Education in Syria

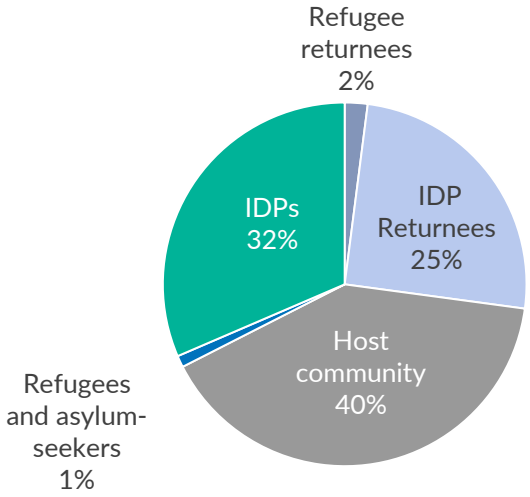
January – December 2022

60,581	10,497	13,289
children attended remedial classes	children attended catch-up classes	children attended homework cafés

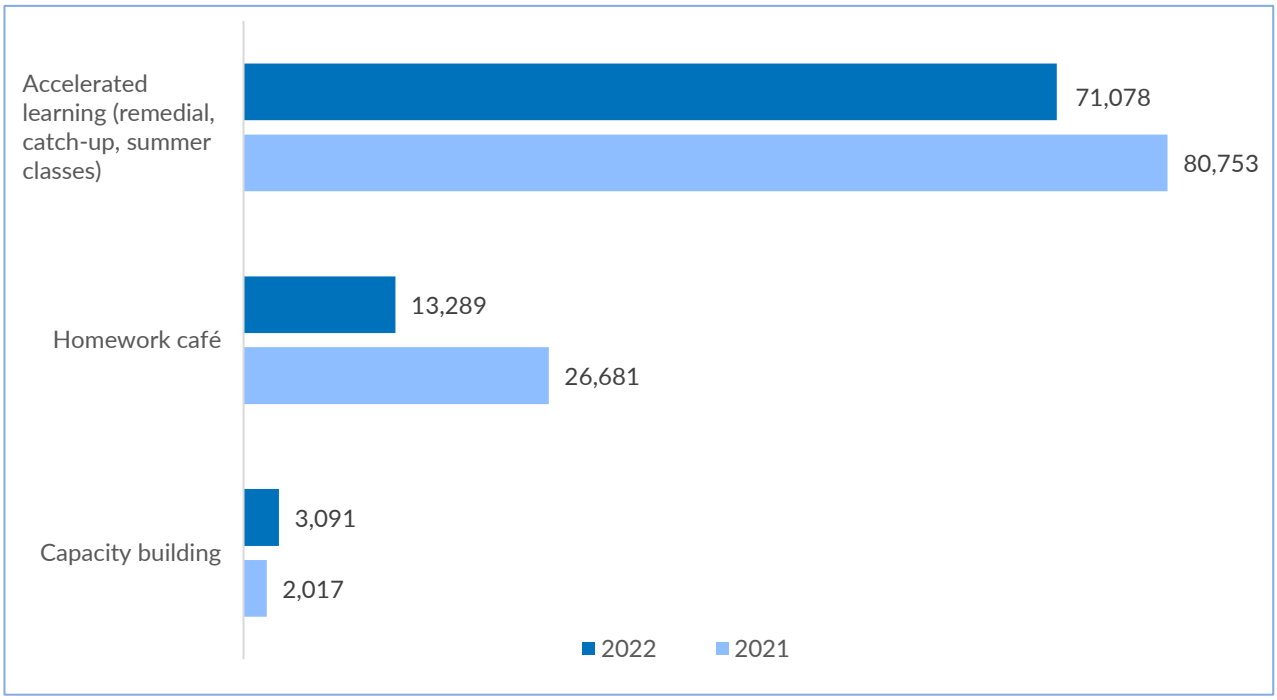
84,367 people received education services

Population groups

benefitting from services



Services provided



Context

The negative impact of the crisis in Syria on the protection and well-being of internally displaced, returnee, host community and refugee children is significant. Access to and quality of education is severely limited across the country, with many schools destroyed and a severe shortage of teachers. The damage to schools has resulted in an acute need for additional learning spaces throughout the country for children from the refugee, internally displaced, returnee and host communities.

Accelerated learning programmes (remedial, catch-up, summer classes)

The accelerated learning programme (ALP) supports internally displaced, returnee, host community and refugee children preparing for their mid-year and final exams. The ALP also supports out-of-school children with a view to re-enroll them into the formal education system. In 2022, **84,367 children attended accelerated education programmes.**

UNHCR provides remedial classes and facilitates homework cafés for children in UNHCR's community centres. In 2022, **71,078** children attended **remedial, catch-up and summer classes** assisting them to catch-up on missed classes and to re-enter school. Additionally, **13,289 children attended homework café activities** which usually take place during the school year. Due to the limited availability of resources, the number of educations services provided in 2022 was lower than in 2021.

Education cash grants

Education cash grants for refugee children aim at safeguarding refugee children's right to education and encouraging refugee parents to send and keep their children at school by supporting families to cover the different types of school expenses (school uniforms, stationery, textbooks and other expenses). The grants are paid through the cash-over-the-counter modality once school enrolment has been verified.

In 2022, a total of **3,287** refugee students (1,660 female and 1,627 male) between the ages of 5 and 18 received **education cash grants**. This includes **2,674** students in primary school and **613** students in secondary school. The education grant was distributed to refugee children residing in all Governorates.

DAFI scholarship

In partnership with the Ministry of Higher Education, UNHCR through the DAFI (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) scholarship programme supported **75** refugee students to continue their **university studies** for the academic year 2021/2022. **Six** scholarship holders successfully graduated from Syrian public universities in 2022. For the 2022/2023 academic year, DAFI has allocated new scholarship slots for an additional **28** refugee students.

Capacity-building

UNHCR and its partners provide capacity-building for teachers and social counsellors of the Ministry of Education. In 2022, **3,091** personnel participated in training on early childhood intervention, mental health and psychosocial support, self-care, active learning, learning difficulties, and applied behaviour analysis. The training sessions helped participants develop the knowledge and skills to identify children facing psychosocial and mental health difficulties, provide them with support, and refer them to specialized service providers.

School repair

UNHCR, as a member of the Education Sector, supports the repair of damaged schools to strengthen access to the formal education system complementing similar work of other agencies.

In 2022, UNHCR completed the repair of **32 damaged schools** in Aleppo, Dar'a, Deir-ez-Zor, Hama, Homs, Latakia, Rural Damascus and Quneitra Governorates. The rehabilitated schools were located in areas where displaced persons have returned. Over **14,700** students are expected to be enrolled in these schools. The repair activities were implemented through a gender-sensitive and disability-friendly approach to ensure that the protection needs of all children, including those with disabilities, are responded to and all children have an equal access to the school premises and WASH facilities.

National exam support

As part of the support provided by Education Sector partners to the Ministry of Education during the national exam period, and to ensure that a protective environment is provided for students traveling to undertake their grade 9 and 12 final exams, UNHCR through its partners provided remedial education sessions and stationery kits to around **942 students** in Aleppo, Deir-ez-Zor and Rural Damascus Governorates during the second quarter of 2022. Moreover, **5,596** students, who took their national exams in May and June 2022, received legal counselling through UNHCR partner lawyers, primarily with respect to personal documentation. Out of these students, **3,535 received identity and other personal documentation** required to take the exams. In addition, UNHCR supported students and their families with other types of documentation such as family booklets. UNHCR provided transportation support to students in Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, Hama and Rural Damascus Governorates to reach their examination centres. UNHCR also distributed core relief items including blankets, mattresses, pillows and fans to **10,445** students in Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, Deir-ez-Zor and Rural Damascus Governorates.