LEBANON
Response Plan

Inter-Sector Coordination Group Meeting

November 1, 2024

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Response Plan

Opening Remarks

ISCG Co-Chairs

Agenda

1. **Protection Mainstreaming**
2. **Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations**
3. **Site Monitoring Presentation**
4. **Access and Hard to Reach Areas**
5. **AoB**

Recap of EOC meeting (30 October)

- Winterization Plan
- Fuel and Electricity Cost in Collective Shelters – GoL is Planning
- Convoy Coordination
- Communal Kitchen – Taskforce MOSA/MEHE/MOPH/MOA and FSC

Protection Mainstreaming

Sophie Etzold, Protection & GBV Sector Coordinator (UNHCR)
Josiane Noun, Protection Sector NGO Co-Coordinator (NRC)

Components of Protection Mainstreaming

Current Emergency

Prioritize safety and dignity and avoid causing harm

- Prevent and minimize as much as possible any unintended negative effects of your intervention which can increase people's vulnerability to both physical and psychosocial risks.

Meaningful access

- Arrange for people's access to assistance and services – in proportion to need and without any barriers. Pay special attention to individuals and groups who may be particularly vulnerable or have difficulty accessing assistance and services.

Accountability

- Set-up appropriate mechanisms through which affected populations can measure the adequacy of interventions, and address concerns and complaints.

Participation and Empowerment

- Support the development of self-protection capacities and assist people to claim their rights, including – not exclusively – the rights to shelter, food, water and sanitation, health, and education.

Protection Mainstreaming

Objective and way forward

What is the Objective: ensuring that the aid is reaching those most in need in a safe and dignified way through incorporating protection principles

How to mainstream protection: assess, analyze and address risks within a sector through dedicated capacity using good practice tools, guidance and resources

Who is responsible: All humanitarian actors have a responsibility to mainstream protection, including coordination groups, donors and operational actors across sectors

Role of the Protection Sector: support to other sectors (analysis of protection threats, support development of sectoral workplans, trainings, guidance and cross-sectoral collaboration)

Protection Mainstreaming Commitments

Protection Mainstreaming

Activity	Responsible Focal Point	Status	Action Needed
Regularly share protection risk analysis	UNHCR Protection Sector/ Mainstreaming Focal Points	Ongoing	Need to formalize frequency
Present protection mainstreaming progress		To be enhanced	Presentation of cross-sectoral risks as standing item
Review Sector AWPs to ensure inclusion of concrete mainstreaming actions		Ongoing	Upcoming for 2025 planning
Develop a mainstreaming page in LRP Information Hub by mainstreaming area (including key assessments, guidance, etc.)		Existing	Protection Mainstreaming link
Review/update and harmonization of mass information/CwC messages on access to services and available AAP mechanisms		In progress	Sector has strong CwC elements (HELP in Emergency) Need for additional cross sectoral work on CwC and AAP

Protection Mainstreaming Commitments

Protection including AGD, AAP and PSEA

Activity	Responsible Focal Point	Status	Action Needed
Referrals: provide quarterly orientation sessions for partners on existing referral pathways, enhance referral analysis through a collective AAP mechanism, generate field-level service notes for beneficiaries through the central service mapping	UNHCR Protection Sector Coordinators PSEA Network Coordinator Disability Inclusion Focal Point	In progress	Review referral information & presentation in emergency context including additional actors
Community of practice: **protection**, gender, GBV and PSEA		Needs focus	CoP to be
Tailored technical support to Sectors: SMC, health, WASH, BA, education to develop focal point system to support protection mainstreaming priorities & Protection Risk Assessments		Needs focus	Sector specific meetings with coordinators and members
Mainstream protection key messages to frontline workers and affected communities		In progress	Key messages produces pending final endorsement
Tailored support regional initiatives on protection mainstreaming		In progress	
Enhanced support and focus on older persons and persons with disability through Inclusion Specialist		In progress	In-focus and protection analysis Coordination with MoSA – technical discussions
AAP: support the development of a collective AAP system accountable for dispatching feedback from affected communities to sectors to course correct.		Ongoing	Draft in place reviewed by Protection mainstreaming FP

Resources and Guidance

To Date

- Mainstreaming Focal Points under ISCG
- Mainstreaming Portal on Lebanon Info Hub
- In-focus documents
- Inclusion assessment and tipsheet for PWD
- Regular consultation with OPDs
- Key sector messages on protection and GBV
- PSEA tipsheet and key awareness flyer

Protection Sector

Lebanon: Protection Key Messages

Right to Protection and Assistance: You have the right to safety, access to aid, and protection from violence, coercion, or deliberate deprivation.

Right to Report: Report any instances of violence, exploitation, or lack of access to services using hotlines and links shared below or through local humanitarian organizations

All humanitarian services are **free of charge.** You should not be asked for money, favors, or sex in exchange for assistance

Important hotlines and information:
help.unhcr.org/lebanon/emergency

What should I do during attack/conflict?

Avoid areas from active conflict zones, that pose numerous risks to public safety, such as the danger of collapsed buildings, and areas with landmines or unexploded ordnance

Avoid open spaces during active fighting

- If gunfire erupts, take cover behind solid structures, stay indoors/away from windows, lie flat if needed
- If moving is necessary, stay low, find cover

What are essential items to pack?
Be prepared. Pack a running bag with:

- **Important documents: IDs, passport, family booklet, health records, insurance** (if available)
- **Clothes for all family** in a waterproof bag
- **Hygiene items** (sanitary pads/adult diapers)
- **Mobile phone** and **charger**
- **Cash** and **valuables**
- **Essential medicine**, food, water

How and where can I find information and useful contacts?

Keep yourself updated with accurate information from reliable sources like local authorities, NGOs, UN agencies, embassies/consulates

Key resources for services:
HELP: help.unhcr.org/lebanon/emergency
National Call Center: **04726111**
Lebanese Mine Action Center: **05956143**

How to access community support?

Identify safe spaces in your area: community centers, SDCs, collective shelters, hospitals, safe access points (peace keeping stations, humanitarian aid centers)

Promote community care. Look after each other. Always let family or friends know where you are and where you are going. Go in groups when possible. Care for the most vulnerable (children, older people, persons with disability)

Contact a community focal point for assistance. Follow safety advice from local authorities/humanitarian agencies

Emergency hotlines
Lebanese Red Cross: **1760**
Ministry of Public Health: **1787** or **1214**
Civil Defense Emergency hotline: **125**
Internal Security Forces: **1745**

National Mental Health Hotline (24/7): **1564**

For mental health and psychosocial services:

Protection Risks and Threats

Emergency

Meaningful Access

- **Capacity challenges and lack of equal/equitable access** to emergency collective shelter for all displaced communities.
- **Heightened risk population**: separated and unaccompanied children, adolescent girls, women head of HH, older persons, persons with disability and other marginalized groups face challenges in accessing collective shelters and information on services and hence at risk of violence and exploitation.

Safety and Dignity

- **Conditions inside shelters and for families moving with friends/ family members: overcrowding and resource limitation lead to increased tension and risk of violence**.
- **Ad hoc emergency shelters** such as converted schools, night clubs, and other facilities inadequately capable to host large number of people with Limited hygiene and health resources increasing risks for the displaced
- **Homelessness resulting additional risks** of exposure including violence/ attacks, exposure to cold/ harsh weather conditions. Beyond shelter, concerns about access to food, water, mattresses, blankets, medicine, cash assistance, and other basic needs.
- **Individual Protection Risks: escalating situation poses specific protection risks for individuals**, including risks of GBV and risks associated with child protection and for people with specific needs (lack of lighting, separation of latrines and living spaces, lack of privacy); reported installation of cameras in some areas, elevate risks for women and girls.
- **Lack of stable shelter threatens children's immediate safety** and wellbeing.

Protection Risks and Threats

Emergency

Accountability

- **Limited accountability standards** across the response including systemized registration/ enrolment of IDPs outside shelters across the country
- **Mechanisms of aid delivery** not harmonized
- **Need to prioritize a transparent, harmonized and reliable system** to register IDPs and enroll for equal access to humanitarian assistance

Participation and Empowerment

- **Delays in engagement** community groups into site management
- **Ensuring AGD** specific focus and engagment

Way Forward

Follow up by Protection Mainstreaming FP in ISCG with Sectors

- Enhance presentation of **sector specific protection risks at ISCG** and **sector meetings** in close collaboration with coordinators.
- Additional resources.
- **Present updates on agreed Protection Mainstreaming actions** and progress made.
- **Establish Focal Point system** within sectors to be supported.
- **Review resource package**.
- Invite for **community of practice** across sectors.
- Enhance **accountability and feedback of sector coordinators** towards protection. Mainstreaming.
- **Enhance dissemination and use of key messages** across sectors.

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Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Nisreen Jaafar, Conflict Sensitivity and Mainstreaming Officer (UNDP)

TENSIONS MONITORING SYSTEM
LEBANON

Tensions Landscape &
Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Inter-sector Coordination Group | 1 November 2024

Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Current Tensions Landscape

Intra-Lebanese tensions dominate the current landscape with increasing feelings of insecurity. Tensions are taking several forms:

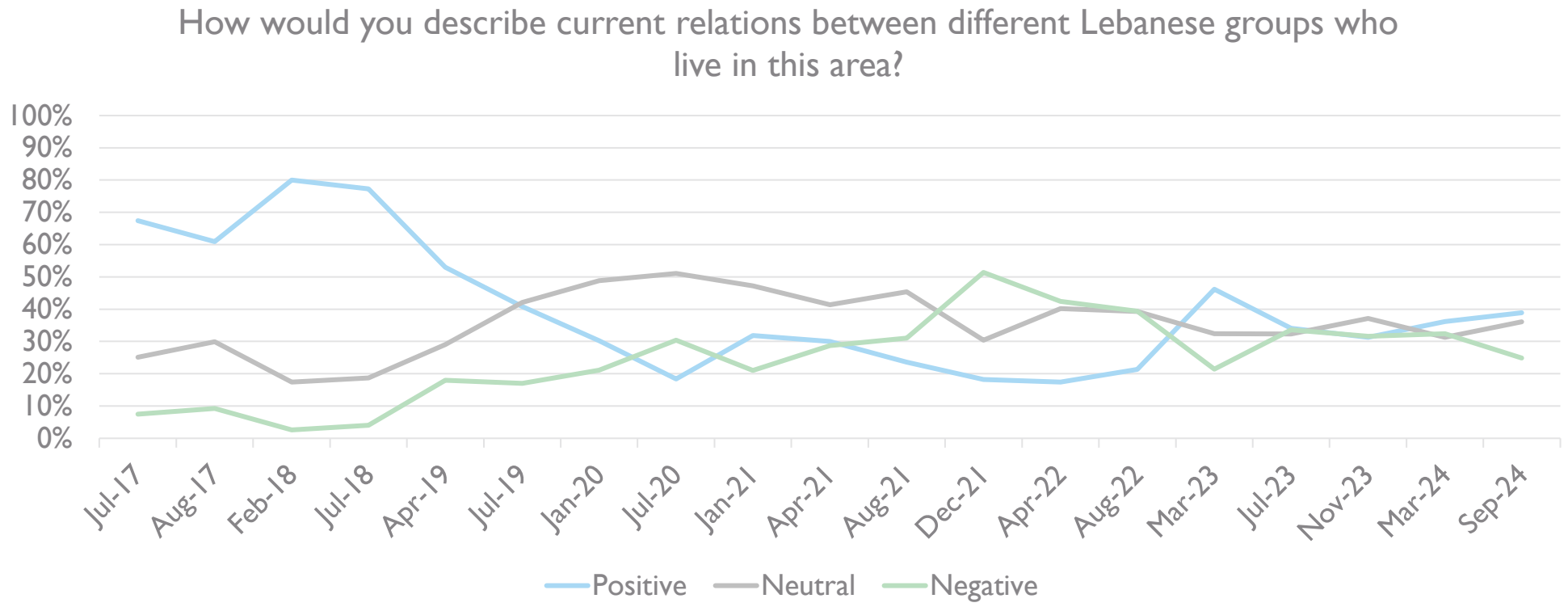
- **Tensions in and around collective shelters**:
  - Tensions related to access to basic needs and assistance
  - Tensions related to safety & security
  - Tensions related to illegal/informal business establishments
- **Tensions related to security in hosting areas**:
  - Increased perception of unsafety following expansion of Israeli airstrikes
  - Competition over housing due to shrinking hosting capacity
  - Inter-communal tensions related to resurfacing of scapegoating for crime
  - Inter-communal tension and anti-Syrian sentiments related to secondary displacement
- **Peak in fake news & misinformation** including fake threats of evacuation leading to panic and tension

Local actors/authorities have contained incidents, and no large-scale incidents have been reported. However, risks of further escalation remain high.

Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Highly volatile intra-Lebanese relations with increasing sectarian strife despite evidence of solidarity

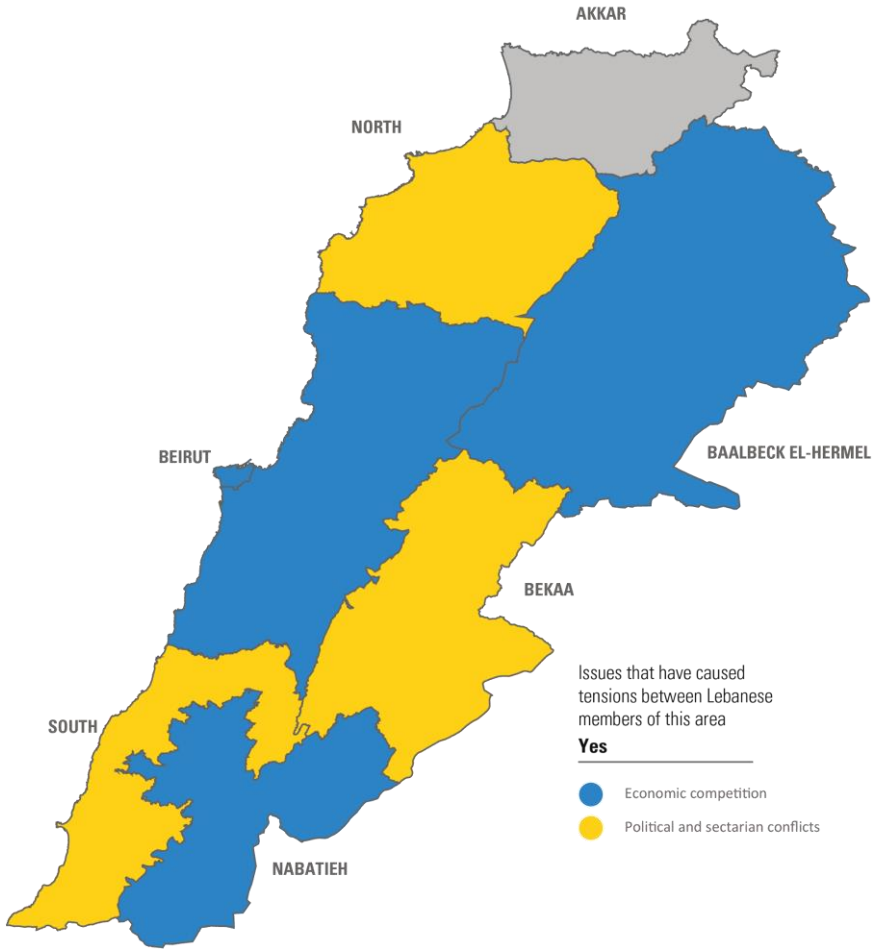
- **Steady intra-Lebanese relations** on the eve of the escalation in hostilities
- **Many acts of solidarity have arisen across the country**; such as volunteering initiatives to assist the displaced with shelter, food, and non-food items



Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Highly volatile intra-Lebanese relations with increasing sectarian strife despite evidence of solidarity

- Escalation of hostilities led to mass displacement with **sectarian dynamic**.
- Denied rent on sectarian basis due to **community and personal insecurity** led to tension.
- Eviction incidents triggered by feelings of insecurity even among people of **similar sectarian backgrounds** after attacks targeting non-Shia dominant areas.
- **Pressure on resources** encompassing a sectarian dimension and triggering tension.
- Disagreement over **ceasefire** and **"The Day After"** negotiation stances could trigger deeper inter-sectarian tensions.



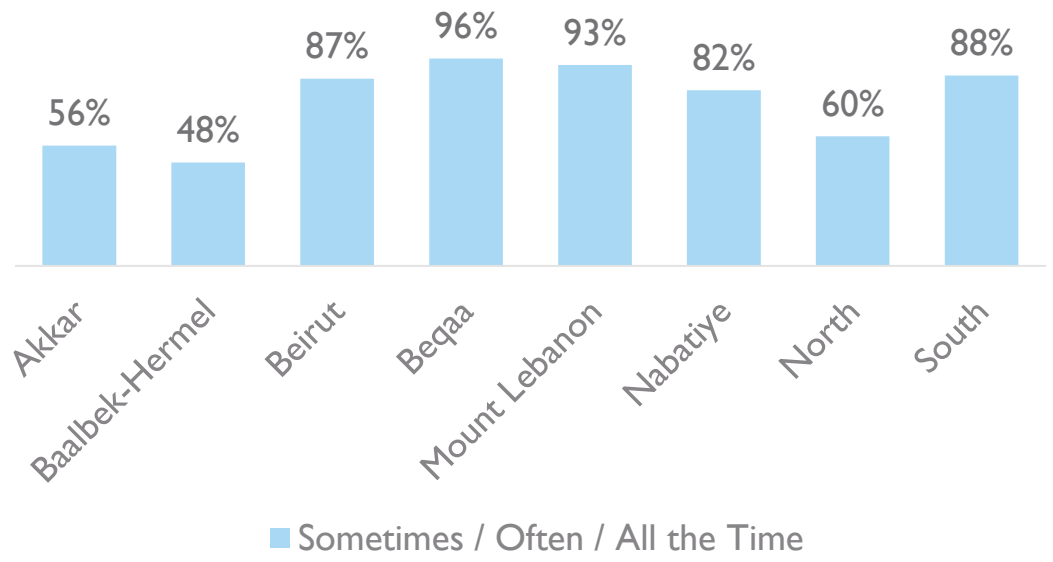
Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Perceptions of security at their worst amidst increasing worries about war and threat of crime

68% reported that security conditions in their area have **worsened a** lot or a little:

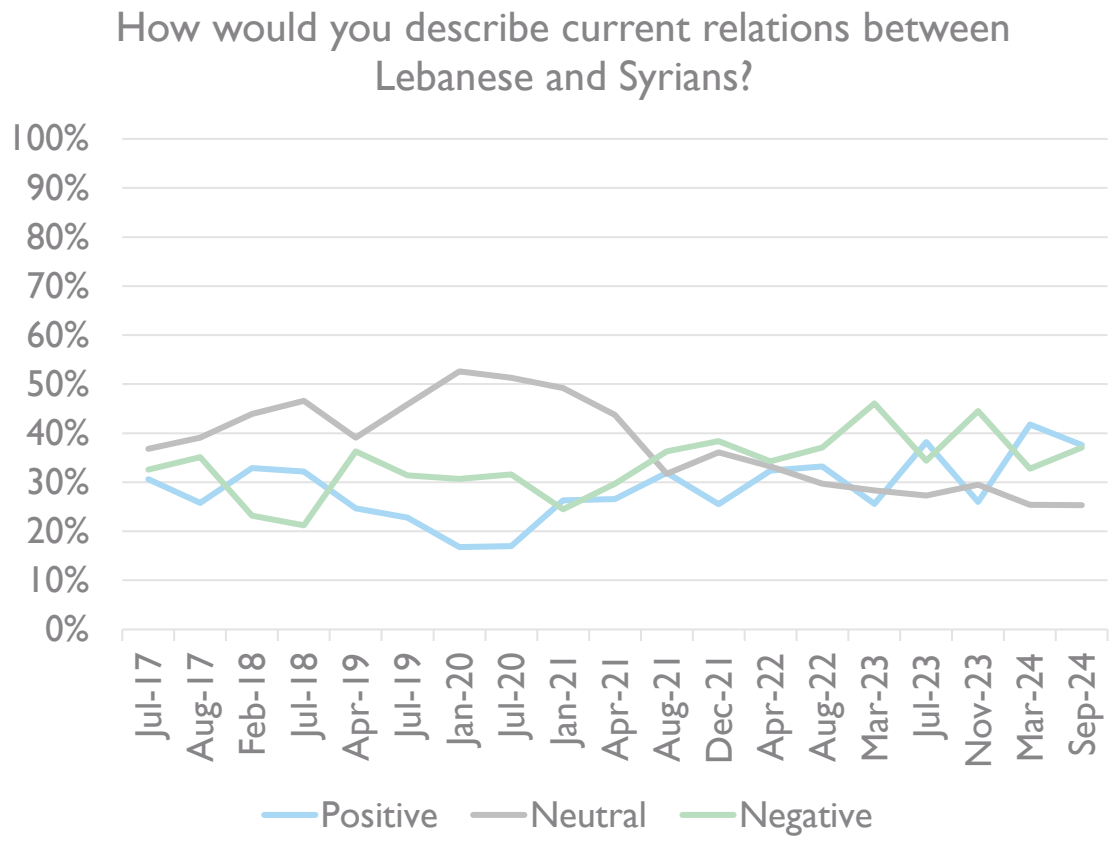
Nabatiyeh (94%) + Baalbek El-Hermel (76%)

