

The Situation of Education for Syrian Children - March 2014



OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- Story of Self- We – Now
- Situation Framework and Overview
- Results Achieved in 2013
- Targets for 2014 – Philosophy
 - No Lost Generation
 - Program Priorities
 - Innovation

In Numbers

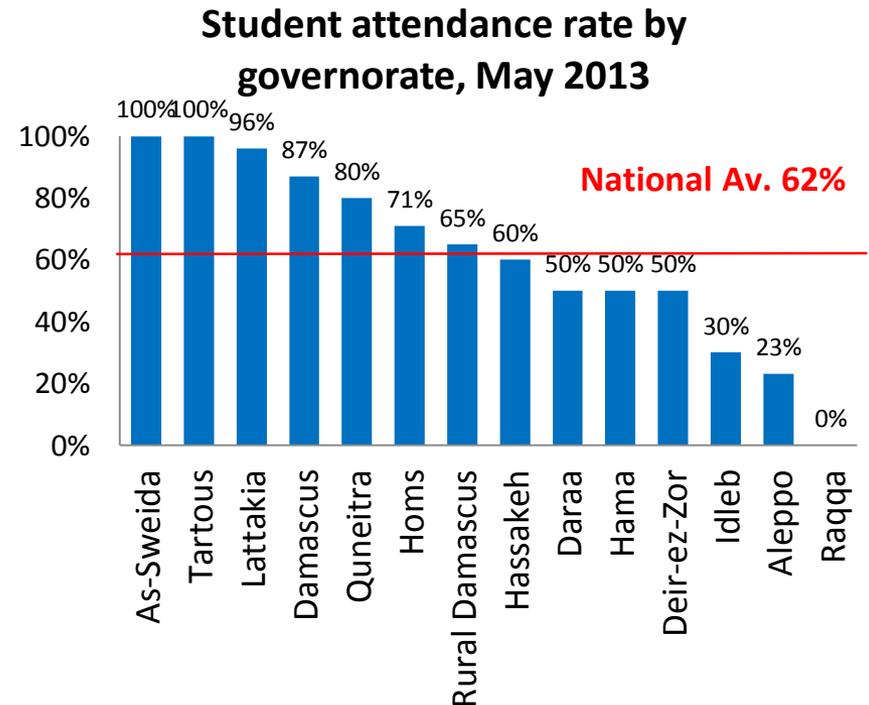
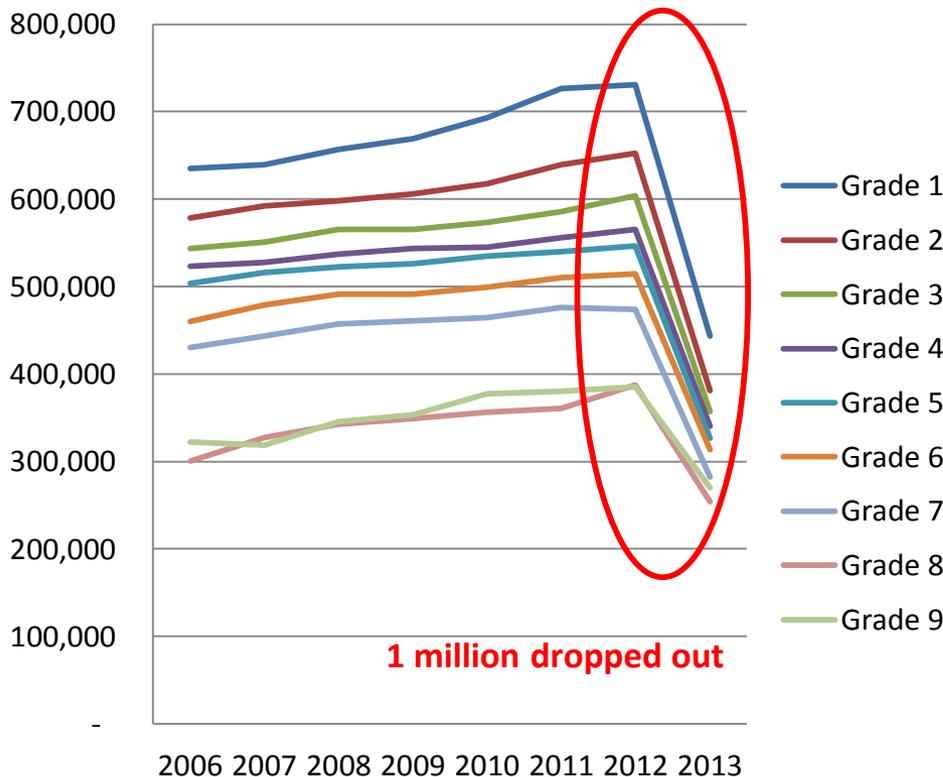
- More than 5.5 million children affected by this crisis. (3m+ Syria, 1m+ neighboring countries)
- More than half -56%- of those in need are children.
- Nearly 3m of them are out of school (40% of all children of all age).
- 10,000 lost their lives in conflict.
- 20% of Syria's schools are destroyed or used as shelters.

The Situation in Syria

- **On-going conflict and mass displacement** (500,000 in Aleppo since December)
- **Grave child rights violations** continue; schools remain militarized
- **Lack of sustained humanitarian access** to 3.5 million people; 220,000 people under siege
- Convoys: **immensely restrictive administrative barriers**
- Few authorized INGO/approved local NGO partners
- Aid workers kidnapped/killed (13 UN staff, 32 SARC members killed)
- **Limited MoE capacity**, including finances, HR and information management.

Education Situation in Syria

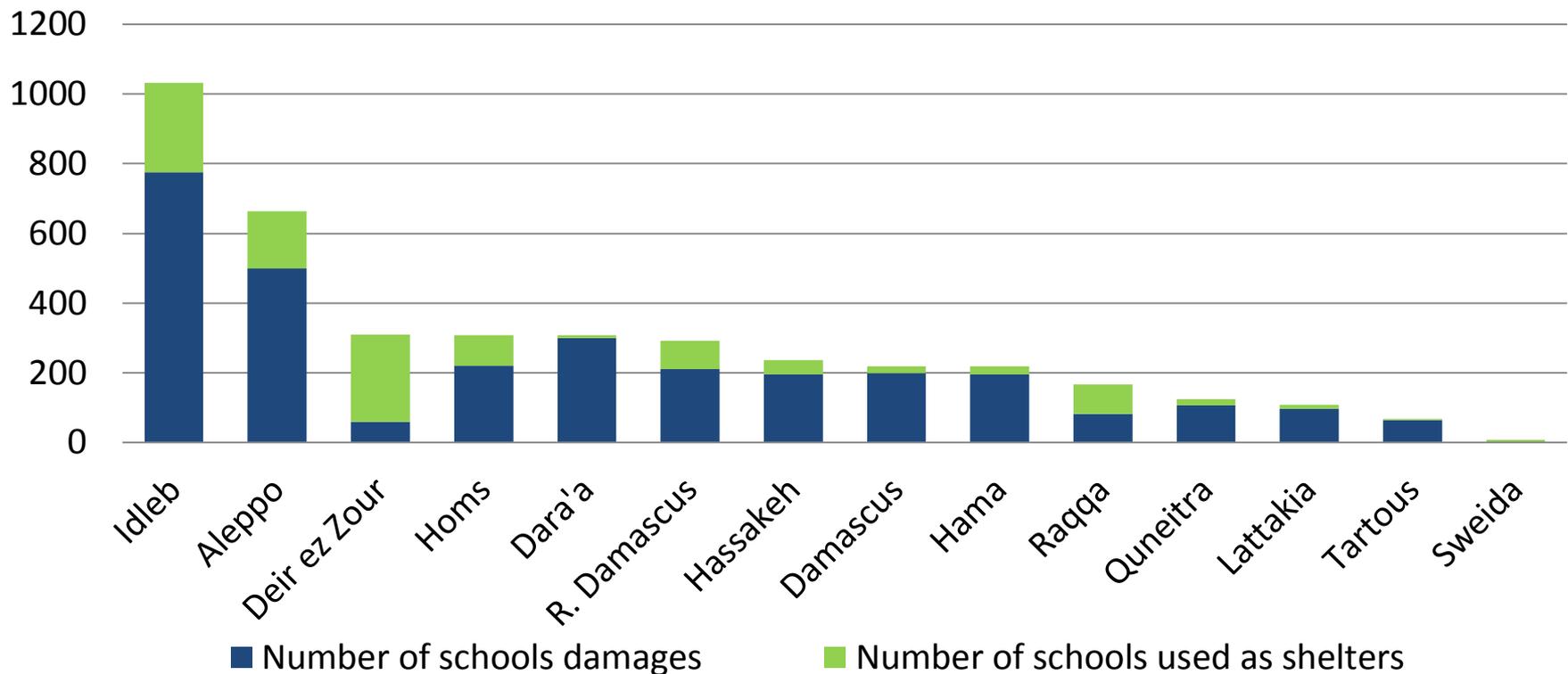
- Nearly one million children dropped out and another million unable to go to school regularly
- Low attendance: 23% Aleppo; 30% Idleb; 50% Hama, Daraa & Deir ez Zor.
- Increasing evidence of girls kept at home for fear of their safety.



