IRAQ

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE – SYRIAN REFUGEES IN IRAQ

June 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

In the reporting period:

- The number of Syrian asylum-seekers entering the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) through the Peshkabour crossing point decreased dramatically. 174 Syrian asylum seekers entered the KR-I in June through the Peshkabour border, for which admission for the purposes of asylum is being made on a case by case basis.

- 2,177 individuals returned from the KR-I to Syria with a significant proportion intending to return to Al Hassakeh and Aleppo provinces. The sharp increase in the number of returnees was reported in the second half of June until the outbreak of violence in Kobane and Al Hassakeh where returns then decreased drastically.

- World Refugee Day was observed across camps and cities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The occasion, commemorated every year on June 20, paid tribute to the strength, courage and resilience of those displaced as well as host communities. Events across all three governorates in the KR-I which commenced in the preceding week due to the onset of Ramadan, included a food festival, film screenings, photo exhibitions and cultural and sports programs for refugee, IDP and local communities.
UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

During the reporting period, ongoing tensions between Baghdad and Erbil on budgetary and oil disputes continued despite several attempts to reach an agreement. With the issue of the oil agreement unresolved and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) reporting less than 50 per cent of its USD 1.1 billion monthly budget being paid, the reduction of the budget has resulted in delays in the payment of public sector salaries in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) and the stalling of public infrastructure projects.

Clashes between Iraqi Security Forces and ISIS militants continued in Anbar province, with Iraqi forces and militias continuing to push into Anbar despite limited gains being reported. In the North, Peshmerga forces engaged against ISIS militants at Kirkuk and Mosul Dam. ISIS positions also shifted to the North of Syria, with intense fighting in Kobane and Al Hassakeh, resulting in a decrease in the number of return movements of Syrians from the KR-I during this specific period.

Displacement movements within the country also continue to be seen from Anbar, with IDPs arriving in the KR-I by air to Erbil and Suleimaniyah. Key challenges faced by displaced communities include a lack of livelihood opportunities and shelter options, as well as lack of access to education and limited medical services. With the launch of the 2015 Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan in Brussels this month, more international support is being sought to address the humanitarian crisis in the country.

Achievements

Protection

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- 174 Syrian asylum seekers entered the KR-I from the Peshkabour crossing point. The Peshkabour crossing is now open to asylum seekers during the week, however border monitoring has found that only exceptional cases are being admitted and issued with new Asylum Request cards. Area of origin, vulnerability and family links to the KR-I are reportedly being considered in the decision making process. There are no changes however to the admission of Syrians on 15 day visas.

- A PARC/Qandil legal team provided legal consultations to 250 camp-based refugees in Erbil Governorate on personal affairs, birth registration, SGBV and labour and civil laws and facilitated the issuance of 92 legal documents, including birth and marriage certificates. The majority of refugees who had approached the legal team for counselling are women.

- In all four Erbil Governorate camps, residency departments issued 542 residency cards for refugees. Residency cards have a one year validity and facilitate access to employment and key social services such as health and education.

- In Basirma camp, UNICEF in partnership with the Directorate of Labor and Social Affairs (DoLSA) and Terre des Hommes held several awareness sessions on children’s rights reaching over 5,000 children and 1,500 parents and caregivers.

- In Duhok Governorate, 311 individuals with special needs were identified through counseling and field visits and were referred to relevant services. The majority of individuals identified were persons with serious medical conditions or physical disabilities and extremely vulnerable individuals.

- Child Protection Committees were expanded in Duhok Governorate, with the support of UNICEF. Additional committee members will assist in identifying child protection concerns.

- The Gawilan Camp Child Protection Unit held sessions with 32 mothers on hygiene for children and on the negative effects of child labor and early marriage.
In Arbat camp 78 asylum seeker certificates, including renewals, were issued and 1,287 Syrians received consultation and guidance related to registration and residency. 48 individuals with special needs were also referred to the protection team or service providers for assessment and referral.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

A total of 2,177 Syrians returned from the KR-I to Syria. In the first half of June 742 individuals reported intending to return to Al Hassakeh and Aleppo provinces. UNHCR observed a sharp increase in returns in the second half of June of 1,435 individuals more than half of which intended to return to Kobane, most noticeably between 20-23 June. Following the outbreak of violence in Kobane and clashes in Al Hassakeh on 25 June, returns decreased drastically. By the end of the reporting period returns had resumed though in numbers much less than previously observed.

