

## NO LOST GENERATION 2015 SYRIA CRISIS UPDATE

### MOVING TO A NEW PHASE IN THE NLG

Since its launch in 2013, the No Lost Generation (NLG) initiative has done much to mobilize the international community around the impact of the Syria crisis on children, youth and adolescents. While articulating fears about the possible 'loss' of a whole generation of children to the effects of violence and displacement, UNICEF and partners are moving forward on the NLG, taking into consideration the protracted nature of the Syria crisis. The NLG establishes a 3-5 year framework that remains flexible to respond to changing dynamics in affected countries to expand the delivery and access while increasing focus on the quality of education, child protection, social protection and adolescent and youth engagement services inside Syria and in neighbouring refugee host countries (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey).

### CORE PILLARS OF THE NLG

The NLG focuses on three pillars of engagement: Education; Child Protection; and Adolescent and Youth Engagement, with outcomes shared across all six countries. The three pillars are guided by four interdependent strategies:

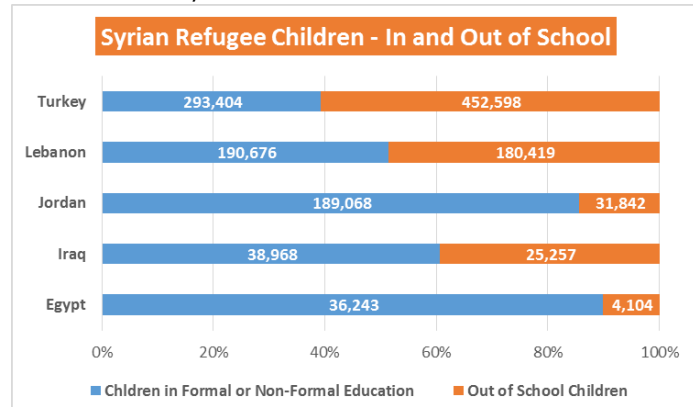
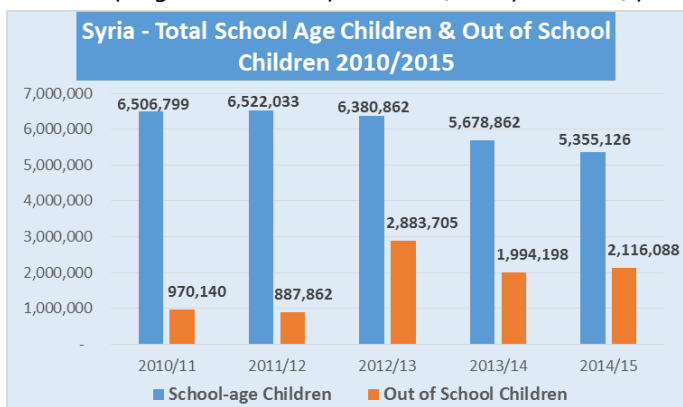
- 1) Scaling up the supply of and access to integrated services;
- 2) Ensuring the quality of these services;
- 3) Mobilizing communities and increasing demand for services; and
- 4) Furthering enabling environments and strengthening systems.

### OVERALL CHILDREN REACHED IN 2015

- There were 3.2 million children enrolled in education inside Syria. In the refugee host countries 700,000 Syrian refugee children accessed formal and non-formal education opportunities.
- Across the Syria Crisis countries NLG partners supported 1.2 million children with community-based child protection interventions, including psychosocial care and support services.
- Across the Syria Crisis countries, 535,000 adolescents and youth were trained to provide leadership at the local level including for social cohesion and community engagement.

### OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN ACROSS THE SYRIA CRISIS COUNTRIES

While NLG programmes are operational, many children, youth and adolescents are yet to be reached.



