



59,281 Syrian children registered with UNHCR Egypt

January HIGHLIGHTS:

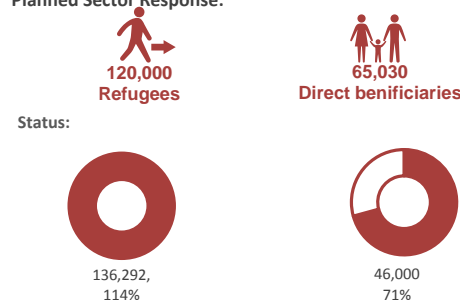
- Refurbishment and construction for the provision of eight new classrooms in Burj Al Arab primary school has been completed. The Burj Al Arab refurbishment improved WASH facilities and provided eight extra classrooms to the school that has resulted in a reduced density in classrooms. The current student teacher ratio has improved the quality of education provided in this school and has allowed for an improved relationship between refugee and host community children in the area as they no longer have to compete for a seat within the classrooms. This was a part of the funds received from the Big Heart Foundation.
- The number of new Syrian students enrolled in public universities has reached 5,520 students in this academic year (2014-2015) through advocacy efforts with Egypt's Ministry of Higher Education. This new enrollment figure brings the total number of Syrian refugees in public universities to 14,503 in the Undergraduates category and 1,177 in the Postgraduates category.



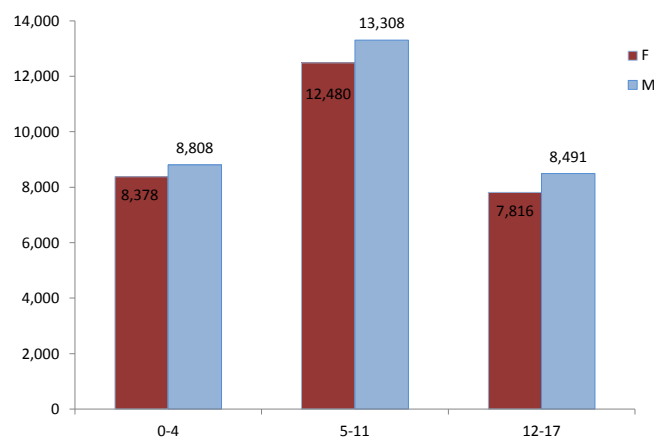
Syrian refugee children take part in classes at the private community school, 6th of October, Cairo, Egypt. S.Nelson/UNHCR

Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:



Refugee Children Breakdown in Egypt



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: JANUARY 2015