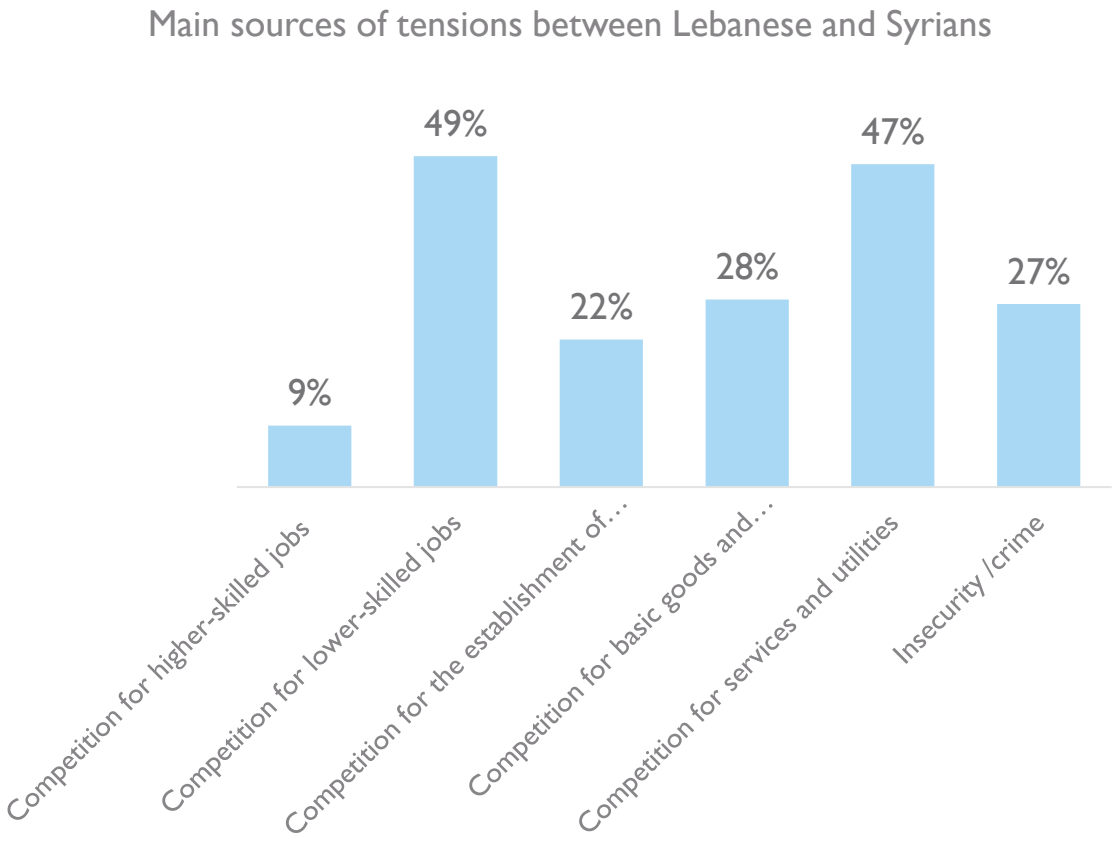
All-time high (84%) worry about the **threat of crime**



Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Inter-communal relations strained by competition over access to services and economic competition

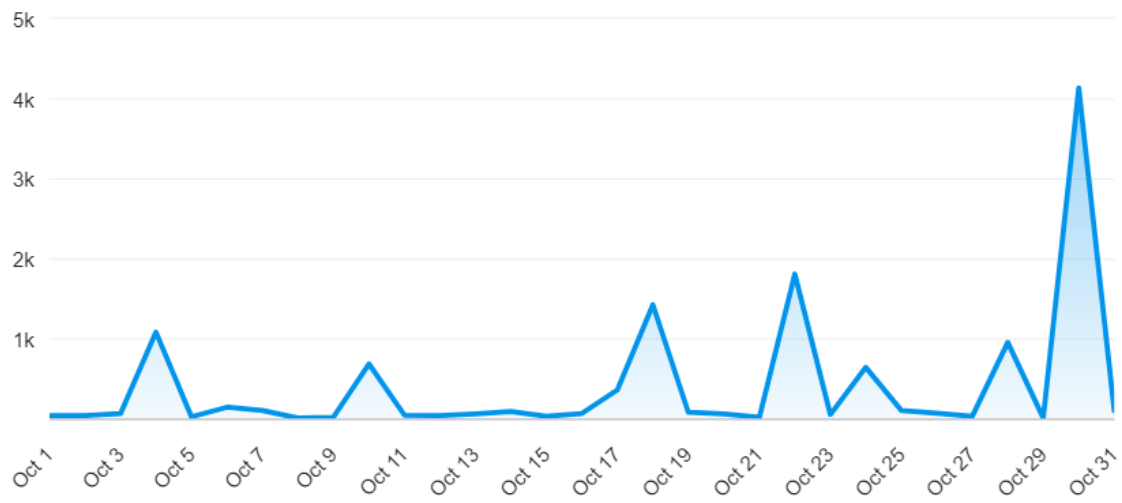




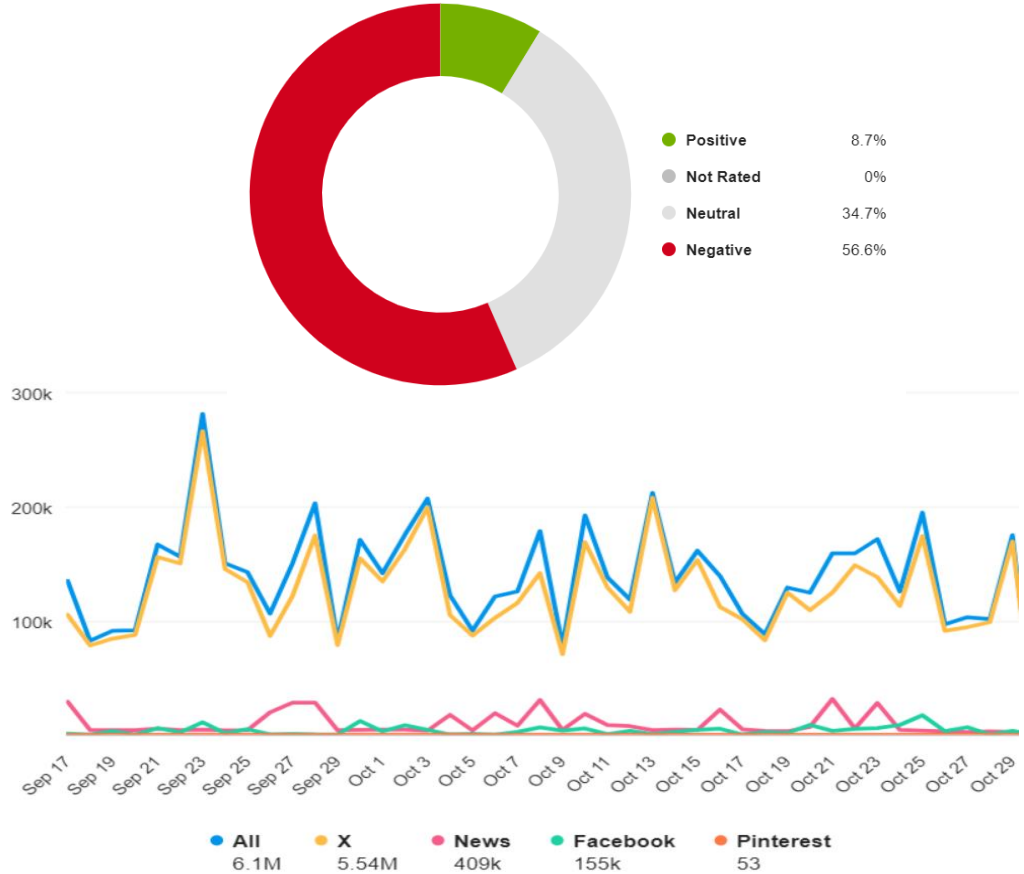
Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Social Media Landscape: peak in interactions regarding the hostilities

