, shelter materials, household items and water and sanitation supplies for approximately 26,000 people in Aleppo and Idlib Governorates.
- The High Commissioner for Refugee António Guterres called Thursday for urgent European action to stop rising refugee and migrant deaths at sea, after more than 260 people have died or been reported missing trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea to get to Europe in the ten days alone. He called on governments to strengthen rescue operations, provide swift access to asylum procedures for those in need of protection, and offer legal alternatives to dangerous journeys by sea.

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Vaccination campaign: Reaching the most vulnerable children in Lebanon, p.2
- "Syrians without an address", p.2
- Understanding the needs of Syrian adolescents in Gaziantep, Turkey, p.3
- IOM and its regional response, p. 3
- Rescued at the sea, they want to restart their lives, p.4

## REGIONAL FIGURES

**2.9 million** Syrian refugees have fled to neighbouring countries and North Africa

**860,000** refugees outside camps are estimated to be living in sub-standard shelter

**2.4 million** people estimated to be in need of support to prepare for the next winter

**1.7 million** refugees require food assistance.

**900,000** Syrian school-age children need education

Total number of refugees registered and awaiting registration **2,933,403**

Registered Refugees **2,897,455**

Awaiting Registration with UNHCR **35,948**

**TURKEY**  
**808,576**  
registered.

**LEBANON**  
**1,138,043**  
Registered: **1,103,707**  
Awaiting reg.: **34,336**

**IRAQ**  
**217,192**  
Registered: **215,580**  
Awaiting reg.: **1,612**

**EGYPT**  
**138,347**  
registered.

**JORDAN**  
**607,878**  
registered.

**N. AFRICA\***  
**23,367**  
registered

\* Morocco, Algeria and Libya

Sources: AFAD, Government of Egypt, Government of Iraq, Government of Jordan, Government of Lebanon, UNHCR Regional Datawarehouse, Common Operational Dataset (COD), UNGIWG, Natural Earth, UNCS

0 25 50 100 150 200 Kilometers

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

Refugee population as of 26 July 2014, based on available data. For updated figures, please visit <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees>

## VACCINATION CAMPAIGN: REACHING MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN LEBANON

- As of May 2014 over 21,000 children under five years of age receive routine vaccinations in Lebanon.
- Aiming to increase immunization coverage, UNICEF Lebanon, in cooperation with MOPH, the NGO Beyond Association, WHO and UNHCR, have launched Summer Immunization Weeks for a week each in July, August and September.
- The accelerated routine immunization campaign against ten preventable contagious diseases, including measles, tetanus and polio, is targeting 150,000 children under five years of age, including Syrian refugee children.
- It will be carried out in localities with the lowest immunization coverage and in informal tented settlements. The most vulnerable families are being targeted, including those living in localities at highest risk, and at lowest reported immunization coverage.
- Mobile health clinics and activities focusing on informing refugees about services available are part of the campaign. The aim is to ensure that all children have an opportunity to receive vaccinations through the campaigns.



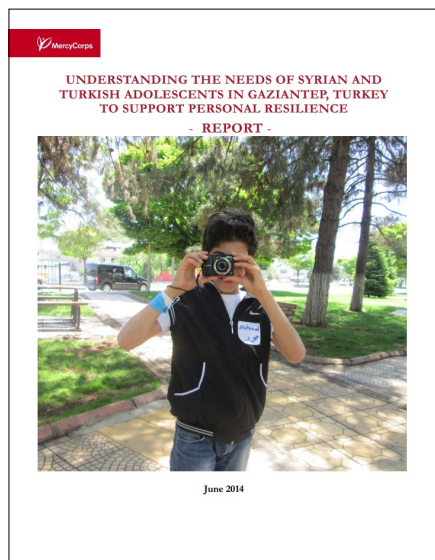
*Syrian refugee children at a settlement in Bekaa Valley, Lebanon, participate in a race to kick off Immunization Week. UNICEF Lebanon/Azar*

## “SYRIANS WITHOUT AN ADDRESS”

- **Egypt:** There are over 59,000 registered Syrian refugee children in Egypt, of whom some 49,900 are school age children. The Government of Egypt has extended full and free access to primary and secondary education to Syrians, and it is estimated that over 46,500 Syrian children—including those not registered with UNHCR—are attending school.
- However, the quality of the school environment in Egyptian public schools represents a significant barrier to enrolment and retention of Syrian children, as do the difficulties they face in adjusting to the Egyptian dialect and curriculum. Overcrowded classrooms, elements of discrimination, distance to available schools and problems with transportation represent some additional challenges Syrian families face.
- On 6-10 July, Save the Children held a workshop in the Child Friendly Space in 10<sup>th</sup> of Ramadan City (Greater Cairo) for children to produce a short animated film.
- The animation clip produced by children — “Syrians Without an Address” — focused on displacement of Syrian refugee children, and their transition into schools in Egypt. The animation clip looks at the difficulties in getting used to a new community, overcoming differences in dialect and making new friends.
- The workshop offered children the opportunity to express themselves in a creative way by designing, drawing, writing the script, acting, sound-recording and directing an animation movie that would tell their stories and shed light on the right of education for displaced children from all affected countries.

## UNDERSTANDING THE NEEDS OF SYRIAN ADOLESCENTS IN GAZIANTEP, TURKEY

- Turkey hosts over 800,000 Syrian refugees, the second largest Syrian refugee population. Half of them are children, including about 15 per cent adolescents. The conflict in Syrian has impacted, in particular, the lives and futures of Syrian children and adolescents, affecting education and future opportunities.
- Mercy Corps, in collaboration with Gaziantep-based Zirve University, has conducted a [qualitative assessment](#) in Gaziantep, Turkey, in May 2014 to better understand the needs and aspirations of Syrian and host community adolescents, and their perceptions of one-another. The assessment builds on a similar exercise the organization conducted in Jordan and Lebanon earlier this year.



- About 120 Syrian and Turkish adolescents between the ages of 13 and 19 were involved in the assessment. In two days of activities, adolescents engaged in arts, sports and focus group discussions.
- The aim was to identify current needs, particular vulnerabilities and future aspirations.
- Findings of this assessment are not representative of all Syrian and Turkish adolescents in Gaziantep, but can help designing interventions and enhancing protection environment.
- Some of the recommendations include enhancing adolescent programming approaches by paying particular attention to scheduling, locations, and addressing tensions, in an effort to reach the most vulnerable; as well as supporting Syrian and host community adolescents to identify long-term goals.

## IOM AND ITS REGIONAL RESPONSE

- With over 370 staff in the five main refugee hosting countries, IOM is part of the regional response providing assistance to Syrian refugees. The organization provides non-food items (NFI), shelter, livelihood and health assistance to refugees, in addition to playing an important role in resettlement.
- **Lebanon:** As part of the German Humanitarian Admissions Programme, IOM has provided transportation services to a total of 3,600 Syrian refugees to be resettled, and has held cultural orientation seminars for the refugees traveling to Germany. IOM has also provided health and shelter assistance to Syrian refugees and Lebanese communities affected by the crisis.
- **Turkey:** NFIs are distributed to Syrian refugees living outside of camps. Since the beginning of the crisis, over 123,500 Syrians have benefited from IOM's NFI assistance. From 2-27 June, IOM has also supported the transportation of 180 Syrian refugees living in urban areas of Saliurfa to attend English language courses run by volunteer teachers from the Elif Association and American Culture Association. The majority of teachers were from the Syrian diaspora living in the United States. The association will select the most talented students to go to schools in the US on scholarships.
- **Jordan:** Between 8 and 21 July, IOM immunized over 1,600 newly arrived Syrian refugee children against polio and measles. As of 21 July, over 178,000 Syrian refugees have been immunized against polio and measles in Zaatari camp.
- **Iraq:** In July, IOM distributed over 30 In-Kind Grants (IKG) for Syrian refugees living in Darashakran Camp, in Erbil. The IKGs contain materials and tools needed to begin small businesses, such as barbershops and women's salons. Refugees who had developed a joint business plan, and had attended a Business Development Service received the package. Since the beginning of the crisis, over 1,600 individuals benefited from IOM's livelihood assistance.



## RESCUED AT THE SEA, THEY WANT TO RESTART THEIR LIVES

- More than 75,000 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy, Greece, Spain and Malta by sea in the first half of 2014. Italy received the greatest number of arrivals (63,884), and a further 21,000 refugees and migrants have arrived in Italy since 1 July. Among the largest numbers are Syrians fleeing the conflict.
- Thamer and Thayer are two brothers from Syria who risked their lives in the hope of reaching Europe.
- Before the conflict, they led a simple life in a “serene” community. Then conflict broke out and they were forced to flee, eventually finding their way to Libya and making a desperate decision.
- At a cost of US\$2,000 each, they boarded a boat with over 200 others and set sail for Italy. They knew that capsizing was a very real possibility. But they hadn’t expected bullets, fired by militiamen and puncturing their boat. “I saw my life flash before my eyes,” recalls Thayer. “I saw my childhood. I saw people from when I was young. Things I thought I no longer remembered.” After ten terrifying hours, the boat capsized in the Mediterranean Sea, throwing occupants overboard. When the rescue came, it was too late for many.
- Eight months on, having applied for asylum in a sleepy coastal town in western Sicily, Thamer and Thayer are waiting to restart their lives. “We want to make our own lives and move on,” they explain.

