Highlights

- As winter storms hit across the region, UNICEF and partners accelerated efforts to provide winter items to vulnerable children:
  - In Syria, so far, over 450,000 blankets, 28,000 children’s clothing sets; 65,000 plastic sheets; 38,000 soap bars and other hygiene items have been distributed.
  - 45,000 children have received winter clothing in Lebanon out of 74,603 winter clothing kits delivered to partners so far.
  - 25,000 winter clothing kits and blankets were distributed covering all children under 5 in Cyber City, King Abdullah Park and Za’atari camps in Jordan.

- The second round of polio vaccination commenced on 6 December in Lebanon, 8 December in Syria and 9 December in the State of Palestine. Reports as of 12 December from Syria show 1,129,684 children under 5 and 37,960 over five vaccinated so far in this round. Vaccination rounds are also planned for Jordan (21 December); Iraq (27 December) and Turkey (23 December). The first round is estimated to have reached over 24 million children across the region.

- In Jordan, UNICEF and partners have completed WASH repairs at 92 host community schools, benefiting nearly 73,000 students. Repairs to 48 broken septic tanks in Za’atari Camp have improved sanitation for 23,000 residents of three districts.

Education Interrupted for Syrian children

More than 5 million young Syrians are at risk of becoming a “lost generation”. Even among the many challenges facing Syria’s children, ensuring their continued access to learning is an essential platform for protection, social stabilization and economic recovery, one the world cannot ignore.

- In Syria, over 760,000 children have been reached with school supplies through a massive Back to School campaign. Children continue to receive school supplies, including in Dar’a, Idlib and Homs, some of the hardest to reach areas in Syria. During the reporting period over 123,000 children in these governorates benefited from school bags; early childhood development kits; school in a carton; recreation kits and other school supplies.

- In Lebanon, UNICEF has agreed with Ministry of Education and Higher Education to support 12 schools to run a second shift, enabling an additional 3,000 students to enroll.

- Syrian students registered in camp and host community schools in Jordan currently total 107,920 (86,169 in host community schools, 21,751 in the camps).

- UNICEF continued its Back to School campaign in Iraq to register refugee children in non-camp settings for school. During the reporting period, the campaign registered approximately 1,000 children via house to house visits. The students will now attend schools with available capacity; where there is no capacity, UNICEF continues advocacy efforts with the DOE and Kurdistan Regional Government. UNICEF succeeded in gaining such spaces for an additional 100 previously registered students over the past two weeks.

- Turkish youth workers who are leading activities in UNICEF-supported Child Friendly Spaces are developing a programme to engage hundreds of Syrian youth volunteers in leadership development programmes over the coming months.

In Syria

- 4,278,000 # of children affected
- 9,300,000 # of people affected

Outside Syria

- 1,207,706 # of registered refugee children and children awaiting registration
- 2,296,152 # of registered refugees and persons awaiting registration (UNHCR, 11 December 2013)

Syria Appeal 2013*

- US$ 110.46 million

Regional Appeal 2013*

- US$ 360.19 million

*January – December 2013
SYRIA CRISIS BI-WEEKLY HUMANITARIAN SITUATION REPORT

Syria

Highlights

- The second round of the polio vaccination campaign started on 8 December aiming to immunize 2.2 million children under five, including those who remained out of reach in the previous round. Reports as of 12 December from Syria show 1,129,584 children under 5 and 37,060 over five vaccinated so far in this round.
- The first round of polio vaccination concluded on 21 November. Latest reports show 2,368,292 children were vaccinated from 24 October to 21 November.
- UNICEF continues to roll out a package of winter emergency supplies for vulnerable Syrian children. So far, over 450,000 blankets, 28,000 children’s clothing sets; 65,000 plastic sheets; 38,000 soap bars and other hygiene kits have been distributed to protect families from the looming winter.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Another harsh winter has arrived, making children exposed to cold weather and inadequate shelter, as well as poor water and sanitation especially vulnerable. Weather forecasts in Syria over the coming weeks indicate a sharp drop in temperatures, with below average temperatures expected, particularly in mountain areas. According to reports from UNICEF partners, many families living in tented shelters in various governorates are living in difficult situations raising concerns that exposure to cold and wet conditions will place further strain on the health and wellbeing of displaced Syrian children.

Programme Response

Winterization As part of the on-going winterization programme, UNICEF in Syria is currently distributing 8,400 children’s clothing sets; 30,000 blankets; 3,000 baby blankets; 15,000 plastic sheets/tarpaulins in Damascus, Rural Damascus, Homs and Ar-Raqq. These critically needed supplies are intended to benefit over 130,000 people. UNICEF plans to reach 2,000,000 children with a package of emergency supplies for the winter and additional funds are urgently required to provide vital winter-related emergency supplies.

