



# 2021 3rd QUARTER SECTOR DASHBOARD

## Basic Assistance

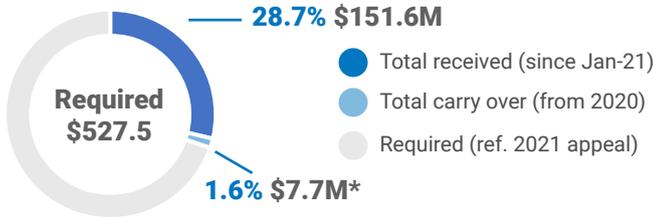


Inter-Agency  
Coordination  
Lebanon

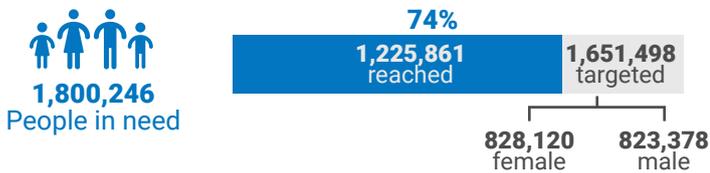
The 3rd quarters dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Basic Assistance Sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Strengthen the ability of vulnerable households, including female-headed, to meet their basic survival needs; OUTCOME 2) Strengthen the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic survival needs; OUTCOME 3): Support the National Poverty Targeting Programme.

### 2021 Sector Funding Status

As of 30 September



### 2021 population reached

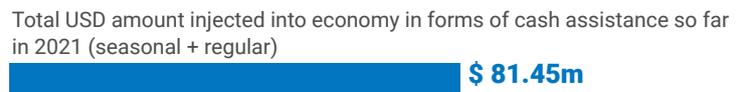
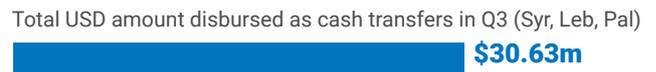
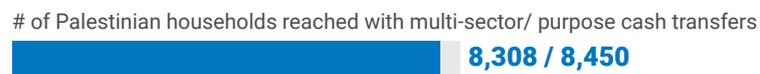


### 2021 population figures by cohort



### Progress against targets

#### Key Achievements



\* Includes UNICEF child focused cash transfer

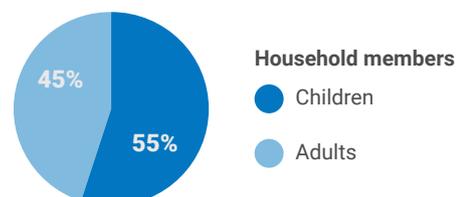
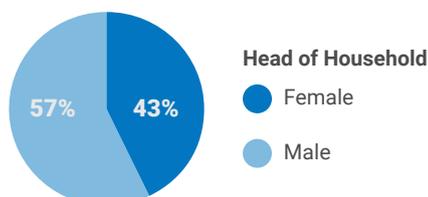
#### Outcomes

	LCRP 2017/2020 Baseline				Q3 2021 Current				2021 Target			
	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL
<b>OUTCOME 1:</b> % population that is severely vulnerable	53%	10%	89%	-	88%	22%	89%	73%	88%	10%	98%	65%
% of assisted severely economically vulnerable households report being able to meet their basic survival needs	90%	-	89%	-	33% <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	90%	-	89%	-
<b>OUTCOME 2:</b> % of assisted households affected by seasonal shocks who are able to meet their additional basic survival needs	90%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>1</sup> VASyR 2021

<sup>2</sup> UNHCR Post Distribution Monitoring, May 2021

### Age/Gender Breakdown of MPCA (SYR) Beneficiaries

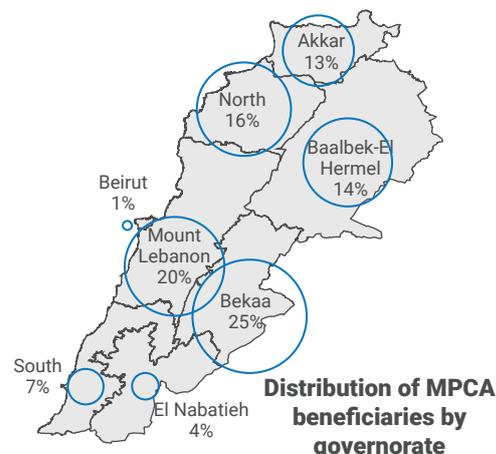
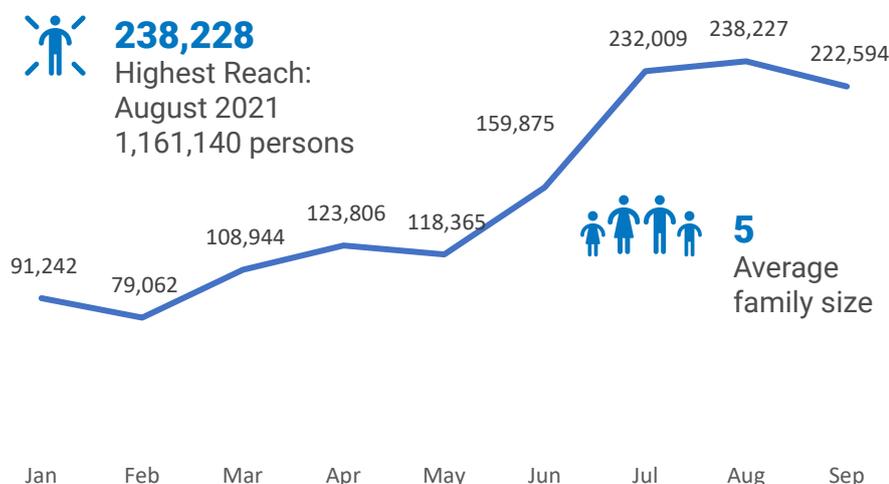


\* USD required was calculated in late 2019 at an MPCA transfer value of 400,000LBP and 3,900 LBP/USD rate



### Analysis

#### Syrian Households Receiving Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) in 2021



## 1. Key achievements of the sector at the output level

Throughout the third quarter (Q3) of 2021, 283,824 vulnerable households had strengthened the ability to meet their basic survival needs through monthly multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA), covering 80% of the 369,385 targeted households. This included 238,228 displaced Syrian refugee households, 37,237 Lebanese households, 8,308<sup>1</sup> Palestinian refugee households from Syria (PRS) and 51 Palestinian refugee households from Lebanon (PRL). This constituted 86%, 99%, 96% and <1% of the targeted vulnerable households respectively. As of September 2021, the coverage of vulnerable Syrian households increased by 52 percentage points, as compared to the first quarter (Q1). Additionally, in September 2021, WFP introduced basic needs assistance to beneficiaries of the National Poverty Targeting Programme in addition to cash assistance for food needs. NPTP beneficiaries now receive from WFP on a monthly basis USD 15 per capita for food and USD 25 per household for other basic needs. This means that 99% of the target for Lebanese under the Basic Assistance sector is now being reached (previously only at 4%). A total of eleven partners provided MPCA to vulnerable households in Q3<sup>2</sup>.

In addition to MPCA, 5,500 children (vulnerable Lebanese, Syrian, and Palestinian children) received monthly cash grants through the Integrated Child Wellbeing Program (ICWP)<sup>3</sup>, along with other service provision<sup>4</sup>. This number constitutes 79% of the targeted 7,000 children. In June, UNICEF launched a nationwide child grant initiative ("Haddi") to reach around 70,000 children in total, of which over half are displaced Syrians, a third of households are Lebanese and the remainder Palestinians. In Q3, 26,679 Syrian and 3,776

Palestinian households received social assistance through the "Haddi" program<sup>5</sup> (representing 43,5% of the target).

The value of all cash interventions under the BA Sector in Q3 of 2021 totaled US\$ 30,630,973, across all LCRP population cohorts. From January to September 2021, the total cash assistance under the BA sector amounted to US\$ 81,454,821. In September 2021, the MPCA transfer value was increased to 800,000LBP per family per month from the previous 400,000LBP. This came after strong advocacy and price monitoring of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket. As of September 2021, the increased transfer value covers 70% of non-food needs accounting for income, this is an increase in coverage of needs from around 40% in August<sup>6</sup>. Poor Lebanese households assisted through the NPTP began receiving 25 USD per household per month in September 2021, in addition to food assistance, to cover additional needs.

Additionally, households who faced emergency shocks were able to cover their additional needs with in-kind assistance including mattresses, blankets, winter clothing, heaters, jerry cans and other essential non-food items. In-kind assistance is provided to families on a need's basis, usually following an emergency shock which could include evictions, fires, movement, or others. A total of 1,033 households, across the population cohorts, received blankets, 432 received heaters, 928 received clothing kits and 1,457 received mattresses.

## 2. Key challenges of the sector

For Q3, key challenges for the sectors can be summarized as:

- Electricity and fuel shortages across the country have impacted partners' capacity to respond as well as caused challenges on the beneficiaries' side in terms of accessing services. For example, operating hours of ATMs were compromised, with reports of

overcrowding and long waiting lines. Key partners continue to deploy staff for ATM monitoring at specific ATMs across the country. Additionally, some partners opted to provide "double loadings" to families to decrease the number of needed travels to ATMs while increasing the staggering of loadings to alleviate ATMs for large crowds. Moreover, the increase in fuel prices has resulted in increased transportation costs for beneficiaries to access and redeem assistance.

<sup>1</sup> Based on figures reported in July 2021

<sup>2</sup> Partners included: ACF; CARE; CARITAS; ICRC; ISWA; LRC; Oxfam; SCI; UNHCR; UNRWA; WFP

<sup>3</sup> Implemented by UNICEF

<sup>4</sup> Other services include education, child protection and nutrition support.

<sup>5</sup> The Lebanese component of the Haddi program falls under the Emergency Response Plan.

<sup>6</sup> Using the September 2021 SMEB, the recommended transfer value for MPCA to cover non-food needs is 1,134,901 LBP per family per month.



- Humanitarian exchange rates for LOUISE<sup>7</sup> agencies in Q3 represented 90% of the parallel market rate and LOUISE will continue to engage in closing this gap further aiming to have 99% of the humanitarian exchange rate aligned with the parallel market, this was achieved as of October and will be reported in next quarter. However, other cash actors under the Sector continue to face challenges in securing exchange rates with Financial Service Providers (FSPs) reflecting the market rate, leading to a continued loss in the dollar value of received funds. For partners that had rates much lower than the market rate, assistance has been switched to USD disbursements. For others, who continue to provide assistance in LBP, partners are able to secure the Sayrafa Platform rate, trading at around 17,000 to 17,500 LBP/USD.
- To compensate for discrepancies in exchange rates, some partners have shifted to providing cash assistance in U.S. Dollars, in line with guidance from the Resident and Humanitarian Coordination

tor highlighting the need for hybrid and two-phased approach to the shift in currency<sup>8</sup>.

- The sector continues to advocate for a harmonization of approach to the currency shift of cash programmes across sectors and response frameworks, under the leadership of a newly formed Strategic Taskforce led by the RC/HC. A strong monitoring and evaluation framework will need to be put in place to inform roll-out plans moving forward.
- Fuel shortages and fluctuating prices of fuel (including for fuel used for heating) have caused challenges in developing guidance for transfer values for Winter Cash Assistance. However, the Sector has now developed a guidance note for winter cash assistance, based on most recent prices noting that the gradual lifting of subsidies will impact the value of assistance provided. The sector will continue to monitor prices and document implications.