Syrian refugee brothers Thamer and Thayer stand by the shore in western Sicily. UNHCR/A. D’Amato



The regional response for refugees fleeing Syria is the coordinated effort of 163 participating organizations (including 107 appealing agencies):

ABAAD | [ACTED](#) | ActionAid | [Action contre la faim](#) | ADRA | [Al Majmoua](#) | AMAN | [AMEL](#) | ANERA | [Arab Medical Union](#) | Arc en Ciel | [ARDD-Legal Aid](#) | ARK | [Armadilla SCS](#) | Association de Charité Humanitaire | [Association Justice et Miséricorde](#) | AVSI | [BBC Media Action](#) | Beyond Association | [BMD](#) | British Council | [CARE International](#) | Caritas | [Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre](#) | Catholic Relief Services | [CCP](#) | Central Association for Kindergarten Supervisors League | [Centre for Victims of Torture](#) | Civil Development Organization | [Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli](#) | CONCERN | [DRC](#) | Emergency Life Support for Civilian War Victims | [ERC](#) | Family Guidance and Awareness Centre | [FAO](#) | FHI | [Finn Church Aid](#) | French Red Cross | [Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura](#) | GIZ | [Global Communities](#) | Gruppo di Volontariato Civile | [Handicap International](#) | Harikar | [Heartland Alliance International](#) | High Relief Commission | [Hilfswerk Austria International](#) | Human Relief Foundation | [Humedica](#) | ILO | [Institute for Family Health/Noor Al Hussein Foundation](#) | International Alert | [International Catholic Migration Commission](#) | International Children's Continenence Society | [International Medical Corps](#) | International Orthodox Christian Charities | [International Relief and Development](#) | International Rescue Committee | [Internews](#) | INTERSOS | [IOM](#) | IQRAA | [Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project](#) | Iraqi Youth League | [Islamic Relief Worldwide](#) | JBA | [JEN](#) | Jesuit Refugee Service | [JIM - NET](#) | Jordan Health Aid Society | [Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization](#) | Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development | [Jordan Red Crescent](#) | Jordan River Foundation | [Jordanian Women's Union](#) | KAFA | [KnK](#) | KURDS | [Lutheran World Federation](#) | MADA | [Madrasati Initiative](#) | Mines Advisory Group | [Mahmoud Mosque Society](#) | Makassed | [Makhzoumi Foundation](#) | Medair | [Medical Aid for Palestinians](#) | Médecins du Monde | [Mercy Corps](#) | Mercy USA | [Ministry of Water and Irrigation](#) | Movement for Peace | [Muslim Aid](#) | NAJMAH | [National Centre for Culture and Arts](#) | NICCOD | [NRC](#) | Operation Mercy | [Organization for the Development of Women and Children](#) | Oxfam | [Peace Winds Japan](#) | People In Need | [Plan International](#) | Polish Centre for International Aid | [Psycho Social Training and Services Institute in Cairo](#) | PU-AMI | [Public Aid Organization](#) | QANDIL | [Qatar Red Crescent](#) | Questscope | [Rassemblement Democratique des Femmes du Liban](#) | REACH | [Refugee Education Trust](#) | Relief International | Refugee Egypt | [Resala](#) | Rescate | [RESTART](#) | Royal Health Awareness Society | [Safadi Foundation](#) | SAWA | [SCI KR-I](#) | SCI | [SCJ](#) | Search for Common Ground | [Secours Islamique France](#) | Seraphim GLOBAL | [SHEILD](#) | Solidar Suisse | [Solidarités International](#) | Soins infirmiers et développement communautaire | [SRC](#) | STEP | [Syria Relief and Development](#) | TADAMON | [Taghyeer](#) | TDH | [TDHI](#) | THW | [TRIANGLE GH](#) | UAE Red Crescent | [UNAMI](#) | UN Women | [UNDP](#) | UNESCO | [UNFPA](#) | UN-Habitat | [UNHCR](#) | UNICEF | [United Iraq Medical Society](#) | UNOPS | [Un Ponte Per](#) | UNRWA | [WAAJC](#) | War Child UK | [War Child Holland](#) | WARVIN | [WFP](#) | WHO | [World Rehabilitation Fund](#) | World Vision International | [Young Man's Christian Association](#) | Y-PEER

This report is prepared by UNHCR. Humanitarian response partners are invited to contribute to this report. For more information or to be added to the distribution list, please contact Bruno Stolze [Bruno Stolze](#), UNHCR Associate Regional Reporting Officer | [stolze@unhcr.org](mailto:stolze@unhcr.org)