

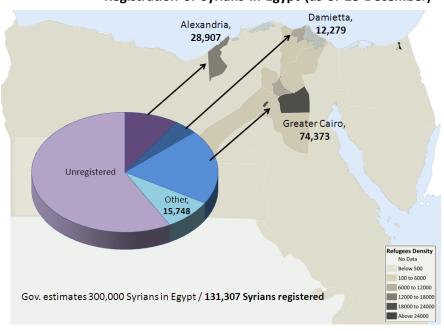
## Registration of Syrians in Egypt (as of 28 December)

# Response in Egypt to Syrian Crisis

As the conflict in Syria continues to escalate, the number of people fleeing into other countries in the region in search of refuge has been increasing. Some 300,000 Syrians currently reside in Egypt according to Government estimates provided in June, of whom UNHCR has registered 131,307 individuals as December.

Most Syrians in Egypt are scattered in urban neighbourhoods, renting and sharing accommodation, and benefit from access to public education and health care.

**UNHCR** conducts registration, provides counselling, and works with partners to provide legal assistance and address the social needs of vulnerable Syrians in Egypt. UNHCR also operates hotlines for emergencies and inquiries, and sensitizes refugees of the dangers of involvement in political activities.



50.3% of registered Syrians arrived to Egypt through a transit country; of those, 76.9% passed through Lebanon, 12.3% through Jordan, and 10.8% through others countries.

During the week, 550 individuals registered in the Zamalek Registration Centre; 25 persons were identified with specific needs.

9,456

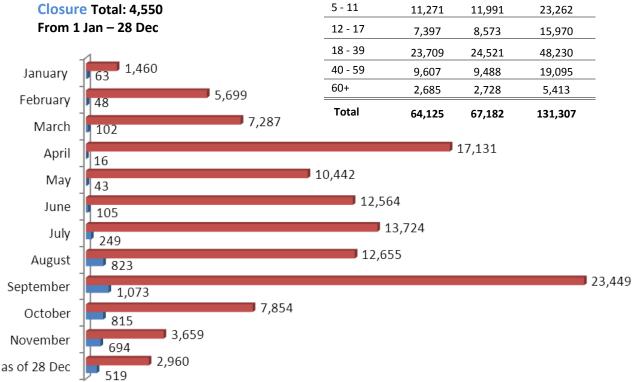
**Gender and Age Breakdown** 

9,881

19,337

## Registration and Closure Trends in 2013

**Registration Total: 118,884** Closure Total: 4.550 From 1 Jan - 28 Dec



Age Group 0 - 4

### **Protection Timeline**

Syrians refugees (generally with family or business links) flee to Egypt.

UNHCR registered nearly 25,000 Syrians.

Several media outlets begin negative campaign against Syrians, accusing them of interfering in Egypt's political crisis

Thousands attempt to cross over by boat to Europe. Some Syrians arrested for attempting irregular departure leave the country, mainly to Turkey and Lebanon, to exit detention.

detention and provides residency permits to nearly 200 persons that had fled Syrian and were arrested for attempting irregular departure from Egypt between August and November.

The Government release from

December

2011-2012

March - April

July

August - November

March 2013

Increasing number of Syrians begin fleeing to Egypt due to lower cost of living compared to other countries in the region, good protection space, and welcoming environment, including access to education and health care.

8 July

Due to political crisis and security concerns, Government enacts visa requirements and security check for Syrians and several other nationalities.

July - September

Increase in incidents of Syrians experiencing verbal threats, physical assaults, and detention. Syrians, citing economic and security concerns, begin to depart Egypt.

October - November

Hazardous conditions in the Mediterranean between North Africa and Italy led to a number of shipwrecks and death.

Negative media campaign subsides.

#### Field Office in Alexandria

The new Field Office in Alexandria will take on the responsibilities for monitoring the conditions of families that had been released from detention during the last weeks to ensure they are provided shelter, receive emergency cash assistance, access to registration for those not registered with UNHCR and fast tracking of vulnerable cases with respective partners to ensure the provision of regular assistances. Some families continuously expressed difficulty in enrolling their children in school because they had missed the deadline, others are extremely concerned over regularization of their stay after their temporary visa expires, livelihood opportunities and at least one person left to Turkey. UNHCR coordinated in the process of monitoring and provision of necessary assistance with its partners and other agencies such as UNICEF, WFP, PSTIC, Caritas and MSF.

In Alexandria, UNHCR and Caritas conducted distribution of 887 blankets to 350 families as part of the winterization programme in El-Agamy and Borg El-Arab areas; 1,199 blankets were also distributed to 800 families in Damietta. Caritas and Ressala are delivering blankets door to door because for vulnerable families unable to reach the distribution points.

#### Education

The Social Protection Unit at the Foreign Student Affairs Department at the Ministry of Education organized a one-day trip to the Pharaoh Village for 30 Syrian students. The students enjoyed a sailing trip down a network of canals and expanded their knowledge of the ancient world and ancient Egyptian life.



The Director of Kuwaiti Zakat House, Mr. Ismail Abdallah El Kandary receiving UNHCR's Regional Representative in Egypt, Mr. Mohamed Dayri during a visit to the Zakat house on 30 December 2013.

#### For further information:

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#### **Partners:**

Caritas • Care Int/USA • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Islamic Relief Worldwide • Mahmoud Mosque society • Refuge Egypt • Resala Association • Terre Des Hommes - TADAMON and Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC) • Save the Children • UNICEF • WFP • UNHABITAT • WHO • UNFPA