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Lebanon
Influx of Syrian Refugees

Key Facts

Lebanon is one third the size of Belgium.

**1.18 million**
Syrian refugees have fled to Lebanon since 2011.

Today, there is one refugee for every four Lebanese in the country.

Four years of instability have depleted the resources of many refugee families. Today, nearly a third of refugees rely exclusively on humanitarian assistance.

| Belgium | 11.2 million | 1,904 asylum applications per month in 2014 |
| Lebanon | 4.4 million | 36,806 Syrian refugees registered per month in 2014 |
Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
Government Policy and Protection Concerns
March 2015

Lebanon is not a state party to the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees or to its 1967 Protocol. It does not have specific legislation or administrative practices in place to manage a refugee influx of modest, let alone mass proportions.

UNHCR has operated in Lebanon for more than 50 years, working alongside the Government of Lebanon (GOL) to respond to the needs of persons displaced to and within Lebanon. The refugee population in the country mushroomed from less than 10,000 mostly Iraqis prior to the Syria crisis to 400,000 Syrian refugees in early 2013 and a million in early 2014. The country now hosts close to 1.2 million Syrian refugees in addition to 280,000 Palestinian Refugees and 46,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria.

The Syrian crisis has brought enormous challenges, yet despite these challenges, the more than 1 million Syrians who have fled to Lebanon have been protected. The UN characterizes the flight of civilians from Syria as a refugee movement and considers that most Syrians seeking international protection are likely to fulfil the requirements of the refugee definition. Lebanon considers that it is subject to a situation of mass influx and refers to individuals who fled from Syria to Lebanon after March 2011 as “displaced Syrians.” This term reflects the Government’s position that permanent settlement in Lebanon is not possible.

Security climate
The ongoing conflict throughout Syria has directly impacted the security situation in Lebanon, which can be described as tense, volatile and highly unpredictable.

Increased combat activities in Syria have had a direct impact on the situation in Lebanon, especially in the North and North-Eastern parts of the country. Frequent border incidents, such as cross-border shelling, surface to surface rocket attacks, air to surface missiles, and an increase in various types of terrorist attacks negatively influence the security climate in these areas.
Fighting which erupted in Arsal between Lebanese security forces and elements of the Nusra Front and Islamic State in mid-2014 had significant and enduring effects on the security operating environment throughout the country. The brutal killing of several Lebanese service personnel held captive by armed groups on the outskirts of Arsal and the fate of over 25 captives have ensured the continuation of the crisis since these initial clashes.

Armed elements continue their infiltration attempts across the Syrian border, mainly on the outskirts of Arsal and Ras Baalbeck, North Bekaa, targeting Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF). The current conflict in the Zabadani area of Syria led to heightened security measures in areas of Central Bekaa, contiguous to the region and heightened fears of militant incursions there from Syria. While snow has rendered a large scale offensive by extremist elements into Lebanon unlikely, an improvement in the weather may lead to increased risks of infiltration and large-scale confrontation on the border. This risk remains heightened if heavy fighting on the Syrian side continues and armed elements are pushed towards Lebanon.

The situation along the Southern border with Israel remains extremely volatile, particularly, in the area of the disputed Chebaa farms. On 28 January 2015, Hezbollah targeted an Israeli patrol along the Blue Line with anti-tank weapons and killed a number of IDF personnel. Israel retaliated with artillery fire into Lebanese territory. In addition to material damage caused, one of the shells directly hit a UNIFIL position and resulted in the death of one Spanish UN peacekeeper.

**Government Policy and Refugees**

Since the beginning of the Syria crisis, successive governments have struggled to confront and manage what has been dubbed the greatest threat to Lebanon since the country came to existence in 1943. In 2012, at the urging of UNHCR, Lebanon's Prime Minister formed an Inter-Ministerial Committee to manage the refugee response, with the Minister of Social Affairs as the co-originator. This was a difficult job given the lack of firm engagement of other implicated Ministries, and the absence of capacity of within the Ministry to fully manage the response.

In February 2014, a new Government was formed. Within the first six months, a Crisis Cell was created to deal with the issue of Syrian refugees. The Minister of Social Affairs, Rashid Derbas, retained responsibility for the overall coordination of the response, however, the new Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gebran Bassil, early on expressed his commitment to greater engagement, in particular to reducing the total number of Syrians in Lebanon.

By spring 2014, with refugee numbers reaching 1 million, the Government began to more vocally express concerns about the influx. These were further amplified in May when scores of people flocked to the Syrian embassy to vote in the Syrian presidential elections. Notwithstanding reports that Syrians were coerced into public displays of support for the regime and that Lebanese nationals posed as Syrians, the visuals of this had a galvanizing effect.

In June, the GOL issued a policy statement articulating the following goals: 1) deny access to Syrians coming from areas which are not contiguous to Lebanon; 2) review the status of refugees and remove refugee status from those who are in Lebanon for economic reasons or who have travelled back to Syria since arriving in Lebanon; 3) promote the establishment of camps inside Syria or in the no-man’s land between the two countries.

The first step GOL took in implementing this policy was to ask UNHCR to review the cases of all Syrians registered with the Office who had gone to Syria and returned to Lebanon after June 1, 2014. Pursuant to that, GOL provided data on 1.5 million cross border movements of Syrians in
June and July for UNHCR to review. The Office analysed the data provided, identifying and reviewing 36,000 cases, 16,000 of which were ultimately inactivated.

Meanwhile, new registrations continued at an average of 10,000 per week. Beginning in August, following clashes in the north-western border town of Arsal, the GOL imposed border restrictions – beginning in the north and moving to the main Masnaa crossing in the east by the end of September - with a view to stop refugee movements into Lebanon, save for exceptional cases.

In October 2014, the Crisis Cell presented to the Cabinet a new refugee policy, which received approval. The policy is a one-page articulation of three main goals:

1. Reduce the numbers of refugees by, among other, stopping refugees’ entry into Lebanon (except for unpredicted exceptional humanitarian cases) and encouraging Syrian refugees to return to their country or other countries by all possible means.
2. Ensure security though the implementation of security measures including requiring municipalities to keep a census of refugees and the strengthening of municipal policing.
3. Ease the burden by preventing Syrians from working unlawfully, ensuring humanitarian assistance benefits refugees and vulnerable host communities equally and securing direct funding to state institutions through the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) and through special programs to develop the Lebanese economy.

Throughout the fall, following the adoption of the October policy, the GOL initiated a series of measures which gradually restricted the flow of refugees into Lebanon. Subsequently, on December 31, January 13 and February 3, the GOL announced a new set of regulations which significantly reduced eligibility for admission, residency, and regularization. Additionally, in January and February, the LAF issued a series of eviction notices in the Bekaa, threatening to evict nearly 9,000 persons from settlements near the border. Lebanon has, until now, demonstrated remarkable tolerance and generosity towards Syrian refugees. However, official rhetoric vis-à-vis the refugee presence has grown considerably more hostile since August, most notably by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and to some extent by the Minister of Social Affairs. There are an increasing number of indications that after accepting more one million refugees, Lebanese generosity has begun to reach its limits.

Protection Environment and Challenges

Admission to the country

Overall admissions have reduced significantly since August, with requests for UNHCR registration appointments decreasing by 56% in the last quarter of 2014. In comparison to January 2014, monthly requests for registration have decreased by 78%.

In December, the GOL announced the basis upon which admissibility will be determined. As of 31 December, all Syrians wishing to enter Lebanon are required to state the purpose of their visit. In addition to valid identity documents, they must also have proof of the purpose of their visit. The new regulations provide a shorter period of legal stay (ranging from 24 hours to six months, based...
on the purpose of travel\textsuperscript{1}) than the previous policy, which granted six months renewable for all Syrians.

Government public announcements also clarified that the measures did not pertain to refugees. Refugees would not be admitted to Lebanon unless for exceptional humanitarian reasons. Although not yet finalized, MOSA has indicated that four categories of persons are presently being considered for inclusion in the humanitarian exceptions. These are:

\begin{itemize}
\item Unaccompanied/separated children (under 16 years old) whose parents/legal guardians are confirmed to be displaced in Lebanon;
\item Persons with disabilities dependent on family/relatives confirmed to be displaced in Lebanon;
\item Persons needing life-saving medical treatment not usually available in Syria, or not available in a timely manner; and,
\item Individuals pursuing resettlement or transitioning through Lebanon to a third country, with proof of onward travel outside Lebanon.
\end{itemize}

The GOL has made it clear that it is committed to providing for humanitarian exceptions provided those exceptions are limited in scope. In light of these constraints – and in order to provide for entry to those at most immediate risk – UNHCR proposes the addition of the following two categories: 1) civilians who are fleeing an immediate risk of harm; 2) civilians with acute vulnerabilities likely to severely deteriorate. UNHCR also urges that if a humanitarian exception is applied to an individual, it also includes his or her accompanying family members so that families are not separated at the border.

**Residency renewals**

Since late January 2015, Syrians registered with UNHCR can renew their residence permit for six months within Lebanon provided they pay a fee of USD 200 and present a UNHCR registration certificate valid for at least six months, a housing commitment signed by the landlord and endorsed by the \textit{Mukhtar} and a signed and notarized pledge by the refugee not to work and, in some cases, including a pledge to leave the country upon expiry of their residence permit or when requested to do so by the GOL.

The USD 200 fee remains prohibitive for most refugees and therefore, there is a serious risk that most refugees will lose their legal status. They will be vulnerable to arrest and detention, and will face obstacles in securing civil documentation and assistance provided through public institutions, in particular as they will limit their movements. Moreover, the requirement of providing a ‘house commitment’ is a serious obstacle given that most do not have a lease agreement. For the relatively few who do, they will be vulnerable to pressure by landlords; these requirements impose a hurdle which is ripe for abuse.

Syrians who are not registered with UNHCR must secure a Lebanese sponsor to renew their temporary residence permit for a period of six months. Those who have resided in Lebanon for one year will also have to pay a fee of USD 200 and provide four other documents from Municipalities and landowners in order to demonstrate that they have secured housing. Lebanese families can only sponsor one Syrian individual or family and not for work purposes. Commercial or agricultural enterprises can sponsor Syrian workers, provided they can justify the need for the worker to the GSO.

\textsuperscript{1} These include tourism, business, ownership of property in Lebanon, study, transit, medical, and appointments in foreign embassies: each requiring specific documentary evidence.
These very stringent criteria have implications for UNHCR in that Syrians unable to meet the requirements may be motivated to seek registration as refugees, potentially resulting in a larger numbers of individuals registered with UNHCR. Although it is too early to draw conclusions, UNHCR noted an increase in requests by single males for registration appoints since January.

Arrests, detentions and raids
Currently, there are 1,408 Syrians in detention. Among them, 467 are registered with UNHCR. As imaginable, Syrians are detained more frequently for immigration related offenses. Persons that are arrested solely for illegal entry/stay are habitually released within 48 hours, as provided for under Lebanese Law. The DGGS has facilitated UNHCR access to Syrians detained at its detention facility, including those not yet registered.

Following serious security incidents in Arsal throughout August and September 2014, the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) and law enforcement authorities imposed stricter security measures including some impacting Syrian refugees directly. Most notable are security searches, including in informal settlements, during which authorities look for weapons, cash or wanted persons. At least 129 raids targeting refugee settlements have been registered between August and December 2014, and 38 raids have been reported to UNHCR in 2015. These have occurred throughout Lebanon, with the largest proportion of incidents in Tripoli and the Bekaa. During these searches, Syrian refugees have been arrested and detained with most being released in a matter of hours or days and a small number transferred to prosecution for minor crimes, such as irregular entry or failing to have a motorbike license.

