



# 2023 2nd QUARTER SECTOR DASHBOARD

## Social Stability

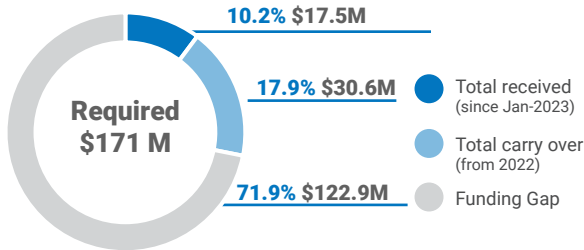


Inter-Agency  
Coordination  
Lebanon

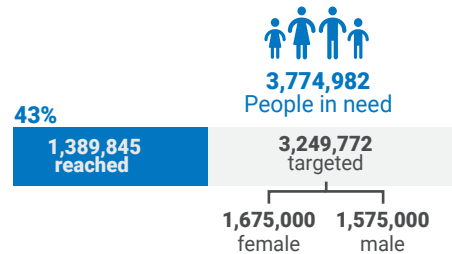
This dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Social Stability Sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure, reduce resentment, and build peace; OUTCOME 2) Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts; OUTCOME 3) Enhance the LCRP's capacities on tensions monitoring and conflict sensitivity.

### 2023 Sector funding status

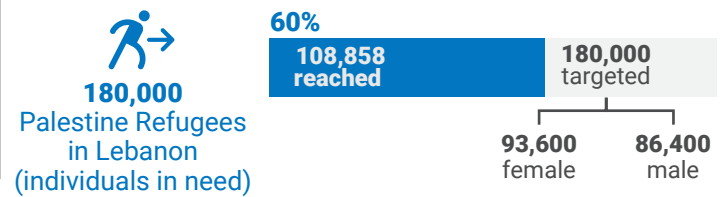
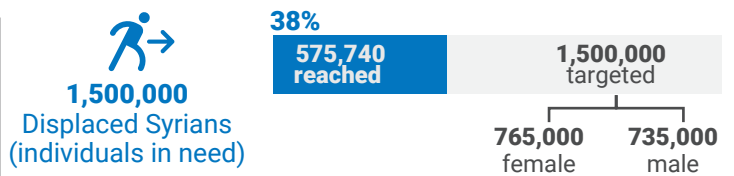
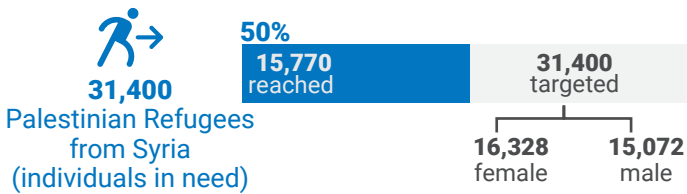
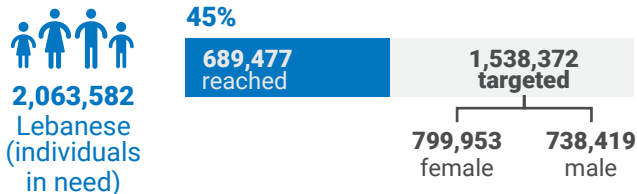
As of 31 Jun



