



KEY FACT OF THE MONTH

2,400 individual legal consultations were provided by legal partners

HIGHLIGHTS:

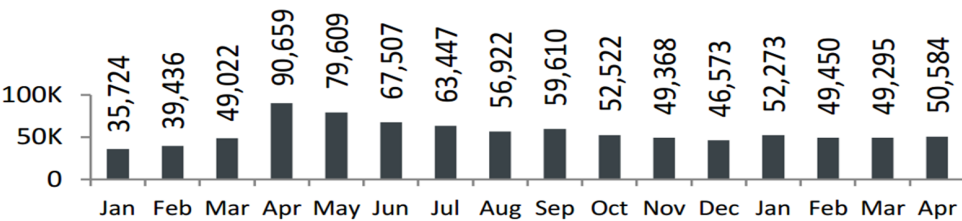
50,584 Syrian refugees were registered during the month and more than 66,000 requested new appointments. The registered Syrian refugee population reached 995,221 by end April (79percent women/children). 46,332 refugees had their registration data verified/updated and certificates renewed, allowing them to maintain access to essential services. Transport to registration centres for needy refugees was made available through protection partners, facilitating 100/200 families per week in Mount Lebanon and the South. By end April, 53,070 PRS were recorded with UNRWA, with limited increase due to imposed restrictions on their entry in Lebanon.

Almost 2,400 individuals, largely Syrian refugees (88percent) and PRS, benefitted from individual legal counseling provided by some five specialized partners countrywide, including in official detention facilities. Birth registration procedures remained a central topic, with UNHCR proactive engagement in advising refugee families with new-born children identified through registration records. In addition, legal partners reached out to almost 6,800 individuals (59percent F, 90percent Syrian refugees) providing legal awareness sessions, largely on civil documentation, but also on procedures such as regularization/renewal of legal stay.

Based on partners’ information, some 9,900 refugees (60percent F) in refugee hosting communities were informed about available services and assistance by refugee community volunteers. These information sessions were combined with other community-based activities in Social Development Centres/Community Centres (e.g. psychosocial support, interpersonal skills, family relations, communications, and other practical skills).

Persons with specific needs, persons with disabilities and older persons continued to be targeted by a few dedicated partners, also cooperating with well-established local organizations. Based on available records, some 4,000 individuals with disabilities/old persons received specialized assistance from the beginning of the year.

Syrian Refugees Registration by month:



Leading Agencies: UNHCR - Elisabetta Brumat - brumat@unhcr.org

Reporting Agencies:



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Sharing evidence-based information and estimations on the presence and size of the non-registered Syrian refugee population have been promoted with humanitarian partners across all sectors, and protection sector partners have been encouraged to actively support this current exercise.

Protection presence, monitoring and analysis will continue to inform evidence-based advocacy on protection issues affecting Syrian refugees and PRS. Presence and monitoring at border crossing points is particularly relevant in the current situation, to highlight trends in the admission regime and advocate for continuous access to Lebanon for civilians fleeing the conflict in Syria and seeking safety and assistance. In line with recent research and analysis produced by legal partners, and to support advocacy efforts with the authorities at different levels, protection monitoring continues also to focus on the issue of legal residency documentation, requested by law from all refugees but often unattainable for families due to the high fees. Monitoring and analysis continues to highlight the negative impact of the non-renewal of the residency permits on freedom of movement, access to civil documentation, and access to justice for refugees.

Based on consultations with communities, and the identified knowledge gaps, legal partners will continue to focus their information and awareness activities on civil documentation, particularly birth and marriage certificates.

Similar to other sectors, protection actors at field and central levels are working on a harmonized set of thematic messages based on the most recurrent information sought by the refugees on protection issues (e.g. registration, legal procedures, legal assistance) with the objective to facilitate and guide refugee community volunteers in providing consistent and harmonized information.

