



164 refugees have been provided with legal counselling and assistance since the beginning of 2016

JULY HIGHLIGHTS:

In July 2016, UNHCR continued to provide counseling on legal and administrative issues for Syrian refugees. As a result, 56 cases were referred to UNHCR's legal partner for legal assistance. Some of the cases referred were for the purpose of administrative assistance to authenticate instances of birth, marriage and divorce within the country. The office also referred two cases to assist in obtaining Egyptian nationality.

Late birth registration remains an issue for children born to Syrian parents, especially when the parents' marriage is not authenticated by the Syrian or Egyptian authorities. UNHCR's capacity to identify such cases has increased, resulting in increased counseling on birth and civil status registration and reduced number of cases requiring late birth registration. Some of the cases referred were for the purpose to authenticate instances of birth, marriage, and divorce within the country.

UNHCR's legal partners continued to assist Syrian refugees in detention. During the reporting period, UNHCR was alerted of the arrest of 28 Syrians detained at the southern border with Sudan attempting to enter Egypt irregularly. The total number of Syrians known to have been arrested for irregular migration from Sudan is now 208 persons. UNHCR continues to advocate for the release of Syrian refugees detained for irregular entry to Egypt, with limited success; only 28 confirmed releases in 2016, 7 of which were during the reporting period. In addition, UNHCR intervened on behalf of 2 Syrian refugees detained for irregular migration on Egypt's western border with Libya. Syrians continue to be less than 1% of all persons involved in maritime incidents, whereas Alexandria AOR recorded 19 Syrians arrested for attempted to depart irregularly by sea. Overall 49 Syrians were arrested in July for irregular migration.

Child Protection

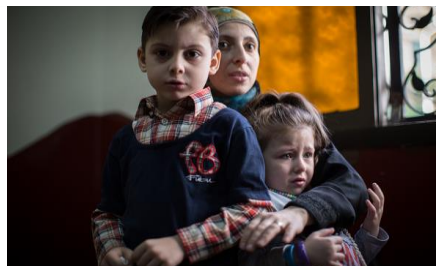
During the reporting period, child protection interventions by 3RP partners continued to focus on systematic and targeted response services to adequately address the protection of children at risk.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Updated data on registered refugees is needed for profiling and programming purposes. Following the verification process that was conducted for Syrian refugees in December 2015, the updated version, the Egypt Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR), was launched in April 2016, after which UNHCR and partners would have a better understanding of the protection needs and profile of the most vulnerable refugees currently living in Egypt, in order to ensure targeted protection and assistance responses.

Community-based protection approaches by UNHCR and partners with regards to child protection and sexual gender based violence (SGBV) activities are being rolled-out to increase identification of cases at risk and to better target coordinated protection responses. This includes community outreach and awareness raising activities, strengthening interagency coordination mechanisms and national protection systems, provision of quality case management and specialized child protection services, capacity building initiatives and monitoring.

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 at risk and disabled in particular. Challenges remain in identifying specialized national services and coverage of major and smaller urban centers around the country.

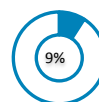


Syrian woman with her children attending an awareness session, UNHCR/ Pedro C. Gomes

Sector Response Summary:



187,300 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end of 2016, 17,050 assisted in 2016.



Syrian Refugees in EGYPT :



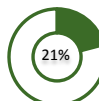
107,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2016, 114,900 currently registered or awaiting registration.



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 146.6 million required in 2016, USD 30.7 million received in 2016.



HIGHLIGHTED 2

- With the increase of children at risk (15% of the total Syrian refugee population; up by 3%) quality community-based protection, specialized child protection services, including quality case management, specialized psychosocial support (PSS), and recreational activities for children and life skills for adolescents have become a vital response tool, inter-agency coordination and the strengthening of national child protection systems remain a priority.
- Syrian refugee children continue to benefit from a range of psycho-social support services provided by Save the Children, UNHCR's partner on child protection. With a tailored group session in El Obour, 82 girls and boys benefitted from group discussions led by a psychologist addressing challenges as adolescents in the country of asylum and how to develop critical thinking and problem solving, 12 of which were referred as part of case management. Sessions on early marriage helped to support 10 Syrian females aged between 13-17 years as they focused on situations that assist in decision-making. An awareness raising event on violence against children, allowed 61 children within 31 families to discuss together with their caregivers the various forms of violence and the effect this can have on the development and well-being of the child. Younger children were able to express their thoughts and emotions on this topic through drawings.
- Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)**
 - 17 Syrian refugees reported SGBV incidents during the reporting month that account for 24.3% of the total SGBV incidents; 13 out of 17 Syrian survivors are children and 10 were exposed to early marriage. While access to emergency medical response and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) kit has been continuously ensured for those reporting rape and sexual assault within 72 hours after the incident, multi-sectoral response services and quality case management have been provided to the survivors.
 - The SGBV Inter Agency coordination activities continued. Besides the monthly SGBV Sub-Working Group session for July chaired by UNHCR SGBV Unit, two case conferences were taken place with CARE International and PSTIC to review and discuss individual cases addressing immediate protection problems and coordinating response actions. A regular case follow-up meeting with Caritas started in the reporting month in order to swiftly follow up the procedure of individual financial assistance for SGBV survivors.
 - Community Outreach**
 - A meeting with 21 community leaders was held in 6th of October and Obour City to discuss the planning of capacity building within the community on the topics of child protection (abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation) and life skills for adolescents, which received great interest within the community. Another item on the agenda included support in the identification of child protection issues and the relevant referral mechanism.

EGYPT RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - JULY 2016

