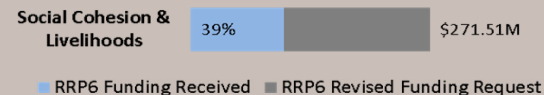




Mid-Year Funding Update



MAY HIGHLIGHTS:

In Iraq, almost 1,500 people have now participated in **activities to help them find work, income generation activities or business development projects**. This includes recipients of grants distributed in May in Qushtapa Camp to assist in the establishment of small businesses, as well as beneficiaries of job placement programmes for refugees and vulnerable host community members outside of camps in Erbil. In Lebanon, more than 3,000 people have benefitted from income generation or work opportunities.

More than 8,600 people in Lebanon, 7,200 in Turkey, 2,300 in Egypt, and 500 in Iraq have also been reached with **vocational or life skills training**.

Coordination in the social cohesion and livelihood sectors continues to expand to the new areas where refugees reside. In Lebanon, a livelihood and social cohesion working group has been established in the South, while 19 new participatory mechanisms have been set up across the country to enable communities to have greater participation in the identification of community support projects.



UNHCR Iraq

SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE REGION:

2,839,546

Current Refugee Population

3,590,000

Refugee Population Planning figure, end-2014

This Dashboard was published after the release of the **RRP6 Mid-Year Update** and reflects the revised Syrian refugee population planning figure, RRP budget and response indicators/targets. The Mid-Year Update is available at <http://www.unhcr.org/syriarrp6/midyear/>

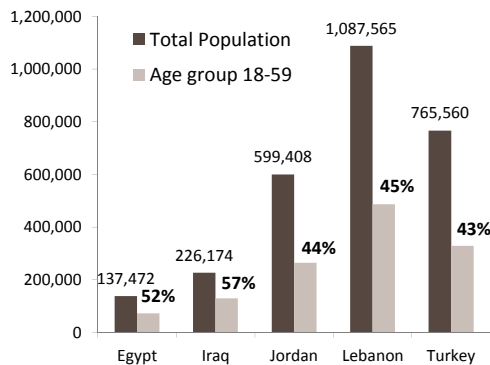
NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The current legislative and policy frameworks in the region provide limited employment opportunities for Syrian refugees. Relatively high unemployment among nationals pre-dates, and is exacerbated by, the economic impact of the crisis. The International Labour Organization cites a Middle East unemployment rate of 10 per cent in 2013, with a young adult unemployment rate of 26 per cent. Economies in the region are suffering from the trade losses and reduced household market participation for locally produced or traded goods. Many countries continue to bear scars from the global economic crisis and related access to capital, foreign investment and reduced domestic growth.

Refugees seek work in informal sectors which require manual, unskilled short term labour with sub-standard working conditions and reduced salaries, often accompanied by exploitation risks. The engagement of refugees in informal labour practices has created a perception among host communities that refugees are depriving nationals of work opportunities and depressing wages. Although this is not necessarily evidenced by employment statistics, the perception may drive poor community relations, distrust and disruption of social cohesion. Many refugees originate from rural areas of Syria and lack necessary skills for work in urban settings.

An analysis of livelihood is needed to more thoroughly examine factors beyond legal barriers, including the remoteness of locations where refugees reside, language skills, tools, capita and increasing intolerance towards Syrian refugees. Longer-term strategies necessitate a mixture of legal considerations to provide avenues to allow Syrians to work balanced with the employment of national cohorts. Such strategies may offer short and longer-term cash-for-work and large public works projects for poor nationals and poor Syrians.

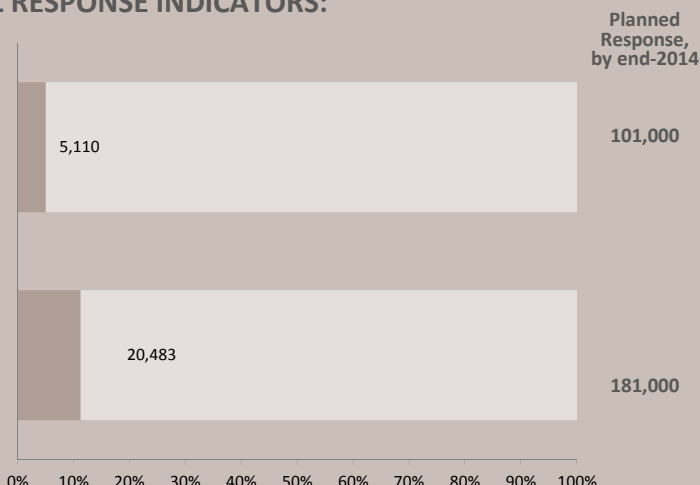
1,279,812 registered refugees aged 18-59



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS:

5,110 individuals have participated in employment assistance, income generation activities or business development projects

20,483 individuals have participated in technical and vocational training, literacy initiatives and life-skills training



Planned response based on full funding of RRP6 for an expected population of 3.59 million Syrian refugees in the region by end-2014. There are currently 2.84 million refugees in the region and the overall RRP6 appeal is 30% funded.