

KEY FIGURES

564

Unaccompanied and separated minors

30,586

Individuals provided with cash grants in August

87

SGBV survivors who have received support from UNHCR

384

people provided with legal counseling

9,344

Individuals with specific needs identified in Syrians population

FUNDING

USD 58,913,462

Requested for the operation



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

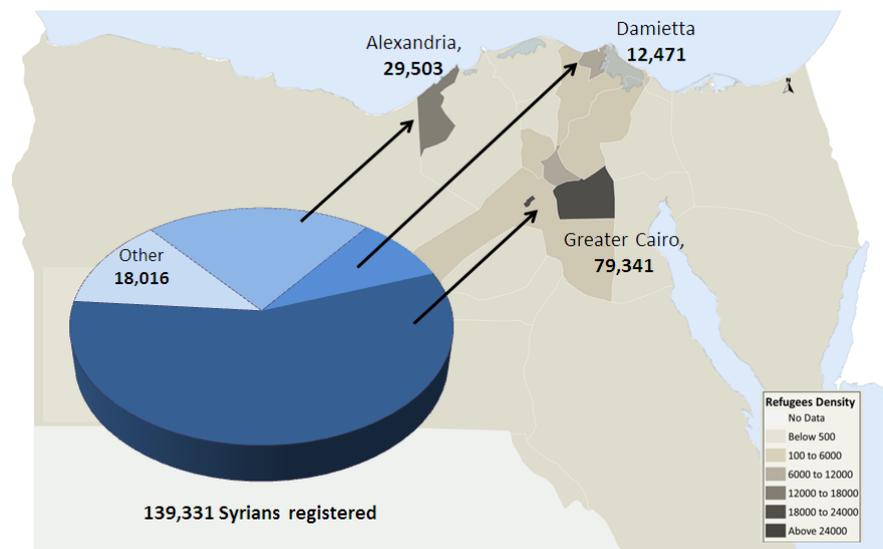
18 August – 8 September 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- The UN High Commissioner for Refugees Mr. António Guterres visited Egypt from Friday 5 September 2014 to Sunday 7 September 2014, to discuss the refugee situation in Egypt, as well as the Middle East and North Africa.
- During his visit to Cairo, Mr. Guterres met with Egypt's President, H.E. Mr. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sameh Shoukry, and the Minister of Social Solidarity, Dr. Ghada Wali and League of Arab States, Secretary General, Dr. Nabil El Arabi.
- The High Commissioner addressed the 142nd ministerial meeting of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs at the League of Arab States (LAS).
- The High Commissioner also met the UN Country team in UNHCR Zamalek Office, as well as with members of the Syrian community. The High Commissioner ended his visit with an all staff meeting.
- UNHCR and the Egyptian Ministry of Health signed an agreement for refugees which provided allowing persons of concern of all nationalities to access acute and emergency care at six of its public hospitals in Greater Cairo.
- World Food Program ended the food voucher distribution on 23 August, the distribution reached 110,000 beneficiaries.



UN High Commissioner for Refugees Mr. António Guterres during the UNCT meeting with Mr. Mohamed Dayri, RR, and Anita Nordi, RC ©Red Carpet productions



