



57,543 Syrian children registered with UNHCR Egypt

MAY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Plan International organized a teacher's training in Alexandria which focused on the "Role of teachers and administrators in supporting Syrian students". This event was organized in partnership with Egypt Ministry of Education with the aim of continue to support Egyptian teachers in public schools attended by refugees. The training aimed at providing the teachers with the correct information about Syrian refugee children right to access education and the required documentation for their attendance. It also provided the teachers with the latest on positive discipline methodology and practices to use in classrooms to enhance the protection space for school going age refugee children as well as host community children. 79 teachers benefited from this training.
- UNICEF trained 99 Kinder Garden teachers during May.
- UNICEF distributed additional education grant for some 105 Syrian refugee cases under the special assistance for special needs cases. The distribution commenced during the third week of May 2015. The assistance was categorized according to the needs of children with special needs of school age. This categorization took into consideration certain facts concerning school fees (usually high as they include special features, medical care and rehabilitation), transportation, medication, and requirement of devices (such as prosthetic limbs, wheel chairs or hearing aids). Catholic Relief Services implemented the distribution for the special needs children.



Syrian refugee children take part in classes at the private community school, 6th of October, Cairo, Egypt. S.Nelson/UNHCR

Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

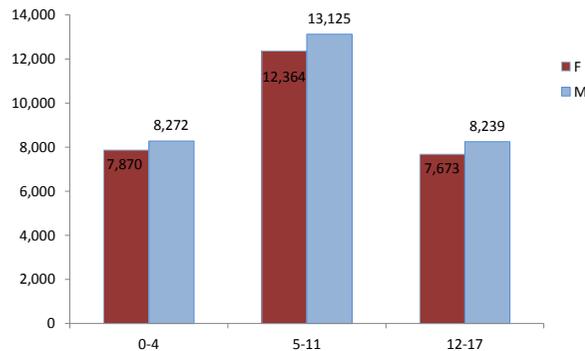
The Egyptian Government granted Syrians access to public schools under same rules that apply to Egyptian nationals. In practice several challenges have arisen when Syrian families attempted to enrol their children in public schools most importantly the required documentation, overcrowding and safety concerns inside and outside of school. The lack of capacity and quality of the environment in public schools remains a significant barrier to the enrolment and retention of Syrian children.

A key objective of the Education Sector is to promote and facilitate access to primary education through addressing those challenges Syrians face. Efforts are made to support national education systems to accommodate refugee children, including through support to teachers inside classrooms. Education is also an entry point to provide child-centred support and a mechanism to address the scars of war affecting those traumatized children and adolescents.

In order to enhance access to education for the most vulnerable boys and girls, around 100 disabled Syrian children will be supported in specialized private schools, as no public Egyptian schools currently have appropriate model of education and care required. These children will receive special education grants to cover the special needs school fees and their transportation needs. The education response plan is based on the assumption that the current Government policy under which Syrian students have access to public schools will be continued.

Based on the needs assessment conducted in December of 2014 by Ministry of Education (MoE) through their General Authority for Educational Buildings (GAEB), and the assessment planned by Save the Children International in early 2015. UNHCR and UNICEF will provide support to improve and rehabilitate schools in most impacted areas by Syrian refugee crisis. Mapping of government schools most frequented by Syrian children has already been concluded, and a report by the GAEB has been compiled listing the needs and work required to enhance the absorption capacity of the most affected schools in impacted areas. This report will continue to inform the dialogue with the Ministry. Around 62,000 children aged six to 17 from host communities should directly benefit from the planned school rehabilitation programme. Once implemented in 2015, it will also include a component to address the gender-sensitive learning environment in 50 basic and secondary schools. The Education Working Group continue to promote effective coordination through quality information management and a continuous collaboration with other sectors such as protection, health and water, sanitation and hygiene.

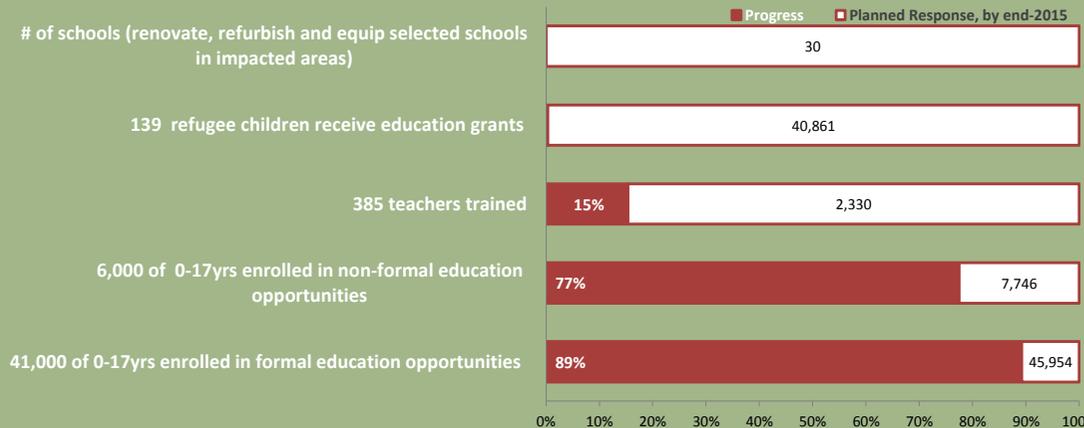
Refugee Children Breakdown in Egypt



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Participating Agencies: UNHCR, UNICEF, CRS, IOM, Plan International, FARD Foundation, Ministry of Education, St. Andrews Education services, Tadamon Council

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: MAY 2015



Foot note: Education grants for 2014/2015 academic year have been disseminated under RRP6.