Evictions
Over 11,000 people were evicted from collective sites (informal settlements and collective shelters) in 2014. The number of evictions or threats of evictions rose in the period of post-August hostilities in Arsal. Initially, evictions were concentrated in areas within 500 meters of LAF checkpoints/structures. However, since 1 December 2014, the LAF broadened its criteria, resulting in a rise in eviction notices and/or partial/complete evictions of informal settlements. UNHCR has seen an increase in evictions since then with a further 3,850 people evicted in the initial months of 2015 and a further 28,000 people remaining at risk of eviction.

Refoulement
Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR have received protection in Lebanon. Although Syrians with expired or without legal status are by law given self-deportation orders, the GOL has not enforced the deportation of Syrian refugees. Refoulement due to rejection at the border, however, is a significant concern. Border control checkpoints have recently been erected on the Syrian side of the border, which refugees must pass through before they reach Lebanese processing facilities. Now, without regular access to monitor rejections in this area, the magnitude of the problem is difficult to ascertain.

Birth registration
At the end of February 2015, UNHCR has registered close to 51,000 Syrian children born in Lebanon. A survey conducted in 2014 indicates that close to 70 per cent of new-borns do not have birth certificates. The procedure for birth registration in Lebanon is lengthy and complex, with each step presenting a number of barriers for parents. Evidence of legal stay and lack of awareness about procedures are also impeding factors. UNHCR is working with the Ministry of Interior to remove these obstacles.

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2 The one notable exception to this policy occurred in August 2012, when a number of Syrians, including four who wished to see UNHCR, were deported to much public outcry.
Community relations
Relations between communities in the country, including refugees, were considerably strained in the immediate aftermath of the Arsal events of August\(^1\) manifested through the erection of roadblocks, tit-for-tat kidnappings between various groups and attacks on informal settlements, particularly in the Bekaa. Calls for restraint were issued at both the local and national levels and authorities took immediate action. Although relations remain tense in some areas, there have been few major incidents between Syrians and host community members.

Program highlights and challenges
Registration
In the last quarter of 2014, every week an average of 3,700 persons approached UNHCR seeking registration in one of UNHCR’s four registration centres in Lebanon. This represented a significant drop from highs of nearly 22,000 in July 2013. Refugees are registered using iris scan biometric technology. Each refugee is personally interviewed and needs are assessed. UNHCR’s registration operation in Lebanon is one of the largest and most complex urban registration programmes in the world.

Shelter
Eighty one per cent of refugees rent their accommodation, with the average rent being USD 200 per month. Finding appropriate accommodation is a constant concern and as their resources decrease, incidences of evictions rise. The most recent survey indicated that some 68% of all refugees are estimated to rent apartments, often sharing small basic lodgings with other refugee families in overcrowded conditions. The remaining 32% live in fragile environments such as tents in informal settlements, and sub-standard shelter including garages, worksites and unfinished buildings. UNHCR and partners prioritise improving shelter for those in the most insecure dwellings, particularly those in informal settlements, garages, warehouses, and unfinished buildings.

Camps
UNHCR and MOSA identified possible land for medium sized formal sites (10,000-20,000 persons), principally in the Bekaa Valley. These did not receive government approval. The Government policy in May 2014 called for camps in border areas which UNHCR cautioned is not advisable given that border areas are not secured by the Lebanese security forces, and that camps in such volatile areas could be used for rest and recuperation by armed fighters, for recruitment; be targeted by warring factions, aggravating insecurity already present in the border areas. Events in Arsal have borne this out. As of yet, there has been no political consensus around the establishment of camps in any part of Lebanon, however, following a wave of eviction notices in informal settlements in February 2015, UNHCR has renewed its advocacy on this issue, advocating for the approval of a refugee camp for the most vulnerable.

Education
Around 50% of the population of concern are children (635,000 children, of which 400,000 are of school-age\(^4\)). Enrolment and retention rates remain low. The Ministry of Education launched a three-year strategy, Reaching All Children with Education (RACE) in Lebanon in May 2014 that aims to enrol more than 400,000 children in education by 2016. UNHCR, along with UNICEF, is a member of the RACE Executive Committee and supports the initiative through coordination.

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\(^{3}\) For more information, see Security note.

\(^{4}\) Children aged five to 17.
secondment of staff to central and regional offices to ensure information management and monitoring, and provides equipment and material support to schools and regional offices.

In academic year 2013-2014, with increased support to Lebanese public schools and the creation of second shifts some 90,000 refugee children were assisted to enrol in public schools. So far, in academic year 2014-2015, some 100,000 refugee children have been assisted to enrol in public schools.

Ultimately, given the high number of children remaining out of school, UNHCR and partners are reviewing options and all possible alternatives to ensure that refugee children are provided with access to education. Efforts to facilitate access to non-formal education and increase linkages between these and the formal education system remain key to bridging the gap between the school system’s absorption capacity and the increasing number of school age refugee children in Lebanon.

Health
UNHCR, through its implementing partners, has agreements with 35 primary health care centres, 5 mobile medical units and 65 hospitals, allowing refugees to access health services at reduced rates. In 2014, an average of 88,000 refugees per month accessed primary health care services from all partners. At the primary health care level, clinics suffer from shortages of essential medicine supplies, especially for treatment of chronic diseases, reduced healthcare staff and short working hours, leading refugees to seek treatment for minor health issues at hospitals which are largely privatized and very costly. UNHCR and partners prioritise strengthening the primary health care sector to address the reproductive, mental and nutritional health needs of the refugee population. Basic medicines are provided to supplement the supply in primary health centres. Improved availability and quality of primary health care would help to decrease the need for more expensive hospitalisations.

UNHCR support for secondary health care focuses on life-saving and emergency care, supporting in 2014 an average of 4,800 hospitalisations a month. Due to the extremely high cost of health care and limited resources, many persons in need of chronic and hospital care go unsupported.

Water and Sanitation
The presence of refugees in local communities has put pressure on existing infrastructure and resources including drinking water, which is scarce in Lebanon. Access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in areas hosting Syrian refugees has deteriorated over recent months. The most urgent requirement is to ensure continuous access to safe water at a household level and basic sanitation facilities. Twenty-seven per cent of refugee families lack access to potable water and twenty nine per cent lack access to adequate sanitation facilities. A water strategy was adopted to address anticipated water shortages in the summer of 2014 and this included the mapping of areas at risk of water scarcity. This enabled a number of humanitarian agencies to access USD 4.4 million dollars in funding through the UNOCHA Emergency Response Fund (ERF) for the implementation of 16 emergency water supply projects. In addition, UNHCR has selected companies to design multiple projects worth 14.8 million Euro.

Institutional and community support
Institutional and community support projects made up 19.6% of the RRP6 and makes up 37% of the 2015 LCRP for all agencies. In 2014, UNHCR dedicated 15% of its operational budget for this sector as a critical means to assist Lebanese institutions and communities, address impacts of the presence of refugees and help ease communal tensions. To date, UNHCR has committed USD 80 million in institutional support to the Ministries of Education, Public Health, Water and
Energy, Social Affairs and Interior and Municipalities. In 2014, local communities benefitted from USD 93.3 million in direct support (including USD 9.7 million from UNHCR), while Lebanese institutions received a total of USD 77.9 million (including USD 50.5 million from UNHCR).

**Planning and Implementation**

On refugee matters, an extensive refugee coordination system is in place, steered by the Government, UNHCR, UNDP, RC/HC and working through nine sectors both in Beirut and in the field. Specialized agencies and relevant line ministries lead the sectors in their areas of expertise: Protection (MoSA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA), Shelter (MoSA, UNHCR), Basic Assistance (MoSA, UNHCR), Social Stability (MoSA, UNDP, UNHCR), Livelihoods (MoSA, UNDP), Food Security (MoSA, MoA, WFP, FAO), Health (MoPH, WHO, UNHCR), Education (MEHE, UNICEF, UNHCR), and Water & Sanitation (MoEW, UNICEF, UNHCR). NGOs participate in sector coordination, particularly in field locations.

Over 70 partners contribute to the humanitarian response as reflected in the RRP 6 and the recently released Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP). The latter forms the Lebanon chapter of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) which was launched on the 18th of December 2014 in Berlin.

Like previous plans, the LCRP includes humanitarian support for refugees as well as for Lebanese institutions and host communities. There is an increased emphasis on the latter in the text even though the relative budgets for the refugee and resilience response remains close to what it has been in previous years (63:37 as opposed to 70:30 in previous years).

UN agencies worked closely with the Government of Lebanon to agree upon a common text for the LCRP, making it a joint plan. Compromises were made by all parties in order to reach consensus on fairly sensitive issues (primarily related to some of the protection risks and vulnerabilities faced by refugees). Strong advocacy from donors was critical in highlighting some of these critical issues and ensuring they received due attention in the Plan.
Entry, Residency Renewal and Regularization of Syrians in Lebanon
Updated on 10 March 2015

1. Background
Syrian entry and residence in Lebanon is governed by the 1962 Law Regulating the Entry and Stay of Foreigners in Lebanon and their Exit from the Country (1962 Law). Following agreements between the Syrian and Lebanese Governments, including the 1993 Bilateral Agreement Regulating the Entry and Movement of Persons and Goods, Syrians also benefit from favorable treatment under Lebanese law regarding the movement of persons and goods.

The Syrian crisis introduced a new dynamic in cross border movements between Lebanon and Syria when a mass influx of refugees began in earnest in 2012. As refugees were unable to return to Syria to renew their residency, UNHCR and partners appealed to the Government of Lebanon (GOL) to enable renewals to be processed within Lebanon. This was achieved in June 2013, when the General Directorate of General Security (GSO) announced that Syrians could renew their residence without having to return to Syria.

While the ability to renew inside Lebanon has helped many, the annual USD 200 fee for renewal remains prohibitive for most. After one year in Lebanon, Syrians must either exit Lebanon and re-enter with a new residency permit, or pay USD 200 per person above 15 years, which grants them another six months residency, renewable once. UNHCR and partners continue to advocate that this fee be waived.

In a positive development, from August until December 2014, the GOL offered a gratis regularization scheme for Syrians whose legal residency had expired. According to the GOL, some 27,000 Syrians benefited from the scheme. At the same time, border admissions become considerably more restrictive, making it more difficult for Syrians in Lebanon to renew their residency by means of exiting and re-entering.

