

KEY FIGURES

581

Unaccompanied and separated minors since January 2014

24,606

Individuals provided with cash grants in January 2015

13

SGBV survivors who have received assistance in January 2015

26

People provided with legal counseling and assistance in January 2015

10,991

Individuals with specific needs identified in Syrian population

FUNDING

USD 189,581,596

Requested for 3RP by all appealing agencies

Priorities

- Improve access to basic health and education services through coordination and capacity building for selected government ministries.
- Save lives by enhancing targeting assistance and follow-up of most vulnerable cases.
- Enhance access to livelihoods and skills training both to enhance self-reliance in Egypt and to prepare for eventual return to Syria.
- Promote coexistence between Syrian communities and their Egyptian hosts.
- Coordinate protection response with particular emphasis on child protection, SGBV and prevention of irregular migration.

EGYPT

SYRIA OPERATION

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

31 January 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- The new response plan for the Syrian refugees effective January 2015 just started, Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP). The 3RP brings humanitarian assistance and development support to refugees and host communities. Egypt country chapter is the outcome of five Sectors Working Groups response plans: Education, Health, Food Security, Basic Needs & Livelihoods, and Protection.
- The 3RP is addressing some of the needs of almost six million people; including an estimated 300,000 Syrian refugees (136,292 of whom are registered with UNHCR) living in the most impacted areas in Egypt, as well as the most affected communities hosting them. The government of Egypt, the United Nations, and their partners are appealing for almost US \$380 million to cover both the refugee and resilience components in 2015.
- The Official launch of the 3RP will be in mid-February.

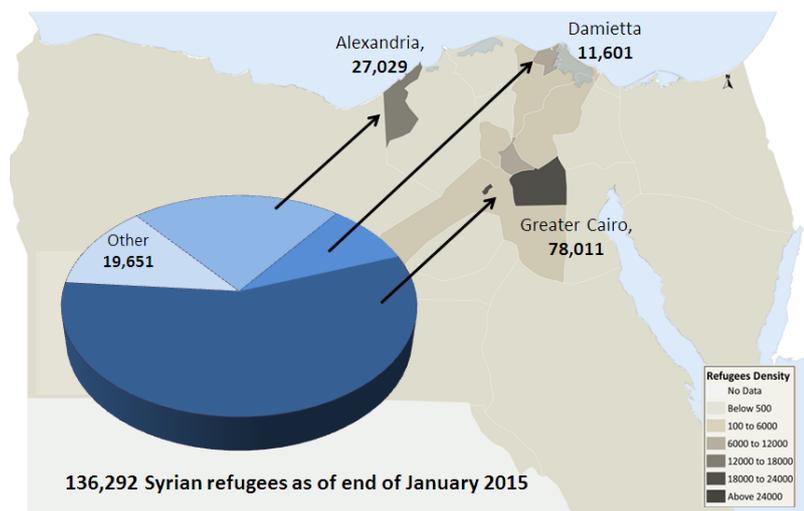
Population of concern

A total of **136,292** Syrian refugees

Gender and Age Breakdown

Custom Age Group	F	M	Total
0-4	8,378	8,808	17,186
5-11	12,480	13,308	25,788
12-17	7,816	8,491	16,307
18-39	25,157	26,231	51,388
40-59	10,108	9,940	20,048
60+	2,798	2,777	5,575
Total	66,737	69,555	136,292

Place of Concentration in Egypt



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- As the conflict in Syria continues, the number of people fleeing into other countries in the region in search of refuge continues. New arrivals of Syrians into Egypt, however, remain very low since the introduction on 8 July 2013 of visa requirements for Syrians entering the country. UNHCR has registered 136,292 individuals as of 31 January. Most Syrians in Egypt are scattered in urban neighborhoods, renting and sharing accommodation, and benefiting from access to public services in education and health care. UNHCR conducts registration, provides counseling, and works with partners to provide legal assistance and address the social, education and health needs of vulnerable Syrians in Egypt. UNHCR also operates helplines for inquiries and counseling.
- The refugee response in Egypt will continue to address the rights and needs of Syrian refugees in Egypt, in the three main urban centers where the majority are located in addition to advocacy with the government.
- The 3RP Resilience component lead by UNDP will aim on bringing together humanitarian and resilience-based responses to achieve common objectives such the protection and support for Syrians refugees and host communities. As the aim of the 3RP plan is to target impacted local communities as well as Syrian refugees.

Protection

Irregular Movements

- During 2014, more than 1,400 Syrian nationals have been arrested for attempting to irregularly depart Egypt, including children and women. The Egyptian authorities have been conducting regular releases of groups of individuals from detention shortly after their arrest. Authorities are issuing three to six months residency permits to Syrians who are released.
- UNHCR is aware of 18 Syrians nationals and 58 Palestinians from Syria are being held at several detention facilities in Alexandria and its surrounding governorates, for attempting to depart or entry Egypt in an irregular manner.
- Since the beginning of 2015, UNHCR has been alerted of the arrest of 6 Syrian nationals at Cairo International Airport for reasons related to either possession of forged renewal of national passport (received from Turkey) or forged Egyptian residency permits, which confirms a new trend. UNHCR advocacy with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs resulted in the release of four of them, who are in the process of regularizing their stay in Egypt, while the two other individuals remain in detention.
- UNHCR's partners, Caritas and Resala and PSTIC, have been providing emergency assistance to detainees in the form of food, blankets and medical care and psycho-social support. IOM has also provided assistance in the form of sanitary kits and non-food items.

