



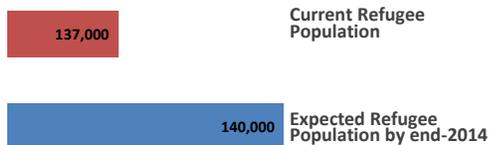
**304** refugees have been provided with legal counseling and assistance since the beginning of 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- 174 new arrests and detentions for irregular departure from Egypt involving mostly Syrian nationals (125) in Alexandria and its surrounding governorates were arrested during May. In the same time period, 174 Syrian detainees (detained in May or earlier) were released and allowed to stay in Egypt, continuing a trend observed since the beginning of the year to release persons in need of international protection involved in irregular movements. Those released consist mostly of families, children and the elderly and those with immediate relatives in Egypt. Egyptian authorities are issuing 3 month residency permits to Syrians who are being released. UNHCR's partners Caritas and Resala have been providing emergency assistance to detainees in the form of food, blankets and medical care. UNHCR also continued to advocate with the Egyptian Government to stop any potential forced deportation to those arrested for irregular departure.
- UNHCR conducted 2 awareness sessions to 65 members of the Syrian community in Ismailia and Cairo on UNHCR mandate, the dangers of irregular migration and the importance of respecting Egyptian laws. In addition, UNHCR organized a 3-day workshop to 22 Egyptian judges and prosecutors on international refugee law and the need to development a legal framework on asylum and refugee protection in Egypt.
- Since the start of 2014, UNHCR's Child Protection Team conducted 140 Best Interest Assessments for unaccompanied minors, separated children and child spouses who are registered with UNHCR.
- **The following Community Support Projects events took place during May :**
- On May 6, the British Council in cooperation with the Ministry of Sports and Youth, UNHCR and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) conducted a sports festival and ceremony in the Olympic Stadium in Maadi (Cairo) marking the completion of a Premier Skills training Project, which uses sports as a tool for community leadership, empowerment and social integration. The project included an integrated skills development programme for community grassroots coaches which incorporates soft skills such as team-building, inter-personal skills, communication etc. Coaches are gender balanced and between the ages of 18-45. The trained coaches (21 Syrian and 25 Egyptian) will disseminate and cascade their new skills to their communities over the following 6 months.
- On May 28, UNHCR held the closing ceremony of one of its Community Support Programmes 'Learn, Move, Play, Ground 2' at a school in the First Settlement in Cairo, attended by both Egyptian and Syrian students. Through this project, a playing landscape was designed and built on site in the school courtyard, with the active participation of students and teachers. The project aims to provide a better educational experience through its integrative approach of Syrian and Egyptian children and ultimately reduces bullying, which has been repeatedly reported as a problem faced by Syrian children.
- On May 30, Takween Integrated Community Development, in collaboration with Shaarawy Foundation for Development and '7ekayat Men Baladna, held an event as an integral part of their project to implement a safe and inclusive public space for women and children in Masaken Othman. The event was organized to familiarize the surrounding community with the open and public space where they could collectively gather and perform different activities.

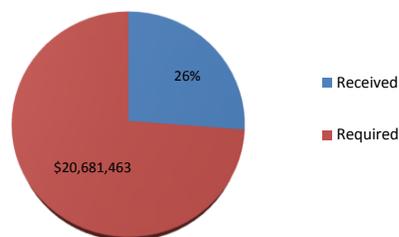
Leading Agencies: UNHCR- Name: MARIA BANCES DEL REY email.: BANCES@UNHCR.ORG  
Participating Agencies: UNHCR, UNICEF, TDH, PSTC, IOM, Save the Children, CARE International, AMERA, UNFPA

### REFUGEE POPULATION IN EGYPT



### SECTOR FUNDING STATUS January - December

\* Funding received as of May 2014

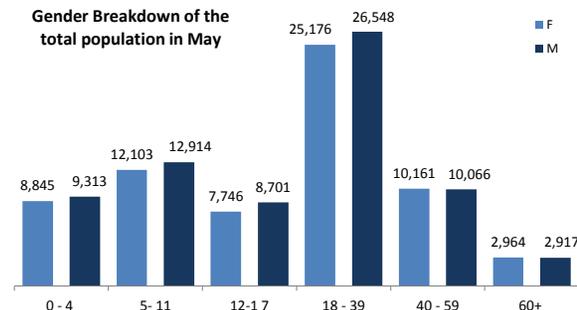


### NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Updated data on registered refugees is needed for profiling and programming purposes. A verification exercise has begun in May 2014. In addition, UNHCR will conduct a survey in order to have a better overview of protection gaps, in particular among the most vulnerable.

By the end of April 2014, UNICEF increased its Child Friendly Spaces outside greater Cairo from three to seven. However, child-friendly spaces remain insufficient to cover all the refugee population across Egypt and the capacity to conduct Best Interest Assessments for all separated children is limited, including regular monitoring visits for most separated children. UNICEF is waiting for government approval to open Child-friendly spaces in Damietta, where none currently exist. There continues to be few programmes assisting refugee youth, as well as children with disabilities.

The operational capacity of partners remains largely concentrated in Greater Cairo and to some extent Alexandria, affecting services to sexual gender based violence (SGBV) survivors in particular. CARE International plans to expand its services, including case management, to Alexandria after June 2014. Damietta, where the third largest concentration of Syrian refugees, remains without similar services. Challenges remain in identifying legal aid partners with sufficient coverage of major and smaller urban centers around the country.



### PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS

