

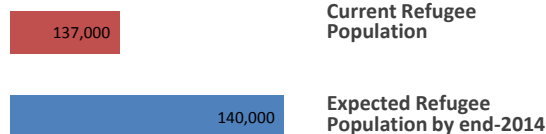


59,622 Syrian children registered with UNHCR Egypt

HIGHLIGHTS:

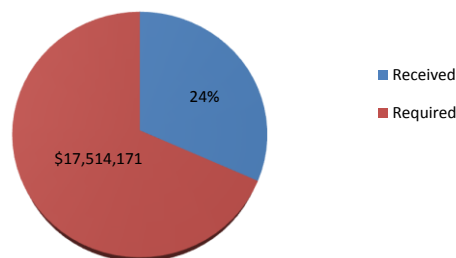
- UNHCR conducted a mission to schools in Ismailia and met with the Ministry of Education officials and Syrian community to address issues of access to education in the area. UNHCR also reviewed the latest statistics regarding the number of Syrian refugee students registered in public schools in the governorate. It was noted that while enrolling the students in schools, the Ministry of Education tries to match the age to the grade whenever possible in order to avoid placing older children with the younger ones and review each case on an individual basis.
- 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 running pre-school and primary class for refugee and Egyptian children up to 14 years old.
- On 25 May, UNHCR signed an agreement with the Ministry of Education to assist in the absorbing of Syrian children into the public education system in Egypt. Through the joint agreement, UNHCR is supporting the refurbishment of existing classrooms and construction of new classroom spaces in 9 schools in areas with a high concentration of Syrian refugees. The Director of the General Authority for Education Buildings Projects, Mohamed Fahmy, highlighted the historic ties between the Egyptian and Syrian people and thanked UNHCR for its commitment to assisting Syrian refugee students. "Today signifies the beginning of a fruitful and continuous cooperation in favour of our fellow Syrians living in Egypt," he said. UNHCR's Regional Representative in Egypt, Mohamed Dayri, praised the Ministry of Education and the General Authority for Education Building Projects on their efforts in assisting Syrian refugee students.

REFUGEE POPULATION IN EGYPT



SECTOR FUNDING STATUS January - December

* Funding received as of May 2014



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

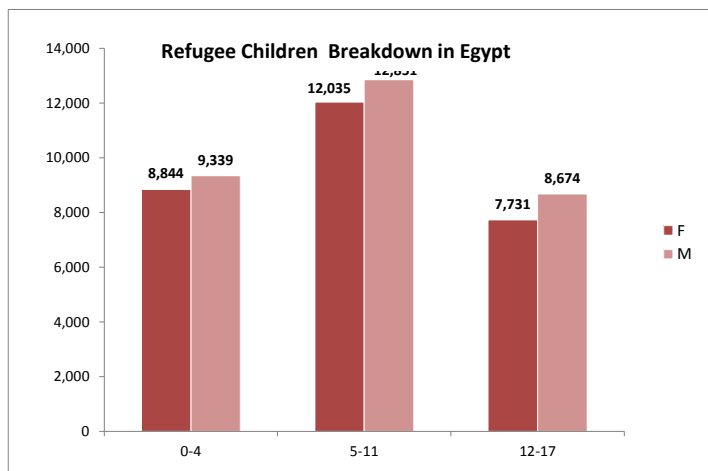
The Egyptian Government granted Syrians access to public schools under same rules that apply to Egyptian nationals. In practice several challenges have arisen when Syrian students attempted to enroll their children in public schools most importantly the required documentation, overcrowding and waitlists. The lack of capacity and quality of and the environment in public schools remains a significant barrier to the enrolment and retention of Syrian children.

Common barriers to education also include costs of transportation and tuition fees which can be excessive for refugee families with limited resources; however, UNHCR through its implementing partners is providing education grants to assist with transportation costs. Language barriers and safety concerns of parents may contribute to a higher drop-out rate among refugee children. However, the biggest barrier to schooling is the lack of space in public schools.

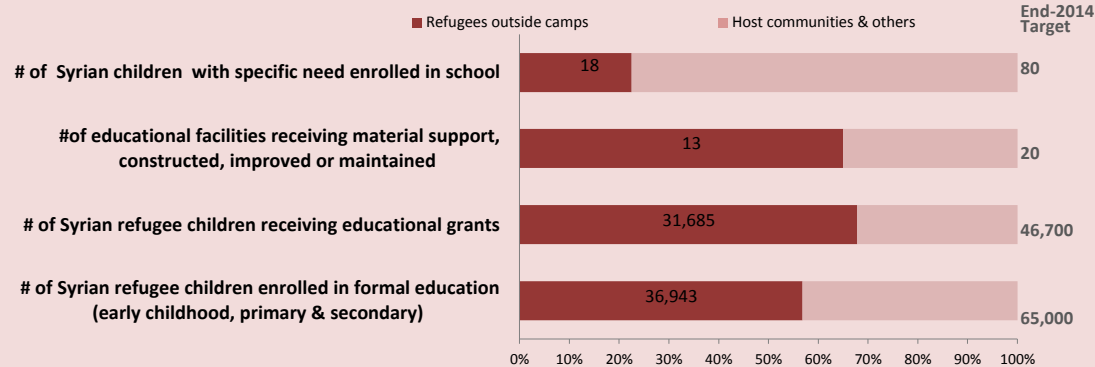
A key objective of the Education Sector is to promote and facilitate access to primary education through addressing those challenges Syrians face. Efforts are made to support national education systems to accommodate refugee children, including through support to teachers, classrooms and school buildings. Education is also an entry point to provide child-centred support and a mechanism to address the scars of war affecting those traumatized children and adolescents.

There remain challenges in addressing the needs of children with learning or physical disabilities this is due to lack of education opportunities in the country as a whole. UNHCR continues to identify and adequately respond to those children in need.

The Education Working Group continues to promote effective coordination through quality information management and a continuous collaboration with other sectors such as protection, health and water, sanitation and hygiene.



PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS



Targets based on expected population of 150,000 Syrian refugees in Egypt by end-2014. There are currently over 137,000 refugees in Egypt.

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Participating Agencies: UNHCR, UNICEF, CRS, Tadamon, AMERA, St.Andrew's Education Service, KG Supervisors League, IOM Plan International