Syrian Refugees in Jordan
Field Update

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Background

• Civil war in Syria with 70K dead since 2010
• Collapse of economy, shortage of food, fuel, shelter and water as well as medical services
• UN estimates 4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance
• Situation “nothing short of catastrophic” (ICRC)
Medical Situation in Syria

• Contaminated water supplies causing hepatitis A and Typhoid
• Leismaniasis
• Shortage of medicines, equipment and medical personnel
• Trauma units overwhelmed with burn victims and wounded
• Damage to 55% hospitals, 10% health centers, 78% ambulances (WHO, DEC 2013)
• Threat of chemical warfare
Overview of Humanitarian Response

• UNHCR and partners providing non food items
• WFP scaling up food assistance to 2.5 million
• WHO and UNICEF addressing waterborne illnesses
• UNFPA targeting women for essential assistance
Syrians Flee Across Border

- 858K Syrians now in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, and Turkey
- Estimate 1.1 million by June 2013
- Refugees stressing neighboring countries’ weak economies and fragile health care systems
Syrian Refugees in Jordan

• GOJ estimates 282K Syrians in Jordan
• Large numbers continue to cross daily – about 1558/day
• Age breakdown: 29% 18-35 yo, 21% 5-11yo, 19% 0-4 yo
• Females represent 49.6%
Flight to Safety

• Refugees get picked up at border points
• Jordanian military busses them to registration in Al Ramtha
• Half go to Za’atri refugee camp (54%)
• Others go with relatives and tribal kinsman in community (46% in Mafraq, Irbid, & Amman)
• Sick and wounded transferred to hospitals
Za’atri Refugee Camp

- 90K men, women and children in tents
- Overcrowded, poorly organized, and minimal services
- Located in desert: winter, wind, rain and sand
- Health services provided mostly by Jordanian Health Aid Society
- French, Moroccans, and Saudi’s also on site
- Second camp being
Major Health Issues in Camp

- Respiratory illnesses including influenza
- Dysentery
- Chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension, kidney disease
- Maternal and child care
- Depression, schizophrenia and anxiety
Community Based Services

- Mobile units, primary health care sites and secondary care hospital
- Refugees access Government facilities or special clinics run by JHAS
- Refugees overwhelming community services shared by Jordanians
Immediate Future

• More violence, chaos and infrastructure collapse inside Syria
• More refugees fleeing to neighboring countries
• Situation “nothing short of catastrophic” (ICRC)