



IOM Regional Response to the Syria Humanitarian Crisis



In Turkey, IOM and local partners continued with the distribution of winterisation items in Kirikhan and 14 surrounding villages in Hatay province. © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Turkey)

HIGHLIGHTS



Syria: IOM distributed essential Non-Food Items (NFIs) to **33,881** IDPs from Aleppo, As-Suwayda, Hama, Homs and Quneitra living in host communities.



Iraq: IOM distributed **1,120** supplementary NFI kits and winterisation kits to Syrian refugee households living in camps in Erbil, and Duhok governorates.



Jordan: IOM immunized **4,191** newly arrived Syrian refugees in Za'atri camp against Measles and **2,768** refugees against Polio.



Lebanon: On 13 March, **243** Syrian refugees (the ninth group of Syrian refugees) departed from Beirut for Germany as part of the German Government Humanitarian Admissions Programme.



Turkey: IOM distributed winterisation items (including blankets, pillows, mattresses and carpets) to **103** Syrian households (**562** individuals) living in Hatay province.



IOM OPERATIONS IN SYRIA

Non-Food Item (NFI) Distribution:

Since the beginning of the crisis, IOM has assisted a total of **1,302,127** Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in **12** governorates in Syria through the provision of **466,372** NFI kits including quilts, mattresses, hygiene kits, house cleaning kits, undergarments, kitchen sets, disability kits, wheel chairs, jerry cans, plastic mats, rechargeable lights, diapers and winterisation items.

During the reporting period, IOM distributed **11,498** essential Non-Food Items (NFIs) to **33,881** IDPs from Aleppo, As-Suwayda, Hama, Homs and Quneitra living in host communities. The NFI kits included blankets, adult and baby diapers, plastic mats, winter wear, sock kits and house cleaning kits. IOM was present for **100%** of the distributions.

The distributions for this period were conducted in co-operation with **nine** local NGOs namely Al Ihsan Charity Association, Aoun Society, Childcare Society, Greek Orthodox Patriarchate Antioch (GOPA), Inshaat Society, Kanwat Association, Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), Social Welfare Charity Association, and Syria Trust.



Two beneficiaries in Aleppo that received non-food item kits from IOM. During the reporting period, **33,881** IDPs from Aleppo, As-Suwayda, Hama, Homs and Quneitra benefitted from IOM's NFI distribution. © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Syria)

Emergency Shelter Intervention: During the reporting period, IOM identified **eight** collective shelters in Idleb governorate for emergency shelter intervention. On 1 March, IOM started shelter repair and rehabilitation works in **one** collective shelter in Lattakia. The shelter is part of the Sport City facility that opened recently to host IDPs due to influx of population. The collective

shelter will provide shelter for **72** households (**360** IDPs).

Since the beginning of the crisis, **831** collective shelters have been identified: **164** shelters have been assessed and **93** of them have been repaired and rehabilitated for the cold weather. In total, **36,298** IDPs have benefitted from this intervention in **six** governorates (As-Suwayda, Damascus, Hama, Homs, Lattakia and Rural Damascus).

Repatriation to Stranded Migrants: During the reporting period, IOM provided repatriation assistance to **68** vulnerable stranded migrants from the Philippines (**37**), Egypt (**17**), Morocco (**6**), Ukraine (**6**) and Ethiopia (**2**) to return to their countries of origin.

IOM in coordination with diplomatic missions present in Syria and in the region facilitate the safe repatriation of vulnerable stranded migrants to their country of origin. Since the beginning of the crisis, IOM has assisted **4,322** stranded migrants.

Assistance for Refugees Accepted for Resettlement from Syria:

Since the beginning of the crisis, IOM has provided resettlement assistance to **17,055** refugees who have been resettled in **17** countries: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

During the reporting period, IOM provided resettlement assistance to **132** refugees (**63** women, **69** men, including **26** children) travelling to the United States of America (**61**), Canada (**58**), Australia (**9**) and Netherlands (**4**). The refugees were of Iraqi, Palestinian, Somali and Syrian origins. The refugees travelled by road from Damascus to Beirut, and then flew out of Rafic Hariri International Airport.

IOM has prepared land and air transportation for **194** refugees to resettle to Australia, Canada, Denmark, Romania, Switzerland and the United States of America in the upcoming weeks.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS): Out of over **200** applicants, **29** Syrian professionals (**20** women and **nine** men) were selected along with **six** Lebanese professionals, and are benefitting from IOM's Master's Degree course on 'Psychosocial Support and Dialogue' organized in collaboration with the Lebanese University. The opening ceremony took place on 7 March and was officiated by IOM's office representative in Lebanon, IOM Syria's Chief of Mission, IOM's

IOM SYRIA OPERATIONS cont.

Head of Mental Health, Psychosocial Response and Intercultural Communication as well as representatives from the Lebanese University and the Italian Embassy.

The professionals are working for UN agencies like UNICEF, UNRWA, and UNFPA, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (both the national and the Damascus branches), and a wealth of local NGOs working in Syria.



Vulnerable Syrian refugee households living in Waar City receiving supplementary NFI kits.
Duhok © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Iraq)

Non-Food Items (NFI) Distribution: On 3 March, **310** Syrian refugee households (**1,503** individuals) living in Gawergosik camp in Erbil governorate, received winterisation kits containing hygiene and house cleaning kits, rechargeable lights, plastic containers and kerosene heaters. Additionally, IOM distributed **810** supplementary NFI kits comprising towels, carpets, rechargeable lights, plastic containers, cool boxes, and hygiene and house cleaning kits to **810** vulnerable Syrian refugee households (**3,737** individuals) in Waar city, Duhok. The distributions in Duhok followed vulnerability assessments conducted by IOM's Rapid Assessment Response Teams (RART).

Since the beginning of the crisis, **21,025** Syrian refugee and Iraqi returnee households from Syria (around **104,471** individuals) have benefitted from IOM's NFI distributions.

Transportation Assistance to Syrian Refugees to reach Camps and Transit Sites: IOM, in coordination with local authorities, facilitates the safe and orderly movement of Syrian refugees between borders, transit sites, and camps. On March 3, **196** Syrian refugee households (**907** individuals) and **29** individuals were transported from Peshkhabour border crossing to Bajid Kandal transit site in Duhok, and **72** individuals were moved from Bajid Kandal transit site to Gawilan Camp in Erbil.

Additionally, IOM is providing transportation assistance to Syrian refugee children living in and near Domiz camp, at the request of the Department of Education, UNICEF, UNHCR, and camp management. More information on this service can be found here: <http://iomiraq.net/article/0/road-future>.

Since mid-July 2014, IOM has transported **58,585** Syrian refugees within Iraq.



IOM OPERATIONS IN JORDAN

Emergency Transportation of Refugees:

Since transport operations began in July 2012, IOM has transported **401,439** Syrian refugees from border areas to camps. All refugees receive refreshments, hygiene kits, and shoes upon arrival at the IOM reception centre in Za'atri camp.

During the reporting period, **5,227** Syrian refugees (**2,767** women, **2,460** men including **2,879** children) were transported from the Rabaa' al Sarhan Screening Centre to Za'atri camp. As IOM teams continue to medically screen all arrivals to Za'atri camp, they reported that **83** individuals were identified with medical conditions requiring immediate referral for treatment.

Immunization of New Arrivals: During the reporting period, IOM immunized **4,191** newly arrived Syrian refugees (6 months to 30 years) against Measles and **2,768** refugees (new-born to 5-year-olds) against Polio. **1,081** children (6-month to 5-year-olds) received Vitamin A supplements. Since March 2013, **140,262** Syrian refugees have been immunized against Polio and Measles in Za'atri camp.

Tuberculosis (TB) Screening and Awareness-Raising Activities: **10,888** Syrian refugees were screened during

the reporting period and **one** new case was identified. Since March 2012, IOM has confirmed **105** suspected cases and is providing directly observed therapy (DOT) and follow-up for **36** of these cases; **66** cases have completed their treatment successfully. IOM provides screening for suspected cases, DOT, and awareness-raising through a medical team consisting of six doctors and nurses, and **25** community health workers who work in the camps and urban communities.

Since March 2012, **281,672** beneficiaries have participated in TB information and awareness-raising sessions. IOM continues to work with partners and the Ministry of Health to screen for and treat active cases of TB. Since March 2012, IOM has screened **381,214** Syrian refugees.

General Situation in Emirate Jordanian Camp (EJC): On 13 March, IOM in collaboration with Handicap International (HI) organized a workshop on "How to Refer Disabilities Cases" for all agencies working in EJC. The participants included IOM's EJC staff, Noor al Hussain Foundation, NRC, Save the children and Terre de homes (TDH).



IOM OPERATIONS IN LEBANON

Transit Assistance to Stranded Migrants and Refugees Accepted for Resettlement from Syria: During the reporting period, IOM provided assistance to **132** Iraqi, Palestinian and Somali refugees, who were accepted for resettlement via transit through Lebanon. They included **63** female and **69** male passengers (**25** of whom were children), and travelled onward to final destinations in Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, Romania and the United States. Since February 2013, IOM has assisted **6,309** non-Syrian refugees and **1,149** stranded migrants to transit through Lebanon.

Humanitarian Admission Programme (HAP):

Since 11 September 2013, IOM has assisted **1,755** Syrian refugees to be resettled under the HAP programme.

On 13 March, **243** Syrian refugees (**116** females, **127** males including **58** children and **14** infants) departed from Beirut for Germany. This was the ninth group of

refugees to leave Lebanon as part of the German Government Humanitarian Admissions Programme. The next flight is scheduled for 31 March.

Winterisation and Non-Food Item (NFI) Distributions: During the reporting period, IOM distributed winterisation items (including monthly fuel support, as well as stoves and blankets for previously unreachable households) to vulnerable Syrian refugee and Lebanese returnee households. IOM reached **734** Syrian refugee and **162** Lebanese returnee households in North Lebanon; **206** Syrian refugee and **327** Lebanese returnee households in the Bekaa; and **348** Syrian refugee and **110** Lebanese returnee households in South Lebanon.

Shelter Assistance to Vulnerable Syrian Refugee and Lebanese Returnee Households: During the reporting period, rental subsidies were distributed to **131** Syrian refugee households in the Tripoli district of North Lebanon, **183** Syrian refugee households in South Lebanon and **320** Lebanese returnee households in the Bekaa.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS): From 4 to 17 March, **703** Syrian and Lebanese individu-

IOM LEBANON OPERATIONS cont.

als received psychosocial support through expert staff from the Dari community centre in the Bekaa (**110** beneficiaries) and through a mobile team in the Saida district of South Lebanon (**593** beneficiaries). Overall, **138** women, **17** men, **58** adolescents and **490** children participated in recreational, educational, and artistic mediation activities, physical activities, awareness-raising sessions, family support groups, focus group sessions and individual counselling sessions. Individual counselling sessions were given to **27** women and **four** men with specific psychosocial support needs.



The opening ceremony for IOM's 'Psychosocial Support and Dialogue' course. © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Lebanon)

The reporting period also saw the launch of a master's degree course in 'Psychosocial Support and Dialogue' offered by IOM and the Lebanese University (LU), for Syrian and Lebanese professionals currently providing psychosocial assistance to war-affected communities. The course will run until July 2014 and train **29** participants from across Syria and **six** from Lebanon, providing them with a diverse overview of topics related to the relationship between psychosocial support and dialogue in a conflict-affected environment. The opening ceremony on 7 March was attended by the heads of IOM's missions in Syria and Lebanon, IOM's Head of Mental Health, Psychosocial Response and Intercultural Communication, and representatives from LU and the Italian Embassy.

Primary Health Care Assistance for Syrian Refugees, Lebanese Returnees and Lebanese Host Communities: **Three** Primary Health Care centres (PHCs) in Tyre, Nabatieh and Marwanieh in South Lebanon continue to receive support from IOM. At the centres, IOM provides subsidized consultations, free acute and chronic medications to beneficiaries and reimburses medical and administrative staff for additional working hours needed to accommodate the increase in demand for services. Between 1 and 14 March, services delivered to Syrian refugees included **748** primary healthcare consultations (**436** female, **312** male), **76** antenatal care visits and **49** vaccinations for children. **Sixty-four** Lebanese host community members and returnees also benefitted from medical consultations, diagnostic tests and antenatal care during the reporting period.

Since the start of the project, **3,632** consultations have been provided to Syrian refugees, and **365** to Lebanese host community members/returnees. In addition, an IOM community health team has reached **2,047** refugee families in the area, informing them of the services available. During the reporting period, the same team offered health awareness sessions to **130** participants at the three PHCs. Topics included: HIV, STDs and family planning; personal hygiene, scabies and lice; and diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases.

Training of Laboratory Technicians from the National Tuberculosis Program (NTP): On 4 March, **five** laboratory technicians from different NTP centres attended training on tuberculosis (TB) testing. This training was organized by IOM, in collaboration with the Continuing Medical Education (CME) office at the American University of Beirut Medical Centre (AUBMC). The workshop aimed to assist laboratory technicians in performing direct AFB microscopy for accurate and reliable detection of new TB cases. This training was one of several IOM interventions to support NTP centres across Lebanon.

Training of Trainers (ToT) on Passport Examination for General Security Department (GSD) Officials: From 10 to 19 March, IOM's Regional Immigration and Border Management Specialist conducted a training workshop in Beirut for officials from Lebanon's General Security Department on delivery techniques and passport examination procedures. The workshop sought to build a pool of **20** trainers, under the aegis of GSD's training initiatives. The expected outcome of the ToT course will be the rolling-out of workshops by the newly trained trainers under the guidance of GSD, with further support available from IOM when requested for subsequent trainings to more officials deployed at the border posts. The intervention is part of a broader programme recently launched by IOM, in coordination with other partners, to build Lebanon's humanitarian border management capacity in the context of the Syria crisis.



IOM OPERATIONS IN TURKEY



A Syrian national living in Kirikhan, Hatay Province supported with winterization items including blankets, pillows, mattresses and carpets. © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Turkey)

Winterisation and NFIs for Out-of-camp Population: Between 4 and 17 March, IOM distributed winterisation items (including blankets, pillows, mattresses and carpets) to **103** Syrian households (**562** individuals) living in Hatay province. Additionally, on 4 March, IOM staff together with local authorities in Adiyaman finalised a two-day NFI distribution, providing **87** Syrian households (**530** individuals including **240** children) living outside the camps with blankets, mattresses, carpets, stoves and bags of coal.

On 14 March, IOM completed visits in Kumlu area (20km away from Kirikhan) where **483** Syrian households are currently living to assess their needs. IOM intends to provide these households with NFI kits in early April.

Transportation Services for Residents of Adiyaman Camp: During the reporting period, IOM and partners assisted **1,154** Syrian nationals with transportation services from Adiyaman camp to medical facilities and social service centres. A total of **22,194** beneficiaries have been assisted with transportation services from Adiyaman camp since the project began on 1 July 2013.

During the reporting period, IOM in coordination with the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) provided intra-camp transportation assistance to **994** Syrians nationals. The Syrians were temporarily sheltered in Adiyaman and Veransehir camps before transferred to Nusaybin which has bigger capacity. Since January 2014, IOM provided intra-camp transportation services to **2,317** Syrian nationals (**1,097** adults and **1,220** children).



IOM supports **778** children living in Urfa with transportation assistance to reach schools. © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Turkey)

Transportation of school children in Urfa province continues with IOM supporting **778** students living outside of camps to reach the school. Discussions are on-going with the Ministry of Education to explore the expansion of this service to cover prefabricated schools in the south eastern province.

IOM's initiatives are supported by:



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