

Summer activities and back to school initiatives underway across the region

HIGHLIGHTS:

In Lebanon, preparations for the Back-to-School Initiative continued in July through outreach planning workshops and follow up meetings held with Education partners across the country. For the new school year, it is expected that the number of second shift schools will increase and thus improve the access to education for refugees and vulnerable Lebanese children and youth. Summer programs, summer language classes and reading clubs are taking place in learning centres and refugee communities all over the country motivating and preparing the children to (re-)enrol in school in the 2016/17 school year.

In Jordan, since January until July, 3RP partners had intensified remedial classes to support Tawjihi candidates achieve better results. 21 Syrian students in camps passed. Although the formal schools remain close as part of the summer vacations, some children are benefiting from summer camp activities. Shadow teachers and the parents of children with physical disabilities benefitted from a training on home exercise programmes.

In Iraq, a variety of summer activities have been underway in Erbil, Dohuk and Sulymaniyah, including recreational centres, catch-up classes, literacy and numeracy tutoring sessions, and art and music classes to help prepare refugee students enjoy their summer and prepare for the next academic year. In Erbil, a 3rd cycle of youth programming started, providing psychosocial support and life skills across 4 youth centres.

In Egypt, the Education Grant early registration interviews continued for students enrolling for the 2016/2017 academic year. During July, 2,447 applicants were registered, bringing the total to 5,414 for the year.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

3RP partners in 2016 have prioritized school age children who are out-of-school and those who receive poor quality education services. In July 2016, 861,000 (52%) per cent of school-age Syrian children are out of school, representing a 24 per cent increase from the November 2015 figure of 694,000 children during the London conference.

The increase in refugee children in Turkey and lower access to regulated non-formal education (NFE) in Lebanon largely explain the increase in the number and percentage of out-of-school children.

The London Conference emphasized the need for key shifts in policy environments in the five host countries. Amongst these, the need for coherent, cost effective, quality and coordinated NFE provision was highlighted.

Strengthening education systems is a core component of the refugee education response as it allows education systems to better respond to the increased needs of Syrian and host communities children.

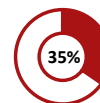


Mohammed (23) is the first person in Zaatari camp to have graduated university in Jordan under the UNHCR supported DAFI scholarship scheme. UNHCR/Jordi Matas

Sector Response Summary:



2,506,900 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end of 2016
866,070 assisted in 2016



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



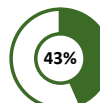
4,740,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2016
4,784,000 currently registered



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.54 billion required in 2016
USD 1.97 billion received in 2016



250,000 SYRIAN CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL IN LEBANON - HRW

More than half of the nearly 500,000 school-age Syrian children registered in Lebanon are not enrolled in formal education. Although Lebanon, which is hosting 1.1 million registered Syrian refugees, has allowed Syrian children to enrol for free in public schools, limited resources and Lebanese policies on residency and work for Syrians are keeping children out of the classroom.

Access to education is crucial to help refugee children cope with the trauma of war and displacement, and gain the skills to play a positive role in host countries like Lebanon and in the eventual reconstruction and future of Syria.

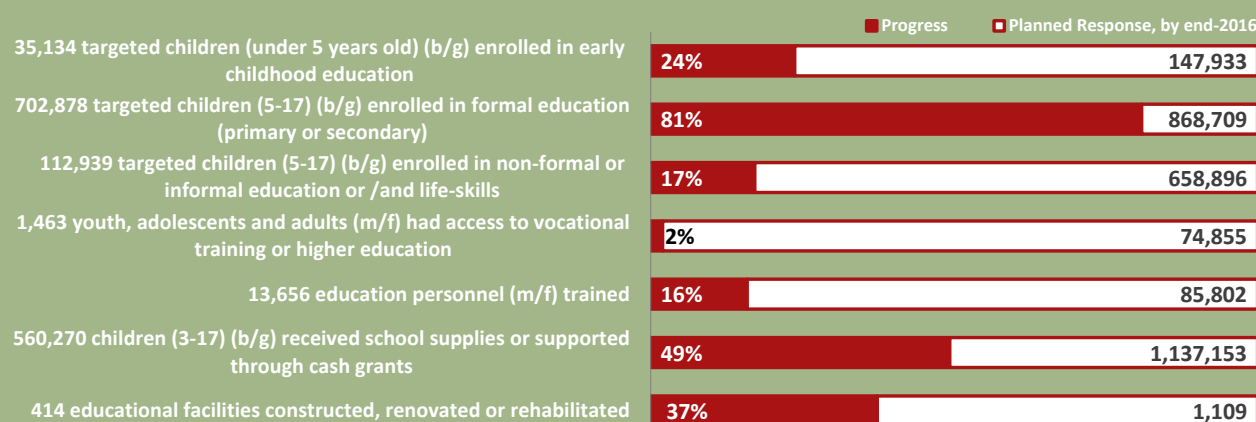
Lebanon has allowed Syrian refugees to enrol in public schools for free and without residency, and increased school capacity by opening a second "afternoon" shift for Syrian children in 238 schools in 2015-16.

The number of classroom spaces for Syrian children in Lebanese public schools has increased every year since the Syria conflict began in 2011. In 2015-16, however, schools still turned away Syrian children because available spaces were not necessarily located in areas of need, or children faced other barriers. Of the 200,000 school spaces that donors committed to funding for Syrian children, almost 50,000 ultimately went unused.

Harsh regulations that prevent most refugees from maintaining legal residency or working are undermining Lebanon's generous school enrolment policies. Many families fear arrest if caught working or trying to find work. With 70 percent of Syrian families living below the poverty line in 2015, many cannot afford school-related costs like transportation and school supplies, or rely on their children to work instead of attending school.

For the full report, click [here](#).

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - JULY 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 July 2016.

* Progress data not yet received for Turkey in July 2016