Peaks in topics around aid and evacuation



Sentiments on hostilities in general

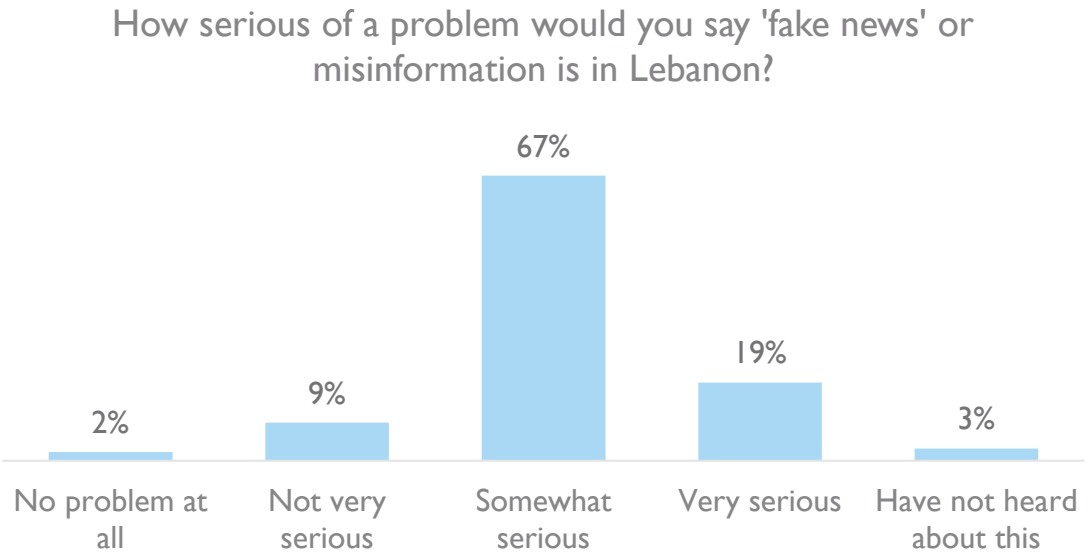


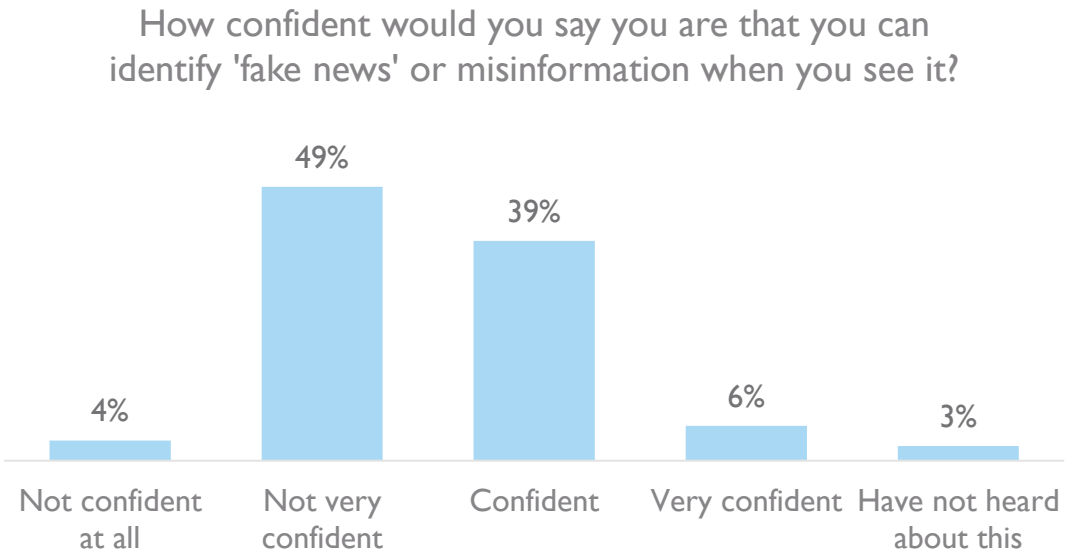
Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Fake news prevailing and leading to public panic and fueling tensions

Fake news and misinformation:

- Hoax evacuation and threat messages.
- Controversial media reports about alleged armed members present in collective shelters.
- Stockpiling of weapons and rockets in areas beyond areas of operation.





Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Future Tension Risks

- Rising tensions in and around collective shelters related to **cash and in-kind assistance** and **security concerns**.
- **Discrepancy in education services** between private and public institutions.
- Tensions related to **access to goods** and **pressure on resources** (if crisis persists and supply chains are disrupted, demand on basic goods is likely to increase in the context of a potentially emerging black market).
- Inter-communal tensions around shelter solutions, aid perception bias, border movements and restrictive measures.
- Intra-communal tensions around **shrinking hosting capacity, community insecurity and deepening political divisions materializing in community-level restrictive measures**
- Fake news and **misinformation** – including hoax evacuation requests - triggering **panic** and tensions.
- **Vertical tensions** with security forces implementing regulations of public/private spaces.
- Outbreaks of **infectious diseases** in crowded shelters may trigger **stigma** and tensions.
- **Gaps in winter preparedness** and lack of solid waste management resources (human and monetary).
- IDPs relocated to apartments and not receiving any assistance are tending to **move to collective shelters**, creating **additional pressure**.

Tensions Landscape & Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Conflict Sensitivity Considerations

Minimize number of assessments to avoid assessment fatigue and raising beneficiary expectations

- Use common tools & initiate discussions with the Sector Leads using Sector Coordination Teams Contact List.

Coordinate closely at local level

- Ensure close coordination with local authorities (DRR/DRM/Site management FPs) & with the Inter-Sector Coordination Group and Sector Leads.

Communicate effectively through a conflict sensitivity lens at local level

- Communicate aid decisions with beneficiaries and local authorities to avoid perceptions of aid perception bias & disseminate **harmonized messages** to avert **misinformation** and politicization of aid.
- If taking photos, obtain prior consent from both beneficiaries and site managers.

