

KEY FIGURES

578

Unaccompanied and separated minors

28,140

Individuals provided with cash grants in September

119

SGBV survivors who have received assistance from UNHCR

450

People provided with legal counseling and assistance

9,837

Individuals with specific needs identified in Syrians population

FUNDING

USD 58,913,462

Requested for the operation

Gap
45%



Funded
55%

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.

EGYPT

SYRIA OPERATION

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

1-15 October 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

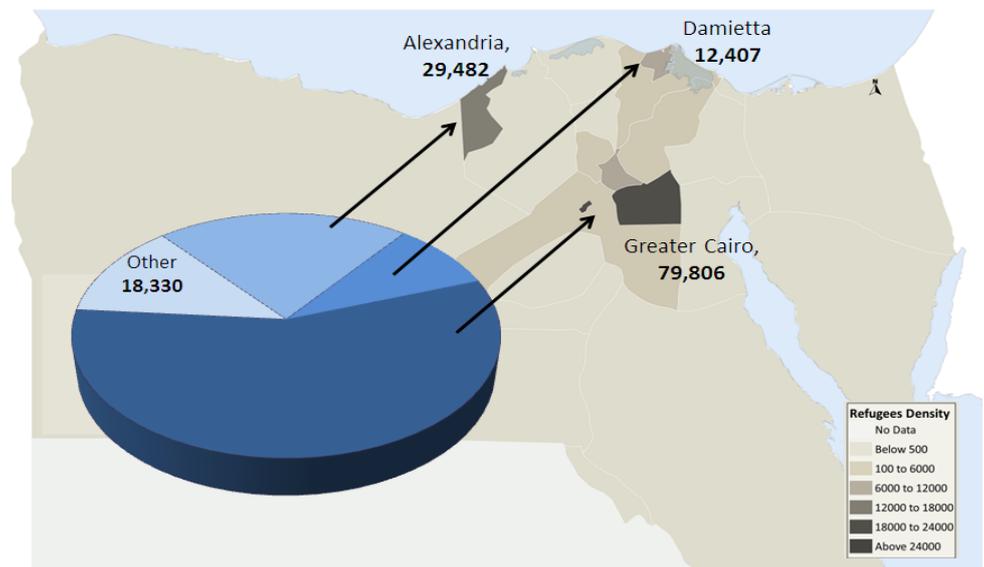
- WFP will distribute the food vouchers as previously planned for the October cycle without reduction of voucher value or beneficiary caseload; this is due to the contribution received during the reporting period that will ease the alarming shortfall in funding that was anticipated in September for the Emergency Operations (EMOP) in the region.
- UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR and along with other partners have started an anti – polio campaign to raise awareness about the National Polio campaign taking place in Egypt between 26-28 October for all children under 5 years.

