

EGYPT

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE – SYRIAN REFUGEES IN EGYPT

APRIL 2015

KEY FIGURES

524

Unaccompanied minors assisted

26,260

Individuals provided with cash grants in April 2015

85,251

Syrian refugees received WFP food vouchers in April

456

Individuals submitted for Resettlement since the beginning of 2015

11,620

Individuals with specific needs identified in Syrian population

49

SGBV survivors who have received support since the beginning of 2015

72

People provided with legal counseling since the beginning of 2015

FUNDING

USD 189,581,596

requested by agencies for 3RP response



PRIORITIES

- Improve access to basic health and education services through coordination and capacity building for selected government ministries.
- Save lives by enhancing targeting assistance and follow-up of most vulnerable cases.
- Enhance access to livelihoods and skills training both to enhance self-reliance in Egypt and to prepare for eventual return to Syria.
- Promote coexistence between Syrian communities and their Egyptian hosts.
- Coordinate protection response with particular emphasis on child protection, SGBV and prevention of irregular migration.

HIGHLIGHTS

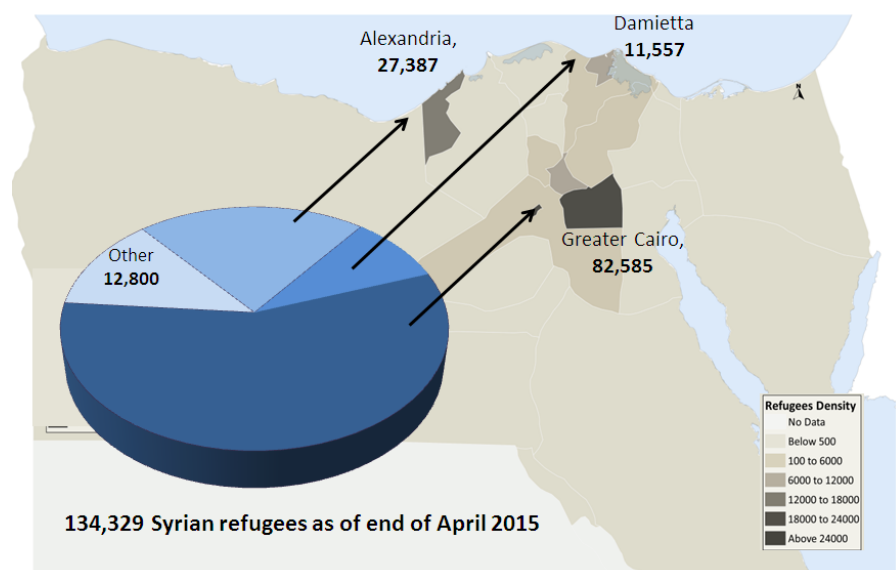
- The first round of anti-polio campaign took place from 19 to 22 April 2015. Around 15,469,098 children under 5 were vaccinated during the campaign.
- The Bibliotheca Alexandrina, in cooperation with UNHCR and the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights organized an event titled “Refugees in Egypt”. The event started with lectures on the refugee situation in Egypt and the role of UNHCR in assisting refugees through its international and national partners in Egypt. The lectures were followed by a community theatre play called “Going to the Neighbors’ House” which aimed to raise awareness in Egyptian communities about their refugee neighbors.

Population of concern

A total of **134,329** people of concern

Custom Age Group	F	M	Total
0-4	7,969	8,343	16,312
5-11	12,292	13,071	25,363
12-17	7,763	8,372	16,135
18-39	24,667	26,225	50,892
40-59	10,095	9,848	19,943
60+	2,834	2,850	5,684
Total	65,620	68,709	134,329

Places of Concentration in Egypt



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- As the Syrian conflict enters its fifth year, the refugee response in Egypt continues to address the rights and needs of Syrian refugees in Egypt, in addition to advocacy with the Government.
- Most Syrians in Egypt are scattered in urban neighborhoods, renting and sharing accommodation but also benefitting from access to public services in education and health care. UNHCR conducts registration, provides counseling, and works with partners to provide legal assistance. The interagency operational partners work to address the social, education and health needs of vulnerable Syrians in Egypt. Helplines are also operated by UNHCR for inquiries and counseling.
- The 3RP Resilience component lead by UNDP aims to bring together humanitarian and resilience-based responses to achieve common objectives such the protection and support for Syrians refugees and impacted host communities.

Achievements

Protection

Irregular Movements

- The first incidents of irregular departures by sea from Egypt since the beginning of 2015 were reported in April, during which UNHCR observed at least 6 incidents.
- During the month of April, a total of 18 Syrians, were detained at Police Stations in Kafr El Sheikh, Alexandria and Matrouh Governorates for attempting to depart Egypt irregularly by sea.
- An increase in the number of releases from detention involving asylum-seekers and refugees registered with UNHCR has been observed.
- Caritas, Resala and PSTIC, have been providing emergency assistance to detainees in the form of food, blankets and medical care and psychosocial support. IOM has also provided assistance in the form of sanitary kits and non-food items.