### KEY FIGURES

#### INSIDE SYRIA

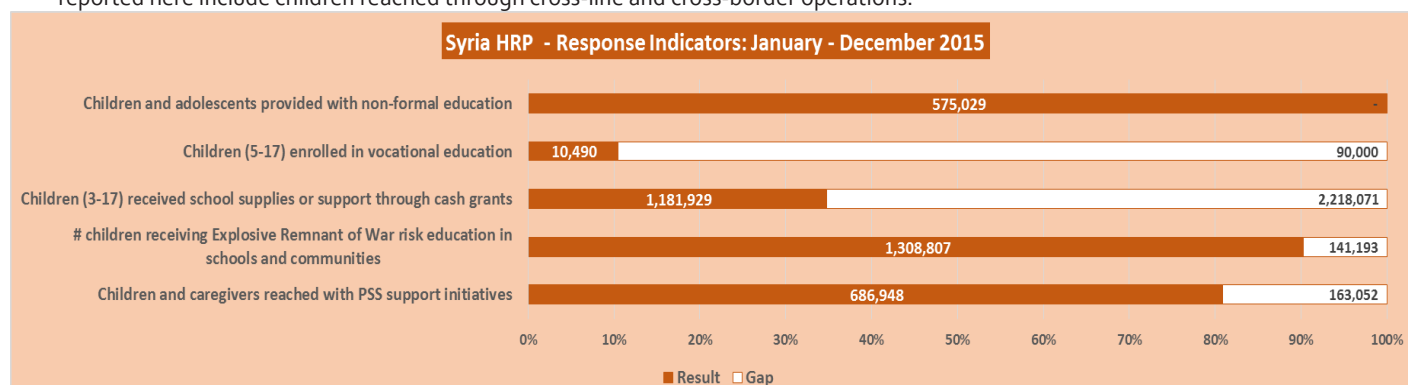
- 6 million children (under 18) are in need of humanitarian assistance
- 2.8 million displaced Syrian children (under 18)
- Over 2.1 million children (5-17 years) are out of school inside Syria
- 2 million children are living in hard to reach areas; over 200,000 children are living in locations designated as besieged
- The United Nations documented over 1,600 cases of grave child's rights violations
- Over 3 in 4 Syrians inside Syria now live in poverty, 67% in extreme poverty
- Over half of the working age population are now unemployed

#### IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

- 2.3 million Syrian children (under 18 years) are refugees in neighboring countries
- Almost 700,000 Syrian children (5-17 years old) are out of any form of education
- There are over 823,000 registered Syrian refugees who fall between the age of 15-24, of whom 722,000 live in host communities

## KEY RESULTS IN SYRIA<sup>1</sup>

- Education sector partners supported 165,000 children to enroll in formal education. Remedial education reached 575,000 children, including with life skills, and including students reached in hard to reach locations in Aleppo, Homs, Deir-ez-Zour, Hassakeh and Dar'a. Additionally, 19,000 students resumed their studies through the piloting of an innovative self-learning programme.
- During the 2015/2016 academic year, through the Back to Learning Campaign, education sector partners reached over 1.2 million children with essential learning materials including school bags, textbooks and stationary. Learning supplies for an additional 1 million children are in the process of being distributed to schools.
- Over 686,000 children received psychosocial support. Interventions in this area included regular, structured and sustained child resilience and recreational activities addressing three key domains of children's psychosocial wellbeing, namely skills and knowledge, emotional and social wellbeing; children's regular attendance was recorded over a specific period of time.
- School and community-based Risk Education has reached over 1.3 million people in high risk areas to reduce the chances that they will be affected by Unexploded Remnants of War. This risk education includes safety issues specific to children.
- Over 16,000 children received specialized case management services. The children were supported with care plans including referral to multiple services based on needs and the best interests of the child.
- Child protection inter-personal awareness raising initiatives reached over 414,000 individuals through activity days, community events, and communication campaigns.
- Empowerment programmes reached 50,000 youth and adolescents to lead change in their communities by involving them in community initiatives, while 426,000 youth and adolescents received training on local leadership including social cohesion and community engagement.
- All results were achieved through the Whole of Syria response, which includes operational hubs in Syria, Turkey and Jordan. The results reported here include children reached through cross-line and cross-border operations.



## KEY CHALLENGES

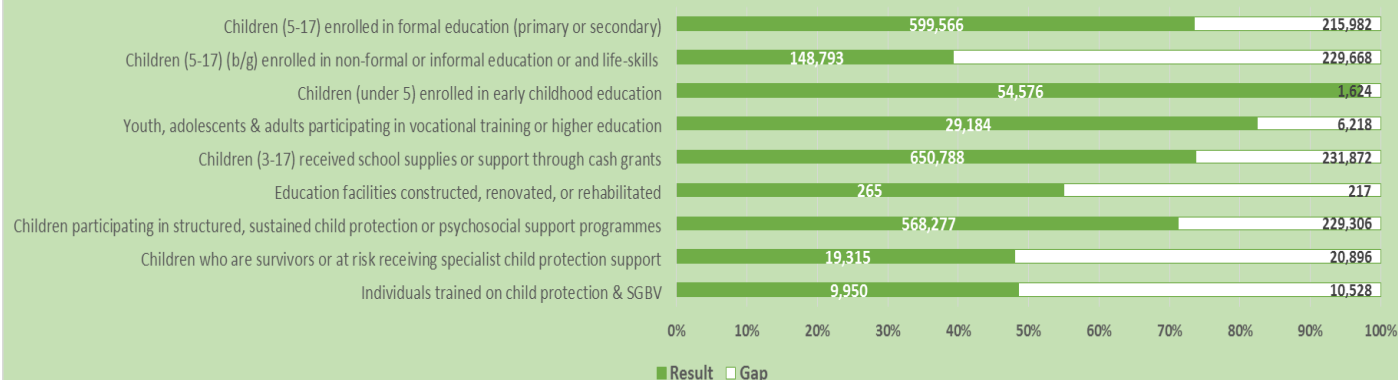
- Education sector partners are working to address a range of increasingly complex barriers to education such as lack of access to hard to reach areas, a lack of teachers due to severance of payment systems and displacement, the ongoing destruction of classrooms and schools and reduced purchasing power of internally displaced families struggling to re-enroll their children back in the education system. Education partners scaled up in response to this gap, including through expanding non-formal and vocational education opportunities.
- Child protection programme reach remains limited, particularly in rural areas and areas with active conflict. Virtually no child protection programming took place in ISIL-controlled areas in 2015. Out of a total of 272 sub districts, child protection actors were able to deliver services in 172 of them, including 55 sub-districts that include hard to reach communities (out of 112) and four sub-districts (of 10) that include communities designated as besieged.
- Adolescent and youth programmes have a limited number of operational partners due to access and human resource constraints. Adolescent and youth programming focuses on identifying new partners, building the technical capacity of operational partners and introducing innovative mobile outreach strategies to increase the reach of participation and awareness of job creation, psychosocial and social cohesion initiatives. As a result, the coverage of adolescent and youth programming, in 2015, grew substantially from 2014.

<sup>1</sup> Education results for inside Syria are partial pending 2015 Year End Sector results

## ■ ■ KEY RESULTS IN THE SUBREGION (Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Turkey, Egypt) as of November 2015:

- In the five countries hosting Syrian refugees, education sector partners supported 700,000 children (5-17 years old) to access education opportunities both in formal and non-formal settings. Government leadership and sector coordination have been crucial to expanding learning opportunities.
- In neighboring countries, more than 599,000 Syrian children and adolescents received support to enroll in formal education. The consistent decrease in the number of Syrian Out of School Children across the sub-region has been driven by expanding opportunities to access formal education in Turkey and Lebanon where 77% of all Syrian refugee school-aged children live.
- 148,000 children and adolescents received support to enroll in non-formal, informal or life skills education. Children enrolled in non-formal education represented 20% of the total child enrollment.
- Key education sector achievements include the introduction of the Provincial Action Plans (PAPs) in Turkey, and the implementation of Reaching All Children with Education (RACE) in Lebanon as an effective framework for education interventions and quality assurance.
- In Turkey, in addition to the PAP, to address the high number of out of school children, school construction, rehabilitation and refurbishment was a major focus of the education response, with a total of 208 schools and temporary learning spaces renovated, refurbished or constructed.
- In Iraq, the empowerment of Parent-Teacher Associations through enhanced school-based management has resulted in the rapid rehabilitation of more than 500 schools in the Kurdistan Region where 97% of Syrian refugees in Iraq are hosted.
- In Egypt, the sector-response strategy has enabled access of Syrian children in public schools, while also establishing community-based pre-primary education opportunities.
- Education monitoring capacity has enhanced across the region through the development of the Foreign Student Education Management Information System (YOBIS) in Turkey and the Ministry of Education Open Education Management Information System in Jordan to track enrollment and progression of refugee children through the education system.
- In Jordan, there are currently 148 integrated social development (Makani) centres in place. The Makani centres offer an integrated package of education, child protection and youth/ adolescent services. As of December 2015, 168,000 children (52% girls) are registered at Makani centres and/ or child and adolescent friendly spaces and 38,400 of the most vulnerable Syrian and Jordanian children received structured psychosocial support. Additionally, over 47,000 young people (55% girls) accessed life skills training in Makani centres. These Makani centres offer additional and expanded non-formal education programmes for children out of school.
- Across the five neighboring countries hosting Syrian refugees, over 568,000 girls and boys have participated in structured and sustained child protection or psychosocial support programs. These programmes target the most vulnerable children and families including through Child Friendly Spaces and structured group sessions that address elements of self-protection, safety, and child rights.
- There have been over 19,300 children supported with specialist child protection services, such as case management for children at risk of or who have experienced violence, abuse and exploitation, such as separated and unaccompanied children, children associated with armed groups or forces, children in detention, or children engaged in labour.
- In Lebanon, the Ministry of Social Affairs established an expanded network of child protection and other services for most vulnerable children, caregivers and families in 57 Social Development Centres through the National Plan to Safeguard Children and Women. This plan helped strengthen coordination and capacity of child protection workforce including through the training of over 1,900 child protection actors.
- Over 109,000 youth and adolescents were trained to provide local leadership including for social cohesion and community engagement, of this group 13,000 are now engaged in community initiatives. Across the countries over 17,000 youth have received financial support or training for social and business entrepreneurship projects.
- The Government of Jordan, in partnership with the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development and international civil society, hosted the first Global Forum on Youth, Peace and Security. The final declaration recalled the importance of the Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peace Building in creating a foundation that ensures young people's participation and contribution to building peace, including in conflict and post-conflict contexts.