In Idlib, a hard to reach area where communities are most exposed to harsh weather conditions during winter, 2,500 bags of washing powder (benefitting 12,500 people) and 38,000 bars of soap (benefiting 19,000 people) were distributed through SARC, following the distribution of blankets and plastic sheeting there last month.

Health & Nutrition The second round of the polio vaccination campaign started on 8 December, as part of the efforts to stop the spread of the infectious disease. Reports as of 12 December from Syria show 1,129,584 children under 5 and 37,060 over five vaccinated so far in this round. Seventeen cases have been confirmed in Deir Ezzor (15), Aleppo (1) and Douma in Rural Damascus (1). The ongoing immunization campaign aims to reach 2.2 million children under five, including those who missed the first round.
round and those living in areas which remain hard to access. Further polio immunization campaigns will be carried out at monthly intervals until April 2014.

Over the coming months, UNICEF is planning to deliver 10 million doses of polio vaccine to Syria. The first shipment of 2 million vaccines arrived in Damascus on 29 November.

The first polio vaccination campaign, which concluded on 21 November reached 2,368,292 vulnerable children across the country. Data received during the reporting period indicate success in reaching highly contested areas such, with 307,105 children vaccinated in Deir Ez Zour; 258,060 in Al-Hassakeh; 215,000 in Ar-Raqqa and 221,201 in Rural Damascus.

In addition, primary health care services continue to reach IDPs and host communities. During the reporting period 7,000 children received medical check-ups and other routine care through the 62 mobile medical teams (across 14 governorates) and 24 fixed centres in Damascus, Rural Damascus, Hama, Aleppo and Quneitra. This brings the total children who have benefited from primary health care services in 2013 to 339,363.

Pre-positioning of nutrition supplies continues as part of a plan to prevent child under nutrition. During the reporting period, 1,000 boxes of High Energy Biscuits were delivered to an NGO in Rural Damascus, enough for 5,000 children for a month. In Hasya, in rural Homs, High Energy Biscuits were provided to over 4,000 children. Additionally, UNICEF organized a ‘Nutrition in Emergencies’ training from 9 to 10 December, where 50 health workers from different governorates participated.

**WASH**

As part of UNICEF’s intervention to support contingency water supply mechanisms in conflict prone areas, 26 water tanks were delivered to Sweida, Homs, Hama and Idlib Water Authorities to benefit 80,100 people. The water tanks will ensure continuous access to safe water to communities in these areas in case of water supply disruption from the main system due to damage or breakage, a frequent occurrence as a result of the conflict.

UNICEF, in partnership with SARC, continues to respond to the immediate needs of the population recently displaced from Al Qalamoun to rural Damascus due to ongoing military operations. During the reporting period, critical water and hygiene supplies were delivered for distribution as follows: 2,000 bags of washing powder for 10,000 people; 233,800 soap bars benefiting 116,900 persons; 2,000 water containers for 5,000 individuals; and 300,000 garbage bags.

UNICEF and a local NGO provided a water tank and a solar water heating system to ensure access to safe drinking water and hot water for 110 people living in Al-Ameen Tower shelter in Homs City. IDPs living in the shelter are also benefitting from hygiene and sanitation education. In addition, during the reporting period, 2,000 baby hygiene kits were distributed in the Inshaat neighbourhood of Homs City and 25,000 people received soap in Hasya, rural Homs.

In Lattakia, UNICEF has delivered 1,000 litres of pesticide to the municipality for on-going pest control at IDP shelters benefitting an estimated 600,000 people (IDPs and host community). In Damascus, 210,000 plastic garbage bags were sent to SARC for distribution to IDP shelters to assist in waste management for 7,000 people.

**Education**

A joint review by UNICEF and key education partners took place during the reporting period, reviewing results and gaps in delivering education to children in 2013. While significant progress have been made in getting children back to learning through the provision of school supplies, the back to learning campaign and remedial education, gaps remain in rehabilitation of damaged schools; provision of furnished prefabricated classrooms; self- learning resources; textbooks and teaching materials. The outcome of this review exercise will inform UNICEF’s education strategy for 2014.

Children continue to receive school supplies including in Dar’a, Idlib and Homs, some of the hardest to reach areas in Syria. During the reporting period over 132,000 children in these governorates benefited from school bags; early childhood development kits; school in a carton; recreation kits and other school supplies.
In Tartous, the lack of space and furniture in schools is threatening the retention of current students and enrolment of newly displaced children arriving to the governorate. UNICEF’s continued advocacy for additional learning space to accommodate the large influx of students in Tartous has led the Department of Education to identify a building in Tartous City to be renovated to absorb at least 1,500 IDP students. UNICEF will complement this initiative by providing prefabricated WASH facilities.

