

72 refugees have been provided with legal counseling and assistance since the beginning of 2015

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:

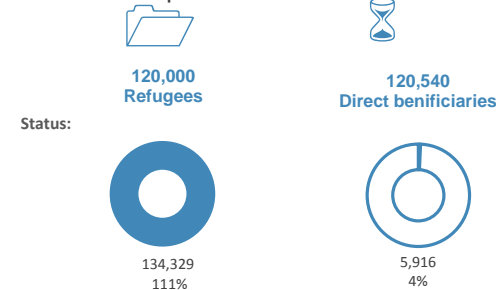
- The first incidents of irregular departures by sea from Egypt since the beginning of 2015 were reported in April, during which UNHCR observed at least **6 incidents**.
- During the month of April, a total of 18 Syrians, were detained at Police Stations in Kafr El Sheikh, Alexandria and Matrouh Governorates for attempting to depart Egypt irregularly by sea.
- UNHCR has recently noticed an increase in the number of releases from detention involving asylum-seekers and refugees registered with UNHCR since the first quarter of 2015.
- UNHCR's partners, Caritas, Resala and PSTIC, have been providing emergency assistance to detainees in the form of food, blankets and medical care and psycho-social support. IOM has also provided assistance in the form of sanitary kits and non-food items.
- As part of UNHCR's prevention and response programming, Care International in coordination with partners, continued to hold Art Therapy Workshops, directed to both male and female refugees. These workshops have proven to be important forums for opening discussion around sexual and gender based violence issues and themes with both male and female participants in Cairo, and their impact has been significant.
- One participant at an art therapy workshop shared the following statement, *"I used to have the feeling that there are certain situations in which my life stopped. Now after the workshop, I have realized that life goes on and I have to be optimistic."*
- Save the Children's Health Coordinator and Psychosocial workers conducted three introductory sessions with families living in Syria El Ghad housing, including 22 children aged 6-14 years, 5 children aged 15-18 years and 8 female parent. Attendees were advised on the scope of interventions for children with specific needs, including art, theatre performance, music, sports and handicrafts.
- As part of UNHCR's on-going outreach activities, UNHCR attended an outing with 53 female educators, 2 male educators and 25 children, from the Al Obour City Community at Al Azhar Park. An awareness session was given on livelihoods, community services, family reunification and the healthcare mainstreaming in primary public health facilities.
- On 4 April, UNHCR participated in the National Orphan's Day organized by the Syria Al Gad Relief Foundation. Games, handicrafts, and sports activities benefited over 60 orphan refugees.
- On 23 April, UNHCR held a community meeting with coordination assistance from Tadamon Council, providing awareness to 29 individuals to 6th of October City community members (21 women and 8 men) on community services (mainly eligibility for cash and food assistance, vulnerability assistance and resettlement concerns. Also on 30 April, UNHCR held a community meeting together with Tadamon, providing awareness to 14 community members (7 women and 7 men) on resettlement, health, community services and livelihoods as well as education who live in the Faisal and Haram, and Giza areas.



Verification Exercise- Cairo, S.Nelson/UNHCR

Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:



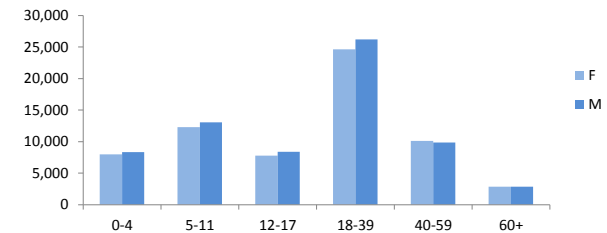
NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Updated data on registered refugees is needed for profiling and programming purposes. A verification exercise began in May 2014 and by December 2014, 70% of 138,000 has been verified. A socio-economic assessment of the refugee population is currently on-going, after which UNHCR and partners would have a better understanding of the protection needs and profile of the most vulnerable in order to ensure targeted assistance and responses.

New innovative approaches with regards to sexual gender based violence (SGBV) activities are being tested to increase identification of SGBV cases and to better target coordinated protection responses.

The operational capacity of partners remains largely concentrated in Greater Cairo and to some extent Alexandria, affecting services to most vulnerable, including (SGBV) survivors, children and disabled in particular. Challenges remain in identifying specialized services and coverage of major and smaller urban centers around the country.

Population Breakdown by age



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: APRIL 2015

