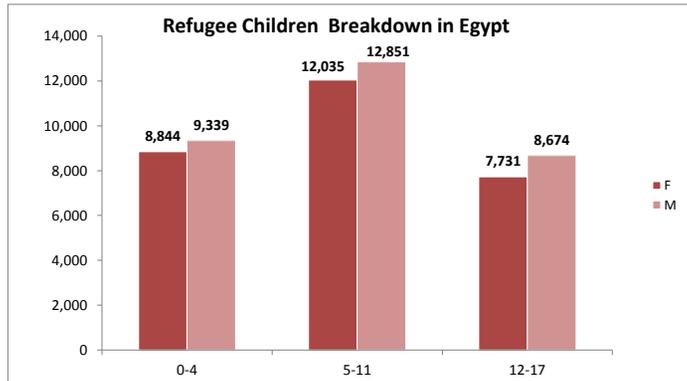




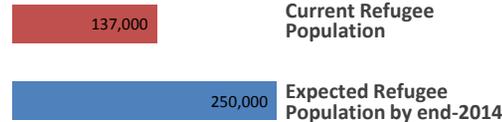
59,474 Syrian children registered with UNHCR Egypt

HIGHLIGHTS:

- UNHCR and the Ministry of Education conducted a joint mission to schools in Damietta, Gamsa (Dakahleyya Governorate), Alexandria and Borg El Arab to assess the progress of Syrian refugee children during the first term of the school year. The mission noted that through the support of the Governor's office in Dakahleyya, in Northern Egypt, the local education authority has agreed to run remedial classes in Gamsa School for Basic Education on Monday through Thursday for 300 Syrian children as well as a number of Egyptian children. The mission also learned about a pilot scheme, which has introduced tablet computers to over 1,400 Egyptian students in grade 10 in New Damietta, and discussed ways to include Syrian children in the scheme in the next academic year.
- UNICEF provided training for 33 teachers in schools in Damietta with a high density of Syrian refugee children. The training focused on teaching methods in high density classrooms, active learning, and on preserving rights of refugees in the classroom.
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS) began education grant distribution mission in Alexandria on 6 April to distribute education grants to around 6,000 children enrolled in kindergarten, primary and secondary schools.
- Save the Children provided 68 Syrians (teachers and principals) from the Obour Community School (Sorya El Ghad) with training on active learning, how to deal with children suffering from trauma, and on psycho-social support.
- In order to gauge the Syrian refugee students' readiness for the Final exams for 2013-2014 Academic year a field visit was conducted by the Education unit. During the visit technical and/or material assistance that may be required by school administrators and teachers prior to students taking these exams have been also discussed. The projections in terms of expected students' achievements for this academic year are so far very encouraging. Students who were present in the schools were found to be very keen to study, active and engaging in the classrooms and exercise books were complete and up to date. Schools were very well maintained and the general environment was found to be very enabling in terms of the physical environment

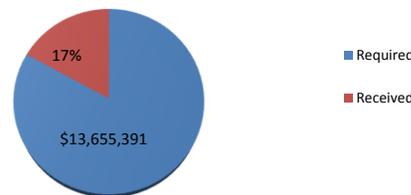


REFUGEE POPULATION IN EGYPT



SECTOR FUNDING STATUS January - June

* Funding received as of May 2014



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The Egyptian Government granted Syrians access to public schools under same rules that apply to Egyptian nationals. In practice several challenges have arisen when Syrian students attempted to enroll their children in public schools most importantly the required documentation, overcrowding and waitlists. The lack of capacity and quality of the environment in public schools remains a significant barrier to the enrolment and retention of Syrian children.

Common barriers to education also include costs of transportation and tuition fees which can be excessive for refugee families with limited resources; however, UNHCR through its implementing partners is providing education grants to assist with transportation costs. Language barriers and safety concerns of parents may contribute to a higher drop-out rate among refugee children. However, the biggest barrier to schooling is the lack of space in public schools.

A key objective of the Education Sector is to promote and facilitate access to primary education through addressing those challenges Syrians face. Efforts are made to support national education systems to accommodate refugee children, including through support to teachers, classrooms and school buildings. Education is also an entry point to provide child-centred support and a mechanism to address the scars of war affecting those traumatized children and adolescents.

There remain challenges in addressing the needs of children with learning or physical disabilities this is due to lack of education opportunities in the country as a whole. UNHCR continues to identify and adequately respond to those children in need.

The Education Working Group continue to promote effective coordination through quality information management and a continuous collaboration with other sectors such as protection, health and water, sanitation and hygiene.

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS

