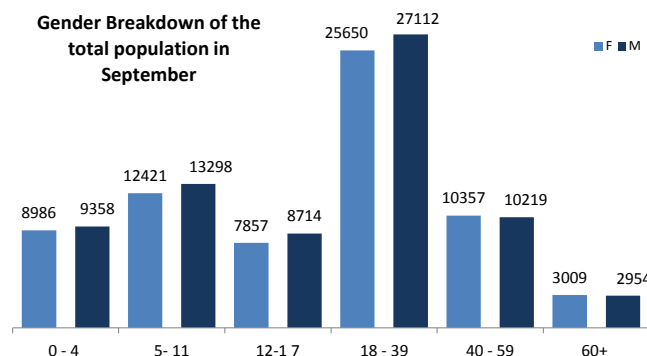




466 refugees have been provided with legal counseling and assistance since the beginning of 2014

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Since January 2014, UNHCR is aware of the arrest of more than 1,000 Syrians for attempting to depart the country by sea in an irregular manner. By the end of September, UNHCR was aware of around 149 individuals detained in 23 police stations in Alexandria and surrounding Governorates. The trend of release by the authorities continued since the beginning of the year. UNHCR has recently observed an increasing number of Syrian nationals in detention holding forged or expired passports or who have lost their passports. Due to their inability to renew or obtain national passports while in detention, they could face prolonged detention or return to Syria.
- Since the beginning of 2014, UNHCR's Child Protection Team conducted 173 Best Interest Assessment (BIAs) for unaccompanied minors, separated children and child spouses who are registered with UNHCR. In addition, the Interagency Child Protection sub-Working Group met on the 1 September to discuss messaging on Child Protection, reporting to and from the Egyptian Child Protection Network, the anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) as an advocacy platform.
- The Protection Inter-agency Working Group met on the 16 September to finalize the protection sector's inputs on the first draft of the Regional Refugee Resilience Plan (3RPs).
- The interagency SGBV Working Group met on the 8 September. The meeting included discussions on SGBV advocacy priorities, the Gender Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) and the development of key SGBV messages to be disseminated to the Refugee Community.
- UNHCR finalized the activities of the Community Support Project "A schoolyard for all" (Housh Yegma3na) in Gamasa, Dakahlia Governorate. The inauguration ceremony was attended by officials from the Ministry of Education and UNHCR representative in addition to school staff and local Egyptian and Syrian community members. In addition, UNHCR finalized the "Premier League" tournaments organized for Syrian and Egyptian children and youth in Cairo Stadium. This tournament was the result of extensive efforts and cooperation between the British Council and Catholic Relief Services under the umbrella of the Ministry of Youth and Sports.



REFUGEE POPULATION IN EGYPT

139,935

Current Refugee Population

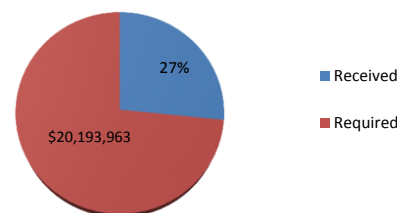
140,000

Expected Refugee Population by end-2014



SECTOR FUNDING STATUS January - December

* Funding received as of May 2014



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Updated data on registered refugees is needed for profiling and programming purposes. A verification exercise has begun in May 2014. In addition, UNHCR will conduct a survey in order to have a better overview of protection gaps, in particular among the most vulnerable.

By the end of April 2014, UNICEF increased its Child Friendly Spaces outside greater Cairo from three to seven. However, child-friendly spaces remain insufficient to cover all the refugee population across Egypt and the capacity to conduct Best Interest Assessments for all separated children is limited, including regular monitoring visits for most separated children. UNICEF is waiting for government approval to open Child-friendly spaces in Damietta, where none currently exist. There continues to be few programmes assisting refugee youth, as well as children with disabilities.

The operational capacity of partners remains largely concentrated in Greater Cairo and to some extent Alexandria, affecting services to sexual gender based violence (SGBV) survivors in particular. CARE International plans to expand its services, including case management, to Alexandria after June 2014. Damietta, where the third largest concentration of Syrian refugees, remains without similar services. Challenges remain in identifying legal aid partners with sufficient coverage of major and smaller urban centers around the country.



A Syrian, winning team poses in front of the officials, having received their Gold Medals. © UNHCR/C.Watt

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS

