# ANNEX 1 GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN 2013 RESPONSE PLAN



# RESPONSE PLAN FOR HOSTING SYRIANS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN

# 1 April 2013

Since the beginning of the crisis in Syria in March 2011 till the end of March 2013, the number of Syrians who fled to Jordan exceeded **470 thousand**, and are distributed in camps – over 130 thousand - and in Jordanian cities and towns about **340** thousand. Moreover, the number of those who have so far registered or in the pipeline of registration with UNHCR is more than **376 thousand**, representing **29%** of total Syrian refugees in neighboring countries as shown in the table below.

Last update	Country	Registered number	A Waiting for registration	Total	percentage
25/3/2013	Egypt	26,003	20,000	46,003	3%
26/3/2013	Lebanon	246,147	145,630	391,777	30%
26/3/2013	Iraq	120,369	120,369	240,738	18%
22/3/2013	Turkey	230,635	31,000	261,635	20%
27/3/2013	Jordan	321,425	55,236	376,661	29%
	TOTAL	944,579	372,235	1,316,814	100%

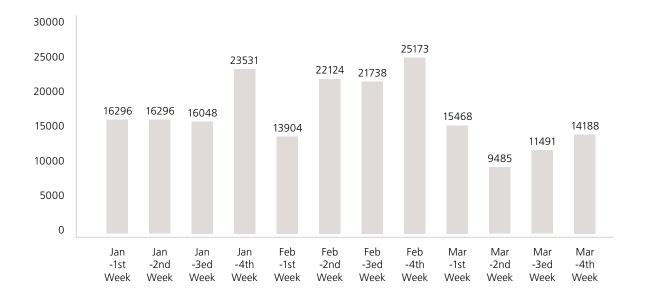
By comparing the total number of Syrian refugees entered into Jordan during the first quarter of 2012 with the first quarter of 2013 we realize that the increase is significant. Official statistics show that around 62 thousand entrants took place during the first quarter of 2012, while around 206 thousands were received during the same period in 2013. However, the expected number of Syrian refugees coming to Jordan by the end of 2013 is around one million individuals. (*The graph below shows the flow of Syrians during the first quarter of 2013 with daily average of around 2286 refugees*):

As Syrians in urban areas are granted access to public services (including health, education, shelter, water and electricity), the pressure on scarce national resources and subsidized services and items has dramatically increased, and the Jordanian Government and the families hosting vulnerable Syrians are facing numerous challenges as the unrest in Syria continues. Consequently, it is essential to support Jordan's efforts to continue hosting Syrians and providing them with basic services.

Jordan faces numerous fiscal and economic challenges and has started a fiscal reform program with the IMF that should be implemented successfully to overcome the fiscal challenges over the medium term. The additional burden of hosting Syrians has added to the challenges Jordan faces and could threaten its fiscal reforms if Jordan is not provided with the adequate support and assistance to compensate for the cost of hosting such large numbers of Syrians across all sectors. The absence of such support would seriously undermine the Government of Jordan ability to continue providing needed services.

By the end of 2012, Jordan was hosting more than 300,000 Syrians. Hosting this large number has resulted in significant direct and indirect costs for the Government of Jordan during a period of severe slowdown in growth and employment rates (12%) and all-time high budget deficit (7.6%). The Government of Jordan had incurred over **US\$251** million during 2012 to provide services and basic needs in the form of subsidies and current expenditures for Syrians in cities and communities (not including costs of establishing and operating camps covered mostly by UN agencies). This cost for the Government of Jordan of services and basic needs is expected to increase to U\$ **851.5** million in 2013 as the Syrian population reaches one million.

# The flow of Syrian refugees during the first quarter of 2013



#### **NEEDS DURING 2013**

#### **ENERGY**

It will be necessary to increase the electricity generation capacity to cover the additional demand on electricity, especially with the large number of Syrians present in the northern parts of the Kingdom. Accordingly, there is an urgent need to install an additional capacity for electricity in 2013 to avert power shortages, which led Samra Electric Power Company to set-up a gas turbine with an installed capacity of 146 mega-watts at an estimated cost of **US\$110.1** million.

Irbid Electricity Company has proposed a plan as per UN agencies' request, to provide the whole site of Za'atri Camp with a sufficient power supply. Noting that the area of the camp is around 6,000 donums, with 40 thousands prefabricated units. The needed electrical load to cover the area is 46 megawatt. The estimated cost of construction and delivering the power supply is around **US\$14** million, in addition to **US\$5.6** million monthly as an estimated operational cost to run the Camp.

The two artesian wells in the Za'atri Camp, which have been drilled to provide the site with the water need to be operational. Thus, the electrical load needed is 500 kilowatt, with a total cost of capital expenditure around **US\$339 thousands**, in addition to an estimated monthly operational cost of **US\$122 thousands**. This brings the total annual operational cost of around **US\$68.7 million to run the camp**, as well as to run the two wells.

# **WATER**

Providing water and wastewater services add many challenges on the existing systems which need rehabilitation and expansion of both water and wastewater networks. The aquifers in the area of camps are at risk if steps are not undertaken to avoid the pollution, as well as the water infrastructure in the northern Governorates which is not able to withstand the significant pressures resulting from the additional population, furthermore, water consumption by Syrians has increased the pressure on the water stations as well as affecting the portion of water for citizens in Zarqa, Irbid, and Mafraq. Hence, there is an urgent need to finance and implement specific projects in the water sector in 2013 with a total amount of **US\$91.1** million to guarantee a sustainable availability of water and prevent pollution by wastewater, in addition to providing drinking water to the Rajehi camp for military deserters with an annual cost of around US\$280 thousand.

#### **EDUCATION**

Jordan had spent the past decade reforming its education system at considerable cost. The rentals and the overcrowding in schools and the double shift system which was reintroduced to absorb Syrian students undermines the ongoing reform program in the education sector and affects the quality of education. It is also making it more difficult for the Government to eliminate the double-shift school system and build new schools. Noting that the Ministry of Education had to double shift 15 schools in Amman, Ramtha, Mafraq, and Irbid. Furthermore, there is a need to build 80 schools to accommodate at least 80 thousand students expected to enroll in our public schools during the school year 2013- 2014.

The Government of Jordan has taken a number of measures to alleviate the burden on Syrians staying in Jordan (majority are children) by allowing students to register in public schools free of charge. The number of students currently enrolled in public schools reached 40,000 (outside Zaatri camp). Many schools do not have enough space to accommodate the local Jordanian students especially in the northern Governorates that are hosting most of Syrians. There is an urgent need to add, equip and furnish new classrooms in the northern Governorates (i.e. Irbid, Mafraq, and Ajloon).

To deal with the issue of increasing numbers of students, a number of schools in the north should be immediately established to be operational for the school year 2013- 2014 in order to absorb the increasing numbers. It is estimated that the influx of one million Syrians during 2013 will more than double the number of Syrian students. Ministry of Education has identified ten schools mainly in Mafraq to be expanded by adding classrooms with a total cost of **US\$3.8** million, and another sixteen new schools in different locations in different villages in Ajloun and Mafraq to be built with an estimated cost of **US\$26.2** million. It is worth mentioning that the annual cost of each student in the primary and basic stages is US\$877 while the cost of each student in the secondary stage is around US\$1195 annually.

#### **HEALTH**

Health services are heavily subsidized by the Government, and more than 9 percent of the public budget is allocated for the health sector. The cost of providing health care to Syrians is taxing the national health system; since it is provided almost free of charge. In the last quarter of 2012, 14708 Syrians received medical treatment in Irbid and Mafraq in government hospitals, 3641 had been admitted and 305 patients had surgeries, health centres treated 27218 outpatients.

The Ministry of Health has been conducting routine vaccination campaigns twice a week against BCG, measles, polio, hepatitis, T.B., and DTP. Around 5881 Syrian children under the age of 5 years residing outside the Zaatri Camp were vaccinated against polio and measles.

The main challenge now is the new diseases and viruses among Syrians. The pressure on our public hospitals and clinics requires add-on and expansions to the current facilities. The Ministry of Health is urgently requesting adding a new floor to the Mafraq Public Hospital to increase the capacity with a total cost of **US\$2.4** million, and a Comprehensive Monitoring Health Centre which is under construction in Zaatri Camp with an estimated cost **of US\$1.3** million for 2013.

Furthermore, in order to maintain a decent level of services for all, there is a need to establish, expand, furnish, and purchase necessary medicines and vaccines which requires total funding of **US\$58.1** million for the Ministry of Health.

#### **MUNICIPALITIES**

The municipalities provide several services such as cleaning, insecticides, street light, and construct new roads, etc. According to the most recent surveys, many Syrians residing outside the camps are in Mafraq and Irbid Governorates, which adds more pressure on the services provided by the municipalities. These municipalities are already struggling to provide such services due to the limitation of resources and budget deficit. The estimated cost to provide all services and needs is US\$9.8 million.

