



51 refugees have been provided with legal counseling and assistance since the beginning of 2015

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS:

- During the month of March, a total of **18 Syrians**, were detained at Police Stations in Alexandria and Marsa Matrouh Governorates for attempting to depart Egypt irregularly by sea.
- UNHCR also continues to monitor the situation of **70 Syrian refugees and Palestinian Refugees from Syria** who remain in detention since November 2014 after being apprehended by the Egyptian Coast Guard off the Egyptian coast. UNHCR continues its efforts and advocacy with the authorities towards their release and finding a prompt solution for this group. UNHCR, together with its partners continues to monitor the situation closely and provide humanitarian assistance, as needed, to this group.
- UNHCR has recently noticed an increase in the number of releases from detention involving asylum-seekers and refugees registered with UNHCR since the first quarter of 2015. In this regard, **4 Syrians refugees** who were in detention since October 2014 in Aswan for irregular entry to Egypt by land were released in March.
- Due to UNHCR's advocacy with the authorities, at least another **11 Syrians refugees** arrested at Cairo International Airport, attempting to either depart or to enter Egypt, for possession of forged renewals of their national passports or forged Egyptian residency permits were released since January 2015.
- The finalization of the inter-agency Child Protection Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) on Case Management continued through the month, led by UNICEF and UNHCR. As part of this process, SOP case management training was conducted in Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta in order to develop a deeper understanding on the correlation between child protection and child development. An implementation plan will be developed as a next step to ensure an effective implementation of the SOPs by each organization.
- UNICEF's Child Protection programme established a new partnership with PLAN International to enhance community-based psycho-social interventions for Syrian refugee children and adolescents in Alexandria. In cooperation with Preventing Mental Health Association (PMHA), UNICEF will provide specialized psychosocial support for refugees focusing on capacity building of staff on cognitive behaviors and raising awareness with parents regarding psychosocial issues affecting children.
- Save the Children conducted training on Healing and Education through the Arts (HEART) for 25 facilitators and case workers. The HEART model uses expressive arts to provide psycho-social support to children. Save the Children further held psycho-education sessions for refugee children and parents in Cairo.
- The Protection Working Group met on 31 March, during which the PWG reviewed its priorities for 2015.
- Care International organized training on how to design and perform participatory theatre to 37 individuals. The training incorporated prevention and response to SGBV as part of the curriculum.
- In addition Care International organized a sports day for 198 participants. Learning activities included games fostering team work, cooperation recognizing personal boundaries and self-respect. 30 participants from refugee and local communities attended a Training of Trainers for volunteers who will support future sports day events.
- A number of events were organized for International Women's Day (IWD) on 8 March. Events included awareness raising activities in community centers in Cairo and a Bazaar displaying food and handicraft products made by women from the refugee and local communities. The event was organized jointly by Caritas, the Alexandria Regional Center for Women's Health and Development and UNHCR. UNHCR Egypt also launched a [video](#) on social media for IWD.
- Community meetings were held in UNHCR-funded Tadamon Community Centers, where over 35 Syrian refugees (men, women and children) participated in community consultations during this month.



Verification Exercise- Cairo, S.Nelson/UNHCR

Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:



120,000
Refugees

Status:



133,889
111%



120,540
Direct beneficiaries



4,516
3.5%

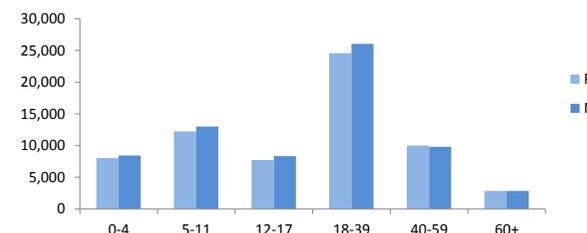


21.07M USD
Sector Funding

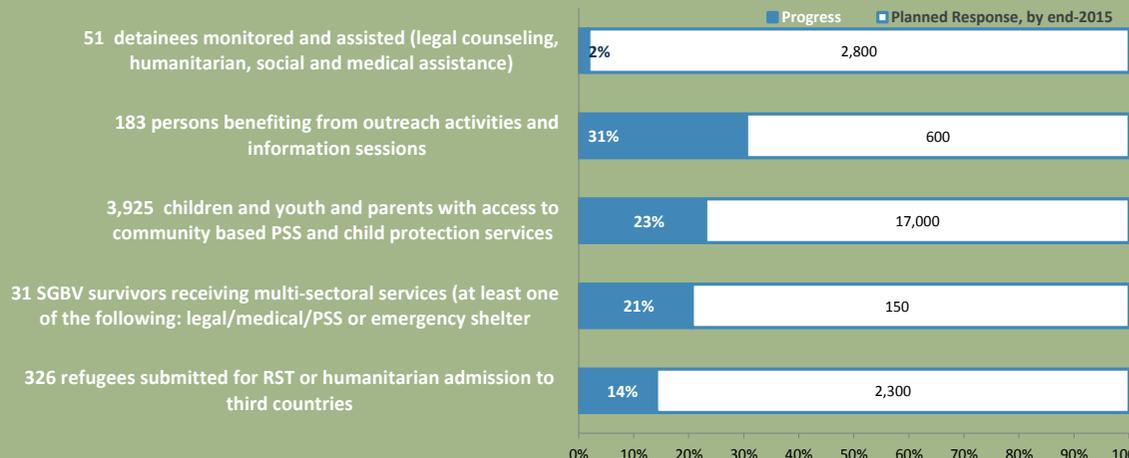


0%

Population Breakdown by age



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: MARCH 2015



Footnote: No funds have been received to date for the Protection sector