

*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.*

## 1. Recent Developments:

- The first month of 2013 saw a larger influx of refugees crossing into Jordan, with around 2,000 refugees entering the country on a daily basis, bringing the number of refugees who poured to Jordan during that month to more than 60,000. Meanwhile, the kingdom struggles to cope with a growing humanitarian needs as the majority of refugees arrive to the country either wounded, maimed or in destitute of resources, apart from having a mass migration of some 10,000 displaced Syrians who were gathered along the Jordanian-Syrian border, abandoning their houses and properties and waiting to cross steep and perilous borders and fleeing the fierce battles launched by rebels, but failed to take over control of the official borders between the two countries, according to the rebel forces.
- While Syria's intensifying civil war has killed around 70,000, leaving some 715,000 refugees in the neighbouring countries, UNHCR estimated that the number of Syrian refugees in Jordan will reach 660,000 by the end of 2013. Meanwhile, the UN refugee agency has so far registered more than 245,536 Syrians and has opened a new registration office in Irbid to ease the burden on Amman office that is receiving unprecedented numbers, with more than 54,805 awaiting registration, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees who are under the auspices of the agency to 300,341 amid more than 400,000 Syrian refugees in Jordan, including around 90,000 reside in the Zaatari Camp and more than 260,000 in cities and villages across the country.
- The Jordanian government launched an urgent aid plea to maintain services for the rapidly growing community, whose presence cost the country some \$600 million in 2012, a number expected to reach \$800 million should the conflict continue through 2013. Moreover, Kuwait donor countries conference that was held earlier brought together 50 donor countries and 20 international organizations and pledged to offer \$1.5 billion in aid assistance to Syria's neighbouring countries, from which \$500 million earmarked for Jordan. Despite of all the funding resources, the situation remains critical, suffering a shortfall, which might jeopardize the relief efforts cause a scale down of services and reduce UNHCR cash assistance programme from 12,000 to 7,800 Syrian families as well as delay the opening of the second refugee camp near Zarqa amid words of identifying a third refugee camp location.

February 12 ,2013

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- In spite of the funding deficit and in light of Syrians' continuous growing community, the Jordanian government embarks on expanding the Zaatari Camp to accommodate its maximum capacity of 110,000 Syrian refugees. As there are no accurate figures on the exact number of refugees inside the camp, the government intends to conduct an official census, using iris scanning technique, to determine the increasing needs and plan accordingly. The work is underway to add more tents and caravans and lay the foundation of unpaved roads, placing base course, installing water supplies and sewage system. The new administration of the camp, which was formed last month, aims to improve the quality of services delivered to Syrian refugees, as well as regulates procedures of visits to the camp as sometimes more than 8,000 visitors collectively stopover to check on the residents. Currently, there are more than 4,000 caravans and 4500 tents implanted in the camp, with more than 3,000 new caravans donated by several individuals and countries expected to reach the camp soon. More than 15,000 refugees were bailed-out since the opening of the camp in July, while some 13,000 voluntarily returned to their country.
- According to the spokesperson for Syrian refugees camps affairs, intensive security forces are to be deployed in the camp after recurrent riots, thefts and sabotages that took place inside the camp, which resulted in gendarmerie and refugees injuries and partial destruction of amenities inside the camp. In the meantime, seven Syrian refugees died and four suffered smoke inhalation when a fire broke out in a residential trailer at the King Abdullah II Gardens shelter in Ramtha, which hosts some 1,200 Syrian refugees. A kerosene heater accident caused the blaze as one of the family's children toppled over the heater, leaving family members little time to leave their trailer.
- The Bahraini school in the Zaatari Camp has been evacuated from saboteurs who broke into the place and caused major damages in its facilities. The school has been reopened for the second semester after finishing the necessary repairs made by the government that dispatched a specialized team to the location to assess the needs and start the quick repairs. The damages have been attributed to the presence of some 2000 singles among families who wanted to take the school as a shelter after their tents were uprooted due to the last torrential rain that flooded many tents. This requires a quick transfer of the singles to Cyber City temporary shelter in Ramtha, which is slated to be opened soon.
- Meanwhile, UNICEF has started to build 2 new schools in the Zaatari Camp to cope with the increasing number of Syrian students who are pouring into Jordan, as well as

February 12 ,2013

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to ease the burdens on the crowded classes at the Bahraini school that hosts some 5,000 students, taught by Jordanian teachers and assisted by Syrian teachers. The new schools are expected to operate in March and will host 48,000 students. The UN children agency is closely coordinating with the Ministry of Education to open new classes and accept new students after the Ministry had to resort to the two education classes' shifts, which deprives many students of practising any extra-curricular activities. Around 25,000 Syrian students joined public schools outside the Zaatari Refugee Camp for the scholastic year 2012-2013.

- The second Syrian refugee Camp ( Mreijeb Al Fohoud) opening that was supposed to take place earlier this month but has been delayed due to funding reasons. The work, which was funded and will be jointly administered by UAE and the Jordanian government, has been completed to accommodate some 5,500 refugees. However, due to the on- going influx of refugees to the country, there has been a necessity to enlarge it, raise its capacity to 30,000 refugees and add more caravans pending donations. Before receiving any refugees, the camp will have a field hospital and clinics funded by the EU. The camp has 800 caravans and will have 4 schools, warehouses, an administration office, recreational facilities and playgrounds, kitchens, a mosque, markets, electricity, water supplies and sewage services. The camp will receive sick persons, elderly, women head of households and children transferred from the Zaatari Camp. Meanwhile, the unused "Raba Al Sarhan Camp", which was prepared to be the first camp to host Syrian refugees, will likely be used to receive newly arrived Syrian refugees instead of Mafraq Centre, before sorting and deploying them in the Zaatari Camp.

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## 2. Caritas Response:

- The following table shows the numbers of Syrian refugees registered in Caritas database, which reached **75,304** individuals, with a total of **15,557** families until January 31, 2013

Centers	Mafrq	Zarqa	Irbid	Amman	Madaba	Total
Registered cases	6050	2862	4664	1560	421	<b>15,557</b>
Average per/day	70 cases	15 cases	30 cases	100 cases	5 cases	<b>220 cases per/ day</b>
Families	6050	2862	4664	1560	421	<b>15,557</b>
Individuals	30,250	14248	22,676	6384	1746	<b>75,304</b>
Average Family size	5.00	4.97	4.91	6.02	4.13	<b>4.84</b>

### Caritas Jordan - Emergency Response Plan:

Caritas Jordan has launched the *Emergency Response Plan* for the Syrian urban refugees along with (30%) vulnerable Jordanians in the hosting communities; in Irbid, Mafrq, Zarqa, Amman, Madaba and Karak. The ERP entails 4 main interventions:

1. **Emergency Humanitarian Assistance:** The activities have covered food and NFIs needs (personal hygiene and detergents), in-kind materials, bedding materials (mattresses, sheets, quilts, pillows and covers) and cooking sets.
2. **Tailored Assistance:** this project is based on conducting home visits, needs assessment, served through vouchers distribution, reaching out to many needy families and filling assistance gaps that are left by other organizations and agencies.
3. **Medical services:** Caritas is also keen on providing Syrian refugees and poor Jordanians with quality medical assistance that includes primary health care and secondary health care services, a project that is implemented through the successful efforts, which Caritas has exerted to collect funds from CI countries under Emergency Appeal ( EA).

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- Caritas Jordan concluded the implementation of “**Medical Assistance for Syrian Refugees in Jordan**” project.

The project provided critical medical assistance to Syrian refugees in Mafraq, Zarqa and Amman, with the support of CRS.

