EGYPT: RRP5 Update - November 2013

PROTECTION



TARGETS

As specified in the RRP5



Syrian refugees registered

Syrian refugees benefit from community-based interventions

Syrian refugees engaged through child friendly spaces

Syrian refugees benefit from legal assistance



USD required

OBJECTIVES

- Law and policy developed or strengthened
- Quality of registration and profiling improved or maintained
- Favourable protection environment maintained
- Risk of SGBV reduced and quality response improved
- Risks related to detention reduced and freedom of movement improved
- Protection of children strengthened

NEEDS

Strengthen field presence - in order to ensure that all Syrian refugees have access to registration and community services, UNHCR is looking to establish a field office in Alexandria to provide permanent registration capacity and programme monitoring in addition to the existing permanent registration centre in Cairo. UNHCR will also enhance mobile registration and protection missions to serve other parts of the country.

Legal assistance - Those cases requiring legal representation and follow-up in the national legal system

Profiling - Nearly 50 per cent of the Syrian refugee population in Egypt are expected to settle outside greater Cairo. IOM will conduct a profiling exercise to gather more accurate information on Syrian communities to better target assistance.

Outreach - All Syrian refugees are residing amongst host communities as there are no Syrian refugee camps. Outreach activities and ongoing communication with Syrian communities are needed to address protection concerns including sexual harrassment and psychological and social distress.

Awareness-raising and sensitization - experience has shown that the refugee communities themselves are the greatest resource in the identification, early response and follow-up of protection concerns. UNHCR and response partners will continue to raise awareness and building the capacity of the community, response partners. Government agencies and service providers.

ACTION/OUTPUTS (as per RRP5)

- Advocacy and engagement with relevant Egyptian authorities towards maintaining a favourable protection environment for Syrian refugees
- Registration conducted on an individual basis and data updated on a continuous basis
- Locations assessment, mapping and profiling conducted in selected localities
- Community-based protection interventions increase protection space & responses for refugees
- Information on the services available to Syrians communities in Egypt increased
- Psycho-social support activities and counselling carried out
- Psycho-social and clinical training for counsellors and psychologists implemented
- SGBV response mechanisms improved with clear referral pathways established with relevant partners and
- Ensure no Syrian refugees are refouled/deported
- Capacity for protection of Syrian children is increased within the Syrian community; psycho-social well-being of Syrian children improves

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The average of arrivals from Syria decreased significantly to only 25-30 persons per week, who are mostly students or business persons with valid residence in Egypt.
- A trend has been observed in November that it is becoming increasingly difficult for Syrians to renew their residence permits in Egypt, especially if they are not registered with UNHCR.
- As part of its emergency strategy to deal with the detention of Syrian refugees for irregular departure, UNHCR sent a protection coordinator to Alexandria, in preparation for establishing a permanent presence there. Most attempts for irregular departure to Europe by sea have originated in Alexandria, Throughout November, UNHCR's Coordinator monitored the condition of detained refugees, met several times with government authorities, and coordinated humanitarian assistance provided to detainees by UNHCR's implementing partners and volunteers. UNHCR representatives also met with the Governor of Alexandria, who indicated the government's intention to release the remaining refugees from detention shortly.
- On November 14, an SGBV Working Group established by UNHCR set its new TORs and strategy for 2014. CARE International, UNHCR's implementing partner, began an assessment of risks and needs in the Syrian community currently temporary women's shelter and specialized legal aid are available.

Leading Agencies: UNHCR Sector Lead Contact: Madalena Hogg - hogg@unhcr.org Reporting Agencies for this month:













ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE



More than **128,000** Syrian refugees registered



1,550 (313 during November) children benefitted from child friendly spaces



3,640 (300 during November) Syrian refugees received protection/legal counselling



373 (30 during November) Syrian refugees particpated in focus goups discussions raising awaresness about SGBV