



Preparations for the 2015/2016 school year, beginning in September, are underway across the region

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

Ahead of the start of the new school year 2015/2016 beginning in September, one of the key priorities for the education partners during the month of July has been to increase the number of learning spaces available to Syrian refugee students.

In Turkey, construction of four prefabricated schools has been completed which will be used as temporary education centres (TECs) in Suruc camp and urban areas in Ceylanpinar, Gaziantep and Adana Yuregir. These schools will create new educational spaces for more than 8,500 children, with each school offering two shifts. Nearly 65 per cent of the school-aged Syrian children are enrolled in TECs in urban areas across Turkey.

A number of new schools in both refugee camps and urban areas in Iraq are being constructed and repair work of the existing schools is ongoing. In Duhok Governorate, the construction of two new schools in Gawilan and Domiz refugee camps is expected to be completed before the start of the new school year. In Sulaymaniyah Governorate, two new prefabricated caravan schools have been handed over to the Directorate of Education. A new school in Arbat camp is almost complete while other schools in the camp are under repair.

In Egypt, 3RP partners continued to work with the Ministry of Education in the strengthening of public education systems to enable Syrian children to attend public schools. Expansion work of a public school in Obour City in Greater Cairo (one of the highly populated areas with Syrian refugees) is being planned which will increase the capacity in the classrooms and enhance the learning environment for both Syrian and Egyptian students. An assessment of educational initiatives run by the Syrian community is underway across Egypt with focus on areas with a high density of Syrians families with school-aged children mainly in Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta. This exercise would help the education partners to assess the needs of these community schools and design interventions that would boost community resilience.

In Jordan, the education sector conducted a training workshop on Jordan's minimum standards for Education in Emergency (EiE), bringing together sector members from 19 national, international and UN agencies to discuss key action in camp and other urban areas in both English and Arabic.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

While education ministries in refugee hosting countries have generally welcomed Syrian children into their education systems, there is a profound strain on resources, leading to significant needs in terms of access and quality. Some 714,000 Syrian refugee children (53 per cent) are out of school.

There are a range of factors contributing to low enrolment and attendance rates, including policy and bureaucratic regulations, with many children required to take placement tests and provide documentation for school registration, which many families no longer have or are unable to obtain.

There are issues in the quality of education, including: new and different curricula; language of teaching; lack of appropriate infrastructure; teacher capacity; overcrowding; lack of certified education programmes; students with trauma and distress; and limited programmes to address lost years of schooling. Targeted education interventions are needed to address the risks of negative coping behaviours.



UNHCR/A.Akad

Sector Response Summary:



1,414,255 Refugees & Local
Community Members targeted for
assistance by end-2015
810,218 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees
expected by end-2015
4,006,382 currently registered or
awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion
required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 1.384 billion received in 2015



ACCELERATED LEARNING PROGRAMMES IN LEBANON AND JORDAN TO BENEFIT THOUSANDS OF SYRIAN CHILDREN

In the month of July, in Lebanon, nearly 10,000 Syrian children aged between 9 and 17 years old started attending the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) introduced by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE). The programme allows children who have been out of school for more than two years to catch up with the Lebanese educational system.

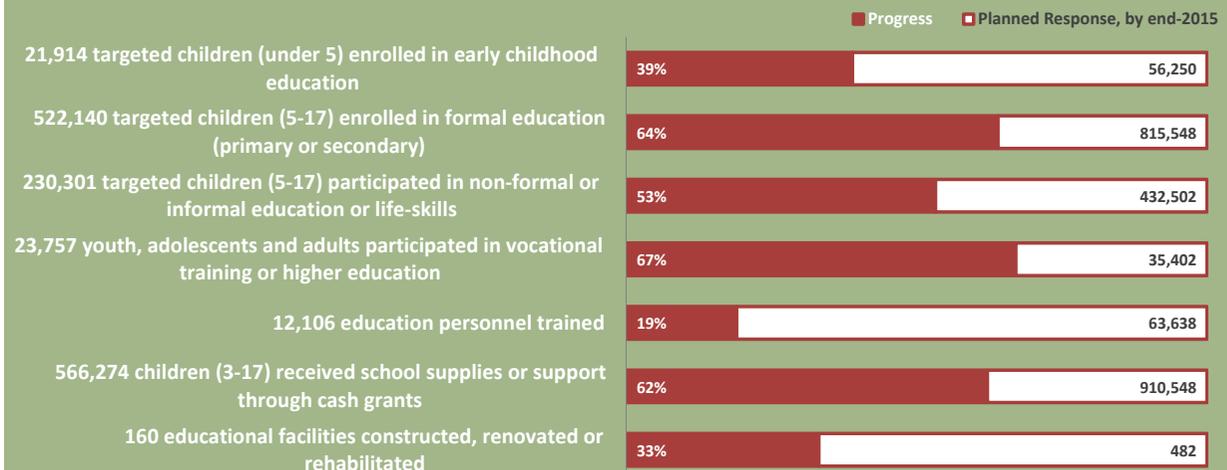
The ALP is composed of nine intensive levels (each level lasts for a period of four months) corresponding to the nine grades of the Lebanese basic education system. Placement tests to assess children's levels and needs were held in the months of April and May 2015. The programme, which started in 40 schools, will be expanded until the start of the new school year in September.

In Jordan, an estimated 90,000 Syrian children are currently out of school, and up to 30 per cent of them have never attended any form of formal education. The Ministry of Education together with education partners have begun developing an ALP that will target all out-of-school children, regardless of their nationality.

The new package, which will be adapted from the official Jordanian curriculum, will be ready for the start of the 2016/2017 school year. The programme will offer children between 9 and 12 years old who are not allowed to formal schools due to age difference or who had never been enrolled in school will receive a condensed form of the Jordanian curriculum to catch up to their peers.

Although, programmes such as ALP are great initiatives to help Syrian children access public education systems, more targeted programmes are needed for children who have missed many years of education, children with specific needs and children at risk, such as street children and working children who remain the hardest to reach.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - JULY 2015



These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Progress and targets may change in line with data revisions. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 31 July 2015.