

Syria Crisis Bi-Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report

Lebanon

Date: 07 March 2013

Reporting Period: 22 February – 06 March 2013

Highlights

- A total of 1,707 boys, girls and women benefitted from psychosocial support services (PSS) and gender-based violence programmes in the past fortnight, bringing the cumulative number of children reached through PSS activities to date to 17,062.
- Enrollment of students into Lebanese schools is almost complete, with over 32,000 Syrian students enrolled in public schools. Of those students, UNICEF assisted 17,721 children with enrolment, including the provision of school supplies. The focus of education activities will now shift to remedial classes and accelerated learning programmes.
- The nationwide rollout of the vaccination campaign to begin on 18 March, with training of doctors and administrators finishing this week.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Refugee Population <i>(Estimates calculated based on initial figures from UNHCR Portal on 7 Mar 2013)</i>			
Total number of registered refugees and individuals awaiting registration			332,297
Registered Refugees	Total	Male	Female
Total Affected Population	209,175	100,404	108,771
Children Affected (Under 18)	108,771	54,386	54,386
Children 0-4 Years	41,835	20,918	20,918
Children 5-11 Years	41,835	20,918	20,918
Children 12-17 Years	25,101	12,551	12,551

A total of 209,175 refugees are currently registered with UNHCR, of which more than fifty per cent are children. An additional 123,122 Syrians have been in contact with UNHCR to be registered, bringing the total to 332,297. The forecast of 300,000 refugees in Lebanon by the end of June 2013 was officially surpassed in late February. However, the actual number of Syrians in the country is believed to be substantially higher, since many are not registered, for a range of reasons. The number of Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS) that have approached UNRWA in Lebanon has now exceeded 31,000. They are spread throughout the country in Saida (31%), Bekaa (20%), Beirut (17.5%), Tyre (16.5%) and Tripoli (15%).

Programme response

WASH: Hygiene promotion sessions have been provided in the North and Bekaa through household and group sessions to 11,713 beneficiaries. So far 14,370 affected people continue to be provided with access to drinking and domestic water and 43,319 have been reached with soap and other hygiene items. The Government of Lebanon (GoL) has initiated a coordination mechanism to address the needs of the broader affected population in response to the Syria crisis. Within the WASH sector, coordination dialogue has commenced under the GoL response. UNICEF is an active participant in these initial discussions and the roles of particular agencies and that of the government will be further elaborated in due course. The involvement of the central government will allow for greater participation in WASH interventions at a municipal level, facilitating increased collaboration, increasing the reach of WASH coverage and allowing more sustainable interventions. UNICEF partners are trialling the use of a chlorine generator to dose tankers and water tanks in the Bekaa, which will reduce reliance on the procurement of bulky and expensive WASH supplies. UNICEF partners have requested additional units for further trials in the North.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
	UNICEF 2013 Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved
Emergency affected population provided with access	105,000	14,370	14%

to drinking and domestic water		(11,753 at end 2012)	
Emergency affected population provided with access to soap and other hygiene items	105,000	43,319	41%
Emergency affected population with access to appropriately designed toilets and sanitation services	105,000	0	0
Comments/Background : N/A.			

Child Protection: Despite receiving limited funding for gender based violence (GBV) programmes, UNICEF continues to prioritise these activities. In the past two weeks 279 women and girls survivors of GBV, as well as at risk of GBV have benefitted from support provided by two UNICEF-supported community centres for women and girls in North Lebanon and Bekaa. Support is provided through life skills and vocational training programmes, emotional support groups and awareness-raising sessions on parenting skills and nutrition.

Additionally, as part of the risk mitigation efforts undertaken to protect women and girls, a safety audit was conducted with 17 women and girls between 13 and 50 years old. This audit highlighted that women and girls face a number of protection risks relating to their living conditions including overcrowding, mixed bathrooms, inability to pay rent and girls not able to go to school. In response, nine protection staff from IRC was trained on risk mitigation to be able to support women and girls to address these issues more comprehensively.

Over the past two weeks, UNICEF has reached 1,707 boys and girls with psychosocial support (PSS) programmes bringing the number of children reached through PSS activities to date to 17,062. PSS activities have been delivered through social development centres, centre and community based outreach psychosocial activities mainly in the North and Bekaa regions including Awada Bani Sakher, Machutta Hamoud, Ragam Hussein, Ragam Khalef, a social development centre in Amayer and at the Wavel Palestinian refugee camp. 1,279 boys and girls benefitted from recreational support and non-formal education programmes. Additionally, 428 children (240 girls and 188 boys) have attended community-based child friendly spaces in targeted municipalities in the North and Bekaa areas.

UNICEF is also supporting a programme in the north and Bekaa targeting children with disabilities including special needs. This programme provides specialised support to the children including PSS, rehabilitative (physiotherapy, speech therapy) and reintegrative services and technical and medical aids and assistance. To date 98 children with special needs and disabilities have benefitted from these specialised services and a further 500 from PSS.

In a joint initiative with UNHCR, UNICEF is supporting an awareness raising campaign on birth registration for Syrian refugee and host populations born in Lebanon to address difficulties experienced in registering the birth of children, impacting their access to child rights and basic services. UNHCR and UNICEF have jointly written to the ministries of health, interior and social affairs highlighting this issue. The letter seeks to engage the government to find ways to address this issue as well as raise awareness among health professionals, Mokhtars, local authorities and the refugee and some host population of their rights and how they can in practical terms address some of the challenges.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
	UNICEF Target 2013	Cumulative 2013 results (#)	% of Target Achieved
Children with access to psychosocial support services	74,000	17,062 (8,379 at end 2012)	23%
Comments/Background: N/A			

Education: Enrolment of Syrian students in public schools is almost complete with UNICEF partner Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre, with the focus now shifting to assisting school-aged children arriving from Syria through remedial classes and accelerated learning programmes, in addition to providing psychosocial support. The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) estimates that more than 32,000 Syrian children have been enrolled in public schools in Lebanon. In the past two weeks, UNICEF has assisted 1,983 students with enrolment, bringing UNICEF's contribution to overall enrolment efforts to 17,721 students to date. The 17,721 students represent half of UNICEF's target of 35,530 school-aged children in learning programmes. It is estimated that nearly 138,000 of the refugees registered and pending registration in Lebanon are school-aged.

Enrolment of Syrian students in public schools will continue as long as there is space in hosting schools, however public schools are coming close to saturation and other options are now being considered, including a move to double shifts. Delivery of fuel to ensure classrooms remain heated throughout the winter is continuing. To date, 53 schools in the Bekaa, and 22 in the North have received fuel from UNICEF, with deliveries underway to a further 36 schools in the South and Mount Lebanon. A total of 23,820 students have benefited from fuel for classroom heating in 61 schools based on partner reports, with UNICEF working on collecting results for other schools that have been supported. UNICEF co-facilitated the Joint Education Needs Assessment training with UNESCO and UNHCR targeting 68 education field staff from all regions from the Education Working Group, including 12 MEHE staff members. The training included an introduction to Education in Emergencies Minimum Standards.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners			Sector		
	UNICEF 2013 Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved	Sector Target	Cumulative results (#)	% Target Achieved
School-aged children in affected areas in schools/learning programmes	35,530	17,721 (3,842 at end 2012)	50%	NA	NA	NA
Children with access to psychosocial support in education programmes	32,720	2,844 (2,050 in 2012)	9%	70,560*	NA	NA
Children and adolescents benefitting from non-formal and informal educational services	32,720	2,844 (2,050 in 2012)	9%	70,560*	NA	NA

Comments/Background: * From RRP4, adding up ALL figures for targets against "Number of children (6-14 years old) enrolled in alternative primary education"

Health: With the completion of the vaccination campaign in the ten provinces with the highest concentration of Syrian refugees, work is underway to extend the vaccinations to the rest of the country, with training of doctors responsible for PHC centres, Qada physicians, and assistants of the sixteen provinces to be covered finishing this week. So far 207,457 Syrian and Lebanese children have been vaccinated against measles. See more details in the table. The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) decided that the campaign will be extended to the rest of Lebanon, and confirmed this week 79 cases of measles throughout the country – all cases occurred in provinces not covered by the initial vaccination campaign. UNICEF has already purchased 550,000 measles vaccine doses and 300,000 polio doses, which are stored in the MoPH's cold chain system ready for the implementation of the next phase of immunizations beginning 18 March. Other immunization equipment including syringes, swabs, safety boxes and adrenalin injections will arrive this week. Vaccinations have been taking place in schools, Social Development Centres, informal tented settlements and at UNHCR registration centres. UNICEF and UNHCR have proposed to the MoPH to establish four permanent vaccination teams at the four UNHCR registration centres in order to vaccinate all arrivals under the age of 18.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
	UNICEF Target 2013	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved
# of children (boys and girls) 9 months to 15 years vaccinated against measles*	74,000	50,430 Not planned in 2012	68%
# of children (boys and girls) 6 months to 15 years receiving Vitamin A supplementation*	74,000	35,296 Not planned in 2012	48%
# of children (boys and girls) 9 months to 18 years vaccinated against measles**		207,457***	N/A
# of children (boys and girls) up to 18 years receiving Vitamin A**		119,301****	
# of children (boys and girls) up to 5 years receiving Polio **		29,522*****	

