

**Egypt Weekly Update**  
**Syria Operation**  
April 9<sup>th</sup> – April 15<sup>th</sup> 2013

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Total number of Syrian nationals registered with UNHCR in Egypt stands at **37,361 individuals/ 14'056 families** as of 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2013.

Total Population Breakdown by Gender

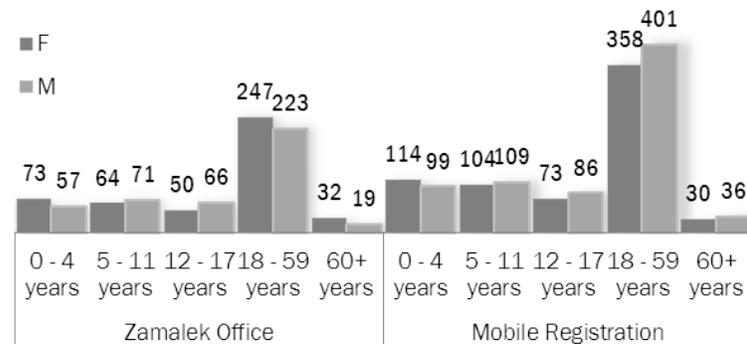
Age	F	M	Total
0-4	2614	2801	5415
5-11	3167	3389	6556
12-17	2173	2482	4655
18-59	9656	9494	19150
60+	765	820	1585
<b>Total</b>	<b>18375</b>	<b>18986</b>	<b>37361</b>

**REGISTRATION AND NEW ARRIVALS**

During the reporting period, UNHCR registered a total of **2,312 individuals/ 936 families**. Total registration in Zamalek office was **902 individuals / 362 families**. Registration team registered a total of **7,725 individuals / 2960 families** during Alexandria mobile registration between 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2013. The registration team also issued appointments for registration to families who approached the registration centre and scheduled 3793 families until July 1<sup>st</sup> 2013. During the reporting period, 1453 individuals / 976 families were recorded as awaiting registration for the next mobile registration exercise in Alexandria.

The population figures show that the majority of newly registered applicants in Alexandria and Zamalek offices were composed of family size one and belong to the age group of 18-59 years. Most of the family size one applicants reported to have left Syria to avoid conscription or have been trying to arrange for the rest of their family members to join them in Egypt.

Syrians Registered in Egypt April 9 - 15, 2013



UNHCR Community Services and Protection staff continued to counsel the applicants regarding documentation and completing all of the registration forms in addition to identifying persons with specific needs through individual and group counseling at review desk. Depending on the number of registration forms awaiting review, one or two registration staffs were shifted from data entry to the review desk to minimize the waiting time for families. 1239 refugees with specific needs were identified. The breakdown by applicants' numbers is listed as follows:

Specific needs	Count
Serious medical conditions	830
Disability	241
Older person at risk	55
Unaccompanied or separated child	49
Single parent	38
Specific legal and physical protection needs	19
Woman at risk	18
Torture	8
Child at risk	4
Family unity	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1263</b>

## PROTECTION

During the reporting period, the protection team joined the Alexandria mobile mission that ended on April 10<sup>th</sup>. The team assisted the registration unit in identifying medical and social specific needs; conducting protection interviews and providing referrals to Persons of concern (PoCs); following up on detention cases; providing counselling to newly arriving unaccompanied and separated children; finalizing Best Interest Assessments and conducting family unity interviews.

During the reporting period a Syrian couple, which got married by virtue of traditional marriage certificate in Syria, approached the Zamalek office for authenticating this marriage in Egypt. They could not authenticate the marriage because they fled Syria for Egypt. The case was referred to UNHCR's legal partner to authenticate their marriage as per the applicable procedures and laws.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

The World Food Program (WFP) is currently preparing for the second half of April cycle voucher distribution that will target approximately 20,000 vulnerable and food-insecure Syrians. During the reporting week, 2,752 refugees have received vouchers in a three-day distribution mission in Damietta. The new voucher value is US\$30 per person.

The SMS technology and active participation of refugee communities, in addition to the assignment of two UNHCR staff facilitated and improved substantially the voucher distribution in Damietta. The success rate reached 99.6 percent of the refugees that WFP planned. Similar

distributions are scheduled in the greater Cairo and Alexandria areas effective the week starting on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April.

WFP and UNHCR have agreed that, the food voucher assistance program will be based on identifying different levels of vulnerabilities of various cases and not limited only to geographical areas. This is due to the fact that both WFP and UNHCR do not yet have the capacity to conduct comprehensive vulnerability assessments. The two agencies will depend mainly on partners, who are currently conducting such type of assessments and flagging vulnerable refugees.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Community Services staff continued to provide counseling to all the applicants who approached the Zamalek office. 20 specific needs cases were identified and were fast tracked for registration in Zamalek office. Eight cases were scheduled for home visits registration. In addition, 47 cases registered with UNHCR in different cities approached the office since they have not received food vouchers from WFP. These cases were shared with UNHCR Zamalek head of office for further action.

Three Community services staff took part in the Alexandria Mobile registration. They counseled and supported the registration team during the Alexandria mobile registration that ended on April 10<sup>th</sup>. The counseling targeted 2,900 families. During counseling, 25 cases with specific needs have been identified. Home visits were scheduled to these cases. 77 Families with specific needs were referred to Caritas Alexandria.

## EDUCATION

The discussion on higher education has been finalized. The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) submitted a separate proposal for 700 students enrolled into higher education during the second half of the year.

The assessments and plans to support four separate community schools/study centers have been finalized. Moreover, financial assistance will be offered this week by CRS to enable the school management team to buy needed school furniture including desks and cover other supply costs.

## HEALTH-CARE

During the reporting week, the Ministry of Health (MoH) arranged an Expanded Program for Immunization (EPI) for the polio-vaccination campaign to cover Greater Cairo (Cairo, Giza and part of Kalyoubeya) during the period 13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> of April. The campaign team is available in several locations such as MoH Primary health care facilities, certain identified clubs, mosques and churches and mobile vaccination for households to expand their coverage to the maximum number of the target population. The target population is children under 5 Egyptian children and under 15 children from any other nationality.

The second health subgroup meeting was held at MOH National Tuberculosis Program- Abassiya on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Discussions included the mapping of health services at the service delivery level,

proposed activities for the RRP5. In addition, the participants discussed the assistance that can be provided for the renal dialysis cases, as they are not covered by UNHCR.

During the reporting period, some 374 Syrians benefited from the primary health care at Caritas, among whom 15 children were under five, 30 children were vaccinated against polio. Six women benefited from the antenatal care service and five women gave birth. Moreover, nine cases required referral to secondary health care; six were admitted to the hospital and 121 chronic patients benefited from treatment. Most cases were cardiac, diabetic and hypertensive patients.

At Refuge Egypt clinic, 84 children under five received primary health care among whom only one needed referral to a secondary level care, 28 women benefited from the antenatal care among which 10 cases were new and two gave birth.

During the reporting week, Refuge Egypt sustained their health education sessions about HIV and services of refugee Egypt, tuberculosis and anemia, Calcium and vitamin D supplement, Breast feeding, weaning and family planning.

Mahmoud Hospital provided primary health care for 164 Syrians; seven among them were children under five. 100 patients were referred to secondary health care and four to tertiary level of care with eight hospital admissions. 36 chronic diseases patients benefited from the treatment.

## **MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT**

During the reporting period, a total of 271 families benefited from psychosocial services at UNHCR's partner PSTIC; 15 new cases were filed and 14 cases benefited from housing assistance. Four emergencies have been identified.

A 17 years old boy new arrival from Homs was hospitalized in the psychiatric hospital. The psycho social worker met him at UNHCR on April 11<sup>th</sup>. He was clearly mentally disturbed and speaking incoherently, laughing without reason and singing. He was evaluated at the PSTIC Mental Health Clinic and transferred to MSF. He was hospitalized at Behman Psychiatric Hospital.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Capacity building training for Syrian program staff and volunteers on Problems Analysis and Community Initiatives was attended by 42 participants. The training objectives were to acquaint staff members and volunteers at the Tadamon Centre on self development and organizational capacities to respond efficiently and effectively to refugees in general and Syrian refugees' needs in particular.