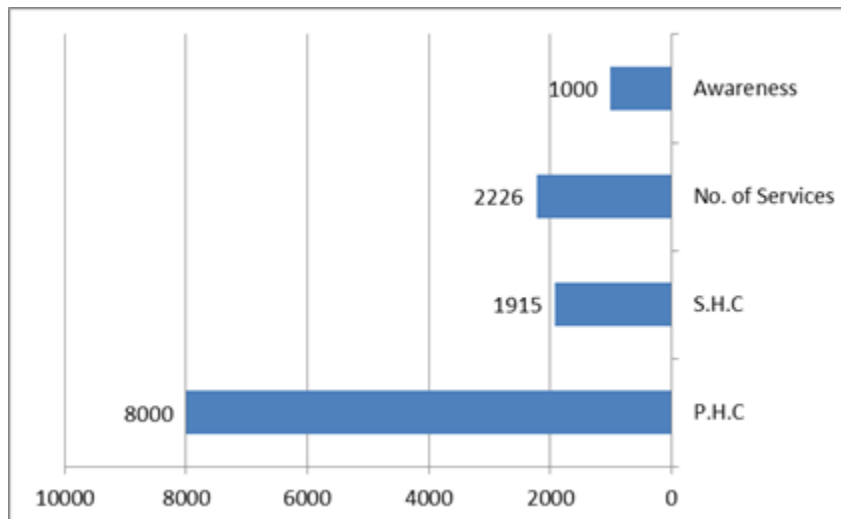
The main objectives of the project were to provide vulnerable Syrian refugees with primary and secondary health care through Caritas GP clinics , secure appropriate medical care for refugees who are in need of hospitalization services through referral to contracted hospitals and enhance the preventive health awareness knowledge among persons of concerns.

The project was able to assist in total **9518** vulnerable Syrian refugees in Amman, Zarqa, Mafraq, Irbid and Fuhais:

- **8000** vulnerable Syrian refugees were medically screened through Caritas GP clinics, and with the recommendation of Caritas doctors, the patients were referred to hospitals upon need.
- **1518** Syrian refugees were referred to hospitals. The highest number of referrals was for pregnant women for normal or caesarean delivery.
- **2226** services provided to Syrian refugees through secondary health care services.
- **1000** Syrian beneficiaries had access to preventive health awareness sessions conducted by Caritas GP doctors and facilitators.

As shown in the below chart, the achieved project's results : **8000** screened cases through Caritas Primary Health Care services, **1915** beneficiaries had access to Secondary Health Care services through Caritas affiliated medical service providers, **2226** patients benefited from other medical services and **1000** beneficiaries had advantage to receive preventive health awareness sessions at caritas clinics premises conducted by Caritas doctors and facilitators.