### 2023 Population reached

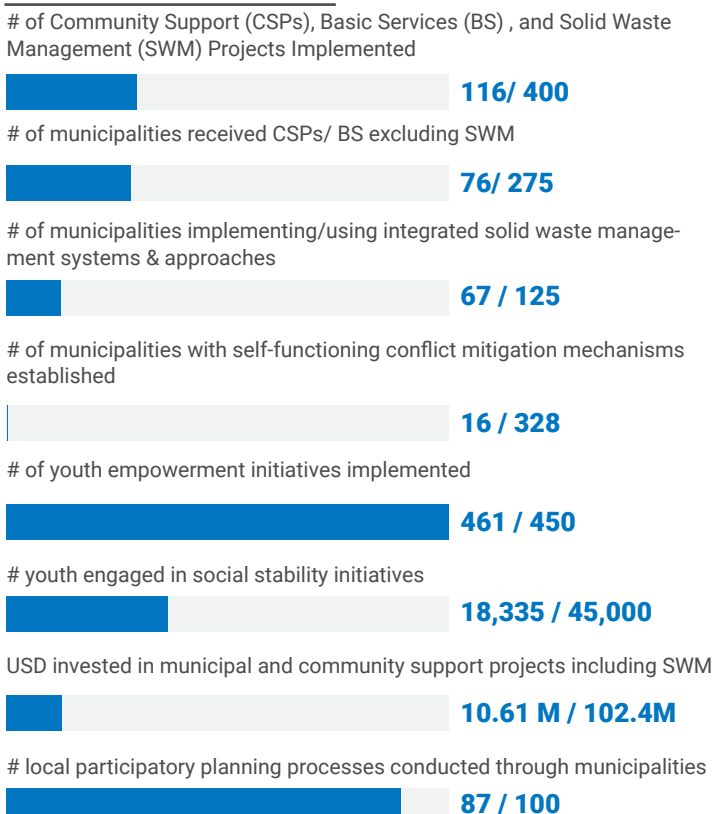


### 2023 population figures by cohort



### Progress against annual targets

#### Key achievements



#### Outcomes

	LCRP 2017 Baseline		March 2023		2023 Target
	SYR	LEB	SYR	LEB	
<b>OUTCOME 1:</b> % of people reporting positive impact of municipalities on their lives*	45%	64%	26%	22%	35%
% of people living in vulnerable areas reporting competition for municipal and social services and utilities as source of tension*	22%	34%	28%	32%	30%
<b>OUTCOME 2:</b> % of people living in vulnerable areas able to identify conflict resolution mechanisms/actors in their community they would turn to*	92%	92%	68%	100%	95%
<b>OUTCOME 3:</b>					
% of partners reporting that they have their own mechanisms to ensure conflict sensitivity**		75%		NA	80%
# of LCRP sectors taking steps to include social stability consideration in their work***		1		NA	10

\* Source: UNDP/ARK Regular Perception Survey wave XV

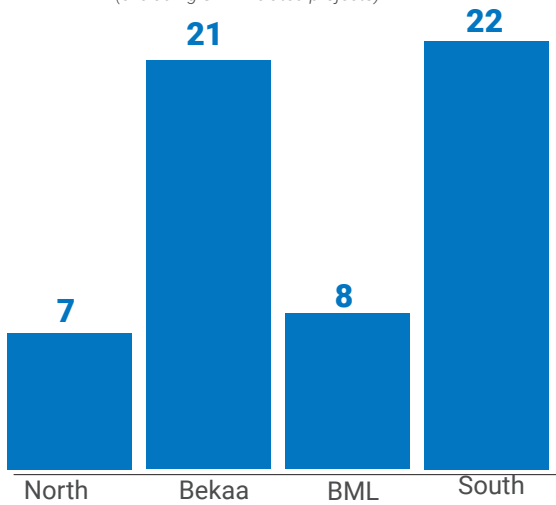
\*\* Source: Conflict Sensitivity Mainstreaming Survey

\*\*\* Source: LCRP 2023 planning process

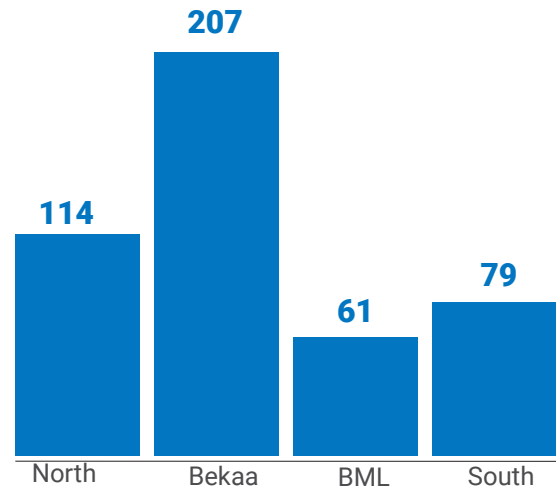


### Analysis

#### # of municipal and community support projects implemented (excluding SWM-related projects)



#### # of youth empowerment initiatives implemented



#### Multi-sectoral situation update:

The economic situation in Lebanon continued to deteriorate during the second quarter of 2023, leading to a significant decline in purchasing power for families. In June 2023, the annual inflation rate reached a record high of 260% compared to June 2022, the highest level since comparable records began in 2018. The cost of living, as measured by the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) covering food, essential goods, and services, reached LBP 24,925,064 in May 2023 (down slightly from LBP 27,214,894 in April, but an overall increase from earlier in the year). The food SMEB increased by 94% between January and May 2023. The average price of bottled water in Lebanon during the first six months of 2023 amounts to a 1,400 per cent increase in the Lebanese pound and a 135 per cent increase in USD value when compared to the price in January 2021. The price of trucked water increased by over 1,500 per cent (15-fold) in Lebanese pounds and over 350 per cent in USD value during the same period.

In April and May 2023, a series of raids and arrests were conducted by the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) leading to the deportation of displaced Syrians. These events created anxiety amongst the displaced community, coinciding with the implementation of

restrictive measures by various municipalities, leading to families reducing their movements and access to services. This represented an overall reduction in the protection space in Lebanon. Disturbingly, gender-based violence is on the rise across all areas of Lebanon. Reports indicate an increase in sexual violence and harassment, particularly in workplaces such as farms, agricultural sites, and domestic housework employment. Additionally, child marriage, a continuous violation of child rights, has seen a concerning shift in the age of forced marriages, with girls as young as 12-13 being subjected to early marriages. Gender disparities persist in the labor market, with women and girls being under-represented in cash-for-work opportunities and facing limited employment opportunities overall. Inter-communal relations in Lebanon have reached their lowest point since 2017. The UNDP-ARK regular perception survey from March 2023 reveals that 46 per cent of respondents reported negative inter-communal relations, compared to 34 per cent in April 2022 and 21 per cent in July 2018. The main drivers of tension include competition for lower-skilled jobs and access to vital services such as electricity, healthcare, and waste management.

## 1. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SECTOR AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL

Throughout the second quarter of the year (April – June 2023), the Social Stability sector achieved some important results versus the set annual targets:

**OUTCOME 1- “Strengthening municipalities, national & local institutions’ ability to alleviate resource pressure, reduce resentment and build peace”**, includes interventions mainly related to supporting municipalities to provide services with four underpinning outputs.

**Under Output 1.1- “Increased services based on participatory processes delivered at the municipal level”**: 58 Basic Services & Community Support projects (BS & CSPs)<sup>1</sup> were implemented in 76 municipalities this year as of Q2 2023, compared to 27 projects implemented at 19 municipalities in Q1 2023. As these projects are more medium-term, many partners are expected to rather report in the next quarter, toward the annual target of 275 municipalities.

These projects comprise hard interventions targeting municipalities, institutions, and local communities, with services delivery and infrastructure support, through participatory assessments and approaches. The investment in these projects amounted to USD 9.1 M compared to USD 5.3 M in Q1 2023 (annual target of USD 72.4 M in 2023). The sector will continue to prioritize projects which address drivers of tensions around services provision e.g., solid waste management, water, and wastewater, while taking into consideration the increased operational needs of almost all municipalities and public institutions.

Under Output 1.1, partners established 87 host community-led participatory committees and processes through municipalities, this year as of Q2 2023, in all areas and mostly concentrated in Beirut and Mount Lebanon and Beqaa and Baalbeck/ El Hermel e.g., the UNDP MSLD (mechanisms for stability and local develop-

<sup>1</sup> BS and CSPs are the same type of projects with one only difference in the budget. It is called a CSP when the budget is < USD One hundred Thousand and BS when the budget is > USD one hundred thousand



ment). These processes aim at empowering collaborative Governance in the identification of communities' priorities, based on which they would implement projects through participatory approaches. Up to 473 municipal officials and community/ civil society members (268 male and 205 female) have participated in these participatory processes as of Q2 2023.

Furthermore, 27 municipalities, Social Development Centers (SDCs), and UoMs (Union of Municipalities) received capacity building on community engagement and mediation this year as of June 2023, including 96 officials (67 male and 29 female), who are now capacitated to mitigate conflicts at the local level. Worthy to note that some of the 27 reached municipalities include more male officials, which would explain the higher number of male trainees. However, sector partners are encouraged to ensure a gender balance in reaching officials in future capacity-building activities to municipalities and public institutions.

**Under Output 1.2: "Integrated solid waste management (SWM) services improved to reduce social tensions":** 58 SWM projects were implemented this year as of Q2 2023 (against the annual target of 100) in 67 municipalities (mainly at Beqaa and Baalbeck/ El Hermel, and Beirut and Mount Lebanon), with a total cost of USD 1.52 M, compared to 35 projects at 15 municipalities with a cost of USD 1 M in Q1 2023. Achievements included the distribution of 816 bins, the provision of six equipment and machinery to municipalities, the provision of 93 awareness sessions on solid waste management as well as the collection and sorting of 344 tons and recycling of 307 tons of solid waste. In addition, SWM interventions comprised in Q2 support at the dumpsite level including the closure of Ghazze (West Beqaa) uncontrolled dumpsite nearby the Litany River; preparations for the installation of solar systems at three existing SWM facilities in Beqaa and Baalbeck/ El Hermel (Jeb Jenine, Zahleh and Deir Al Ahmar); development of an environmental management plan for Zahleh Solid Waste Facility; preparation for the operational upgrade of Zahleh composting facility; preparations for the construction of one additional sanitary landfill cell for the Zahleh solid waste facility and at Hbaline (Mount Lebanon).

**Under Output 1.3: "National institutions have strengthened capacity to provide operational support and guidance to local crisis response":** In Q2 2023, the four seconded officers to the Governors' offices continued their support for the duration of January – June 2023. They supported the Governor's mandate in disaster risk management, specifically in data management and administrative work related to disaster risk management functions. In addition, partners in the sector have been preparing a risk assessment for Tripoli municipality, to serve as the basis of, needed actions such as the provision of IT equipment for the Tripoli operational room. Furthermore, three municipalities have been trained in Q2 2023 on environmental protection to support the Ministry of Environment in improved management of natural resources and implementation of projects in their villages without affecting the environment.

**Under Output 1.4- "Municipal police capacity to ensure community security strengthened":** The implementation of the municipal police reform framework continued during Q2 2023 to support the reached 78 municipalities at Q1 2023 (annual target of 50 municipalities), in the transformation of municipal police work into services to the population, through five main elements. In Q2, partners supported the issuance of the first batch of unified municipal police IDs by the Directorate of Municipalities of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM). In collaboration

with the ISF (Internal Security Forces) academy, eight workshop sessions in Q2 2023 were provided including 237 attendees (with more than 30 female police participants), across all districts engaging 102 municipalities, with the support of Governors and Kaem Makams. These sessions aim to familiarize municipal police officers with the 13 developed accountability templates and their correct application and to implement standardized templates that optimize administrative processes, data collection, and minimize errors, promoting efficiency and accountability in the municipal police unit. The sector will follow up on overachieved results and contextual developments by the end of 2023, to update the related targets in the sector logframe if needed. Noting that in the current context of high crime such as theft and high insecurity for women and girls, it is critical to enhance municipal policing services.

**OUTCOME 2: "Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts",** includes achievements under three outputs as below.

**Under Output 2.1- "Municipalities & local actors have improved capacities for dialogue and conflict prevention":** In Q2 2023, 16 new "conflict mitigation mechanisms" have been established at 16 municipalities & UoMs, including a Systemic Conflict Analysis process to enhance understanding and consensus of the factors influencing local conflicts. These mechanisms require an extensive conflict analysis process and are considered longer interventions; hence, further mechanisms are expected to be reported upon completion in 2023.

In addition, 113 one-off community events were implemented at 19 municipalities as of Q2 2023, including festivals, sports competitions, etc., to reduce tensions and negative speech. These events were organized by existing 'conflict mitigation mechanisms' that were previously established in 2022, including 3,288 participants (2,939 Lebanese & 349 Syrian) from diverse backgrounds. As per previous experiences, such approaches did contribute to reducing conflicts between people in Lebanon. Furthermore, sector partners organized twelve "exit plan" meetings, with the participation of 121 committee members (including 66 women and 26 youths), to ensure the continuity of established conflict mitigation mechanisms after the projects' finalization.

Under the same output, sector partners also capacitated 66 national CSOs and 57 local civil society organizations (CSOs) including more than 25 women-led CSOs, to be able to implement social stability projects and reduce tension. Capacity building included training sessions on collaborative governance, resources and projects management, youth empowerment, as well as, conflict mitigation activities.

**Under Output 2.2- "Youth enabled to positively engage and participate in their communities":** 461 youth empowerment initiatives were implemented by sector partners as of Q2 2023, compared to 242 in Q1 2023 and versus the annual target of 450 initiatives in 2023. Up to 21,416 beneficiaries have been reached (annual target of 45,000 in 2023), including 3,081 children and 18,335 youth, reflecting progress specifically in comparison with 11,262 reached youth and children in Q1 2023. The 461 youth initiatives included 160 activities under peacebuilding clubs, 128 under active citizenship and community service initiatives, 105 recreational and cultural activities, etc. These activities aim to prevent youth marginalization and adoption of negative coping mechanisms, and they also provided capacity building on life skills, conflict resolution, and healthy lifestyle skills. The 18,335 youth (9,507 male & 8,828



female) are from diverse nationalities, including 70 per cent Lebanese, 23 per cent displaced Syrian, 6 per cent Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, and 1 per cent Palestine refugees from Syria.

Furthermore, these initiatives also included violence-free schools/communities (incl. youth with disabilities), and sector partners have also developed and shared related resources with education actors and institutions, to mainstream social stability in formal and non-formal education systems. These resources included a toolkit that comprises 54 activities, with modules for all seasons including summer education programmes, aiming to promote dialogue and mitigate tensions among youths.

**Under Output 2.3- "National, local, & social media engaged in defusing tensions":** In 2023, 212 individuals (165 male and 47 female) at five media institutions, have been trained and engaged in trainings and sensitized on objective reporting and countering fake news on media, as of June 2023. The sector will follow up on ensuring a gender balance in these types of activities. The achievement reflects progress compared to 45 reached individuals in Q1 2023, and versus an annual target of 550. Such activities targeted journalists, media students, local authorities, and other individuals, on objective reporting, facing the increased negative rhetoric, fake news, and hate speech. In addition, the preparations for the first issue on the "Local Development and Peacebuilding" material took place in Q2 2023 and is expected to be released on the "Salam Wa Kalam" digital media platform in Q3 2023, where a discussion session with local reporters and actors will be organized to discuss the topics of the issue aiming to ensure a dialogue on the online space.

**OUTCOME 3: "Enhancement of the LCRP capacities on early warning & conflict sensitivity",** includes achievements under one output as below.

**Under Output 3.1- "LCRP partners have improved skills & practices for conflict sensitivity supported by tensions monitoring analysis":** Achievements focused on generating analysis related to tensions and communal relations and disseminating it to partners through various channels.

The results from the UNDP/ ARK regular perception survey that was carried out in March 2023 were disseminated in Q2 2023 across all LCRP sectors to support partners with data and analysis on tensions and inform their programming. Some 20 overview presentations were provided across LCRP sectors at the national and sub-national levels.

In Q2 2023, a briefing note on Water-related Tensions in Lebanon was developed by the Tension Monitoring System in coordination with the Water Sector, to support partners to better prioritize interventions that can mitigate, and diffuse tensions related to water quality, access, and scarcity and ensure more conflict-sensitive interventions in the context of increasing constraints. Furthermore, two thematic reports and eight governorate factsheets have been published this year as of June 2023, and the tension analysis fed into the strategy implementation and coordination efforts of LCRP actors.

