



Complementary education management information system to monitor Syrian students in place.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

Supporting Syrian volunteer teachers with financial incentives continued both in camps and host communities. Currently UNICEF is supporting 2,954 teachers with incentives (84% of the number planned for 2015) – improving the quality of learning for about 123,000 Syrian refugee children. Distribution of education supplies also continues in Turkey. Since the beginning of the year, 12,989 children have received school supplies. Good progress has also been achieved in improving access of Syrian children to education opportunities. Currently, 100,000 children are in schools/learning programmes – about 30% of the total sector target planned for 2015. However, coverage is uneven as this progress is largely among children living in the camps; enrollment remains around 27% for children outside of the camps, and increased funding and a coordinated approach among all partners is necessary to increase the supply of educational facilities, as well as to expand the number of Syrian teachers receiving incentives.

Also, 13 container libraries have been deployed to camps to meet learning needs of Syrian children in camps. Books provided for the libraries are part of Arabic library book set for grades 1 to 6. The libraries will serve some 25,000 children of 1 to 6 grades. To build the resilience of the Turkish education system to better respond to the Syrian crisis, significant achievements can also be noted. In line with regulation on the Education of non-Turkish children under temporary protection of Turkey, provinces are setting up provincial committees to coordinate the provision of access to educational opportunities including the creation of new temporary education centres or the establishment of double shifts in existing Turkish public schools. UNICEF is technically and financially supporting these committees to develop and implement Provincial Action Plans to scale-up Syrian children's access to education in 5 southeastern provinces (Adana, Hatay, Urfa, Mersin and Gaziantep).

YOBIS, a complementary education management information system to monitor Syrian students, teachers, and classrooms developed jointly by UNICEF and the Ministry of Education (MoNE) in the end of 2014, has now been introduced. The system allows monitoring Syrian refugee children school attendance as well as collecting other information on education process, child health and social-economic status of a child's family. This provides a good basis for qualitative and quantitative analysis of education opportunities provided to Syrian children and their education outcomes as well as for assessment of unmet needs and existing capacity gaps. YOBIS will contribute to strengthening MoNE's capacity to monitor progress on the education of Syrian students. It will be institutionalised and integrated into MoNE's existing information management system once respective normative framework is in place. To ensure institutionalisation of YOBIS, trainings will be delivered early April to provincial IT focal points and school coordinators.

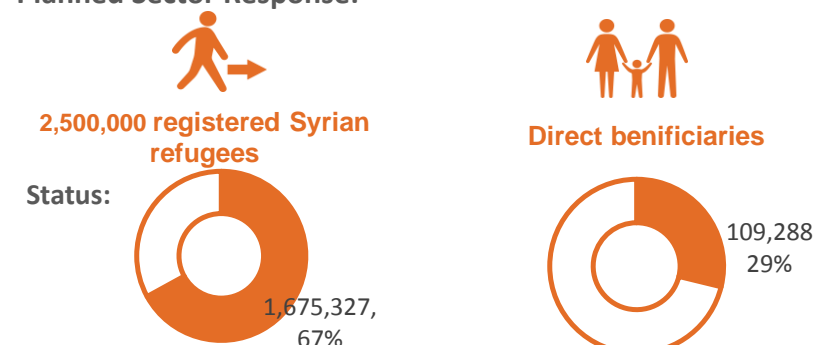
IOM continues with the provision of transportation services for of 1962 (1027 female, 935 male) school children living outside of camps to reach two schools in Sanliurfa (Ayup and Sirrin districts). In Mersin, through the Syria Social gathering NGO, IOM is also supporting 714 students (329 male, 385 female) children to reach the school.



"UNHCR provides support to Turkey in assisting refugees in several technical issues including education as well as core relief item support." Photo: ©B. Sokol/UNHCR

Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

- The national legislative framework supports the right of refugees to free access to schooling and the Government of Turkey has facilitated refugees' access to skills training and higher education. In spite of these efforts, an estimated 70 per cent of school-aged refugee children are not accessing education.
- Increased provision of educational places (through the establishment of additional temporary education centres and greater participation in national schools) remains a priority and will take place within the regulatory framework established by the Ministry of National Education.
- The education strategy includes ongoing efforts to increase the quality of education. Through a partnership between Government agencies and international organizations, a system for payment of incentives to volunteer refugee teachers will be established and implemented in 2015.
- All activities in the sector will be implemented in close collaboration with the Government of Turkey. The provision of services to large numbers of refugee children and youth requires the rapid expansion of the education sector which will be supported by the efforts of the international community through policy support, technical assistance in information management to capture, analyse and report on refugee needs and participation; refurbishment of infrastructure – in national schools used to host second shifts or where rapid expansion has taken place - and assistance to strengthen coordination of the refugee response. Existing efforts to accommodate refugee children in the national system will be scaled up through the provision of teaching materials and capacity to teach Turkish as a foreign language to refugees and supporting programmes to reduce bullying and foster social cohesion.

TURKEY RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 2015

