

September 2017

Education for Syrian refugee children in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt¹

# of registered school-age Syrian refugee children (5-17) (June 2017) ²	% of Syrian refugee children enrolled in formal or non-formal education	% of Syrian refugee children out of school	Funding status
1.7 million	57%	43%	28%

- As of June 2017, there were nearly **1.7 million registered school-age Syrian refugee children and youth** (5-17 years) in the five host countries of Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt (as compared to 1.6 million in December 2016).
- 57 per cent** of Syrian school-age children and youth (5-17 years) were either **enrolled in formal education** (54 per cent) **or non-formal education** (3 per cent), while some **43 per cent of them remained out of school**.
- Although enrolment in formal education has remained relatively stable between December 2016 and June 2017 (at 57 and 54 per cent, respectively), with increase in the number of children enrolled in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt, enrolment in non-formal education programmes has declined, arguably due to a lag in reporting and to better monitoring systems that avoid double-counting of beneficiaries. **The percentage of out-of-school children has increased** from 34 per cent in December 2016 **to 43 per cent in June 2017**. Underfunding of the 3RP education envelope is also hampering education partners' efforts in reaching children out of school.
- In line with the **No Lost Generation (NLG) Initiative** and the strategic shifts agreed upon during the London 'Supporting Syria and the Region' Conference in 2016, reiterated and further developed at the Brussels 'Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region' Conference in 2017, education partners are accelerating efforts around the key pillars of increasing access to equitable education opportunities, improving quality of formal and non-formal education within a protective environment and education system strengthening.
- In terms of **increasing access to equitable education opportunities**, education partners have supported the expansion of school absorption capacity through the **double-shifting of 198 schools** in host communities **in Jordan** and **296 in Lebanon**. More than **1,600 classrooms** were also **constructed, established or rehabilitated** across the five countries. Back-to-Learning (BTL) campaigns have been extensively conducted in all the five countries, with Jordan extending the deadline for enrolling children in school until mid-March and providing summer school sessions for late enrollees. In Lebanon, the 2017/18 BTL campaign was launched nationwide in May with a strong protection component that aims at overcoming education barriers such as violence in public schools, child labour, early marriage and high transportation costs.
- Education partners have exerted significant efforts **to further develop non-formal education programmes and frameworks**. Around 50,000 out-of-school Syrian children benefitted from non-formal education programmes in the first half of 2017. In Lebanon, cycle one of the 2017 Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) concluded in June with almost 6,000 children sitting for the post-test and a pass rate of 62 per cent (an increase of 16 percentage points compared to the 2016 ALP summer round). Additionally, in Turkey, an ALP for Syrian out-of-school children was developed and is going to target an estimated 20,000 Syrian children.



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¹ Text and data based on UNHCR. 2017. 3RP 2017 Mid-year Report (forthcoming).

² Source: UNICEF calculation based on UNHCR data portal, and 3RP monthly updates, as of June 2017.

- **Education supplies** were provided to almost **2.3 million children** in the five host countries and in Turkey the national Conditional Cash Transfer for Education was extended to more than 60,000 refugee children enrolled in school to support and promote their attendance.
- At higher education level, 1,600 scholarships were awarded in Turkey and 1,200 in Lebanon for the academic year 2016/17. Convened at the Sharm El Sheikh Conference on ‘**Higher Education in the Context of Crisis in the MENA Region**’ in March 2017, education partners and governments committed to improve access to higher education for those affected by crisis through, amongst others, mainstreaming crisis in national higher education planning and policy and facilitating recognition of certification and qualifications.
- In terms of **improving quality of formal and non-formal education opportunities** almost **65,000 teachers and education personnel** were **trained** on improved pedagogies. **Incentives**

were **provided to some 14,500 teachers** and education personnel in Turkey and in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq to ensure continuity of education for Syrian and host community children. In Jordan, **more than 70,000 children** were **reached with Learning Support Services (LSS)**: 30 per cent of them are Syrian out-of-school children.

- In terms of **education system strengthening**, education partners have supported the improvement of education data collection and monitoring to build evidence-based and equitable response plans.
- Funding status of the education envelope of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP): Requested: 841 million USD, received: 238 million USD (28%). **603 million USD are urgently needed to fill the funding gap.**

Education inside Syria³

# of school-age Syrian children (5-17) (School-year 2015/16) ⁴	% of school-age Syrian children enrolled in formal education	% of school-age Syrian children out of school	Funding status
5.41 million	68%	32%	37%

- In line with the NLG Initiative, the Whole of Syria (WoS) education sector has made progress in scaling up equitable access to education, enhancing the quality of education services and strengthening education systems.
- As of July 2017, overall, **more than 1 million children and youth** (5-17 years) (51 per cent boys and 49 per cent girls, proportional to the demographic composition) were **reached with equitable access to quality learning and skills development opportunities**. Of them some 300,000, or 28 per cent, live in UN-declared besieged and hard-to-reach areas.
- To increase **equitable access**, WoS education partners reached **almost 600,000 children and youth (5-17 years) with formal and non-formal education** at pre-primary, primary and secondary levels.
- In terms of **inclusive and quality learning**, WoS education partners have accelerated efforts, including at a cross-sectoral level, to improve the quality of education services at school level, with **capacity development on active learning pedagogy for over 6,000 teachers**.

- As part of **system strengthening** efforts, WoS education partners continued to support local authorities to build capacity on data collection in crisis contexts, including through **Education Management Information System (EMIS) data collection and analysis**. This initiative advances evidence-based and equity-focused education programming for displaced and out-of-school children.
- In addition, high level sector advocacy with the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and MOE has enabled **10,689 children** (55 per cent boys and 45 per cent girls) to travel from UN-declared besieged and hard-to-reach areas **to sit for the national exams for grades 9 and 12**. These collective efforts have helped to ensure impartial and equitable access to education.
- Under the framework of the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) investment for Syria, a **Syria Education Dialogue Forum (Syria EDF)** has been established between the WoS and the **Syria Education Development Partners’ Group (DPG)** to ensure a unified and cooperative approach to address strategic and technical education issues.
- Funding status of the education envelope of the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP): Requested: 250 million USD,⁵ received: 93 million USD (37%). **157 million USD are urgently needed to fill the funding gap.**

³ Text and data based on WoS. 2017. Summary of Humanitarian Response Plan Monitoring Report, January-June 2017.

⁴ Source: OCHA population estimate and Syrian MOE 2016.

⁵ Mid-year revised request.