

Lebanon Inter-Agency Response: Syrian Refugees

June 2013

#1naMillion
#syria



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH:

- 419,146 refugees received WFP food vouchers;
- Over 350,000 refugees received hygiene kits, baby kits, and sanitation packs;
- Over 220,000 refugees benefited from clothing vouchers, summer blankets, quilts, kitchen sets, mattresses, and other household items;
- 50,000 individuals now received various types of shelter support in Lebanon;
- 17,500 patients received primary healthcare consultations;
- A total of 6,440 children and adolescents received psychosocial care;
- More than 2,400 patients received hospital care;
- 65,000 persons registered with UNHCR in June.

DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2013



Funding is also received in private donations from the following countries:
China, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, and Spain.

¹ EU funding is received from DEVCO and ECHO.

REGISTRATION AND NEW ARRIVALS

In the past month, over 65,000 persons registered with UNHCR bringing the total number of Syrian refugees assisted by UNHCR and partners to over 568,000 (over 485,000 people registered and 83,000 awaiting registration). Average waiting periods are now within 24 days – within the acceptable global standard.

Current distribution of the registered population is as follows:

North Lebanon: 174,189

Bekaa: 164,712

Beirut and Mount Lebanon: 86,352

South Lebanon: 59,914

To accommodate religious observance for refugees during Ramadan, UNHCR will need to schedule fewer registration cases on a daily basis. This may lead to the increase in the waiting period across registration offices, a delay that should be addressed through different mechanisms in the months following Ramadan.

PROTECTION

Over 15,000 refugees were reported by local municipalities to have arrived in Lebanon over the past month.

Of note is that the flow of new arrivals to Aarsal decreased significantly in comparison with last month, with trickles of refugees entering the town from Qusair, Qualamoun and neighboring villages in Syria. According to the municipality, new arrival rates in Aarsal averaged 7-8 families per day, with many families moving onwards to Wadi Khaled and other locations in north Lebanon. Due to the security situation, refugees currently residing in Aarsal faced difficulties crossing to central Bekaa to register or receive assistance, while access was repeatedly restrained for agencies. On June 26, access resumed and needed assistance provided to refugees in the area.

A total of 6,440 children and adolescents received psychosocial care in the past four weeks through mobile interventions provided by UNICEF and partner agencies, bringing the cumulative total since January 2013 to 36,529.

Terre des Hommes (TDH) reported a increased rate of early marriage among young Syrian girls between 15-17 years of age who have been volunteering with the agency. Their marriage has resulted in them having to cease work as their husbands are not in favour of their working.

TDH is preparing to open two additional centres in Aarsal targeting 200 children in the area to take part in psychosocial activities to help prevent early marriage and create a protective environment for children.

In June, 380 women and girl survivors or at risk of gender-based violence received psychosocial support, counselling, family planning and nutrition awareness sessions at the four Women and Girls Community Centres run by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), bringing the cumulative total to 1,829. Also as part of the women protection programme, over 150 women and adolescent girls received dignity kits in June. Dignity kits contribute to the protection of women and adolescent girls as they include items such as flashlights and whistles (so that women and girls do not have to walk in the dark and can call for help if needed), and culturally appropriate items that will allow women to move more freely and securely (e.g. headscarves).

Women and girls survivors or at risk of violence are soon to benefit from alternative accommodation established by UNHCR, UNICEF, DRC, and Abaad. These shelters that will be established in the Bekaa, North and South during the coming month aim to provide vulnerable refugee women and girls with immediate safety and protection.

SECURITY

The month of June witnessed security incidents including clashes and shelling on border areas in the North, northern Bekaa and South that have hindered agencies from consistently accessing refugees and providing assistance. Towards the end of the month, the situation improved in most areas. Intermittent road blocks throughout the Bekaa however continued to impact humanitarian access to some locations and suspended a number of activities.

The volatile situation in northern Bekaa and reported road blocks have also hindered refugees' access to the UNHCR registration center in Zahle, particularly on June 20-21.

UNHCR liaised with the Lebanese Army and Internal Security Forces (ISF) to monitor the situation and maximize access during that period.

