



2023 1st Quarter SECTOR DASHBOARD Shelter

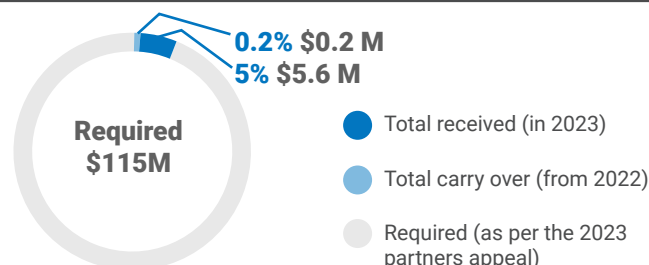


Inter-Agency
Coordination
Lebanon

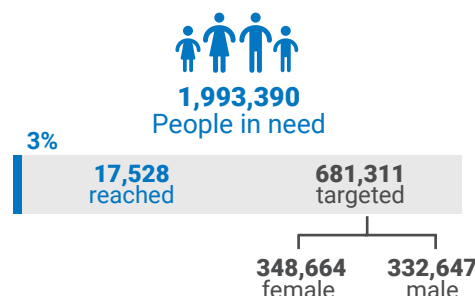
This dashboard summarizes activity reported by shelter partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) between January and March 2023 and highlights trends affecting people in need. Shelter partners in Lebanon aim to achieve the following: OUTCOME 1: Reduce immediate protection-related shelter needs of most vulnerable households; OUTCOME 2: Improve access to adequate shelter as part of a multi-sectoral approach in disadvantaged areas for enhanced stability; OUTCOME 3: Enhance the contribution of national institutions and organizations to the housing situation in Lebanon.

2023 Sector Funding Status

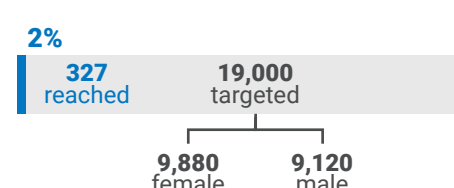
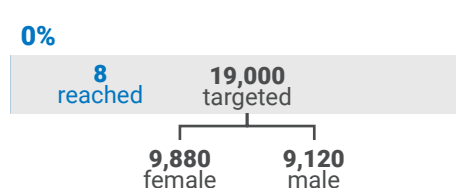
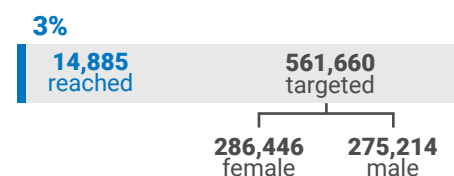
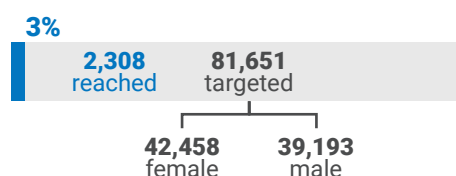
As of 31 Mar



2023 population reached



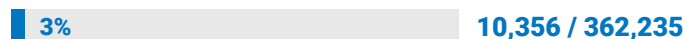
2023 population figures by cohort



Progress against targets

Key Achievements

of displaced people assisted in keeping their temporary shelters weatherproofed



of individuals benefitted from site improvements in informal settlements



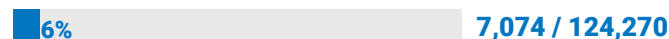
of areas that benefitted from multi-sectoral profiling



of shelter units upgraded to minimum standards

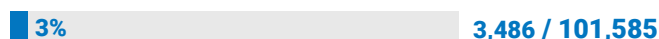


of vulnerable individuals benefitted from cash for rent

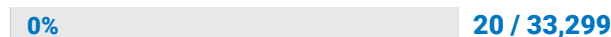


Outcomes

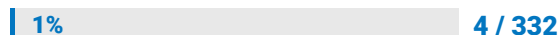
of most vulnerable households whose shelters in informal settlements or in substandard residential and non-residential buildings have improved privacy, safety and security



of households in substandard buildings living in disadvantaged areas benefitting from shelter upgrades to minimum standards



of 332 most vulnerable localities containing a multi-sectorally assessed or profiled area





1. Multi-sectoral situation update

In the first quarter of 2023, families across Lebanon continued to face diminishing purchasing power, affecting vulnerable peoples' ability to meet basic needs. The Lebanese Pound continued to fluctuate, reaching average levels of LBP 134,900 to the dollar in the month of April. Lebanon's annual inflation rate jumped to 264% in March of 2023 from 190% in the previous month. This was the highest inflation since comparable records began in 2008. The Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) increased by 36% from January to February 2023, reaching almost LBP 18,000,000 per family per month. This is the largest monthly increase noted since June of 2020. Over the last year, the price of water delivered by private water tankers increased by 330 %, while the price of bottled water, still used by most as a main source for drinking, increased by 250 %. An increased number of people from all population groups reported not having access to enough water, with the heaviest impact on the most unprivileged families.

Protection monitoring demonstrates that average refugee household income remains well below the SMEB, with greater aid dependency reported. Reduced spending on food, rent, medicine, and healthcare is reported by most households and gaps in meeting survival needs drive harmful coping mechanisms. Concerningly, protection monitoring demonstrates growing debt and eviction threats with the highest recorded so far in the first quarter

of this year. These challenges are driven by inability to meet basic needs which in turn lead to a number of harmful coping strategies and protection risks. Meanwhile in March, fuel prices transitioned to USD further impacting the ability of people to afford transportation costs especially those with specific transportation needs such as persons with disabilities. Inter-communal relations are the most negative that they have been since 2017, as reported through the regular UNDP-ARK perception survey. As of March 2023, 46% of respondents cite that the relations between Syrians and Lebanese are 'negative' or 'very negative', compared to 37% in August 2022. The primary driver for inter-communal tension is competition over lower-skilled jobs, cited by 60% as the key tension driver, an increase from 50% in August 2022. The second most cited tension driver is competition for services, particularly electricity and solid waste management, cited by 31% as a source of tension. Women and girls continue to report their exposure to Gender Based Violence (GBV) at homes and in public spaces. Girls also report feeling unsafe and at risk of GBV on their way to school, but the incidents remain underreported. Female headed households, LGBTQ+ persons and other vulnerable groups are at heightened risk of exploitation often living in sub-standard shelter conditions. Financial constraints and limited livelihood opportunities have also resulted in reduced access to menstrual hygiene products for women and girls.

2. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SECTOR AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL

Output 1.1: Temporary shelters (informal settlements and non-residential buildings) and residential shelters (for protection/referral cases) hosting vulnerable populations are maintained at liveable and safe conditions. All activities under Output 1.1 have a strong focus on protection and specifically target households that are living in the most severely degraded shelter conditions.

In the first quarter of 2023, support was provided to 17,430 individuals, which accounts for 3.5 per cent of the annual target of 515,593 individuals. This represents a significant decline of 45 per cent compared to the number of people reached in the same period last year. Although the low achievement per centages at the activity level are primarily attributed to underfunding in the sector, the overall recorded decline under Output 1.1 is primarily due to the decrease in the emergency weatherproofing response. This can be attributed to both the milder winter experienced this year and the substantial efforts of the sector partner to prepare people living in settlements through several interventions (details provided below). 9,469 individuals (4,639 males, 4,830 females divided between 9,344 displaced Syrians and 125 vulnerable Lebanese) living in informal settlements, received shelter kits¹ containing plastic sheeting, timber and toolkits². These items allow families to cover their shelter and reinforce its structure in preparation for the winter season. From the families that received weatherproofing assistance, 67 per cent reside in Baalbek Hermel governorate. This included 5,979 individuals (5,914 displaced Syrians and 65 vulnerable Lebanese, composed of 2,929 males and 3,050 females) who were provided with shelter materials to help rebuild lost shelters or reinforce damaged ones following either storms, emergencies, fires, flooding or eviction. The 56 per cent decrease from last year's achievement in Q1 is due to lesser emergencies and a milder winter in comparison with last year. The highest reported number of emergencies occurred in Baalbek Hermel governorate (3,316 individuals supported, 1,624 males and 1,692 females) followed by Bekaa (1,172 individuals supported, 563 males and 609 females). Fires pose a significant risk in informal settlements due to the use of highly flammable materials such as timber and plastic sheeting. Moreover, the close proximity of shelters resulting from the ad-hoc planning of these settlements further increases the vulnerability to fire incidents. To address this challenge, fire kits were distributed, and comprehensive sensitization trainings were provided to a total of 21,644 individuals across all age groups (10,605 males and 11,039 females). This intervention plays a crucial role in equipping