Link up to existing referral mechanisms

- Initiate safe identification and referrals (protection, health, education etc.) during distributions based on available referral pathways.

Refer to conflict sensitivity guidance on cash and in-kind distributions

- Distribution teams should approach people with trust and cultural/gender sensitivity to avoid tension.
- Adhere to safety standards and train staff on security procedures and community crowd control.
- Avoid large one-off cash transfers and opt for increments.

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Thank you!

For more information, please reach out to:

Nisreen Jaafar
Conflict Sensitivity Officer – UNDP Lebanon
nisreen.jaafar@undp.org

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Site Monitoring

Site Management and Coordination Sector

Site Monitoring

What is Site Monitoring?

- Site Monitoring is a core Site Management and Coordination activity conducted by Site Managers in humanitarian displacement settings such as Collective sites.

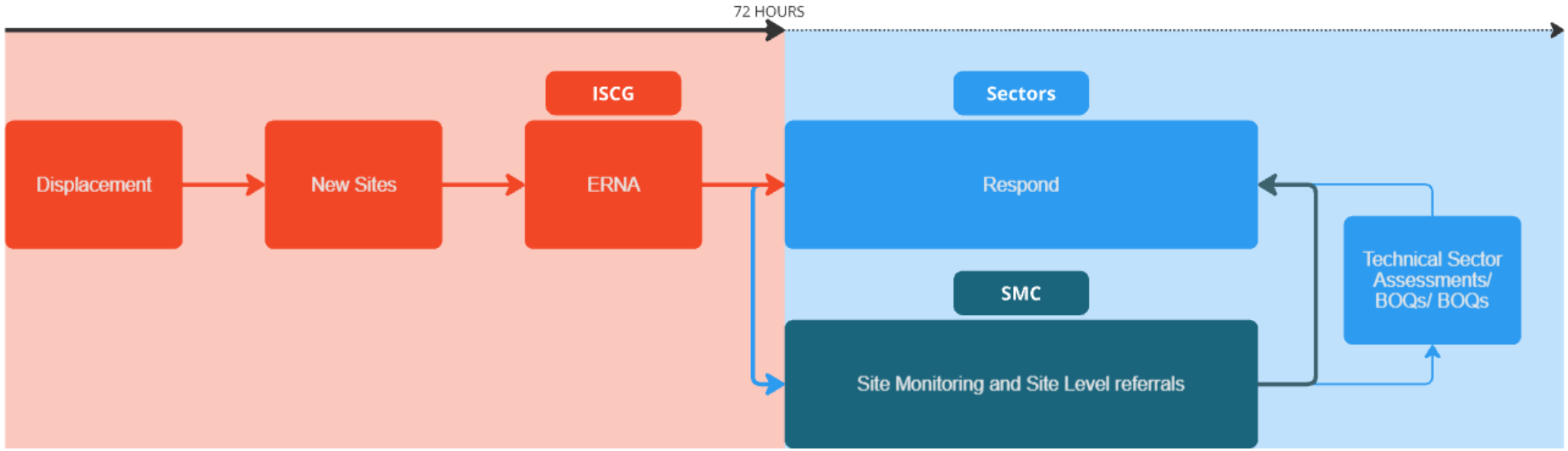
- Site Managers conduct weekly site visits and monitor minimum sector standards. Through observation and consultation with site focal points and community members, Site Managers fill a Kobo form on a weekly or bi-weekly basis depending on the rate of changing site-level conditions.

- Site Monitoring data is used by Site Management teams to conduct site - level referrals to technical sectors, triggering interventions or further technical sector assessments. Site Monitoring data is used to generate Collective site profiles.

- Site Monitoring is an accountability mechanisms that aims to ensure assistance and services provided meet minimum sector standards.