## **SUBSIDIES**

Syrians in Jordan benefit from a number of items and commodities subsidized by the Government to ease the burden on lower income Jordanians. Among the subsidized items are bread, electricity, water and household gas. Assuming that the average number of Syrians during 2013 reaches one million, this number requires an increase in the subsidy allocations in the budget to these commodities, considered as basic needs for the population. The table below shows that more than US\$371.8 million needed to provide the subsidized items to one million Syrians by the end of 2013:

Item	Total Annual Govern- mental Subsidy (US\$ million)	Annual Per Capita Subsidy US\$	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter (hosting 470 thousands)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter (hosting 666 thousands)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter (hosting 872 thousands)	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter (hosting 1 million)
Water	339	52.15	24.5	34.7	45.5	52.15
Floura	318	49	16.1	16.1	16.1	16.1
Electricity	1793	275.85	129.6	183.7	240.5	275.85
Household Gas	180	27.7	13	18.4	24	27.7
Total in millions			183.2	252.9	326.1	371.8

a: Cost of subsidized flour for Syrian refugees residing outside the camps.

#### IMMEDIATE PROTECTION AND RECEPTION SERVICES AND NEEDS

A significant measures have been taken by the Jordan Armed Forces (JAF) on the borders, including receiving Syrian Refugees, supporting them with food, blankets, health aid, and transporting them to the camps. The Armed Forces has incurred during the last two years around US\$83 million to provide the necessary assistance for refugees.

Upon crossing the borders, Jordan receives the Syrians and provides them with necessary basic needs and services at the reception centers. These services are estimated to reach US\$80 million during 2013 to receive the influx of Syrians.

Hence, the total financial needs before the end of 2013 for the Government of Jordan to be able to provide basic services and commodities Syrian refugees is as follows:

#### **US\$** million

Sector	Cost by the end of 2013		
Energy	178.8		
Water	91.3		
Education	26.2		
Health	93.6		
Municipalities	9.8		
Subsidies	371.8		
Protection and Reception Services	80		
Total	851.5		

#### CAMP SITE DEVELOPMENT

According to the latest UNHCR Regional Response Plan issued on December 2012, based on arrival trends from September to November, it is estimated that the number of Syrians that will be hosted in camps during the first six months of 2013 is 180 thousand. The said Response highlights that the priority is the completion of Zaatri camp, as well as the construction of three additional camps including construction of basic facilities and provision of essential services in the camps will be a key priority for UN humanitarian agencies. The requested funds under the Response for establishing three camps to accommodate 180 thousand persons is about US\$155.8 million.

Thus, accommodating the expected numbers of incoming Syrians during 2013 in camps depends on the funds provided by the International Community to build new camps since the Zaatri Camp has exceeded its full capacity. In case there is no funding, which is probably the case, most Syrians will be settling in cities and villages and consequently increasing the pressure on infrastructure and services provided by the Governments as well as the local community.

## **CONCLUSION:**

The dynamics regarding the influx of Syrians remain highly unpredictable but signs clearly show to a deteriorating situation and both the GOJ, as well as international agencies and donors need to be well prepared to provide needed and urgent support for a humanitarian crisis of this magnitude. The GOJ spent **US\$251 million** in 2012 for hosting around 300,000 Syrians (80% in cities and villages). During 2013, the cost of hosting the increasing number of Syrians is expected to reach **US\$851.5 million**.

In addition to costs on the Government of Jordan, UNHCR Regional Response Plan for Jordan estimates that the construction of camps in 2012 exceeded US\$50 million not including the provision of other services funded by donors such as US, EU, Germany, Gulf states among others, while constructing the needed camps to accommodate 180 thousand persons till end of June 2013 as indicated in the UN Regional Response Plan will cost another US\$155.8 million.

The Government of Jordan response plan assumes needs for 2013 alone and assumes numbers of Syrians entering its borders will not exceed levels for the first quarter of 2013, while a prolonged stay of Syrians into 2014 and an accelerating trend in flow will entail more significant infrastructure expansion as the situation in Syria remains violent or the reconstruction effort lags behind. Thus, more capital infrastructure projects will be needed in 2014 such as new schools and hospitals, including health centers, expansion of electricity generating stations and water and wastewater networks, in addition to continuing to provide subsidized water, electricity, wheat, and other items, as long as Syrians are unable to return.