2. New entry procedures
On 31 December 2014, 13 January, 3 and 23 February 2015, GSO issued a new set of regulations to manage the flow of Syrians coming into the country. These regulations provide that Syrians will only be admitted for an approved reason, upon presentation of valid identity documents and proof of purpose of their sojourn. A list of categories for which admission will be granted has been published as well as the duration of authorized stay. Currently, the purposes for which admission will be granted are limited to the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Required documents</th>
<th>Visa / Residency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>ID and passport, written hotel reservation, amount of money proportional to duration of stay in Lebanon</td>
<td>Temporary residence up to 1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Visit</td>
<td>ID and passport, proof of occupation, OR pledge from company or conference</td>
<td>Temporary residence for 6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Owner</td>
<td>ID and passport, recent title deed (showing property)</td>
<td>Temporary residence for 6 months renewable for another 6 months (free of fees) Parents and siblings will be granted 1 week renewable permit to visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenant</td>
<td>ID and passport, lease agreement for residential</td>
<td>Temporary residence for 6 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1 Visit to UNHCR. 2 Certain groups of people, such as diplomats are permitted to enter Lebanon. These include: diplomats; holders of annual and courtesy residence permits as well as family members; Lebanese wife/children, Lebanese husband; wife of a Palestinian refugee in Lebanon; holders of foreign passports or residence permit in any Arabian or foreign country valid for at least one month: taxi/bus driver; truck driver and co-pilot; domestic worker accompanied by Syrian sponsor and man banker.
The validity of the registration of the lease agreement at GSO is of 3 months unless the duration of the lease agreement. This implies that Syrian nationals need to enter Lebanon before the 3 months have elapsed;

At the renewal of the residence, a signed and notarized declaration by the Syrian applicant pledging that the person will not to work will be requested renewable for duration of the lease (free of fees). Parents and siblings will be granted 1 week renewable permit to visit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shopping</th>
<th>ID and passport, car papers with insurance</th>
<th>Entry permit for 24 hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transit</td>
<td>Passport, ticket, visa for third country, pledge by maritime transport</td>
<td>48-hour visa (airport), 24-hour visa (port)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>ID and passport, medical report or certificate from hospital in Lebanon</td>
<td>Temporary visa for 72 hours renewable once. Can be accompanied by one family member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embassy Appointment</td>
<td>Proof of appointment</td>
<td>Temporary visa for 48 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship</td>
<td>Pledge/guarantee from Lebanese sponsor.</td>
<td>Temporary residence of 6 months and renewable for additional 6 months. If entry is related to work, the employer commits to obtain a work permit from the Ministry of Labor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study</td>
<td>With payment of USD 200 in advance of the arrival of the Syrian to Lebanon</td>
<td>Temporary visa of 7 days, renewable for another 7 days.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In line with the GOL policy paper of October 2014, Syrians not falling within the above criteria will only be admitted to Lebanon for exceptional humanitarian reasons, according to criteria to be established by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA).3

3. New residency renewal procedures
Under the new residency renewal policy, Syrians must present the following documents in order to renew their temporary residency:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Syrians not registered with UNHCR</th>
<th>Syrians registered with UNHCR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing commitment signed by landlord and stamped by mukhtar</td>
<td>Housing commitment signed by landlord and stamped by mukhtar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must be accompanied by certified copies of the Lebanese landlord’s identity document and lease agreement or real estate deed</td>
<td>Must be accompanied by certified copies of the Lebanese landlord’s identity document and lease agreement or real estate deed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal pledge of responsibility signed by the Lebanese sponsor</td>
<td>UNHCR registration certificate with a validity between three and six months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must be accompanied by extract of the family civil registry record of the Lebanese sponsor</td>
<td>Signed and notarized pledge not to work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 200 per year of renewal, plus notary and mukhtar fees</td>
<td>USD 200 per year of renewal, plus notary and mukhtar fees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 See UNHCR, Lebanon Humanitarian Admission updated on 12 February 2015.
Impact of housing commitment signed by landlord and stamped by mukhtar
The regulations require all Syrians (whether or not registered with UNHCR) to produce a housing commitment signed by the landlord and stamped by the mukhtar, confirming residence at the premises. It also requires that the landlord inform GSO of any changes.

While refugees may be able to obtain a signature by a landlord and stamp by the mukhtar, requiring the housing commitment to be accompanied by certified copies of a lease agreement or a real estate deed is impractical given that most refugees (82%) who pay rent do not have written lease agreements, especially in low-cost housing markets. Moreover, UNHCR has received reports of alleged abuse by landlords, such as bribes, labor or sexual favors in exchange for signing the housing commitment.

UNHCR recommends that the housing commitment require only the signature of the landlord and stamp of the mukhtar, without need for a certified lease or real estate deed. This will allow the GOL to keep up-to-date information on where Syrians reside without imposing unrealistic documentary requirements and placing refugees at risk of abuse.

Impact of sponsorship requirement for Syrians not registered with UNHCR
Syrians not registered with UNHCR must provide a pledge of responsibility/sponsorship. Lebanese individuals/families can only pledge responsibility for one Syrian individual/family. Commercial or agricultural enterprises can sponsor Syrian workers subject to an investigation by the GSO, including demonstrating the need for the particular worker. The difficulty of obtaining a Lebanese sponsor has motivated some Syrians to approach UNHCR for registration, including those who previously did not consider it necessary to be assisted as refugees.

Impact of notarized pledge not to work for Syrians registered with UNHCR
The regulations require all Syrians registered with UNHCR to sign a notarized pledge not to work. Refugees who work, even intermittently, may be vulnerable to arrest and detention if caught and may be even issued with a departure order. The pledge entails renouncing earning opportunities thereby increasing refugees’ dependency on external assistance. It has been observed that some refugees have requested UNHCR to close their files so as to be in a position to work and/or apply for a work permit. This is despite the fact that very few work permits have been issued to Syrians and the majority work in the informal sector.

Practice has been inconsistent across the country, in part because notaries employ different templates for the pledge and also because GSO interpretations of the requirements vary. In some locations, refugees have been asked to sign pledges that they did not work in the past, to indicate in writing the source of their income or if they benefit from cash assistance. Others have been asked for a Lebanese sponsor, even if they sign the pledge not to work.

UNHCR recommends the pledge be re-worded such that refugees pledge only to work in accordance with Lebanese laws, including those pertaining to work, and that all notaries and GSO offices use this re-worded template.

Commitment to leave Lebanon at expiration of residency (in template of the pledge not to work)
The template that some notaries are using for the pledge not to work currently requires refugees to commit to leaving Lebanon upon expiration of their residency permit or upon request by concerned authorities. This requirement is, however, not stipulated in the GSO instructions. Obliging refugees to leave Lebanon may constitute a breach of the principle of non-refoulement, which the GOL has repeatedly publicly reiterated it will uphold.
UNHCR recommends that measures should be taken to advise notaries and GSO officers that the additional requirement for refugees to leave Lebanon should be either removed or crossed out of the form received by the GSO as there is no legal basis for it.

**Cost of renewal is becoming more cost prohibitive**
The USD 200 renewal fee remains prohibitive for most refugees. Additional requirements resulting in more fees, some of which are as high as USD 75 such as those for the public notary services and stamps from the mukhtar, make it all but impossible for refugees to maintain their legal status in Lebanon. UNHCR suggests that the cost of renewal be lowered, either through waiving or the reduction of fees. In particular, fees should be waived for those assessed as severely economically vulnerable (29% of refugees).

4. **Regularization**
The exceptional regularization scheme expired at the end of 2014. In line with the new policy, specifically the new residency renewal regulations, Syrians who have overstayed their residency may seek to regularize their status by securing an individual or corporate sponsor and meeting the other criteria of the residency procedure. The fines of USD 200 per year of overstay and renewal fees remain applicable.

Syrians who entered through an unofficial border must pay the fine for regularization (USD 633 per person above 15 years) and are obliged to leave Lebanon and re-enter under one of the new entry categories. Those who are unable to pay the fine must leave the country and are issued with a permanent re-entry ban on their departure. Further clarity from the GSO on this matter is expected.

UNHCR welcomed the regularization scheme conducted by the GSO and stands ready to support future regularization initiatives. A small survey conducted in March 2015 indicated that 89% of the refugee sampled stated that they would approach GSO if another regularization scheme were to be offered.4

5. **Recommendations**

**New entry procedures**
- Humanitarian criteria should be expanded to include Syrians who are fleeing an immediate risk of harm or with acute vulnerabilities likely to severely deteriorate
- Transparent and accountable mechanism established at the border to ensure admission

**New residency renewal procedures**
- Housing commitment not to require certified copies of lease or real estate deed
- Pledge not to work be re-worded such that refugees pledge only to work in accordance with Lebanese laws, including those pertaining to work
- GSO to advise notaries and GSO centers to remove or cross out the commitment to leave Lebanon from the pledge not to work
- Waive or reduce fees associated to the renewal, especially for those assessed as severely economically vulnerable
- Syrians who registered with UNHCR after 5 January be able to renew residency based on UNHCR certificate (and other requirements) and not require a Lebanese sponsor.
- Registered refugees found working not be stripped of their residency permit

**Regularization**

4 A random sample was conducted at the beginning of March 2015 with 385 individuals with a confidence 95% and confidence interval of +/- 5%
• Syrians who entered unofficially and pay the regularization fine not be required to return to Syria and re-enter under the new entry categories
• GOL to consider another gratis regularization initiative in the future for those who are unable to pay the regularization fines
• GOL not to impose permanent re-entry bans to any Syrians in light of Lebanon’s commitment to the principle of non *refoulement* and the GOL’s allowance for exceptional humanitarian cases
## Syria Refugee Response

### UNHCR Institutional and Community Support

#### 2015 Planned Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry of Education and Higher Education</th>
<th>Ministry of Social Affairs</th>
<th>Ministry of Interior and Municipalities</th>
<th>Community Support Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MEHE 17m</td>
<td>MOSA 3m</td>
<td>MOIM 3.5m</td>
<td>CSP 19.5m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical equipment and staff to 200 primary health care centers.</td>
<td>Staff costs to regional social development centers.</td>
<td>Refurbishment and technical equipment for General security office (GSO) residency centers and security units.</td>
<td>National Poverty Targeting Programme 1.7m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation of selected government hospitals and laboratories.</td>
<td>Support to social workers and ministry staff to manage the Syrian refugee crisis.</td>
<td>Border enhancement equipment</td>
<td>Nine water supply infrastructure upgrade projects identified with water establishments in North Lebanon and the Bekaa and approved by Ministry 14.1m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease surveillance system for early detection of communicable diseases.</td>
<td>Support to ministry to absorb 1st &amp; 2nd shifts for academic year 2014/2015*: running costs, salary payments to directors &amp; teachers, payments for rental of public school buildings &amp; superintendent, administration costs, payments of cleaners and janitors, building depreciation, students medical checkup cost and exam fees</td>
<td>Staff costs for the ministry and regional technical office for unions of municipalities to manage the refugee crisis at community level.</td>
<td>Community based projects in various sectors: health, social stability, public infrastructure, WASH, recreational &amp; youths activities 3.7m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medications and vaccines for chronic diseases.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Trainings and equipment for municipalities and local communities to better respond to community tensions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* excludes enrollment fee per child

### Total Institutional & Community Support (USD)

USD 45m
Lebanon has shown extraordinary generosity in hosting a record number of refugee children, women and men from Syria into Lebanon. Over a million refugees registered with UNHCR live in over 1,170 communities across the country. This dramatic surge in population has strained public services and infrastructure that were already fragile before the Syrian crisis. The profound economic, social, and environmental impact of the crisis in Syria on Lebanon is evident in both rural and urban communities.

Under the sixth Regional Response Plan (RRP6), covering the year 2014, the international community recognized the need to increase support to Lebanese host communities to help them cope with the large numbers of refugees.

An estimated USD 171.2 million equivalent to 19.6% of the resources mobilized for the implementation of the RRP6 has been directed to institutional and community support.

This document presents an overview of the key results achieved with support from RRP6 partners, including UN agencies, NGOs and donors, to help Lebanon ease the burden of the large presence of refugees from Syria.

The main UN Agencies contributing to this support to Lebanese host communities are UNICEF, UNHCR, UNDP, as well as WHO and FAO, thanks to the support from the European Union, the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Canada.

**NATIONAL-LEVEL SUPPORT**

From the outset of the Syrian crisis, humanitarian actors have worked in support to Lebanese communities and institutions that have been at the forefront of the response to the needs of Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese. International partners worked and continue to work closely with line ministries to identify areas of engagement in line with national priorities and programmes. To this end, USD 77.9 million - or 46% of the USD 171.2 million mobilized for host communities – was invested in programmes aimed at supporting public institutions both at central and governorate levels.

In this respect, UN agencies mobilized between January and October 2014 USD 74.9 million for programmes at central and governorate levels to support public institutions.

**$ 27.9 million**

To assist the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in its Reaching All Children with Education (RACE) Plan, to provide supplies and equipment, and to rehabilitate schools.