Population of concern

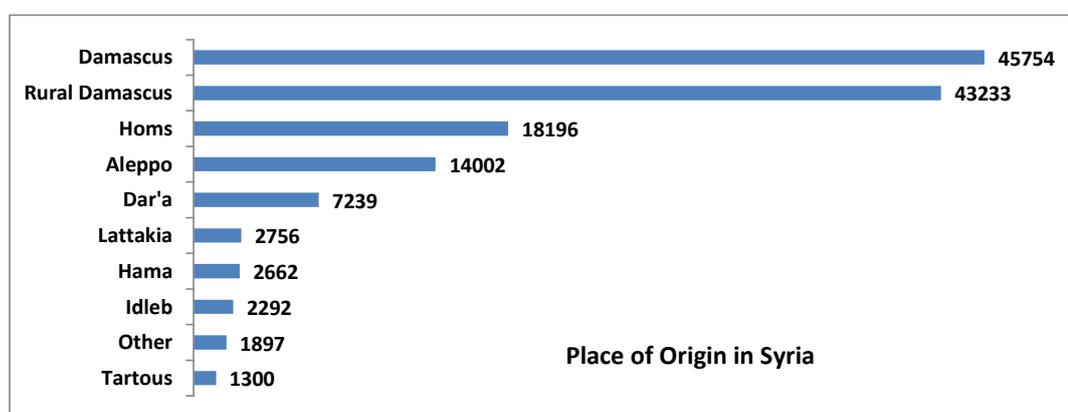
A total of **139,331** Syrian refugees

Gender and Age Breakdown

Age Group	F	M	Total
0 - 4	8951	9338	18289
5 - 11	12361	13199	25560
12 - 17	7837	8708	16545
18 - 39	25548	26971	52519
40 - 59	10295	10180	20475
60+	2993	2950	5943
Total	67985	71346	139,331

52.8 % of registered Syrians arrived to Egypt through a transit country; of those, **76 %** passed through Lebanon, **12.2 %** through Jordan, and **11.8%** through others countries.

During the reporting period, 956 individuals registered in the Zamalek Registration Centre.



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- As the conflict in Syria continues to escalate, the number of people fleeing into other countries in the region in search of refuge has been increasing. New arrivals of Syrians into Egypt, however, have decreased dramatically since the introduction on 8 July 2013 of visa requirements for Syrian entering the country. UNHCR has registered 136,538 individuals as of 26 April. Most Syrians in Egypt are scattered in urban neighborhoods, renting and sharing accommodation, and benefit from access to public education and health care. UNHCR conducts registration, provides counseling, and works with partners to provide legal assistance and address the social needs of vulnerable Syrians in Egypt. UNHCR also operates helplines for inquiries and counseling.



Protection

Irregular Movement

- During 2014, around 959 Syrians have been arrested for attempting to irregularly depart Egypt, including some 430 children and 241 women. However, as part of a positive trend and goodwill gesture, the Egyptian authorities have been conducting regular releases of groups of individuals from detention shortly after their arrest. Those released have immediate relatives in Egypt. Authorities are issuing three months residency permits to Syrians who are being released. UNHCR's partners, Caritas and Resala, have been providing emergency assistance to detainees in the form of food, blankets and medical care.
- During the first week of September, nine new detention incidents took place Shebrakheet, Balteem, Idko, Rasheed, Gamassa, Montazah 1, Bella Police Station (Kafr El Sheikh) and Rahmanya for attempting irregular movement. UNHCR is aware of 362 Syrians presently in detention in Alexandria and its surrounding governorates.

Outreach

- On 18 August, a meeting took place between UNHCR and Save the Children on the implementation of their project on secondary movement. The project aimed at raising awareness on irregular departures coupled with activities that include livelihoods and co-existence elements and to further discourage irregular departures by boat. As of 21 August, awareness raising activities will be taking place in Damietta.
- On 2 September, the UNHCR (Multi-Functional team and other Units) participated in a joint awareness session with Care at the El Ghad Community Centre in Obour. The session was organized by Care International. It included groups of different ages and gender. Participants had a wide spectrum of interests. During the session, Syrian voiced several concerns about their situation, irregular migration, health, education and SGBV. The team shared with the participants UNHCR posters and brochures as a part of the mass information campaign.
- On 3 September, the SGBV sub unit delivered a session and responded to questions on how to address sensitive issues in participatory assessment processes to staff who will be conducting upcoming Focus Group Discussions (FGD).



Basic Needs

Cash Assistance

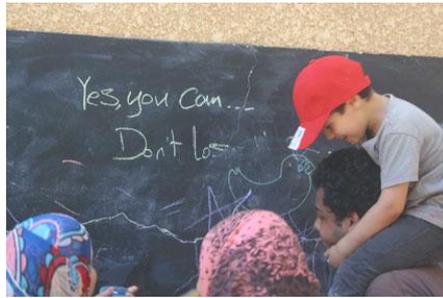
- UNHCR, Caritas and Resala are working together to assist vulnerable Syrian refugees meet their basic needs through the provision of monthly cash grants. In August, 30,589 vulnerable Syrian refugees were assisted in Egypt; another 102 individuals received conditional cash grants.