A safety audit has been completed in all Erbil refugee camps with a lack of lighting at latrines and the need for a female doctor the major concern for females. Protection actors and service providers are addressing these issues.

High temperatures in the summer season, coupled with the lack of electricity in some of the camps has led to the reduction of working hours and the scale of child protection activities during Ramadan, especially in DOLSA run child friendly spaces.

Access to child friendly spaces for children with special needs is challenged by the shortage of qualified staff. UNICEF through Handicap International is working to raise community awareness of the program and increase access of disabled children to child protection services provided in these facilities.

NON-CAMP

Achievements and Impact

In Erbil Governorate, a PARC legal team facilitated the issuance of 94 documents, including birth, marriage and death certificates. The Residency Department in Erbil issued 2,623 residency cards and 952 residency cards were renewed. 45 refugees were also provided with legal consultations.

219 households have been approved for cash assistance in Erbil Governorate and a cash assistance refresher session has been conducted for the Qandil/PARC team to improve the quality of identification of Syrian refugees eligible for cash assistance.

In Duhok Governorate 33 households with specific needs were approved for cash assistance.

In Suleimaniyah Governorate 77 households were approved for cash assistance.

In Suleimaniyah Governorate 146 cases (281) individuals were registered. 599 asylum seeker certificates, including renewals, were issued, 140 cases were transferred from Erbil and Duhok and 2,371 cases were referred to the Residency Department for the issuance or renewal of residency permits. In addition, 3,915 individuals received consultation and guidance related to registration and residency and 527 individuals were iris scanned.

Through UNHCR, a Civil Development Organisation legal team represented 108 Syrians in Suleimaniyah Governorate on matters relating to documentation, civil status, marriage and birth certificates, and labour disputes. The team also provided legal consultations for 189 cases.

In Suleimaniyah Governorate, UNHCR’s partner DHRD identified one new case of sexual and gender based violence, four cases are receiving counseling and legal representation, two cases have been receiving psychotherapy and two cases have been referred to service providers. Seven women have also been provided material assistance. As some survivors face difficulties in meeting transportation costs to reach courts on days of their hearing, they will be linked up with the cash assistance program. UNHCR and DHRD also held an awareness raising session on domestic violence in Said Sadiq for 25 male and female refugees.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

In Erbil Governorate, Syrian refugees face delays in receiving residency cards. A large number of Syrian refugees are awaiting interviews with the Asayish, a mandatory component of the renewal process.

A number of Kurdish Syrians have no formal proof of identity which is impeding their obtaining of a residency card. According to PARC, there are currently 83,111 Syrian individuals with UNHCR Asylum Seeker Certificates in Erbil, but only 10,252 Syrian individuals hold residency cards. The lack of residency cards hinders the freedom of movement and access to education and other basic public services.
In Erbil Governorate, key challenges reported facing displaced communities include a lack of livelihood opportunities and shelter options, as well as lack of access to education and limited medical services.

In Suleimaniyah Governorate, an increasing number of refugees have requested to move to Arbat camp due to dwindling resources. More than 75 per cent of refugees in Suleimaniyah live out of camp. UNHCR is looking into multi-purpose cash assistance and livelihood and employment projects to increase self-sufficiency.

Issues reported from protection monitoring visits in Tasluja, Bazyan, Chamchamal, and Bardaqaraman in Suleimaniyah Governorate include high rents due to a significant presence of IDPs, increased child begging, food insecurity, a lack of employment, and drug shortages in public hospitals. Other issues reported in Rania district are the barriers to obtaining residency permits, including the high cost of transport to obtain one.

### Durable Solutions

#### Achievements and Impact

- Resettlement pre-assessment screening was undertaken for 87 cases, 76 of which were prioritized. The main referral profile was linked or dependent cases, followed by refugees with medical needs.
- Interviews were carried out in all three KR-I Governorates. Identification interviews were conducted for 65 cases, whilst 50 cases were reviewed, of which 16 were prioritized and 30 deprioritized while four cases are pending. The teams also undertook 23 RSD/RST interviews.
- Eighteen cases (70 individuals) were referred to the MENA Regional Hub in Amman for submission for resettlement. The MENA Regional Hub submitted 12 cases (46 individuals) for resettlement to the USA and one case (six individuals) to Sweden. Four cases (12 individuals) were accepted by the UK for resettlement and two cases (seven individuals) were accepted by Sweden. Four cases (22 individuals) departed to Sweden and the UK.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Resettlement submissions to Sweden from Iraq have been placed on hold until August 2015 at the request of the Swedish Migration Board, resulting in 32 individuals already identified being placed on hold for referral and submission.
- There are still a large number of cases identified particularly those with medical needs for whom there continues to be limited opportunities for resettlement.

### Education

#### CAMP

**Achievements and Impact**

- The Ministry of Education approved the renewal of contracts for 126 Syrian teachers and the recruitment of between 400 to 500 new teachers who are required for the next academic year at Syrian refugee schools.
- UNICEF, with the support of its implementing partner War Child UK, is conducting summer activities at Domiz 1 camp benefitting a total 4,594 children, of whom 896 students were registered in June.
- In Kawergorsk camp, secondary school catch up classes have commenced with 160 students attending and 42 teachers volunteering to teach assorted subjects including languages, sciences, math, economics, history and art.

#### NON-CAMP

**Achievements and Impact**

- The Ministry of Education approved UNHCR’s proposal to permit Syrian students in lower elementary classes to register in Kurdish medium schools, which will help decrease the over crowdedness at Arabic medium schools in the KR-I. UNHCR will implement a number of quick implementation projects to reinforce local school capacity.
- Transportation cash assistance was provided by UNHCR for 187 refugee school age children in Suleimaniyah Governorate. The program will continue when second semester resumes in October.
Health

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- A total of 23,930 consultations were conducted in Primary Health Care (PHC) centres across Syrian refugee camps during June. Consultations reduced slightly during the month of Ramadan, with the consultation rate reaching an average of 3.1 consultations per person per year, still in the expected range of 1-4 consultations. The main reasons for consultations remained upper respiratory tract infections, diarrhea and skin infections. 919 patients were referred to secondary and tertiary hospitals for further investigations or hospitalization. A total of 1,028 patients benefitted from mental health services during the month.

- UNICEF continued to support local and governmental health authorities for routine immunization services in all refugee camps. A total of 1,547 children under five years old (U5) were immunized against polio, 319 infants under one year of age were vaccinated against measles, and 617 U5 children received vitamin A supplements. The Department of Health in Dohuk with UNICEF support also vaccinated 214 children under 15 years of age entering the KR-I from the Peshkabour crossing point against polio, of whom 156 were also immunised against measles.

- Trained Syrian refugee nurses visited 4,500 families in their tents across KR-I refugee camps as part of the UNICEF-supported new born home visit program. A total of 373 new born babies and 409 pregnant women received health support services.

- 212 newly registered refugee children across KR-I refugee camps received specialised services from UNICEF supported frontline workers. Cases included children with emotional distress, non-attendance at school, child labor, unaccompanied and Separated Children, early marriage, gender based violence and disability.

- UNICEF and its implementing partners registered 1,657 refugee children in psychosocial support services.

- ACF has expanded its Mental Health and Psychosocial Support programme to Akre refugee settlement.

- The preparation of the governorate specific cholera preparedness plan continues in the KR-I under the guidance of the Directorates of Health.

- Monthly meetings are now conducted in all KR-I Primary Health Centres, with the exception of Domiz camp, to enhance coordination among the different health partners and to engage in closer dialogue with camp administration and refugee representatives.

