

### More than 4,500 people had access to wage employment opportunities

#### HIGHLIGHTS:

In Lebanon, Livelihoods partners are reviewing the sector's key achievements under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) 2015-2016 and exploring the way forward towards 2017-2020. While short-term activities remain strong with 23,000 direct beneficiaries since 2015, longer-term activities are developing, with a 60 per cent increase in support to small business (467 in total, with USD 1.1m in financial support provided) and the strengthening of seven value chains. One of the key challenges identified, in addition to the chronic underfunding of the sector, is the limited engagement of the private sector in the response.

In addition in Lebanon, a private sector engagement mapping exercise is being conducted by the Ministry of Social Affairs to assess the support provided to Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and value chains by LCRP partners and scale up their collaboration. The key objective, beyond information sharing, is to enhance the design of activities and make recommendations to improve the private sector engagement for more impactful livelihood programming.

In Egypt, there has been a substantial increase in the beneficiaries for wage employment compared to previous months. This includes individuals who benefited from training for livelihood support but secured employment on their own and not through partners. Overall, 432 individuals were able to secure employment since the beginning of the year thanks to the support of 3RP partners.

#### NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Expanding access to livelihoods is central to resilience-building. In 2016, the livelihood and social cohesion sector will target around 770,100 refugees and vulnerable host community members with a range of interventions to expand opportunities to cope with, recover from and transform in response to crisis, as well as improve access to and quality of service delivery.

Across countries, the large increase in population is putting public institutions under extreme pressure to deliver basic services to an increasingly high number of vulnerable people, in a context of shrinking national resources. Hosting a large, increasingly poor, refugee community has continued to test the limits of infrastructure and public services that were already fragile before the crisis.

3RP partners are working together with the private sector and national Governments to determine how best to create livelihood opportunities for women and men that fill gaps within labour markets and contribute to the establishment of new enterprises, rather than fostering competition for jobs and driving down wages.



General views of stores on the Champs Elysees, in Zaatari refugee camp, Jordan, which has 3,000 shops throughout the camp. Photo: UNHCR/Jordi Matas

#### Sector Response Summary:



**770,100 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end of 2016**  
**22,660 assisted in 2016**



#### Syrian Refugees in the Region:



**4,740,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2016**  
**4,784,000 currently registered**



#### 3RP Overall Funding Status:



**USD 4.54 billion required in 2016**  
**USD 1.97 billion received in 2016**



### FULFILLING THE LONDON PROMISE OF 1.1 MILLION JOBS

A new Multi-country Economic Opportunity Assessment being undertaken through a UNDP partnership with ILO, UNHCR, and WFP – provides pragmatic, empirically grounded approaches for achieving the ambitious job creation goal set in the London Conference for Supporting Syria and the Region, held in February 2016.

To drive new job creation, host governments committed to open their labour markets and improve the domestic regulatory environment and the international community committed to support employment creation programs and facilitate new investment.

The key finding from this study – based on some 120 interviews with the business community, government representatives, NGOs, donors and international organizations across Syria and its five refugee-hosting neighbours – is that facilitating access to economic opportunities must be a central component for a sustainable response to the crisis.

Interviewees across the six countries were emphatic that expanded economic opportunities are essential to attenuating the social tensions of the conflict, and that increased access to economic opportunities for the workers and entrepreneurs displaced by the Syrian conflict would directly benefit host communities.

Drawing on country-specific data collection and examining existing approaches employed to support job creation in response to the crisis, the multi-country framework for this assessment allows identification of good practices and lessons learned for host governments and development partners.

As the Syrian war enters the sixth year, the assessment underlines the importance of increased resilience building investment, combining efforts from a wide range of national and international partners, including private sector and development partners. This study offers pragmatic guidance on what is working (and what is not) to guide action at the region and at the country level.

#### REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - JULY 2016 \*

