



In August, health partners continued with health education and awareness sessions across the region

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

During the month of August, health partners launched a number of health awareness campaigns and education sessions across the region.

In Lebanon, a national breastfeeding campaign was launched aimed at sensitizing over 100,000 individuals from both the Lebanese and Syrian displaced communities. The campaign to be continued until September, will also include dissemination of information materials and lectures across the country to encourage breastfeeding.

In Jordan, as many as 9,174 beneficiaries were reached with reproductive health messages - 77 per cent of the beneficiaries were from those residing in camps. Handouts on interventions to improve maternal, neonatal and child health services were adopted to Jordan context and shared. Given the increase in early marriages for girls, the focus will remain in the coming months on sexual and reproductive health education and messages among young people. With the outbreak of Hepatitis A in Azraq camp in late July, control measures continued to focus on strengthening hygiene measures, including awareness session.

3RP Partners organized nearly 40 awareness sessions on early pregnancy and reproductive health at health clinics across Turkey. Sessions included topics related to HIV/AIDS, early puberty and personal hygiene which benefitted 609 beneficiaries in Sanilurfa and 170 beneficiaries in Ankara. In Iraq, women and girls in camps benefitted from awareness sessions on gender based violence and reproductive health organised by the health partners. Information sessions on hygiene, and prevention and treatment of scabies also benefitted large number of women and girls in various camps.

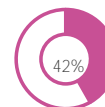


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Sector Response Summary:



5,362,842 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end-2015
2,242,847 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015
4,089,023 currently registered or awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 1.678 billion received in 2015



SURVEY SHOWS A DECREASE IN SYRIAN REFUGEES IN URBAN COMMUNITIES SEEKING HEALTH CARE IN JORDAN

A Health Access and Utilization survey conducted among Syrian refugees living in urban communities in Jordan showed a decrease in access to curative and preventative health care. This was the first health survey to be carried out since the Ministry of Health (MoH) changed its policy in November 2014 from providing free public health care services to Syrian refugees to services offered at a subsidized rate.

According to the survey, 58.3 per cent of adults with chronic conditions were unable to access health care services as needed due to their inability to pay the high fees. This is a marked increase from 23.7 per cent in 2014.

Access to childhood vaccination was good with an increase from 55 per cent (in 2014) to 76 per cent (in 2015) of children under five having an immunization card.

To address the financial and health system barriers, the study recommended the need for pilot provision of cash to refugees to offset the cost of accessing health services at MoH facilities and to strengthen links with agencies providing cash assistance to support transport costs to access health services for vulnerable refugees.

The survey also highlighted the need to improve refugee knowledge of available services including continued awareness raising for refugees about the new health policy and eligibility criteria for accessing health care through 3RP Partner-supported services. Improvement of clinical support such as further documenting the needs of refugees post-injury including gaps in provision of assistive devices, physiotherapy, rehabilitation and home nursing was also recommended.

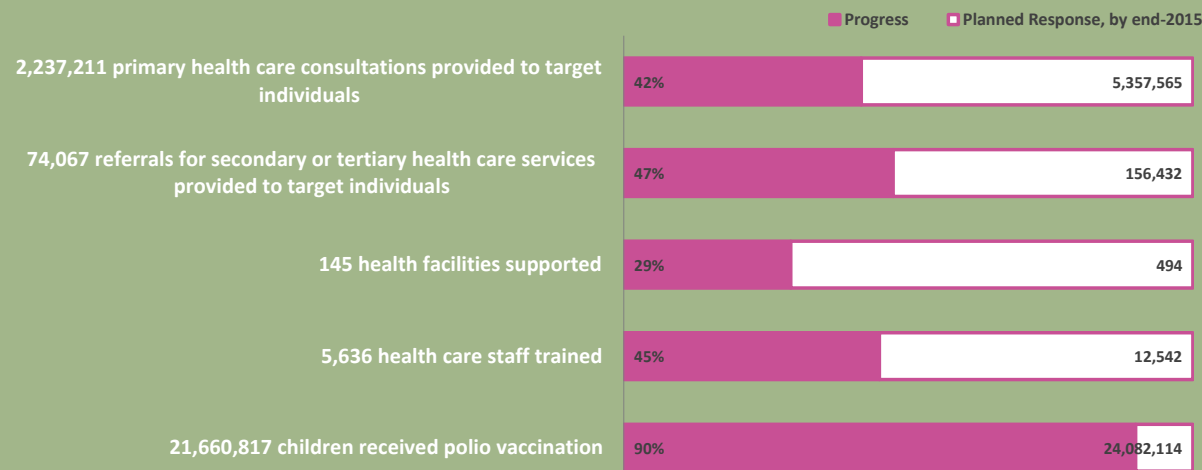
NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Increasing demand throughout the region is stretching national health systems and services, which provide significant health care to Syrian refugees. Insufficient personnel, medical supplies, and inadequate service delivery mean vulnerable populations are at increased risk of communicable diseases due to unfavourable environmental conditions and limited access to basic health services, such as child immunization.

Shortcomings in health systems also increase the risks of a wide range of health issues. The management of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) is a significant challenge. Nearly 30 per cent of refugees in Jordan suffer from NCDs such as hypertension or diabetes, and 78 per cent of households in Egypt have reported a family member suffering from a chronic disease. Access to adequate and appropriate reproductive health care is a continuing need. It is necessary to improve capacities for basic and comprehensive emergency obstetric and neonatal care at primary, secondary and tertiary health care locations.

The main nutrition concern among refugees is micronutrient deficiency such as iron deficiency. Global acute malnutrition rates are at acceptable levels, below five per cent among refugees.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - AUGUST* 2015



*Note updated data not yet available for Turkey response for August 2015

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 August 2015.