As part of the Adolescent programme, over 11,500 adolescents benefited from psychosocial support services, life skills, vocational training and other cultural activities during the reporting period in Aleppo, Damascus, Rural Damascus, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Tartous and Lattakia. This includes 834 youth who participated in vocational awareness, basic life skills education and other activities in Aleppo; 500 Palestinian adolescents benefited from life skills activities in collaboration with UNRWA; and 220 youth undertaking vocational training such as computer maintenance and nursing in two Adolescents Friendly Spaces in Homs. In addition, 115 staff from 16 different NGOs participated in a training to roll out further vocational training in household electricity, English language, accounting and other skills.

Child Protection Psychosocial support services have reached 145,220 to children and adolescents in Syria since the beginning of the year. During the reporting period, these essential psychosocial and protection services were provided to 2,524 children. In addition, 33,176 children and adolescents continue to receive psychosocial support through the Adolescents programme, with 9,974 reached during the reporting period.

In order to cater for the special needs of children affected by the crisis, UNICEF is supporting specialized psychological and psychiatric services through SARC clinics in Damascus and Rural Damascus. Additionally, UNICEF partner Terre des Hommes Italy trained 13 SARC volunteers (7 females) to increase their capacity to provide services to affected children.

Hiba, trying on her new hat which her just received from UNICEF and SARC, has lived in a Damascus shelter with her mother and three school-aged siblings since August 2012.
Lebanon

Highlights

- Winter clothing kits have been distributed to 45,000 children as part of UNICEF’s winterization campaign
- The second polio campaign commenced this week, targeting 590,000 children under the age of five years
- 3,359 children have been screened for malnutrition, with 115 treated for moderate or severe acute malnutrition

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

A total of 773,694 refugees are currently registered with UNHCR, of which more than fifty percent are children. An additional 62,227 Syrians have been in contact with UNHCR to be registered, bringing the total to 835,921. The number of Palestine refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon is 50,700 individuals.

Programme Response

Winterization  A severe storm hit Lebanon this week, with intense cold, flooding and snowfalls across the country. Refugees in informal tented settlement and unfinished buildings are particularly vulnerable to the arrival of winter.

UNICEF’s winterization efforts were stepped up in the lead-up to the storm, in order to distribute as many winter clothing kits as possible. To date, UNICEF has delivered 74,603 winter clothing kits to partners, who have distributed to 45,000 children living in informal tented settlements so far. UNICEF and partners are on track to deliver clothing kits to 88,000 vulnerable Syrian, Palestinian and Lebanese children by the end of December.

WASH  Last winter, blocked drainage channels contributed to the flooding of informal tented settlements, as heavy rains could not drain away from sites. As a preventative measure in flood-prone areas, implementing partner World Vision has cleared existing drainage channels of accumulated solid waste at 18 informal tented settlements, housing 3,179 people, to ensure water flows through the drainage ditches and around the settlements.

Child Protection  In the past month, UNICEF partners assisted 28,977 new children with psychosocial support and protection services. Of these, 816 were referred for case management and individualized assistance. In addition, support was provided to 2,015 women and men survivors or at risk of gender based violence (GBV). The cumulative total of direct child beneficiaries reached through psychosocial support and protection services is 229,116, and 24,143 survivors or people at risk of GBV have been supported this year.

UNICEF mobilized five mobile GBV teams and six mobile psychosocial support teams in response to the Arsal influx in the last week of November and early December. Teams provided essential information on services to new arrivals as well as providing emotional support and emergency identification of cases needing referral and follow up. A protection desk was established within the central Arsal child friendly space (CFS) to deal specifically with children received 59 cases of separated children, 25 of which were resolved immediately with appropriate family care arrangements. The desk made 25 referrals for health cases, 41 referrals for children of families without water and 169 children’s families unable to access shelter.
One emergency CFS was established inside the Danish Refugee Council identification point for new arrivals targeting 128 children. Two additional static CFS were activated to provide further response to 527 out of school children. UNICEF child protection partners also led the distribution of 1,604 dignity kits, 980 baby kits and 2,784 winter kits to children in tented settlements and collective shelters.

**Education** To date UNICEF and partners have provided a total of 106,754 children and adolescents with a combination of formal education, non-formal education and psychosocial support, an increase of 1,328 in the past fortnight. This comprises of 65,477 children in formal learning, 33,823 in non-formal education and 55,765 children receiving psychosocial support as a part of education programmes.

UNICEF has agreed with Ministry of Education and Higher Education to support 12 schools to run a second shift, enabling an additional 3,000 students to enroll.

Rehabilitation was completed in a further three schools by International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), Relief International and Norwegian Refugee Council, bringing the total number of children benefitting from improved learning environments to 16,036 in 40 schools. Work in a further 55 schools is ongoing, and all are expected to be completed by end of 2013.

