



IOM Regional Response to the Syria Humanitarian Crisis



IOM distributed non-food items to IDPs from Al-Hassakeh, As-Suwayda, Damascus, Hama, Homs, Idleb, Lattakia, Rural Damascus and Tartous. © IOM 2014 (Photos: IOM Syria)

HIGHLIGHTS



Syria: IOM provided emergency Non-Food items (NFIs) for **20,170 displaced and affected individuals** in cross-line and hard-to-reach areas in Al-Hassakeh and Homs governorates.



Iraq: **6,842 Syrian refugees** were transported during this period: 1,478 individuals were transported from Ibrahim al-Khalil border to Arabat Camp in Sulaymaniyah, and 5,364 individuals were transported to five different camps in Erbil.



Jordan: IOM has transported **452,350 Syrian refugees** from border areas to camps since transport operations began in July 2012.



Lebanon: IOM began work on a joint research project with Johns Hopkins School of Public Health (JHSPH) and Sana, an organization hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to develop and adapt treatment guidelines on two non-communicable diseases, and evaluate the effectiveness of these guidelines in crisis settings.



Turkey: IOM expanded its assistance to support a community centre in Mersin province, and continues with the provision of non-food items for **291 households** in Kumlu and Kirikhan, Hatay province.



Training of trainers on Non-Violent Communication and Conflict Mediation.

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Non-Food Item (NFI) Distribution: During the reporting period, IOM distributed **14,875 NFI kits** containing mattresses, plastic mats, adult and baby diapers, house cleaning and hygiene kits, kitchen sets, jerry cans and mosquito nets to **40,370 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** from Al-Hassakeh, As-Suwayda, Damascus, Hama, Homs, Idleb, Lattakia, Rural Damascus and Tartous. The distributions were conducted in cooperation with UNHCR and **11 local NGOs**; 50% of the distributions were in cross-line areas.



Young IDPs during IOM's NFI distribution in Rural Damascus.
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Since the beginning of the crisis, IOM has assisted a total of **2,083,349 IDPs** in **14 governorates** in Syria.

Assistance for Refugees Accepted for Resettlement from Syria: Between 14 and 27 October, IOM provided **112 refugees** (64 female and 48 male, including 21 children and infants) of Ethiopian and Iraqi origins with resettlement assistance to resettle in Australia (69), Canada (33) and the United States of America (10).

Since the beginning of the crisis, IOM assisted a total of **18,709 refugees** to resettle to **17 different countries**.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS): During the reporting period, IOM conducted **two supervision sessions** for SOS

Village care-givers and **one two-day On-the-Job Training (OJT) session** for specialists in the village in Damascus.

Following the training of 100 community leaders, volunteers and workers from various NGOs from Damascus, Homs and Tartous on Non-Violent Communication conducted in December 2013 and earlier this year, **15 trainees** from this group were selected to be trained as trainers who would in turn train associations' volunteers and staff within their governorates. On 25 and 26 October, the second phase of the training on conflict mediation was held in Lebanon. This phase introduced the concepts, principals, dynamics, and methods of resolution for conflict, as well as principles of collaborative negotiations. The third phase of the training will be provided from 27 to 30 November.

Furthermore, IOM will be launching the second edition of the Executive Professional Master's in Psychosocial Support and Dialogue. The Master's will be offered to **15 Lebanese and 15 Syrian professionals** and will take place from November 2014 to May 2015. The programme is in collaboration with the Lebanese University.

Since the beginning of the psychosocial programme, IOM has trained **1,325 professionals and community workers** in MHPSS. Since June 2013, the project has reached over **219,600 indirect beneficiaries**.

Emergency Shelter Intervention: Between 14 and 27 October, IOM completed shelter upgrades for **130 apartments** (242 rooms) in Homs and Rural Damascus, targeting **253 households** (1,118 individuals). The shelter upgrades aim to weather-proof the unfinished buildings/ shelters, and to improve privacy through the installation of walls and floor with tarpaulin sheets, as well as through the installation of wood frames for windows and doors and internal partitions.

Since the beginning of the crisis, **891 collective shelters** have been identified for shelter repair: 174 shelters have been assessed and 105 shelter works have been carried out including repair and rehabilitation. In total, **8,230 households** (42,204 IDPs) have benefitted from this intervention in **six governorates** (As-Suwayda, Damascus, Hama, Homs, Lattakia and Rural Damascus). In addition, IOM has provided shelter upgrade works in **1,355 living spaces/rooms** in unfinished building reaching **1,180 households** (5,427 IDPs), as well as provided **3,030 shelter kits** to **2,615 households** (17,282 IDPs).

Rahmah's Story:

Rahmah, from rural Aleppo city, is a grandmother, looking after ten family members (her children and grandchildren). Escaping the violence, Rahmah and her family sought refuge in a collective shelter in southern Homs city. They later moved out from the collective shelter where they were able to rent an apartment in the same area. Six months ago, they ran out of money and had to move to an unfinished building which is still under construction in an empty cold space with no windows or doors. "We had to find any type of sheets to use as curtains for some privacy... and we were in fear of the coming winter in Homs".

During the reporting period, IOM provided shelter upgrade works in the unfinished building, through installation of windows and doors as well as weather proofing of floor and walls.

"The little children are happy now as they can do their homework safely."

Counter Trafficking: During the reporting period, IOM conducted a capacity building training on counter trafficking targeting local NGOs from Rural Damascus, As-Suwayda, Dar'a, and Quneitra. **Thirty participants** attended the training, including social workers from the local directorate of the Ministry of Social Affairs. The workshop introduced participants to the issue of human trafficking, introduced the role of the civil society in combating human trafficking through community based organizations/NGOs, and tackled how to identify victims of trafficking and identify specialized services required.

Since the beginning of the crisis, **743 individuals** have benefitted from IOM's capacity building trainings.



IOM OPERATIONS IN IRAQ

Transportation Assistance: On 14 October, **1,478 Syrian refugees** (734 females and 744 males) were transported from Ibrahim al-Khalil border to Arabat Camp in Sulaymaniyah. Additionally, during this reporting period, 11 transport movements of people were made to **five different camps** (Gawergosik, Baserma, Qushtabah, Harir, and Darashakran) in Erbil, assisting **5,364 individuals** (2,551 females and 2,813 males). Many of those who were transported had fled the ongoing violence in Kobane while others had come from other locations in Syria.

Since mid-July 2013, IOM has transported **72,722 Syrian refugees** between camps within Iraq the Kurdistan Region, as well as implemented a program to transport Syrian refugee children to and from their schools.

Livelihood Assistance: IOM has arranged for the delivery and installation of **four Community Technology Access (CTA) centres** in Gawergosik (2) and Darashakran (2). The centres are ready and awaiting furniture and equipment. The CTA centres provide a way for Syrians living in the camps to stay connected to the outside world via the internet, allowing them to communicate with their families, better their language skills, and search for jobs.

Additionally, IOM is following up on vocational training courses in Darashakran, Basirma, Gawergosik and Domiz camps and the OJT in Gawilan camp. In Qushtabah camp, two courses for sewing and welding have been completed. **10 female beneficiaries** participated in the sewing course and received steam irons and

stands, and a sewing machine upon completion of the course, and **nine male beneficiaries** completed the welding course and received welding machines, copper coils, fixed table grinders and electric drills. The Minister of Labour and Social Affairs will distribute the certificates to the participants on 28 October.



In coordination with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, nine men complete a welding course in Qushtabah Camp.

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Since the beginning of the crisis, **2,049 individuals** have benefitted from IOM's livelihoods assistance.



IOM OPERATIONS IN JORDAN



Left: HRH Princess Basma meets children, officials and IOM staff involved in the counter trafficking project in Irbid.
Right: Students at Jamileh Abu Azzeh school spray-paint anti-human trafficking graffiti slogans on the school walls.
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Counter-Trafficking: A ceremony was held in Jordan’s Irbid Governorate under the patronage of HRH Princess Basma Bint Talal to recognize the contribution of the Japanese Government for a counter trafficking project implemented by IOM and Jordan’s Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU).

The ceremony, which took place at the Jamileh Bo Azza School in Irbid, also acknowledged the contribution of schools, local officials and Jordan’s Public Security Directorate in raising awareness of human trafficking and helping to protect the most vulnerable people in the area, including Syrian refugees and host communities.

