



KEY FACT OF THE MONTH

Refugee participation in legal awareness sessions exceeded end-2014 target

HIGHLIGHTS:

11,877 Syrian refugees were registered in November, and 1,235 are awaiting appointments, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees registered or awaiting registration to 1,143,493. The average waiting period countrywide decreased by half to 13 days, a result of the drop in persons approaching for registration. The number of newly registered refugees was the lowest number since the beginning of the year. It marked a 75% decrease in new registrations compared to the monthly average over the first six months of 2014. The significant decrease is primarily a result of entry into Lebanon having become more difficult for Syrians.

In November, legal awareness sessions were provided to approximately 9,667 individuals, which is an 12% increase compared to the previous month. The total number of refugees that have participated in legal awareness sessions in 2014 stands at over 110,000 persons, the target for end of the year.

UNHCR REGISTRATION FIGURES

 1,144,706	Total
1,133,118	Registered
11,588	Awaiting

With continued high needs for individual legal counseling, some 2,070 individuals benefited from legal counseling in November, which is in line with the yearly average. Since the beginning of the year, close to 32,000 refugees have been provided individual legal counseling.

In November, over 14,000 individuals, 61% of whom were female, benefited from empowerment activities, primarily

group information sessions to increase awareness of available services and assistance. Since the beginning of the year, some 174,000 persons have benefited from these types of activities, already exceeding the end-2014 target by 24 %.

In November, 40 persons were submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission. By end of November over 7,247 persons had been submitted for solutions in a third country, exceeding the end of year target of 7,000.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

While targeting new registrants, registration will focus on the process of renewal/verification in order to update data and foster accuracy. Efforts to improve access to registration will continue through various modalities, including transport support to registration facilities.

Following the introduction by the Government of a gratis regularization period, legal aid partners have intensified their awareness and counseling activities, ensuring that as many refugees as possible are aware of the regularization process and can make an informed choice to regularize their stay in Lebanon. Messages regarding regularization are being harmonized and a mass information campaign on regularization will be rolled out.

Systematic protection monitoring by sector partners will contribute to increased analysis of common protection issues and trends countrywide. Particular attention has been, and will be, devoted to the continued high number of evictions affecting vulnerable refugee families throughout the country. Monitoring of eviction trends has been reinforced through improved information collection tools across the country, and the protection sector is coordinating with the shelter sector, particularly through field based Eviction Committees/Technical Groups.

As evident in falling registration numbers, restrictions on entry imposed at border points have significantly reduced the number of Syrians and PRS gaining admission to Lebanon. In light of the restrictions, intensified border monitoring and border interventions will contribute to persons seeking international protection having access to territory. It will also aid in the sharing of information on the border situation as well as in developing advocacy messages regarding border policies.

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS

		End-2014 Target
# of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in...	347,257	850,000
# of PRS recorded with UNRWA in 2014	3,243	3,300
# of Lebanese returnees profiled	-	50,000
# of persons provided with individual legal...	31,763	35,000
# of persons reached with legal awareness	110,663	110,000
# of persons benefitting from empowerment...	174,097	140,000
# of persons with specific needs receiving...	31,205	85,000
# of persons submitted for resettlement of...	7,247	7,000

Leading Agencies: UNHCR - David Welin—welin@unhcr.org
Reporting Agencies:

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