Child Protection:

- Save the Children's Health Coordinator and psycho-social workers conducted three introductory sessions with families living in Syria El Ghad housing, including 22 children aged 6 -14 years, 5 children aged 15-18 years and 8 female parent. Attendees were advised on the scope of interventions for children with specific needs, including art, theatre performance, music, sports and handicrafts.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- Care International, in coordination with partners, continued to hold Art Therapy workshops, directed to both male and female refugees. These workshops have proven to be important forums for opening discussion around sexual and gender based violence issues and themes with both male and female participants in Cairo.

Community Activities:

- In April, UNHCR held several community meetings with coordination assistance from Tadamon Council. 34 individuals benefited from the awareness sessions on resettlement, health, community services and livelihoods as well as education.
- Syria Al Gad Relief Foundation organized an event for the National Orphan's Day with the participation and attendance of UNHCR. Games, handicrafts, and sports activities benefited over 60 orphan refugees.
- Syria Al Gad Relief Foundation also organized an outing for 53 female educators, and 2 male educators as well as 25 children, from the Al Obour City Community at Al Azhar Park. UNHCR provided an awareness session to the participants on livelihoods, community services, family reunification and the ongoing mainstreaming healthcare plans by UNHCR and the Ministry of Health.

Education

- St Andrews Refugee Services (StARS) launched their general teacher training program. To date, 42 Syrian teachers have been trained in 6th October City on several teaching skills. The training will have a positive effect on more than 1,400 students who are currently taught by these teachers.
- The DAFI scholarship program continues to provide much needed support for refugee students enrolled in Egyptian universities, where the majority of the students receiving DAFI scholarships are female.



Health

- The first round of anti-polio campaign took place from 19- 22 April 2015. Around 15,500,000 under 5 children were vaccinated during this period. Awareness sessions about the polio campaign have been conducted by the community health volunteers prior to the start of it.
- UNHCR is continuing its health outreach activities to monitor and support the mainstreaming of Syrian refugees into the public primary health care system and to raise the community's health awareness,
- During April, community health volunteers carried out around 130 field visits to public primary health care facilities, 26 field visits to UNHCR's health providers' clinics and 1,176 home visits. As part of the community outreach strategy, an internal training session has been conducted with the community services team for orientation on the health mainstreaming strategy, the referral pathway for Syrian refugees and the adapted criteria for UNHCR medical assistance.



Basic Needs and Livelihood

- In April, 26,260 vulnerable Syrian refugees were assisted in Egypt through the provision of monthly cash grants.
- The Egyptian Red Crescent, in cooperation with UNHCR, provided 1,000 Syrian families with cash assistance during the reporting period. These families were scored as severely vulnerable through the on-going socio-economic/vulnerability assessment framework. The prioritization of this assistance was for cases that are not currently receiving food or cash assistance and are single headed households with large family size and households with a medical condition. UNHCR participated in the monitoring of the distribution process.
- A Basic Needs & Livelihood Working Group meeting was held during the reporting period where the scoring results model that is going to be used for targeting assistance to Syrian refugees was introduced. Cash assistance partners also provided a brief on the progress and status of the socioeconomic assessment along with challenges faced in the field.
- The Caritas self-reliance team conducted three exhibitions in Alexandria during the month. Beneficiaries who received grants from the livelihood program exhibited products such as Syrian food and handicrafts. Resala also facilitated two exhibitions where Syrian women were able to exhibit their home-based products as part of the livelihood activities in Damietta.



Food Security and Nutrition

- The WFP food voucher distribution for April's round benefitted 85,251 individuals, meeting 99% of the month's target. A total amount of USD 1,340,073 was injected into local economy through the food vouchers/e-cards programme in April.
- In light of the on-going Syrian refugee crisis and its impact upon Egyptian schools, WFP held a two-day assessment implementation workshop followed by a practical assessment of primary schools in Alexandria and Damietta. Representatives from the Ministry of Education, UNHCR, and WFP participated in training for rapid assessment design prior to visiting public primary schools to assess the key factors affecting the schooling and integration of Syrian children. The results will guide a two-year school feeding programmes, funded by the Government of Canada, to support Syrian refugees and the host population.

Working in partnership

- In 2015, the Refugee Response continues to be overseen by the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG), chaired by the UNHCR Representative. The IAWG will continue to oversee the Sector Working Groups (SWGs), through the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) – and the related strategic, advocacy and funding processes. The Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) continues to encourage synergies between sectors, avoid duplication, and work on common processes. Consequently and on the basis of 3RP, SWGs in Egypt started to coordinate, identify and raise relevant operational topics to ensure a standard approach.
- AOHR • Arab Council for Supporting Fair Trials and Human Rights (ACSFT) • Arab Medical Union (AMU) • Care Intl/USA • Caritas • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Danish Refugee Council (DRC) • ICMC • ILO • IOM • Dr. Mostafa Mahmoud Society • Refuge Egypt • Refuge Point • Resala Charity Organisation • Save the Children • Tadamon • St Andrews Refugee Services (StARS) • Terre des Hommes - Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC) • UNDP • UNFPA • UNHABITAT • UNICEF • UNOPS • UNV • WFP • WHO

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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