**$ 27.7 million**

To the Ministry of Public Health to strengthen the Public Health System, through provision of equipment and supplies and rehabilitation of health facilities, training of health care providers and staffing support.

**$ 11.1 million**

To support the Ministry of Water and Energy through assistance to water establishments and municipalities for water supply and sanitation.

**$ 4.9 million**

To strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Social Affairs, including the Social Development Centres, to coordinate and respond to the crisis, including providing community outreach services.

**$ 1.8 million**

To the Presidency of the Council of Ministers for disaster risk management.

**$ 1.5 million**

To support the most affected Lebanese by contributing to the new food component of the National Poverty Targeting Programme.

**$ 1.5 million**

To the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities to enhance the capacity of Security Cells and the General Directorate of General Security to develop the border management capacity.
The above support to Lebanese Government ministries and programmes has significantly contributed to the projects identified under Track 1 and 2 of the Government’s Stabilization Roadmap of Priority Interventions from the Syrian conflict issued in November 2013 and updated in September 2014.

COMMUNITY-LEVEL SUPPORT

Efforts to mitigate the pressure placed on local communities as a result of the Syrian crisis accelerated in 2014. These efforts targeted communities with the highest concentration of Lebanese poor who were hosting large numbers of refugees. The projects aimed to enhance public services, mitigate the negative effects of the refugee presence and prevent tensions between populations.

Projects such as extending water networks; equipping municipalities with waste collection trucks; rehabilitating schools and health centres; and the construction of local markets are only a few examples.

The total investments directly impacting Lebanese communities hosting large numbers of refugees amount to USD 93.3 million (or 54% of the total funds mobilized for supporting host communities). This includes 244 municipal and community support projects implemented rapidly to meet the needs of host communities. Details on these and other investment are described in the following chapters.

IMPACT ON THE LEBANESE ECONOMY

UN agencies are conducting a study to assess the impact of humanitarian aid flows on the Lebanese economy. It is estimated that, during 2014, actual spending by the largest UN agencies amounted to USD 800 million. The input–output model utilized to conduct the study suggests that the injection of USD 800 million worth of international assistance in 2014 will generate a GDP growth of 1.28 per cent, assuming that all other things remain equal in the Lebanese economy. The model also predicts that every USD spent on humanitarian assistance has a multiplier value of 1.6 in the economic sectors. This means that when the UN agencies disburse the USD 800 million, it could create additional indirect benefits of USD 1.23 billion for the Lebanese economic sectors. Similarly, a WFP study, finalized in July 2014, concluded that the economic impact of food assistance on the economy resulted in a multiplier of 1.5 in the food products’ sector. The impact of humanitarian aid on the Lebanese economy was positive but did not completely mitigate the negative effect on Lebanon’s economy of the Syrian crisis. In the absence of humanitarian aid, however, the economic situation would be worse.

2015 NEXT STEPS

Support in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan

In sum, programmes in health, education, social services and water supply together with direct community support projects at municipal level contributed directly to addressing priority needs of Lebanese communities most affected by the crisis. In 2015, the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan, an integrated plan, will aim to increase assistance to addressing both the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable communities and the stabilization needs of Lebanon. This means increased efforts on strengthening national institutions and public services, while targeting the 1.5 million vulnerable Lebanese through direct assistance and service delivery, community services and economic recovery. One third of the new plan, USD 726 million, will target the stabilization priorities of Lebanon.

(1) The Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) is the international response (United Nations and partner Non-Governmental Organizations) to address the impact of the Syrian crisis in Lebanon for refugees from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese. In addition to the RRP6, there has been a parallel and complementary response from multinational and bilateral donors, both directly to the Government and to NGOs.

(2) Target established under the RRP6 to allocate funding to Lebanese host communities and public institutions is 25%.

(3) Results are presented for each sector and cover the January – October 2014 period. Data and information were collected thanks to the RRP6 inter-agency structure.

(4) UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and UNDP.

(5) According to the World Bank September 2013 Economic and Social Impact Assessment of the Syrian Conflict, the consequence of the conflict cut real GDP growth by 2.9 percentage points each year.

(6) This project is a joint collaboration between humanitarian agencies and the World Bank and the Government of Lebanon.

New water reservoirs under construction in Chouf!

Photo credits: ACTED
The primary aim of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector support is to reduce the risk of diseases by ensuring the supply of basic water, sanitation and hygiene services to the most vulnerable populations in Lebanon.

RESULTS TO DATE

Significant investments were made in Lebanese communities and government institutions to improve the effectiveness and reliability of water and sanitation provision.

In 2014, 525,000 Lebanese benefitted from investments in communal water infrastructure. Projects involved improvements in water production, water treatment, and communal water storage and water distribution. For example, water storage was provided through rehabilitation and construction of reservoirs. In Mount Lebanon’s Chouf district, the construction of six water reservoirs of 500,000 litres capacity will benefit 40,000 Lebanese.

In cooperation with the Beirut and Mount Lebanon Water Establishment, 19 chlorinators were installed serving the most vulnerable municipalities and benefiting 114,000 Lebanese. In partnership with the North Lebanon Water Establishment, 1.3 km of a 600 mm distribution line and controls were replaced to provide water to 15 villages in Koura with a beneficiary population of 61,000 Lebanese. Through such interventions, chlorinated drinking water is provided and the risk of water-borne disease is reduced significantly.

Sanitation was improved through repair and upgrading of sewerage networks and connecting households to the waste water networks; over 25,000 Lebanese households benefited in 2014, including 3,700 households equipped with toilet facilities. Additional support was provided in terms of supply of sludge trucks for transporting and disposal of septic tank waste in targeted municipalities.

Solid waste management was also supported through the provision of household and communal solid waste bins and the supply of trucks for the collection of solid waste; to date over 125,000 Lebanese households benefited from these activities. In Baalbek, 135,000 people benefited from a solid waste programme comprised of 2,469 household bins (200 L), and the procurement of five garbage trucks or compactors to the Unions of Municipalities. Similar projects are ongoing in Bekaa, Nabatieh, North Lebanon and South Lebanon.

INCREASING WATER SUPPLY

IN MAJDLAYA

The Nabaa Al Qadi spring in the Zgharta district was running dry. WASH partners drilled a new borehole at the pumping station and equipped it with a pump and supply pipes to deliver water to the Majdlaya municipality water reservoir. As a result, the daily availability of drinking water was increased by 150 litres per person benefitting 30,000 Lebanese in fourteen villages.
WASH in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan

WASH sector planning is conducted with the Ministry of Energy and Water, the Ministry of Public Health, the four Water Establishments and municipalities to ensure it is consistent with, and supportive of, the national strategies for water and sanitation. The WASH sector will continue with its current approach and increase the emphasis on sustainable projects and interventions in water, sanitation and hygiene promotion for the benefit of the most vulnerable and support and improve national water and sanitation services.

- To enhance water efficiency at household level.
- To increase the level of safe water treatment and quality monitoring.
- To promote awareness of water scarcity issue and appropriate response.
- To mitigate disposal of wastewater into environment/public areas.
- To work with Water Establishments and municipalities to boost capacity and resources available for improving wastewater management.
- To promote good hygiene practices through multiple communication methods (hygiene promotion, schools, women’s groups, youth groups, mass media campaigns), while increasing beneficiary participation and decision making through community-led behaviour change methods.
- To ensure integrated health, education, and WASH disease monitoring and awareness raising campaigns in collaboration with the government authorities.
- In line with the planned polio immunization campaigns, to promote hygiene messaging for children and communities.
- To establish and promote acute watery diarrhoea preparedness and response plan with the health sector.

2015 NEXT STEPS

KEY NUMBERS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>468,000</td>
<td>Vulnerable Lebanese benefiting from increased access to solid waste disposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>525,000</td>
<td>Lebanese benefiting from improved access to safe and clean water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>Vulnerable Lebanese benefiting from improved access to waste water facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$112.2 m</td>
<td>Requested by the WASH sector for stabilization activities in 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RESPONDING TO WATER SCARCITY**

The unusually dry and mild winter of 2013/14, in addition to the increased demand for water due to the increase in population, led to an aggravated national water deficit in summer and autumn. WASH actors worked to reduce the impact of water scarcity through the implementation of fifteen priority projects of a total value of $4.5 million. The projects were vetted by the Ministry of Energy and Water, to be in line with its strategic plan, of targeting high risk, vulnerable communities. A total of 95,160 Lebanese benefitted from these interventions. The water scarcity projects improved water production and distribution capacity in the targeted communities.

**New water distribution pipe in Koura**

*Photo credits - CISP*
The primary aim of the Health sector is to support the national health system to improve its resilience and enable it to cope with the increased demand in health services.

RESULTS TO DATE

In close cooperation with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), Lebanon’s health care system has been capacitated in the following three categories:

1. Improved Monitoring and Control of Communicable Diseases

The national epidemiology and surveillance system was improved for timely detection of diseases. 1304 health care workers were trained to detect, treat and prevent infectious diseases to the benefit of all communities. 11 staff were recruited to support MoPH in Communicable Disease Surveillance.

Due to the increased risk of cholera and diarrheal disease outbreaks, kits were distributed to hospitals across Lebanon to cover the needs of 24,000 patients. 1 million chlorine tablets were provided in areas most at risk of water borne diseases. The referral lab at Beirut Rafic Hariri University hospital and seven public hospital labs were capacitated to monitor water quality to alert in the event of any potential infectious disease outbreaks.

2. Increased Access to primary health care services by Lebanese patients

Over USD 6 million pharmaceuticals and supplies were procured for Primary Health Care centres (PHCs): 50 emergency health kits containing life-saving medicines, intravenous fluids and surgical supplies were made available to 25 health care centers across Lebanon to benefit around 500,000 patients. Additionally, 30 surgical kits were distributed to public hospitals to support 3,000 patients. Medications for chronic diseases to primary healthcare centers were made available for a total of 150,000 patients suffering from hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, dyslipidemias, diabetes, asthma, mental health and other chronic health conditions. 102,376 insulin vials were provided to serve around 500 Lebanese diabetic patients in need.

Over USD 1 million to purchase 6,200 items of medical equipment was provided to 180 PHCs and selected hospitals, which resulted in reinforced capacity and enabled a 40 per cent increase in the utilization of health services, representing around 400,000 patients.

To address the need for mental health care in vulnerable host communities, training was conducted in 45 PHCs and on mental health and psychological first aid in 30 centres across Lebanon. 106 Lebanese health care providers (doctors, nurses, social workers) were trained on the assessment, management, follow-up and referral of mental health conditions.

THE MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH CARE INITIATIVE

WAS LAUNCHED AT THE RACHAYA GOVERNMENTAL HOSPITAL AND IN THE RAFIC HARIRI UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN SEPTEMBER 2014. THIS INITIATIVE ALLOWS 350 LEBANESE WOMEN IN NEED TO BENEFIT FROM PRENATAL, DELIVERY AND POSTNATAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES FREE OF CHARGE, IN ADDITION TO HEALTHCARE SERVICES TO THEIR OFFSPRING UP TO TWO YEARS OF AGE.
To reinforce the MoPH capacity to deliver services, a total of 81 staff were recruited to support the MoPH in the following domains:

- 23 staff for the Emergency Service and governorates
- 15 staff for the PHC and Maternal and Child Health Departments
- 40 nurses and midwives for PHCs in vulnerable areas
- 3 staff to lead the project for ‘Support to Conflict Reduction through Improving Health Services in the Context of the Syrian Crisis.’

