



This situation report on the Syrian refugees is meant to convey the latest developments on the crisis that triggered many to leave their country seeking a safe haven in Jordan, as well as to cast a light on Caritas activities pertaining to this issue.

January 12 ,2013

1. Recent Developments:

- According to the spokesperson for Syrian refugees camps affairs, the total number of the Syrian refugees in Jordan has reached 295 thousands, which outnumbered the estimated number produced by UNHCR's latest Regional Response Plan that has brought their numbers to 300,000 until June 2013. The pouring of refugees to Jordan has exceeded all expectations as the number of Syrians crossing the border between the two countries during the first week of the new year has come to 8835 refugees, whereas, the number in December was 22 thousands.
- Meanwhile, as per the same source, the number of Syrians in the Zaatari Camp has reached 64,000 refugees as the number of transferred refugees to the camp was 65,000 and those who were bailed out 13,000 Syrians, whereas the number of Syrians who voluntarily returned to their country as of July until December was 9183 refugees . "Mreijeb Al Fahoud" Syrian refugees camp in Zarqa, which is sponsored by United Arab Emirates, can accommodate up to 30,000 refugees and is well-designed according to the international standards, whereas Cyber City camp in Ramtha will be hosting single refugees (individuals, not families).The both camps will be opened by the end of this month.
- According to UNHCR figures, there are 145 thousands Syrians who are registered and pending registration with the agency. The recent unprecedented "decisive" fierce battles in the southern Syria has caused an exodus of Syrians who come to Jordan in record numbers, most seriously injured or maimed, apart from thousands who are waiting to cross the border to Jordan that is the largest host of Syrian refugees. UN fears that the ongoing conflict may lead to as many as 1.8 million refugees by 2013. The agency has launched \$ 1.5 billion Syrian refugee aid appeal to provide for Syrain refugees and those displaced within Syria, marking the largest ever short-term humanitarian appeal. UNHCR is currently providing financial assistance to 6100 needy Syrian families residing outside the camp.



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- A polar cold front has hit Jordan and the heavy rain and the harsh blizzard caused flooding at the Zaatari Camp, submerging some 500 tents, allegedly caused some death incidents particularly among refugee children, which triggered clashes between refugees in the camp and the Gendarmerie Forces, who fired tear gas and arrested some 20 protestants. Some 200 residents attacked aid workers with stones during the daily food ration distribution,injuring seven and forcing authorities to evacuate local and international staff from the camp, whereas families who lost their tents have been temporarily placed in the Bahraini school complex.
- However, the situation in the Zaatari Camp is relatively getting better and significantly improving as many Saudi carvans have been installed and 100 families have been relocated from the lower areas to the carvans to avoid tough winter conditions and flooding; many water wells have been dugged to improve water supply as well to improve the sewage system in the camp, according to the Jordanian Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO). In light of the latest harsh winter conditions in the camp, more Saudi urgent \$ 10 million emergency financial assistance is expected in the coming days.
- UNICEF has said that the agency has received 20,000 euros from the government of Cyprus to establish a playground for Syrian children in the Zaatari Refugee Camp. Another 50,000 euros has been received by the agency that will be utilized to purchase children winter clothes and distribute hygiene kits among other needs. Moreover, the UN agency is currently installing hot water tabs and it is expected to finish the installation of 174 tabs before the end of January 2013.
- More than 45,000 Syrian refugees have been granted ID service cards issued by public security offices in Jordan. This process started on December 10, 2012 for one month. However, it is expected to extend the issuance of cards for another month. These free cards are granted to refugees outside the camp in different areas of Jordan with an aim to facilitate their stay in the country in terms of approaching health centres, work and registering their children in schools and it is considered as



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an identification official document for Syrians when reporting to governmental departments.

- The Saudi Arabia for Syrian Refugees campaign has sent 1.5 million Saudi riyal (JD 283,000) in aid to the Saudi clinics in the Zaatari Refugee Camp. The aid would be used to buy medicine for the Syrian refugees in the camp. The Saudi clinics currently included 12 different units, in addition to a pharmacy and a medical laboratory. Additional specialized clinics would be opened there in the future. Meanwhile, the Saudi medical clinics in the camp has distributed wheel chairs to Syrian elderly and physically handicapped in addition to 6100 blankets and 2200 food parcels, each contains 40 kilos of different items.
- The UAE medical field hospital has provided health assistance to more than 27,000 patients of different nationalities, mainly Syrians since its establishment mid of 2012, with an average of 400 patients daily. The hospital has added more services to Jordanians, Syrians and others, especially Syrians who are suffering from chronic and psychological cases. Referral to other hospitals is in place especially those patients who need to undergo big operations, whereas maternity operations are carried out on a daily basis, with an average of 3-4 cases weekly.



