

## SYRIAN REFUGEE RESPONSE: LEBANON INTER-AGENCY UPDATE



February 21, 2014

#FutureOfSyria



LEBANON

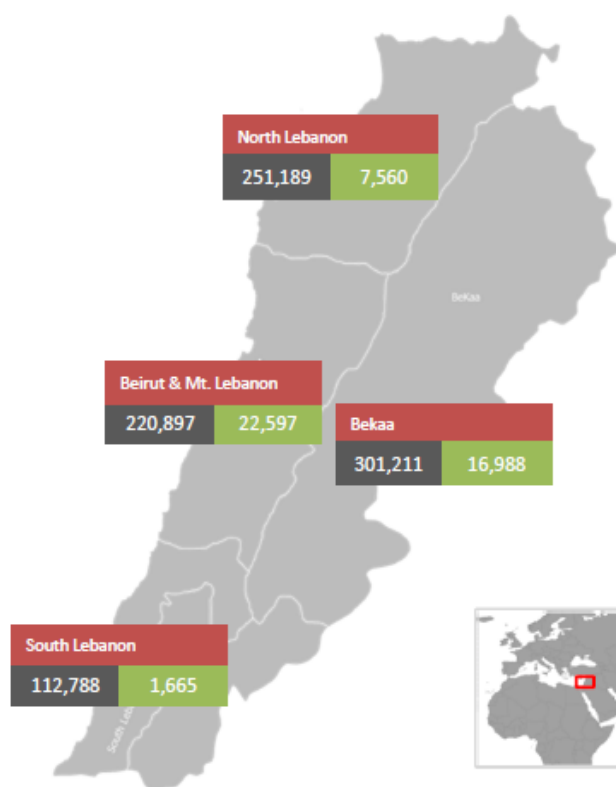
*Agencies and the Government of Lebanon requested US\$1.89 billion in the latest inter-agency funding appeal. US\$182 million have so far been received – 10 per cent, as of 31 January.*


### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

- Over 610,000 refugees benefited from food assistance so far in February;
- More than 16,500 individuals received mattresses, blankets, fuel, stoves and other household items;
- Over 41,700 Lebanese and Syrian nationals benefited from completed community support projects;
- 13,600 refugees participated in health awareness sessions;
- Some 8,900 individuals received access to primary healthcare services;
- Over 2,800 Syrian students attended remedial classes;
- An estimated 12,800 Syrians have arrived in Aarsal since 9 February from different areas in Qalamoun;
- 11,600 persons registered with UNHCR this week.

## PROTECTION, REGISTRATION AND NEW ARRIVALS

*11,600 people registered with UNHCR Lebanon this week*



	<b>934,895</b>	Total
	886,085	Registered
	48,810	Awaiting

Over 11,600 persons registered with UNHCR, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees assisted by UNHCR and partners to 934,800 (886,000 people registered and 48,800 awaiting registration).

## PROTECTION

Agencies continue to respond to the arrival of an estimated 12,800 Syrians in Aarsal since 9 February as fighting in the Qalamoun region of Syria is ongoing this week. Some 2,800 new arrivals mainly from Yabroud, Flita and Al Sahel were identified in the past three days alone. The recent arrivals bring the total refugee population in Aarsal to more than 50,800, exceeding the number of resident Lebanese.

Approximately eleven per cent of the new arrivals have settled beyond the Lebanese Army checkpoint, along the border areas, where security cannot be guaranteed by Lebanese law enforcement agencies.

As a result, humanitarian partners have scaled-up outreach activities to provide information and counseling to all new arrivals, presently scattered in over 32 Informal Tented Settlements (ITS), collective shelters and public spaces such as mosques, halls and, sometimes, trucks.

Agencies continue to work with the authorities to meet immediate needs and ensure adequate contingency planning.

Some 800 women across Akkar and the Bekaa benefited from home-based skills development training provided by Save the Children. The objective of this programme is to provide women with the skills to produce goods such as bread, soap and other home accessories demanded by the local community.

Also this week, over 145 refugees in north Lebanon benefitted from legal consultations including on birth certificates procedures provided by International Relief and Development (IRD).

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROJECTS

Over 41,700 Lebanese and Syrian nationals residing in south Lebanon benefited from completed community support projects including the provision of generators, garbage trucks, a snow plough truck and a water reservoir truck.

Similarly in north Lebanon, the Dennyeh Federation of Municipalities in addition to the municipalities of Aassoun and Bka'asfrin benefited from the distribution of garbage collection trucks and garbage bins provided by UNDP and UNHCR.