- In all KR-I camps, an estimated 3,261 U5 children accessed UNICEF-supported growth monitoring and baby hut services. Information-sharing and counselling on maternal and child health continued with 198 seminars held in refugee camps reaching an estimated 700 pregnant and lactating women on infant and child feeding and nutrition.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The prevention of communicable diseases outbreaks remains a key priority, the health cluster/sector group will jointly work on updating cholera preparedness plans.

- Community Health Worker programmes need to be expanded in Qushtapa and Basirma camps in Erbil Governorate to increase health awareness.

- Darashakran and Gawilan Camps, which are far from cities, are in need of delivery rooms.

Food Security and Nutrition

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- WFP and cooperating partners continued in-kind food and voucher distributions across all Syrian refugee camps in the KR-I. More than 104,000 Syrian refugees received WFP food assistance in June, 90 per cent of which were reached with vouchers valued at USD 19 per person. The voucher value was originally reduced in February from USD 28.20 due to continued funding constraints. Through the voucher programme, WFP injected USD 1.8 million into the local economy in June alone.
Analysis of post-distribution monitoring findings from the first quarter of 2015 found that the food voucher programme continues to have a significant positive impact on food consumption scores when compared to in-kind food assistance. 99 per cent of households interviewed during the first three months of 2015 were found to have acceptable food consumption scores.

Construction of the WFP voucher distribution centre in Domiz 2 camp was completed.

The UAE Consulate in coordination with BRHA and Barzani Charity distributed 2,600 food parcels to 1,310 families in Gawilan camp.

In Al Obaidy camp, UNHCR through the Iraqi Salvation Humanitarian Organisation (ISHO) continued to distribute two pieces of bread per refugee per day for the entire camp population in addition to complementary food assistance of IQD 17,500 to 712 refugees in the camp. To address the gap in delivery of food parcels, UNHCR through ISHO distributed an additional amount of IQD 25,000 for 808 refugees. To assist refugees with the summer heat, ice blocks are also being distributed to the camp population until the end of summer.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- WFP was unable to deliver food commodities to Al Obaidy camp in Anbar Governorate, where ongoing military operations are hindering access to the camp.

**Water and Sanitation**

**CAMP**

**Achievements and Impact**

- UNICEF and partners provided safe drinking water to Syrian refugees in KR-I camps, meeting the agreed standard of 50 litres per person per day. Through water trucking, UNICEF and the Board of Relief and Humanitarian Affairs are providing water access for an estimated 1,600 families (6,200 refugees) in Domiz 1 who cannot access water from the pipeline network due to a lack of water pressure.

- To prevent additional water wastage in camps, PU-AMI has installed 1,000 floating valves to date for water tanks in the permanent site of Gawilan camp. Safety measures for water tanks have also been installed at Darashakran camp by the Directorate of Erbil Surrounding Water (DESW) and broken water tanks have been replaced in Kawergosk camp by NRC.

- UNICEF in partnership with NRC conducted 2500 household visits in Domiz I Camp focusing on the prevention of communicable and waterborne diseases common during summer, personal hygiene and environmental cleanliness, including household storage tank cleanings. 25 gatherings for 180 children and 35 gatherings for 85 adults were also conducted on the prevention of diseases, such as scabies and other common ailments prevalent in summer.

- In Basirma Camp, UNICEF distributed 678 hygiene kits.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Water consumption in Erbil Governorate camps is increasing due to hot temperatures with refugees insisting on increasing the distributed amount of water for air coolers. Camp administrators are exploring suitable ways to control the level of consumption by encouraging refugees to reduce unnecessary usage. In Akre camp, UPP has conducted a group discussion and distributed leaflets on water usage and hygiene promotion.

- Community advocacy is required to address the efficient use and conservation of household water. Water loss due to the overflow of storage tanks remains an issue and UNICEF in collaboration with NRC, FRC and BRHA plans to install floating valves in all the water tanks in Domiz 1.
Critical gaps for intervention in Gawilan and Akre camps include the installation of water flow meters, backup power equipment supplies to eliminate water supply disruptions, strengthening regular water quality monitoring, hygiene promotion in schools, distribution of hygiene kits and the improvement of solid waste management.