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS*

		End-2014 Target
# of Syrian refugees who requested protection in 2014	261,909	850,000
# of Lebanese returnees registered/profiled in 2014		5,000
# of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in 2014	201,602	850,000
# of Palestine Refugees from Syria recorded with UNRWA in 2014	1,703	100,000
# of Syrian refugees, PRS and Lebanese returnees provided with individual legal counseling in 2014	9,250	47,000
# of refugees submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission in 2014	1,462	5,000

Source: figures reported above reflect the information reported to Sector Coordinators by Partners participating in Working Groups

Adjustments have occurred in the cumulative figures from the previous months due to corrected data entry by partners.



HIGHLIGHTS:

Training of refugee outreach volunteers and frontline workers from other sectors began in April with a focus on how to make ethical and safe referrals of vulnerable children to service providers. Referrals from frontline staff working in other sectors is a crucial component to creating a protective environment for refugee children where all members of their communities are involved in keeping them safe from violence, exploitation, and abuse. In Zahle and Baalbak, 55 education and health frontline workers received training on recognizing signs of abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and making referrals to their child protection counterparts. Similarly, the training of 68 refugee outreach volunteers strengthens and promotes community-based protection for children.

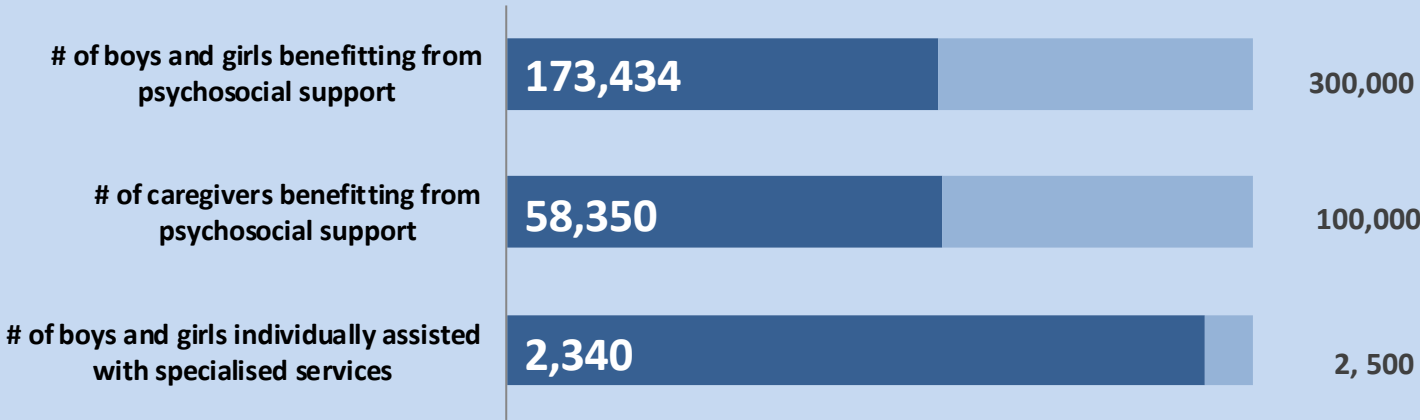
NEEDS ANALYSIS

Child protection actors are reporting growing incidents of child labour and violence against children, reportedly linked in part to the worsening economic situation of parents and families contributing to tensions within the household and to increasing levels of discrimination in schools and the workplace. Children are reported to be working long hours in high-risk jobs. In one region, child protection actors observed more children involved in labour upon the completion of a cash for rent programme. Child protection actors are also noticing an increase in child marriages, including ‘temporary’ marriages, which can put girls at greater risk of abuse and exploitation. All these reports indicate that families are resorting to negative coping mechanisms as conditions worsen.

Capacity within the case management system continues to be a challenge, with only one agency providing case management services for the whole of Tripoli+5 and other organizations reaching capacity to take on new cases. Complicating the situation, the only organization mandated by law to provide judicial protection for children in Lebanon, went on strike in April. Child protection actors are urgently working with their government counterparts across ministries to find temporary, alternative measures in the interim as there are hundreds of open judicial cases across the country, and emergency and alternative care solutions cannot be found without this crucial link between social workers and the judiciary.

