13 March 2014: World Events

**JORDAN – Syrian Refugees**
- 584 600 Syrian refugees registered in Jordan (numbers of arrivals: about 300-350 daily in the past six months; 600 in February). Za’atari camp is reaching full capacity (total population: approx. 93 000 persons).
- ECHO partners in coordination with Government authorities are working on the preparations to open the new refugee camp in Azraq camp by April.
- September 2012-February 2014: Jordanian border authorities have recorded the voluntary return of 107 000 Syrian refugees to their country. In recent weeks, however, returns have almost come to a halt due to the intensification of hostilities in southern Syria.
- Unlike Syrian refugees, Iraqis must undergo the refugee status determination conducted by UNHCR. ECHO is leading concerted donors’ efforts advocating for the harmonization of assistance provided to all refugees in Jordan. (ECHO)

**SYRIA – Conflict / Displacement**
- Western and southern Syria: escalation of the armed conflict in the governorates of Quneitra and Dara’a, is prompting further displacement in areas where IDP concentration was already high.
- Humanitarian organizations: at least 35 000 people have been displaced to Damascus city, Rural Damascus, central Quneitra, western Dara’a due to fighting.
- In February, estimates suggest that the number of people in need of humanitarian aid in hard-to-reach areas in Dara’a and Quneitra has increased to 245 000, including 159 000 IDPs. In this context, access difficulties and security risks for the delivery of humanitarian assistance in southern Syria are growing. (ECHO)

**IRAQ – EC Humanitarian funding**
- European Commission is increasing its humanitarian assistance to Iraq by €3 million in response to an increase in the IDPs fleeing the security crisis in Al-Anbar governorate. This additional funding will bring the total 2014 humanitarian funding for Iraq to €7 million.
- On mission in Baghdad, Kristalina Georgieva (EU Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection), confirmed the increase in EU humanitarian funding to continue supporting the needs of Iraqi IDPs and Iraqi refugees in Jordan and Lebanon through its humanitarian partners the ICRC and UNHCR. (ECHO)

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**HONDURAS – Drought**
- Already precarious food security situation could be further aggravated due to the expected below normal rainfall levels in the coming weeks and months (according to recent forecast).
(ECHO)

**PERU – Floods / Heavy Rainfall Mudslides**
- Libertad, Ancash, San Martin and Amazonas: heavy rains caused a number of mudslides, damaging the road infrastructure in these regions and isolating several communities.
(ECHO)

**BOLIVIA – Floods**
- Flood situation in central-northern Bolivia remains critical.
- Municipalities of San Joaquin, San Ramon and Puerto Siles in Beni are in a critical situation (UN).
- Effects of the rainy season, since October 2013 (UN): approx. 68 000 families affected, 64 dead, more than 2 200 houses damaged, 4 000 families housed in shelters in Beni.
(UN, NASA, GDACS, WMO)

**PACIFIC ISLANDS – Dengue Outbreak**
- Fiji: 11 dead, over 10 000 people infected during an outbreak of dengue fever (Fiji’s Health Department).
- Vanuatu: approx. 1 000 cases recorded. The Vanuatu Red Cross Society is working in partnership with the Ministry of Health.
- Kiribati: 200 cases recorded since December 2013.
- Cook Islands: 100 cases of a dengue-like illness media.
- Tonga, Samoa: several cases reported.
(ECHO)

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