

Minutes of Meeting Lebanon Response Plan Partners' Update Meeting

Meeting Location	Remotely Via Zoom	Meeting Date	13 Sep 2024
Chairperson(s)	Sophia Glazunova, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator (UNHCR) Elena Ferrari, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator (UNDP) Jolly Shah, Head of Coordination (OCHA) Camilla Jelbart, Senior Response Advisor (RCO)	Meeting Time	10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Minutes Prepared by	Jana Nasr, Senior Inter-Agency Coordination Assistant (UNHCR)	Meeting Duration	2.00 hrs.
Participants	220+ participants from the Government of Lebanon (GoL), UN Agencies, NGOs, and CSOs.		
Agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening Remarks 2. LRP 2024 Mid-Year Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding Update • Sector Results • Support to Lebanese 3. Mainstreaming Trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict Sensitivity and Monitoring & Evaluation Toolbox • Towards Circular Cash-for-Work Activities in Lebanon 4. Update on LHIF & LHDF Localization Efforts 5. AoB: Inter-Agency Photo Repository 6. Closing Remarks 		

1. Opening Remarks

Sophia Glazunova, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator (UNHCR)
Elena Ferrari, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator (UNDP)
Helena Mazarro Garcia, Deputy Head of Office (OCHA)
Camilla Jelbart, Senior Response Advisor (RCO)

In their opening remarks, the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) Co-Chairs welcomed the participants and presented the agenda.

2. LRP 2024 Mid-Year Results

Funding Update

Raffi Kouzoujian, Assistant Information Management Officer (UNHCR)

Raffi Kouzoujian presented the mid-year 2024 funding update:

- Funding received by the second quarter of 2024 amounts to approximately \$402.5 million, representing 15 per cent of the \$2.72 billion appeal.
- The carry over and multi-year funding amounts to \$267.7 million. Therefore, available funds by mid-year 2024 amount to a total of \$670.2 (received + carryover).
- Social Stability (50%), Education (42%), and Livelihoods (32%) are the *highest* funded sectors compared to the appeal.
- Shelter (6%), WaSH (9%), and Basic Assistance (11%) are the *lowest* funded sectors compared to the appeal.
- Funding trends from 2020 to 2024 are available on slide 6 of the presentation [here](#).

Sector Results

Sector Coordination Teams

For each sector, a member of the sector coordination team presented details on achievements, challenges, and priorities for the remainder of 2024 (*details available in slides 8 to 28 of the presentation [here](#)*).

Support to Lebanese

Stephanie Laba, Inter-Agency Coordination Officer (UNHCR)

Stephanie Laba provided a snapshot of support to Lebanese communities under the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP):

- The support to Lebanese dashboard is produced biannually to clearly display the support provided to Lebanese individuals, households, and institutions through the LRP.
- The indicators used in the dashboard were agreed upon with sectors and have been updated based on Q1 and Q2 reporting data.
- The dashboard features support provided to various sectors, including Basic Assistance, Education, Food Security and Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter, Social Stability, and Water.

Mid-Year Resources

- LRP Funding Update – Mid-Year 2024: [HERE](#)
- LRP Sector Dashboards – Mid-Year 2024:
 -  [Basic Assistance](#);  [Education](#);  [Food Security & Agriculture](#);  [Health](#);
 -  [Nutrition](#);  [Livelihoods](#);  [Protection](#);  [Shelter](#);  [Social Stability](#);  [WaSH](#).
- LRP Support to Lebanese Dashboard – Mid-Year 2024: [Arabic](#) and [English](#)
- LRP Overview and Scope– Mid-Year 2024: [HERE](#)

3. Mainstreaming Trends

Review Conflict Sensitivity and Monitoring & Evaluation Toolbox

Nisreen Jaafar, Conflict Analysis and Mainstreaming Officer (UNDP)

Nisreen Jaafar presented the conflict sensitivity and monitoring & evaluation toolbox:

- The 2019 crisis exacerbated tensions at all levels, within and between communities noting that access to resources and perception bias are the major tension drivers.
- The toolbox is produced as part of UNDP’s conflict sensitivity mainstreaming guidance series and provides practical tips for conducting conflict-sensitive M&E.
- The toolbox is designed to help partners integrate a nuanced understanding of conflict dynamics, including causes, actors, and profiles, into M&E and it is developed through a consultative process with experts working on M&E and social stability and draws on real-life examples from Lebanon.
- For guidance on when and how to effectively use the toolbox, as well as key actions needed to ensure that Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes are more conflict-sensitive, please refer to slides 39 to 43 [here](#).

Towards Circular Cash-for-Work Activities in Lebanon

Nour Masri, Environment Task Force Coordinator

Nour Masri introduced the guidance note on circular cash-for-work activities in Lebanon:

- The guidance note builds on the assumption that circular economy (CE) considerations can strengthen the Cash for Work (CfW) methodology in Lebanon through better

articulating the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus in CfW operations and fostering multiple sustainability-related impacts.

