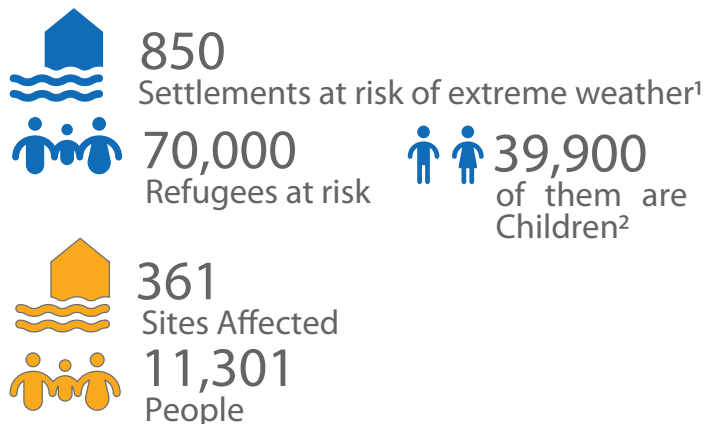


Lebanon started feeling the effects of a heavy storm on Sunday 6 January 2019. Heavy rain, high winds and colder temperatures were reported all over Lebanon. Some regions were affected by either floodings, erosions or heavy snow. This situation reports highlights the impact of the storm on Syrian refugees and response that followed.

## AFFECTED POPULATION



An extreme weather response is underway as high winds, rain and snow across Lebanon continues to require immediate interventions in affected areas. Response, in mainly informal settlements, is ongoing and assessments being conducted as needed. The storm continues but is expected to clear by Thursday with rains resuming next week. Extreme weather response is being coordinated by MoSA and UNHCR through Inter-Agency coordination mechanism.

To date, 361 informal settlements and 11,301 refugees have been found impacted by the storm. Unfortunately, the body of the missing girl reported yesterday was recovered, having drowned after slipping into the rainwater channel. Two Syrian families (11 individuals, including 7 children and a pregnant woman) were rescued in extremis by the Civil Defence on Tuesday evening after having called the Beirut Mount Lebanon Protection Helpline.