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2. Caritas Response:

- The following table shows the numbers of Syrian refugees registered in Caritas database, which reached **68,612** individuals, with a total of **14,400** families until December 31, 2012:

Centers	Mafraq	Zarqa	Irbid	Amman	Madaba	Total
Registered cases	5812	2805	4078	1292	413	14,400
Average per/day	30 cases	15 cases	30 cases	35 cases	5 cases	115 cases per/ day
Families	5812	2805	4078	1292	413	14,400
Individuals	29060	13917	20018	3911	1706	68,612
Average Family size	5.00	4.96	4.91	3.03	4.13	



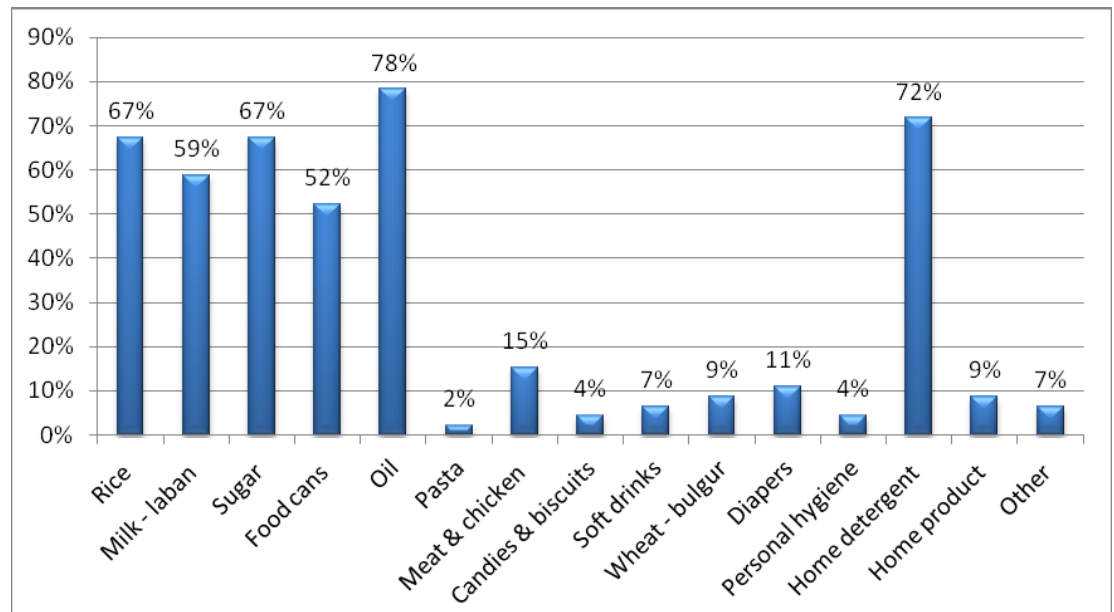
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- **Winterization Campaign for Urban Syrian Refugees:**

Caritas Jordan has launched the winterization campaign for the Syrian urban refugees along with vulnerable Jordanians in the hosting communities. The projects, which started in December and will last until February 2013 (3 months) are expected to cover **5190** families, comprising **23,610** families residing in Amman and the remote areas, where Caritas services are extended. So far, the campaign could assist 1340 families (5360 individuals) with 1 heater, 4 blankets, 1 stove , 1 food and non-food items vouchers for each family, distributed in Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Madaba and Mafraq .

The below chart is illustrating the vouchers intervention vis a vis commodities purchased:



Commodities purchased by vouchers- (Data gathered during Phone questionnaires)



