



58,762 Syrian children registered with UNHCR Egypt

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Caritas' Support Education Training for Inclusive (SETI) Centre launched an online directory of Community and Government Centres which provide services for children with disabilities.
- UNICEF increased the number of child friendly spaces (CFS) in Alexandria from 3 to 5 (3 in Borg El Arab, 1 in Montaza, and 1 in Al Agami). The spaces offer recreational, learning and psycho-social activities for Syrian children. UNICEF is currently working with 2,000 Syrian children in Alexandria and plans to extend services (CFS and case management) to New Damietta.
- In coordination with Save the Children, FARD Foundation distributed 368 school bags to Syrian refugee children. They also organized two recreational days for children residing in 6th of October and 1st Settlement areas in Greater Cairo. In addition, FARD continues to distribute diapers for children in Masaken Osman in Greater Cairo.
- Following UNHCR's advocacy with the Ministry of Higher Education, the Minister issued a decree granting Syrians applying for post-graduate studies in all Egyptian universities and institutes equal standing as Egyptians for the 2013-2014 academic year .



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

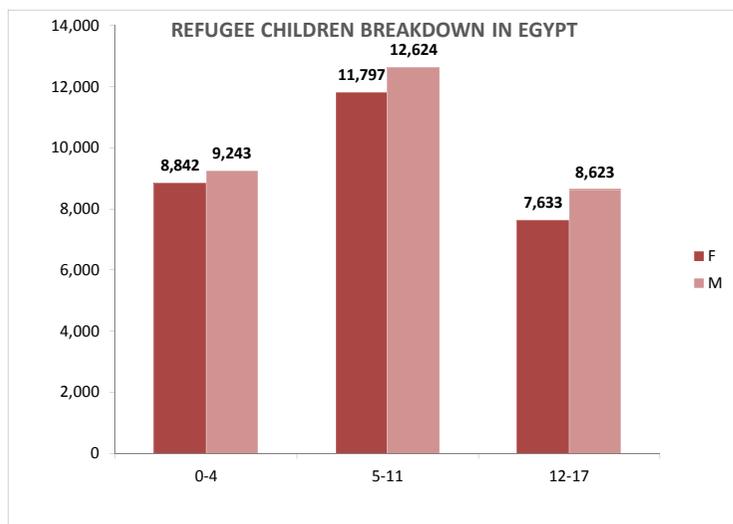
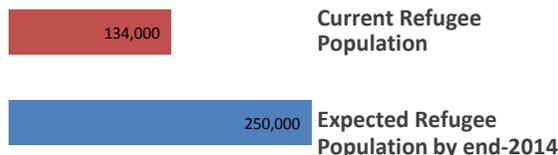
The Egyptian Government granted Syrians access to public schools under same rules that apply to Egyptian nationals. In practice several challenges have arisen when Syrian students attempted to enroll their children in public schools most importantly the required documentation, overcrowding and waitlists. The lack of capacity and quality of the environment in public schools remains a significant barrier to the enrolment and retention of Syrian children.

Common barriers to education also include costs of transportation and tuition fees which can be excessive for refugee families with limited resources; however, UNHCR through its implementing partners is providing education grants to assist with transportation costs. Language barriers and safety concerns of parents may contribute to a higher drop-out rate among refugee children. However, the biggest barrier to schooling is the lack of space in public schools.

A key objective of the Education Sector is to promote and facilitate access to primary education through addressing those challenges Syrians face. Efforts are made to support national education systems to accommodate refugee children, including through support to teachers, classrooms and school buildings. Education is also an entry point to provide child-centred support and a mechanism to address the scars of war affecting those traumatized children and adolescents. There remain challenges in addressing the needs of children with learning or physical disabilities this is due to lack of education opportunities in the country as a whole. UNHCR continues to identify and adequately respond to those children in need.

The Education Working Group continue to promote effective coordination through quality information management and a continuous collaboration with other sectors such as protection, health and water, sanitation and hygiene.

REFUGEE POPULATION IN EGYPT



PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS

