

Highlights:

- Global forced displacement tops 50 million;
- The Government of Turkey estimates 1.05 million Syrians are hosted by Turkey;
- RRP donors visit Turkey.

World Refugee Day

On the occasion of the World Refugee Day, UNHCR held a celebration of World Refugee Day in the IMC/ASAM Multi-Service Centre in Gaziantep. With the participation of the local authorities, partners and refugees, various activities were conducted; including music and face-painting for children, graffiti art for youth, video screening and as well as activities for adults.

In Istanbul, UNHCR, in collaboration with the French Institute of Anatolian Studies (IFEA) and IOM, organized an event featured a presentation of Dr. Rama MANI on “The Art of Hospitality” and an interactive dialogue with the audiences at French Consulate. UNHCR Representative gave interviews to key media channels and highlighted the findings of the Global Trends Report.



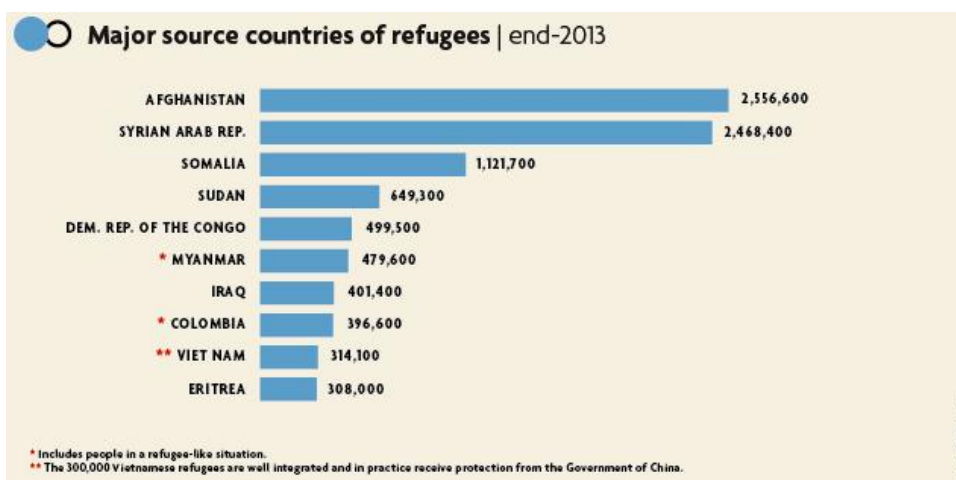
Refugee children hand-painting the wall of the IMC Multi-Service Center in Gaziantep at the occasion of World Refugee Day. photo: UNHCR/ E.Keller

Global forced displacement tops 50 million

UNHCR's annual Global Trends report shows 51.2 million people were forcibly displaced at the end of 2013, 6 million more than the 45.2 million reported in 2012. The number of refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people worldwide has, for the first time in the post-World War II era, exceeded 50 million people.

This massive increase was driven mainly by the war in Syria, which at the end of last year had forced 2.5 million people into becoming refugees and made 6.5 million internally displaced. Major new displacement was also seen in Africa – notably in Central African Republic and South Sudan.

Part of UNHCR's work is finding long-term solutions for people who become forcibly displaced. Where possible this is through voluntary return, but other possibilities include local integration or resettlement in third countries. The year 2013 saw the fourth lowest level of refugee returns in almost a quarter century – 414,600 people. Some 98,400 refugees were resettled in 21 countries.



RRP donors visit Turkey

A group of RRP donor representatives from Australia, Canada, EU, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Sweden and Switzerland visited Turkey in mid-June. The visit, organized by UNHCR HQ, aimed at providing donors with a timely, first-hand understanding of the Syrian operation in Turkey as well as coordinated efforts in support of the Government of Turkey. During the two-day visit, the donors were able to meet with local authorities, UN and NGOs, visit one camp as well as facilities out of camp, including coordination/ registration centres, schools, and community centres.

Other RRP donor country representatives have visited Jordan and Lebanon.



RRP Donor representatives visiting a Gaziantep Municipality school for Syrian children photo: UNHCR/E.Argunhan

Sector progress

Protection

UNHCR conducted a three-day workshop on international protection and RSD to a group of 45 national eligibility officers tasked with registration, documentation and interview of persons of concern in 32 provinces. The training topics covered were international refugee laws, RSD procedures, interview techniques, country of origin information, legal analysis, burden and standard of proof, relevant ECtHR case laws, as well as the Law on Foreigners and International Protection and relevant circulars.

Under its project of *Assisted Voluntary Return*, IOM organized a technical meeting with the participation of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the Border Gates Department of the General Directorate for Security and academia on preparation for SOPs on voluntary return of unaccompanied migrant children from Turkey. At the meeting UNHCR underlined the need to differentiate between migrant and asylum seeking/refugee children while drafting such SOPs and referred to international standards concerning the return of asylum seeking/refugee UAMs, relevant BID procedures as well as necessary legal safeguards.

Assistance

UNHCR expanded its warehouse in Gaziantep to include a second facility with a capacity of 6,600 square metres. Another 45 containers (40 foot) arrived during the reporting weeks with sleeping mats, kitchen sets and blankets. UNHCR is preparing for the distribution to both non-camp and camp Syrian refugees.

Education

UNHCR, UNESCO and UNICEF hosted a three-day sub-regional conference in Amman, Jordan on scaling up quality education provision for Syrian refugees and children in vulnerable host communities. The meeting was attended by the UN, NGOs and government representatives from six countries hosting large numbers of Syrian refugees. The Turkish National Ministry of Education, GDMM and AFAD sent representatives as well. The main issues discussed were the expansion of access to formal education, defining the role and assuring the quality of non-formal education programmes, and the use of distance learning and addressing barriers to educational participation and achievement.

Donor Countries of UNHCR's Regional Syrian Refugee Programme for Turkey:



Other Donor Countries contributing to UNHCR's Regional Syrian Refugee Programme in alphabetical order including un-earmarked funding:



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