



KEY FACT OF THE MONTH

1,758 Syrian refugees submitted

for resettlement/humanitarian admissions since January 2014

HIGHLIGHTS:

Some 46,290 Syrian refugees were registered in May and almost 64,250 requested new appointments, with an average waiting period of 29 days. By end May 1,030,413 Syrian refugees were registered (53% children), representing 73% of the RRP6 population target. During May, mobile missions were organized in the Chebaa area (South) and in Arsaal (Bekaa), to facilitate appointments and other registration procedures for refugees with restricted mobility. Selected sector partners continued to facilitate transport to registration centres for the neediest refugees in Mount Lebanon and the South. Inter-agency procedures were finalised to coordinate referrals of non-registered refugees from partners to UNHCR at field level. By end May, 52,335 PRS were recorded with UNRWA, amidst severe governmental restrictions to their entry in Lebanon. Due to funding gaps the registration and profiling of Lebanese returnees from Syria could not yet resume in 2014.

In May, individual legal counselling was provided to more than 2,100 individuals (35% F), largely Syrian refugees (80%) and PRS (19.3%), including in official detention facilities. From January, almost 11,600 individuals received legal assistance. In May, more than 10,400 individuals (60% F) participated in legal awareness sessions and almost 47,500 refugees (92% Syrian) were supported since the beginning of 2014. At field level and in Beirut, the main legal partners continued to hold regular technical sessions to discuss on procedures, cases and jurisprudence, share best practices and coordinate field coverage of legal awareness activities. Procedures and challenges related to civil documentation and legal residency permits for refugees continued to be the most debated topics.

Community-based interventions, including awareness and information, recreational and life-skills sessions, community management and leadership training, reached almost 15,000 individuals (60% F) in May and almost 65,000 from the start of 2014 (93% Syrian). These activities took place in Social Development Centres/Community Centres, but also through mobile field activities of frontline workers and refugee outreach volunteers. These community resources are being trained and sensitised to identify, manage or refer situations of persons at risk or in need of specialised assistance. Based on available records, since January 2014, some 16,800 persons with specific needs were identified, referred or received direct support by partners. Amongst those, more than 21% were persons with disabilities and almost 10% older persons. While Syrian refugees reportedly remain the main population benefitting from protection interventions, the services offered by protection actors, particularly legal assistance, community-based activities, and services in SDCs, remain available to all affected populations, including vulnerable Lebanese.

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Reporting Agencies:



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The sector needs to strengthen analysis and mechanisms on how to best support and include in community-based activities persons with disabilities and other persons with protection risks. Aside interventions from specialised agencies, appropriate for individual cases, there is a need to increase the capacity of protection actors to assess other factors that contribute to protection risks and vulnerabilities, determine the level of severity of the cases and work towards community integration. Good practices already exist, and the profile of the refugee outreach volunteers is being diversified (e.g. ROVs with disabilities) to favour understanding the needs of persons with disabilities and building their trust. However, the capacity of Community Centres/Social Development Centres to offer services and access for vulnerable groups still needs improvement. In addition, it is necessary to increase the skills of social workers in identifying cases at risk of community exclusion, neglect, abuse, and to strengthen systems to follow up on such individual cases with the most appropriate intervention and assistance.

Protection monitoring remains an important activity at sector level, to gather information, analyse trends, inform advocacy, but also to disseminate information to communities, raise awareness and to identify and refer persons in need of assistance. UNHCR coordinates a network of protection monitoring agencies and common tools are being developed to ensure standards and improve trend analysis. Since the start of the year, more than 20,000 individuals countrywide have been consulted through Focus Group Discussions or as key informants on the situation in their community. This has regularly allowed protection actors to identify issues such as evictions threats, challenges to freedom of movement, arrest and detention, community relations and coordinate interventions with the authorities, the communities or with other sectors.

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS*

		End-2014 Target
# of Syrian refugees who requested protection in 2014	326,151	850,000
# of Lebanese returnees registered/profiled in 2014	1,758	50,000
# of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in 2014	247,892	650,000
# of Palestine Refugees from Syria recorded with UNRWA in 2014	1,703	3,300
# of Syrian refugees, PRS and Lebanese returnees provided with individual legal counseling in 2014	11,558	35,000
# of refugees submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission in 2014	1,758	8,000

Source: figures reported above reflect the information reported to Sector Coordinators by Partners participating in Working Groups

* Targets have been adjusted following RRP6 Mid Term Review.

