INTER-AGENCY REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey 13 - 19 July 2014



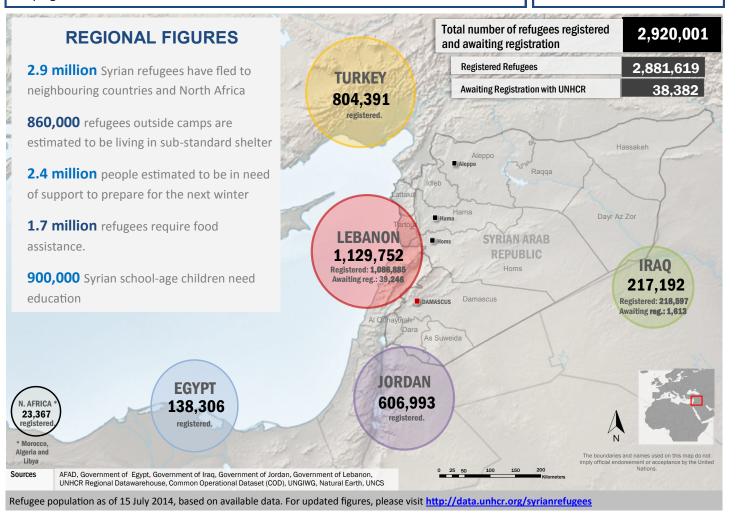
This situation update is prepared by UNHCR Office of the Director, Middle East and North Africa Bureau. It provides a snapshot of the inter-agency regional humanitarian response in full coordination with host Governments and 163 partners across the region.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- On 14 July, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 2165 on humanitarian access to Syria. The resolution is intended to facilitate the delivery of aid in line with the approach pursued by UN humanitarian agencies, which aims at providing humanitarian assistance to persons need throughout Syria, through the most direct routes. Specifically, the resolution authorizes the UN to use four border crossing points (two at the Turkish, one at the Jordan and one at the Iraqi borders) in addition to those already in use.
- During his mission to Iraq, UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres warned on 18 July that Iraq risks "full-fledged sectarian war and complete fragmentation" as Iraqis continue to flee their homes and minority groups are targeted. He urged leaders to move urgently to a political solution and encouraged regional and global governments to provide support.
- UNICEF released a <u>report</u> on early marriages in Jordan, including information on early marriage among Syrian refugee girls. The report highlights the practice of early marriage shows no sign of abating in Jordan, and considers the situation for Syrian refugee girls a cause for added concern as displacement and the challenges of living in exile are weakening coping mechanisms.

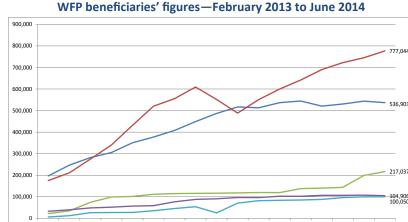
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WFP CONTINUING TO EXPAND ITS OPERATIONS

- Over 1.7 million people received food assistance in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt in June. WFP will continue to expand its operations in line with growing refugee numbers and needs.
- A lower planning figure of refugees in the region until year end as per the RRP6 Mid-Year Update, among other factors, has lead to a reduction in the number of beneficiaries WFP plans to assist.
 Over 2.54 million will benefit from food assistance by end 2014, compared to the 3.059 million beneficiaries in original plans for 2014.
- No change to voucher entitlements or food rations will be implemented.
- **Lebanon:** Over 777,000 Syrian refugees were assisted in June, reaching over 93 per cent of