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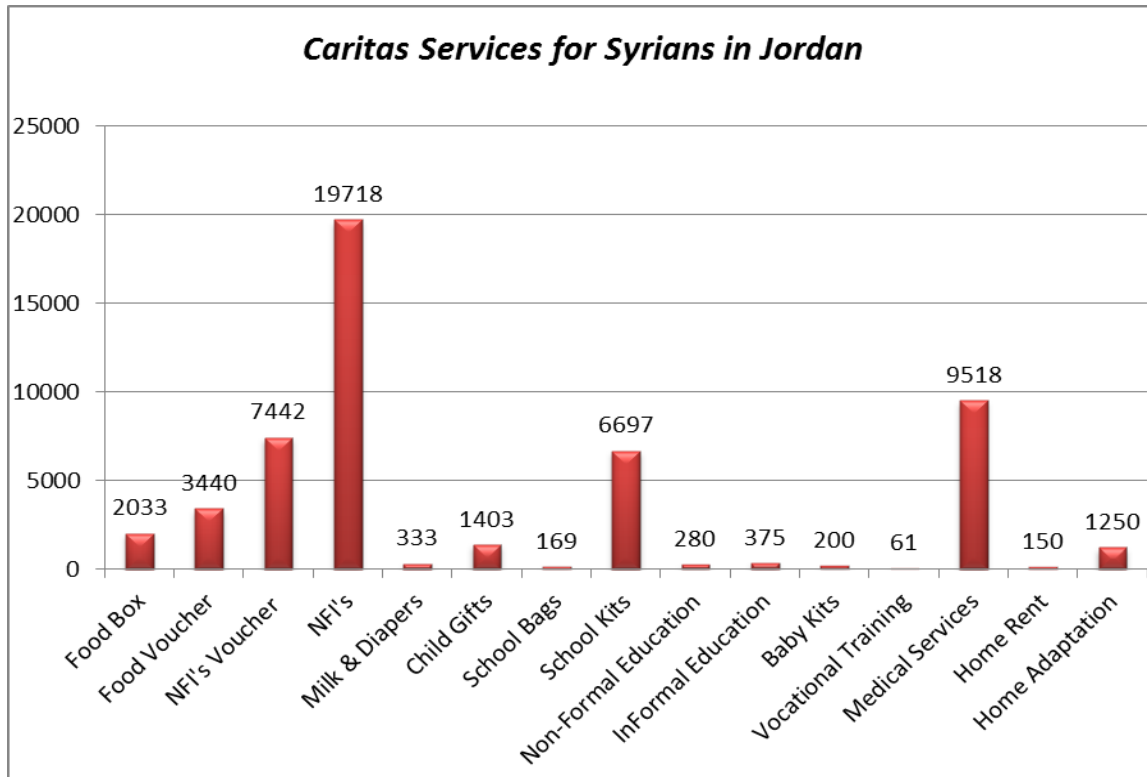


4. **Educational services:** Education has also occupied a prime interest of Caritas efforts. Caritas concluded many successful projects that aimed to convey useful knowledge to Syrian refugees who were deprived of learning due to compelling displacement circumstances. The learning activities include non- formal education, In- formal education, vocational and life skills training, pre-school learning, education for disabled and awareness sessions.

The growing number of Syrian refugees in urban settings has prompted Caritas to expand its activities to remote areas and diversify the volume of assistance to cover the immediate needs of Syrian refugees, who are receiving all types of fundamental commodities and basic services.

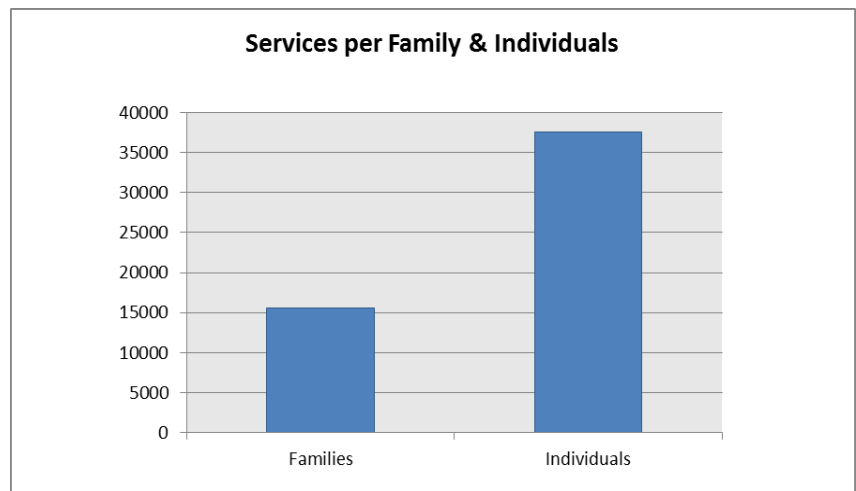
The below chart shows the Humanitarian Assistance provided to Syrians in Jordan (January – December 2012)

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The above chart indicates the received humanitarian assistance items from Caritas Jordan projects, from which the majority went to NFIs, whereas the second highest need was medical services then the NFIs vouchers.

