



EGYPT

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE – SYRIAN REFUGEES IN EGYPT

SEPTEMBER 2015

KEY FIGURES

524

Unaccompanied minors assisted

31,645

Refugees provided with cash grants in September 2015

55,590

Refugees received WFP food vouchers in September

1,666

Refugees submitted for Resettlement since the beginning of 2015

11,964

Refugees with specific needs identified in Syrian population

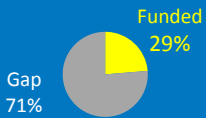
1,189

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

HIGHLIGHTS

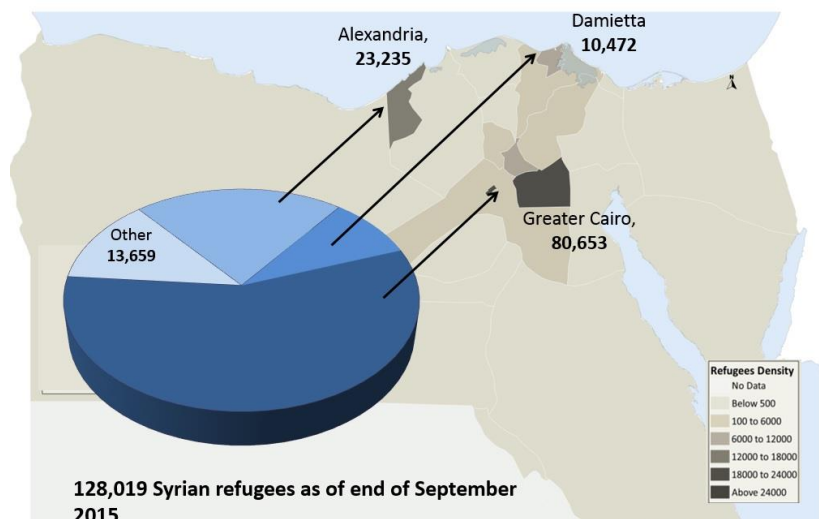
- During September, 602 Syrians were newly registered with UNHCR, while 412 individuals closed their cases.
- By mid-2015, 108,312 individuals had been verified, representing 84.56% of the active registered population.
- By end of the September, a total of 92,221 Syrian individuals have been assessed under the socio-economic assessment.
- UN Women launched a training center in coordination with the National Council for Women in order to train Syrian refugees with soft skills.

Population of concern

A total of **128,019** people of concern (POC)

Custom Age Group	F	M	Total
0-4	7,413	7,748	15,161
5-11	12,256	12,969	25,225
12-17	7,440	7,983	15,423
18-39	23,402	24,378	47,780
40-59	9,528	9,481	19,009
60+	2,689	2,732	5,421
Total	62,728	65,291	128,019

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 living 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.
- 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

Registration

- Registration of Syrian refugees in Egypt by UNHCR continues. 128,019 individuals had been registered with UNHCR as of end of September 2015.
- During 2015, 5,560 Syrian refugees have registered with UNHCR, which represents a decrease of approximately 55.5%, in comparison to 12,336 individuals registered between January and August 2014. Only 2,041 of those registered with UNHCR in the course of 2015, represent new arrivals to Egypt, as the entry visa requirement for Syrian nationals remains.
- Departure of Syrians have also been reported, with the vast majority having returned to Syria or Turkey or with the intention to travel to third countries. By mid-2015, 108,312 individuals had been verified, representing 84.56% of the active registered population.

Irregular Movements

- Since the beginning of the year, a total of 3,057 individuals have been arrested attempting to depart Egypt by sea, including 535 Syrians. Arrested individuals are usually detained at Police Stations in Alexandria, El Beheira and Kafr El Sheikh Governorates.
- All detainees are provided with food, non-food items, and legal, medical and psychosocial support by UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM, Caritas, MSF, and PSTIC.

Child Protection

- In September 2015, 3,236 Syrian children and adolescents as well as 847 fathers and mothers had been reached through non-specialized community based Child Protection and Psycho-Support (PSS) services offered by UNICEF and partners operating in Greater Cairo (6th October, Sheikh Zayed City) and the Northern Governorates including Alexandria, Damietta and Gamasa City. This included individual psycho-social sessions, life-skills education including computer classes for parents and psycho-drama activities. Case management and specialized services was provided to 465 children.

