



Significant increases in school enrolment in 2014.

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

During the course of 2014 significant progress was made towards the sector objectives for the RRP6 of increasing access to educational services by Syrian refugees and enhancing the quality of provision. The passing of the Temporary Protection Regulation by the Council of Ministers and the issuing of a new circular regulating foreigners' access to education by the Ministry of National Education (MoNE) increased access to educational services and removed a number of administrative barriers to school enrolment experienced by Syrian refugees. By December 2014, over 70,000 children were enrolled in formal education programmes in camps and a further 100,000 in urban areas. Enrolment rates have risen to 88% in camps. Although access to education has increased in urban areas, rates remain significantly lower than in camps.

Access to education was also supported through the construction of prefabricated schools which are used to house temporary education centres. UNICEF – in partnership with AFAD and MoNE – supported the construction of 21 prefabricated schools, of these eight were in camps and 13 in urban areas. These schools have also been equipped with furniture, computers and printers. Thirteen camps will be provided with specialized containers that can be used as libraries.

In December the new foreign student information management system (YOBIS) became fully operational. This system allows for student enrolment and attendance information to be captured for foreign students enrolled in both the national system and in temporary education centres. The system will allow more accurate and efficient reporting on educational access by Syrian refugees. Its introduction also removed one of the administrative barriers to the full enrolment of Syrian students in the national system.

Educational access was also supported through the provision of subsidized transport services by both IOM and UNHCR. Daily transportation services were provided in Sanliurfa, Mersin and Malatya for 4571 students. The cost of school transportation remains one of the most significant barriers to school access.

The Council of Ministers and the Higher Education Council waived university tuition fees for Syrian students for the 2013/4 and 2014/5 academic year. UNHCR initiated a DAFI scholarship programme for 12 Syrian students that provides access to a four-year under-graduate programme.

A number of efforts were undertaken to enhance the quality of education, including providing access to stationery and teaching materials for 122,500 children and providing periodic training for Syrian volunteer teachers. The conclusion of an agreement between MoNE, UNICEF and PTT (Post and Telecommunications Bank) allowed for the payment of incentives to volunteer Syrian teachers. The first payments under this scheme will be made in January 2015.

Sector co-ordination also improved during 2014 with regular meetings of the Education Working Group level, comprised of representatives from MoNE, AFAD, UNICEF and UNHCR. A workshop attended by Ministry officials and UN agencies was held in December to support more effective planning for the expansion of educational access of Syrian students and the associated costs.



Syrian students in Kilis host community school / UNICEF 2014

The Government of Turkey takes the lead role for determining and implementing assistance provided to Syrian refugees, through the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD). AFAD reports spending over 4 billion USD on the Syrian Refugee Response in Turkey.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