Child Protection:

- UNICEF recently signed two agreements with partners in Greater Cairo that will focus on life skills for adolescents, positive parenting skills and addressing violence at school. The first agreement with the Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) that will be implemented through Souriyat in 10th of Ramadam in Greater Cairo for an initial period of two months, and subsequently renewed based on performance. The second, a longer-term agreement signed for 6th of October city with Terres des Hommes (TdH), will be implemented through the local NGO FARD.

Community Activities

- UNHCR Alexandria is working in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Solidarity to engage refugees in activities at governmental social and cultural clubs to ease their integration in the Egyptian community. The Ministry of Social Solidarity handed UNHCR in Alexandria a certificate and a trophy in appreciation of UNHCR efforts to support the role of Egyptian NGOs and clubs in community work. The event was attended by a group of Alexandria businessmen as well as representatives from Rotary International and Rotary El Raml.

- On January 29 2015, Terre Des Homme and O’cumene Studio celebrated the opening of “Hoosh Yegam’ana – Child and Community Friendly Spaces” in the New Damietta Central Park in presence of the city administration, implementing partners and UNHCR. Hoosh Yegam’ana project is a participatory design and build project that aims to promote social cohesion and co-existence between Egyptians and Syrians. The project is initiated and funded by UNHCR in cooperation with the New Damietta City Administration.



Syrian and Egyptian children at the opening of Hoosh Yegam'ana in New Damietta central park
Photo © Manal Fakhouri

Basic Needs and Livelihood

- UNHCR, Caritas and Resala are working together to assist vulnerable Syrian refugees meet their basic needs by providing them with cash grants on a monthly basis. In January, 24,606 vulnerable Syrian refugees were assisted in Egypt representing 18 % of the registered population. The value of cash assistance varies between EGP 400 (US\$ 57) and EGP 1,300 (US\$ 185) based on to the level of vulnerability and household size. The monthly cash assistance programme injected US\$ 680,922 into the local economy in January.
- On 29 January, 2015 Terres des Hommes and the International Development and Consulting Company (IDSC) celebrated the opening of the first phase of “Source of Living: L’omet Aish livelihood project” which aims to strengthen economic security of vulnerable Egyptian and Syrian households through creating employment opportunities and building households’ capacities on catering and entrepreneurship skills. This completed the training of 100 Syrian and Egyptian beneficiaries in Catering and Customer Services and Entrepreneurship with the aim of finding a livelihood in the food industry. The celebration took place in the Directorate of Social Solidarity in New Damietta, in the presence of concerned public entities, implementing organizations and UNHCR.



Syrian and Egyptian women receiving their Certificates of Completion of their courses in cooking and handcrafts in New Damietta under the L’omet Aish livelihood project. Photo © UNHCR

Education

- Refurbishment and construction for the provision of eight new classrooms in Burj Al Arab primary school has been completed. The Burj Al Arab refurbishment improved WASH facilities and provided eight extra classrooms to the school that has resulted in a reduced density in classrooms. The current student teacher ratio has improved the quality of education provided in this school and has allowed for an improved relationship between refugee and host community children in the area as they no longer have to compete for a seat within the classrooms. This was a part of the funds received from the Big Heart Foundation.
- The number of new Syrian students enrolled in public universities has reached 5,520 students in this academic year (2014-2015) through advocacy efforts with Egypt’s Ministry of Higher Education. This new enrollment figure brings the total number of Syrian refugees in public universities to 14,503 in the Undergraduates category and 1,177 in the Postgraduates category.

Food Security and Nutrition

- Food voucher distribution for the January round ended benefitting 86,576 beneficiaries meeting 96% of the target.

- Given the lack of available funds region-wide, WFP decreased the value of food voucher to US\$17 instead of US\$24, applying 30% reduction. The new value of the voucher will be applied in February 2015.
- WFP in partnership with Carrefour replaced all the barcoded cards with upgraded ones for Greater Cairo area under the e-voucher system. The exercise commenced on 25 January in Obour and 6th of October distribution sites, for the total of 19,500 cards, representing total 62,250 beneficiaries.



Health

- UNICEF, WHO and UNHCR are meeting regularly to prepare for all actions needed to address the Syrian refugees' mainstreaming in the public primary health care (PHC) system in Cairo planned to start in April 2015 and the related joint communication strategy.
- The mainstreaming preparedness meetings address all needed preparatory actions such as agreeing on the list of Ministry of Health (MOH) Primary Health care (PHC) facilities supported by UNICEF and UNHCR/Arab Medical Union in Greater Cairo in 2014 as the most visited MOH PHC facilities by Syrians, and the content of a joint flyer (MOH, UNICEF, UNHCR and WHO) about the selected PHC facilities and its dissemination plan by UNICEF and UNHCR/partners.

UNHCR PARTNERS

- Arab Council for Supporting Fair Trials and Human Rights (ACSFT) • Arab Medical Union (AMU) • Care Int/USA • Caritas • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Danish Refugee Council (DRC) • Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR) • ICMC • IOM • Mahmoud Mosque Society • Refuge Egypt • Refuge Point • Resala Association • Save the Children • Terre des Hommes - Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC) • Tadamon • AOHR • UNDP • UNFPA • UNHABITAT • UNICEF • UNOPS • UNV • WFP • WHO

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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Links:

Regional portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

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