- The circular CfW model is built on result pillars inspired by the collection, review, and validation of primary and secondary data detailed on slide 47 [here](#).
- The 5 pillars are a compilation of small (yet scalable), medium, and large size interventions carried out by UN agencies in partnership with NGOs, or by NGOs with support from bilateral donors.
 - Pillar 1 – CE-based CfW Programme
 - Pillar 2 – Short-Term/Immediate Circular or Green Employment Creation
 - Pillar 3 – Medium-Term Socioenvironmental Benefits
 - Pillar 4 – Contributions to Longer-Term Green Growth/Green Recovery
 - ‘Enabler’ Pillar 5 – Green/CE Partnerships
- Case Study projects and programmes are listed on slide 49 [here](#).
- The contexts and justification for each of the pillars are detailed on slides 50 to 54 [here](#).
- Next steps regarding the revision of the 2024 LRP sector logframes, the review of ETF suggestions, the approval of cross-sector circularity indicators, and the development of sector-specific programme indicators for CfW are on slides 55 and 56 [here](#).

4. Update on LHIF and LHDF Localization Efforts

Gaetane Wicquart, Country Director and Co-Chair of Partnership & Localization WG (ACTED)

Gaetane Wicquart provided an update on the Lebanon Humanitarian INGO Forum’s (LHIF) localization efforts:

- The Localization Task Force (LTF) was formed in 2019 under the Shabake Project, bringing together L/NGOs, INGOS, UN, and donors to work collaboratively towards effective localization of humanitarian and development aid.
- The LHIF Partnership and Localization Working Group (PLWG) is a space for LHIF members to collaborate on localization plans and engage in peer discussions contributing to the work of the LTF.
- The working group leads on the implementation of LHIF’s partnership and localization plans, working with LHDF and local actors to strengthen coordination and contribute to the implementation of the LHIF-LHDF partnership platform strategy.
- The working group also defines annual priorities and creates a workplan in consultation with the CD plenary and Steering Committee.
- A mapping of LHIF partners was conducted to support members' preparedness efforts following the October 7 escalation of hostilities and a cheat-sheet on localization efforts was developed to assist members and donors in navigating diverse localization initiatives.
- Next priorities include rolling out the harmonized due diligence tool with LHIF and LHDF members, developing an LHIF best practices checklist to uphold partnership principles, maintaining regular LHDF-LHIF partnership meetings to track progress, coordinating between INGO and NNGO co-leads, and engaging with stakeholders to assess their localization commitments.

Alia Farhat, LHDF Steering Committee Member (Al Majmoua)

Alia Farhat provided an update on the Lebanon Humanitarian Development Forum’s (LHDF) localization efforts:

- The localization M&E framework was led by LHDF and aims to assess and enhance the activities and impact of localization efforts in Lebanon.
- The final M&E Approach is structured around four key areas: capacity building, partnership principles, fundraising, and coordination. Each area includes an outcome

statement defining ‘what success looks like’ at a high level, followed by several outputs and associated indicators.

- The M&E approach is designed to be user-friendly, with surveys developed to facilitate self-reporting by national and international actors.
- This framework provides a starting point for the LTF to coordinate data collection, analysis, and progress reporting. The development process was participatory, involving stakeholders from LHDF, LHIF, LTF, and Shabake partners, with feedback gathered through consultations and pilot testing with eight organizations.
- The LTF held road trips in Tripoli and Bekaa, engaging local NGOs (42 attendees in Tripoli, 30 in Bekaa). The objectives, progress, and future steps of the LTF were discussed and attendees shared recommendations listed on slide 68 [here](#).
- Next steps include the following:
 - A briefing meeting will be held in October between the LTF Coordination Committee and donors to present the localization framework, identify gaps and needs, explore collaboration opportunities, and work on drafting an action plan.
 - The LTF TOR will soon be finalized and shared with members for endorsement.
 - The LHDF will be hosting the secretariat of the Charter for Change Network (C4C), onboarding with a mandate of 3 years starting from December 2024.

5. AoB: Inter-Agency Photo Repository

Jana Nasr, Senior Inter-Agency Coordination Assistant (UNHCR)

Jana Nasr thanked the LRP partners for their contributions to the Inter-Agency Photo Repository noting that the images they provided are being used in various LRP communication materials including presentations, dashboards, reports, and strategies:

- Key features of the tool include photos categorized by sector, with each image featuring captions, credits, and the option to add comments if needed.
- Bulk image uploads are possible, but images need to be numbered to match the captions.
- The repository is accessible through this [Collection Link](#) and a comprehensive [Guidance Note](#) with step-by-step instructions is available.
- Partners are encouraged to actively contribute to the Inter-Agency Photo Repository by regularly uploading images that showcase their organization’s activities and achievements under their sector(s), while ensuring a diverse and comprehensive representation of the sectors’ work, especially in the field, in line with the sector(s) strategy.

6. Closing Remarks

Sophia Glazunova, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator (UNHCR)

Elena Ferrari, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator (UNDP)

Helena Mazarro Garcia, Deputy Head of Office (OCHA)

Camilla Jelbart, Senior Response Advisor (RCO)

In their closing remarks, the LRP Co-Chairs thanked the attendees for their participation. The next LRP Partners Update meeting is scheduled for 11 October 2024.