Education Situation in Syria

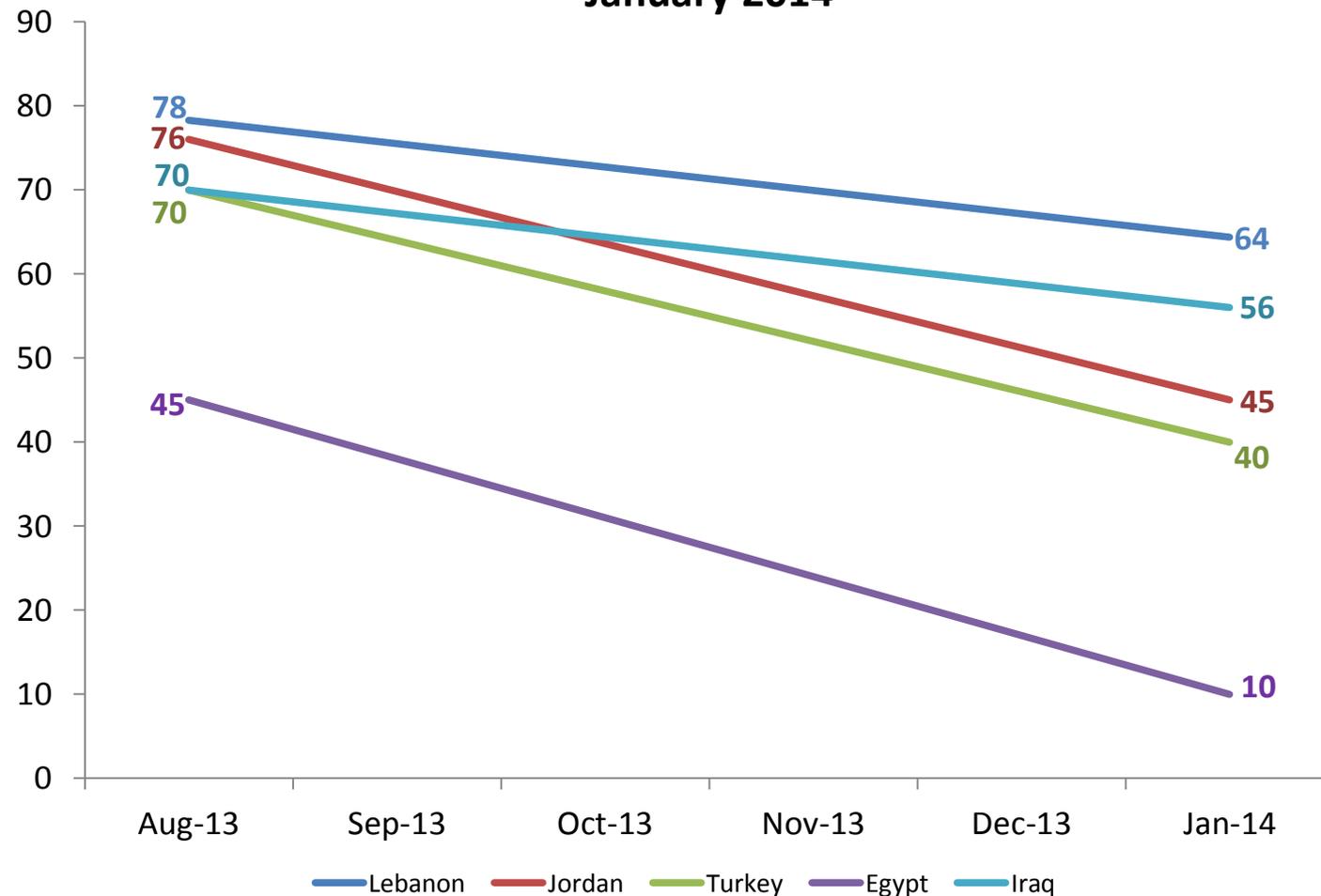
- 4,057 schools - one in five - not functioning as learning facilities.
- Fewer teachers; congested classrooms with an influx of IDP children; and shorter and/or disrupted class hours.
- A shortage of school furniture, text books, teaching and learning materials, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities is reported.

Number of schools damaged and used as shelters, December 2013



Trend of Syrian OOSC in host countries

Trend of Syrian OOSC in host countries:
36% decrease of Syrian OOSC from August 2013 to January 2014



SYRIA

Around **1.9m+** children dropped out of school (**900,000+** left the country) and **1.3m** are at risk of dropping out of school (academic year 2012-2013)

SUB-REGION

More than **773,000 registered school-age children** (out of estimated **900,000+** that left)

More than **386,000 OOSC** (nearly 50%)

2013 Results – STORY OF WE

Together we have achieved...

Syria Crisis Results in 2013

SYRIA

- UNICEF and MoE “Back to Learning” campaign promoted enrolment and provided school supplies to 1 million children
- School clubs reached 286,000 children with remedial education and psychosocial support
- Self-learning materials and risk education curriculum prepared for roll out in 2014

HOST COUNTRIES

- 285,550 students were enrolled in formal education
- 76,000 children were accessing non-formal and informal education
- 224,000 children received education supplies, grants and other support to participate in school
- 73,800 children received psycho-social support and participated in structured recreation activities
- 670 educational facilities assisted and supported

Syria Crisis Response

SYRIA

- Prefabs, WASH in schools, school supplies, packages
- School clubs and remedial education (including PSS)
- **Development of risk education and training packages in collaboration with CP**
- **Self-learning materials based on Syrian curriculum**

HOST COUNTRIES

- Construction and rehabilitation, WASH in schools
- Distribution of school supplies, provision of fees, enrolment campaigns
- **Processes of standardization**
- **Monitoring systems and education needs assessments**
- **Gradual integration of humanitarian response into education sector plans**

2014 Targets – STORY OF NOW. Going Forward...

- Response parameters
- 2014 Program Priorities
- No Lost Generation Strategy
- Innovation

No Lost Generation

- ***As the crisis in Syria rages on, approaching its fourth terrible year, an entire generation of children is being shaped by violence, displacement, and a persistent lack of opportunity – and could be lost forever, with profound long-term consequences for Syria, the region, and beyond.***

No Lost Generation – Story of Now

- ***But we must act now, with urgency, in a coordinated global effort to champion the children of Syria and support neighboring nations affected by the crisis.***

Syria Crisis Response: No Lost Generation

- **Promoting strategic investment in education and protection** for the future of Syrian children
- **Positive role of youth** in promoting tolerance, reconciliation and peace-building.
- Broadening **opportunities for children and adolescents** including life-skills and vocational training.
- **Integrated as part of humanitarian and development planning processes** – SHARP 5, RRP6, Regional Comprehensive Strategy (OCHA), National Resilience Plans (Jordan), Stabilization plan and Education Proposal (Lebanon)
- Four Pillars:
 - Programme strategies
 - Partnership: Consolidation of Champions for children
 - Advocacy for No Lost Generation

2014 Syria Education Program Priorities – Example NLG Syria Application

1. Access and Quality:

3,900,000 children (3-15 years old) continue to learn with access to textbooks and teaching and learning materials.

2. Infrastructure:

300,000 children in 500 schools have access to safe, protective learning environment equipped with gender-sensitive sanitation facilities.

3. Psychosocial Support:

3,300 trained school teachers and counsellors provide psychosocial support and recreational activities for the affected-children.

4. Alternative Education:

A total of 1,000,000 children and 30,000 adolescents – internally displaced and/or out of school – have access to alternative education opportunities – i.e. rollout of self-learning, remedial education, scholarship, peace building, and vocational and life skills for youth empowerment.

Innovation

Syria Virtual School: Context

Curriculum & Certification in Syria:

- Developed self-learning material with UNRWA & MoE
- Syrian curriculum grades 1 to 9 (Arabic, English, math and sciences)
- Uncertainty of accreditation of non-formal learning by NGOs/ charities
- IDP children face registration problems (documentation, lost learning time)

Curricula & Certification in host countries:

- **Lebanon:** ALP curriculum developed with MoE; standardization & certification on-going
- **Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt:** National curriculum with certification by MoE; not clear if it will be recognized in Syria
- **Turkey:** Syrian Education Commission revised Syrian curriculum and distributed textbooks distributed in Turkey, Syria (opposition areas), Iraq (KRG). However, Syrian National Coalition cannot provide certification

Syria Virtual School

Objective: Provide Syrian children affected by the Syria crisis (both in Syria and in the host countries) with an online learning platform of the [Syrian curriculum](#) through an [interactive and multimedia-enhanced approach](#), together with an online [certification](#)

Potential:

- Reach more children, especially in NFE centers where majority of children are targeted
- Take off pressure from public provision but not replacing it
- Quality education through an interactive methodology
- Formal approach and certification without formally accredited teachers
- Engaging young people and communities in and around the centers and providing access to Syria Virtual University to young Syrians
- Reaching out to host communities with online support

Print versions of the self-learning programmes to be distributed to 300,000 children in Syria without regular access to the internet.

Story of All-In-One

- “Ourania, I am happy!”
- Conclusions – Food for Thought:
 - People always want to make a difference – it’s important to allow them the opportunity, no matter what to do just that. Even when they don’t know it yet.
 - If we’re going to make a difference, we need to go into the world, but, go together, and hold hands.
 - Human beings are deeply, intrinsically interested in one another. Education enables us to understand just that. Because...

- Change Only Happens when we allow ourselves to be open and fearless enough, brave enough, to truly connect with others, not role to role, but human being to human being.

THANK YOU

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