**Health** The second nationwide polio immunization campaign commenced on December 6, targeting all children under the age of five years across Lebanon. UNICEF has provided all vaccine doses necessary for the campaign. UNICEF and Beyond are planning to directly vaccinate all children in informal tented settlements and collective shelters for the campaign. The first campaign in November reached 580,000 Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian children (98.4 per cent coverage nationwide), with UNICEF and Beyond vaccinating 90,038 children in informal tented settlements.

**Nutrition** To date, IOCC has screened a cumulative total of 3,359 children for malnutrition. Of those screened, 83 children (2.5 per cent) have been found to have moderate or severe acute malnutrition without complications and are being treated as outpatients. A further 32 children (0.95 per cent) with severe acute malnutrition with complications are being treated in hospital. IOCC have trained a further 20 healthcare workers on nutrition in emergencies, bringing the cumulative total to 220 people trained. Seventy pregnant and lactating women are also receiving micronutrient supplements.

**Supply and Logistics**

In the past two weeks, UNICEF has delivered the following to partners:

- 11,700 winter clothing kits, bringing the cumulative total to 74,603 kits delivered
- 54 tents were released to cold-affected areas in Lebanon to be used as child friendly spaces
- 245 School in a Box kits (one kit benefits 40 students)
- 55 recreation kits (one kit benefits 90 students)
- 57 Early Childhood Development kits (one kit benefits 50 children)
- 2,502 school bags
- 162 water tanks and 400 water filters
Jordan

Highlights

• UNICEF/Japanese Emergency NGO (JEN) have conducted an emergency distribution to some 500 refugees living in spontaneous settlements in Balqaa who were affected by the recent rains and flooding. Items included blankets, plastic sheets, water kits and winter clothing.

• UNICEF has repaired 48 broken septic tanks in Za’atari, improving sanitation for 23,000 residents of three districts.

• UNICEF and partners have completed WASH repairs at 91 host community schools, benefiting nearly 73,000 students.

• UNICEF/CADER training of Jordanian teachers and Syrian assistant teachers continues, with 1,101 trained so far.

• UNICEF has provided 2.5 million doses of polio vaccine to the Government for the upcoming December and January rounds of immunizations nationwide.

• UNICEF has reached 63,499 community members with awareness raising on child rights and related issues.

Situation overview and humanitarian needs

There was a small spike in arrivals over the weekend with some 1,925 persons arriving over the course of three days and nights. There are currently 567,111 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in Jordan, half of whom arrived since 1 January 2013. Arrivals have been averaging 300 per night over the past month; more than half of daily arrivals are children, including roughly 60 children under the age of five. Most refugees are crossing via the Eastern border, a difficult journey which can take days or weeks.

Programme Response

Winterization UNICEF, in coordination with NRC and UNHCR, has distributed 25,000 winter clothing kits and blankets to all children up to age five years old in Cyber City, King Abdullah Park and Za’atari camps.
Some 2,000 blankets/winter clothing kits for children under 5 years old have been distributed to refugees immediately upon arrival in recent weeks through the Border Security Forces and ICRC. UNICEF has procured 8,000 additional sets of winter items to meet needs of youngest refugees crossing the border this winter, as well as to distribute to families with young children living in spontaneous settlements across the northern Governorates. This procurement will be expanded due to the deteriorating winter conditions.

UNICEF and JEN carried out an emergency joint distribution of winter items in cooperation with the Civil Defence Department of the Governorate of Balqa to support some 500 Syrian refugees residing in spontaneous settlements in Jordan Valley affected by the recent floods/inclement weather. Syrian refugee families received winter items (thermal blankets, plastic sheets, and JEN-procured winter clothes/shoes) along with basic water kits (jerry cans, bucket and soaps). The distribution also included some 90 children under 5 years old who received extra winter items such as basic winter clothes, shoes and baby blankets. Preliminary information from a REACH/ACTED rapid survey indicates that there are almost 3,300 Syrian refugees living in over 30 spontaneous settlements identified in Jordan.

UNICEF and partner ACTED are conducting a household waste-water management survey across Za’atari (10-12 households in each of the 12 districts) to examine ways to improve household-level sanitation. During the reporting period, UNICEF repaired 48 broken septic tanks which were spilling waste. UNICEF interventions are part of overall efforts to prevent the emergence of polio or other diseases which spread in conditions with poor sanitation. These tanks were in three districts (9, 10 and 11) in Za’atari benefiting 23,000 refugees.

On 2 December, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MoWI) convened a high level conference on Jordan’s water crisis to communicate to partner agencies and donors around Jordan’s water situation and examine the impact of the Syrian refugee influx on water resources. This conference is part of MoWI-led WASH preparatory work for the National Resilience Plan. UNICEF represents UN agencies as sector lead, while the German Embassy is serving as the donor focal point.

UNICEF/JEN are currently conducting hygiene promotion trainings and sessions in host community schools. As of 27 November, 650 teachers in 94 schools received hygiene messaging through training of trainers, and student sessions were held at 17 schools in Mafraq, Amman and Zarqa, reaching a total of 11,819 children. After the hygiene promotion sessions, each student received a hygiene kit containing information materials, toothpaste, a toothbrush, towel and soap. Through 312 hygiene sessions, 679 teachers and 23,983 students have benefitted to date.

UNICEF/JEN have rehabilitated WASH facilities in 91 host community schools in Irbid, Mafraaq, Amman and Zarqa as part of an overall effort to improve WASH facilities in 150 schools. Some 72,985 students benefited, both Jordanian and Syrian.
and host communities through a total 52 operational child friendly spaces (CFSs) in camps and 34 child and family protective places in host communities. An additional 17 CFS/AFPs are ready in Azraq Camp. Overall, around 12,000 children continue to attend CFSs and playgrounds on a daily basis in camps and host communities. Since November 26, over 1,700 new children have been registered in child and family protective spaces in host communities.

During the reporting period, close to 5,000 Community-Based Child Protection Committees (CPC) members and other individuals have benefited from awareness raising activities conducted in Za’atari and host communities, taking the total number of individuals reached with awareness raising to 63,499 in 2013. The sessions were organized on common diseases (measles), child rights, violence against children, separated and unaccompanied children, school dropouts, sexual abuse against children, child protection in winter season, mother and child health, the role of CPC in awareness raising for education.

Children from both in camps and host communities were actively engaged in the preparation and celebration of Universal Children Day by UNICEF and partners. Special sessions were conducted about violence against children, the right to live in a safe environment; friendship and respect; sport and health; discrimination; engaging children with disabilities in activities with other children; the importance of education; and preventing spread of diseases. Pictures of the events in camps are available on the Za’atari Voices facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ZaatariVoices/posts/631795083545907. 

Education  Syrian students registered in camp and host community schools currently total 107,920 (86,169 in host community schools and 21,751 the camps, including 20,489 in Za’atari Camp and 1,262 in EJC). The total number of youth attending vocational training at the Youth Centre (UNICEF/NRC) reached 397 (41 per cent female).

UNICEF/CADER began the first phase of 4-day pedagogy training on 11 November, conducting 56 workshops for 41 schools (16 schools in the camps and 25 double-shifted schools in Irbid, Mafraq and Amman). The number of teachers who received the training as of the fourth week of training reached 1,101 (including 585 Jordanian teachers and Syrian assistant teachers from camp schools, as well as 516 teachers from double-shifted schools in the host community). The training will continue until 26 December in order to train teachers in other double-shifted schools.

Health  UNICEF/WHO/UNHCR and partners preparation for December Polio NIDs (21 – 23 Dec 2013) is ongoing; the national level macro plan has been developed the summary is as follows:
- 1,048 teams (943 fixed teams plus 105 mobile teams) will be deployed for the campaign- each team consisting of three staff.
- Supervision: 796 [through Health Facilities Managers (600) and field Supervisors (1 per 7 teams of total 150) and sector supervisors (1 per sector of total 21) and 5 national Supervisors]
- Six international monitors from WHO/UNICEF/CDC
- 12 cold chain officers at the governorate levels and one at central level.

UNICEF has already provided 2.5 million doses of polio vaccine for use in the December and January vaccination rounds. The target age group for the December campaign is all children 0-5 years old, or around 1.1 million children.

The ongoing immunization of newly-arrived Syrian refugees against measles and polio and provision of Vitamin A in Za’atari and EJC camps continues, conducted by IOM with UNICEF technical support. Measles vaccination is provided to refugees aged six months to 30 years, polio to children 0-15 years, and Vitamin A supplementation to children aged six-59 months. Since IOM started vaccinating new arrivals (16 April), 67,256 children (six months to 15 years of age and adults 16-30 years) have been vaccinated against measles and 24,202 children (0-5 years) against polio. In addition, 18,783 children (6-59 months) were provided with vitamin A supplements.

During the past two weeks, 205 children under five years old visited the eight Oral Rehydration Therapy corners established in Za’atari. The majority were cases of watery diarrhoea with no dehydration, while 10 cases were referred to health facilities and Diarrheal Treatment Units (DTUs) for further assessment. A total of 206 ORS sachets were distributed to children after a demonstration of how
to make ORS and dissemination of key messages on how to prevent diarrhoea, importance of hand washing, personal hygiene and environmental sanitation issues.

**Nutrition** During the past two weeks, 1,194 mothers and 667 children under five visited UNICEF/Save the Children Jordan (SCJ) Infant and Young Child Feeding centres in Za’atari and EJC camps and host community. The number of pregnant and lactating mothers reached with infant and young child feeding promotion and counselling since 1 January now totals 36,889. In addition, 2,007 children under five and lactating mothers received nutritional snacks during the reporting period, bringing overall 2013 recipients to 78,737 persons. Through this project, UNICEF/SCJ provides nutritional support and guidance, including breastfeeding promotion, complementary child feeding, one-to-one counseling, and health education sessions for pregnant/lactating women in the camps and host community.

