

More than 5,255,000 USD injected into the local economy through the monetization of assistance since the beginning of 2015

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS:

A total of 31,846 vulnerable Syrian refugees were assisted in Egypt through the provision of monthly cash grants.

UNHCR Livelihoods Unit HQ had a mission in the country to explore the possibility of setting up a Community Technology Access (CTA) project in Egypt which would provide an opportunity to offer blended learning to refugees through computer technology and promote access to telework amongst other livelihood opportunities in the country including website development. The project is expected to commence within the 4th Quarter of 2015.

Caritas self-reliance team conducted two exhibitions during August 2015; one Bazaar at Royal Hall at Bitash on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of August 2015 and another bazar was also conducted on the 31st of August. Several refugees who received the grants participated in the events.

In August, a total of 2,674 individuals were interviewed as part of the vulnerability assessment framework for Syrian refugees.

A new targeting mechanism was put in place, utilizing, MEB Gaps Analysis Approach to select beneficiaries, resulting in identifying a total of 53,340 as most vulnerable to access food vouchers for August. The final list of beneficiaries for the assistance reflected a reduction of 12,917 individuals from the previous distribution figures of whom 7,278 were also receiving cash assistance.



Syrian women displaying their food under livelihood projects, Cairo, Egypt UNHCR

Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:



120,000
Refugees
Status:



127,623
106%



91,960
Direct beneficiaries



52,475
57%

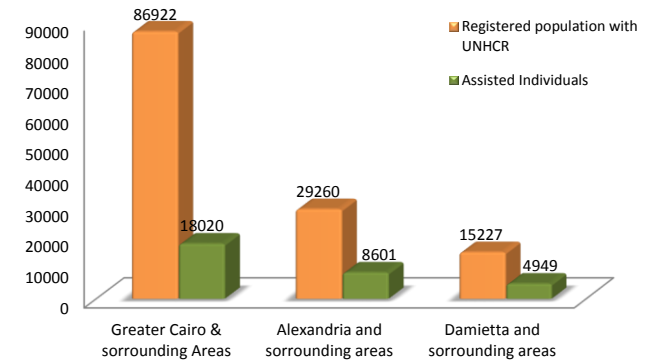


Sector Funding
49,83M USD

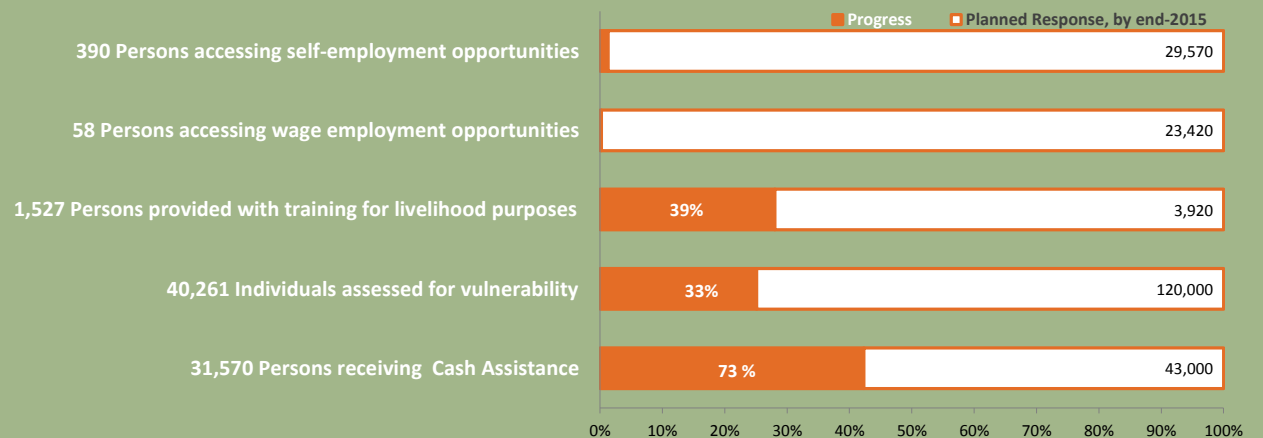


3,036,809
6%

Breakdown by Governorate



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: AUGUST 2015



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The majority of Syrian refugees in Egypt have been facing challenges in responding to their households' basic needs. Savings have been considered the main source of income for Syrians arriving to Egypt in 2012, but these savings have since significantly depleted. Many Syrians arriving in Egypt as of the second half of 2013 were destitute and devoid of basic financial assets.

Agencies participating in the basic needs and livelihoods sector will work together to achieve two objectives: 1) the refugee population has sufficient basic and domestic items; 2) their self-reliance and livelihoods are improved.

In order to protect Syrian vulnerable households from negative coping mechanisms, unconditional cash-based interventions will continue to be implemented. Those interventions will target only vulnerable households with either one-off payments (emergency) or monthly payments that last between three and six months. Due to increased vulnerabilities, protection risks, and destitution, it is estimated that 21% of the registered population will benefit from cash based interventions in 2015.

The self-reliance programme will be expanded during 2015 to achieve either self-employment or wage-employment. These programmes will include members of host communities as well. Beneficiaries may receive training, business advice, job placement, and seed grants to start up micro businesses. Greater Cairo, Damietta and Alexandria will be targeted with self-reliance activities in 2015.

Leading Agencies: UNHCR- Steven Choka, email: choka@unhcr.org

Participating Agencies: UNHCR, UNDP, CRS, ILO, IOM, Resala, Caritas Egypt, Save the Children, UN Women

Foot note: During 2014, more than 45,000 Syrian refugees were assessed for vulnerability. The vulnerability assessment is continuing in 2015