families to respond to fires effectively and promptly, enhancing their ability to protect themselves and their communities from potential disasters. Site improvement activities took place in 4 districts, Baalbek, Zahle, West Bekaa and Akkar targeting 5,932 individuals (2,906 males and 3,026 females). Ensuring adequate accessibility to shelters in informal settlements is crucial to improve the ability of people to live safely in these settlements, especially in the winter season. In Q1 of 2023, 5,932 individuals (2,906 males and 3,026 females) have improved living conditions, as a result of the implementation of site improvement activities. Such assistance can help mitigate water inundation in winter, which can limit safe access to and circulation around shelters for service providers and individuals, with particular implications for those with compromised mobility.

In non-residential buildings such as garages, shops, and warehouses, a total of 288 displaced Syrians, 417 vulnerable Lebanese, and 182 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (434 males and 453 females) have benefited from minor repair assistance. This assistance aimed to improve their living conditions, including upgrades in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities to enhance safety and privacy. However, it is important to note that there has been a drastic 60 per cent decrease in comparison to last year's Q1 results, primarily due to funding limitations. Another intervention heavily impacted by the sector's low funding is the upgrading of residential shelters to meet minimum standards. Families have not been able to benefit from this intervention, which primarily targets marginalized groups, female-headed households, the elderly, and individuals with specific needs or disabilities. Despite the importance of this intervention in providing a dignified living for severely vulnerable households, limited resources have hindered its broader implementation.

7,074 individuals were supported with conditional cash for rent to mitigate eviction or eviction risk (5,200 displaced Syrians, 1,721 vulnerable Lebanese, 145 PRLs and 8 PRS, consisting of 3,608 females and 466 males, reaching 5.7 per cent of the annual target). The achievement for CfR is 79 per cent higher than that of last year's in Q1 mainly due to sector's effort to advocate for the funding. Noting the positive increase in the population reached, funding for CfR remains low in comparison with the high number of eviction referrals the sector is receiving on a monthly basis.

Under Output 2.1, 98 individuals (48 males and 50 females) living in 20 housing units benefitted from upgrading of their shelter conditions to minimum humanitarian standards as part of an area-based approach. The low achievement (0.06 per cent of the set target of 33,299 shelter

¹ The shelter sector identifies different types of shelter kits: Light Repair Kit (LRK), Medium Repair Kit (MRK), New Arrival Kit (NAK), Heavy Repair Kit (HRK), Timber Repair Kit (TRK) and Door Kit (DK). For detailed information about the kits, please refer to the guidance note "Weatherproofing in Informal Settlements"

² The toolkit contains a carpentry hammer, wood saw, cutter, screwdriver and tape measure



units) is linked to the extremely low funding of upgrading residential shelters as part of an area-based approach. However, in 2023, the Sector remains committed to advocating for the implementation of multi-sectoral area-based interventions to ensure assistance is delivered in a coordinated way with other sectors using available evidence. Four³ multi-sectoral assessments were completed by Q1 (set target is 40). The Sector expects that the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Medair will be completing more assessments this year.

Minor progress has been made under Output 3.1 in Q1 to strengthen the capacity of national organizations and institutions to contribute to the shelter and housing situation in Lebanon. The sector has actively reached out and supported national NGOs to directly submit or collaborate with international NGOs to submit proposals to the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) First Standard Allocation.

3. KEY CHALLENGES OF THE SECTOR

In 2023, the shelter sector remains severely underfunded, with available funding decreasing by 53 per cent compared to the first quarter of 2022 (USD 4,781,060 available in the first quarter of 2023 vs USD 10,275,235 that were available in the first quarter of 2022). Due to this, shelter sector partners are forced to prioritize amongst the most vulnerable households and must apply several layers for the selection of the beneficiaries, focusing primarily on protection cases, female-headed households and people with specific needs. Many extremely vulnerable families are not receiving any support, which increases protection and Gender Based Violence (GBV) risks, with households having to resort to negative coping mechanisms to survive and afford rent. When asked about negative coping mechanisms in the latest ARK survey, 34.4 per cent of families reported that they used up all their savings while 24.1 per cent reported incurring more debt and 13.9 per cent cut down on their electricity consumption. In addition to that, sexual harassment has been reported in Baalbek El Hermel governorate (2% of respondents) and Nabatiye (1.23%) while physical harassment reports were the highest in Nabatiye (13.3%), followed by Baalbek El Hermel (5.9%) and South (3.24%).

The increase of rental prices that was noted in 2022 continued in the first quarter of 2023, with the inflation reaching its highest rate since the start of the crisis in Lebanon (264% in March, a surge from 190% in February and 123% in January 2023). Anecdotal reports from field partners indicate that 30 per cent of landlords are requesting rent to

be paid in USD in most urban areas across the country. Rent is expected to continue to be dollarized, given that property owners consider it an important and sometimes the only income stream that they have. Since 2022, the shelter sector started monitoring the average rental costs on a quarterly basis to set the ceilings for cash for rent assistance in each governorate. The shelter sector will continue to monitor the situation and will shift towards the dollarization of the assistance as of Q2, 2023.

Tenure security remains a challenge, with shelter partners reporting difficulty to sign free rent agreements since rent is considered as a primary source of income for landlords. It was also reported in some working group meetings that more landlords are starting to breach the agreements that they signed in return for shelter rehabilitation assistance. One partner reported 30 per cent breach in the agreements they signed while another partner reported 22 per cent breach. These percentages are higher than previous years and can be linked to the deterioration of the economic situation affecting all the population. Shelter partners will refer the cases of breach of agreements to legal units for legal mediation, to support the beneficiaries and reinforce the signed MoUs. This will be piloted in the North with the support of NRC's legal unit. The sector will then assess the impact of this pilot and see whether it can be replicated in other areas.

4. KEY PRIORITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING QUARTER

The funding secured for the shelter sector to date represents barely 5 per cent of the required funding to support vulnerable families in need of shelter assistance. This constitutes a significant decrease from the first quarter of 2022 (53% decrease), restricting shelter assistance to only the most vulnerable individuals (living in ITS, PwSN, FHH and elderly).

In Q2, the shelter sector will collaborate with other sectors to implement complementary activities aligned with the overall humanitarian response. This includes reviewing assessment tools to improve data collection on shelter needs and vulnerabilities. By promoting multi-sectoral responses and area-based approaches, the sector aims to maximize the impact of its interventions. Families with multiple vulnerabilities will receive priority attention, recognizing the interconnected factors that worsen their shelter-related challenges. Tailored support will be provided to address their unique circumstances and improve their living conditions. This comprehensive approach highlights the sector's commitment to delivering impactful shelter responses that enhance the well-being

and resilience of affected communities.

In addition, the shelter sector will work on mainstreaming gender and GBV in shelter activities. A focal point was assigned from the shelter sector, who will receive training from the GBV Working Group so that they're capable of training shelter partners on gender and GBV, identify priority areas to mainstream these concepts in shelter activities and throughout the year, develop a checklist which can be used by shelter partners in their activities and assessments.

Furthermore, the shelter sector will work on the dollarization of cash for rent activities, taking into consideration the risks associated with it and the mitigation measures to be implemented. The sector will continue to monitor the changes in rental amounts and will set the ceiling for transfer values in USD.

