

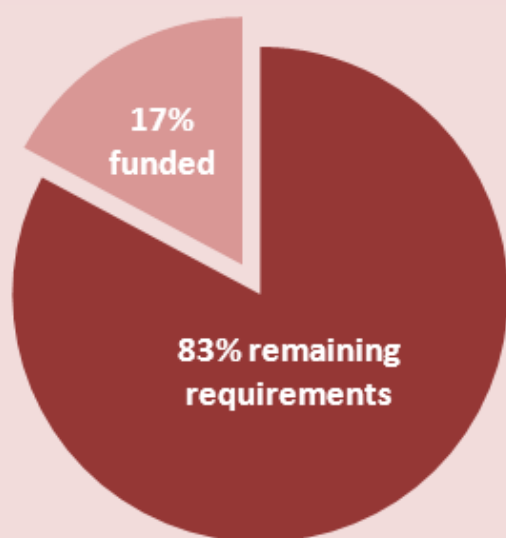
Key figures

300,000 School aged Syrian refugee children (5-17 years old) currently registered or awaiting registration with UNHCR

89,300 Syrian refugee children enrolled in public schools in 2013/2014 (5 – 17 years old), both first and second shift.

Funding

UNHCR requirements 2014: USD **468 m**




Education requirements: **54 m**

January developments

- In January, the Ministry for Education and Higher Education (MEHE) supported by UNHCR opened "second shifts" for students in 79 out of 87 schools planned for the 2013-2014 school year. Over 27,550 children were enrolled in the program that delivers a lighter, certified curriculum for Syrian students who were not able to enrol in the first shift.
- UNHCR continued the distribution of education materials (school-in-a-box) which have now reached 411 schools (3,750 classrooms) supporting 150,000 children and 7,500 teachers with basic school supplies. Additional individual education material (60,000 school bags and over 124,000 additional notebooks) was distributed to children enrolled in formal and non-formal education.

Achievements: January

Activity	 reached January	School year 2013/14 Target
Syrian refugee children supported for primary education in the "first shift" (school year 2013/2014)	20,460	20,000
Syrian refugee children supported for primary education in the "second shift" (school year 2013/2014)	29,902	32,000
Children with special needs accessing education	62	200
Syrian refugee children enrolled in non-formal education (accelerated learning programme (ALP) and remedial classes)	2,414	15,000

Needs

Uprooted from their homes and schools in Syria, refugee children need the opportunity to continue their education in Lebanon. However, local public schools in Lebanon lack both the capacity and resources to accommodate the large increase in school-aged children. Despite the ministry's efforts to ensure capacity in schools to enroll almost 90,000 Syrian children and the availability of non-formal education, more than 50% of Syrian refugee children aged 5 to 17 are estimated to be out of any form of education (some children might be enrolled in private schools, but numbers are unknown). Adolescents are particularly left out of any form of education.

Challenges

Public schools cannot absorb the increasing number of refugee children:

- At the end of the 2012-2013 school year the public school system catered for 250,000 Lebanese students, 43,000 Syrian students (10,000 Syrian children who were in Lebanon before the Syrian conflict and 33,000 refugee children) as well as 7,000 students of other nationalities.
- For the 2013/14 school-year, the MEHE accommodates close to 90,000 refugee children in public schools. UNHCR supported more than 50,000 Syrian children to enroll and established a second shift to expand capacity. However, the financial and administrative implications are heavy.
- In 2013, some 7,000 children attended non-formal education and remedial classes with the aim to be enrolled in the second shift for the 2013/14 school-year. A new round of accelerated programmes and remedial classes will start in the first semester 2014. The integration of these children in formal schooling leading to certification will require capacities and creative solutions.
- Additional educational resources need to be put in place throughout the country to respond to both immediate and longer-term educational needs of 300,000 school-aged refugee children, all of whom should have access to age-appropriate education.

Special needs of Syrian refugee children:

- Education assessments have highlighted a number of barriers to learning for Syrian students including: differences between the Lebanese and Syrian curriculum, language barriers, transportation and additional costs such as uniforms, as well as bullying and limited psycho-social interventions to help children in need of specific support.
- Adolescents and youth require dedicated programmes adapted to their age and needs, amongst which vocational education.

Strategy

UNHCR has a three-fold strategy for education of school-aged children:

- **Formal Education:** ensuring access for refugee children through payment of tuition fees; creating space for children in the public system through school rehabilitation, "second shifts".
- **Non-Formal Education:** increasing other educational opportunities for school-aged children including Accelerated Learning Programs and community-based education programmes and other pathways to certified and quality education.
- **Support to the MEHE:** providing coordination support, the secondment of staff to central and regional offices to ensure information-management and monitoring, as well as providing equipment and material support to schools and regional offices.

UNHCR implementing partners

Amel Association – Lebanese Popular Association for Popular Action (AMEL), Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center (CLMC), Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Save the Children (SCI), Terre des Hommes (TdH), War Child Holland (WCH).