Under Output 3.1, This year thirteen organizations including 316 staff (245 female & 71 male) were trained on conflict sensitivity mainstreaming in their operations as of June 2023 (annual target of 350 trainees), aiming to maximize positive impacts and minimize negative impacts through interventions under all LCRP sectors.

### Referral trends

As of Q2 2023, the sector has worked on improving the referrals from and to the Social Stability Sector, by updating the list of the sector services on the Inter-Agency Service Mapping and making sure types of activities for referral are clear for all sectors. In addition, the sector has worked at the field and national level on conducting refresher sessions about referrals, their importance, and the Inter-Agency Referral tools. The sector has been working closely with partners to make sure that their services are updated on the Inter-Agency Service Mapping and report referrals they make through the sector.

### Mainstreaming activities

In Q2, the sector also followed up on the mainstreaming of gender in social stability activities, which will entail capacity building and training sessions for key partners throughout the year. Noting that the sector has also followed up with the appointed gender & GBV risk mitigation focal point (International Alert), which will support the implementation of gender and GBV priorities in the sector's annual work plan.

## 2. KEY CHALLENGES OF THE SECTOR

Throughout the second quarter of 2023, Social Stability sector partners continued to report several challenges.

### Challenges in strengthening municipalities and reducing tensions in Q2:

Most municipalities are now unable to provide basic services which is leading to further deterioration of services with negative effects on tension and the protection space.

Municipalities reduced financial and human resources, prioritizing maintenance over development work, leading to limited capacities. Additionally, resignations, human resource shortages, and postponed municipal elections exacerbated operational challenges for sector partners, delaying projects supporting municipalities and public institutions.

The Social Stability sector shared best practices in Q2 to cope with this situation. Partners were encouraged to incorporate income generation into infrastructure projects, replicate

successful initiatives, propose impactful activities to donors, foster complementarity among organizations, and capacitate municipalities and local CSOs in maintenance and repair beyond sector support.

While many municipalities sought emergency support, some local authorities explored long-term service delivery improvement. Balancing support to municipalities became crucial to enhance strategic planning and implementation capacity.

The top operational priority impacted by the current situation was SWM interventions supporting municipalities. Key challenges based on Q2 SWM Task Force meetings included halting waste collection in certain areas, limited partner support capacities, increased management challenges, access issues for some organizations, and community backlash regarding waste accumulation/ burning and competition with informal scavengers for recyclables. The sector shared guidance and priorities for 2023, emphasizing local-level



coordination, sustainable approaches like solar energy, and prioritizing clustering for solid waste management.

### Challenges in municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and reduce tensions:

The economic crisis in Lebanon demotivated communities, affecting engagement in social stability activities and youth empowerment initiatives in Q2 2023. Efforts were made to motivate participants, develop tailored solutions, and ensure a safe space for communication and expression of emotions despite the socio-economic situation.

Youth support was impacted by decreased funds, leading partners to implement minimal-cost activities and cut quick-impact projects and creative ideas due to budget constraints. Social stability youth empowerment activities through the education system were also affected by extended teacher strikes, causing the postponement of initiatives.

Partners faced difficulties reaching youth in specific villages, prompting the selection of applicants from nearby areas. Involving local committees from different areas was found to attract more youth applicants, highlighting the importance of broader community engagement.

In Q2 2023, the sector supported the update of the LCRP [Inter-Agency Business Continuity Plan \(BCP\)](#), specifically risks 3 & 5 which outlining key challenges and prevention and mitigation measures. One of the recommendations to partners is to seek the support of the sector leads the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, and the Ministry of Social Affairs, in terms of engagement and sensitization of government counterparts, in ensuring conflict-sensitive interventions. Partners are also encouraged to consult the LCRP conflict sensitivity guidance notes [DOWNLOAD THE REPORTS](#), specifically on [Conflict Sensitive Engagement with Local Authorities in Lebanon](#).