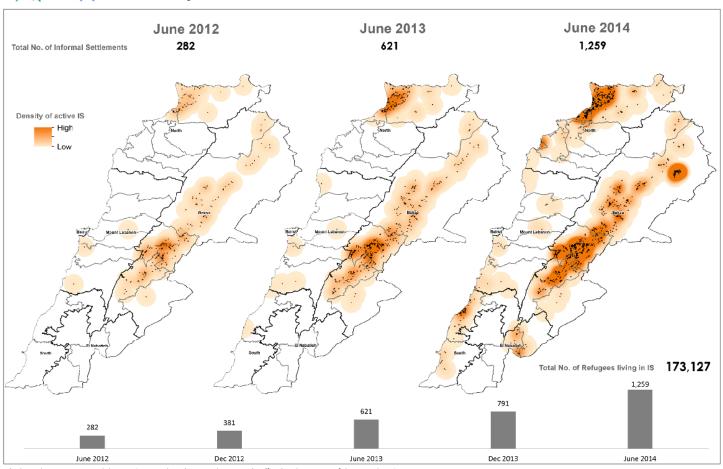
- WFP's operational plan for June. Most refugees (97 per cent) were reached through e-cards.
- WFP, in collaboration with UNRWA, has completed the analysis of the <u>multi-sectoral needs assessment of Palestinian</u> refugees from Syria, conducted in 2013. The assessment found that 12 per cent of surveyed households were moderately food insecure. UNRWA alone has assisted Palestinian refugees from Syria during the first half of the year. For the second half of the year, WFP and UNRWA will be providing assistance to Palestinians through cash cards.
- Turkey: In June, WFP and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) expanded the e-Food Card Programme to reach just over 217,000 Syrians—100 per cent of population in camps. WFP and TRC have also set up price monitoring committees in 17 camps to ensure that prices remain reasonable and the food basket value is attainable with the food entitlement. Key stakeholders WFP and TRC staff, beneficiary representatives and market managers participate in the committees and positive developments have been noted with regard to services and prices in camps where the committees are operational.
- Jordan: Refugees now have e-vouchers in 10 of the 12 governorates in Jordan. Distributions are ongoing in the Qweismeh district of Amman and will restart in multiple districts in Irbid. WFP plans to have completed the distribution of e-cards to all beneficiaries in Jordan by the end of July.
- Iraq: In June, WFP continued its food assistance to Syrian refugees residing in nine camps across the Kurdistan Region as well as one camp in Anbar governorate. The conflict in Anbar governorate presents challenges to accessing Al Obaidi camp. While the distribution of individual food parcels was completed on 2 June to reach all 1,545 beneficiaries in the camp, WFP is exploring ways to deliver additional stocks of food parcels for Syrian refugees in the camp for distribution in July.
- **Egypt:** In June, WFP's food voucher distributions reached over 110,000 beneficiaries or 96 per cent of the operational plan. The June food assistance cycle alone enabled the injection of nearly US\$3 million into the Egyptian economy, with some US\$27 million as a total injected since WFP's emergency operation began in the country.
- Vouchers were distributed in Marsa Matrouh for the first time, reaching about 711 beneficiaries. Previously, vulnerable beneficiaries from this area had to travel 300 km to Alexandria to collect their monthly paper vouchers.

LEBANON: WITH LIMITED SHELTER SOLUTIONS, INFORMAL SETTLEMENT GROWS

- With over 1 million Syrian refugees in Lebanon, accommodations options are becoming increasingly limited and expensive for many refugees. At least 40 per cent of refugees live in sub-standard housing, including in makeshift shelters (garages, worksites, one room structures, unfinished housing) and informal settlements, and the number of refugees having to resort to living in such conditions are increasing.
- About 1,250 informal settlements across the country host over 173,000 Syrian refugees. This is an increase of over four times in the number of settlements as compared to June 2012, when 282 informal settlements were the only solution for some Syrian refugees. The regions of Bekaa Valey and North of Lebanon have the most concentration of informal settlements.
- Refugees use rudimentary materials such as plastic sheeting or cardboard boxes spread across rickety timber and metal
 pieces for shelter. Refugees in such shelters also have limited access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities. These
 shelters do not protect from climatic conditions and, during winter, the cold and precarious heating solutions increases
 risks for family members.
- Recognizing these sub-standard conditions, partners provide weatherproofing and emergency assistance throughout the year with additional focus on the build-up to the winter season. In addition, partners have identified and addressed informal settlements which are prone to flooding and lack drainage.



SYRIA REFUGEE RESPONSE LEBANON Growth of Informal Settlement as of 10 July 2014



The boundaries, names, and designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement of the United Nations.

BLIND, SHE WAS WILLING TO RISK EVERYTHING TO ESCAPE WAR

- A significant increase in the number of new arrivals in Greece was recorded during June 2014. Over 3,450 people have crossed borders into Greece to seek protection, out of which 2,143 Syrians. Like many of those, 34-year-old Jihan was
 - willing to risk everything to escape war-torn Syria and find safety for her family. Unlike most, she is blind.
- Nine months ago, she fled Damascus with her husband, Ashraf, 35, who is also losing his sight. Together with their two sons, they made their way to Turkey, boarding a boat with 40 others and setting out to the sea. After a treacherous voyage that lasted 45 hours, the family finally arrived at the Greek island of Milos in the Aegean Sea.
- Destitute and exhausted, the family was forced to split up – with Ashraf continuing the journey northwards in search of asylum and Jihan taking their two sons to Lavrion, about an hour's drive from the Greek capital.



- Today, Jihan can only wait to be reunited with her husband, who has since been granted asylum in Denmark. The single room she shares with her two sons, Ahmed, 5, and Mohammad, 7, is tiny, and she worries about their education. Without an urgent, highly complex corneal transplant, her left eye will close forever.
- "We came here for a better life and to find people who might better understand our situation," she says, sadly.

 "I am so upset when I see how little they do [understand]."

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 International 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 Continence 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 Word 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 developpement comunautaire | SRC | STEP | Syria Relief and Development | TADAMON | Taghyeer | TDH | TDH | 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