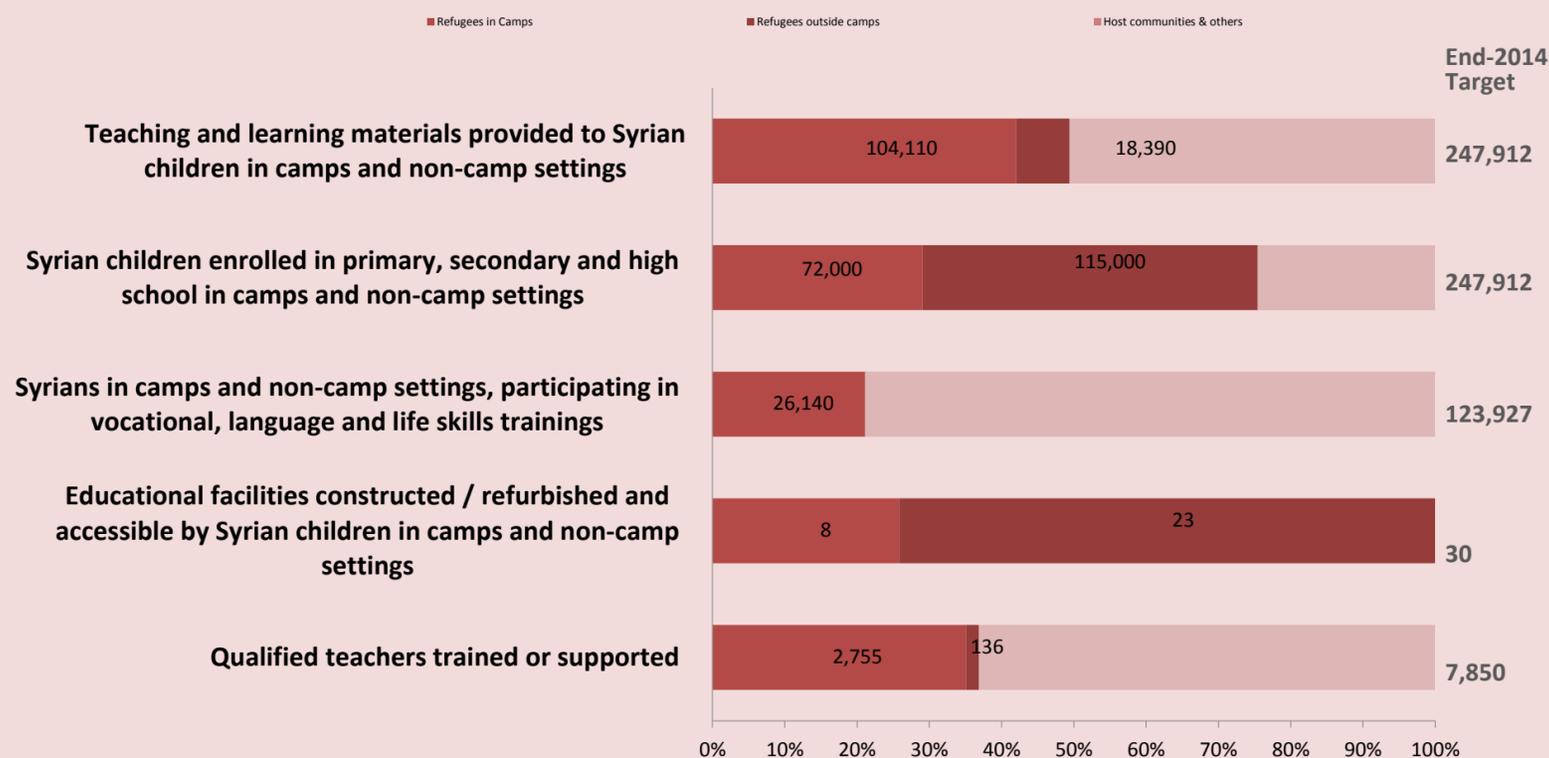
53% of the population are children (0-18 years) and of that 65% is expected to be of school-age (6-17 years), and 15% are pre-school age (3-5 years).

Key priorities in the education sector include:

- Cash support for the most vulnerable families in non-camp settings, to encourage school attendance and to discourage parents from sending their children to work.
- Opportunities for vocational training and extra-curricular activities to be expanded.
- Provision of learning materials to all students.
- Campaigns and targeted community-based activities to promote school enrolment, attendance, and retention, in camps and non-camp settings.
- Recreational activities to address and alleviate the impact of war, including Child Friendly Spaces.
- Work together with municipalities and governorates to provide adequate WASH facilities in all refurbished schools and pre-fabricated schools.
- Provision of school-feeding in schools in non-camp settings and setting up a system to provide cash support to the most vulnerable families.
- Provision of transportation for children from camps to schools and for children in host communities.
- Provision of periodic, relevant and structured training for teachers and teaching personnel.
- Support NGOs to expand Child Friendly Spaces in municipalities hosting Syrian refugees.

* Needs analysis are based on the RRP6 analysis made at the end of 2013.

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS:



Targets based on expected population of 1,000,000 Syrian refugees in Turkey by end-2014. Currently (as end of December), there are 1,522,839 registered Syrian refugees in Turkey.



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