30 attended a training under the Syrian micro-grants project on 'Life skills and Self-confidence and health awareness'. The training sessions covered the actual creation of paintings and artistic productions about health issues.

Tadamon initiated several children activities during the reporting period. "Word & Letter" interactive play games project started this week with 55 children. The project targets 3-5 age group and aims at giving children new tools of expression through innovative ways and enhance their self- confidence. "El Sard El- Masrahy band" Theater project aims to teach children ways to express their feelings and fears and to earn skills related to theater such as acting. The project attracted 59 children from the age group between 10-13 years old. Last but not least, a French course started with 52 children divided into three basic French classes.

The sports project continued to attract more than 38 Syrian refugee boys. The boys are trained at the Hossary club in 6<sup>th</sup> of October every Friday and Saturday.

Idea and Art "Fekrawa Fan" Project which is one of seventeen micro grants projects. The project main idea is to make puppets, in large sizes, to enable Syrian Women to express their culture and explore their craftsmanship. During this week, 14 Syrian women refugees attended "Fekrawa Fan" project and continued their weekly activities.

Accessories and Handicrafts activities continued to attract 90 Syrian refugee women to sell their products through social media such as Facebook, blogs and Twitter.

Tadamon also started a new project named "My Bag". The project's objective is to empower Refugee women by teaching them skills that will help them to earn an income. "My Bag" project started with industry techniques to design bags and was attended by 45 women.

'First Aid Program' aims to increase the knowledge and response to emergency situations in their daily life. Total 65 Syrian women and men attended the class during the reporting week.

The number of participants, who benefited from the Syrian community center regular activities, was 428 individuals and from irregular activities (micro-grants projects), was 686 individuals.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Islamic Relief World Wide (IRW), UNHCR's partner, registered 361 families / 1295 individuals during the reporting period. The number of registered refugees eligible for assistance increased in view of the improved awareness about IRW's services among the Syrian Refugees. 148 families / 608 individuals were identified as vulnerable. 105 families / 330 individuals received emergency assistance, and clothing coupons / vouchers were distributed to 892 families / 3333 individuals. As in the previous week, IRW distributes (distributed) clothing packages to the refugees who are being interviewed on a daily basis parallel along with the list it had before earlier. Following consultations with UNHCR, IRW began responding to cases in the 10<sup>th</sup> of Ramadan City.

During the reporting period, 205 families / 763 individuals received their financial assistance through the post office. This number includes 100 families that received their monthly allowance in February and March. IRW conducted home visits to 43 families/ 163 individuals; and counselled 337 families / 1202 individuals.

UNHCR's partner, Caritas, has registered 207 new families / 724 individuals and 52 families/ 215 individuals in Borg Al Arab Alexandria. 198 families / 573 individuals received financial

assistance and 10 cases received ATM cards while 254 families / 984 individuals received emergency assistance. During the reporting period, Caritas has identified 45 vulnerable cases and counselled 957 individuals.

As part of his mission to Alexandria, the Regional Representative Mr. Mohamed Dayri along with the Livelihood Officer, Mr. Ziad Ayoubi and two Caritas staff members conducted a field visit to “Atbak Sourya” project, a food production project created by a Syrian family.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2013 a meeting was conducted with Mr. Nick Sore, UNHCR Child Protection Officer, Mr. Javier, NGOs and Caritas to discuss the children’s activities and the vision of the proposed for RRP5.

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**

During the reporting week, the Regional Representative, was interviewed by Anadolu News Agency. The interview focused on UNHCR’s services to Syrian refugees and their living conditions in Egypt. A Statement was released by the Regional Representative to Egypt’s MENA News Agency about the number of Syrian refugees which also commanded the performance of the implementing partners in Alexandria, particularly Caritas Egypt.