



6,750 beneficiaries received language training in Arabic, English and Turkish since the beginning of 2015.

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:

Through its implementing partner; IOM Turkey supported 1685 Syrian refugees to access vocational training.

During January, February, March and April 2015, UNHCR Turkey was in the process of finalization of a partnership project with Refugee Education Trust (RET), which includes a component for vocational and language training, expected to become operational in April 2015. Through the implementation of the project, provision of relevant and accredited Turkish language courses to 960 Syrian adolescents and 120 Syrian adult men in Language Training Centres located in 3 districts of Şanlıurfa, as well as to 4,600 Syrian women in 46 Women's Cultural Centres is foreseen. Activities will aim to improve integration, communication and increase the livelihood opportunities of all participants, and all the teachers recruited for the project will receive specialized and accredited training.

UNHCR has worked closely with the national authorities in the course of drafting of the TP Regulation which incorporates an article on access to labor market by Syrian refugees granted Temporary Protection. The article is instrumental in ensuring access to employment and self-reliance by Syrian refugees affected by the humanitarian crisis entering in its fifth year. The draft regulation determining the principles and procedures for integration of Syrians in the national labor market was submitted to the Council of Ministers and it is anticipated that it will be issued after the elections.

ILO is planning to engage an intervention with 3 basic components; contributing national and local capacity development to deal with refugee crisis in Turkey, improving the knowledge base on the crisis and its implications on the labour market and strengthened local economic development through demonstrative projects. The preparatory work is in progress and it is expected to start up the referred interventions by May 1, 2015.

UNDP is currently working on a project aiming to support the occupational skills and access to labour market for Syrians under temporary protection, with the EU in Gaziantep, in industrial and service sectors.

UNIDO has participated in a mission together with UNHCR to learn further about the current status on the challenge and also the actors. The program received very positive results from the actors. Consultations are ongoing with the program partners in order to finalize the optimum implementation modality given the resources.

The month of April was used for fact finding and situation analysis, and it was the first month of the inception period. The activities will be expedited as of May.

In Mersin province, IOM continued its support to Syria social gathering language and vocational activities. Language activities included: TOMER, English, Arabic for host community and YOS. Since the beginning of the year, 6,750 Syrians have participated in these courses.

The program designed by UNIDO in partnership with IHKIB and AFAD to equip the refugees with vocational skills for the garment sector is approved. Due to lack of resources and the magnitude of the problem this aspect requires attention and is not always perceived as priority.

Furthermore, the situation is much more critical for women, taking into consideration the usual gender related problems that are aggravated because of their refugee status and lack of income. The implementation will start as of April in the provinces of Gaziantep, Kahramanmaraş and Şanlıurfa.

UNDP conducted a skills mapping exercise to assess the occupational skills of the Syrians under temporary protection in Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa.

The target groups of the field survey are (i) Syrians under temporary protection off-camps and (ii) related NGOs, public institutions, businessmen associations and chambers in Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa. The survey composed of (ii) face-to-face interviews of a total of 4000 respondents (1992 Males and 2008 Females) from 1000 households and (ii) 24 in-depth interviews with the target groups (6 in Şanlıurfa and 6 in Gaziantep). The exercise has been finalized and reached up to 4000 individuals both in Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa Provinces. The exercise is focusing on industrial and service sector and results of the exercise will feed into the pipeline projects which aims at enhancing vocational and occupational skills of the Syrians under temporary protection and their integration into the local labor markets. The results of the survey have been collated and both qualitative and quantitative detailed analyses will be compiled in a report soon.



Syrian refugees are benefiting from the vocational training materials provided by UNHCR to training centers in 13 camps as of mid-April 2015. Harran camp, Şanlıurfa, Turkey. Photo: © S.Unal/UNHCR

Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:

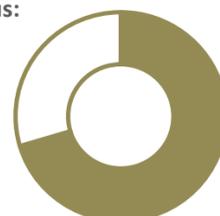


registered Syrian refugees



Direct beneficiaries

Status:



1,759,846
70%



6,750
7%

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

In the absence of an enabling environment for livelihoods for Syrians, job opportunities and services to improve employability are also limited. This situation impact particularly women and youth, who are the most at risk to engage in exploitative and abusive work, including prostitution, and other negative coping mechanisms. In parallel, the jobs that Syrian refugees manage to find are usually informal and insecure, and facilitate- at times - child labour. Some sources report that the daily fees for seasonal work have reduced to one fifth of the previous levels, which were already unacceptably low for host communities before the crisis.

Additionally, the cost of living in the border provinces increased significantly for both communities as rental costs and commodity prices grew (in some cases more than 50 per cent increase). This economic hardship, along with other social issues, weakened the social fabric and undermined social cohesion between refugees and impacted communities, particularly in 2014.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MoLSS) developed the normative framework that will enable the access to legal forms of work for approval by the Council of Ministers. This framework will be critical for designing employment support interventions. The 3RP partners will therefore support the GoT in these endeavours including child labour.

UNDP will focus on local strategies and initiatives that relate to livelihoods in order to strengthen job creation/labour demand and empowerment opportunities/labour supply. ILO together with the MoLSS, social partners and relevant 3RP partners will support policy development to ensure and enhance decent employment opportunities and livelihoods in host communities and address unacceptable forms of work including child labour. These interventions will be built on assessments of skillsets of Syrians as well as the labour demand with a view to design and implement employment services. Advocacy efforts will target Syrians for awareness raising on employment opportunities, and local authorities for ensuring the implementation of labour regulations and law, with a focus on reducing the worst forms of labour.

TURKEY RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO APRIL 2015