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS

End-2014 Target



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HIGHLIGHTS:

Monthly and quarterly dashboards based on data available have been produced to allow more comprehensive analysis of ongoing programming and gaps.

The SGBV TF initiated an evaluation of current referral pathways that are developed to ensure survivors of SGBV have access to quality and timely care. The evaluation will aim at understanding the current functionality, knowledge and use of these tools by services providers and communities.

The GBV IMS Global Steering Committee conducted a mission to Lebanon to review and assess the roll-out process and provide technical recommendations and support to 14 participating organizations.

Capacity building activities continue regularly for services providers and frontline workers. Some 121 service providers in Lebanon and Internal Security Forces personnel in the North have received training on SGBV basic concepts and referral pathways. 12,000 leaflets were distributed as support material.

Emotional support groups, individual counseling and life skills training continue to be provided to women and girls accessing spaces across the country where they can receive assistance, benefit from empowerment activities and receive information on available services (safe spaces). Some 50 women graduated from skills training in the North.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

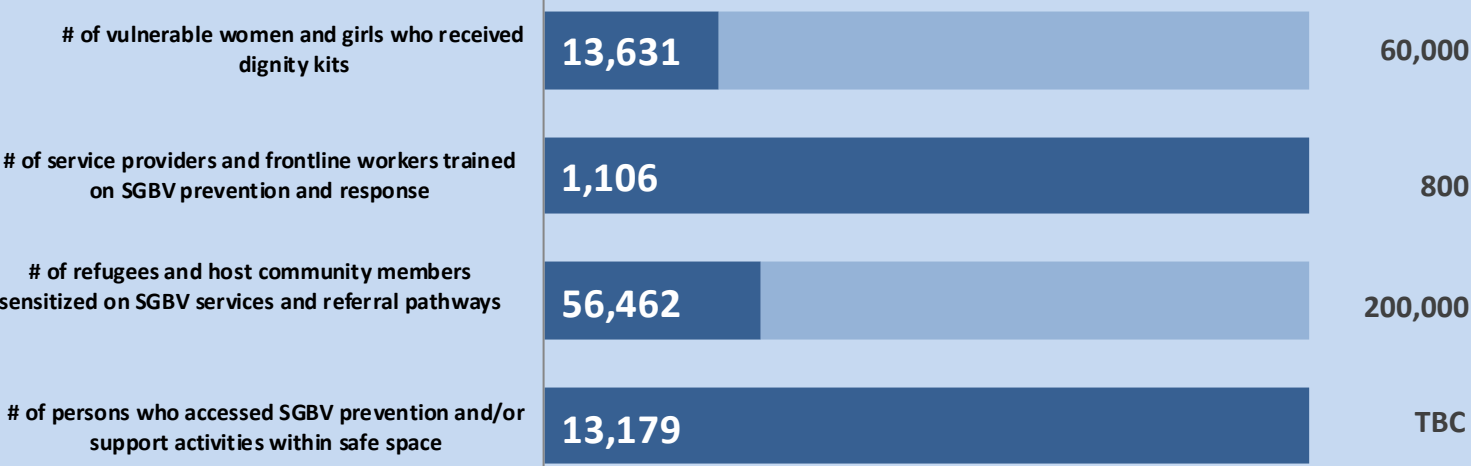
Based on an analysis of needs and priorities for the sector, the following processes have been initiated:

Standard operating procedures for prevention and response to SGBV are being revised through a participatory process involving all service providers and case managers. The revision aims at assessing current practices for case management, referral, medical, psychosocial and legal service provision along with prevention activities. Workshops are scheduled at the field at national levels in April and May.

Technical committee has been established to revise standards and practices for case management of SGBV survivors.

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS

End-2014 Target



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