Site Monitoring

Situating Site Monitoring



Site Monitoring

Overview of the Baseline Round

NUMBER OF COLLECTIVE SITES

1135

NUMBER OF SITES VISITED

977

NUMBER OF SITES MONITORED

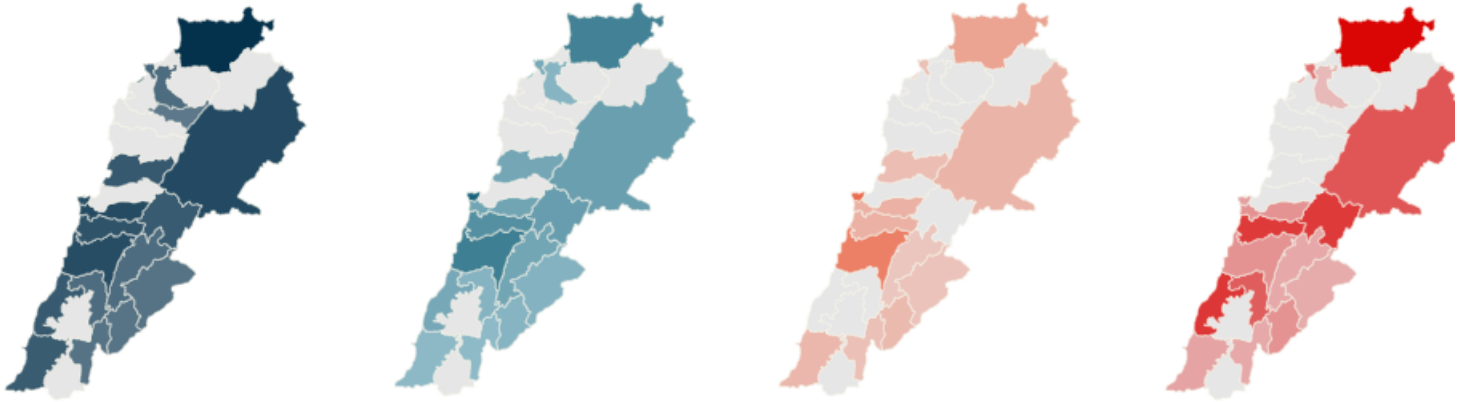
830

NUMBER OF VISITED SITES NOT MONITORED

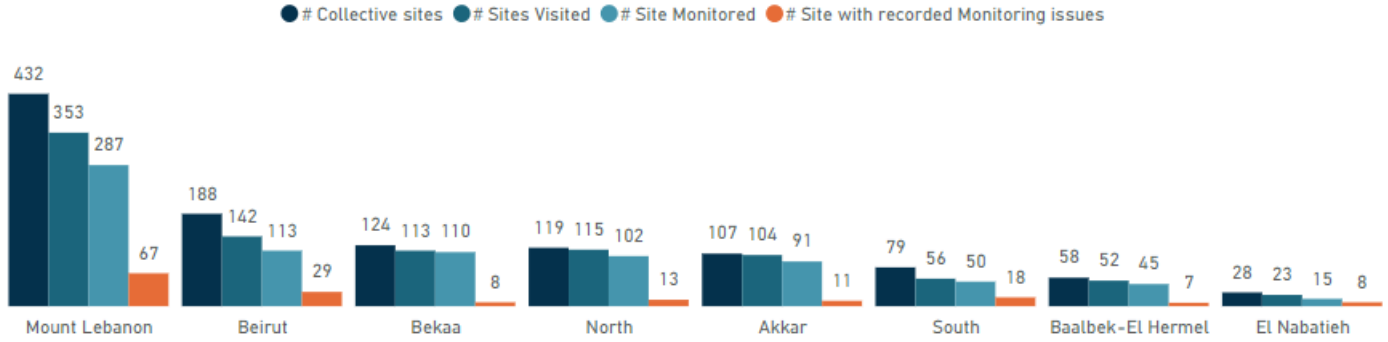
147

NUMBER OF SITES WITH COMPLETED LRC/ DRM REGISTRATION

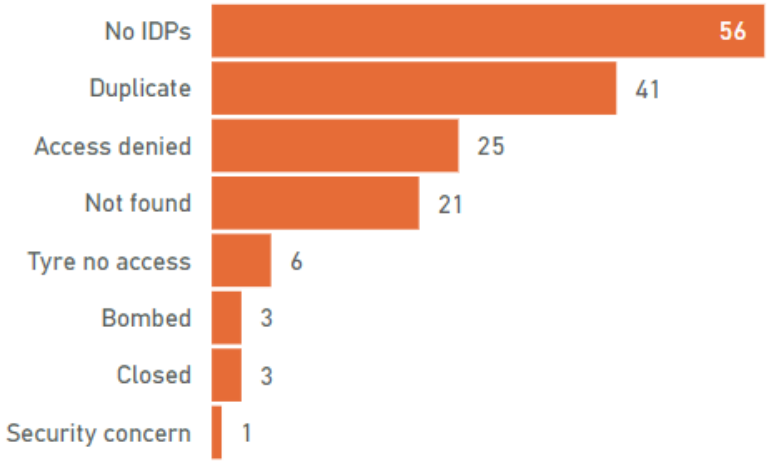
297



NUMBER OF SITES VISITED AND MONITORED BY SITE COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT PARTNERS BY GOVERNORATE



NUMBER OF SITES WITH SITE MONITORING ISSUES



Site Monitoring

Compliance Snapshot of Minimum Sector Standards

HEALTH

PHCC/PSU Access	SRH services	Immunization services	Mental health services
78%	18%	42%	35%

BASIC ASSISTANCE

Blankets, Mattresses, Pillows	Solar lamps	Clothes
56%	25%	45%

SHELTER

Water leaks/ mold	Electrical Hazards	Lighting (Corridors)	Lighting (Rooms)	Overcrowding	Firefighting kits
53%	81%	69%	71%	30%	42%

PROTECTION

PXD Monitoring	Access for PWSN	Security guard 24/7	Internal locks (Rooms)	Internal lock (Site entrance)	Safe space (disclosures)	Child friendly space
55%	23%	61%	46%	89%	45%	67%

WASH

Water Network	Waste water Network	Hot water	# Toilets >15	Toilets for PWSN >250	# Taps	IDPs pay for drinking water	L drinking water > 3	Lighting (WASH)	Internal locks (WASH)	Facilities gender segregated	Hygiene kits	Menstrual kits	Waste Management	Cleaning items
66%	73%	42%	57%	14%	99%	62%	24%	57%	77%	71%	76%	75%	85%	71%

EDUCATION

Attend Primary school	Attend Secondary school
2%	1%

NUTRITION

Nutrition/ ECD frontliners	Caregiver counselling	Nutrition/ ECD Counselling	Nutrition rations/ Micronutrient supplementation
25%	7%	12%	10.59%

Site Monitoring

Next Steps

- The SMC Sector is actively enhancing its tools based on lessons learned from previous exercise, aiming for improved effectiveness in operations.
- The initiative expands upon the initial ERNA data by gathering more comprehensive and regularly site-level information through a collaborative, inter-sectoral and inter-agency approach.
- All Sector/Cluster representatives will be invited to contribute their insights at both national and sub-national levels by the end of next week to ensure a holistic perspective.
- We anticipate presenting and piloting the new tool by 11 Nov marking a significant step forward in our data collection efforts.

Access and Hard to Reach Areas

Fadel Saleh, Access/CM Coordination Officer, Access Working Group (OCHA)

Access and Hard to Reach Areas

Access Strategy: Background

Conflict and Displacement:

Since October 2023, intensifying hostilities have displaced over 1.2 million people, creating significant access and protection challenges, especially in South Lebanon, Nabatieh, Baalbek-Hermel, and hard-to-reach areas, including the southern suburbs of Beirut.

Humanitarian Access Constraints:

Conflict Activity: Continuous airstrikes, UXO threats, and insecure movement corridors restrict humanitarian operations.	**Interference in Aid Delivery**: External influences disrupt aid targeting and distribution, particularly in contested regions.	**Administrative Impediments**: Bureaucratic barriers, including additional clearance requirements, delay critical aid delivery.

Objectives:

Simplify administrative processes.	Protect humanitarian principles (impartiality, neutrality).	Scale response efforts, particularly in hard-to-reach areas.	Enhance protection for humanitarian workers.	Strengthen access negotiations and advocacy with conflict parties.

Access and Hard to Reach Areas

Access Strategy: Strategy and Expected Outcomes

Strategic Framework & Implementation:

- **Access Strategy**: Developed with Access Working Group, focusing on a unified operational framework for safe, coordinated, and sustained humanitarian action.
- **Guiding Principles**:
  - Engagement with all stakeholders to maintain principled humanitarian access.
  - Promote security and risk mitigation adherence, especially in high-risk zones.

