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Response Plan

Inter-Sector Coordination Group Meeting

April 4, 2025

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Response Plan

Opening Remarks

ISCG Co-Chairs

Agenda

1. **New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates**
2. **Tensions Overview**
3. **Mine Action**
4. **Briefing on Cash**
5. **Update on 9th Brussels Conference**
6. **Update on VASyR 2025**
7. **Update on LHF**
8. **AoB**

Action Points

Follow Up

Meeting	Action Point	Status
N/A	Sectors to share revised sector Logframe reflecting the budget reduction. If the budget adjustment entails any changes in your respective sector strategy, we recommend updating only the figures without modifying the content or narrative. Deadline: by 21 Mar 2025 Pending: Basic Assistance, FSA, Health, PRT, Shelter	Ongoing
17-Jan-25	Sectors to submit their LRP 2025 Annual Workplan. Deadline: by 24 February 2025. Pending: Shelter	Ongoing
17-Jan-25	Sectors to submit their LRP 2025 Working Group and Core Group ToRs. Deadline: by 17 March 2025. Pending: Education (pending WG), Health, Livelihoods	Ongoing

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New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Maeve Murphy, Head of North Office (UNHCR)
Alain Chatry, North Area Manager (UNDP)

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Overview as of 2 April 2025

Akkar

- **Villages:** 27
  - Families: 4,085
  - Individuals: 20,496
- **Collective shelters:** 22
  - Families: 384
  - Individuals: 1,801

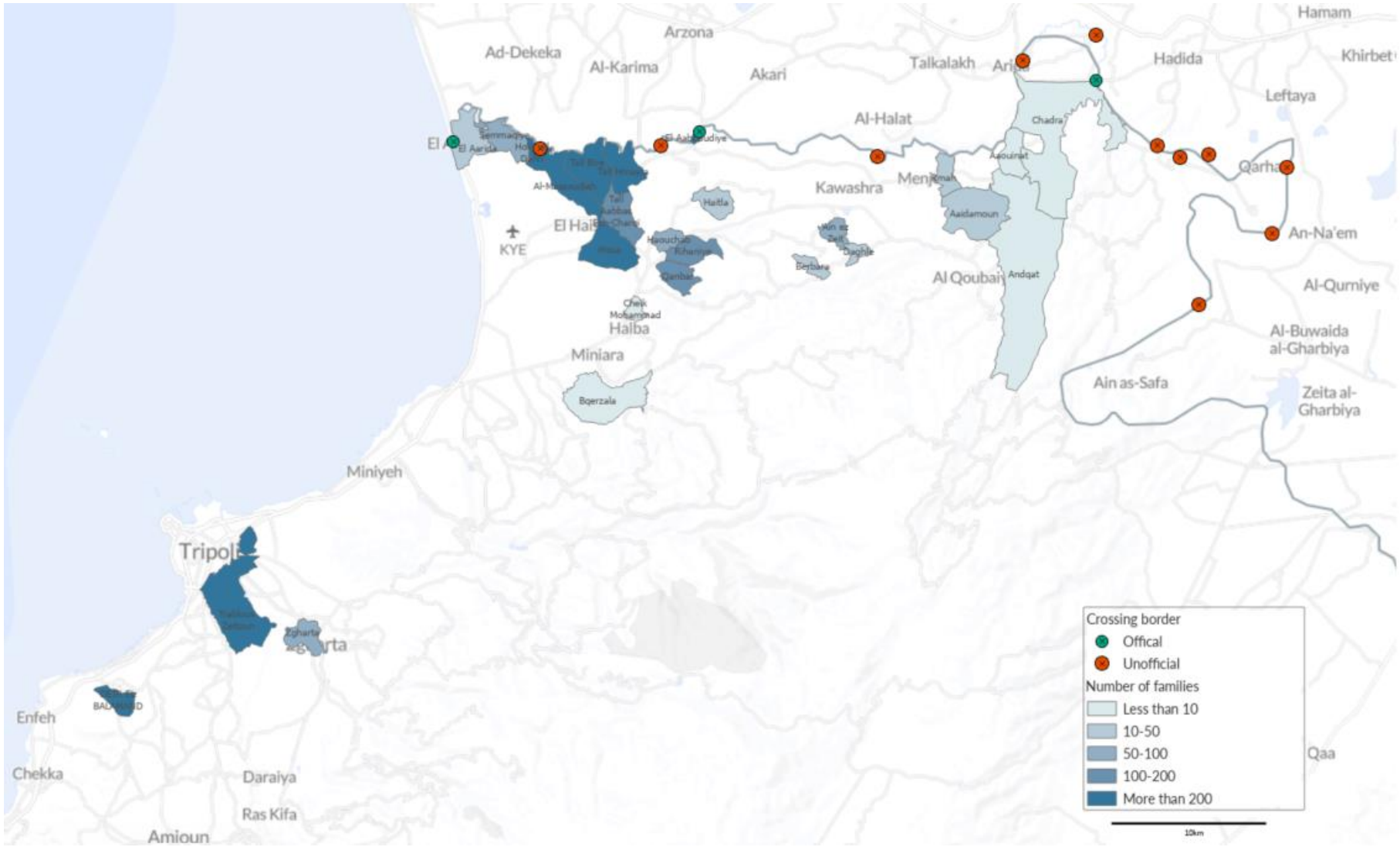
North

- **Villages:** 3
  - Families: 2,111
  - Individuals : 8,526
- **Collective sites:** 03
  - Families: 29
  - Individuals: 124

Total : 29,022 Individuals/6,196 Families

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Map



New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Shelter and Site Coordination

Response:

- **25 CSs**, 22 in Akkar and 3 in Jabal Mohsen including one inactive.
- **Shelter partners**: NRC (8), RMF/UNHCR(6) with SI for wash, SI(2), PU-AMI (3) with SI for wash
- **Five CSs** remain a gap in terms of coverage with shelter with two of them with less than 6 HHs.
- **MSNA** done for 19 CSs and more will be completed this week.
- Sector guidance: Minor repairs consist of using sealing off kits with minor internal wash works and FEs.

Gaps:

- **91%** of newcomers are residing out of CSs and low capacity of the shelter sector to intervene: RMF 60 HHs and CWW 40 HHs both funded by UNHCR and Care Liban 30 HHs.
- Shelters and buildings with structural damages – only funding for minor repairs
- Concern over sustainability of the solutions provided.
- Overcrowded poor sanitary conditions with no housing stock capacity in Sahel region.
- Most shelters are not connected to NLWE water networks nor to sewage networks.