Irbid has seen one of Jordan’s biggest influxes of refugees fleeing the conflict across the border. Some **144,000 refugees** are currently registered with UNHCR in the Governorate. IOM Jordan has held educational and awareness-raising sessions for students in Irbid on human trafficking including victim identification and prevention.

Emergency Transportation of Refugees: Between 14 and 27 October, **211 Syrian refugees** (106 females and 105 males, including 77 children) were provided transportation assistance from Rabaa’ al Sarhan Screening Centre to Azraq (171) and Za’atri (40) camps.

Furthermore, during the reporting period, **156 refugees** were declared fit to travel and 48 cases were referred to the responsible organization in Rabaa’ Al Sarhan screening centre for further medical assistance prior to travel.

IOM has transported **452,350 Syrian refugees** from border areas to camps since transport operations began in July 2012.

Immunizations of New Arrivals: Ninety-two newly arrived Syrian refugees (6 months to 15 years) were immunized against measles

and **87 refugees** (new-born to 5-year-olds) against polio during the reporting period. Additionally, **35 children** (6-month to 5-year-olds) received Vitamin A supplements. Since April 2013, **189,499 Syrian refugees** have been immunized against polio and measles in Raba’a Al Sarhan transit centre and Za’atri camp.

Tuberculosis (TB) Screening and Awareness-Raising Activities: IOM continues to provide TB detection and screening for suspected cases, direct observation therapy (DOT) and awareness-raising through a medical team consisting of six doctors and nurses, and 25 community health workers in the camps and urban communities. During the reporting period, **123 Syrian refugees** were screened and **one new TB case** was identified. Since March 2012, IOM has confirmed **153 suspected cases** and is providing DOT and follow-up for **52** of these cases; **96** have completed their treatment successfully.

Since March 2012, **350,581 beneficiaries** have participated in TB information and awareness-raising sessions, and IOM has screened **418,406 Syrian refugees**.

Routine Immunization: IOM is supporting routine immunizations in **three primary healthcare clinics** (Qatari clinic, Saudi clinic, and the Syrian clinic) in Za’atri camp through provisions of immunization against Bacillus Calmette–Guérin (BCG), Inactivated Polio (IPV), Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (HIB), Hepatitis B (HBV), measles, Oral Polio (OPV), and Diphtheria, Pertussis (whooping cough), and Tetanus (DPT) for children (one to 18 months) and Tetanus Toxoid immunization (TT) for women. The immunizations are conducted according to the national immunization schedule and following the Ministry of Health’s (MoH) protocol. During the reporting period, IOM’s nurses immunized **872 women** against tetanus.



IOM OPERATIONS IN LEBANON



Syrian refugee and Lebanese returnee children took part in artistic activities offered by IOM's psychosocial support team.

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Research Project on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) In Crisis

Context: During the reporting period, IOM began work on a joint research project with Johns Hopkins School of Public Health (JHSPH) and Sana, an volunteer organization and technology platform developer hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The project aims to develop and adapt treatment guidelines on two non-communicable diseases, type II diabetes and hypertension, and evaluate the effectiveness of these guidelines in crisis settings. New interventions using software applications and patient-managed medical records will be developed to improve patient and provider compliance, control of the disease and overall quality of care. The research will be carried out over a period of 24 months using the IOM-supported primary health care centres in South Lebanon and Bekaa. The project, titled "Treatment of NCDs and Health applications for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon" will focus on both refugees and host communities. After reviewing the project plan, the Ministry of Public Health approved the study and will support and facilitate its implementation.

Transit Assistance to Stranded Migrants and Refugees Accepted for Resettlement from Syria: During the reporting period, IOM provided **95 individuals** (56 females and 39 males, of which 20 were children) of Iraqi, Syrian and Ethiopian origins with transit assistance through Lebanon to final destinations in Austria, Canada, Denmark, Norway and the United States.

Furthermore, IOM assisted **236 refugees** (113 females and 123 males, of which 79 were children), most of them Syrians, to travel on commercial flights for resettlement in Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Since February 2013, IOM has assisted **8,072 refugees** and **1,573 stranded migrants** to transit from Syria through Lebanon.

Livelihoods Assistance: On 17 October, the first group of **32 beneficiaries** completed the second cycle of 10 working days in the cash-for-work (CfW) project. A group of **33 beneficiaries** has started their second cycle in the CfW project taking place in the Sahel Zahrani area. The beneficiaries were engaged in garbage collection and gardening in the municipalities of Sarafand, Saksakiye, Arzey. IOM provided equipment such as tools, masks, bags and wagons to help with the work. The beneficiaries will receive their payments (USD 20 per day) for the work through ATM cards. The total number of CfW beneficiaries to date is **65** (53 Syrians and 12 Lebanese).

IOM continues to assess Lebanese returnees in Central and West Bekaa to identify beneficiaries for a new phase of emergency livelihood support through in-kind grants (for a value of USD 1,500) that will help them start income generating activities and micro-enterprises.

Primary Healthcare Assistance for Syrian Refugees, Lebanese Returnees and Lebanese Host Communities: IOM continues to support **four primary healthcare centres (PHC)** in South Lebanon and **two PHCs** in Central Bekaa through subsidized consultations, free acute and chronic medications and reimbursements for medical and administrative staff for additional working hours. From 11 to 23 October, **1,789 Syrian refugees** and **123 Lebanese host community members and returnees** received primary healthcare consultations at the centres. Antenatal care visits were conducted for 200 women, and 203 children received vaccinations. Since December 2013, **3,052 households** have been

reached by IOM community health teams informing them of the services available. Health awareness sessions (on diseases, child nutrition, personal hygiene and family planning) have been conducted for **3,666 participants**.

IOM is also supporting two mobile medical units (MMU) in South Lebanon and Western Bekaa to reach refugees and host communities in remote areas in need of medical support. Between 11 and 23 October, the MMUs offered consultations to **510 Syrian refugees, 113 host community members and three Lebanese returnees**.

Since the start of the primary healthcare project in December 2013, **31,076 individuals** have benefitted from primary healthcare services provided by IOM.

Nutritional Screening and Malnutrition Treatment: The IOM-supported MMU in South Lebanon and PHC in Msyleh PHC are providing nutritional screening services to Syrian refugees, host community members and Lebanese returnees under 5 years of age, in coordination with the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). From 11 to 23 October, **180 children** were screened; **five malnutrition cases** were identified and subsequently began treatment. A total of **15 malnutrition cases** have been treated since these services were launched in mid-September 2014, out of **376 children** screened.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS): During the reporting period, **839 Syrian and Lebanese individuals** were provided psychosocial support by IOM. In the Bekaa, 554 beneficiaries were reached at the Dari Community Centre in Baalbek, while a mobile team in the South reached 285 beneficiaries in informal settlements and collective shelters in the Zahrani area. Overall 562 children, 255 women and 22

adolescents participated in recreational, educational and artistic activities that focused on maintaining family and community-based care and support. In Baalbek, following several training sessions and workshops, a group of five women continue to conduct outreach activities for both women and children including awareness sessions on issues such as hygiene and violence prevention.

To date, there have been **20,407 beneficiaries** of IOM's MHPSS programme.

Preparations continue for the launch of the second edition of a professional master's degree programme, offered by IOM and the Lebanese University. The course will be offered to **15 Lebanese and 15 Syrian professionals** and will take place from 28 November 2014 to May 2015.

Shelter Support for Syrian Refugees and Lebanese Returnees: On 18 October, rental subsidies covering two months' rent were provided to **16 Syrian refugee and Lebanese returnee households** (8 in Mt. Lebanon and Beirut, 4 in South Lebanon and 4 in the Tripoli area). Seven of the households were new cases receiving rental subsidies for the first time, following referral and assessment. Participants in the programmes have been provided with an ATM card, through which the cash was disbursed. On 21 October, project staff began conducting verification visits to re-evaluate vulnerability of all cash-for-rent recipients to inform the targeting criteria.

To assess selected shelters for rehabilitation, technical household visits led by an experienced engineer are on-going. The visits started on 22 October and have so far covered a total of **16 Lebanese returnee households** in Akkar and Tripoli.