**Communications for Development (C4D)**

During the reporting period, UNICEF with Ministry of Health and WHO and other partners completed planning for a second round of national vaccination campaign against polio which will be held on 21-26 December 2013. The C4D strategy will use social advocacy and mobilization interventions to increase public partnership and support for polio vaccination among the medical community, including pediatricians, decision makers and civil society organizations; agreed with broadcast media to produce and air 15 public service announcements, news reports, talk shows and a round table with discussion to respond to the questions of concerns of parents and general public about polio; and developed and produced printing materials (flyers, posters, information papers and banners) to be distributed to parents of under 5 children, health care providers, etc.

**Supply and Logistics**

In the reporting period UNICEF Logistics supported the set-up of Child Protection and Education sites in Za’atari and Azraq Refugee Camps. UNICEF delivered 500 baby jackets to King Abdullah Park and Cyber City for distribution to children aged 6-12 months. UNICEF also delivered 1,042 pieces of school furniture to Azraq School 1 to be held for the rapid opening of the camp. UNICEF delivered 90 high thermal blankets to the Moroccan Field Hospital to be given to new mothers after they have given birth.
Iraq

Highlights

- UNICEF hosted the Japanese Ambassador to Iraq, the Governor of Erbil and the Mayor of Darashakran at the inauguration of a new baby hut and immunization centre in Darashakran camp.
- Over 5,800 Syrian and Iraqi children attended Child Friendly activities at Child Friendly Spaces or through mobile teams during the reporting period.
- UNICEF continued its Back to School campaign to register refugee children in non-camp settings for school. During the reporting period, the campaign registered approximately 1,000 children via house to house visits.

Programme Response

Winterization

On 9 December, UNICEF completed distribution of winter clothes to 740 Syrian refugee children aged 0-13 years. The distribution of these clothes is an integral component of UNICEF’s winterization efforts, and will serve to insulate vulnerable children from the severe cold of winter. As a further component of UNICEF’s winterization efforts, schools in the five refugee camps of Erbil and Sulimaniyeh (Qushtapa, Baserma, Kawargosk, Darashakran and Arbat camps) were provided with 106 oil-filled electrical heaters to protect the 4,642 children attending these schools this winter.

WASH

Northern Iraq

Domiz Camp: UNICEF, in partnership with KURDS, has completed construction of the water system in Domiz transit camps 4 and 7. This water system will now provide 1,738 tents (and the soon-to-be-completed school in transit camp 7) with continuing and safe access to water.

Arbat Transit Camp: During the reporting period, UNICEF, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee, completed the installation of nine latrines, twelve showers and three water tanks. These facilities are designed to serve 200 Syrian refugees. UNICEF hygiene promoters visited all tents in the camp reaching 2,500 residents to provide valuable awareness about hepatitis prevention. An outbreak of hepatitis A was confirmed in Kawergosk Camp in November.

Arbat Permanent Camp: On 4 December, UNICEF completed installation of twenty sanitation units for 200 Syrian refugees. Each sanitation unit is comprised of two showers and two latrines, and is designed to provide two families with secure access to water, hygiene and sanitation services. All 256 should be installed by the middle of January.

Kawargosk: UNICEF, in coordination with the Norwegian Refugee Council, began construction and installation of twenty-five hot water stations and privacy fencing for female latrines in the camp. UNICEF anticipates that this construction will be complete by the end of December, benefiting 5,000 Syrian refugees.
Darashakran Camp: During the reporting period, UNICEF completed installation of ten latrines and two drinking water tap stands for the camp school, providing approximately 1,150 Syrian refugee children with clean water and latrine facilities. Additionally, UNICEF, in collaboration with Relief International, began water quality monitoring activities at camp boreholes, overhead storage tanks, taps at water points and household water containers, ensuring all 7,000 Syrian refugees residing in the camp will have continuing access to safe drinking water.

Western Iraq
UNICEF completed rehabilitation of WASH facilities in the al-Jamaheer, al-Wajoh and al-Nadhera schools, all located in Al Qaim City. These rehabilitations will benefit all 700 children attending these schools, of which 100 are Syrian refugees. UNICEF also continued its ongoing water quality monitoring in Al-Obaidy camp at community storage tanks and taps, benefiting all 1,944 residents of the camp.

Child Protection

Northern Iraq
UNICEF facilitated a two-day workshop for the Erbil Child Protection Working Group on Case Management in order to support the roll out of a Child Protection Management Information System in all camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. This system will empower UNICEF and its government and NGO partners with powerful case management and data collection tools. During the second week of December, UNICEF will extend additional trainings for the system to the Child Protection Unit in Domiz camp.

