



July Key Statistics

Total Registered Refugees in Egypt as of July 31st:

137,843 Syrian Refugees

Proportion of Total Refugees Assisted with Monthly Grants to meet basic needs:

22.3%

Refugees assisted with monthly cash grants in July:

17,032 beneficiaries in Greater Cairo
9,868 beneficiaries in Alexandria
3,976 beneficiaries in Damietta

Partners:

UNHCR for Greater Cairo (direct assistance)
Caritas for Alexandria
Resala for Damietta

Background

As the conflict in Syria continues to escalate, the number of people fleeing into other countries in the region in search of refuge has been increasing. New arrivals of Syrians into Egypt, however, have been nominal since the introduction on 8 July 2013 of visa requirements for Syrian entering the country.

Syrian refugees are struggling to meet their basic needs due to eroded savings, and limited employment and livelihood opportunities. This lack of income can result in increased use of negative coping mechanisms, including reducing living expenses by taking children out of school, living in unacceptable housing, reducing the quantity and quality of food intake, going without basic assets such as blankets, mattresses and clothes, and trying to earn additional income through begging, child labour, and early marriage.

UNHCR is providing cash assistance to mitigate the use of negative coping mechanisms by providing monthly cash grants to meet non-food basic needs for the most vulnerable, education grants, winterization grants for the cold months, and emergency and shelter grants on a case by case basis. Since the Syria operation began in 2013, UNHCR has distributed over 13.2 million USD in monthly unconditional cash grants to Syrian Refugees to meet basic needs

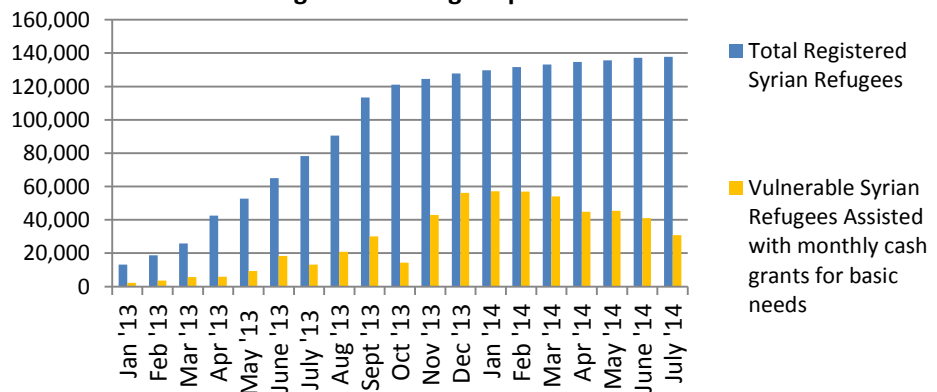
Strategy

UNHCR and WFP are working together to develop a joint monetized assistance solution through a prepaid smart card. Once launched, the card will allow beneficiaries to purchase food through a WFP-funded food voucher "wallet", and withdraw money from ATM machines to meet non-food basic needs using the UNHCR-funded cash "wallet".

2014 Cash Assistance at a Glance

Activity	Refugees Reached July	Refugees Reached January-July	USD July	USD 2014 to date
Monthly Cash for Basic Needs	30,876	57,106	\$841,589	\$8,210,095
Education Grants	0	30,590	\$0	\$1,564,246
Winterization	0	21,099	\$0	\$459,140
Emergency Grants	66	1,705	\$1,973	\$63,398
Shelter Grants	0	434	\$0	\$15,291
Total	30,942	110,934	\$843,562	\$10,312,170

Refugees Assisted with Monthly Cash for Basic Needs, in Proportion to Total Registered Refugees per Month



Since Yasmine's arrival in Egypt approximately 1 year ago, her husband has developed a heart condition, resulting in him being unable to work. Limited income opportunities, coupled with medical bills quickly eroded their savings, resulting in them and their three children having to live with 5 other families in a cramped house.

Since receiving monthly cash assistance from UNHCR, Yasmine and her family have been able to move out of the crowded accommodation, and now have modest apartment for their family in Cairo. The monthly cash grants have allowed Yasmine and her husband to meet the basic needs of their family. A university graduate now working as a maid, Yasmine does not know how she would cope without this assistance, "the assistance helps me for my daily life. Otherwise, I would have to beg".