



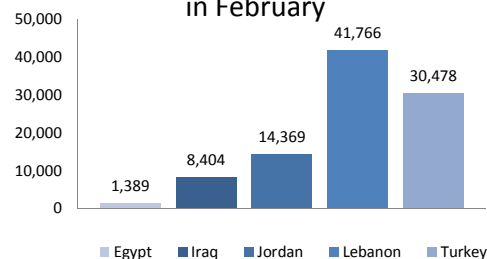
Turkey continues a high tempo of registration of Syrian refugees living outside of camps - a 16 per cent increase since the start of 2014

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

As well as the **Individual legal counselling and assistance** for some 9,000 refugees across the region so far in 2014, the Protection Sector also undertakes broader **policy advocacy for protection**. In Jordan, a working session was held with legal service providers to address legal challenges including the registration of children born out of wedlock, documentation of marriages and divorces, juvenile justice cases, and early marriages. In Egypt, advocacy and engagement continues with the authorities regarding the release of refugees detained for reasons relating to their visa or residency status. In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, advocacy on freedom of movement, access to residency permits, and the provision of humanitarian assistance to non-camp refugees continues. Legal aid activities increased in Lebanon as sector partners expanded their presence, while in Turkey field protection teams conducted over 100 visits to camps and urban areas during the month.

Child Protection encompassed a wide range of activities during February. In Jordan, 400 birth certificates were issued to Syrian children during the month as part of the ongoing birth registration campaign. In Turkey, some 1,830 children attended activities in child-friendly spaces for the first time in February, while an assessment of child protection systems was carried out in 11 camps. In northern Iraq, the Child Protection Sub Working Group was re-activated, while training was held for case workers supporting high-risk children in five regions of Lebanon. In Egypt, the number of child friendly spaces offering recreational, learning and psycho-social activities for Syrian children in Alexandria increased from 3 to 5. In all, more than 1,800 children received individual specialized child support services in the five RRP response countries since the start of 2014, while more than 150,000 accessed psychosocial support.

Registered Syrian refugee population increases by **96,406** in February



REFUGEE POPULATION IN THE REGION:

2,508,402

Current Refugee Population

4,100,000

Expected Refugee Population by end-2014

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The key protection response for Syrian refugees remains access to territory and safety and the preservation of protection space. Notwithstanding that countries in the region have been exceptionally generous in receiving and hosting millions of refugees, access is increasingly being restricted, partly due to the challenges of absorbing additional refugees as well as security concerns.

Providing protection in countries of asylum necessitates equitable assistance to meet the specific needs of women, girls, boys and men, including in health, education, and shelter. Registration is the starting point for access to these services and serves to identify refugees who may have specific protection needs. In 2013, 1.7 million Syrians were registered in the region, a 340 per cent increase compared to 2012. UNHCR has increased its field presence and is employing mechanisms such as mobile registration missions and providing transport support to facilitate access to registration to ensure all persons of concern have access to information and counselling regarding their status and available services.

SGBV, including early marriage, domestic violence, survival sex and sexual exploitation, remains a significant protection risk faced by Syrian refugees. In the context of displacement, many women and children are living without their traditional family and community support structures.

A new assessment of refugees in camps and urban areas of Jordan released this month found that 13 per cent of respondents have a need for counselling or psychological support services.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS:

2,508,402 Syrian refugees currently registered or awaiting registration with UNHCR or Government authorities

2,508,402

Planned Response, by end-2014

4,100,000

1,231 Syrian refugees submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission to third countries

1,231

17,700

698 people who are victims or at risk of SGBV receiving specialist support

698

20,674

153,841 children receiving psychosocial support

153,841

599,123

1,802 children who are victims or at risk receiving specialist child protection support

1,802

40,797

Planned response based on full funding of RRP6 for an expected population of 4.1 million Syrian refugees in the region by end-2014. There are currently 2.5 million refugees in the region and the overall RRP6 appeal is 14% funded.