Population of concern

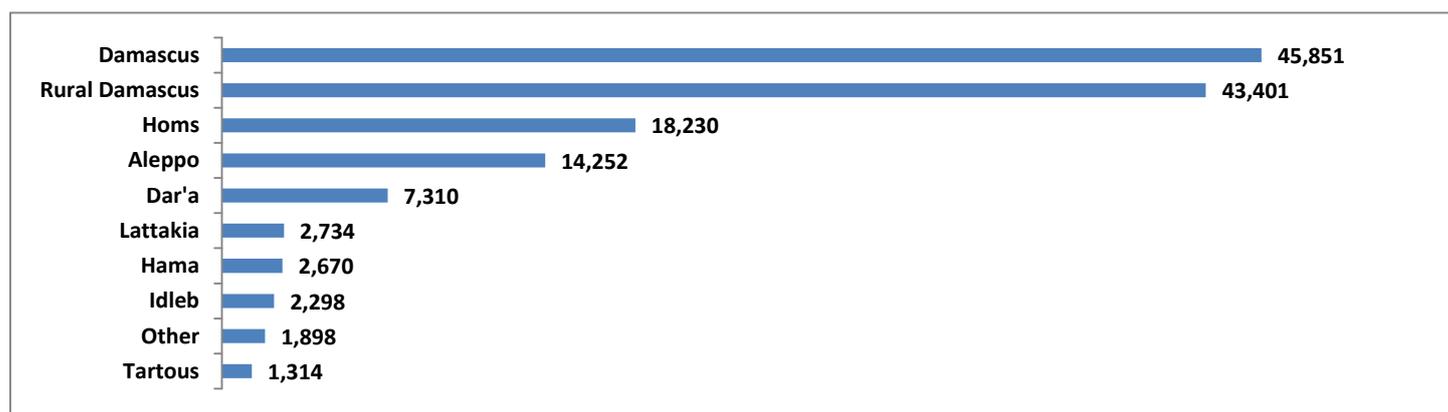
A total of **139,935** Syrian refugees

Gender and Age Breakdown

Custom Age Group	F	M	Total
0 - 4	8,977	9,352	18,329
5 - 11	12,444	13,323	25,767
12 - 17	7,862	8,699	16,561
18 - 39	25,654	27,103	52,757
40 - 59	10,359	10,217	20,576
60+	3,015	2,953	5,968
Total	68,311	71,647	139,958



Place of Origin



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- As the conflict in Syria continues, the number of people fleeing into other countries in the region in search of refuge continues unabated. New arrivals of Syrians into Egypt, however, have decreased dramatically since the introduction on 8 July 2013 of visa requirements for Syrian entering the country. UNHCR has registered 139,958 individuals as of 11 October. Most Syrians in Egypt are scattered in urban neighborhoods, renting and sharing accommodation, and benefiting from access to public services in education and health care. UNHCR conducts registration, provides counseling, and works with partners to provide legal assistance and address the social needs of vulnerable Syrians in Egypt. UNHCR also operates helplines for inquiries and counseling.
- In June 2014, UNHCR started the verification process of registered Syrians in order to update the data gathered at registration stage and to verify their continued physical presence in the country. The updated data and more accurate profiling will improve identification of vulnerable groups such as women and children and other groups with specific needs, appropriate referrals, access to rights and services and the identification of solutions.



Irregular Movements

- During 2014, more than 1,300 Syrian nationals have been arrested for attempting to irregularly depart Egypt, including more than 500 children and 300 women. The Egyptian authorities have been conducting regular releases of groups of individuals from detention shortly after their arrest. Those released have immediate relatives in Egypt. Authorities are issuing six months residency permits to Syrians who are released, no longer accompanied with the remark of being “non-renewable”.
- UNHCR’s partners, Caritas and Resala, have been providing emergency assistance to detainees in the form of food, blankets and medical care. IOM has also provided assistance in the form of sanitary kits and non-food items.
- UNHCR is aware of at least 100 Syrian nationals being held at several detention facilities in Alexandria and its surrounding governorates, for attempting irregular movement. It is worth noting that around 50 per cent of the arrested Syrians are registered with UNHCR.
- There are a number of new detention facilities being used recently, such as Anfoshy, Zaafrana and Ezbet Elborg, which indicate that different routes are being taken for irregular departures. It is also noted that Marsa Matrouh appears to have become another new route for irregular departure by sea.

Child Protection

- UNICEF opened two new Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in New Damietta and is planning to open an additional two CFS in coordination with Terres Des Hommes. Currently UNICEF is operating seven CFS in Alexandria, including a new CFS within the UNHCR Alexandria field office.
- Since January 2014, to date 4652 Syrian boys and girls had access to non-specialized psychosocial support services through nine CFS, and 874 Syrian boys and girls had access to specialized psychosocial services in Alexandria and New Damietta.