3. Increased vaccination coverage

National immunization programmes were strengthened through management support, and procurement of supplies and vaccines - including support to the national tuberculosis programme and its facilities. All children under five years benefit from nation-wide immunization campaigns against polio (268,711 Lebanese children in October 2014 alone), measles, and rubella and also from Vitamin A supplementation. Vaccination campaign planning and the training of nearly 4,200 vaccinators were undertaken. The polio routine and campaign immunizations have helped nearly 4,200 vaccinators.

To maintain the polio coverage above 96 per cent.

2015 NEXT STEPS

Health in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan

The appeal for the Health sector for 2015 includes USD 92 million under the stabilization component, which is expected to benefit the Lebanese healthcare system, as follows:

- Increase activities to strengthen the capacity of the Lebanese national health system, including capacity development of health sector workers.
- Over 900,000 vulnerable Lebanese will be targeted by the health sector next year, in particular to address health issues of youth, elderly and most vulnerable women.
- Continue support to the Early Warning and Response System, including further expansion to the private sector. Develop a larger network of PHCs and hospitals and operationalize water monitoring labs.
- Continue to support the PHCs system, including: prevention and control of communicable diseases and immunization; maternal and child health care; reproductive health; chronic and non-communicable disease management; and mental health support. 920 PHCs and 66 hospitals will be targeted.
- Provide support to an over-burdened national health system through the procurement of essential medicines and equipment; early warning systems; capacity building; and technical support; and, reassessing outbreak risks and stockpiling necessary medical supplies accordingly.
The Education sector aims to provide access to quality education for all children and to strengthen national education policies and systems.

RESULTS TO DATE

Education partners have supported the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in developing ‘Reaching All Children with Education in Lebanon’, (RACE) an ambitious plan which lays out the education strategy for the next three years. The plan, launched in June 2014, focuses on providing opportunities to access education for Syrian children, and seeks to ensure that all children in the public education system benefit from strengthening the education system through better learning spaces, equipment in schools, teaching and learning materials, including textbooks for all children in public schools. The plan also foresees quality system improvement in oversight and support to teachers.

In 2014, partners supported the capacity of 2,675 staff and teachers of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in areas such as active learning, classroom management, language and positive discipline. Six regional offices of the Ministry were provided with vehicles and computers, for a total value of USD 791,684. 93 schools were rehabilitated for a total amount of USD 3.7 million. The rehabilitation included upgrading of toilet blocks and sanitation facilities. Furthermore, a total of 1,300 computers, printers and UPSs were provided to public schools for a total value of USD 1.6 million, and all public schools were served with school-in-a-box stationary support. 270 public schools above 400m of altitude have received a contribution of fuel for heating to keep pupils in warm classrooms during the 2013-14 school year. For winter 2014-15, support will be increased to reach 600 schools, which will receive fuel for heating worth USD 1 million.

For the academic year 2013-2014, a two-shift system was introduced in 80 schools across Lebanon to accommodate the increase in student population, representing a total investment of more than USD 19 million for academic year 2013-14.

This amount also covered payment of salaries teachers to teach in the afternoon shift. Partners also provided direct support to the most vulnerable Lebanese children. 29,961 Lebanese children benefited from access to formal and non-formal learning programmes. Support was provided through payment of the enrolment fees for 24,600 Lebanese students in public schools, totalling USD 2,584,480 for 2013-2014 school year and non-formal education programmes. Also, investments were made to provide school supplies to Lebanese children, for a total amount of USD 1,275,000.
Education in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan

For 2015, the Education sector plan is built around the RACE plan and includes support to formal education and additional activities that meet the increasing educational needs in the country. The sector will continue to rehabilitate and equip public schools, including with water, sanitation and hygiene facilities responding to the specific needs of girls and boys. Second shift will be extended to 57,000 children in 2014-15, with a support of USD 34.2 million to the Ministry of Education to cover teacher salaries and running costs. In the first shift, the Ministry will be supported with USD 16 million to cover the marginal cost of education for Syrian refugee children. In addition, school supplies will be provided to all schools, benefitting 136,000 Lebanese children. Tuition fees for more than 6,000 vulnerable Lebanese will be covered and the capacity of 14,176 teachers will be reinforced through training and supply of teaching materials.

KEY NUMBERS:

- 2,675 teachers and education staff trained
- 93 schools rehabilitated
- 29,961 Lebanese children accessed formal and non-formal learning programmes
- $67.5 million requested by the education sector for stabilization activities in 2015

2015 NEXT STEPS

Education in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan

For 2015, the Education sector plan is built around the RACE plan and includes support to formal education and additional activities that meet the increasing educational needs in the country. The sector will continue to rehabilitate and equip public schools, including with water, sanitation and hygiene facilities responding to the specific needs of girls and boys. Second shift will be extended to 57,000 children in 2014-15, with a support of USD 34.2 million to the Ministry of Education to cover teacher salaries and running costs. In the first shift, the Ministry will be supported with USD 16 million to cover the marginal cost of education for Syrian refugee children. In addition, school supplies will be provided to all schools, benefitting 136,000 Lebanese children. Tuition fees for more than 6,000 vulnerable Lebanese will be covered and the capacity of 14,176 teachers will be reinforced through training and supply of teaching materials.
MUNICIPAL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMMES & LIVELIHOODS

The sector aims to support the most affected municipalities and communities by enhancing services to reduce the impact of the refugee presence and the tensions and stress from the impact of the Syrian conflict, particularly through the provision of basic services and the improvement of self-reliance and livelihoods.

RESULTS TO DATE

Efforts have focused on supporting host communities and municipalities to cope with the impact of the demographic, social and economic shocks of the Syrian conflict. 244 municipal and community support projects, addressing the immediate needs of host communities and sources of tension, were completed or are nearing completion in 197 communities, where 1.25 million Lebanese reside. Through these projects, USD 20.2 million has been invested to meet priorities of water supply, waste management, infrastructure, health, education and livelihoods which were identified as possible sources of tension at the community level.

In addition, the sector places a strong emphasis on facilitating participatory processes at the local level for host communities and local institutions to discuss priority needs and identify and mitigate sources of tensions. 79 local committees were established in 2014, all of which will yield further project identification and development to respond to priority needs and prevent potential conflict.

Municipal and community support projects are identified collaboratively with municipalities, communities and line ministries to produce rapid results. They have helped to reduce the added strain of the large presence of refugees on basic services, livelihoods, and natural resources at the community level. Also, many projects have brought services to the community that had been required prior to the crisis.

KEY NUMBERS:

- 244: Municipal and community support projects implemented in 2014 for USD 20.2 million.
- $20 m: Invested to meet priority needs of host communities.
- $284.3 m: Requested by the sector for stabilization activities in 2015. Vulnerable Lebanese benefiting from improved access to waste water facility.
- 145,000: Lebanese targeted for livelihoods programmes in 2015.

Support to municipalities in 2014

Activities
- Community Support Projects (UNHCR Funded)
- Community Support Projects (UNICEF)
- Capacity Building
- Support to Municipal Service Delivery
- Peace Building Mechanisms

* Font colors are used to differentiate the implementing organizations.
Municipal and Community Support and Livelihoods in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan

In 2015, the support to municipalities will be scaled up through larger projects that will aim to reduce the pressure on public services. The sector will support up to 200 municipalities, 12 Unions of Municipalities and 38 Social Development Centres to respond to the crisis and to rising tensions and pressures on basic services, through capacity building and the implementation of 550 municipal and community support projects. USD 114 million has been requested to implement these priority projects. A further USD 8 million has been requested to strengthen the capacity of national government institutions to mitigate tensions, including the Ministries of Interior and Municipalities, Social Affairs, Education and Higher Education, and the security forces.

Despite the recognition towards maintaining and improving livelihoods and jobs creation of Lebanese families that have been severely impacted, only limited donor funding was made available to programmes that promote job creation for Lebanese women and men. 2,010 Lebanese benefitted from income generation opportunities and 3,860 Lebanese benefitted from vocational training support in 2014.

Job creation has been prioritized through rapid employment initiatives; programmes for micro, small and medium enterprises, notably developing the skills of Lebanese youth to match market demands; and support to the Government in promoting local economic development. 97,700 Lebanese will be engaged in rapid income generation initiatives, rehabilitating infrastructure and other community priorities in 200 villages. Also, USD 37.7 million has been requested to support 5,000 micro, small and medium enterprises to create up to 10,000 new jobs for Lebanese, through provision of business management training, financial services, start-up grants, and technology transfer. In addition, the sector will support upgrading of twenty value chains. Finally, USD 13.6 million is requested to support the Ministries of Social Affairs, Economy and Trade, Industry, Labor, and Education and Higher Education to develop and implement policies and plans supporting job creation and livelihoods.
The aim of the Protection sector is to strengthen community empowerment and outreach and provide assistance to persons with specific needs. Child Protection and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) partners aim to strengthen child protection services, systems and policies for vulnerable Lebanese and refugees from Syria.

RESULTS TO DATE

The sector has increased provision of social services in Lebanon through support to the Ministry of Social Affairs social development centres, the establishment of case management systems and the development of a strategy to ensure that women and children are protected from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect.

66 Social Development Centers affiliated with the Ministry of Social Affairs received aid valued at USD 2.5 million to provide psychosocial support, counseling and referral services to both Lebanese and refugees. The capacity of social workers within these Social Development Centers has been strengthened through mentoring, coaching, and training programmes.

28 Community Development Centres were set up to provide safe and public spaces for community members to access information, learn through education, attend skill-building classes and meet for social and recreational activities.

Case management systems and tools are being developed and strengthened within the Ministry of Social Affairs, with technical support and guidance from Child Protection and SGBV experts. The use and implementation of such tools will improve delivery of these services to children in need throughout Lebanon. A consistent component of SGBV programming has been capacity building of institutions, national organizations, services providers and frontline workers. On average, 200 services providers and frontline workers were trained each month, approximately 85 per cent of them Lebanese nationals. Training has also been provided to frontline workers on the prevention of and response to gender-based violence. 90 health service providers from nine health facilities were trained on the clinical management of rape. A comprehensive training package is offered on medical protocol and knowledge on SGBV, other services available for survivors, attitudes and beliefs. Similarly, the child protection emergency case management system has sought to mitigate risks and prevent incidents of violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect through assistance from social workers and access to specialized service such as medical, legal, and psychological services.

THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS NATIONAL PLAN TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN AND WOMEN IN LEBANON

Child protection and SGBV partners support the Ministry of Social Affairs in developing the National Plan to Safeguard Children and Women in Lebanon, officially launched in October 2014. The plan will support 57 selected Social Development Centers to provide psychosocial support services through child and adolescent friendly services and safe spaces for women and girls, including life skills education, assistance to survivors, information on how to access basic and specialized services including health, education and protection.
All of these initiatives will leave an enduring contribution to Lebanon’s child protection framework and instruments to protect SGBV survivors and women-at-risk.

The sector also has addressed the protection needs of vulnerable Lebanese as most community empowerment activities and all child protection and SGBV services are already fully available to Lebanese children, women and men.

- Between January and October, some 17,000 Lebanese benefitted from services provided by the Social Development Centres every month; close to 5,000 Lebanese benefitted from life skills training.
- Since January, more than 6,000 Lebanese women and girls visited one of the 70 safe areas/facilities established across Lebanon to allow them to safely seek support and/or disclose violence. Women and girls have seized the opportunity to access information about services, and increase their knowledge on topics, such as sexual and reproductive health, child care, or human rights.
- The ability to access services is also linked to awareness raising activities. More than 15,000 Lebanese have benefited from information dissemination and sensitization campaigns.
- Support has been provided to 2,500 Lebanese women and girls through distribution of dignity kits to ensure that women and adolescent girls have basic hygiene, clothing, and protection items to support their daily mobility and function.
- More than 25,500 Lebanese children participated in psychosocial activities offered by child protection actors, and 427 benefited from individual assistance through the child protection emergency case management system.
- Almost 2,500 Lebanese persons were provided with individual legal counselling.

2015 NEXT STEPS

**Protection, Child Protection and SGBV in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan**

The funding requirement for protection activities includes USD 48 million for interventions that directly contribute to the strengthening of systems and capacity of institutions. Most of these funds are requested for community empowerment activities. In 2015, the target population for community empowerment activities includes over 90,000 Lebanese adults and over 200,000 Lebanese children. The government and public institutions will continue to be supported through the following:

- Coaching of 784 social workers of the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- Capacity development and support to community-based organizations and 76 Social Development Centers (infrastructure, staffing, equipment).
- Capacity development for 1,150 judiciary, legal, security and health actors.
- The development and endorsement of national guidelines for alternative care arrangements for children in Lebanon, including minimum standards for institutions providing interim care, such as emergency shelters and orphanages.
- The endorsement by the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Justice of the operating protocols for the national case management system, which will complement but exceed the breadth and scope of the emergency system already endorsed.
- The development and endorsement of a national information management system that will support the confidentiality and efficiency of the case management system by providing a centralized, electronic database for all children being provided care within the case management system.
- The development of a national curriculum on child protection intended for social workers to strengthen the skills of professionals working in public institutions.
The objective of the sector is to ensure food security for refugees from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese; and, to restore agricultural livelihoods of vulnerable rural Lebanese communities.

RESULTS TO DATE

In November 2014, implementation of the e-card food assistance programme under the emergency National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) began, targeting 27,200 vulnerable Lebanese. This service is modelled on the e-card food assistance programme for refugees from Syria, and allows families to buy food in designated shops. As part of this initiative, the food security sector is training over 80 officials and social workers from the Ministry of Social Affairs and representatives from the Presidency of the Council of Ministers in e-card service delivery, pre assistance and post-distribution monitoring.

This emergency component of the National Poverty Targeting Programme will continue in 2015 and expand to reach up to 33,000 beneficiaries.\(^6\)

Social safety nets, like the National Poverty Targeting Programme, play a crucial role in helping the most vulnerable households and communities to manage risks and cope with shocks, such as the impact of the Syrian crisis and the increase in population density.

Lebanese local economies are positively impacted by the provision of food assistance to refugees from Syria. In fact, e-cards offer a quick and efficient mechanism to deliver food assistance to beneficiaries.

A WFP study dated July 2014 indicated that this system has resulted in a doubling of revenues in 300 participating stores and the creation of 1,300 jobs.

In addition, the input-output model suggested that the multiplier is 1.51 in the food products sector. For the period Jan-Oct 2014, refugees from Syria spent a total of USD 217 million through e-cards in over 380 designated Lebanese owned shops across the country as part of the food assistance programme.

With respect to restoring agricultural livelihoods, Lebanese rural communities benefited from a national blanket livestock vaccination of 95 per cent of all cattle, goat and sheep between April and August 2014.

Farmers from the Bekaa, North Lebanon and South Lebanon stated that the support was crucial for them to keep their cattle alive. The vaccines and drugs provided led to a decrease in diseases and encouraged farmers to buy more cattle.\(^7\)

In addition, over 1,200 metric tons of concentrated livestock feed and veterinary medicines were distributed to 900 vulnerable Lebanese small-scale livestock herders in North Lebanon. The project also involves 160 veterinary professionals to train livestock owners to improve surveillance and control of Trans-boundary Animal Diseases. Finally, 37 dairy cooperatives serving 3,500 farmers received technical training and equipment and 300 women were trained on processing of dairy products and were provided with basic equipment.

\(^{6}\) This project is a joint collaboration between humanitarian agencies and the World Bank and the Government of Lebanon.


Photo credits: FAO
Food security in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan

The Food Security sector is requesting USD 62.4 million under the stabilization component. The Food Security sector will continue to support the Government of Lebanon in scaling up of the National Poverty Targeting Programme monthly food assistance component for vulnerable Lebanese, through capacity development and the e-card system. The Government of Lebanon has appealed for funding to reach an additional 78,000 vulnerable Lebanese with food assistance by December 2015. The number of shops participating in the food assistance programme will be expanded to 1,000 by the end of 2015. The sector will continue to work with the Ministry of Agriculture to enhance food safety measures and policies and expand its programmes to support rural Lebanese communities to improve the resilience and food security of affected Lebanese farmers through:

- Enhancement of the food safety measures and policies and upgrade of its programmes.
- Promotion of sustainable family farming so as to increase productivity, while carefully managing available natural resources, such as water and land. The sector plans to train 35,450 Lebanese small-scale farmers in climate smart agriculture technologies (such as conservation farming) and food safety and quality standards.
- Training of 18,350 individuals in post-harvest handling and preservation/processing of agricultural products.
- Analysis of local food assistance-linked value chains and promotion of access to retail markets by vulnerable local farmers.
- Training of 9,600 Lebanese individuals on good nutritional practices.

**Next Steps**

- Jobs created in stores participating in food assistance: 1,300
- Of all cattle in Lebanon vaccinated: 95%
- Requested by the Food Security sector for stabilization activities in 2015: $62.4 m

Photo credits: WFP

**Food Security Map of WFP contracted Shops**

Lebanese woman receiving an e-card to benefit from food assistance under the NPTP

*KEY NUMBERS:*
The shelter sector aims at providing housing solutions for refugees; in doing so, it also significantly benefits Lebanese communities.

RESULTS TO DATE

Over 11,000 apartments and houses privately owned by Lebanese to accommodate refugees from Syria were rehabilitated. A host-house is rehabilitated in exchange for free or reduced rental for a specific duration. This is a win-win agreement whereby vulnerable refugees have easier access to affordable and adequate shelter, while host communities benefit from more suitable housing in the longer term.

In addition, by end-October 2014, 243 large public or private buildings used as collective centres for refugees were rehabilitated.

In a non-camp context like Lebanon, the majority of refugees rent their accommodation from Lebanese house owners. From January until late October 2014, over 20,000 Lebanese house owners received close to USD 4.5 million in rental support, which was extended by international partners to the most vulnerable refugees to cover their rent. In addition, Lebanese house owners receive approximately USD 32.5 million per month directly from Syrians who pay rent from their own resources (USD 325 million from January to October 2014).

KEY NUMBERS:

$ 9.3 m INVESTED IN THE REHABILITATION OF 11,000 PRIVATE HOUSES

$32.5 m ESTIMATED AVERAGE RENT PAID BY DISPLACED SYRIANS EACH MONTH

$32.2 m REQUESTED BY THE SHELTER SECTOR FOR STABILIZATION ACTIVITIES IN 2015

2015 NEXT STEPS

Shelter in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan

In 2015, the sector will expand its focus to upgrading the living environment of poor Lebanese. This will be done through an integrated neighbourhood approach targeting densely populated urban and semi-urban settlements, which will benefit from upgrade of basic infrastructure, such as sidewalks, roads, and public spaces. Work will continue on the rehabilitation of private and public buildings and private houses owned by Lebanese. Furthermore, Lebanese house owners will continue to receive the rental support that is being extended to the most vulnerable displaced persons from Syria.
### Refugee Response Snapshot

#### Interagency achievements 2012 - 2014

#### February 2015

#### Lebanon

#### KEY FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Figure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syrian refugees</td>
<td>1,166,660</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palestinian refugees from Syria</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestinian refugees in Lebanon</td>
<td>270,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizations</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Education

- Children (6-15) supported to enroll in formal education: 148,043
- Boys and girls in non-formal learning opportunities: 109,500
- Children who benefitted from psychosocial support activities in education settings: 129,000
- Teachers and education personnel trained: 2,640
- Schools rehabilitated (including WASH facilities): 107

#### Protection - Child Protection - SGBV

- Syrian refugees registered and verified: 1,146,405
- Palestine refugees from Syria recorded: 45,000
- Children benefitting from psychosocial support: 621,000
- Individuals with specific needs that have been referred: 331,000
- Dignity kits distributed to women and girls: 89,000

#### Basic Assistance

- Persons who received Core Relief Items as newcomers: 775,000
- Persons who received cash grants for winter or fuel vouchers during winter months: 600,000
- High termal blankets distributed as part of the winter assistance: 992,000

#### Shelter

- Persons assisted with shelter interventions: 683,000
- Individuals supported with cash for shelter: 155,000
- Individuals in informal settlements that received weatherproofing support: 392,000

#### WASH

- Persons provided with improved access to water supply at adequate level of service: 1,444,000
- Persons who benefitted from improved sanitation facilities: 262,000
- Persons that have experienced an hygiene promotion session: 818,000

#### Health

- Primary health care (PHC) consultations: 1,549,000
- Patients in secondary and tertiary health care: 99,000
- Polio vaccine doses delivered to children: 2,414,000

#### Food Security and Agriculture

- Individuals that benefitted from food assistance: 1,906,000
- Value of e-cards, vouchers or food distributed and redeemed in 2014: USD 415 million

#### Social Stability

- Community support projects completed: 480
- Change agents trained and actively promoting conflict prevention and social cohesion: 2,200

#### Livelihoods

- Persons who received vocational training and life skills support: 20,000

---

Source: all figures are extracted from reports by partners actively involved in the response in Lebanon

Note: figures may indicate estimations of unique individuals
1. 1.2 million Syrians are registered as refugees with UNHCR in Lebanon at end-2014 with many more present but unregistered. Of these, 29% are unable to meet their survival needs and an estimated one third lack legal stay documentation, limiting their capacity to sustain their own well-being. Equally, more than 336,000 Lebanese and at least 220,000 Palestinian refugees live under Lebanon’s lowest poverty line of $2.4 per day.

2. Approximately two million of these vulnerable people are estimated to be concentrated in 242 localities where social tensions and poverty are worsening fastest. In these areas, demand for basic services continues to far outstrip the capacity of institutions and infrastructure to meet needs.

3. Extreme poverty, rising unemployment and desperation are driving negative coping strategies, particularly affecting youth. Long-standing economic inequalities are becoming more widespread and environmental pressures increasing, affecting social relationships and, ultimately, Lebanon’s stability. Marginalized young people will be pivotal to prospects for both local and regional stability.

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Ensure humanitarian assistance and protection for the most vulnerable among the displaced from Syria and poorest Lebanese.

2. Strengthen the capacity of national and local service delivery systems to expand access to and quality of basic public services.

3. Reinforce Lebanon’s economic, social, environmental, and institutional stability – including:
   i) expanding economic and livelihood opportunities benefiting local economies and vulnerable communities;
   ii) promoting confidence-building measures within and across institutions and communities to strengthen Lebanon’s capacities.
61% more POOR inside Lebanon since 2011

348,300 Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian children are out of school compared to 300,000 enrolled in public schools

55% of Syrians registered as refugees with UNHCR have debt > $400

1,421 Informal Settlements across the country

2,5m Lebanese above the poverty line

5.9 Million People

Syrian registered with UNHCR as refugees below the poverty line

720,000

82% of Syrians registered with UNHCR as refugees pay rent

780,000 Lebanese below the poverty line

1.5m

92% of sewage running untreated into watercourses

50% more labour force than 2011

40% increase in Municipal spending on waste disposal

55% of Syrians registered as refugees with UNHCR have debt > $400

40% increase in Municipal spending on waste disposal

140,000 PRL & PRS living in 42 informal Palestine gatherings in addition to the 12 formal Palestine refugee camps.

780,000 Syrian registered with UNHCR as refugees above the poverty line

5.9 Million People

45,000 PRS

178,200 PRL below the poverty line

91,800 PRL above the poverty line

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TARGET POPULATION & INTERVENTION

TARGETED POPULATION

2.2 million
Targeted protection and direct assistance

2.9 million
Targeted service delivery, economic recovery and community services in 242 most vulnerable communities

HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION

Data Source: Activity Info

Number of partners per operational area

Number of partners per sector

Number of partners per sector in each operational area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operational Area</th>
<th>WASH</th>
<th>Protection</th>
<th>Basic Assistance</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Social Cohesion</th>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Public Health</th>
<th>Shelter</th>
<th>Food Security</th>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>23</td>
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</table>
Partners involved in the LCRP


Photo credit: UN agencies and NGOs

Produced by Government of Lebanon and the United Nations

15 December 2014.
LEBANON CRISIS RESPONSE PLAN

MONTHLY DASHBOARD
January 2015

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Many sectors focused on winterization activities during the first month of 2015. The Partners provided fuel vouchers, cash-for-winter and core relief items to tens of thousands of vulnerable individuals living at an altitude of 500 meters of above. 547 public primary schools were also provided with fuel for heating. WASH partners provided over 600 drainage kits and 72 sites benefited from intensive flood preparedness work and sludge removal activities. A study on the needs, priorities and coping strategies of displaced Syrians during the winter season highlighted that when refugees have cash to spend, they are more respected in their host communities because of their purchasing power. 147 schools were approved by the Ministry of Higher Education for enrolment of Syrian children into the second shift. Education partners also accelerated their outreach efforts in order to facilitate the enrolment of as many Syrian displaced children into the second shift schools as possible in order to ensure their right to education. 860,000 individuals benefited from food assistance, including more than 27,000 vulnerable Lebanese. However due to significant funding shortages displaced Syrians and Palestine refugees from Syria received 70% ($19 per person) of the expected value of their food e-cards. Partners are collecting information to assess if and how this has resulted in food consumption-based negative coping mechanisms. As of 5 January a new policy regulating the entry of Syrians into Lebanon came into force, whereby the purpose for the visit has to be stated and backed up with documentation. The Government is in the process of developing ‘humanitarian criteria’ in addition to the seven announced criteria. January saw a 15 per cent decrease in the number of refugees registering as compared to the previous month.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

US$ 16,154,627 transferred through vouchers, ATM cards and e-cards for food.
17,072 households received fuel vouchers as seasonal assistance.
53,440 children received textbooks and learning materials.
More than 5,100 referrals for emergency conditions.
More than 21,840 persons with reduced risk of flooding.
36 MSMEs/Cooperatives established after receipt of support.
158 municipalities, SDCs benefitting from capacity building programmes.
6,900 Weatherproofed Informal Settlements.
520 individuals provided with individual legal counseling.
450 boys and girls assisted through case management.
2,416 individuals accessed static safe spaces.

2015 FUNDING

Required Funds per Sector

- Food Security: 447 m
- Basic Assistance: 288.6 m
- Education: 263.6 m
- Health: 249.2 m
- WASH: 231.4 m
- Livelihoods: 175.9 m
- Social Stability: 157.3 m
- Shelter: 147.2 m
- Protection: 183 m

NUMBER OF PARTNERS

# of partners per governorate by sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOVERNORATE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>Food, Security</th>
<th>Basic Assistance</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>WASH</th>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Social Stability</th>
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<th>Protection</th>
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<td>Bekaa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mt Lebanon &amp; Beirut</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>South</td>
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<td>El Bataieh</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Most Vulnerable Cadasters

Palestine camp
Most vulnerable cadasters

concentration of Syrians registered with UNHCR as refugees

1 - 500
500 - 2,500
2,500 - 42,000
MONTHLY DASHBOARD January 2015
Contact Information: David Welin wellin@unhcr.org, Layal Sarrouh lsarrouh@unicef.org, Lorenza Trulli trulli@unhcr.org

SITUATION ANALYSIS

11,362 Syrian refugees were registered in January, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees registered to 1,155,660. 12,130 people are currently waiting registration with the waiting time standing at 20 days. The number of refugees registered in January was 15% lower than the number of refugees registered in December 2014 (13,390). In January 2014, more than 52,000 refugees were registered.

On 31 December 2014, the General Security Office published on its website new regulations for the entry of Syrians to Lebanon to take effect on Monday, 5 January 2015. The new regulations require Syrian nationals to declare their purpose for entry which include tourism, business, property owners, study, transit to another country, medical treatment or appointment with a Foreign embassy. All those who do not specify their purpose for entry require sponsorship by a Lebanese national. In addition, the Government is developing a set of humanitarian criteria, the details of which is still under discussion.

Bad weather has doubled the concerns for those facing evictions in some of the informal settlements in the Bekaa valley. Humanitarian agencies are coordinating to provide support particularly to the most vulnerable on a variety of fronts.

In January, 750 persons were submitted for resettlement or humanitarian admission.

FUNDING
(required)
183 m
of overall LCRP request

PEOPLE
(In Need/Target)
3.3 m (People in Need)
2.2 m (People Targeted)

PROGRESS AGAINST 2015 TARGETS
Month of January progress

8.5%

REPORTED PRESENCE OF PARTNERS

Reported Presence of Partners

Data Source: ActivityInfo Protection, SGBV, and Child Protection databases

REPORTED PRESENCE (Number of operational partners per Area)

# partner per area

16 - 20
11 - 15
5 - 10

PARTNERS
(Number of operational partners per Area)

# partner per area

16 - 20
11 - 15
5 - 10

PARTNERS
(Number of operational partners per Area)

# partner per area

16 - 20
11 - 15
5 - 10

REPORTED PRESENCE

Reported Presence of Partners

Data Source: ActivityInfo Protection, SGBV, and Child Protection databases
At the end of December, 147 schools all across Lebanon were approved by the Ministry of Higher Education (MEHE) for enrolment of Syrian children into second shift. The estimates from the MEHE show a positive response, with at least 51,000 - mostly Syrian - children enrolled, and 7,000 on waiting list. The UN worked on re-allocating funding committed for first shift to the second shift, while requesting to open additional schools in areas with high concentration of refugees. The UN also advocated to waive the second shift school selection criteria of 'minimum 250 students enrolled', to allow enrolment of students in smaller schools.

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During the month January, the UN and education partners accelerated their outreach efforts in order to facilitate the enrolment of a maximum number of Syrian displaced children into the second shift schools. The UN have funding to cover 20% of enrolled children with transportation. Assessment for eligibility are based on distance to schools, safety and protection issues as well as family's vulnerability.

Discussion among MEHE and the Consortium members Save the Children, NRC and IRC continued over the last month defining the elements of the Consortium's support to MEHE. These include Early Childhood Education (ECE) support, non-formal education (NFE) for basic education, and youth (secondary education) support.

Discussions among MEHE and the Consortium members Save the Children, NRC and IRC continued over the last month defining the elements of the Consortium’s support to MEHE. These include Early Childhood Education (ECE) support, non-formal education (NFE) for basic education, and youth (secondary education) support.

The UN also advocated to waive the second shift school selection criteria of 'minimum 250 students enrolled', to allow enrolment of students in smaller schools.
SITUATION ANALYSIS

In January 2015, almost 100,000 Primary Health Care (PHC) consultations were provided as well as over 5,105 hospital admissions for lifesaving emergencies and obstetric care.

Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) training provided by WHO took place in South and Bekaa for 28 PHC centers and 62 health care staff. WHO provided technical and logistic support for the revision of the ‘Situation assessment and strategy for mental health and substance use disorders in Lebanon’, aiming at setting the ground to scale up the mental health integration within the health services available in Lebanon, in line with the WHO Global Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020.

To improve delivery outcomes in Lebanon, WHO and the MOPH in partnership with Lebanese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology are implementing a capacity building project on Emergency Obstetrics Care targeting the concerned health care attendants. Ten workshops have been conducted so far in different regions across Lebanon. More workshops are planned for the coming months.

There are ongoing efforts on improving communication on healthcare information so that persons of concern are aware of their rights and available healthcare services.

Partners have contributed greatly to ensure activity reporting meets the sectors plans. UNHCR is conducting refresher training on data management and Activity Info for the health partners to ensure provision of timely and accurate data on the LCRP database.

FUNDING
(required)

249.2 m

11.7%
of overall
LCRP request

PEOPLE
(In Need/Target)

3.3 m
(People in Need)

2.0 m
(People Targeted)

PROGRESS AGAINST 2015 TARGETS

Month of January progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>End-2014</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of PHC consultations</td>
<td>1,061,455</td>
<td>1,051,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of pregnant women who attended ANC visits at PHC Centers</td>
<td>53,000</td>
<td>57,960</td>
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<tr>
<td># of children under 5 years old vaccinated with routine vaccinations</td>
<td>328,782</td>
<td>2,906,497</td>
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<tr>
<td># of vaccine doses to children under 5 years old by age and gender - Polio Campaign</td>
<td>2,183,154</td>
<td>146,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of patients in secondary and tertiary health care</td>
<td>57,960</td>
<td>1,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of deliveries by caesarean section out of the total deliveries</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># health of providers trained</td>
<td>1,271</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of structures equipped</td>
<td>268</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS
End-2014

% of deliveries by caesarean section out of the total deliveries | 28.0% | 35% |
| # health of providers trained | 1,271 | 600 |
| # of structures equipped | 268 | |

Reporting Agencies: ACF, AMEL, AVI, Beyond, CLMC, Lebanon, JJ Humedica/IMJJCC, Lebanon, OM, Makassed, MAP-UK, MDM, MOPH, PA-AM, UNHCR, UNRWA, WHO
In January, winter related support to weather-affected refugees is ongoing and have been scaled-up due to the increasingly severe climate conditions in Lebanon. Refugees and vulnerable Lebanese households living above 500 metres have received basic assistance – in the form of fuel vouchers, cash-for-winter and core relief items – to help them cope with harsh temperatures and extreme environment. In addition to this support, families assessed to be economically vulnerable under jointly agreed upon criteria among humanitarian operational response agencies, are being provided with multi-purpose cash assistance to meet a range of basic needs. The difference between cash-for-winter and multi-purpose cash assistance is in the (1) transfer value (e.g. $80 and $100 for the former and $175 for the latter) and (2) targeting rationale (e.g. between 500-1,100 metres and economic vulnerability determined by access to income and expenses through a household visit targeting exercise). Targeting exercise started as of mid-December 2014. So far over 7,000 Syrian registered refugee case numbers have been visited within the period of 1 month. This will significantly increase in coming months with the plan of 10-15,000 households visited per month. The objective of this exercise is to determine food insecurity and economic vulnerability in order to establish eligibility for food assistance and multi-purpose cash. It is relevant for winter programming as it ensures that households that are severely economically vulnerable (i.e. determined as those below the survival living costs – $435 is the monthly threshold) are not supported by temporary stop-gap seasonal assistance such as cash-for-winter (e.g. $80 and $100) but rather by more sustainable/year-round (funding allowing) support (e.g. $175).
MONTHLY DASHBOARD January 2015

Contact Information: Ahmad Kassem: kassem@unhcr.org, Vincent Dupin: dupin@unhcr.org

In January, winter related shelter activities have been boosted in response to the climate conditions.

10,918 vulnerable individuals living in informal settlements and substandard buildings were assisted with weatherproofing kits so that they can resist to increasingly harsh climate conditions. This includes replacement of shelter structures that have been seriously damaged within informal settlements.

To address increasing evictions, mainly of informal settlements in Bekaa, agencies have been boosting their search for alternative relocation sites, including on discussions with local authorities. However, in the relative absence of those alternatives, cash for shelter appears to be the prominent solution for the most vulnerable families.