Education

- UNHCR will continue to support all children currently receiving education grant, except those enrolled in private schools, until the vulnerability assessment is finalized.
- For the academic year 2014-2015, UNHCR and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) will pay the education grant per household/applicant depending on the number of students per family.
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS) announced the start of the education grants' distribution for the academic year 2014/2015 for all registered Syrian students, between the age of 3 to 20 years, enrolled in kindergarten (affiliated to either Ministry of Education or Social Solidarity), primary, preparatory, and secondary levels in public, refugee community schools, or students officially enrolled in schools of Intellectual Education and Special Needs. The grant payment will be done through a one-time installment upon interview, based on the applicant's number of students in schools. Therefore, applicants should apply for all students at the same time, with a deadline for registration for interview on November 10th, 2014.

- The “School Yard Project” was initiated to enhance community support and co-existence initiatives through the provision of a safer and improved educational environment. The first project was implemented in Gamasa, New Damietta governorate, North of Egypt. Gamasa Experimental School (Madraset El Masyaf), the only public school located in Gamasa Masyaf area was already operating at full capacity prior to the arrival of Syrian refugees to the area. The “School Yard Project “was initiated and implemented by a group of architects and social workers- Oecumene studio- is an integrated project. The project combines the development of the schools’ playground; designed and built on site, the upgrading and development of classrooms and school facilities, along with cultural/art workshop activities conducted with students, families and school staff and additional material support to the school. The design of the playground is developed through a participatory approach that engages the school’s students, parents and teachers in the building process which is primarily conducted by local craftsmen.



Syrian and Egyptian children participating in developing the school yard project. Photos ©Oecumene studio

Food Security and Nutrition

- Food voucher distribution commenced on 17 August and ended on 23 August. WFP reached over 63,000 beneficiaries in Greater Cairo, 22,900 in Alexandria, 11,100 in Damietta, 2,700 in Mansoura, 600 in Marsa Matrouh and 500 in Tanta.
- In August, bar code readers were introduced which increased efficiency at food distribution sites. To record each distributed voucher, staff had to type in each code manually. With the new barcode readers, staff can easily scan each voucher, which reduces beneficiary queuing times.

Assessment of refugee schoolchildren in northern Egypt

- WFP has conducted a rapid assessment in Alexandria and Damietta, northern Egypt, to determine the number of both refugee and national primary school children. Data was also collected on current locations of where refugees are attending public schools. Data collection started on 17 August and finished on 21 August. The data will be used for WFP's national school feeding programme but will also help improve targeting for Syrian refugees.

Health

- On 4 September, UNHCR and the Egyptian Ministry of Health signed an agreement for refugees and persons of concern of all nationalities to access acute and emergency care at six of its public hospitals in Greater Cairo. UNHCR Regional Representative, Deputy Representative, and Health Unit team attended the signing with the Minister of Health.
- UNHCR and UNICEF, in coordination with the Ministry of Health (MOH) supported jointly more than 100 MOH facilities in Cairo, Alexandria, Damietta and other Governorates with training and essential clinics equipment to support MOH in mainstreaming Syrian refugee families and households along with nationals in MOH Primary health care facilities.



Minister of Health, Dr. Adel Adawy and Mr. Mohamed Dayri, RR, during the signing of the health MOU with senior MOH officials and UNHCR. Photo ©UNHCR A. AbuGhalaza

- On August 26, CARE Egypt has conducted a special session on art therapy with a group of 46 participants. This session was part of four consecutive psychosocial sessions conducted on weekly basis at Syria El Ghad in Obour. The idea behind these sessions is to offer participants the space to share their concerns and identify a way to deal with their daily stress and frustration in order to avoid using violence against their family members.

UNHCR PARTNERS

- Arab Council for Supporting Fair Trials and Human Rights (ACSFT) • Arab Medical Union (AMU) • Care Int/USA • Caritas • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Central Association for Kindergarten’s Supervisors League • 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 • The British Council • AOHR • UNFPA • UNHABITAT • UNICEF • UNOPS • UNV • WFP • WHO

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

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Links:

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

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