



### Ministry of National Education conducts Grade 12 validation examination

#### JUNE HIGHLIGHTS:

One of the 3RP outputs in the education sector is to support the provision of valid certification and documentation of academic achievement to Syrian refugee children. On 27 June the Ministry of National Education (MoNE) conducted a Grade 12 validation examination for Syrian students who had completed Grade 12 through Temporary Education Centres (TECs).

This initiative, led by the Ministry of National Education, is a significant milestone in ensuring that Syrian refugee children receive official documentation of their learning achievements. The results of the validation examination may be used by Syrian refugee youth when applying for admission to Turkish universities and when applying for scholarships, particularly those administered by the Presidency for Turks Abroad (YTB) and UNHCR. MoNE has reported that approximately 8,000 students registered for and sat for the examination. The examinations were written in 14 centres in provinces hosting large numbers of refugees, including Istanbul, Kayseri and 12 provinces across South East Turkey.

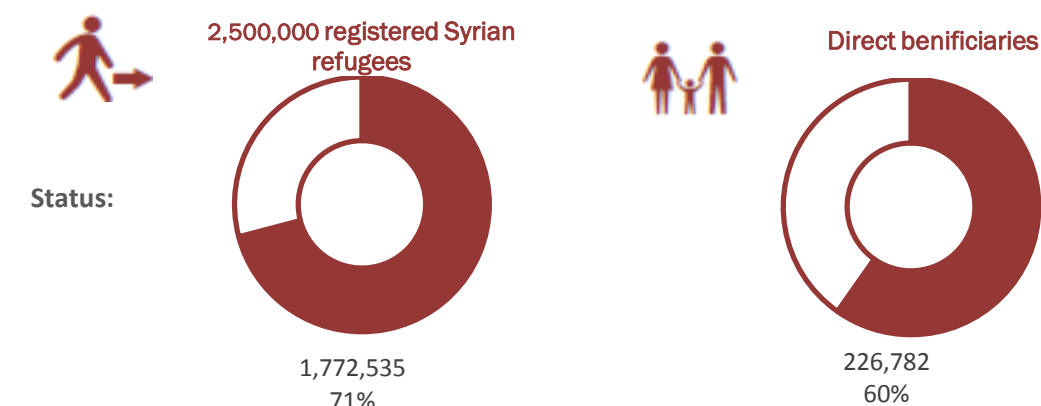
UN Agencies provided financial and direct assistance to the Ministry in support of this examination, including supporting the dissemination of information about the examination registration procedures. UNHCR, with IOM, provided transportation for 2281 students residing in camps to enable them to reach the examination centres in urban areas.

MoNE and UNICEF have worked together to keep many schools serving Syrian children open for summer school. Recreation kits will be delivered to 215 of these schools in order to provide children and adolescents with semi-structured recreational activities.

IOM is continuing to provide transportation for 450 children living in two districts in Sanliurfa (Ayup and Sirrin districts) to participate in additional classes and recreational activities. A further 714 students attending TECs operates by the Syrian Social Gathering in Mersin continue to receive transportation assistance. The TEC operates three shifts in order to accommodate the number of children seeking access to education.

Nearly 5,000 Syrian volunteer teachers have been reached with incentive payments. This support to teachers improves the quality of learning for approximately 180,000 Syrian refugee children.

#### Key Figures:



Syrian children using learning materials provided by UNHCR. UNHCR /N.Bose

#### NEEDS ANALYSIS:

- The national legislative framework supports the right of refugees to free access to schooling and the Government of Turkey has facilitated refugees' access to skills training and higher education. In spite of these efforts, an estimated 70 per cent of school-aged refugee children are not accessing education.
  - Increased provision of educational places (through the establishment of additional temporary education centres and greater participation in national schools) remains a priority and will take place within the regulatory framework established by the Ministry of National Education.
  - The education strategy includes ongoing efforts to increase the quality of education. Through a partnership between Government agencies and international organizations, a system for payment of incentives to volunteer refugee teachers will be established and implemented in 2015.
  - All activities in the sector will be implemented in close collaboration with the Government of Turkey.
- The provision of services to large numbers of refugee children and youth requires the rapid expansion of the education sector which will be supported by the efforts of the international community through policy support, technical assistance in information management to capture, analyse and report on refugee needs and participation; refurbishment of infrastructure – in national schools used to host second shifts or where rapid expansion has taken place - and assistance to strengthen coordination of the refugee response. Existing efforts to accommodate refugee children in the national system will be scaled up through the provision of teaching materials and capacity to teach Turkish as a foreign language to refugees and supporting programmes to reduce bullying and foster social cohesion.

#### TURKEY RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO JUNE 2015