*Over 41,700 Syrians and Lebanese stand to benefit from community support projects*

## FOOD SECURITY

So far in February, over 610,000 individuals have benefited from food assistance provided by the World Food Programme (WFP) and distributed by World Vision and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) through e-cards or food parcels. An additional 4,800 individuals received food kits and food vouchers distributed by Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC) and the Union of Relief and Development Association (URDA).

In response to recent influx to Aarsal, WFP and DRC distributed over 2,870 food parcels sufficient to feed approximately 12,000 people. In case of further influx, a preparedness stock containing some 30,000 parcels sufficient for 150,000 people has been established in coordination with UNHCR, DRC and other humanitarian partners.

In addition, WFP continued discussions with the World Bank and the Ministry of Social Affairs to develop a food assistance project, which would entail the provision of e-cards to vulnerable Lebanese as part of the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) assistance package that is outlined in the sixth Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP6). This programme plans to assist 326,000 vulnerable Lebanese in host communities.

## DISTRIBUTION

In response to the recent influx in Aarsal, new arrivals have received hygiene kits, mattresses, blankets, stoves, fuel vouchers, kitchen sets, and baby kits and food. A preparedness stock containing food parcels for more than 130,000 people and core relief items sufficient to respond to an influx of up to 200,000 people has been established.

In other parts of the country, more than 16,500 individuals received mattresses, blankets, fuel, stoves and other household items provided UNHCR, DRC and World Vision. A further 4,300 newly arrived refugees benefited from a \$150 cash assistance through e-cards in addition to mattresses and kitchen sets provided by Save the Children.

*610,000 individuals  
have so far this  
month benefited  
from food assistance*

*16,500 individuals  
received mattresses,  
blankets, fuel,  
stoves and other  
household items*

Some 1,946 individuals residing in the Burj El-Barajneh and Burj El-Shemali Palestinian camps received vouchers for clothes and shoes provided by World Vision.

## SHELTER

In Aarsal, many refugees are spending their nights in public halls, trucks, mosques as agencies struggle to identify appropriate shelter. While hoping for government approval of suitable sites for formal settlements, some independent agencies are setting up their own informal ones. Some of these fall below minimum standards for security, sanitation and hygiene. UNHCR, UNICEF and partners are working to support these agencies to ensure safer living conditions for the new arrivals.

## EDUCATION

Some 2,851 out of school children benefitted from the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) provided by UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision, Hilfswerk Austria International and Amel Association.

In Mount Lebanon this week, an additional second-shift school was identified this brings the total number of active schools which operate in the afternoon to 20. A total of 7,000 refugees are expected to register in second-shifts school across Mount Lebanon this school year.

## HEALTH

Close to 8,900 individuals received primary health care services including consultations, treatments, referrals, medication, vaccination, antenatal care, postnatal care, family planning, child health care and diagnostic tests provided by UNHCR, Amel Association, IOCC, Premiere Urgence (PU-AMI) and the International Medical Corps (IMC). Another 3,200 refugees benefited from primary healthcare consultations provided through mobile clinics.

*1,900 Syrian children attended accelerated learning programme classes*

*Over 7,000 individuals received primary health care services*

A further 13,600 people participated in health awareness sessions on a number of health issues including family planning, and pre and post natal care.

Also this week, seven in 845 screened children between the ages of 0-59 months in the South and Bekaa were diagnosed with malnutrition and provided with immediate treatment by IOCC.

In Aarsal, polio and measles vaccination campaigns reached 520 and 480 children respectively, including those children in settlements beyond the checkpoint. Primary health clinics and maternal/pediatric centres remain operational, and mobile medical units continue to reach out to the population scattered throughout Aarsal. Additionally, the number of refugees being provided with mental health services continues to grow, reaching 170 cases so far.

## **WATER, SANITATION, HYGIENE (WASH)**

Over 41,300 individuals in various parts of the country benefitted from the distribution of hygiene and baby kits provided by UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision, DRC and Save the Children.

In Aarsal, 32 informal settlements hosting new-arrivals have been supported with water, latrines, water tanks, jerry-cans, and baby kits. Water and sanitation facilities are being set up each day to cope with the growing number of families settling in these sites. Refugees living in private accommodations and collective shelters also benefited from the delivery of clean water.

## DONORS

USA, Kuwait, EU, Japan, UK, Germany, Australia, Norway, Canada, Denmark, Netherlands, Russia, France, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, Italy, Ireland, Austria, Republic of Korea, Spain, Luxemburg, Estonia, Czech Republic, Iceland, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Chile, Mexico, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Slovakia.

Contributions have also been received from the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) as well as from private donors, national and international organizations.

## AGENCIES THAT HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPORT

