

LEBANON: RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE - JANUARY

WASH



KEY ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MONTH

70,864 affected Lebanese benefited from improved access to safe water to a minimum standard of quantity

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

The link between the Health and the WASH sectors is under development with a special focus on preparedness for a disease outbreak, Health Information System sharing and joint assessments.

In agricultural areas, many refugees depend on irrigation water for drinking. Testing and mapping of water quality as well as distribution of household water treatment systems are priorities.

Community Support Projects with an immediate impact to release the pressure on existing water and sanitation infrastructures have been identified across Lebanon, in close collaboration with the concerned Municipalities. These types of projects are particularly important to help the most vulnerable communities mitigate the stress on the available resources. Several are ongoing, supporting Municipalities with vehicles and equipment to manage the increased amount of solid waste and increase the delivery and supply of water.

Fuel donation to municipalities in the South for the purposes of water pumping is continuing. Appropriateness of such intervention is being evaluated as one of the measures to overcome the potential problem of water shortage in the incoming summer period.

Congested Palestinian gatherings where some Syrian refugees also reside are targeted in the WASH response.

Estimated % of populations in need of support as per RRP6



Child drinking water in a formal settlement in Lebanon. Credit UNHCR

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

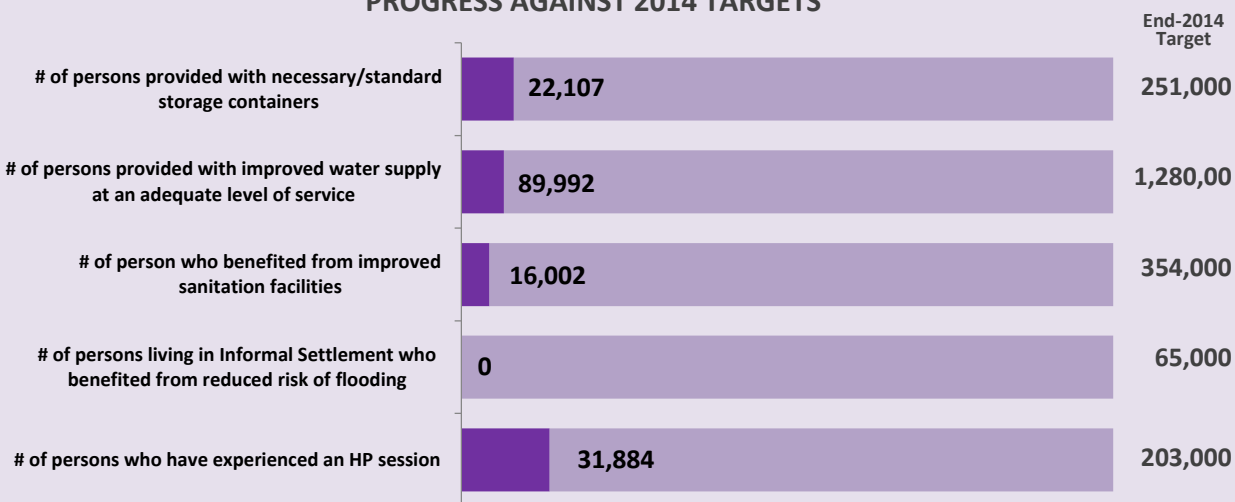
According to WASH assessments it is assumed that 27% of refugees and affected populations will be in need of water support, 29% in need of sanitation assistance and 80% will require hygiene promotion support.

WASH needs vary geographically depending on the status of and access to existing water and wastewater services. The plan to address WASH needs is based on two assumptions: that existing water sources will suffice to meet the bulk of the increased water demand, and that approval for development of new water sources will be granted in time to bridge gaps.

The affected population is scattered all over the country making the WASH response expensive, time consuming, and logistically challenging. Refugees currently reside in over 1,600 locations out of which almost 500 are informal settlements.

The number of these informal settlements keeps rising due to continuing new arrivals. Many of them lack adequate sanitation and access to water and are prone to flooding. These factors result in poor hygienic conditions leading to a high risk of water-borne disease.

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS



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