

265 micro, small and medium enterprises supported so far this year in Lebanon

HIGHLIGHTS:

In Lebanon, 265 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) and cooperatives were supported so far this year. 2,875 targeted vulnerable people working on public infrastructure/environmental assets were upgrades, while 5,205 people have been targeted, trained and/or provided with marketable skills and services.

90 per cent of host community members report an increase of unemployment since the beginning of the crisis. With 70 per cent of municipalities are too small to provide any local services, 66 out of the targeted 732 community and municipal support projects were implemented so far to alleviate resource pressure and reduce tensions. 15 new dispute resolution and conflict prevention mechanisms were established.

In Turkey, 56 beneficiaries participated in the Training-of-Trainers Basic Life Skills Training (BLST) sessions in order to provide Syrians with BLST by trained trainers at community centres. During May, 171 benefited from the Turkish Language courses ongoing with Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality.

The Istanbul Livelihoods Community Centre, began activities in May with a Coding Week for 122 Refugees. In parallel, 30 individuals received separate TOEFL courses. Work Permits project reached 78 Syrians by supporting them with information sessions. 27 individual counselling sessions have been given and as a result of awareness raising, 41 refugees gained work permits, 250 associations were trained, and 105 refugees were counselled on the new Works permit regulations. In parallel 160 women from 3 refugee camps enrolled in textile manufacturing. 5 women secured jobs as a result of the training. 4 trainees of 12 who finished the garment making Pattern-making course were successful in being selected to prepare a Fabric Design Competition organized by the Textile Exporters Association. Some 1,506 refugees were provided with assistance at two multi-purpose community centers run in partnership with International Blue Crescent Relief Development Foundation (IBC) in Istanbul and the Syrian Social Gathering (SSG) in Antakya Hatay Province.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Expanding access to livelihoods is central to resilience-building. In 2016, the livelihood and social cohesion sector will target around 770,100 refugees and vulnerable host community members with a range of interventions to expand opportunities to cope with, recover from and transform in response to crisis, as well as improve access to and quality of service delivery. Assessed in financial terms, this sector makes up 10 per cent, or USD 477 million of the resources required to implement the 3RP in 2016.

3RP partners will work together with the private sector and national Governments to determine how best to create livelihood opportunities for women and men that fill gaps within labour markets and contribute to the establishment of new enterprises, rather than fostering competition for jobs and driving down wages.

Overall objectives for the livelihoods and social cohesion/stability sector in the five 3RP countries include creating the necessary conditions and environment for job creation while enhancing existing systems and promoting social cohesion/stability and community dialogue initiatives at the community and municipal levels. With expanded livelihood opportunities, affected households will be better able to contribute to local economies and move towards self-sufficiency.



Drawing Course at the SSG Community Centre in Antakya, Hatay

Sector Response Summary:



770,100 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end of 2016
14,660 assisted in 2016



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,687,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2016
4,812,000 currently registered



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.54 billion required in 2016
USD 1.38 billion received in 2016



NEW ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ASSESSMENT UNDERWAY

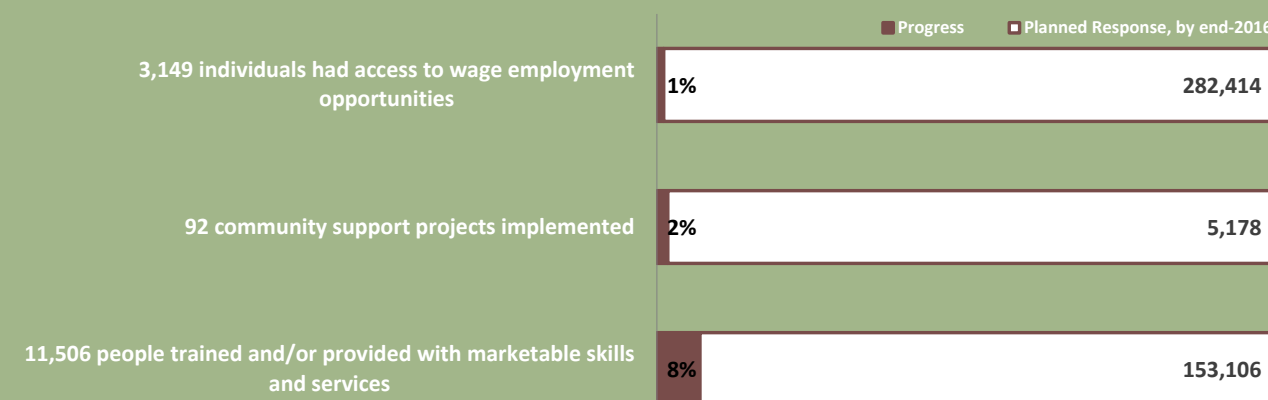
The Co-Host Declaration of the Supporting Syria and Region Conference confirmed that the event 'not only generated financial commitments, but ensured that we take a new approach to how the international community responds to protracted crises.' Furthermore, the Co-Host Declaration stressed that the "lack of economic opportunity is damaging for refugees and their host communities. We welcome the bold commitment of host governments to open up their labour markets to refugees, alongside their determined efforts to create new jobs for their own populations, and to improve regulation and the investment climate in their countries". Enhancing resilience inside Syria has similarly been a recurrent concept in the international debate, beginning as early as 2014 with the Berlin Communiqué and Resilience Development Forum and is central to the assessment.

A multi-country economic opportunity assessment is underway in partnership with UNDP, UNHCR, WFP and ILO, in conjunction with the Offices of the Resident Coordinator across the region responding to the Syria crisis. The analysis crosses regions within the UN system (Arab States and Europe and CIS), and examines response capacities that bridge humanitarian and development divides in pursuit of a resilience response. It re-affirms support for the London Declaration, and the importance of a resilience response to protracted crisis.

This joint initiative aims at supporting the involved countries in the acceleration of key commitments made at the recent London Conference on inclusive labor markets for host communities and Syrian refugees. The objective of the assessment is to support countries in the achievement of the 1.1m employment target stated in London. To achieve this will require (a) identifying critical gaps in terms of employment opportunities; (b) rallying existing and potential partnership at regional level to rapidly scale up employment generation, and (c) reinforcing advocacy for enhanced livelihoods investment at country and regional levels.

The assessment is designed to reinforce the centrality of the resilience response, anchored in the Regional Refugee and Resilience Response (3RP) and the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan. It is also consistent with the side-event convened at the World Humanitarian Summit, where the UNDP Administrator "encouraged countries to put in place strong policies and legal frameworks to facilitate the inclusion of displaced people, including refugees, in society."

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - MAY 2016 *



These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Progress and targets may change in line with data revisions. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 31 May 2016.

* Progress data not yet received for Iraq in May 2016.