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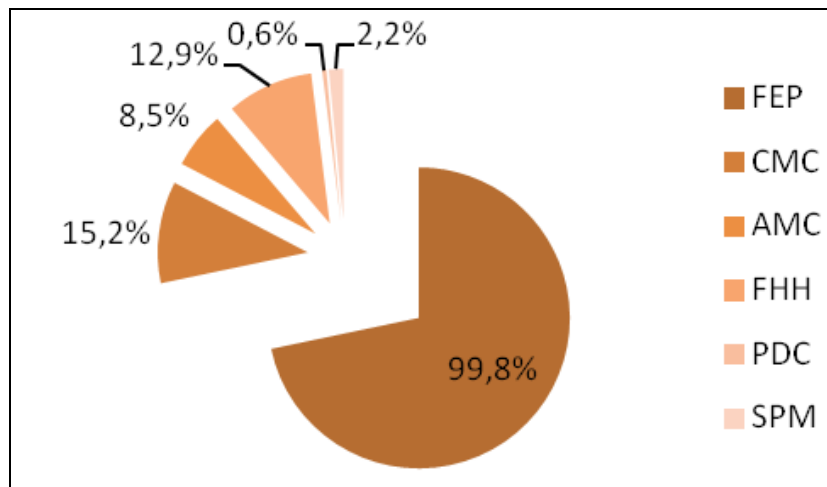
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- **Detailed (Tailored) Assistance :**

Caritas Jordan has accomplished the second phase of “Detailed Assistance” project delivered to Urban Syrian refugees in Jordan in cooperation with Caritas Switzerland, Caritas Luxembourg and Caritas Czech. The assistance included distribution of 500 clothes, 500 shoes, 500 fumigation, 100 fresh food, 100 home maintenance, 50 rent vouchers for JD 14, every ten days for (6 times) during 3 months implementation.

Caritas is currently embarking on implementing the third phase, which includes 1250 dry food, JD 50 for 3 months for fresh food, 200 baby kits, 500 bedding materials(mattresses, sheets, quilts, pillows and covers) and 500 heaters, during 3 months implementation.

The below charts is showing the type of vulnerability of assisted beneficiaries:



Voucher beneficiaries according to vulnerability



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Caritas Jordan Emergency Appeal (EA) 2013:

This **1 year project appeal** is expected to fill the gaps in the services provided to Syrian refugees in different areas of Jordan. It is launched and submitted to **Caritas Internationalis** to cope with the increasing numbers of refugees who arrive to Jordan in record numbers. The assistance will include **food and non-food aid, medical assistance and protection** with an estimated budget of **\$ 1,700,000** targeting **25,500** individuals including poor Jordanians. Total affected and targeted population will include **5000 families, 5500 individuals: 4000 Syrians and 1500 Jordanians.**

3. Additional Comments/ Remarks:

- Greece donated 50,000 euros to UNICEF to support its initiatives for Syrian children at the Zaatari Camp. The assistance included winter clothes and shoes to keep them warm during the winter as well as hygiene kits for babies.
- The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) distributed thermal blankets and gas heaters to the Syrian refugees in the camp. The distribution process witnessed some riots after the refugees rushed to receive the assistance, which caused minor clashes with the Jordanian security, without causing any harms or injuries.
- The Islamic Relief World-wide (IRW) office in the kingdom on Thursday received \$ 1 million donated by the Muslim community in Australia to support Syrian refugees in Jordan.



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- The Arab Potash company donated JD 264,000 to purchase blankets for Syrians at the Zaatari camp in cooperation with the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization. The donation was meant to meet the refugees' urgent needs, especially in winter.
- The Jordan Red Crescent's branch in Karak, in cooperation with the UAE Red Crescent distributed 250 food parcels to Syrian refugees in the governorate. The society also distributed 500 blankets to Syrian families in Karak.
- The EU announced that it will allocate 21 million euros to assist the Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon, including 11 million euros to Jordan and 10 million euros to Lebanon. The assistance will focus on primary education, children's needs, psycho-social support as well as to the hosting communities.

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4. Restored Hope



This is how Manal Ahmad, a 30-year old female Syrian refugee, described the vouchers she received from Caritas Jordan.

Back in Syria, Manal and her husband, used to work while enjoying a simple normal life with basic monthly salaries. ***“all of a sudden, we found ourselves here with nothing”***, says Manal ***“I had to run to Jordan since my two kids are sick and they need regular medical care which can’t be provided nowadays in Syria, I would have never left would it not be for the sake of kids”***.

Manal, who comes from Daraa, arrived with her two kids; Mariam 4 years old with severe kidney problems and Omar 1 year old, blind since birth. Manal and her two kids arrived in September 2012 to the nearest area they could get in Jordan, Mafraq area. Her husband followed a month later, he had troubles leaving Syria and he managed eventually to enter Jordan illegally.

“I knew about Caritas first thing when I arrived from my neighbors. I went directly there and was received with much love and attention. Manal adds “I received 6 vouchers with different materials. With them, I managed to go and choose by myself what my kids need from fresh food to clothes and shoes. I would have never imagined getting all these needs. These vouchers were definitely a Life Savior for me and my kids.” She explains.