### 3. Key priorities for the following quarter

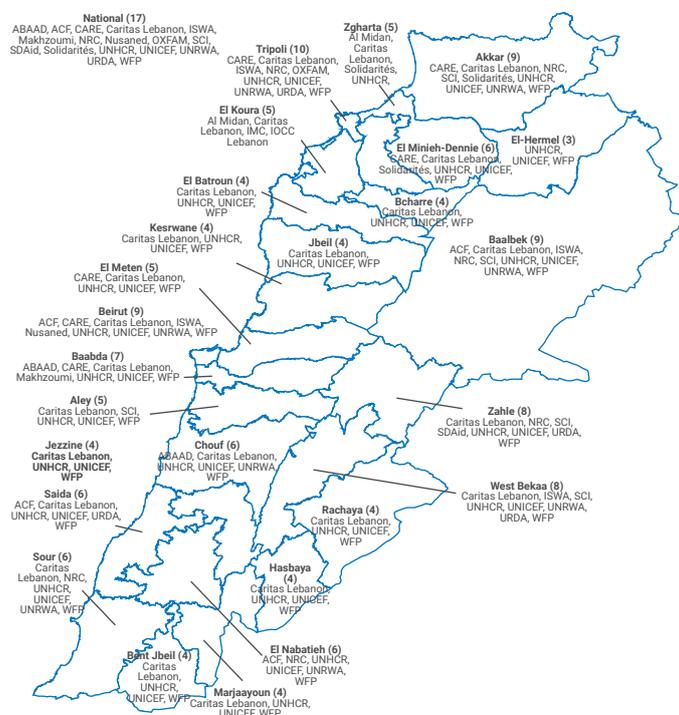
In the fourth quarter of 2021, the Basic Assistance sector will continue to implement its work under the same key pillars and related outcomes. The Sector's key priorities include:

- Continued coverage of regular assistance through MPCA to all population, including Syrians, Lebanese and Palestinians, which remains the Sector's main priority. In Q4 (November), WFP and UNHCR will be rolling out the new assistance cycle for refugees starting in November 2021 for 12 months. This also coincides with the launch of the 2021 Grievance Redress Mechanism<sup>9</sup>.
- The Sector will prioritize monitoring the impact of the MPCA transfer value increase as of September 2021 to 800,000LBP per family per month. Specifically, impacts of the transfer value increase linked to potential conflicts and community tensions will be assessed. The documentation of these impacts will support in drafting recommendations for any further increase in transfer values.
- Regarding the shift in currencies of cash assistance, the sector has highlighted the need for a comprehensive plan to monitor and evaluate the first phase of dollarization to inform the movement towards the second phase. Given current capacity and expertise within the core and working group, the BA Sector aims to play a key role in the documentation of lessons learned and in informing next steps. Agencies, including UNICEF, UNRWA and LRC has set up monitoring and evaluation frameworks and activities to study the implications of the current shift. WFP, leading on the implementation of the NPTP which was dollarized as of September, will be feeding in lessons learned to the Sector to inform next steps.

Additionally, the BA Sector has developed a guidance on methodologies to determine appropriate transfer values for MPCA when disbursing in USD. This will serve as a reference for other sectors, where relevant. Documentation of lessons learned under the BA Sector - including from programmes that have already been dollarized - will be shared with other sectors under the LCRP as well as through the Strategic Cash Taskforce led by the RC/HC, aiming to contribute to learning across response plans and structures.

- In Q4, Winter Cash Assistance will begin to be rolled out in October and through December. Using the Sector's guidance note for winter cash assistance, partners will be assisting Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian families with cash assistance<sup>10</sup>. Accurate reporting through Activity Info is essential to monitor progress over the winter months.
- UNICEF's integrated child grant will be scaled-up to 100,000 children, retaining inclusion of well over 50% Syrian refugee children. In addition, UNICEF and ILO will finalize the design of the National Disability Allowance in Q4, which will provide a social cash grant to people with disabilities, including Syrians as well as Lebanese (more details to be provided by year end).

### Partners per district



<sup>7</sup> The Lebanon One Unified Inter-Organisational System for E-card (LOUISE) is an innovative Operational Model set up with the intention of streamlining the operational coordination of sectoral and multi-sectoral Cash and Voucher Assistance in Lebanon. The model was born out of a formalised collaboration between UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF.

<sup>8</sup> Partners under the BA Sector that have shifted completely or partially to disbursement in USD include CARE, CARITAS, LRC, UNICEF, UNRWA and WFP

<sup>9</sup> The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) was designed and implemented as an alternative inclusion pathway for MPCA and serves to increase accountability to the affected population through a refugee-initiated process for inclusion.

<sup>10</sup> Winter assistance for Syrians is targeting most vulnerable families. Identification of Lebanese families for assistance is occurring through partners outreach and assessments to identify vulnerable Lebanese; as well as through the NPTP, targeting poor households above 700m. Winter cash to PRS follows a blanket approach.