



Significant progress in expanding access to services and enhancing the quality of education in 2015

### DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

Significant progress has been made in both increasing access to educational services and enhancing educational quality during 2016. The number of Syrian children enrolled in recognised education programmes at the start of the 2015/2016 school year had risen by 30% over the same period in 2014.

Additional educational places were created through the construction, renovation and refurbishment of schools, which formed a major focus of UNICEF's education response in 2015. Seven schools and TECs were constructed, while 201 more were renovated or refurbished.

IOM provided regular subsidised school transportation for 10,292 students, with a further 2281 benefiting from short-term or one-off transportation services. In December, 4228 students benefited from transportation services in Adana, Maltya and Sanliurfa provinces.

The Government of Turkey reports that just over 10,000 Syrians are currently enrolled in higher education programmes in Turkish universities, more than doubling 2014 enrolments. UNHCR's DAFI scholarship programme, implemented in partnership with the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) received 5803 applications and was able to expand to provide scholarships to 82 students (from 12 in 2014). UNHCR also provided a further 1600 scholarships for advanced Turkish language support programmes to Syrian high school graduates who wish to enrol in Turkish universities.

UNICEF distributed learning materials to 284,124 students during 2015; of these 220,000 were distributed during the Back to School Period in the third quarter of 2015. UNHCR provided teaching support kits to all recognised temporary education centres in urban areas and camps in order to improve the quality of instruction. Kits included maps, charts, Turkish/Arabic dictionaries and items for use during classroom demonstrations in primary school mathematics and secondary school biology classes.

UNICEF's incentive programme for Syrian volunteer teachers, developed in partnership with MoNE and the Turkish Post Office (PTT), scaled-up significantly in 2015, from under 3,000 at the beginning of the year to over 8,700 in December. In September 2015 the Ministry of National Education agreed to increase rates for teachers to 600 TL (in camps) and 900 TL per month (in host communities).

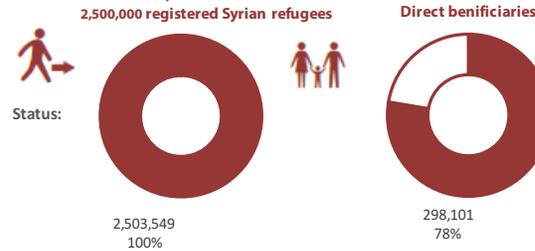
Throughout 2015 regular meetings were held with NGOs implementing education-related programmes in South East Turkey to facilitate exchange of information on policy developments and programme implementation.

In 2016, efforts will be made to enhance the capacity of the education system to absorb more Syrian children with quality learning opportunities (through the implementation of Provincial Action Plans (PAPs) in 19 provinces), and scaling up informal educational and life-skills programmes for those who are still out-of-school.



### Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:



### NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The national legislative framework supports the right of refugee children and youth to have free access to schooling, and the Government of Turkey has facilitated refugees' access to skills training and higher education. All activities in the sector are implemented in close collaboration with the Government of Turkey.

**Increasing access:** Increased provision of educational places (through the establishment of additional temporary education centres and promoting greater participation in national schools) remains a priority and will take place within the regulatory framework established by the Ministry of National Education. This will be complemented by policy support, enhancing information management systems to effectively report on refugee participation; refurbishment of infrastructure and assistance to strengthen coordination of the refugee response.

Access to education and training for youth through non-formal education, technical training programmes and access to higher education is also a priority within the sector.

**Enhancing quality:** The education strategy includes ongoing efforts to increase the quality of education. A key element of this is the payment of financial incentives to volunteer refugee teachers. There is also a need for quality teaching support materials in many schools and stationery for children. Language support programmes are needed to ensure effective academic integration into national schools, training centres and universities.

### TURKEY RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2015