UN-Habitat has started a 'Four Cities Programme' which will address the impact on poor urban communities by the refugee crisis, and will be engaged in both neighborhood upgrading projects as well as profiling the cities and poor neighborhoods to provide more knowledge on the urban dimensions of the crisis.

Reporting Agencies
CISP, DRC, IOM, MEDAIR, NRC, PU-AMI, SCI, SOLIDARITES INTERNATIONAL, UNHCR, UNRWA

To download the full map: http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=8106

Reporting

Agencies

- 43
The WASH Sector in January 2015 has continued with basic service provision and development of new infrastructure across Lebanon. Winterization activities for the WASH sector have been challenged by access issues at the height of the storm however 241 sites have benefited from the distribution of 603 drainage kits with 72 sites having more intensive flood preparation works.

In water, 5 large water supply systems have been developed or improved at a Municipality level (Rahbeh, Aanout, Borjeyn-Mrejat, Barja and Tabbaneh) serving 28,200 Lebanese with additional refugees or Palestinian populations. These works variously include source development, pipeline extensions, pumping systems and distribution points. Up to 30 smaller systems have been completed serving isolated Syrian groups. Water quality testing in 18 source locations and 588 samples from point of use have been tested for a range of bacterial, chemical and physical parameters. In trucked water supplies 7 agencies have delivered 23,734,820 litres of water across 151 locations in the North and Bekaa.

In sanitation services the rehabilitation of 250m of the waste water network in Burj El Barainah serves 4,700 individuals and the rehabilitation of a treatment plant in Zouq Bhanine. Further, sludge removal activities have continued in 107 locations predominantly informal settlements. The supply of a compactor truck in Hermel is assisting rubbish collection across multiple municipalities and a municipal level solid waste support in Akkroum. Further collection services have taken place in 98 IS locations.

This month 31,907 individuals have attended 4296 hygiene promotion sessions. There is however a disparity between agencies conducting sessions at household level for 2-4 people while others are counting sessions for 45 people. Streamlining hygiene promotion and hygiene kits is a priority moving forwards.

**FUNDING**

(required)

231.4 m

10.8%

of overall LCRP request

**PEOPLE**

(In Need/Target)

3.3 m

People in Need

2.9 m

People Targeted

Refugees

1,615,117

Vulnerable Lebanese

1,090,535

**PARTNERS**

(Number of operational partners per Area)

# partner per area

- 9-12
- 7-9
- 4-6
- 1 - 3

**WASH Presence in Informal Settlements and Selected Sites Lebanon**

January 2105
The Livelihoods sector is a key priority for the Government of Lebanon. In this respect, the Ministry of Social Affairs is leading a process to determine and refine the livelihoods sector strategy. This will be done in two phases, with first an internal governmental process between the different ministries, followed by a national workshop on livelihoods planned in March which will be opened to sector’s members.

In the meantime, some livelihoods activities have started, although most partners are still developing their annual plans and programmes and results to date remain modest. In this respect, the ongoing activities of the sector are very much in line with 2014 livelihoods activities, focused on rapid income generation and vocational training; 169 vulnerable persons benefitted from rapid income generations, for a total of 1,163 workmen days created and 38 individuals benefitted from skills training.

New activities include supporting access to internship, on-the-job training and apprenticeship which reached 69 people. As for support to micro, small, and medium enterprises, IOM support to Lebanese returnees through small in-kind donations resulted in the establishment of 36 new micro-enterprises.

Despite all these various activities, the sector is in need of increased support throughout the year to achieve its objectives. This is especially true in light of the increase need to livelihoods support for vulnerable groups, particularly displaced Syrians. An assessment by Save the Children on displaced Syrians’ needs, priorities and coping strategies in the winter season highlighted the lack of income of displaced Syrians, compounded by the simultaneous fall in income generation capacity caused by the seasonal fall in demand for temporary labour and the increase in household expenditure relating to winter needs. The study points out that access to income also has wider effects on displaced Syrian living conditions in Lebanon: when refugees have cash to spend, they are more respected in their host communities because of their purchasing power. However, displaced Syrians are still perceived as the main competitors for local jobs among host community residents, something they also sympathise with and acknowledge.

### Funding

- **Required**: $175.9 m
- **8.2%** of overall LCRP request

### People

- **People** (In Need/Target)
  - **700,000** (People in Need)
  - **242,536** (People Targeted)

### Partners

- **Number of operational partners per Area**
  - # partner per area
  - Location of Livelihoods activities reported in January

### Progress Against 2015 Targets

- **Month of January progress**
  - # targeted vulnerable persons enrolled in rapid income job creation activities: 0, 169, 171,111
  - # of targeted villages benefiting from improved infrastructure: 0, 200
  - # of individuals supported by employment services centres (at least 30% women): 0, 17,860
  - # of individuals benefiting from market-based skills training (at least 30% women): 0, 38 (47% women), 42,126
  - Lebanese entrepreneurs receiving technical assistance/business management training: 0, 2,931
  - # of new MSMEs/ Cooperatives established after receipt of support: 0, 36, 1,648
  - # of VC interventions implemented: 0, 15,000, 5,510,000

Reporting Agencies: Amel, IOM, IRC, Mercy Corps, PUAMI, Save the Children, UNDP
SITUATION ANALYSIS

Social stability partners’ activities and programs are already well underway throughout the sector, building on the work and results achieved in 2014. 10 new conflict mitigation mechanisms have been established (engaging 322 change agents, 57% women) and 13 youth peacebuilding initiatives have been launched, involving 148 youth from both Syrian and Lebanese communities (55% women), primarily through RET activities in Social Development Centers.

The sector’s focus on supporting municipalities and other local governance institutions to build social stability is also off to a good start. While only two new community support projects have been implemented in January, partners have worked to identify new priority projects. MOSA and UNDP have thus completed 76 participatory needs assessments (Maps of Risks and Resources) in January, involving 1,316 host community members. 9 Social Development Centres, 6 Unions of Municipalities, and 143 municipalities are already benefitting from capacity building and technical support from partners to effectively address the crisis at the local level (primarily through UNHabitat Regional Technical Offices in Unions of Municipalities).

In order to promote conflict-sensitivity programming within the intervention, 132 staff of the public health system were trained on conflict sensitivity, and 3 conflict analysis reports were published to inform partners on the evolution of tensions. In particular, a report by Lebanon Support on conflict dynamics in the Bekaa highlighted how the tense security situation is fertile ground for exploitation of the most vulnerable groups, most notably the displaced Syrians, and minor conflicts hold the potential for facile escalation if no conscious mitigation efforts are made.

Next month, the sector will focus on finalizing the ‘rapid tension assessment tool’ to provide a harmonized, practical tool for partners across sectors to assess the impact of their programming on tensions. In terms of activities, the work of partners will very much switch towards completing ongoing municipal and community support projects addressing immediate sources of tensions within host communities.

FUNDING
(Required)

147.3 m

6.9%

of overall LCRP request

PEOPLE
(In Need/Target)

242
(Communities in Need)

242
(Communities Targeted)

PARTNERS
(Number of operational partners per Area)

# partner per area

> 7

5-6

3-4

1-2

PROGRESS AGAINST 2015 TARGETS
Month of January progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>2015 Target</th>
<th>January</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of communities with functioning conflict mitigation mechanisms</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># youth peacebuilding initiatives established</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># youth participating in initiatives (30% women)</td>
<td>148 (55% women)</td>
<td>20,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># municipalities, unions, SDCs benefitting from capacity building programmes</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># municipal and community support projects implemented to address tensions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD invested in municipal and community support projects</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>53,377,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security Officials trained on social stability</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict analysis report produced</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Location of Social Stability activities reported in January

Reporting Agencies

DRC, International Alert, Mercy Corps, RET, Search for Common Ground, UNDP, UN Habitat
New appointments requested per day
650
Registration interviews scheduled per day
624
Average no show for interview
29%
Average registered per day
500

Average waiting period
27 days

New appointments requested per day
1,180,755
Registered
1,169,842
Awaiting
10,913

New RST missions from B.O.
Implementation of the new automated secure papers tracking system:
Increase in requests to Fast Track registration for individuals (Lebanese and No fear/PRT concerns).
Main reason for individuals seeking registration as of mid-January was due to the new GoL policies, namely the need to have a sponsor, but this week the reasons have shifted in the Bekaa, North and Mt. Lebanon where main reason is assistance. The South remains only Governmate where main reason is due to new GoL policies.

Highlights
- Total iris scan enrollment to date: 798,086 individuals
- Verified or Verified & Renewed: 10,353 individuals
- Inactivated after Verification: 1,072 individuals
- New appointments requested per day

New appointments requested per day
275
Registration interviews scheduled per day
366
Average no show for interview
31%
Average registered per day
226

Average waiting period
33 days

New appointments requested per day
341,407
Registered
334,071
Awaiting
7,336

New appointments requested per day
285,148
Registered
283,984
Awaiting
1,164

Average waiting period
20 days

New appointments requested per day
285,148
Registered
283,984
Awaiting
1,164

New appointments requested per day
414,732
Registered
412,725
Awaiting
2,007

Average waiting period
9 days

New appointments requested per day
414,732
Registered
412,725
Awaiting
2,007

New appointments requested per day
139,468
Registered
139,062
Awaiting
406

Average waiting period
11 days

New appointments requested per day
139,468
Registered
139,062
Awaiting
406

New appointments requested per day
285,148
Registered
283,984
Awaiting
1,164

New appointments requested per day
341,407
Registered
334,071
Awaiting
7,336

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Awaiting
2,007

New appointments requested per day
139,468
Registered
139,062
Awaiting
406

Highlights
- Valerie Amos - Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator visited the RC.
- EU experts on asylum and international protection visited the RC.
- 38 cases / 129 individuals were inactivated due to certificate expiry as of 31 Dec, 2014

Highlights
- Increase in individuals approaching TRC for counseling on secondary health care after change in provider.
- Increase in requests to Fast Track registration for individuals with urgent medical needs; MediVisa has still not fully implemented the referral mechanism.
- WFP shared lists of cases that did not show for validation exercise; these cases will be called to verify reasons.
- No registration on Feb. 27 due to all day training on e-card validation process;

Highlights
- Implementation of the new automated secure papers tracking system put in place.
- Meeting organized at the request of WFP field office on registration issues raised during e-card validation process;

Highlights
- FO Tyre recorded an 11% decrease in total new registration appointments but male applicants continue to cover 80% of new applicants arriving mainly from Saida (60%) and prior to October 2014 (80%).
- The centre hosted 2 RST missions from B.O.
For inquiries, please email ksaifi@unhcr.org, garteh@unhcr.org, kibui@unhcr.org or visit our web portal http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=122
LEBANON in January

- Registration appointments requested: 13,649
- Registration interviews scheduled: 14,599
- Registered in January: 11,362
- Verification conducted: 27,784

Lebanon over 12 months

- Registration appointments requested / month
- Registered / month
- Average waiting Period / month

Beirut & Mt Lebanon

- Registration appointments requested: 7,244
- Registration interviews scheduled: 7,839
- Registered in January: 5,471
- Verification conducted: 5,529

North

- Registration appointments requested: 1,523
- Registration interviews scheduled: 1,328
- Registered in January: 2,031
- Verification conducted: 11,391

Bekaa

- Registration appointments requested: 3,898
- Registration interviews scheduled: 4,303
- Registered in January: 2,366
- Verification conducted: 8,624

South

- Registration appointments requested: 984
- Registration interviews scheduled: 1,129
- Registered in January: 1,494
- Verification conducted: 2,240

Verification interviews conducted / month

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