Gaps in WASH facilities have been found across 10 schools in Dohuk governorate with the need for rehabilitation of existing facilities, the construction of new toilets especially for children with disabilities and additional hand washing tap stands. UNICEF and the Department of Education will carry out construction works during the summer holiday benefiting an estimated 8,209 school children.

Shelter and NFIs

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- In Erbil Governorate summerisation distributions across all four refugee camps was completed benefiting 6,413 refugees. UNHCR distributed rechargeable fans, jerrycans and mattresses, with IOM complementing the assistance by distributing pillows, water cooler boxes and rechargeable lights.
- In Kawergosk camp, the construction of road works for 512 shelter plots has been completed by Erbil Refugee Council with UNHCR support; and sewer lines have also been repaired benefiting over 100 families.
- With the completion of greywater pipe laying in Basirma camp, a total of 87 shelter plots are ready to be occupied.
- In Dohuk Governorate, UNHCR summerisation distributions reached 2,790 families of 15,000 individuals. Targeted distributions are ongoing in Domiz 1 where UNHCR in coordination with BRHA is planning to target 2,000 families. Summerisation kits consist of rechargeable fans, jerry cans and sleeping mats.
- In Dohuk Governorate, the relocation of families from irregular sectors to new UNHCR plots commenced in Domiz 1 and Gawilan camps. The new shelters have better facilities such as individual latrines, shower and kitchens for each family. Priorities for relocation include extremely vulnerable families, disabilities and female headed households.
- In Domiz 1 and 2 camps, UNHCR through Qandil has provided 239 individuals with full NFI kits as part of items delivered for new registration or marriage cases. Shelter self-improvement in both camps is also ongoing, where some 95 families improved their shelters in Domiz 2.
- In Akre camp, the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) maintenance project is ongoing, which includes the replacement of bulbs, fixing and reinstallation of electrical wires and preparation for plastering works. Refugees are involved in the implementation.
- In Gawilan camp, PU-AMI distributed plastic sheeting for 513 families and UNHCR through Qandil distributed 43 UNHCR family tents to 37 families of 143 individuals including families arriving from non-camp locations as well as new marriage cases. Eight households relocated to Gawilan camp from Domiz, Bardarash and Zakho bringing the number of relocations to Gawilan in excess of 200 families since January this year, attributed to financial difficulties faced by those refugees including an inability to afford rent or to secure employment.
- In Arbat camp, UNHCR through the Youth Activity Organisation (YAO) distributed NFIs to 288 households (987 individuals), consisting of mattresses, plastic sheets, water and kerosene jerry cans, kerosene heater and stoves, hygiene kits, kitchen sets and bars of soap. Over 949 households (3,757 individuals) also received summerization items that included sleeping mats, water jerry can and rechargeable electric fans. 237 households also moved into the newly constructed site of the camp.
- In Al Obaidy camp, UNHCR through ISHO distributed 10,650 liters of kerosene benefiting 158 families, in addition to 7,140 baby diapers, 4,200 sanitary napkins, 1,430 adult diapers and 764 soap bars that were also distributed.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a need to replace tents affected by mold in Gawilan camp.
- Shaded distribution areas are required to be constructed in Domiz 2 and Gawilan camps
- In Arbat camp, new latrines and showers are required.
NON-CAMP
Achievements and Impact

- As part of an urban shelter strategy, UNHCR commenced the renovation of 50 refugee houses in Suleimaniyah city.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

World Refugee Day was observed across camps and cities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The occasion, observed every year on June 20, paid tribute to the strength, courage and resilience of those displaced as well as host communities. Events across all three governorates in the KR-I included cultural, recreational and entertainment programs in camps and non camp locations, including a food festival, film screening, photo exhibitions and sports tournaments involving refugee, IDP and local communities.

CAMP
Achievements and Impact

- In Erbil Governorate, DRC conducted training for female committee members in Kawergosk camp, 320 participants benefited from community based activities including language and vocational courses in Qushtapa camp; and 203 participants benefited from language and math courses in Basirma camp.
- In Dohuk Governorate, UNHCR’s implementing partner DRC conducted eight life skills training sessions for 168 refugees in Sumel, Faida and Domiz Barak, Dohuk City and Domiz 1 camp. Computer and English language courses also commenced in Hussaniya settlement for a total of 90 students from host and refugee communities by REACH. 20 refugees in Gregawre settlement are also benefiting from cash for work programs funded by UNHCR and implemented by REACH.