IOM OPERATIONS IN TURKEY



IOM's NFI distribution to out-of-camp populations, Hatay province. © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Turkey)

NFI Distribution to Out-of-Camp Populations: From 11 to 27 October, IOM distributed NFIs including blankets, mattresses, pillows, bed linens, baby diapers and carpets to **291 newly arrived Syrian households** (1,538 individuals) living in Kirikhan (192

households), villages surrounding Kirikhan (57), and Kumli (42), Hatay province. The majority of the new arrivals passed through Hacıpaşa and Kilis border points. Based on an assessment conducted by IOM of these incoming populations during the reporting period:

- around **50%** are living in poor conditions;
- **55%** are from Hama, 20% from Aleppo, 20 % from Idleb and the remaining from other areas such as Damascus, Homs, Dar'a and Deir-ez Zor.

Additionally, the NFIs provided by IOM to the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) as a response to the Suruc influx in the last week of September are being distributed in mosques and villages by local authorities. IOM provided 10,000 mattresses, 10,000 pillows, 5,000 jerry cans, 1,200 packets of baby diapers, 105 packets of women sanitary pad, and 500 packets of food to assist with the response.

Since the beginning of the crisis, **141,143 Syrians** have benefited from IOM's NFI assistance.

Aisha's story:

"My husband fled to Turkey a year and a half ago from Hama due to insecurity in the area and to find work to support our children. As the situation deteriorated, I asked my husband to make arrangements for us to join him in Turkey.

Due to fighting in our village, there were no vehicles passing through so I walked on foot for over an hour with my six children until we found a vehicle. We had to change taxis three times until we reached the border, paying around USD 100. When we crossed the border, we went to Kumlu to join my husband.

This was three months ago. When I first arrived in Kumlu we stayed in a rented house paying USD 135 per month, but because we can no longer afford this we had to move to an abandoned building site where we are staying for free. My husband works as a daily labourer and is not always able to find work. Living in this building is difficult; there is no kitchen or bathroom. Our neighbours gave us two mattresses but these are not enough. Now with winter approaching life will get even more arduous.

The blankets, mattresses, carpet and pillows provided by IOM have eased our living and sleeping conditions."

IOM will be supporting families such as Aisha's with further winterization support through the distribution of stoves and coal in the coming weeks.

Transportation Services: From 11 to 23 October, IOM provided transportation services for **1,007 Syrians** in Adiyaman camp to reach medical facilities and social service centres. Additionally, IOM is supporting 1,849 Syrian children to reach two schools in Sanliurfa (Eyup and Sirrin). The same service was provided in Malatya province where **250 children** living in urban areas were able to access education in Malatya camp. IOM is seeking additional support to continue with this service and expand to other provinces as transport to schools has been highlighted as a priority by Syrians and relevant authorities.

Since July 2013, IOM has provided transportation assistance to **52,082 beneficiaries**.

Voucher Programme: IOM through its implementing partner Support to Life (STL) continues supporting **524 households** (3,067 individuals) living in Kirikhan through the provision of vouchers. Based on STL nutrition analysis and IOM evaluations of the first phase of the programme conducted in August, the amount of money on the vouchers allotted to food will be increased from TRY 30 to TRY 45 per person, and the hygiene amount will remain the same, at TRY 40 per family.

Furthermore, during the reporting period, STL conducted nine post-distribution monitoring exercises, two price analyses in two markets, and one focus group discussion with 19 Syrians in Kurtulus Mah.

Support to a Community Centre in Mersin: Since the beginning of October, IOM is supporting a community centre established by the Syria Social Gathering (SSG), an NGO in Mersin province. IOM's support covers transportation for **2,000 school children**, as well as vocational training for over **1,000 Syrians**. In the last two weeks, six university entrance exam courses, six Turkish for High Education courses, seven standard Turkish language courses, three Arabic courses, two health and social care courses, and five English language courses were provided for **960 Syrians** currently living in Mersin. Presently, around **200,000 persons** are registered at the SSG in Mersin; 70,000 of them are children and 55,000 are youth (between 18 and 25 years old).



IOM is supporting 2,000 Syrian children registered at the SSG with school transportation, Mersin province.
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