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

WaSH and Solid Waste Management

Center kits

8

Bottled water

13,602

Family hygiene Kits

2,887

Baby Kits

172

WaSH Gaps:

- NLWE is absent in Sahel region
- Typology of CSs requires external WCs as not attached to sewage system
- SI is the only partner in the North with ongoing activities for water trucking
- Focus is on CS at the moment but individual family hygiene kits needed
- Baby Kits

Solid Waste:

- UNDP is providing support to Akkar Governorate for 3 months, by contracting a specialized company for collection and dumping support – focusing on the most affected communities.
- Mapping of partners by the SWTF (SoSt) ongoing however no known partner identified to date to support

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Basic Assistance

Mattresses
- 10,154

Blankets
- 15,692

Sleeping mats
- 7,826

Pillows
- 612

Kitchen sets
- 1084

Basic Assistance: Ongoing blankets, mattresses, mats and other CRIs being provided in both Akkar and North Governorates

Agencies : LRC, ANERA, CARE, UNHCR, AICA, UNICEF/AND, SC, IOM, IRC, NRC, WVI

Gaps : CRIs for newcomers – most agencies had no contingency stock, clothing, fuel for generators for collective shelters

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Food Security

Hot meals

- 139,416

Ready to eat meals

- 2,928

Food Parcels

- 500

Food Security & Agriculture: During Ramadan hot meals were provided. Ready-to-eat meals/parcels available until May (AICA, DRC, WFP, LRC, SC, Caritas)

Gaps : Sustainability of providing ready to eat/food parcels after May

Nutrition : Nutrition is mapping capacity to provide a full package of Nutrition and early childhood development services and following up with MOPH to provide breast milk substitutes.

Gaps : Limited coverage of nutrition and no current availability of breast milk substitutes

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Health

Response:

- **Primary Health Care:**
  - Mobile Medical Teams: MSF- B, Order of Malta, PUI, LRC, Caritas
  - 1 PSU/MoPH (UNICEF funded)
  - 1 PSU/MoPH (WHO funded)
  - 2 PSUs (IRC funded)
- **Mobile Vaccination**: LRC/UNICEF
- **TB screening**: IOM
- **Secondary Health Care (SHC):**
  - Weapon-wounded treatment at TGH only: ICRC
  - UNHCR: % life-saving :UNHCR
  - UNFPA, UNHCR, PUI & Caritas: deliveries % coverage
- **MHPSS:**
  - MSF-B in Jabal Mohsen and through MMUs in Akkar
  - Embrace in Jabal Mohsen

Gaps:

- MHPSS services
- Support with patient share, life saving and pregnancy SHC % provided by UNHCR
- Life-saving SHC services to those unknown to UNHCR including cancer, thalassemia, kidney dialysis.
- Concern over freedom of movement due to people arriving illegally

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

General Protection

Agencies: DRC, IRC, NRC, UNHCR/IOCC, UNHCR/Caritas, UNHCR/INTERSOS

Activities:

- Protection monitoring conducted to assess the protection risks and vulnerabilities faced by the population. The findings are compiled into a weekly situation report, shared with PWG members to inform and support their planning.
- Protection monitoring also facilitates the safe identification of individuals at risk, ensuring the referral of high-risk cases to appropriate services.
- Approximately 400 Lebanese families – some families seeking a waiver of the courtesy visa fee.

Individuals receiving emergency protection case management	Individuals attended awareness/PSS sessions	Individuals receiving counseling
9	35	76

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Protection: Child Protection

Children benefiting from case management

9

Services available/planned:

- Safe identification/referral vulnerable children in need of specialized services (during the recreation activities
- Child protection case management
- PFA sessions for children (under 18)

Agencies: AICA, AND, INTERSOS, HIMAYA, IRC, RMF, SCI, SHIFT

Gaps/needs:

- Inadequate infrastructure to ensure safe and confidential case management in line with safeguarding measures.
- Lack of recreational activities for children due to the absence of child-friendly spaces.
- PFA is a need

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Protection: Gender-Based Violence

Dignity kits distributed as part of the GBV response	Individuals receiving PSEA messages as part of the GBV response	LAHA kits distributed
3,121	3,121	769

Services available/planned:

- Safe identification/referral of individuals in need of specialized services (during the DK distribution and accompanied PSS)
- GBV case management for individuals at heightened risk
- PSS sessions for adults

Agencies: ABAAD, AKKAROUNA, AND, DRC, IMPOSSBILE, UNHCR/LECORVAW, SHIFT

Gaps/needs:

- Inadequate infrastructure to ensure safe and confidential case management in line with safeguarding measures. Mobile infrastructure is being considered for the tailored response.
- Referral to mental health partners limited due to the limited capacity
- PSS Is a need

New Arrivals Response: North & Akkar Governorates

Education

- Education Sector partners are providing PSS, recreational activities and learning kits to new arrivals in their existing center

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Tensions Overview

Nisreen Jaafar, Conflict Analysis & Mainstreaming Officer (UNDP)

Tensions Overview

Current Tensions Landscape

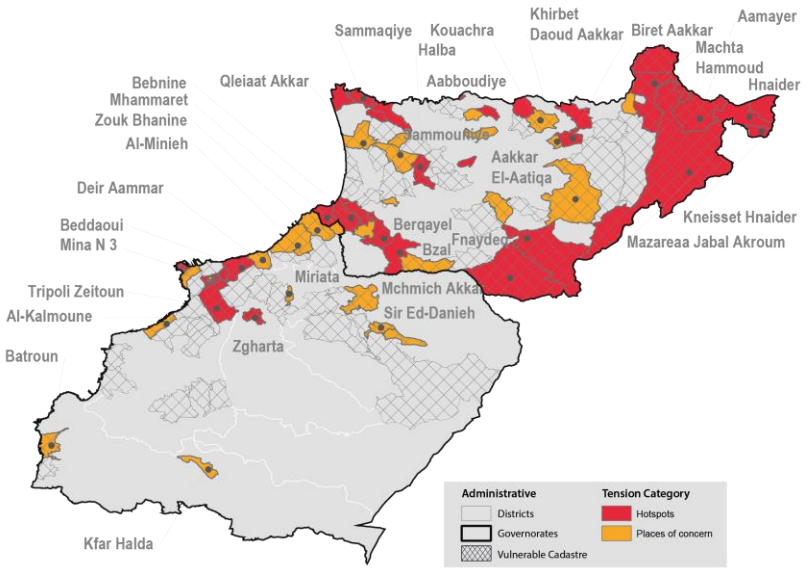
- **Mass displacement** toward Akkar (around 15,000) coupled with aid provision bias:
  - Reluctance of data sharing with humanitarian organizations because of fear of deportation, thus hindering access of responders to vulnerable populations.
  - Intra-communal tension around aid provision manifesting in competition over response leadership.

- **Increased resentment among local authorities** due to repercussions of new influx on strained infrastructure and services (e.g. statements by MP Al Baarini and Mayor of Tal Bireh).

- **Surge in security concerns** amidst allegations of hosting pro-Assad members and arrests of suspected individuals (e.g. statement by caretaker of Miniyeh Municipality, warning against a Mina employee, etc.).

- **Politicization of the context with sectarian dimension** (Sunni vs. Alawites) manifesting in inflammatory social media landscape. Alawite Islamic Council affirmed commitment to civil peace and security stability.

Map of Tension Hotspots and Places of Concern | North & Akkar Q4-2024



Tensions Overview

Current Tensions Landscape

- On 6 March, **a video circulated on WhatsApp groups** in the North Akkar showing a group of armed and masked individuals from Wadi Khaled declaring readiness to support the Syrian government. On 7 March, LAF issued a statement that it arrested two individuals among the perpetrators.
- **Online debates took a sectarian tone** while an assault incident in Jabal Mohsen was mis-attributed to a sectarian group.
- **Uptick in misinformation and disinformation** regarding the background of displaced populations, presence of pro-Assad members in specific areas of the North and Akkar governorates, and the geopolitical outlook for the region.
- **Videos of alleged smugglers and illegal cross-border crossings** are increasingly highlighted in news articles and social media posts, oftentimes exaggerated and politicized.

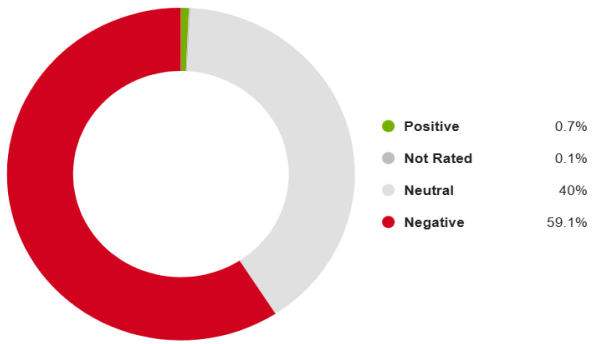


Figure 1: Sentiments of online anti-Syrian rhetoric during March 2025.

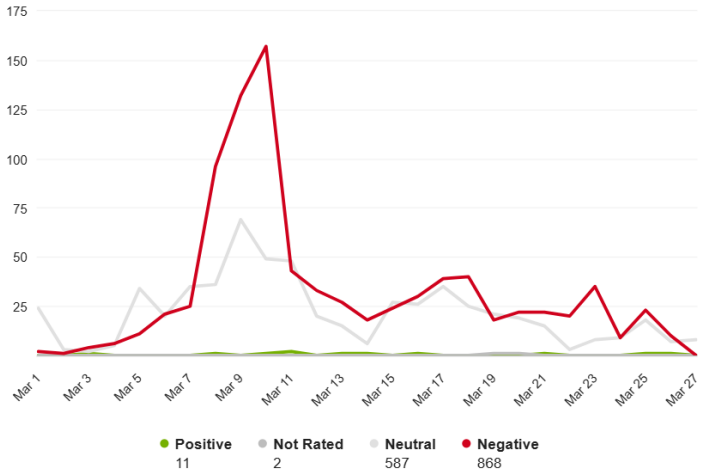
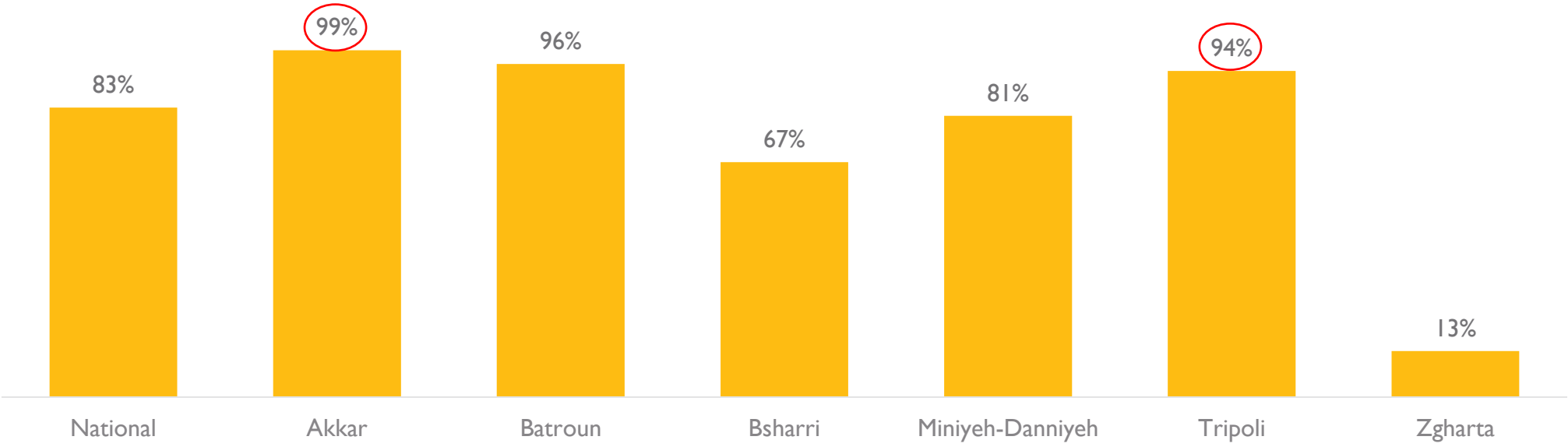


Figure 2: Negative sentiments of online anti-Syrian rhetoric peak following escalation in the Syrian coast

Tensions Overview

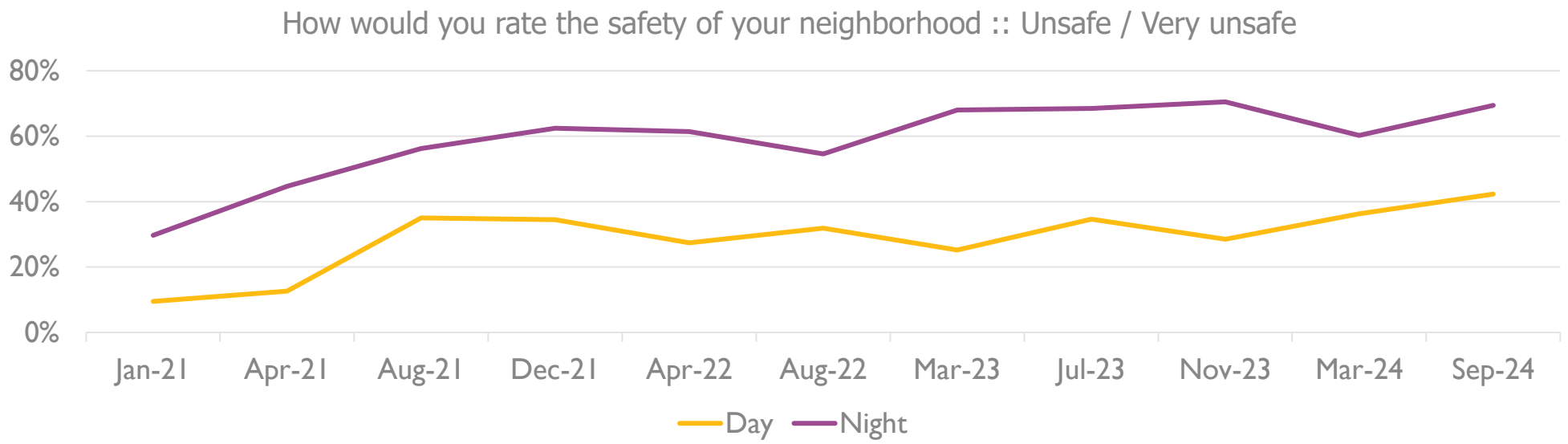
Amidst Highly Volatile Environment in the North & Akkar, Perceptions of Restrictions on Foreigners Making the Area Safe were Highest in Akkar

Agreement with statement, 'When tensions are high, some restrictions on foreigners' movement or curfews can help keep this area safe'.

