

### Limited funding and restrictive policies continue to hamper livelihoods responses across the region

#### REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

In Turkey, almost 1,700 Syrian refugees were supported to access vocational training this month. Activities included support to Syria Social Gathering language and vocational activities such as TOMER, English, Arabic for host communities and YOS. Some 6,750 Syrians have now participated in these courses during 2015. Also in Turkey, UNIDO has started a project in the camps to strengthen the production capacities of residents, particular in the garment production and textile sectors.

In Iraq during June, 160 Syrian refugees benefited from vocational training courses and on the job training courses in camps across the three governorates of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI). In addition, 71 beneficiaries in Arbat camp have completed their Business Development Services training and will soon receive their toolkits. A further 20 vocational training beneficiaries received toolkits upon the completion of their courses. Finally, over 1,500 Syrian refugees benefitted from free internet access through Community Technology Access Centres in four camps in the KRI.

In Egypt, a marketing fair was held in Cairo to support micro-entrepreneurs with marketing their products. Twelve female beneficiaries took part in the event, with participants giving positive feedback and highlighting the need for similar opportunities to gain better access to local markets. A bazaar was also held in Alexandria, for 25 beneficiaries who had received grants to display their products of Syrian food, accessories and crafts, most of which were sold during the event.

In Lebanon, the space to operate in the livelihoods sector remains restrictive, with refugees now required to sign a pledge not to work in addition to a reluctance to grant work permits to Syrians. Progress in the sector remains slow, with results between two and ten per cent of targets at the mid-year point. Notwithstanding, over USD 600,000 of additional income has been provided through the sector to over 3,000 beneficiaries.

#### ENHANCING WATER SUPPLY TO 400 FAMILIES IN DAOUK PALESTINIAN GATHERING IN BEIRUT

With the recent arrivals of Syrian refugees, the population in Dauok has increased by 18 per cent, which also resulted in over-demand of water systems. "You could spend four full days here with no water at all, not even a single drop in any housed," says Head of the Popular Committee in Dauok Abou Ali Anbour to describe the situation before UNDP's intervention. "People had to buy water to shower and clean their houses. Others who cannot afford it, walked to public water tabs outside the area to fill gallons and bottles."

Rehabilitation works included installing a new pump and pipes after excavating the concrete road from the well to the main pipe as well as installing the necessary electrical boards for the pump.



Computer classes at a community centre inside the Za'atari refugee camp. UNHCR/Christopher Herwig

#### Sector Response Summary:



**369,452** Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end-2015  
**26,629** assisted in 2015



#### Syrian Refugees in the Region:



**4,270,000** Syrian Refugees expected by end-2015  
**4,020,094** currently registered or awaiting registration



#### 3RP Overall Funding Status:



**USD 4.5 billion** required in 2015 (Agencies)  
**USD 1.072 billion** received in 2015



### NEW REPORT LOOKS AT UNIQUE CHALLENGES FACED BY REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES IN KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ

A new report by UNDP and the Middle Eastern Research Institute entitled "Pathways to Resilience for Syrian Refugees Living in Camps in Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI)" uses household surveys and focus groups to provide detailed analyses on the unique challenges faced by refugees and host communities in the KRI as a result of the Syria crisis.

Reduced foreign investment in the KRI due to the deteriorating security situation in the region, the falling price of oil – the sole commodity the KRI economy depends on, in combination with a lengthy budget crisis continues to have adverse consequences on public services in the region.

As a result of this lack of access to livelihoods, both refugee households and the host community remain significantly dependent upon external assistance for food procurement; most refugees receive food items from the World Food Programme, and most host communities rely upon the Iraqi Public Distribution System. Meanwhile, refugee children are often forced out of education due to a lack of funds for school supplies or to work in order to support their families. The authors of the report highlight the example of the Iranian Kurdish refugees that settled in the KRI during the 1990s – demonstrating that without proper livelihoods assistance, continued reliance upon external aid mechanisms seems inevitable.

Therefore, the authors propose both a minimum living standards line (MLSL) – based upon the higher of each quality of life indicator between the refugee population and the host community – as well as a resilient living standards line (RLSL) 30 per cent higher than the MLSL as a target to ensure that future shocks do not throw these populations back down a minimum quality of life.

#### REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - JUNE 2015

■ Progress ■ Planned Response, by end-2015



These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Targets are based on full funding of the 3RP and an expected 4.27 million refugees by end-2015. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 30 June 2015.