## 3. MID-YEAR REVIEW - KEY PRIORITIES/ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE DURATION OF 2023

The funding situation under the Social Stability sector continues to deteriorate, currently standing at USD 48 million as of Q2 2023 versus the expansion of target areas and increased budget needs in 2023.

The sector's activities, such as Solid Waste Management (output 1.2) and Youth Support (output 2.2), are the most affected types of activities within the sector by limited funding. To address these challenges, the sector's operational priorities for Q3 and Q4 2023 are as follows:

Continuing to support municipalities in delivering Basic Services and Community Support projects, with a focus on municipal Solid Waste Management. The goal is to target 275 municipalities by the end of the year to reduce environmental pressure, community backlash, and tensions related to displaced Syrians. The sector will gather updates through the SWM Task Force meetings and mobilize funds and cross-sectoral collaborations to enhance the response.

Establishing and engaging in Social Stability dialogue mecha-

nisms and youth initiatives to target 45,000 youth beneficiaries by year-end. The sector aims to integrate youth empowerment into well-funded services like education and community services supporting municipalities. Additionally, coupling income generation activities with youth empowerment initiatives will motivate youths to commit to programs and cover their basic needs and livelihood priorities. The sector will actively follow up on donors' funding strategies for 2023 and 2024 to inform decision-making and future planning.

Furthermore, continuing tension monitoring and conflict sensitivity mainstreaming to address the rising tensions resulting from compounded crises. The sector will monitor online and offline tensions and incorporate analysis in evidence-based programming. Gender issues will be considered in the tension monitoring and analysis. Conflict sensitivity will continue to be mainstreamed across the response, and Lebanon-specific guidance notes published in 2022 and 2023 will continue to be rolled out, along with training local trainers on Conflict Sensitivity.

## 4. CASE STUDY

In collaboration between Save the Children and the Bekaa Water Establishment in May 2023 a solarization project in Saouiri municipality (West Beqaa), addressing the critical need through a participatory assessment and approach, for clean water in a resource-scarce region. The project targeted the residents of Saouiri village, aiming to enhance their access and quality of water, thereby contributing to people's quality of life and the village's long-term development by providing sustainable access to clean water.

The initiative involved the installation of 300 solar panels capable of generating 152KW of power, eliminating the reliance on additional fuel or generators. Implementation was challenging due to the terrain of the Beqaa region presenting a logistical obstacle during the solar panel installation. Additionally, ensuring the system's long-term maintenance and sustainability required close collaboration with local authorities and community leaders. However, these challenges offered valuable insights for similar future initiatives, emphasizing the importance of thorough planning, local expertise, and adaptability.

During the inauguration event, Jennifer Moorehead, Save the Children's Country Director, stated that, "Collaboration and partnership are essential for creating a lasting impact. Strong engagement with local authorities, community leaders, children, and young people must be at the heart of our approach to meeting the needs of communities."

