Focus on Education: The new school year began on 13 September 2015 in Syria. UNRWA has opened 99 schools throughout the country to provide primary education to approximately 43,000 Palestine refugee children. Out of 99 schools, 44 are UNRWA facilities and 55 are hosted in schools provided by the Ministry of Education. Two UNRWA schools were recently reopened in Husseiniyeh, following the return of refugees to the area, after remaining closed for over two years, as the neighbourhood was deserted. To date, 3,085 students (1,489 boys and 1,596 girls) have been able to return to their school in Husseiniyeh, some of them for the first time in years.

Textbooks were distributed to all students, and teachers received tools to help them identify vulnerable students. Teachers also received additional training to help them use the Agency’s human rights toolkit. Building on the successful first phase of the roll-out of self-learning materials for over 11,300 students in conflict-affected areas of Syria, UNRWA is working with UNICEF to expand the outreach and impact of this innovation throughout the country for Syrian and Palestinian students alike.