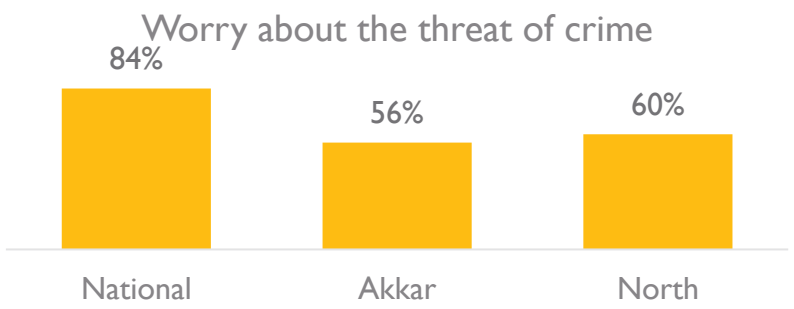


Tensions Overview

Baseline Perception Around Security Already High Amidst Increasing Worries About Threat of Crime

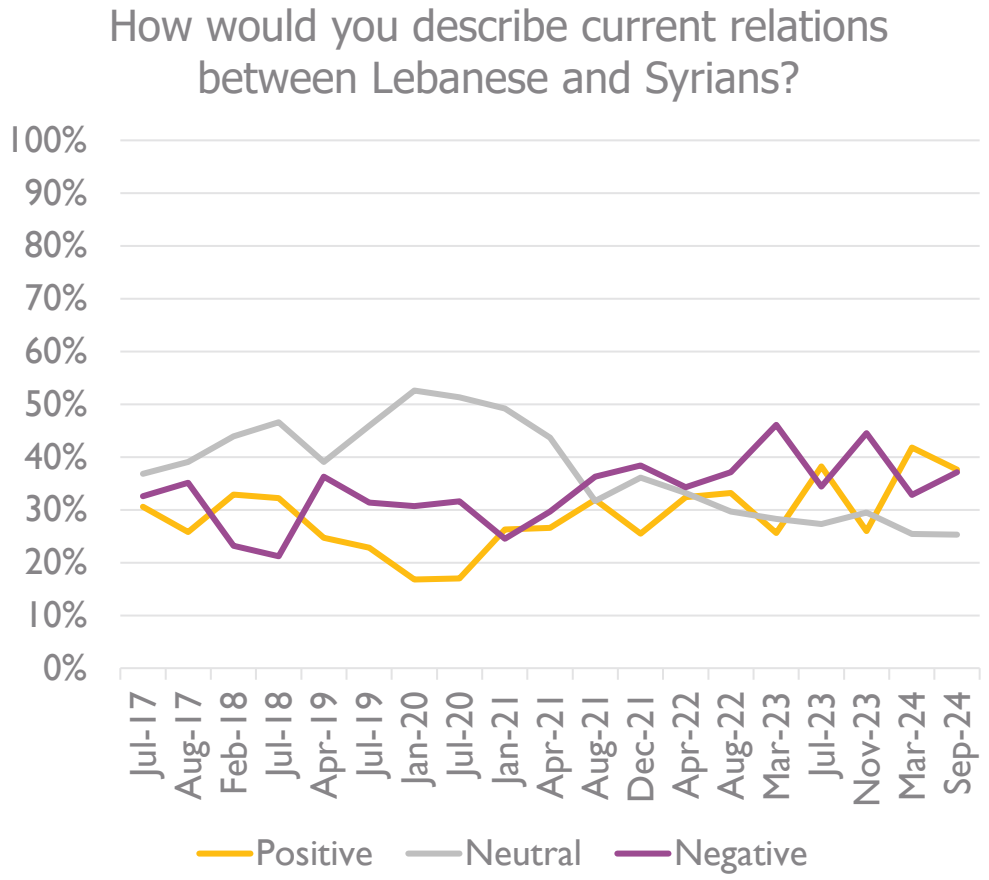


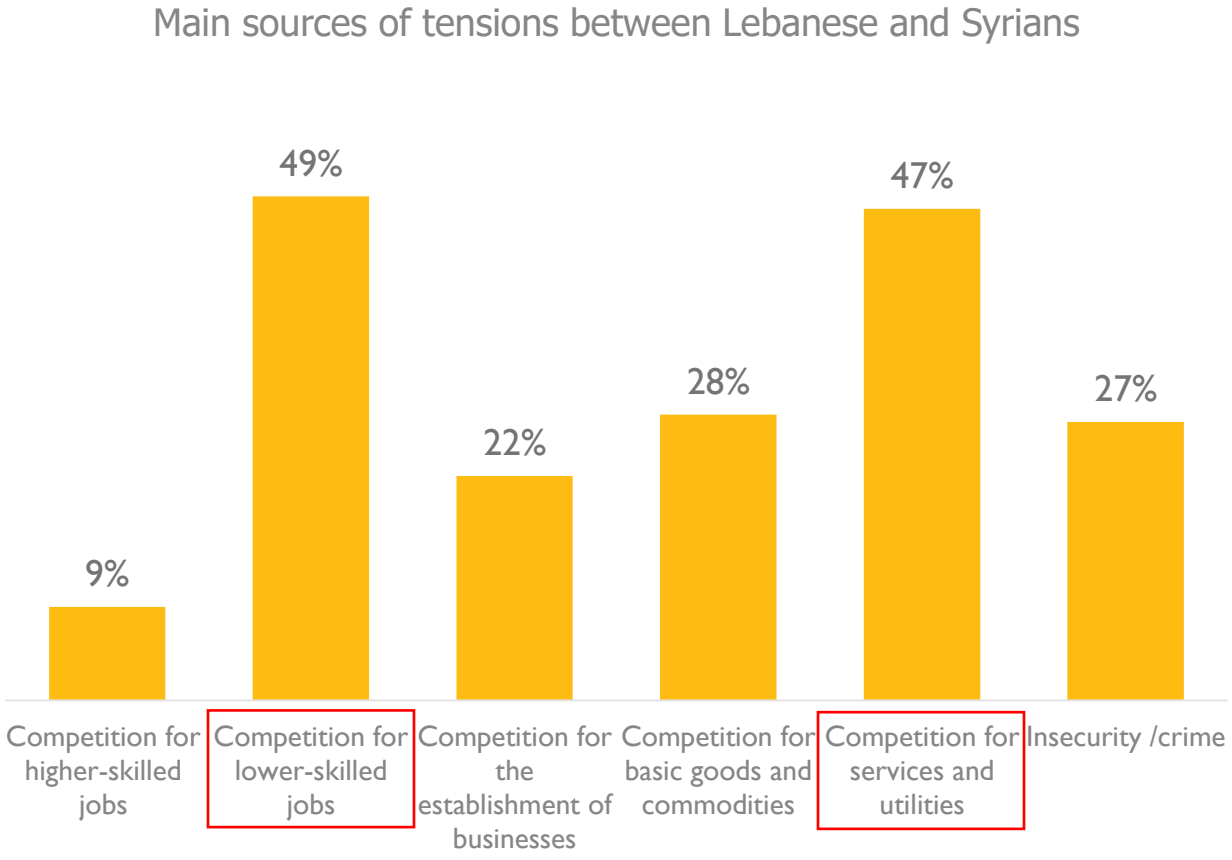
- 65% of respondents perceive the security conditions in their area to be worsened a lot or a little.
- Perceptions of safety during the night in **Akkar** deteriorated even further to reach 98% unsafe in November 2024.



