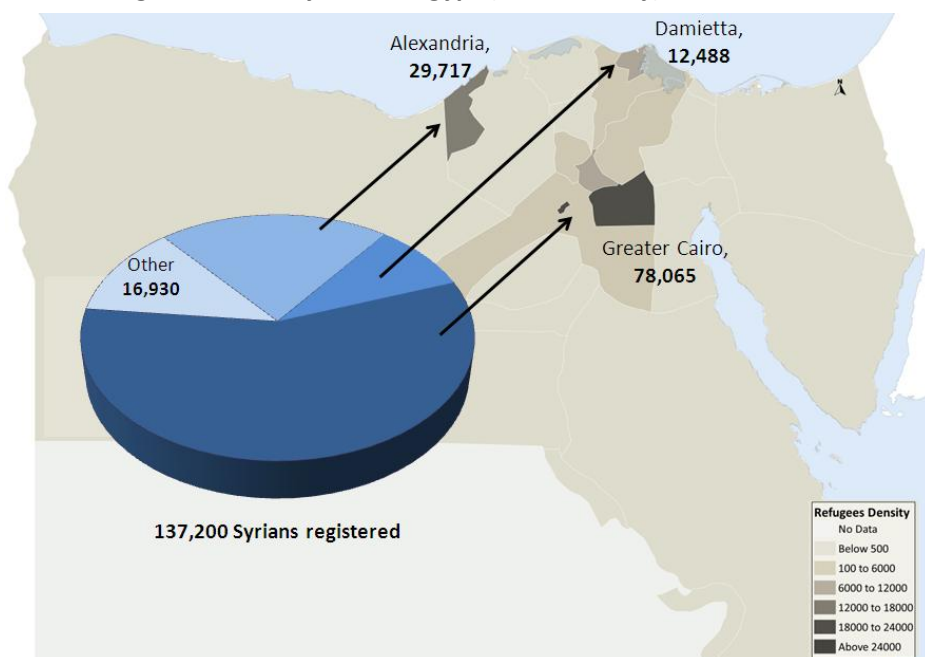


EGYPT WEEKLY UPDATE SYRIAN OPERATION 16-20 May 2014



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. New arrivals of Syrians into Egypt, however, have been nominal since the introduction on 8 July 2013 of visa requirements for Syrian entering the country. UNHCR has registered 137,200 individuals as of 17 May. 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.

Registration of Syrians in Egypt (as of 17 May)

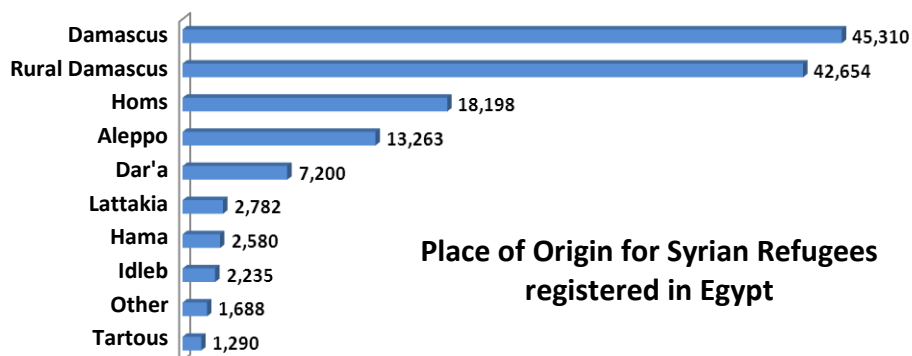
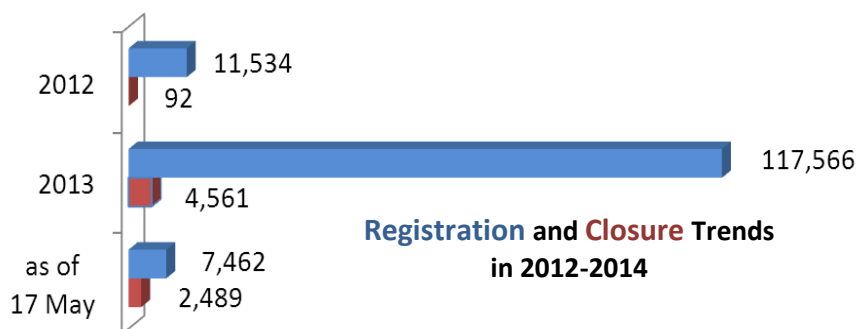


51% of registered Syrians arrived to Egypt through a transit country; of those, 76.2% passed through Lebanon, 12.4% through Jordan, and 11.4% through others countries.

During the week, 249 individuals registered in the Zamalek Registration Centre; 13 persons were identified with specific needs.

Gender and Age Breakdown

| Age Group | F | M | Total |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 0 - 4 | 8,856 | 9,349 | 18,205 |
| 5 - 11 | 12,072 | 12,888 | 24,960 |
| 12 - 17 | 7,739 | 8,679 | 16,418 |
| 18 - 39 | 25,104 | 26,485 | 51,589 |
| 40 - 59 | 10,127 | 10,023 | 20,150 |
| 60+ | 2,960 | 2,918 | 5,878 |
| Total | 66,858 | 70,342 | 137,200 |



Partners:

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

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Syria Regional Refugee Response
Inter-agency Information Sharing Portal
<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

Irregular Movement

UNHCR is aware of 116 Syrians who were arrested for attempting to irregularly depart Egypt and are in detention in Alexandria and its surrounding governorates. As part of positive trend, however, Egyptian authorities have been conducting regular releases of groups of individuals from detention shortly after their arrest. Those released consist mostly of families, children and the elderly and those with immediate relatives in Egypt. Egyptian authorities are reportedly issuing 3 month residency permits to Syrians who are being released. UNHCR's implementing partners Caritas and Resala have been providing emergency assistance to detainees in the form of food, blankets and medical care.

In early May, UNHCR organized in Alexandria a medical coordination meeting for all humanitarian medical actors to reach out to Syrian detainees with health care services in detention centres located in Alexandria, Beheira, Kafr El Sheikh, Damietta and Port Said. UNICEF, Caritas, PSTIC, IOM, MSF and Refuge Egypt participated in this coordination meeting to ensure complementarity and non-duplication of health and mental health outreach services for detainees.

Field Office Alexandria visited Brimbal police station on 15 May in order to follow up on the recent detention of 67 persons. The authorities were very cooperative during the visit and UNHCR was informed that the immigration office was currently processing residency permits valid for 3 month, and that they would be released in a week. The Caritas team has been providing meals and arranged for a doctor to examine the detainee and supply the required medications. The Caritas visited detention centres in Kafr El Sheikh Governorates where they provided counselling, assessed and offered needed medical care in coordination with other medical actors.

Child Protection

On 14-15 May, Save the Children conducted training in 6th of October, El-Obour and 10th of Ramadan (Greater Cairo) for members of the community-based child protection committees, which consist of Syrian and Egyptian members and are designed to improve awareness and action around child protection within the communities. The training focused on case management and aimed to enable members to identify, refer and intervene when faced with cases of children in danger. The training also included guidance on the best interviewing techniques for vulnerable children.

Education

On 18-19 May, Save the Children and Tadamon held follow-up workshops for teachers on active learning methods and how to improve the quality of teaching in the community schools in Faisal and Ard El-Lewa. Save the Children currently run pre-school and primary classes for refugee and Egyptian children up to 14 years old.

Community Support Projects

UNHCR conducted a field visit to Alexandria to explore the possibilities of developing Community Support Projects in the governorate. UNHCR held community discussions and met with local actors and concerned authorities.



CARE Int. has been implementing a process of participatory planning, a mechanism for integrating the marginalized groups and right holders in a more balanced development process, in Masaken Othman (Greater Cairo). The process includes the identification and mobilization of community resources, analysis of community issues and problems, and developing plans. Moreover it is an efficient tool in empowering people and promoting better coexistence between Syrian and Egyptian. The community committee engaged in the participatory planning is composed of 21 members (5 Egyptian and 16 Syrian – 4 men and 17 women). The members went out into the community and found the most pressing issues to work on in Masaken Othman were security/safety, health and employment, followed by education.

CARE Int. conducted training for the community committee on a rights based approach; noting that rights holders should play a key role in defining problems and work and advocate with decision makers for solutions. The committee analysed the priorities and problems (root causes) and discussed objectives and initiatives to resolve such problems. Photo © CARE Int.

Food

On 17 May, WFP began the May distribution cycle in order to finish paper vouchers and e-cards distributions before the presidential elections on 26-27 May. Following the distribution, beneficiaries will be given the opportunity to get their food entitlements at the shops up to the end of May. WFP is planning to reach over 117,000 refugees in May, including 4,500 Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS). Approximately half of them are assisted through e-vouchers in Greater Cairo while paper vouchers are used in the rest of the country. In Greater Cairo paper vouchers are also still used for new registered beneficiaries due to the printing lead time of the e-voucher. WFP is also planning to reach 209 vulnerable households (587 beneficiaries) in Tanta by the end of May, of which 160 vouchers have already been distributed to a total of 486 beneficiaries.

Health

Save the Children carried a workshop for 24 physicians in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) as part of a series of trainings aimed at improving the quality of primary healthcare within Giza Governorate. The health workers came from different Primary Health Clinics across Giza to attend the workshop. Save the Children also carried out training on community mobilisation for Community Health Workers and Child Friendly Space facilitators from the Faisal and Ard El Lewa areas to improve community outreach to under-targeted beneficiary groups such as pregnant women and sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) survivors.