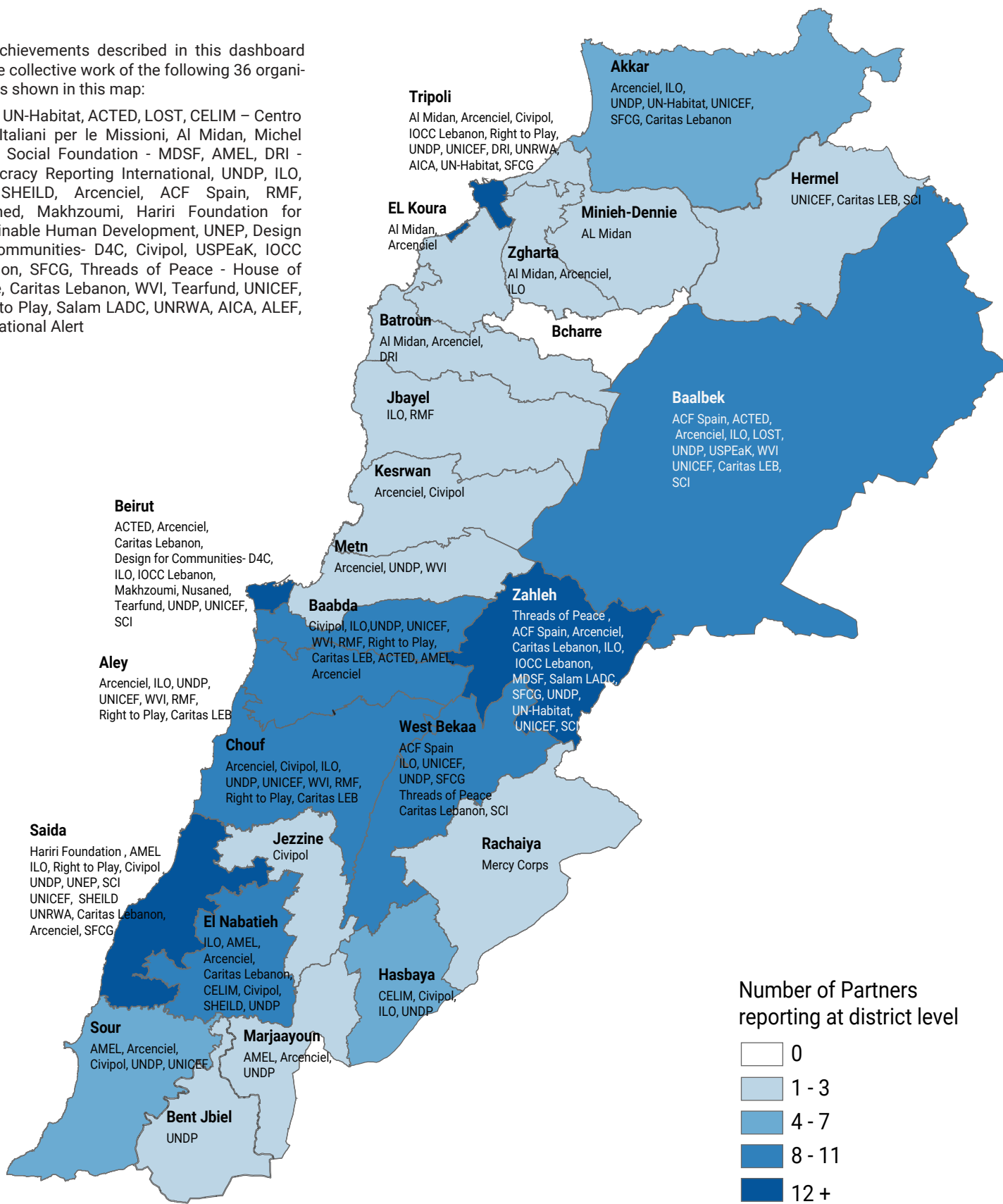
The solarization project successfully provided clean and safe water to the targeted 7,500 individuals (including host community and displaced Syrians) in Saouiri village, reducing consequently the pressure on resources and services and mitigating related tensions. By harnessing solar energy to power the water pump, the initiative proved to be environmentally sustainable and cost-effective. The project exemplified the power of community engagement and collaboration, showcasing the strength that emerges when diverse stakeholders come together for a common cause. Noting that this project serves as a complementary initiative to previously implemented projects, which included the installation of tanks and water pumps provided by various donors.



### Partners by district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 36 organizations shown in this map:

LOST, UN-Habitat, ACTED, LOST, CELIM – Centro Laici Italiani per le Missioni, Al Midan, Michel Daher Social Foundation - MDSF, AMEL, DRI - Democracy Reporting International, UNDP, ILO, SCI, SHEILD, Arcenciel, ACF Spain, RMF, Nusaned, Makhzoumi, Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development, UNEP, Design for Communities- D4C, Civipol, USPEaK, IOCC Lebanon, SFCG, Threads of Peace - House of Peace, Caritas Lebanon, WVI, Tearfund, UNICEF, Right to Play, Salam LADC, UNRWA, AICA, ALEF, International Alert



Number of Partners reporting at district level