## 3RP - Regional Response Indicators: January - November 2015



### KEY CHALLENGES

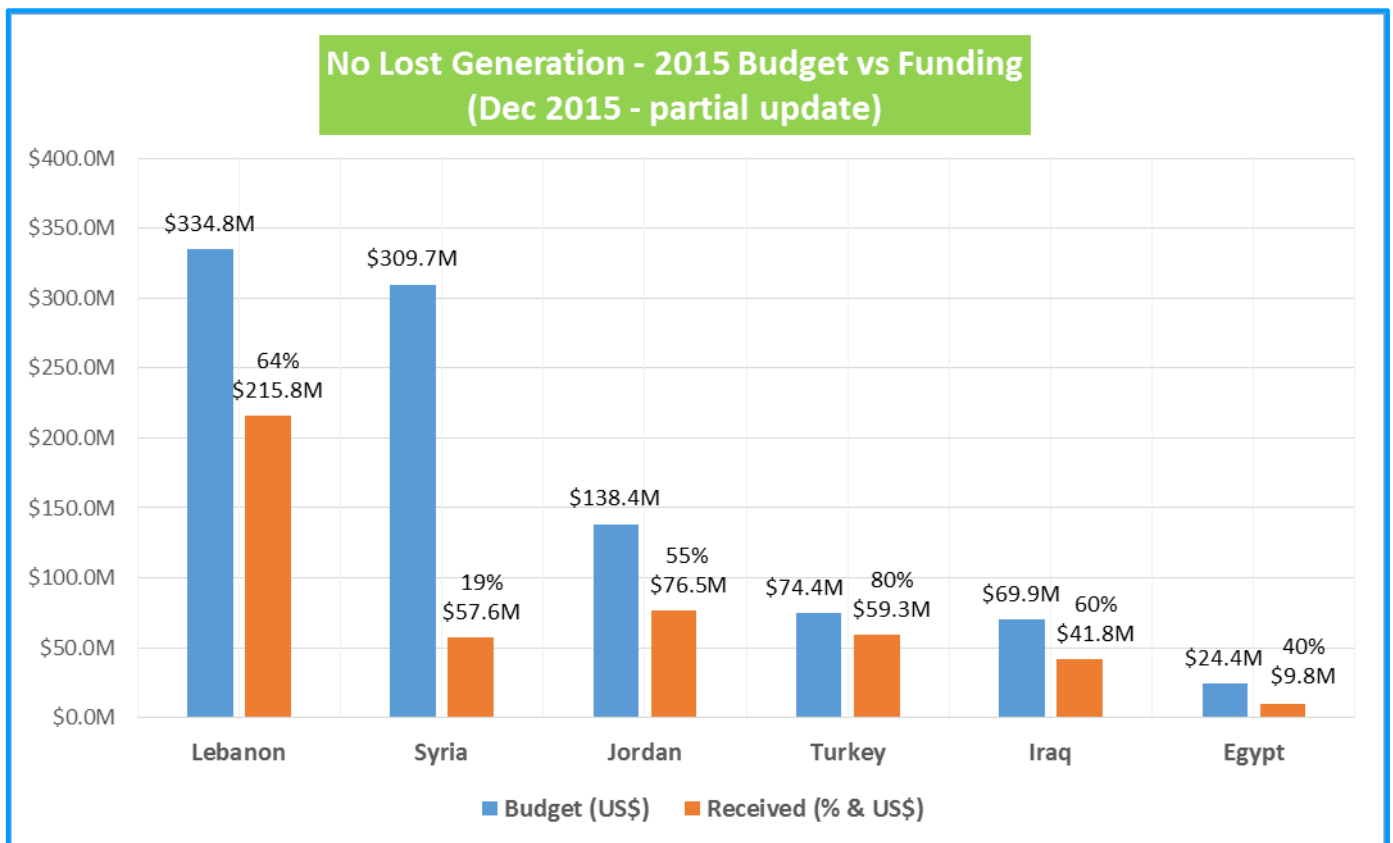
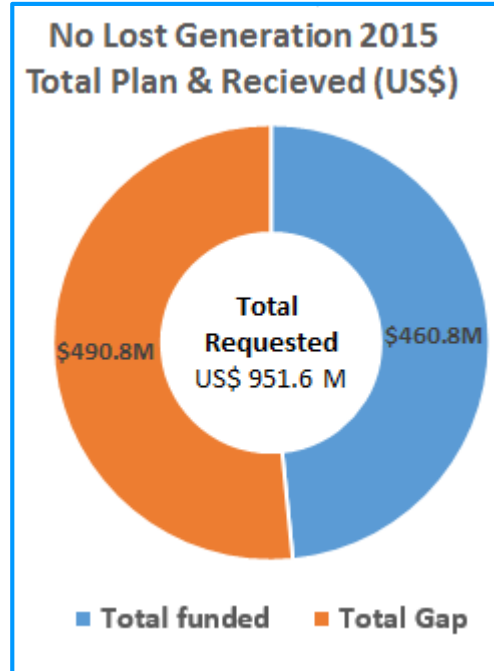
- While the actual number of students enrolled in formal education has increased over 3 times since August 2013, the percentage of out-of-school children has remained around 50 per cent, as host countries struggle to accommodate the increasing influx of Syrian refugees. At the end of 2014, there were 1.24 million school-aged Syrian children in the five 3RP countries (52% Out of School Children); as of November 2015 there were 1.44 million.
- Low access rates to secondary, technical and vocational education, and tertiary education by Syrian refugee youth is a grave concern. While precise data on access is complex to capture, the enrolment rate in tertiary education among Syrian refugee youth (aged 18-24 years) was reported at 1 per cent in Turkey, 6 per cent in Lebanon and around 8 per cent in Jordan and Egypt as of 2014, as compared to 20 per cent in pre-crisis Syria.
- The continued vulnerability of refugee hosting families is a reason for refugee children not attending education, with families adopting negative coping strategies such as sending children to work to meet families' needs. Reaching the most marginalized and vulnerable adolescents and youth is a challenge, in terms of program retention as these young people need to work in order to support their families. In 2016 more efforts are being directed towards reaching drop outs, out of school, working adolescents, and youth in difficult economic situations with a focus on youth who do not have access to technology and using more innovative ways to engage them such as flexible training schedules and initiating remote mobile trainings.

### Education in Conflict Affected Areas of Syria

Close to 900 thousand children are estimated to be in areas under the control of ISIL as of October 2015; while 1.4 million are in areas controlled by non-state actors.

Between the 2010/11 and 2014/15 school years, areas of intense conflict such as Aleppo, Dar'a and Quneitra have experienced sharp drops in enrolment. Other governorates have seen an increase in enrolment, for example Tartous, Lattakia and As-Sweida. These changes are linked to an increased number of internally displaced people in these governorates, and to the programmatic response of partners.

## NLG 2015 – Funding Update\*



\* Financial data for Syria is for end December 2015. Financial data for the 3RP is for September 2015 with a partial update where agency specific data was greater than September data for each country.