SGBV

- CARE International conducted four health awareness sessions in Greater Cairo, reaching 122 Syrian women and girls. The workshop was facilitated by a medical doctor. The sessions aimed at raising awareness on emergency contraception available within the first 72 hours following a rape incident. 40% of the participants have been subject to early and forced marriage (EFM), and specifically requested information sessions for adolescents on the risks, challenges and

effects of EFM on marital relationships. As a result, an EFM workshop at Syria El Gad is being designed for Syrian refugee adolescents to be held.

- A total of 125 Syrian men and women attended a legal awareness session, which focused on addressing the legal framework available in the case of early and forced marriage.
- Art therapy plays a significant role in the provision of specialized psycho-social support for survivors of SGBV. Within a safe setting, female survivors are provided with the opportunity to express their pain, anger and channel their distress of the SGBV incident. Two art therapy day events were organized in El Obour City were attended by 78 women. During the events 10 cases of EFM were identified; seven women who were subjected to domestic violence and four women experienced marital rape. The women were all able to address their distress and trauma of the SGBV incidents through drawing, writing and graffiti.

Community Activities

- UNHCR Community Support Projects unit (CSP) conducted visits to Zabaleen area and the Association for the Protection of the Environment (A.P.E) in order to analyze the field of waste management and discover possible cooperation scenarios. UNHCR CSP is researching this field to figure out the viability of handling waste management projects in refugee-hosting places.
- On 2 September, Ecumene Studio organized a workshop under the title of “Primary Design Presentation” of the Schoolyard for All project. The workshop marked the end of the design stage and the presentation of its outcomes. The participatory design phase was conducted in cooperation with the University of Alexandria. Oecumene Studio and volunteers from the University of Alexandria together with students went through a co-design process to reshape and re-organize the shared spaces in their schools.
- On 18 September, Red Tomato and Tawasul team arranged an entertainment event in Masakan Othman, as part of UNHCR intervention in this area. Through a series of street theatre activities, the project aims to create new community connections between extremely disperse groups.



Health

- The Egyptian Ministry of Health (MOH) will conduct a nationwide Measles and Rubella vaccination campaign from 31 October to 21 November 2015 for all children living in Egypt in the age group from 9 months to 10 years old. MOH, UNICEF and the National Committee for vaccination printed information flyers in English and Arabic which also have been shared on UNHCR social media platforms.
- Arab Medical Union (AMU) is reviewing their referral hospitals network through conducting hospitals assessment and services costing. AMU has also reviewed the community health outreach program in order to strengthen the community health volunteers’ network and expand the scope and the coverage of outreach activities.
- In order to maintain UNHCR’s communication with the Syrian community and facilitate their access to health care, the trained community health volunteers conducted 1,920 home visits during September.
- UNHCR’s mental health partner “PSTIC” conducted 49 mental health consultations in their clinics.



Basic Needs and Livelihood

- 31,465 vulnerable Syrian refugees were assisted in Egypt through the provision of monthly cash grants.
- 371 participants of the Graduation Approach were able to secure employment at their initiative since the beginning of the year. This development emphasizes the impact of the Graduation Approach programme.
- UNHCR Livelihoods Unit in coordination with Unilever conducted two group discussions with beneficiaries in order to assess the proposed entrepreneurship model by Unilever to support refugees living in Egypt with employment opportunities. A total of 61 individuals met in Greater Cairo and 30 individuals met in Alexandria. 41 participants expressed interest to begin the project.
- UN Women launched a training center in coordination with the National Council for Women. The center provides training in soft skills for Syrian refugees as part of the regional economic empowerment programme.

Food Security and Nutrition

- A total of 55,590 beneficiaries (52,713 Syrian and 2,877 Syrian/Palestinian refugees) received WFP food vouchers during the September distribution, meeting 99% of the month's target.
- There has been no exclusion based on targeting in the September distribution cycle.

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 oversees the Sector Working Groups (SWGs) through the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG), and the related strategic, advocacy and funding processes. The ISWG encourages synergy between sectors to avoid duplication, and ensure coordination on common processes. The 3RP is a platform for the collaboration between SWGs in Egypt to coordinate, identify and raise relevant operational topics to ensure a standard approach.
- Arab Organization for Human Rights • Arab Council for Supporting Fair Trials and Human Rights (ACSFT) • Arab Medical Union (AMU) • Care Intl/USA • Caritas • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) • ILO • IOM • Dr. Mostafa Mahmoud Society • Refuge Egypt • Refuge Point • Save the Children • St Andrews Refugee Services (StARS) • Terre des Hommes - Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC) • UNDP • UNFPA • UNICEF • UNOPS • UNV • WFP • WHO •

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds and to those who have contributed directly to the operation in 2014 and 2015.



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Links:

Regional portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

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