DISTRIBUTION

A total of 419,146 refugees received WFP food vouchers through World Vision and DRC in June. Over 220,000 refugees benefited from clothing vouchers, summer blankets, quilts, kitchen sets, mattresses, recreation kits for children and other household items this month. These efforts are sponsored by UNHCR, UNICEF, DRC, CLMC, Handicap International, Makhzoumi Foundation, SHEILD and World Vision.

Agencies have also focused on providing much needed assistance to new comers pending their registration. WFP distributed food parcels to 13,553 refugees, a relatively small number because of heightened security incidents in Tripoli. WFP contracted an additional food parcel supplier in Beirut to prevent the reoccurrence of such impediments in future.

Handicap International distributed food parcels and non-food items to over 4,000 newly arrived in June. This brings the total number of individuals assisted by Handicap International since the beginning of the project to 14,259.

Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC) distributed new comers kits to 637 individuals in Hermel, Al Ara, Al Dawra, Mashari' el Qaa and Qaa. The Italian NGO AVSI also assisted tens of new comers in West Bekaa.

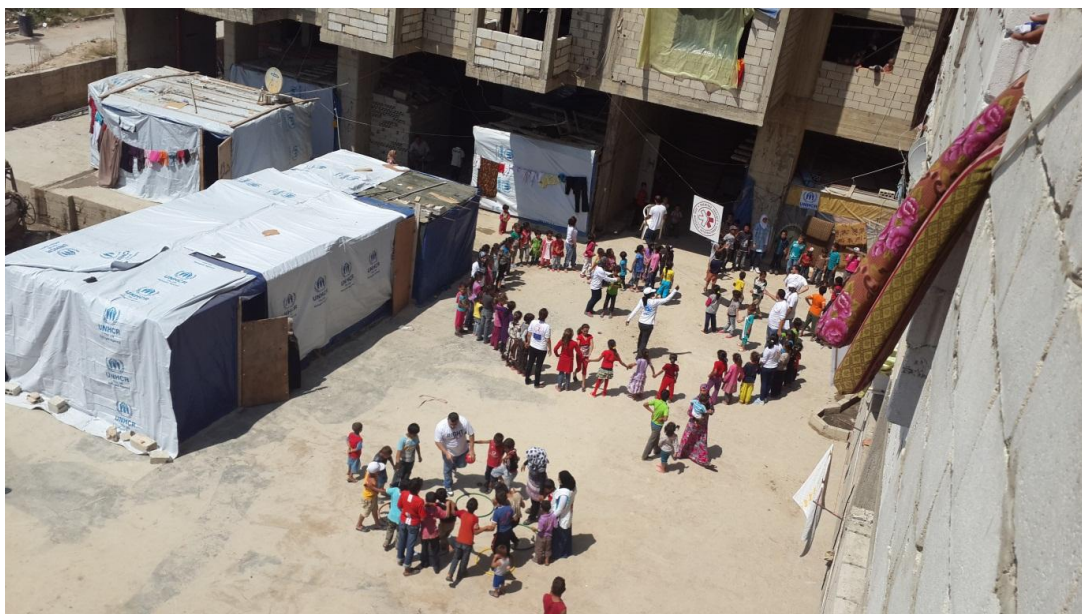
UNHCR also distributed kits –including one stove, one hygiene kit, one kitchen set, a sleeping mat, a gas tank and a sanitary bag for each female in the family- to 170 people in Sareen Al-Tahta and Maaraboun in the Bekaa.

EDUCATION

The Secretary General of the Council of Ministers issued a decision allowing Syrian refugee children who arrived in Lebanon without accreditation documents to sit for the grade 9 and 12 official exams on the condition that they provide the necessary documentation as soon as it is retrievable from Syria. UNHCR has contacted the parents of the students and asked them to follow up with the school principals and the Ministry of Education (MEHE) to apply. Grade 9 students will have to apply for the second round of exams as the first one has already passed, while grade 12 can sit for the first and second rounds.

In the past four weeks, 17,252 refugee children and adolescents received non-formal education services, and an additional 26,396 children received psychosocial support through educational programmes, bringing the cumulative totals for 2013 to 24,833 and 34,862 respectively.

As the summer holidays have started, refugee students will now enroll in summer accelerated learning programmes including English, Arabic, Math, and Sciences provided by Amel Association, Save the Children, and World Vision.



HEALTH

The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), WHO, UNICEF and UNHCR and NGO partners continued their nation-wide vaccination campaign throughout the month of June. So far, 630,000 children have been assisted, of whom 30 per cent are Syrian nationals. MoPH and UNICEF also provided vaccination and Vitamin A to refugees at UNHCR registration centres. Over 4,000 individuals were reached this month.

In June, 17,500 patients received primary healthcare consultations through MOPH, UNHCR, the International Medical Corps (IMC), Amel Association, Caritas, and Makhzoumi Foundation.

In addition, more than 2,400 patients received hospital care, the majority of whom were pregnant women. UNHCR and IMC have increased their efforts to inform refugees about relevant health topics and conducted awareness sessions for more than 1,860 individuals.

In a concerted effort, MoPH, UNICEF, UNHCR and IMC distributed lice and scabies medication and informed refugees about treatment and prevention through consistent awareness raising sessions.

UNICEF supported mobile medical teams have provided free healthcare interventions to patients in 150 tented settlements and collective shelters and UNHCR and IMC provided over 2,400 patients with health care services through IMC medical units.

SHELTER

In June, approximately 50,000 individuals have so far this year received various types of shelter support in Lebanon. Over 40 collective shelters –including abandoned renovated schools or public structures- currently host 3,295 refugees. Another 34 additional collective shelters have been identified and 16 of them are currently at various stage of rehabilitation.

Over 7,600 Lebanese and Syrian families are living in 283 informal tented settlements in the Bekaa (233), North (49) and South (1). Agencies have so far assisted 22,250 people in those communities with shelter improvements.

Shelter support from cash for rent, cash for host families, weatherproofing, accommodation in collective shelters and assistance in informal tented settlements is provided by UNHCR, PU-AMI, PCPM, NRC, DRC, SCI, CLM, CISP, MEDAIR, CHF, Makhzoumi Foundation, SHEILD, Shelter Box, Layan organization and Dar El Fatwa.

The Ministry of Social Affairs and UNHCR, in close liaison with local municipalities, identified a number of public pieces of land to be used as formal temporary tented settlement sites. The establishment of those transit sites are now contingent upon a formal Government decision to move the project into its implementation phase.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Over 350,000 refugees received 62,000 hygiene kits, 40,000 baby kits, 35,000 sanitation packs in June in the Bekaa, North, South, Mount Lebanon and Beirut.

In Tal El Abiad, UNICEF and Action Contre la Faim (ACF) installed latrines, storage tanks and provided hygiene promotion activities to over 1,000 beneficiaries. Four additional latrines were built at the Katermaya tented settlement and over 150 showers were established throughout Lebanon.

UNHCR, Premiere Urgence (PU-AMI), ACF, DRC, SHEILD, Makhzoumi Foundation, CLMC, CISP will continue to prioritize the water, sanitation, and hygiene projects at the turn of the summer season with temperatures rising up.

WHAT'S NEW ON THE PORTAL

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

UPDATES:

- **Syria Refugee Response- Inter Agency response What Where?**
- How to Manage Refugee Helplines: A few tips to help organisations cope with emergency calls
- Agenda_WASH Sector Coordination Meeting, 26 June 2013
- WASH Sector Coordination meeting calendar, July & August 2013

MAPS:

- Lebanon, Shelter Collective Centers for MAY 2013

STATISTICS:

- Lebanon Registration Daily Stats 24-26 June 2013

REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS:

- Newcomer Assistance SOP [V.2] full package
- Lebanon Contingency Plan (V.2) - Annexes G & H - Action Matrix & Stocks, 2013-06-27 (Draft 16)
- Lebanon Contingency Plan (V.2) - Annexes A to F, 2013-06-27 [Draft 16]
- Lebanon Contingency Plan (V.2) - 2013-06-27 [Draft 16]
- Inter-Agency Regional Response - Syrian Refugees 13-19 June
- Health Operational Guidance, Lebanon June 2013
- Oxfam Syria Response, Issue Number 30, 19 June 2013

Rodolphe Ghossoub