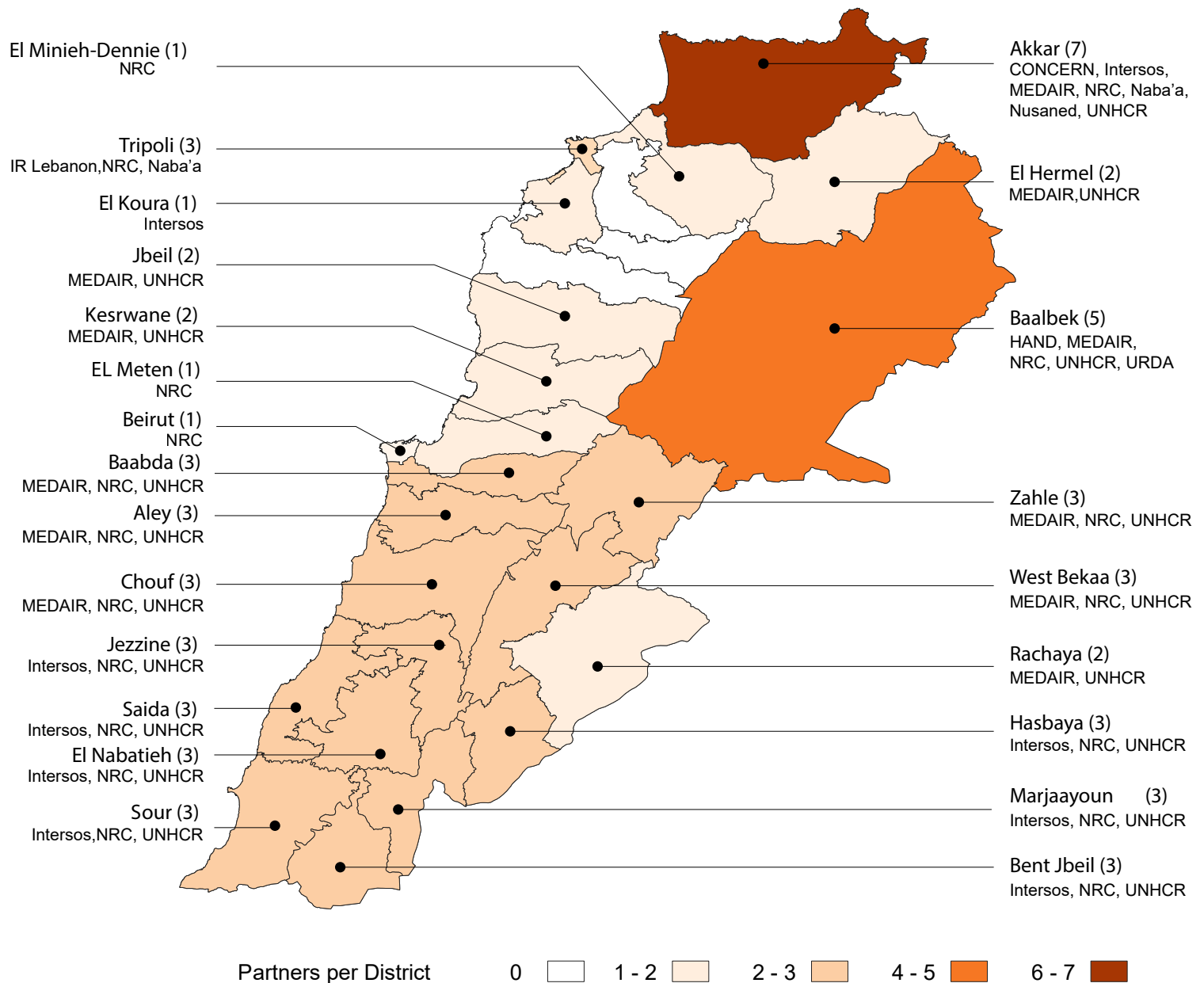
³ Mhammara, Mishmish, Sir Ed Danniye in North and Aain Baal in the south



10 Partners reported shelter activities through ActivityInfo by March 2023.

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following partners based on reporting on ActivityInfo:

CONCERN, HAND, Intersos, IR Lebanon, MEDAIR, Naba'a, NRC, Nusaned, URDA and UNHCR



Note: This map has been produced by UNHCR based on maps provided by the Government of Lebanon for UNHCR operational purposes. It does not constitute an official United Nations map. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.