During the reporting period, over 3,200 children visited UNICEF and partner child friendly spaces (CFSs)/adolescent friendly spaces (AFSs) in Domiz camp, receiving psychosocial support, entertainment and educational activities, including knitting, drama and singing classes and Syrian cultural events.

UNICEF’s child protection mobile team organized child friendly activities in Var City, Akra and Gawilan. These activities included drawing, painting and singing classes, and reached 434 refugee children (51 percent girls). Additionally, the UNICEF/Department of Labour and Social Affairs (DOLSA) CFS/AFS in Gwilan, Akra and Var city provided support to 1,190 refugee children (17 per cent 206 girls).

Western Iraq
During the reporting period 722 children benefitted from services offered at the CFS in Al-Obaidy Camp, including educational and recreational activities; sports and outdoor games; as well as computer and sewing classes. UNICEF continues to provide Syrian refugee children residing in the Al-Qaim host community with child protection services via the CFS in Al-Jamaheer primary school. During the month of November, this CFS provided access to educational, recreational and other extracurricular activities to 1,009 Iraqi and Syrian children (38 per cent girls).

Education

Northern Iraq
On 5 December, UNICEF hosted the Japanese Ambassador to Iraq, the Governor of Erbil, and the Mayor of Darashakran at the inauguration of the newly constructed twelve classroom school in Darashakran camp. This school will now accommodate 700 students in two shifts.

UNICEF continued its Back to School campaign to register refugee children in non-camp settings for school. During the reporting period, the campaign registered approximately 1,000 children via house to house visits. The students will now attend schools with available capacity; where there is no capacity, UNICEF continues advocacy efforts with the DOE and Kurdistan Regional Government. UNICEF also succeeded in gaining spaces for an additional 100 previously registered students.
UNICEF, in partnership with its implementing partner PWJ, has begun construction of two new schools in Gawilan and Akra refugee camps. Construction of these schools is expected to be complete by the end of December. Upon completion each school will provide educational services to 800 Syrian refugee children.

In Var City, which is a community hosting a large number of Syrian refugees near Domiz camp, UNICEF’s registration committee, led by Var City community representatives, began registering children for enrollment in the new school in the phase 6 section of Domiz camp. During the reporting period, UNICEF registered more than 700 children to attend this new school.

On 8 December, UNICEF completed installation of ten computers, donated by Samaritans Purse, in the Arbat camp school. These computers will now allow 410 students to benefit from various educational, recreational and classroom programmes.

**Western Iraq**

In response to the spread of lice inside Al-Obaidy camp, UNICEF initiated an awareness campaign in order to familiarize camp residents with preventive measures (including personal hygiene practices). UNICEF distributed anti-lice shampoo to 650 students at the camp school.

**Health and Nutrition**

**Northern Iraq**

On 5 December, UNICEF hosted the Japanese Ambassador to Iraq, the Governor of Erbil and the Mayor of Darashakran at the inauguration of a new baby hut and immunization centre in Darashakran camp. The services in these facilities, enabled by a grant from the Government of Japan, will now constitute a main pillar of the UNICEF child survival strategy for the camp. The baby hut will provide a space for new mothers to receive educational services on breast feeding best practices, appropriate diet during nursing and child growth monitoring. Meanwhile, the adjacent immunization hut will provide routine immunization services and mass campaign vaccinations as required.

**Western Iraq**

On 1 December, UNICEF began a five day polio immunization drive in which 428 Syrian children under the age of five residing in Al Qaim were immunized. The next Sub-National Immunization Days campaign for polio starts 27 December.
Turkey

Highlights

- On 5 and 6 December, the President of Turkey, Mr. Abdullah Gul, visited Kilis camp, and met with UN agencies working in the camps responding to the needs of Syrian refugees, including a visit to the UNICEF/Turkish Red Crescent Society Child Friendly Space in Kilis Elbeyli camp.

- On 29 November, a delegation of 15 European Union Ambassadors visited UNICEF activities in the Child Friendly Space and the UNICEF-funded school in Islahiye camp. The visit was part of a full day visit to stakeholders in Gaziantep and programmes receiving funds from the European Union.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

On 10 December, the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) of the Government of Turkey reported that the total number of Syrians registered and accommodated in 21 camps in 10 provinces is 205,840 including 154 Syrians receiving medical treatment in hospitals.

AFAD has reported that 755 Syrians are now accommodated in Viransehir camp which officially opened over the weekend. The first transfers to Viransehir camp came from Kilis transit centre, where there has been overcrowding. In addition, Government officials reported that approximately 300 Syrians were also transferred to Viransehir camp from the waiting area in Akcakale camp. The officials in Viransehir camp stated that the transfers will continue during the week both from the waiting areas in Akcakale and Ceylanpinar camps, as well as from Bab Al Salame camp.

Programme response

Winterization On 27 November the Japanese Ambassador Mr. Yutaka Yokoi visited Osmaniye camp to attend the distribution of winter clothing to children aged 0-2. To date, the Government of Japan has provided funding for winter clothing (one winterized jumpsuit and one underwear jumpsuit) for 9,846 children aged 0-2 in four camps (Ceylanpinar, Osmaniye, Akcakale and Mardin). The distribution of clothing took place in the UNICEF child friendly space (CFS), and the Ambassador took the opportunity to meet with Syrian mothers who brought their children to the space to receive the clothing. Clothing kits for children over two are being provided by other partners. To date, two baby jumpsuits (1 underwear + 1 outerwear) have been distributed to 18,862 children in 13 camps.

Education An additional 805 Syrian teachers were trained over the period from the three camps in Sanliurfa (Harran, Ceylanpinar and Akcakale) between 2 and 7 December. The total number of Syrian teachers trained to date is now 1,534 from 12 camps. Teachers from Gaziantep and Malatya camps will be trained the week of 16 December, and the remaining two camps
(Adiyaman, Mardin) will be trained in January. Through the training completed to date and with on-going support to Syrian teachers, 32,760 children enrolled in schools in Hatay, Kilis, Kahramanmaras, Osmaniye, Sanliurfa and Adana will benefit from the skills shared with teachers in the training. Syrian teachers attending training in camps also receive cash incentives as all teachers in camps are volunteers and cannot currently be provided with a regular salary. This also ensures that the work of teachers is recognized and valued.

Child Protection and Youth  The third week of youth worker training is taking place in Hatay between 9 and 13 December. There are currently 28 Turkish youth workers recruited by the Turkish Red Crescent Society and two administrative staff members implementing activities in the CFSs. The additional youth workers will be deployed to camps following the training, with some paired with existing youth workers and others beginning activities in a new camp. The focus of the training is to discuss youth leadership and volunteerism and how to select, develop, support and train Syrian youth volunteers to develop their skills as leaders in the camps. During the training, the youth workers will develop modules for youth leadership training, and over the next nine weeks they will implement the training programme for youth in the camps. They will gather the youth leaders they have selected each week and discuss a new topic and at the end of the nine weeks the youth volunteers will receive certificates for their participation in the programme. Each camp will aim to target 30 youth in the first round of training.

Activities were on-going in 15 CFSs over the period. Since the beginning of activities in CFSs in camps, 18,234 children (50 per cent girls) have attended activities. For the last two week period (26 November – 11 December), 5,254 children attended activities. Ten container CFSs have been installed in camps to date (Nizip 1, Nizip 2, Yayladagi 1, Yayladagi 2, Islahiye, Adana, Osmaniye, Kahramanmaras, Kilis Oncupinar and Kilis Elbeyli), with the remainder being installed over the next week.

Inter-Agency Collaboration and Partnerships

On 29 November, a delegation of 15 European Union Ambassadors visited UNICEF activities in the CFS and UNICEF-funded school in Islahiye camp. The visit was part of a full day visit to stakeholders in Gaziantep and programmes receiving funds from the European Union. The members of the delegation met with camp management, and were then greeted at the CFS with drawings created by children attending the space, and a musical performance. The delegation also met with some of the families living in the camp.

On 10 December, an additional 2.5 million polio vaccines (tOPV) were ordered from UNICEF Supply Division in Copenhagen for delivery to the Ministry of Health in Turkey. It is expected that the vaccines will arrive in Turkey on 16 December and will be immediately delivered to the Ministry of Health. The next polio campaign will run 23 to 29 December 2013. The campaign will be expanded to 11 provinces (from 7), and the target will be 1,750,000.

Supply and Logistics

Supply activities for the period focused on the rolling installation of the container CFSs into all of the camps where the programme is operational. The bidding process for the provision of pre-fabricated schools in camps and host communities has been completed with a company to be selected by the end of this week.
Regional

Funding

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<th>Child Protection</th>
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<th>Health &amp; Nutrition</th>
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<th>Ops. Mgmt.</th>
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* The total amount includes funds that are currently being allocated to country offices.
** Although Egypt appears overfunded, the funding needs have recently increased substantially due to the polio response which was not part of the initial RRP funding requirements.
*** This includes multi-country technical support.

On 7 June UNICEF, together with other UN agencies and partners, launched its revised appeal requirements for the Syria Crisis. As detailed in the above table, UNICEF’s total funding requirements from January to December for Syria have increased by 61% to $110.46m. For neighbouring countries, UNICEF total funding requirements have now reached $360.19m representing a 183% increase.

Next Situation Report: 9 January 2013
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UNICEF Syria Crisis: http://childrenofsyrria.info/
UNICEF Syria Crisis Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicefmena
UNICEF Syria Crisis Mailing List

UNICEF Syria Crisis Status by Country:

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GAP

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