Community Activities

- On 15 October, CARE resumed its art therapy group sessions with a group of 25 women from Faisal residents. Relying on different creative and artistic tools, participants were coached on expressing their feelings through drawings, writing and storytelling. They were also invited to watch a movie that portrays the common perceptions around gender roles in the society. During the session, participants were very happy to work individually and in groups to produce artworks that demonstrate their perception on violence and the channels they pursue when they are angry and frustrated. In addition, many women expressed that they are facing different forms of SGBV including denial of education, early marriage and physical assault.
- During the reporting period, Resala in Damietta conducted several activities in order to integrate both the Syrian and Egyptian communities. The activities included, a children's fun day which also included the distribution of some toys to the children. Around 40 Syrian and Egyptian children and their mothers attended the event. In addition, Resala organized a brain storming meeting with the Syrian community to come up with ideas for small projects which will enable the Syrian community to generate income and integrate smoothly in the society.



Some of the art work produced by women during the art session, Photo/ © Care



Syrian and Egyptian children during their participation in an activity day organized by Resala in Damietta, Photo/ © Resala

Basic Needs and Livelihood

Socio- Economic Assessment

- UNHCR and WFP are jointly conducting a socio-economic assessment aiming at providing targeted cash and food assistance to the Syrian refugee population in Egypt. The new assessment tool will identify the most vulnerable households, allowing for a response that adequately suits their needs. The tool consists of a comprehensive questionnaire that will capture precise and objective information through a large scale home-visit campaign aiming at 100 per cent coverage of the Syrian households registered with UNHCR.
- According to the socioeconomic assessment preliminary results, the main challenge facing Syrian refugee in Egypt is the difficulty in paying rent and food. The assessment showed that approximately 50 percent of the sample (2,117 interviewed households) who were interviewed during September; prioritize rent support. On the other hand, 16 percent of the sample indicated that they have adopted negative coping strategies during the same period, many of the families also mentioned that at least one of their family members attempted or already moved irregularly outside Egypt.

Food Security and Nutrition

- October distribution is planned to commence on 26 October 2014, aiming to reach 103,345 beneficiaries. Activities for October cycle will be carried out as planned without reduction of voucher value or beneficiary caseload; this is

due to the contribution received during the reporting period that will ease the alarming shortfall in funding that was anticipated in September for the Emergency Operations (EMOP) in the region.

- Meetings with Syrian communities and partner retailers took place to announce that all activities will be carried out as planned in October and that there will be no pipeline break
- WFP EMOP Egypt has organized an anti-fraud verification process in Greater Cairo for Carrefour card holders. This verification is expected to provide a more accurate list of eligible beneficiaries that are physically present in the country and whose e-cards are remotely uploaded every cycle.



Health

- UNICEF, WHO and UNHCR along with implementing partners have coordinated a campaign for the preparedness of the National Polio campaign planned between 26 -29 October, 2014.
- Caritas has been sending a SMS message on information on the Polio campaign such as dates and vaccination locations at various Ministry of Health Primary health care facilities. UNHCR Cairo and Field Office Alexandria Community services and Public information also coordinated with the partners to widely disseminate the MOH flyers on the anti-Polio campaign.
- Arab Medical Union (AMU,) supported Community Health Volunteers (CHV) is sustaining the dissemination of health messages among the Syrian households. AMU is currently conducting training session for a new group of CHV in the area of 6th of October.
- Refuge Egypt conducted two trainings “Management of Otitis Media cases” and the other was about “Management of SGBV cases among pregnant ladies and building of a referral system”, in order to enhance the capacity of its staff. Moreover Refuge Egypt conducted an awareness campaign for the refugees about HIV, Blood infections and Hepatitis.

UNHCR PARTNERS

- Arab Council for Supporting Fair Trials and Human Rights (ACSFT) • Arab Medical Union (AMU) • Care Int/USA • Caritas • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Central Association for Kindergarten’s Supervisors League • Danish Refugee Council (DRC) • Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR) • ICMC • IOM • Mahmoud Mosque Society • Refuge Egypt • Refuge Point • Resala Association • Save the Children • Terre Des Hommes - Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC) • Tadamon • The British Council • AOHR • UNFPA • UNHABITAT • UNICEF • UNOPS • UNV • WFP • WHO

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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

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