



## 50,955 Syrian children registered with UNHCR Egypt

### December HIGHLIGHTS:

- Catholic Relief Services (CRS) distributed the education grants distributed the educational grants in Cairo and Alexandria. Approximately 5,097 Households with school age children benefited from this form of cash for education with a total number of 10,199 students. In addition to 26 special needs students received their education grants for this period in order to assist them enroll in specialized schools that meet their educational and care needs.
- Many families with children were found to be very vulnerable during the education grant assessment and they may spend the education grant on other essential living expenses rather than sending their children to school. 436 of these vulnerable families were assisted with an additional amount of money to help them provide other essentials for their school age children.
- In the highlight of capacity building for teachers, an intensive five-day teacher's training on Active Learning techniques and class management was held with two groups of 46 teachers in Obour City and 6th of October City from different Syrian community schools.
- Save the Children (SCI), carried out a series of recreational, psychosocial and health activities in the Syrian community schools in Obour City and 6th of October city . A total of 1263 students participated in the activities Another 223 children participated in an awareness activity on SGBV and child right in light of the UN 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Campaign.
- Another series of interactive activities were conducted during the reporting period by Save the Children (SCI) targeting refugee students: Peer to Peer activities conducted in Obour City and 6th October City. The first group in Obour city selected to raise awareness among their community on the risks of "unsafe migration". A group of 21 parents and 64 children participated in the workshop. During the event, the Peer to Peer team acted out a role play about unsafe migration to all attendees. In 6th of October, the first group decided to spot the light on children's right to access quality education by engaging parents and other children to discussion. An event was conducted with the participation of 25 parents and 40 children.
- Under UNHCR education strategy; Save the Children, in cooperation with FARD Foundation planned and conducted a nationwide survey on Syrian refugee children who have dropped out of school in Greater Cairo, Damietta and Alexandria .The survey tools included a phone survey to collect quantitative data from target households in addition to focus group discussions with samples of parents and children of different age groups in the target locations. The data collection stage was completed through phone survey. The final number of persons contacted for the survey was 13,975 Households, in addition to a total of 18 focus group discussions held with a total of 77 children; and 13 focus group discussions with 80 parents in Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta.



Syrian refugee children take part in classes at the private community school, 6th of October, Cairo, Egypt. S.Nelson/UNHCR

### Key Figures:

#### Planned Sector Response:



### 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 families attempted to enrol their children in public schools most importantly the required documentation, overcrowding and safety concerns inside and outside of school. The lack of capacity and quality of the environment in public schools remains a significant barrier to the enrolment and retention of Syrian children.

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 inside classrooms. 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.

In order to enhance access to education for the most vulnerable boys and girls, around 100 disabled Syrian children will be supported in specialized private schools, as no public Egyptian schools currently have appropriate model of education and care required. These children will receive special education grants to cover the special needs school fees and their transportation needs. The education response plan is based on the assumption that the current Government policy under which Syrian students have access to public schools will be continued.

Based on the needs assessment conducted in December of 2014 by Ministry of Education (MoE) through their General Authority for Educational Buildings (GAEB), and the assessment planned by Save the Children International in early 2015. UNHCR and UNICEF will provide support to improve and rehabilitate schools in most impacted areas by Syrian refugee crisis. Mapping of government schools most frequented by Syrian children has already been concluded, and a report by the GAEB has been compiled listing the needs and work required to enhance the absorption capacity of the most affected schools in impacted areas. This report will continue to inform the dialogue with the Ministry. Around 62,000 children aged six to 17 from host communities should directly benefit from the planned school rehabilitation programme. Once implemented in 2015, it will also include a component to address the gender-sensitive learning environment in 50 basic and secondary schools. The Education Working Group continue to promote effective coordination through quality information management and a continuous collaboration with other sectors such as protection, health and water, sanitation and hygiene.

### REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: December 2015

30 of schools (renovate, refurbish and equip selected schools in impacted areas)



28,475 refugee children receive education grants

433 teachers trained

6,180 of 0-17yrs enrolled in non-formal education opportunities

39,000 of 0-17yrs enrolled in formal education opportunities

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Foot note: Education grants for 2014/2015 academic year have been disseminated under RRP6.