NON-CAMP
Achievements and Impact

- There are limited opportunities for vocational training and other skills training for youth in the refugee camps.
STORIES FROM THE FIELD

World Refugee Day 2015: Taste My Culture

Dohuk City (UNHCR) – Celebrating the diversity of cultures and the spirit of hospitality among refugees, internally displaced persons and host communities, UNHCR marked the occasion of World Refugee Day in Duhok in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through a food festival.

Aptly named, “Taste My Culture”, the event provided an opportunity for participants to sample each other’s culinary heritage, given the power and nature of food in bringing people and cultures together. Seven local communities including Yezidi, Arab, Christian, Kurd, Turkmen, Turkish and Syrian cultural groups all participated.

42-year-old Amina Yousif from Damascus, Syria, prepared a number of signature dishes from her homeland, including a rich and creamy chickpea and yoghurt dish called Fatteh, and refreshing Tabouli and Fatoush salads. “This occasion has allowed us to share our food and culture with the whole world,” she says beaming.

Other participants, including Rasha Abed, a 30 year old Christian from Mosul who was displaced with his wife and son, prepared traditional Iraqi Dolma and Kubbah, the former consisting of delicately cooked vegetables stuffed with rice and the latter a bulghur based meat pie. 47 year old Adnan Ali and his family, Muslim Kurds from Sinjar, also prepared another Iraqi favourite, Tashreeb, a hearty and flavourful meat stew served over flatbread.

“The festival is amazing,” says Ismael Ahmed, the Deputy Governor for Internally Displaced Persons in Duhok as he walks with participants around mobile kitchens where communities are busily preparing food. Testament to the quality of the food on display, some of the refugees and IDP participants showcasing their culinary delights were noticed by authorities and members of the local community, receiving job offers on the spot!

With many of the participants having overcome difficult journeys and experiences, the event also served to raise awareness of the devastating impact of conflict on those displaced, whilst also recognising the generosity and support of local communities towards them.

By Husam Eldin Mustafa
DONOR INFORMATION

Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

Donors who have contributed to the operation:

- Australia
- Canada
- CERF
- European Union
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Iraq
- Italy
- Japan
- Kuwait
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Switzerland
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Private Donors

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AOG    Armed opposition group
ANC    Antenatal care
BIA/BID Best Interests Assessment/Best Interests Determination
CRI    Core Relief Items (formerly known as non-food items/NFIs)
DoE    Department of Education
DoH    Department of Health
KR-I   Kurdistan Region of Iraq
IDP    Internally displaced people
KR-I   Kurdistan Region of Iraq
MoDM   Ministry of Migration and Displacement
PARC   Protection Assistance Reintegration Centre
PHC    Primary Health Care
RSD    Refugee status determination
SGBV   Sexual and gender-based violence
UASC   Unaccompanied and separated children
WASH   Water, sanitation and hygiene
ANNEXES

Refugees by Areas of Origin in Syria

Contacts:
Shabia Mantoo, External Relations / Reporting Officer, mantoo@unhcr.org, Cell +964 (0) 770 494 6318

Links:
For information on the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) please click on http://www.3rpsyriacrisis.org/.

Announcements of all sector meetings along with respective agendas and minutes, and other information on sector-wide progress such as 3Ws, dashboards and camp profiles, are available on the inter-agency information sharing portal at http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php.

For more information on the work of UNHCR and our partners in Iraq, please follow us on Twitter at @unhcriq and on Facebook at “UNHCRinIraq”
UNHCR Registration Trends for Syrian Persons of Concern

This profile is based on 249,726 registered individuals.

Age and Gender Breakdown

Place of Origin

Camp and non-camp population comparison

From 16 June 2014, as Al-Obaidi Camp became inaccessible to UN agencies and other humanitarian staff, the camp registered population figure is not updated.