

**More than \$1,300,000
USD injected into the local economy through the
monetization of assistance in March**

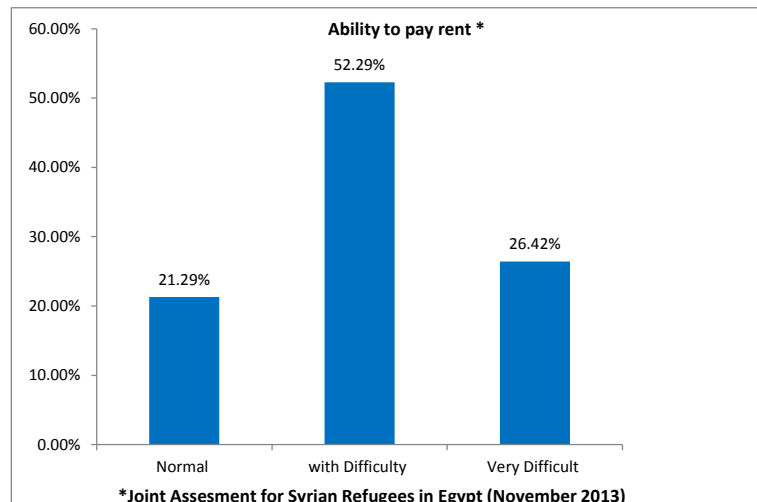
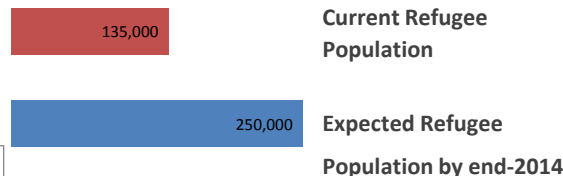
HIGHLIGHTS:

Two micro grants committees were conveyed in March in both Cairo and Alexandria. The committees approved 40 business plans that will be disbursed in April. This will lead to the creation of 40 micro and small enterprises in both cities.



Livelihood project , Photo by Catholic Relief Service

REFUGEE POPULATION IN EGYPT



NEEDS ANALYSIS

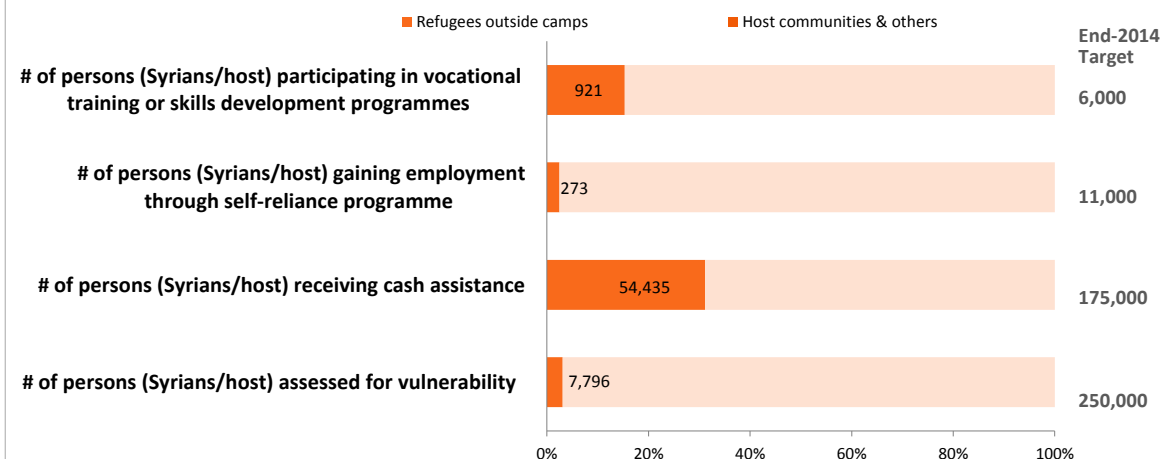
The majority of Syrian refugees in Egypt have been facing challenges in responding to their households' basic needs. Savings have been considered the main source of income for Syrians arriving to Egypt in 2012. These savings have significantly depleted and many Syrians arriving in Egypt in the second half of 2013 were destitute and devoid of basic financial assets.

Agencies participating in the basic needs and livelihoods sector will work together to achieve two objectives: 1) the refugee population has sufficient basic and domestic items; 2) their self-reliance and livelihoods are improved.

In order to protect Syrian vulnerable households from negative coping mechanisms, unconditional cash-based interventions will continue to be implemented. Those interventions will target only vulnerable households with either one-off payments (winterization or emergency) or monthly payments that last between three months and one year according to 14 pre-set vulnerability groups. Due to the increased vulnerabilities, protection risks, and destitution, it is estimated that 70 per cent of the population (175,000 individuals) will benefit from cash based interventions in 2014.

The self-reliance programme will be expanded to target around 10 per cent of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR and members of host communities to achieve either self-employment or wage-employment. This support will limit reliance on humanitarian aid, promote positive coping mechanisms, and be more sustainable over the long term. Beneficiaries may receive training, business advice, job placement, and seed grants to start up micro businesses. Greater Cairo, Damietta and Alexandria will be targeted with self-reliance activities in 2014.

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS:



Targets based on expected population of 250,000 Syrian refugees in Egypt by end-2014. There are currently over 135,000 refugees in Egypt.