No Lost Generation E-Newsletter
July 2020 - Issue 13

NLG: more necessary than ever

Dear partners and supporters of the No Lost Generation initiative, much has happened since our previous newsletter of December 2019, bringing additional challenges to the lives of children, adolescents and young people affected by the Syria and Iraq Crisis.

The Syrian crisis is entering its tenth year, putting four in five children from Syria, 7.5 million, in need of assistance. Nearly 6 million children know nothing but war: close to 5 million in Syria were born into the war and more than 1 million were born as refugees.

Since 2012, the number of Syrian refugee children in neighboring countries has increased more than ten-fold, up to 2.5 million, and 2.6 million children have been displaced inside Syria. Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey host 83 per cent of the total number of Syrian refugees globally, creating a social and economic strain on host countries. 2.8 million children are out of school: 2 million inside Syria and 800,000 amongst refugee children. A child is killed every 10 hours in Syria, with close to 6,000 children killed since the start of the conflict. Syria has the highest numbers of verified attacks on education and health: 262 in 2019. In other words, at least one school or hospital was attacked every second day in Syria during 2019.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures to contain it have made things worse in so many ways. Education services in Syria and in host countries have been severely disrupted and most vulnerable

Resources
A selection of documents produced by, or relevant to the NLG initiative. For all current or previously mentioned resources, please visit the NLG Resource Repository.
children face increased difficulties to access remote learning opportunities that have been put in place, whether for limited connection or because many families are pushed to negative coping responses, such as child labour or child marriage.

COVID-19 has also aggravated the levels of stress and anxiety among children and adults and has a great impact on adolescents who feel isolated, as they have seen their connections with peers even more limited than before the pandemic.

However, as we celebrated World’s Refugee Day on the 20th of June, we were reminded of the resilience of children, adolescents and youth around the world and the need to strengthen our efforts to ensure their rights are fulfilled.

Recently, in the context of the IV Brussels Conference on the Future of Syria, co-organized by the European Union and United Nations, on 29th June a webinar was organized by NLG partners and the Government of Luxembourg to bring the voices and concerns of children to the international community gathering the following day at the Brussels Conference. The webinar was attended by more than 160 participants and was an opportunity to hear the voices of two young Syrians, as well as other important stakeholders. NLG released the same day key advocacy messages to all stakeholders.

Participants at the IV Brussels Conference announced their pledges for both Syria and the region: US$ 5.5 billion for 2020 and multi-year pledges of close to US$ 2.2 billion for 2021 and beyond.

As we start the second half of such a complex year, it is clear that today is more necessary than ever to continue advocating for education, child protection, and engagement for refugee children, adolescents and youth. No Lost Generation partners are diligently working along those three pillars, as well as on initiatives on early child marriage, mental health and psycho-social support, early childhood development, and curriculum, accreditation, and certification studies.
No Lost Generation Advocacy Messages
NLG Side-Event Webinar and launching of the NLG Advocacy Report
In preparation for the Brussels IV Conference on the Future of Syria and the Region, on June 29th the No Lost Generation initiative held the webinar “Keeping the Promise of a “No Lost Generation”: Protecting, Educating and Listening to the Voice of Syria’s Children, Adolescents and Young People,” co-organized by the Government of Luxembourg and No Lost Generation. The discussion focused on how the EU and the broader international community can contribute to a brighter future for Syria's children through education and child protection.

"I Want to Continue to Study" - Human Rights Watch

"I Want to Continue to Study": Barriers to Secondary Education for Syrian Refugee Children in Jordan, documents the ways that refugee children confront increasingly difficult obstacles to education the further they progress in school. Yet humanitarian education plans have not set specific enrollment or other goals for secondary education, and international donors have not provided any substantial support targeting this age group. Education programs for out-of-school children ages 12 to 17 are reaching only a small fraction of children in need.

Stolen Future: War and Child Marriage in Northwest Syria

To mark the fourth Brussels Conference and the tenth year of the Syria crisis World Vision launched Stolen Future: War and Child Marriage in Northwest Syria.

The Report draws on research undertaken by World Vision and Partners between January and April 2020 during the displacement of close to one million people in northwest Syria, reveals the harrowing realities
faced by children including a significant increase in child marriage with the practice widely reported by close to 90 percent of Syrian children and adults.

Conflict and insecurity, poverty, and displacement were identified as the leading drivers of the increased rates of forced and early marriage, with additional and emerging drivers identified including the use of social media and challenges posed to family honour.

*Photography by World Vision ©*

Read more about Stolen Future: War and Child Marriage

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**UNFPA Gender Based Violence in Covid-19**

UNFPA has launched advocacy packets supporting Gender Based Violence, particularly in the time of Covid-19 sharing examples of innovative approaches in MENA countries.

Read more about UNFPA's GBV Resources

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**FROM THE FIELD:**

War Child Holland- No Lost Generation Small acts as a huge step in Lebanon
War Child is working to protect remote and refugee communities against the spread of COVID-19 through child-friendly public health messaging through social media, WhatsApp and SMS. Working with local youth groups War Child is distributing hygiene packages in all project locations.

As we can't currently reach children and caregivers directly – The Lebanon team have launched audios and videos to raise awareness on the coronavirus and is working to uphold the wellbeing of children and families through WhatsApp messages including audio wellbeing for caregivers, stories, fun and relaxation activities for children.

Read more about War Child's Covid-19 Response

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**Reach Up & Learn ECD Programming**

Read more about Ahlan Simsim's Reach Up and Learn program here
Previous Events

Keeping Promise for the No Lost Generation: Protecting, Educating, and Listening to the Voice of Syria’s Children, Adolescent, and Youth
Date: June 29th, 2020
The No Lost Generation partners launched key advocacy messages on the Syria crisis during the Brussels Conference. The NLG initiative sought to ensure that children’s needs and concerns were heard as part of the Brussels Conference. The webinar reflected on achievements, challenges, and recommendations to host governments, authorities in Syria and the donor community. The session was aligned with NLG’s key advocacy messages and focused on ensuring an environment for children, adolescents and youth’s well-being. The No Lost Generation initiative launched a NLG Advocacy Brief, NLG Advocacy Package, and a short video of the NLG Adolescent and Youth Voices.

Brussels IV Syria Conference
Date: June 30th
The Brussels IV Conference on "Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region" (Brussels IV) which was co-chaired by the European Union and the United Nations is a major pledging event for the region. Read more about the outcomes of the event here.

MHPSS Multi-Stakeholder Meeting
Date: July 8th
The MHPSS Task Force of NLG was established in March 2019 with the aim to improve the coordination and quality of the MHPSS response for children, adolescents and youth. The multi-stakeholders webinar presented the mapping results of MHPSS programmes targeting children, adolescents and youth and their parents/caregivers in Syria and from Syria and Iraq crises affected countries – Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. For final results read the MHPSS Mapping Executive Summary.

No Lost Generation Partners
Donors who have supported No Lost Generation since its inception include: