UNICEF provides training to 6,500 Syrian volunteer teachers.

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:

In many emergency contexts it is difficult to find suitably qualified teachers who are able to teach refugee children. As Syria had an established and well-functioning education system prior to the onset of the conflict, this has meant that many qualified teachers also became refugees. Many of these teachers have volunteered their efforts to support the education of Syrian children both the temporary education centres established in camps and in urban areas. In addition, qualified professionals and students who were part-way through their studies also volunteered to teach in these centres.

In late 2014, UNICEF – through a protocol with the Ministry of National Education (MoNE) and the Post and Telecommunications Bank (PTT) – began supporting volunteer teachers with financial incentives. These incentives are paid to teachers working in both host communities and camps. As of May, UNICEF supported 4,958 teachers with incentives. It is anticipated that this will contribute to improving the quality of education provided to about 190,000 Syrian refugee children by ensuring stability in the teaching force, as teachers who receive incentives are less likely to seek economic opportunities elsewhere and will also be more motivated.

Between December 2014 and March 2015, a total of 6,500 Syrian volunteer teachers from 15 provinces received a 2-day psychosocial training on topics including, but not limited, to the effects of trauma, depression and anxiety, as well as related activities than could be undertaken with students. Provinces covered included: Kahramanmaras, Hatay, Gaziantep, Sanliurfa, Adana, Kilis, Malatya, Adiyaman, Batman-Diyarbakir, Mardin, Osmaniye, Ankara, Kayseri, Kocaeli.

UNICEF continues investing in school infrastructure through school construction and refurbishment. During April two new prefabricated school buildings were opened – one in the Suruc camp and one in Ceylanpinar. There are 4,718 children enrolled in the Suruc camp temporary education centre (TEC) and it is estimated that the TEC in Ceylanpinar will provide access to education for 2,160 students. During the reporting period 17,040 children also benefitted from distribution of school supplies and school equipment. UNICEF is also partnering with IOM to provide school transportation to 1,960 students in Urfa province, addressing another important barrier to school attendance.

UNICEF is also working closely with the Provincial Education Directorates of the Ministry of National Education to develop Provincial Action Plans that will support expansion of access to education by Syrian students. The roll out of YOBIS (a complementary education information system to manage data related to foreign students, teachers and classrooms continues) with 50% of student data having been entered onto the system.

UNHCR’s DAFI (Albert Einstein Refugee Academic Programme) scholarship holders have all entered their second semester at universities in Turkey. As of April, UNHCR initiated a partnership agreement with the Presidency for Turks Abroad to be responsible for the management of the 2015 DAFI student intake. YTB will develop an online application portal for scholarship applicants. Applications for scholarships will open in June 2015 for the coming academic year.

**Key Figures:**

- Syrian children attending school in Sanliurfa / IOM

**TURKEY RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO APRIL 2015**

**Number of children (3-17) benefiting from school supplies**<br>
- Planned Response, by end-2015: 51,149<br>
- Progress: 0%

**Number of Syrian volunteer teachers provided with financial incentives**<br>
- Planned Response, by end-2015: 4,958<br>
- Progress: 0%

**Number of educational facilities constructed, refurbished or renovated**<br>
- Planned Response, by end-2015: 44<br>
- Progress: 0%

**Number of education personnel trained**<br>
- Planned Response, by end-2015: 5,102<br>
- Progress: 0%

**Number of youth and adults participating in vocational and skills training programmes and receiving higher education support**<br>
- Planned Response, by end-2015: 5,242<br>
- Progress: 0%

**Number of targeted children (5-17) b/g enrolled in non-formal or informal education and/or life skills activities**<br>
- Planned Response, by end-2015: 1,171<br>
- Progress: 0%

**Number of children receiving subsidized school transportation**<br>
- Planned Response, by end-2015: 2,676<br>
- Progress: 0%

**Number of school aged children enrolled in school**<br>
- Planned Response, by end-2015: 200,500<br>
- Progress: 0%