The side chart shows the number of provided services for **15,544** families that includes: (food and NFIs package and vouchers, home adaptation and rent assistance), in comparison with the provided services for **37,525** individuals , which contain: (NFIs-personal hygiene and comforters, milk& diapers, baby kits, school bags & kits, education services, medical services



February 12 ,2013

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**Winterization Campaign:** Caritas Jordan continues to implement the winterization campaign after successfully finished Caritas Germany, Caritas Switzerland projects. Caritas Jordan, in collaboration with Caritas Denmark and Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI) – ECHO funding project- is currently implementing winterization projects starting November 2012 through March 2013. All the four winterization projects are expected to cover **5942** families, comprising **26,618** individuals residing in Amman and the remote areas, where Caritas services are provided.

**Food & Non-Food Items:** Caritas Germany, in cooperation with German Government, is funding a new project for 5 months expected to last by June 2013. This **€ 1,111,111** project is intended to serve **5,120** families (70% Syrian refugees and 30 %poor Jordanians) and will include voucher- based assistance system: 2 food and 2 non- food voucher items in addition to 1 bedding materials ( 2 mats, 2 pilows, 2 cover sheets) with around 200\$ per family.

**Detailed Assistance:** This project is designed to meet most of the Syrian refugees' needs. The project provides food ( fresh food), NFIs namely clothes, shoes, baby kits, milk and diapers and includes home adaptation such as rent assistance, house adjustments and fumigation service. Caritas concluded in December 2012 phase one and phase two of the first project, in cooperation with Caritas Switzerland and Caritas Luxembourg after serving 1500 families. The second project that includes also two phases is expected to serve 2000 families by the end of April 2013. It is implemented in cooperation with Caritas Switzerland, Caritas Czech and Caritas Luxembourg.

**Material Resources:** Caritas Jordan has received new shipments of in-kind assistance, donated by MCC. This batch includes comforters, school kits, hygiene kits and relief kits. The project is expected to be completed by March 2013. The assistance is meant to be delivered to Syrian refugees, namely those who are not registered with UNHCR nor possess any documents.

**Emergency Appeal ( EA):** Based on the received allocations (30%) of the total proposed budget. The EA 44 project has started to receive the medical cases in February 1<sup>st</sup>. Those cases will be treated through Caritas clinics' and other affiliated medical facilities of Caritas partners. The services include primary health care services (General Assessment) and secondary health care services as; (In-patients and outpatients).



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The following table illustrates the Caritas Jordan partners contribution to the EA44 :

1-Contributions to the Emergency Appeal				
Name of the Members' Organisation	EA Project	Contributions and currency	Equivalent in Euro	Equivalent in USD
Caritas Australia		50000\$	37156	50000\$
caritas Canada		70000\$	52018	70000\$
Caritas Austria		50000EUR	50000	67,278
Caritas France		100000EUR	100000	134,565
Caritas Japan		10000\$	7431	10000\$
Caritas Denmark		129000\$	96,575	129000\$
Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF)		£30,000	34729	46,389
			<b>377,909 EUR</b>	<b>\$ 507,232</b>



Caritas employee helping a syrian refugee family at their home to turn on the heater they received by Caritas Jordan...



Caritas Volunteer Committee in Madaba area distributing balnkets and Health kits on Syrian Refugees...