Tensions Overview

Inter-communal Relations Strained by Competition Over Access to Services and Economic Competition Further Exacerbated by Recent Waves of Displacement





Tensions Overview

Outlook and Risks

- **Increased displacement will continue to strain local infrastructure and resources** increasing the risks of service-related tensions including vertical tensions with local authorities.

- **Deepening political strife** impacted by shifting national dynamics and volatile geopolitical changes at the regional level.

- **Concerns over unmet humanitarian needs amid challenging funding landscape** in the region and globally.

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Mine Action

Stephen Robinson, Mine Action Policy Advisor (UNDP)

Mine Action

Presentation

- What is mine action?
- Mine action in Lebanon
- How do we coordinate moving forward?

Mine Action

What is Mine Action?

- 5 Pillars
  - Clearance
  - Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)
  - Stockpile destruction
  - Victim's assistance
  - Advocacy

- In Lebanon Mine Action is an enabler- risk management

Mine Action

Overview

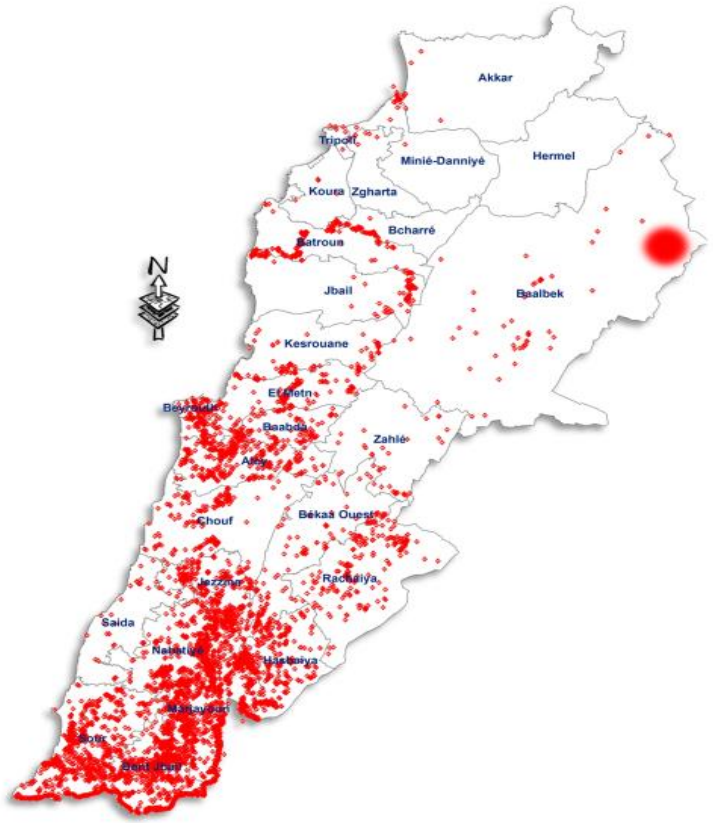
- Clearance uses land release process:
  - Non-technical survey
  - Technical survey
  - Clearance

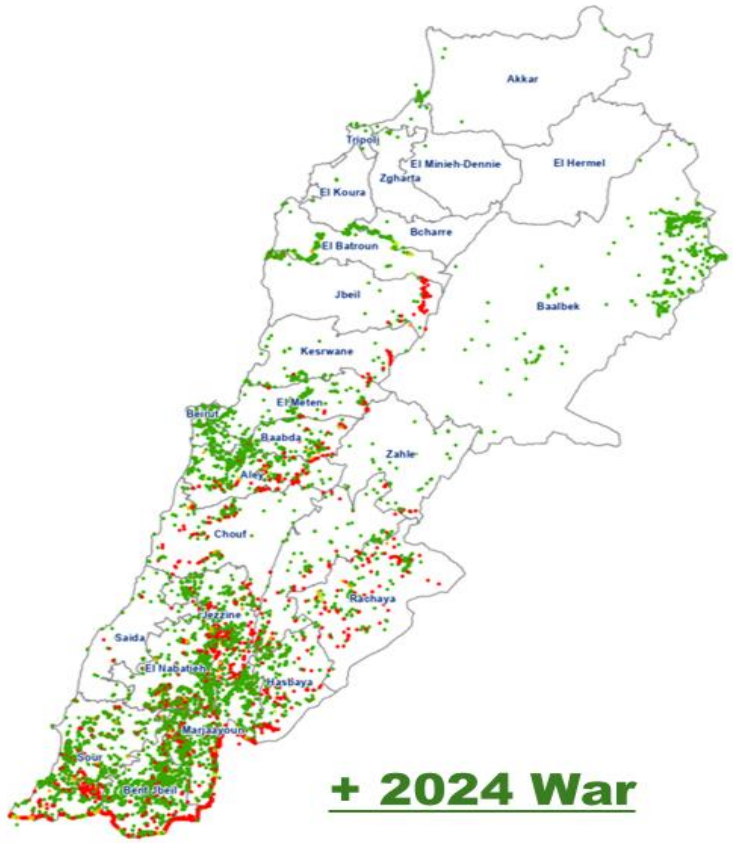
- Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA)

