

January to September 2023

WHOLE OF SYRIA

Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP)

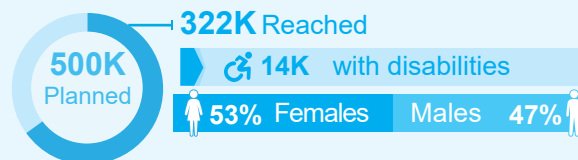


SITUATION

The most recent United Nations population estimates show that there are 4.6 million adolescents (ages 10-19) in Syria, representing **22.5 per cent of the population**. Projections show that the adolescent population could increase by 50 per cent from 2015 and 2050¹. The unemployment rate among adolescents is close to 75 per cent and is significantly higher among girls. The main challenges impeding adolescent labour force participation, and equal opportunities are: the high population growth rate; serious constraints on economic growth, especially private sector development; low levels of enterprise creation; high unemployment rates; difficult school to work transition; and gender inequalities affecting young women's entry into the labour market.

With limited opportunities, and uncertain about what the future has in store, **adolescents have grown increasingly disillusioned, frustrated and disempowered**. Adolescent boys are at risk of being killed and/or injured or being exploited in child labour. Gender-based violence, including child marriage remains high in Syria, and is significantly higher in displacement settings due to the humanitarian crisis, with poverty and reduced capacity to prevent norms that accept violence against women and children as underlying factors².

Beneficiaries



ADAP reach by severity



ADAP reach by access quality



Funding status (\$) **12.4M REQUIRED**



1 UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office, Generation 2030, 2019

2 UNICEF, Situation Analysis of Women and Children, 2018.

RESPONSE

UNICEF contributes to strengthening and improving access to skills development programming and meaningful engagement opportunities for young people especially those who are not in education, employment and training, youth with disabilities and those at risk of early marriage or internally displaced.

- ▶ **Innovation:** UNICEF supports innovation and entrepreneurship through Human-Centered Design and Generation Unlimited where youth and adolescents are supported to design their own projects which address issues and challenges that facing their communities.
- ▶ **Skills Development:** UNICEF provides adolescents and youth with Life Skills training focusing on Personal Empowerment and Active Citizenship. Young people learn about their strengths, identify issues affecting their resilience and define activities that address those issues.
- ▶ **Entrepreneurship and technical vocational training:** UNICEF supports the transition of youth and adolescents from learning to earning through entrepreneurship and technical vocational training on topics including electronics repair, web design, graphic design, accounting and languages.

- ▶ **Social, Civic and Digital Engagement:** UNICEF supports young people to practice the skills they have acquired, and develop, implement, and lead initiatives to address issues of importance to them and their community. They are provided with incubation and mentorship sessions as well as guidance, tools and materials. Young people are also connected to local volunteer opportunities to enhance their teamwork, employability and social cohesion.
- ▶ **Sports for Development:** UNICEF supports activities where young people from different educational backgrounds, genders, abilities and locations participate together in friendly sports matches to develop their well-being, raise their awareness on a healthy lifestyle and foster acceptance of others.