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### 3. Additional Comments/ Remarks:

- The US government will offer an additional \$20 million grant in aid to support the local communities in the northern governorates, particularly in addressing water shortage needs in light of receiving hundred thousands of refugees in these areas. Since the onset of the Syrian crisis, the US has donated \$220 million to support the refugees hosting countries.
- The United Kingdom will provide £21 million in humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees in Jordan and the region. The aid includes winter clothing, food and medicines. Jordan will receive ten million pounds. The assistance will be distributed by UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations and will also be used to improve healthcare services and supply refugees with blankets, shelter kits, heating fuel and tents.
- China will provide Syrian refugees in Jordan with aid worth \$2.3 million, which is the second instalment of assistance from the Chinese government. It will include 124 trailers and other equipment delivered to the Zaatari Refugee Camp. China had donated \$200,000 through the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to support refugees.
- Qatar has offered humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees in the Zaatari Camp, in coordination with the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO). The assistance included covers, food stuff in addition to heaters. Moreover, a Qatari humanitarian assistance institution will provide the Zaatari Camp with 1000 caravans. The caravans will be delivered gradually ( 5 caravans a day) until May 2013.
- Bahrain has donated 500 caravans to Syrian refugees in the Zaatari Camp, in coordination with JHCO. The prefabricated residential cabins are expected to be installed in the camp very soon.
- Korea has collected donations from Korean people through a campaign to provide Syrian refugees in the Zaatari camp with 400 caravans, which will be

February 12 ,2013

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fabricated in Jordan to be distributed this month. Covers have been also provided to be placed in the caravans.

- The Jordanian Red Crescent (JRC) has distributed 750 food parcels in Ajloun. This comes within a Saudi humanitarian assistance campaign delivered to some 800 Syrians residing in the governorate, working in many professions to support their impoverished families.
- Saudi Arabia has dispatched 500 tonnes of flour in addition to donating 2000 tents, after distributing 10,000 food stuff and 700 heaters to 10,000 Syrian families in the Zaatari Camp.
- The Middle East Churches Council ( MECC) has dispatched humanitarian aid to Syrian refugees in Ruesifa area. This comes within a distribution plan that will include Amman, Madaba and Zarqa. The first phase comprised around 1000 food parcels and hygiene kits, household items, children clothes, heaters, stationeries to around 350 Syrian refugee families living in this area.
- The Zaatari Camp received new trailers and heaters provided by Egypt. Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan supervised the delivery of the aid.
- Members of the Swedish branch of “The Clowns Without Borders” organization returned to Jordan on a 12–day visit to spread joy among the Zaatari Refugees Camps children. The group’s visit, following a performance at the camp in Novemeber, aims to remind the children that there is another world out there and dreams can turn to reality and they must never lose hope. The performance also gives the parents a well-deserved opportunity to see their children laugh.

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#### 4. Restored Hope



Ghadeer, Mahmoud and Emad, Sumaya's kids in rented house/ room at Ashrafied area/ Amman. Photo by Doug Hostetter / MCC

Sumaya, a 32-year old Syrian refugee, escaped from Syrian, Aleppo, with her husband, *Ali\**, and four kids; Ghadeer a 7-year old girl, (3) boys, Mahmoud 6 years old, Abdullah 3 years old and Emad 1 year and a half.

*"The day we decided to leave wasn't not actually prepared, the moment I and my husband felt the real danger especially over our kids, we did not hesitate for a second"* Sumaya explains.

Before the crisis started in Syrian, Sumaya and her husband bought their dream home that they have saved to buy for around 10 years, **"we had to leave the house that**

**we have been waiting to own for a long time. I took only some clothes for my kids and left"**.

Sumaya's husband managed to rent a two-room old house throughout connections and relative who previously arrived to Jordan. **"We heard about Caritas from our neighbors and I went to their office directly to register and get the needed help for my kids in particular. I was received there with much love and attention that by itself was for me a huge support"** continues Sumaya.

**"I am happy my kids can go to school here, their education is the most important thing for me now...Back in Syrian they used to do very well at school.. I made sure to bring with me their certificate as well... Nothing values Education"** adds Sumaya.



February 12 ,2013

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“Caritas also provided me with voucher to get clothes... I am really happy, now I can get new clothes for my kids since I have

been washing the same ones I could carry with me from Syria... Thank you Caritas”. Says Sumaya.

[www.caritasjordan.org.io](http://www.caritasjordan.org.io)