Mine Action

Scope of the Context-New Data Being Gathered

Scope of the Problem





Mine Action

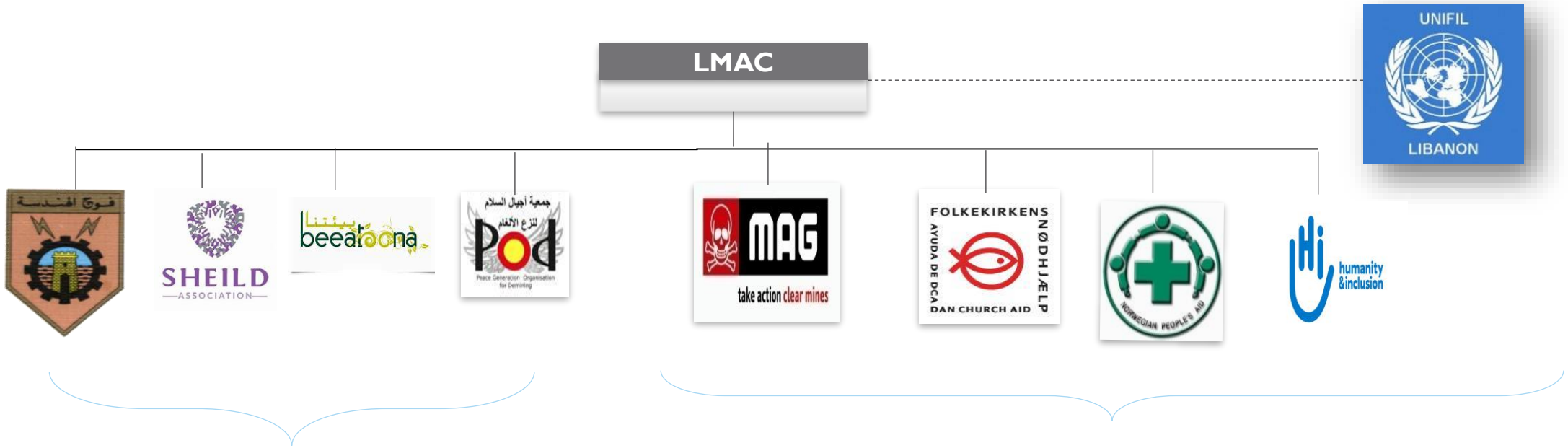
Lebanon

- Role of the LMAC:
  - Coordination-tasking
  - Accreditation
  - Quality management
  - Information management
  - Overall responsibility for mine action

- INGO's- 4
- NNGO's-3
- LAF

Mine Action

Operational Partners



National

International

Mine Action

Capacity-Funding Dependent

- NTS teams -21
- Rapid Response Teams- 4
- Multi-task Teams-10
- Plus LAF EOD- 4
- UNDP and UNICEF

Mine Action

South Lebanon

- Regional MAC- RMAC-N
- Role of the LAF
- Role of UNDP
- UNIFIL

Mine Action

Offer

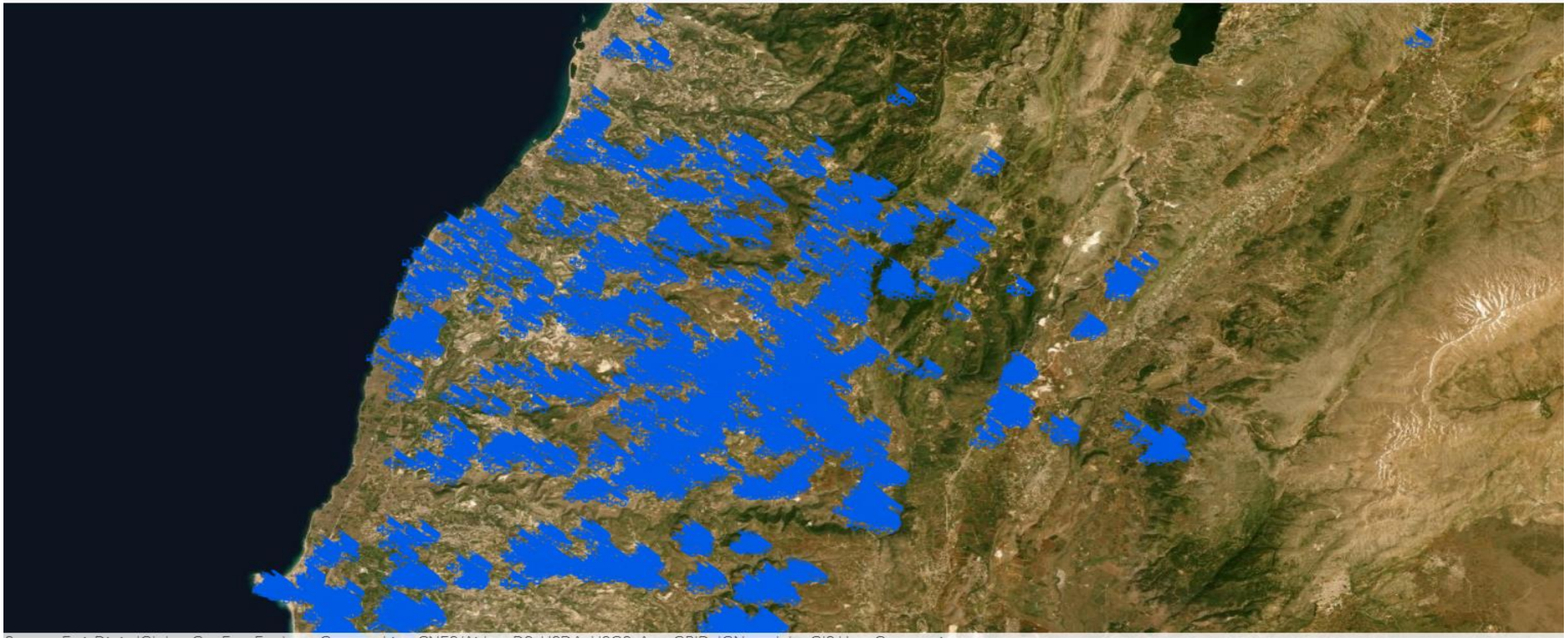
- EORE for beneficiaries, staff, other partners
- Survey
- Risk mitigation advice
- Information
- Mapping
- Land release

Mine Action

Example Mapping

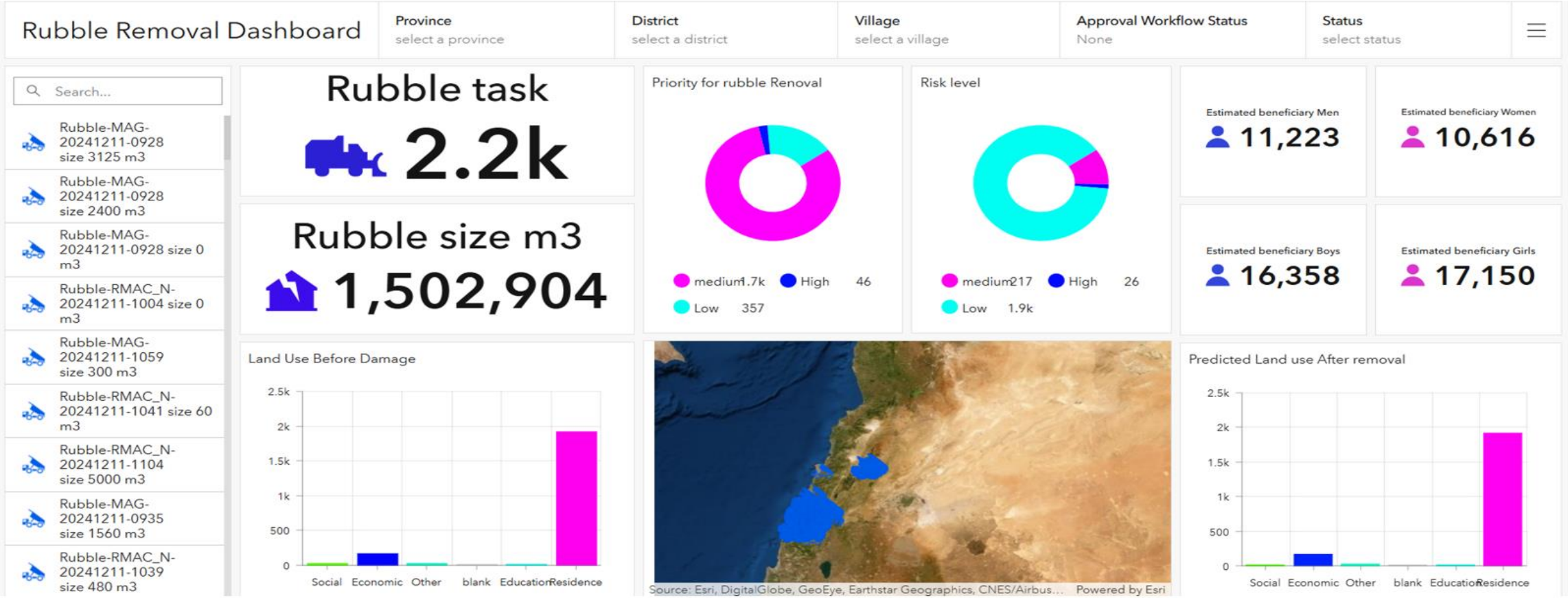
Rubble Removal Dashboard

Province	District	Village	Approval Workflow Status	Status
select a province	select a district	select a village	None	select status



Mine Action

Example Mapping: Data Reporting



Mine Action

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education

Update of Safety Messages

- new material according to the recent contamination

Mine Action

Questions: What do you want from the mine action sector?

- What do you need from the mine action sector?
- How do you want to receive information?
- How you want to feed into the sector?

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Email: info@lebmac.org

Briefing on Cash

Julien Morel, Cash Working Group Co-Chair (UNHCR)
Luigi Peter Ragno, Cash Working Group Co-Chair (UNICEF)
Diana Tonea, Senior Inter-Agency Cash Advisor (WFP)

Briefing on Cash

CWG Meetings and Upcoming Priorities

- HCT presentation of cash mapping:
  - Overall positive feedback from the HCT
- Extended CWG meeting with MoSA, LDCF, and all interested cash actors - main points.
- Upcoming DCF meeting on the 24th of April, co-create the presentation with the sectors and CWG members.
- Medium-term priorities: common messages on risks and mitigation measures for the HCT; cash mapping next steps; common cash framework; emergency MPCA guidelines.
- MoSA registration system: how do we see it moving forward, to ensure a unique entry point and that all sectors and stakeholders are up to date and consulted when needed.

Briefing on Cash

Cash Mapping Next Steps

Main comments: Summary

Challenges with the mapping:

- Under-reporting across all reporting tools (AI, LAT).
- Lack of harmonization of cash indicators across sectors, different terminology used by sectors.
- Not all sectors report on the total USD disbursed and some of the data had to be calculated manually by sectors and agencies.
- Need further understanding of cash assistance disbursed as MPCA/Multisectoral programmes, sitting under different sectors.
- Need to adopt a methodology to calculate unique number of HHs/individuals that benefit from MPCA and CVA across sectors.
- Lack of consolidated and single source of information for Social Protection.

Next steps: Email from the IMWG to map out current cash indicators and reporting methods. Work with Sectors and IMWG to harmonize reporting of cash indicators across sectors in 2025 through Activity Info; develop a dashboard for ongoing monitoring. Opportunity to introduce MPCA reporting in AI in addition to sectoral cash.

Briefing on Cash

DCF Meeting, 24th April 2025

Aim to co-create the presentation with the sectors, ISCG and CWG members.

Agenda:

- Cash coordination
- Cash mapping
- Lessons learned exercise outcome from the September emergency response
- Risk analysis of cash and in-kind programs
- Joint advocacy with the DCF and LDCF

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Update on 9th Brussels Conference

Stephanie Laba, Inter-Agency Coordination Officer (UNHCR)

Update on 9th Brussels Conference

Initial Takeaways and Key Messages

Syria's Participation:

- For the first time, Syria's transitional government participated in the conference, signaling a new phase of engagement with the international community.
- Co-Chairs (EU & UN) and Syria's Foreign Minister emphasized the need for post-Assad transition, condemned violence, and advocated for justice and accountability.

Reaffirmation of International Commitment and Coordinated Support:

- A strong emphasis was placed on securing international commitments to support Syria's transition.
- Pledges were made for both immediate humanitarian assistance and long-term recovery efforts, ensuring sustained aid for Syrians within Syria and in host communities across Jordan, Lebanon, Türkiye, Egypt, and Iraq.
- The goal is to help build a free, peaceful, and prosperous Syria.

EU-UN Cooperation at the Forefront:

- EU firmly supports a UN-mediated, Syrian-led political solution in line with UN Security Council Resolution 2254 and the 2012 Geneva Communiqué.
- Since 2011, the EU and its Member States have provided over €30 billion in aid, making the EU the largest global donor.
- EU-UN cooperation also prioritizes the displacement crisis, ensuring that refugee returns are voluntary, safe, and dignified in line with UNHCR standards.
- EU aligns with UN mechanisms promoting justice and accountability such as the International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM) and the UN Commission of Inquiry.
- EU also backs the proposed UN initiative to clarify the fate of Syria's missing persons, ensuring lasting justice and reconciliation.

Advancing Socio-Economic Recovery and Stability:

- EU will support a civil society event later this year in Damascus, ensuring continuous engagement with Syrian communities and stakeholders.
- The European Commission's Directorate-General for the Middle East, North Africa, and the Gulf will host a senior-level workshop on 18 March titled "How to ensure coordinated international support to Syria's socio-economic recovery?"

Update on 9th Brussels Conference

Lebanon's Appeal for Support

- **Shifting Refugee Dynamics:** Lebanon's Foreign Minister stated that the continued presence of Syrian refugees in Lebanon no longer has a legal basis, as conditions have changed. Many are now economic migrants rather than fleeing war or persecution.

- **Call to Lift Sanctions on Syria:** He urged the international community to remove sanctions to facilitate Syria's reconstruction and transition from early recovery to full rebuilding.

- **Concerns Over a New Refugee Influx:** While acknowledging the recent arrivals from the Syrian coast, he warned against simply replacing one refugee group with another.

- **Lebanon's Internal Challenges:** The Minister emphasized Lebanon's own struggles, particularly in the wake of recent conflicts that have devastated entire villages. He stressed that Lebanon's priority is national reconstruction rather than prolonged regional crises.

- **The Need for Political Solutions:** He concluded that humanitarian aid alone is not enough for refugee returns and called for decisive political action to ensure lasting and sustainable solutions.

Update on 9th Brussels Conference

Pledges & Next Steps

- The total pledges for 2025 amount to 5.8 billion EUR, consisting of grants and loans. This marks a 1.7 billion EUR (22.67%) decrease from the 7.5 billion EUR pledged in 2024.
- Of the 2025 total, 4.2 billion EUR are allocated as grants and 1.6 billion EUR as loans.
- The EU and EU Member States collectively represent 80% of the total grants pledged.
- A detailed breakdown of pledges by country is not yet available, but will be shared once released.

- The Ministerial Conference, including the pledging segment, has concluded. However, the Day of Dialogue, which is usually held before the main conference, is now scheduled to take place later this summer in Damascus.

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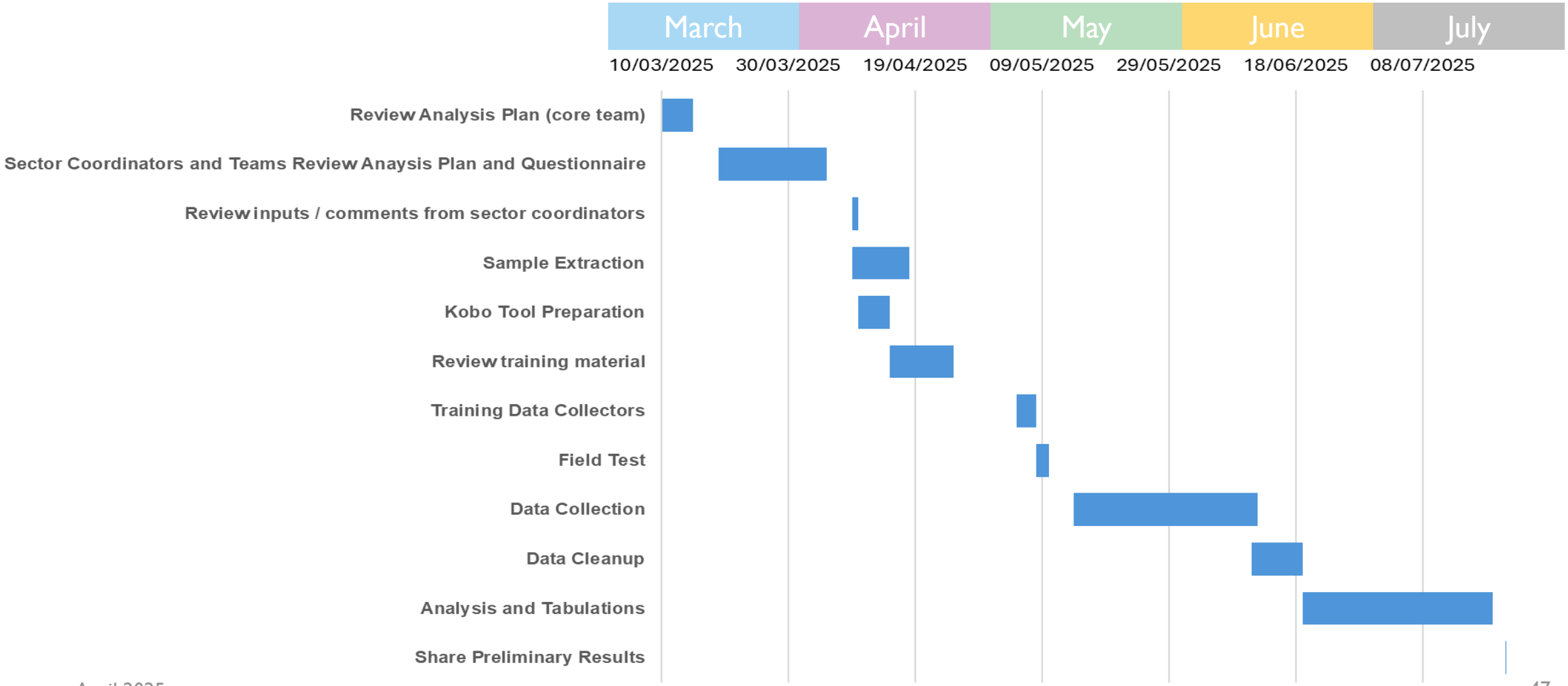
Update on VASyR 2025

Raffi Kouzoujian, Assistant Information Management Officer (UNHCR)

VASyR 2025

Projected Schedule and Milestones



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Update on LHF

Yendi Ghossein, Deputy Fund Manager (LHF)

Update on LHF

2025 1st Standard Allocation

Up to $25 Million

Funding Scope Up to $25M for life-saving interventions, addressing residual conflict needs and new shocks

Alignment Follows Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) 2025 and HC Vision Statement, emphasizing on local partnerships, and flexibility.

Target Groups Vulnerable Lebanese, Syrian/Palestinian refugees, migrants—prioritizing those excluded from services.

Combined Community-Driven with Data driven Approach

Localized Response

Focused Priorities - Ensuring strategic funding allocation to specific sectors to maximize impact and avoid fund dispersion.

Goal: Ensure high-impact, inclusive aid grounded in evidence and community voices

Update on LHF

2025 1st Standard Allocation

Up to $25 Million

Pillar I

Sustaining critical life-saving humanitarian interventions to address urgent survival needs resulting from conflict in Lebanon

This pillar focuses on maintaining **essential, immediate life-saving humanitarian interventions** across conflict-affected areas in Lebanon, ensuring that communities facing the **most severe humanitarian distress** receive critical aid.

By delivering **lifesaving support,** this pillar addresses **the most urgent survival needs** of vulnerable populations. It also reinforces resilience and enhances the capacity to respond to escalating humanitarian challenges in high-risk regions.

Pillar II

Immediate Rapid Response to New Current Shocks

This pillar focuses on addressing vulnerable communities affected by **service disruptions due to new current shocks,** including funding shortages and regional instability, and requires **immediate and flexible interventions to ensure the continuation of essential services**, particularly for those already facing **heightened vulnerability.**

Pillar III

Strengthening Flexibility and Local Capacity in Humanitarian Action.

Funding is exclusively for local and national NGOs, allowing **strategic flexibility** while aligning with the broader objectives of Pillars I and II.

Pillar III also supports **funding diversification**, enabling newly eligible partners to receive support if their proposals are well-justified. The maximum funding per project is $400,000.

Update on LHF

2025 1st Standard Allocation – Consultation Process

Step 1- Agree on Strategic Parameters (HC/AB)

Data Driven

Step 2 - initiate prioritization with the sectors at national/sub-national levels

Community Driven

Step 3- Parallel Local Community Consultations

Step 4 - Consolidate & Analyze Data

Step 5 – LHDF-LHIF Consultation

Step 6 – Inter-sectoral Sub National Consultation

Step 7 – ISCG national Consultation

Final Step

Final Endorsement by AB/HC

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Thank You