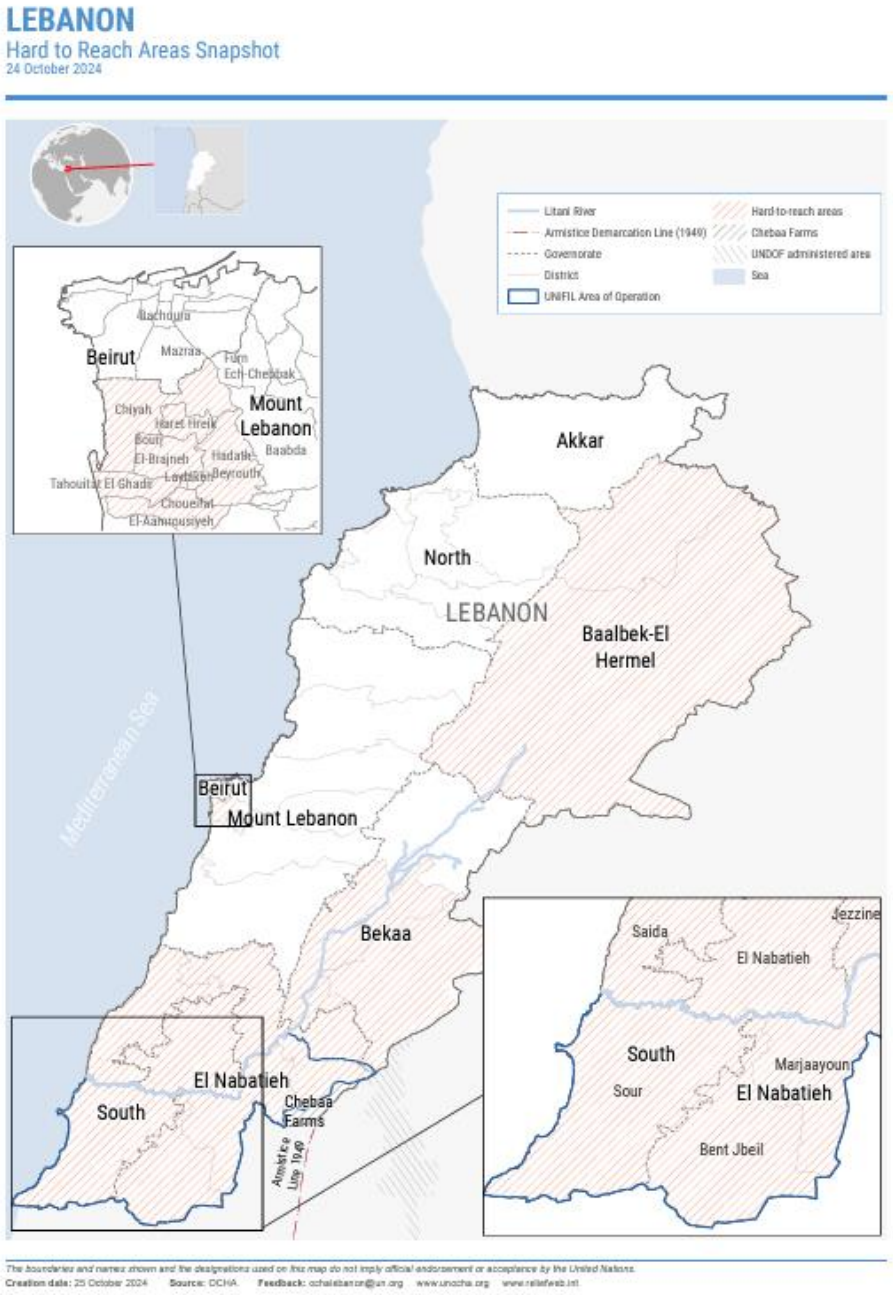
Expected Outcomes:

- **Improved Access and Negotiation**: Decentralize negotiation to sub-national hubs, strengthen HNS notifications, and engage with state and non-state actors.
- **Operational Coordination**: Real-time tracking and updates, particularly for high-access constraint areas.
- **Collective Evidence-Based Advocacy**: Support field operations with targeted access data to streamline aid delivery.

Access and Hard to Reach Areas

Criteria for Classifying Hard-to-Reach Areas

- **Conflict Intensity**
- **Insecurity & Armed Presence**
- **Physical Environment & UXOs**
- **Bureaucratic Access Impediments (BAI)**
- **Denial of Humanitarian Needs**
- **Access Restrictions**
- **Interference in Aid Implementation**

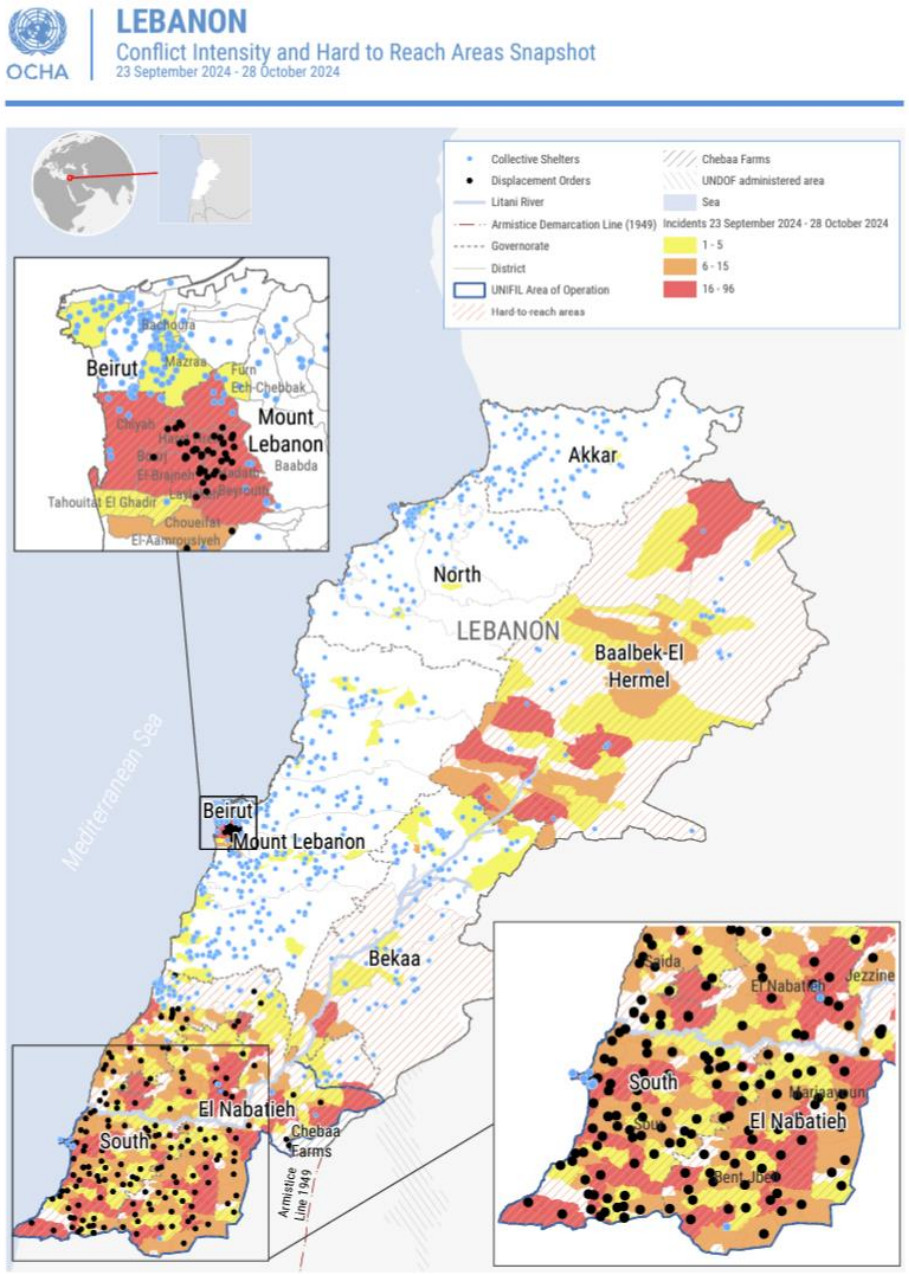


Access and Hard to Reach Areas

Hard-to-Reach Areas

Based on one or more of these criteria the following areas have been classified as hard-to-reach:

- **South Governorate**: Entire governorate, excluding Saida City and major parts of the Jezzine district.
- **Nabatieh Governorate**: Entire governorate due to conflict intensity and insecurity, as well as physical constraints and interference in implementing humanitarian activities.
- **Baalbek-Hermel Governorate**: High levels of insecurity and armed presence, particularly in remote areas. Of note, Hermel Governorate is particularly and severely isolated.
- **Bekaa Governorate**: Excluding Zahle District and Chtaura.
- **Mount Lebanon**: Beirut Southern Suburbs only. Due to conflict intensity, armed presence and high tensions hindering access to this area.



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Thank You