* Target includes 16% host community and 3% Palestinian refugee children.
 **Additional results from expanded efforts including wider geographical coverage and expanded age brackets. No target currently available as effort is based on evolving need on the ground.
 *** Of which 37,575 Syrian refugee children and 2,155 Palestinian children (in Lebanon and returned from Syria)
 **** Of which 24,841 Syrian refugee children and 941 Palestinian children (in Lebanon and returned from Syria)
 ***** Of which 9,846 Syrian refugee children and 211 Palestinian children (in Lebanon and returned from Syria)

Nutrition: Additional to the workshops on infant and young child feeding held in Beirut, Bekaa and the North in December last year, a workshop was held in Tyr in February to inform emergency response organisations on the International Code on Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes and to stop the improper distribution of breast-milk substitutes, as well as promoting breastfeeding. The workshop had twenty participants from several INGOs and UNHCR.

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved
# of children <5 receiving multi-micronutrient supplementation	50,000	0	0
Comments/Background: partners not yet reporting.			

Communications for Development (C4D)

Preparation for the national measles and polio vaccination campaign from 18 March-1 April against measles and polio and with supplies of vitamin A is underway. UNICEF has been requested by Ministry of Public Health to prepare for the widespread health mobilization campaign with the production of TV and radio spots, posters, leaflets and other community awareness raising tools.

Inter-Agency Collaboration and Partnerships

UNICEF is working closely with all Agencies and GOL representatives in the planning of the RRP5 strategy and action plan. The plan will be launched by early May, covering the period to end December 2013, and inclusive of all affected population groups in Lebanon. UNICEF's active participation in the various sector groups continues, notably sharing the lead in the CP WG with the MOSA. The number of Palestinian children from Syria attending UNRWA schools has increased to 2,708 students. UNICEF is providing material support to UNRWA to assist these children, including stationery kits, school-in-a-box kits and other recreational and school supplies for 3,000 children.

Supply and Logistics

Under UNICEF winterization activities, during February, the following supplies have been delivered to partners:

- 19,452 blankets
- Winter clothing kits for 18,591 children
- Baby kits for 4,542 children
- Winter clothing kit vouchers for 15,390 children
- 2,500 tarpaulins
- 6,865 family hygiene kits, benefiting 34,325 people
- 2,000 adult hygiene kits, for 4,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria

Regional

Funding

Funding Status		Child Protection	Education	Health & Nutrition	WASH	NFIs	Safety & Security	Ops. Mgmt	Total
In millions of USD									
Syria	Required	8.82	20.05	15.88	22.50		1.19		68.44
	Funded	2.41	3.07	0.50	7.34	-	0.59		14.92
Jordan	Required	11.19	17.76	3.69	24.35				57.00
	Funded	0.37	0.08	0.37	2.09				2.91**
Lebanon	Required	7.77	13.83	1.06	10.81	1.72			35.19
	Funded	2.54	6.50	0.60	3.39	0.67			13.72
Iraq	Required	1.45	2.41	1.45	9.30			5.40	20.00
	Funded	0.69	0.43	0.00	2.77			0.40	4.30
Turkey	Required	6.00	6.50						12.50
	Funded	1.31	0.00						1.31
Egypt	Required	0.26	0.35	0.09					0.70
	Funded								0.00
MENA RO	Required								2.00
	Funded								5.00*
Total	Required	35.49	60.90	22.17	66.96	1.72	1.19	5.40	195.83
	Funded	7.33	10.08	1.47	15.59	0.67	0.59	0.40	42.15
	Gap	28.16	50.82	20.70	51.37	1.05	0.60	5.00	153.68

Figures as of 4 March 2013

*Being allocated: US\$ 5.00 m in the process of being transferred to Country Offices or across the sub-region

** This total amount does not include ECHO and Japan's latest contributions to UNICEF Jordan (programmable amounts of respectively EUR 1.86m and USD 5.57m).

Next Situation Report: **21 March 2013.**

For further information, please contact:

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