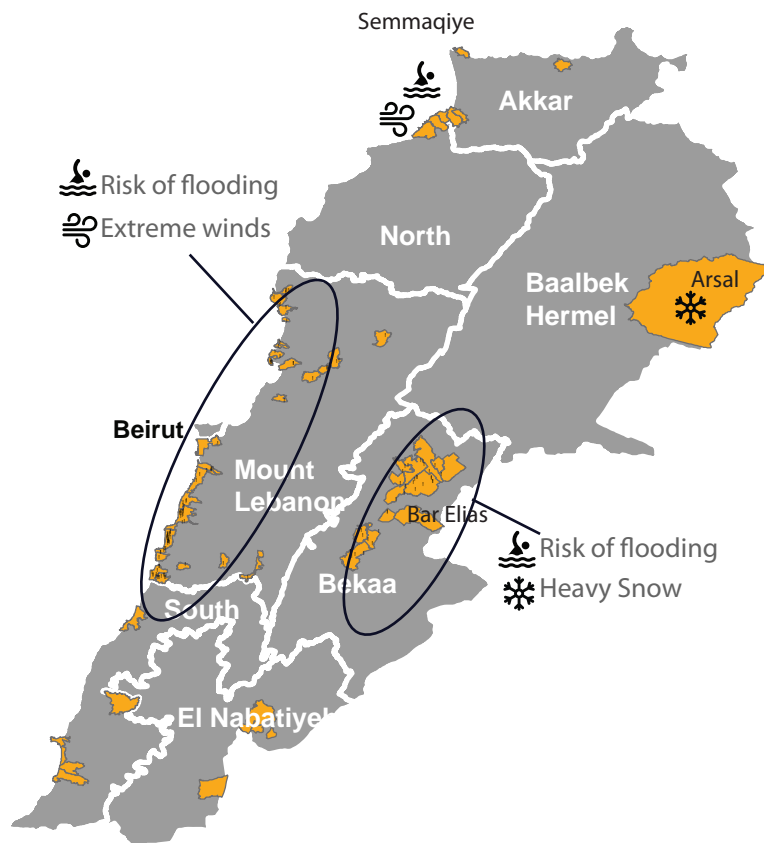
## NORTH & AKKAR

### SITUATION UPDATE - Wednesday 9 Jan - 17:00

#### Assessment and response continues following strong winds, heavy rainfall and flashfloods.

- 64 out of the 134 affected sites have received assistance. An estimated 1,750 refugee have been affected by the storm.
- 470 informal settlements in both T5 and Akkar have been assessed over the past two days.
- MoSA social workers were mobilised and have conducted field visits to 49 sites and vulnerable Lebanese families in T5 and Akkar and findings were shared with UNHCR for follow up.
- 500 bags of bread are being provided to families relocated in Semmaqiyye on daily basis and food parcel distributions are planned.
- 13 refugees in need of medical assistance were transferred to Al-Kheir Hospital from Semmaqiyye. Mobile Medical Unit was dispatched to the affected sites in Semmaqiyye.

## AREAS MOST AFFECTED



- A school director in Mchha, Akkar offered shelter support to 30 Syrian refugee families.
- Referrals continue to arrive and the number is expected to increase. Throughout the winter storm 133 referrals were received (22 from refugee volunteers, 7 from the call center and 2 from info desks and 102 referrals from partners). The referrals are channelled to specialized partners for response.
- 29 septic tanks were dislodged in Akkar. Water pumping activities were completed in 4 informal settlement in Akkar. Also, water was delivered through trucking to 2 informal settlement in Mhammara and Bebnine.
- Distribution of core relief items continues, with 29 weather proofing kits, 125 drainage kits, 557 winter kits, 688 mattresses, 876 blankets, 199 shelter kits, 281 hygiene kits and 60 baby kits received. 61 families benefitted from Emergency Cash Assistance.

**Partners involved in the response:** MoSA, MoSDA, MOIM, Governor offices, UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, Solidarite, IRC, PU-AMI, SCI, Concern, RMF, Leb Relief, LRC, PCPM, NRC, ICRC, AND, URDA, DAF and MSF.

## BEKAA / BAALBEK - HERMEL

### SITUATION UPDATE - Wednesday 9 Jan - 17:00

#### Assessment and response continues following torrential rain and heavy snowfall.

- In total, 315 sites are at risk of flooding and/or accumulation of snow. Of these sites, 86 are at moderate or high risk and 229 are at high altitude (above 1,100m) with risk of heavy snow.
- 117 informal settlements are being prioritized and where assistance is needed most in the area of shelter and water. Of these sites, 67 are heavily and 38 moderately affected as well as 12 sites needing minimal intervention.

1) source: IAMP58, Windy.com Weather forecast, CNRS flood hazard: analysis showed 70,000 refugees living in around 850 informal settlements could be at risk of either flooding, heavy snow or extreme cold.  
2) Vulnerability Assessment for Syrian Refugees -VASyR 2018: 57% of population in informal settlements are below 18 years old.

- 56 informal settlements were monitored through telephone survey today. Of these sites, 154 families relocated mostly to live with family and friends, with only 6 families moving to a community centre, rented garage or unfinished building.
- 4 sites reported refugee movement back to the informal settlement and 22 sites reported they expected return of those who had left in the coming days.
- An assessment to Aarsal today identified that main roads were open, but access was difficult on side roads and some others impassable. Bobcats have been mobilized by the municipality to open the way to the main shops. Refugees located in 9 hard-to-reach informal settlements are at risk of running out of food if heavy snowfall continues. There is space to move 1,500 refugees to schools or mosques if needed. 8 families have relocated to the tents of their relatives due to leakages from melting snow.
- Shelter and other needs are being assessed in Aarsal and a response prioritized to most affected areas. Refugees are requesting good quality plastic sheeting, insulation kits and fuel for heating.
- 230 affected refugees in Majdal Anjar have been moved to two schools. Relief items will be distributed tomorrow.



©UNHCR/ Diego Ibarra Sanchez  
Informal settlement in Dalhamieh, central Bekaa

- Floods are slowly receding in Ghazze.
- Bar Elias municipality is in need of support from Ministry of Public Works for river bed cleaning and widening. 600 individuals have been sheltering in and around Sawa school from neighbouring locations.
- Distribution of core relief items include 89 families receiving blankets and mattresses. 700 litres of fuel were also distributed in Bar Elias. The remaining gap of those individuals who moved to Sawa school was covered with 100 blankets and 36 mattresses distributed.

**Partners involved in the response:** MoSA, MOIM, MoSDA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP, GVC, Oxfam, Sawa Group, URDA, SI, DAF, Medair, SCI, ANERA, DRC, ACF, WVI, RI, NRC, MAQ, MSAs, Mayors, Refugee outreach volunteers.

## BEIRUT / MOUNT LEBANON

**SITUATION UPDATE - Wednesday 9 Jan - 17:00**

**Response is ongoing prioritizing those at higher altitude or coastal areas.**

- 99 sites informal settlements in Chouf, Kerserwane, Aley, Jbail, Baabda and Beirut are affected, with 3 sites collapsed, 5 fully flooded, and the remaining 91 sites facing heavy water leakages. 432 households with 2,291 individuals have been affected. 9 collective shelters have also been affected, with 7 experiencing heavy water leakages and in need of assistance.
  - Rapid Needs Assessment was completed in 21 sites.
  - Referrals continue to be received through the call centre, helpline and partners and are being followed up.
  - Distribution of core relief items continued, including 8 drainage kits, 324 refugees receiving mattresses, blankets and Medco Cards. 50 sealing off kits were provided to 48 families and 109 refugees received winter clothing.
  - Community centres are distributing core relief items with 20 refugees receiving assistance, including 12 blankets, 12 mattresses, and 1 kitchen set.
- Partners involved in the response:** MoSA, MOIM, MoSDA, UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, NRC, Caritas, MF, Intersos, IRC, Dorcas and SC.

## SOUTH

**SITUATION UPDATE - Wednesday 9 Jan - 17:00**

**Continuous monitoring and assessment of the situation in the South.**

- 11 informal settlements are affected.
  - A few families have been affected by flooding in the Jal el Bahr Palestinian Gathering and are in need of core relief items. A response is being prioritized.
  - 22 referrals were received by field monitors, call centre, hotline and refugee outreach volunteers. Refugees reported items being damaged and in need of heating.
  - Based on the referrals received, Al Qlailye, Shawakir, Deir Qanoun, and Ras el Ein informal settlement will be assessed tomorrow.
  - Distribution of core relief items included 260 refugees receiving various items, such as weather proofing kits, mattresses, blankets, solar lanterns, jerry cans and kitchen sets
- Partners involved in the response:** UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA NRC, PU-AMI, ICRC, IRC, and SHEILD.



Credit: Gerges Zghayar (AVSI)  
Distribution of relief items in Sarada informal Settlement

## FOCAL POINTS FOR EXTREME WEATHER RESPONSE AND REFERRALS

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## INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

Inter-Agency coordination meeting was held today in UNHCR Beirut Mount Lebanon Field Office. Several partners are willing to support with core relief items, emergency cash assistance and others support. All agencies shared information about planned interventions and stocks. Partners in the North continue to coordinate through the Extreme Weather Response mechanism and Bekaa continues to coordinate through the Emergency Response mechanism set up there. Inter-Agency coordination meeting was held in Tyre today to facilitate the response. Coordination with DRM units and Governor's offices is ongoing. Refugee volunteers continue to actively communicate information between affected communities and response partners.

Emergency stockpiles were placed in municipalities as part of the winter campaign and agency specific stockpiles are being used to respond to affected areas. Requests for stock from some agencies have been made and UNHCR is following up.