SEPTMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

- In September, CRS registered a total number of 2,058 applicants with a total number of 4,137 students; (2,071 males and 2,066 females). Since May 22nd in the commencement of registration interviews, the CRS team has registered a total number of 8,925 applicants with a total number of 19,163 students (9,589 males and 9,574 females).
- In September, CRS successfully disbursed education grants in Cairo, Alexandria and Ghamata to 4,309 applicants supporting a total of 8,499 students (4,263 males and 4,236 females). The majority of students who received the education grant are enrolled in primary stage 7-44, while 1001 students were enrolled in secondary stage and only 14 students were enrolled in special needs schools.
- During September, CRS assisted a number of 789 households (379 females and 410 males) with extra financial assistance in Cairo, Alexandria and Domietta. The assistance was determined based on a vulnerability assessment conducted with all applicants.
- During September with the start of Egyptian school year, the CRS education advising service has continued targeting applicants with special needs students. The service is designed to 1) provide needed information/advice on special needs certified schools/centres, and 2) create a database of updated profiles of special needs students, through which 33 applicants (16 females and 17 males) were served.
- During September, CRS conducted the second capacity building interventions with Syrian Refugees Centers in “Syrian Center for Trainings” in Alexandria. Based on the assessment findings, two trainings were designed and conducted in Alexandria, namely: 1) governance training for schools administrators, and 2) teachers training for basic education teachers.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The Egyptian Government granted Syrians access to public schools under some rules that apply to Egyptian nationals. In practice, several challenges arise when Syrian families attempt to enroll their children in public schools, most importantly the required documentation, overcrowding and safety concerns inside and outside of school. The lack of capacity and quality of the educational environment in public schools remains a significant barrier to the enrolment and retention of Syrian children.

A key objective of the Education Sector is to promote and facilitate access as well as improve the quality of education provided to Syrian refugees in public schools. Efforts are made to support national education systems to accommodate refugee children, including through support to teachers inside classrooms. Education is also an entry point to provide child-centred support and a mechanism to address the scars of war affecting these traumatized children and adolescents. A particular focus will be given to the enhancement of the quality of education in public schools. This will be achieved through a host of measures, including supply of IT equipment, science lab, and teacher training for primary and secondary education. The targeted subjects will be Mathematics, Sciences, and Languages.

In order to enhance access to education for the most vulnerable boys and girls, around 125 disabled Syrian children will be supported in specialized private schools, as no public Egyptian schools currently have adequate model of education and care required. These children will receive special education grants to cover the special needs school fees and their transportation needs. CRS will support 16 public schools to accommodate children with special needs through the Inclusive School Programme. The education response plan is based on the assumption that the current Government policy under which Syrian students have access to public schools will be continued based on the needs assessment conducted in 2015 by Ministry of Education (MoE) and JRP education partners. JRP partners will provide support to improve and rehabilitate public schools in most impacted areas by Syrian refugee crisis. Mapping of government schools most frequented by Syrian children has already been concluded, and a report by the General Authority for Educational Buildings (GADB) has been compiled listing the needs and work required to enhance the absorption capacity of the most affected schools in impacted areas and improve WASH facilities. This report will continue to inform the dialogue with the Ministry. Around 200,000 children aged six to 17 from host communities should directly benefit from the planned school rehabilitation programme.

The Education Working Group continue to promote effective collaboration through quality information management and a continuous collaboration with other sectors such as protection, health, water, sanitation and hygiene.

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HIGHLIGHTED 2

- A governance training was tailored and developed in accordance to the assessment findings which identified different areas that needed most improvement. The five day training covered the topics of basic management, financial management, and human resources. The training included 10 participants (8 females and 2 males). From all Syrian refugee community centres in Alexandria.
- On September 27, 2016, CRS organised a selection test for 52 Syrian students (in the secondary stage 30 females & 22 males). CRS outreach to Syrian students from different community schools and through the CRS data base. The selection test took place in a Syrian Community school in Alexandria.
- During September, CRS conducted the first follow up visit to two Syrian Refugee Schools/Centres out of the three schools that received an assessment based financial assistance last July. The purpose of this visit is to ensure that the schools have implemented the activities as agreed upon in the improvement plan. The schools received a total amount of EGP 75,500.
- UNHCR and the Ministry of Education held the opening ceremony of their joint teacher training programme for 2016. The training is focusing on developing the required skills for Arabic Language Teacher whose working with 1st, 2nd and 3rd early grades at primary schools. The event took place in the Students’ Union, a building owned by the Ministry of Education and was attended by high profile officials representing the Ministry of Education. The Handwriting skills training will be held in two phases and targeting 550 teachers from six governorates.
- UNHCR celebrated the graduation of four beneficiaries of the DAFI scholarship. The ceremony was attended by UNHCR Representative Elizabeth Tax. CRS Country Director Mr. Hossam Abd and the press parents, the graduates. The DAFI Scholarship program under an agreement between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and UNHCR is supporting a number of qualified refugee students to pursue higher education. It is worth noting that DAFI is the most successful scholarship program working with refugees in Egypt.
- Out of the 70 DAFI students enrolled in universities, CRS provided 55 students with September allowance. This included the students who have completed 4 years with 24/1 scholarship and the students who have failed or didn’t send their results yet. The September allowance included 15 students enrolled in their second academic year in public universities, 15 ongoing students enrolled in their 3rd and 4th academic year in 6th of October University, and 24 newly enrolled students who have joined the scholarship starting from 2015/2016 academic year.
- 10 MA degrees on infrastructure and water engineering with TU Berlin and students are enrolled in the only University Campus outside Germany in Hurghada (Egypt).
- 10 MA degrees on Archeological Site Management with Helwan University/Egypt totally funded by DAAO and the German Government.
- 19 MA degrees under IHOES programme between DAAO and the British Council in Egypt/11 MA degrees on German as second/French language with Ain Shams University/Egypt
- 4,300 Syrian refugee students were enrolled in all Egyptian Public Universities last academic year and we expect a similar number to enroll for this 2016/2017 academic year.

Sector Response Summary:

253,500 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end of 2016, 50,490 assisted in 2016.

Syrian Refugees in EGYPT:

110,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2016, 117,400 currently registered or awaiting registration.

3RP Overall Funding Status:

USD 146.6 million required in 2016, USD 43.6 million received in 2016.

EGYPT RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2016

37,645 students 0-17yrs enrolled in formal education opportunities

933 students 0-17yrs enrolled in non-formal education opportunities

713 teachers trained

refugee children receive education grants

schools (renovate, refurbish and equip selected schools in impacted areas)

Progress

Planned Response, by end-2016

114%

100%

71%

0%

396