

SYRIAN REFUGEE RESPONSE: LEBANON INTER-AGENCY UPDATE

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#FutureOfSyria



LEBANON

Agencies and the Government of Lebanon had been requesting US\$1.89 billion in the inter-agency funding appeal. The mid-year review in June resulted in a downward revision of these requirements to US\$ 1.68 billion. US\$ 526.6 million - 31 per cent - has been received as of 5 August.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

- Almost 600 displaced Lebanese and Syrian households from Aarsal to various locations in the Bekaa received assistance;
- More than 52 percent of the registered refugees has received shelter support since the beginning of 2014;
- 796,638 received food assistance through the e-card modality in August;
- 69,290 people had access to safe water in July.



ARSAL RESPONSE

Since the outbreak of the armed clashes in Arsal, humanitarian partners have been working closely with the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs and the High Relief Committee to assess what additional support was needed by Lebanese and Syrian civilians affected by the fighting.



A local NGO distributes aids to Lebanese and Syrian displaced families in Al Marj, Bekaa.

Humanitarian partners have conducted joint assessments to review the needs of Lebanese and Syrian refugees displaced in different parts of the Bekaa Valley and being sheltered in private houses, community centres and schools. The displaced have been provided with humanitarian supplies, including mattresses and blankets, hygiene and baby kits, kitchen sets as well as bread and canned food at their temporary shelters in Baalbek, Bar Elias, Al Marj and other locations in the Bekaa. From earlier this week, Lebanese and Syrian families have been returning to Arsal, while some still remain displaced in the Bekaa.

A group of 1,700 Syrian refugees returning to Syria was delayed on August 8 at the Masnaa official crossing to Syria. UNICEF and partners provided safe water, high energy biscuits, health services through a Mobile Medical Unit (MMU), and psychosocial support (PSS) services to 350 children in addition to 310 boxes of Aqua tab, 396 jerry cans and 11,100 Liters of water through water trucking, 254 hygiene kits and 10 garbage bins.

Clashes in Arsal have resulted in substantial damage to a number of informal settlements and collective shelters, as well as private houses of Arsali families and public buildings. In addition three UNICEF learning spaces (tents) were damaged, affecting education activities for 600 children. Rafic Hariri Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) was damaged as well. A local UNICEF NGO partner has been able to

WFP and Mercy Corps distributed 620 Kg of dates to Syrian refugees returning from Ras Baalbek to Syria

provide the population in Aarsal with health services through its Mobile Medical Units (MMUs).

In Aarsal, the 14 WFP-contracted shops all managed to redeem e-cards despite sporadic electricity cut and landline issues. WFP is coordinating with UNHCR to replace lost e-cards by refugees as a result of burnt shelter units.

The security situation is still preventing humanitarian assistance from getting into Aarsal and this is being assessed regularly by UNHCR and partners. UNHCR continues to coordinate with the municipal authorities in the town who have also expressed concerns regarding security in the outskirts of Aarsal.

The municipal authorities have reported that food and water is available in the town and medical facilities are operating. UN and partners continue to monitor the situation on the ground and have contingency stocks in place to ensure immediate humanitarian aid delivery to Lebanese and Syrian civilians inside Aarsal as soon as the security situation allows access.

CHILD PROTECTION

24,539 boys and girls benefited from psychosocial support, bringing the total to 256,433 for 2014.

8,997 caregivers took part in learning activities, information and orientation sessions, and emotional and social support activities reaching a cumulative figure of 86,469 for 2014.

382 service providers have been trained since January to date on child protection services and referral pathways.

FOOD SECURITY

So far in August 2014, 796,638 beneficiaries have been reached through the e-card modality. In the past week, 6,861 new arrival Syrian refugees waiting for registration received food assistance through food parcels.

Nutrition Screening results indicate that there is no nutrition crisis in Lebanon

CLMC distributed food vouchers to 287 Syrian Refugee families and 60 Lebanese Returnee families in the areas of Dbayeh, Burj Hammoud and Baalbek. Union of Relief and Development Associations (URDA) distributed 558 food parcels to families in 6 informal settlements (ISs) in the Bekaa.

UNICEF in collaboration with IOCC, Relief International, ACFs, IMC, Save the Children and Beyond conducted a Nutrition Screening Campaign from 21 May to 20 June in ISs in the Bekaa.

Results show that amongst 16,531 children between 6–59 months screened for malnutrition in 84 cadasters, 828 children were referred to PHC facilities for follow up purposes/treatment and further investigation. 77 cases were diagnosed as Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and 25 cases were diagnosed as Severe Acute Malnutrition without complications.

UNICEF provided treatment through supply of ready-to-use therapeutic food and ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF), as well as equipment material.

DISTRIBUTION

100 new arrival families (around 500 persons) in Mount Lebanon received non-food items as part of new arrival kits provided by Terre des Hommes Italy. A standard kit contains mattresses, blankets, kitchen set, hygiene and baby kits and jerry can.

CLMC assisted 347 Syrian and Lebanese returnee families (around 1,750 persons) in Baalbek and Mount Lebanon through hygiene and baby kits, mattresses, summer blankets, towels, and food vouchers.

SHELTER

244,107 persons have benefited since January 2014 to date from shelter activities provided by different humanitarian agencies all over Lebanon. Beneficiaries include: Lebanese host community

(33,223 persons), Syrian Refugees (148,767 persons), Palestinian Syrian refugees (59,718 persons) and Lebanese returnees (2,399 persons).

In the South, more than 40 families benefited from shelter support through rehabilitations and shelter and weatherproofing kits.

In the North, UNHCR has started transferring cash for shelter to Landlords to pay the rent for more than 130 vulnerable families so far.

DRC has completed the rehabilitation of two new Collective Centers in Tripoli with a hosting capacity of 46 HHs.

In Mount Lebanon, ACTED and PU-AMI distributed weatherproofing kits to 55 Syrian families and CHF assisted 7 families living in an unfinished building through rehabilitation.

Schools' rehabilitation and rental agreements are being completed in different regions in Lebanon. A total number of 25 schools will be ready to host Lebanese and Syrian children in the coming school year.

UNHCR and UN- Habitat report launched last week on "Housing, Land and Property Issues in Lebanon: Implications of the Syrian Refugee Crisis" aims at assisting humanitarian and Lebanese government partners design policies, planning decisions and programs in order to ensure that vulnerable Lebanese families and refugees have access to safe, affordable and adequate shelter.

Amongst the findings of the report: a) Land and property issues affect both Lebanese communities and Syrian refugees; b) Housing is a primary concern for most Syrians in Lebanon, in terms of both quality and cost; c) For 41 percent of Syrians shelter is not adequate; d) In addition, refugees, landlords and municipalities are generally not aware of their housing rights, either under Lebanese law or International Human Rights law.



More than 120 refugee families are staying in this collective shelter in Sidon.

Since the beginning of 2014, 52.42 percent of the total number of registered refugees has received shelter support.

EDUCATION

UNICEF enrolled 1,146 children in the month of July in non-formal education (NFE), bringing the total number for 2014 to 48,651 children.

2,959 adolescents benefited from life skills package enabling them to deal effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life and to translate knowledge, attitudes and values into actual abilities- i.e. “what to do and how to do it”.

UNHCR and UNICEF have finalized in close collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to regulate agencies’ and partners’ access to public school premises. These SOPs will be used as reference for the summer education programme.

HEALTH

In coordination with the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), primary health care consultations including medical treatments, referrals, antenatal and postnatal care, family planning, child care and diagnostic tests were provided by UNHCR, AMEL, IMC and URDA through mobile or center-based clinics to 9,105 patients. Additionally, some 1,160 individuals were hospitalized this week, including 625 deliveries supported by UNHCR.

14,350 individuals benefited from awareness sessions provided by UNHCR, IMC, CLMC, IOCC and URDA. Sessions covered Malnutrition screening, Nutritional Awareness, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), Reproductive Health, contraception, First aid and health promotion for children.

1,011 social and mental health consultations were provided in five Lebanese governorates by IMC, through its outreach and center-based services. A further 372 awareness materials and sessions were conducted on mental health, gender based violence and early marriage.

Integration of WASH, Child Protection and Education sectors will provide better quality and more comprehensive health services to both Lebanese and Syrians

945 Lebanese and refugees benefited from hygiene promotion sessions on lice and scabies, hepatitis A, water conservation and usage

UNFPA in collaboration with IRC, conducted training in clinical management of rape services to Ersbu PHCC health workers.

With the support of MoPH, UNICEF completed an assessment on PHCCs. 139 PHCCs were assessed in 225 most vulnerable locations. A total of 57 percent of beneficiaries were Lebanese with the remaining being Syrians.

Results showed that there is a major need for all types of medication at PHCs, including essential drugs (those that satisfy the primary health care needs of a population), medication for chronic diseases and antibiotics for children and diarrhea cases. Gaps identified at PHCCs, ranging from the availability of technical expertise to hygiene, service quality and availability will inform priorities for future programme implementation.

WATER, SANITATION, HYGIENE (WASH)

In the past 7 months, 363,420 people had access to safe water with 69,290 in July alone. Over 40,278 people also received hygiene items.

UN and partner agencies continue to put efforts in providing Lebanese and refugees with access to water supply in different areas of the country.

In Akkar- North Lebanon, ACTED completed and handed over a 3.6 km water pipeline project in Andaket to increase water supply to 5,230 residents both Lebanese and Syrian. PU-AMI and Concern provided WASH support to over 300 evicted persons who moved to different areas in the North.

In Saida and Babliye - South Lebanon, ACF installed ten latrines benefiting more than 100 refugees. CISP installed 62 hand washing stations which more than 310 refugees can access.

In Zahle- East Lebanon, activities focused particularly on Aarsal



A Lebanese woman in Akkar has access to water through UNHCR water supplier projects.

and included water trucking and desludging mainly by Intersos and ACF. In addition, ACF installed 32 emergency latrines in Dalhamiye, desludged 312 latrines, supplied water to 943 households and distributed 42 water tanks of 1000L each.

UNHCR met USAID projects Chiefs of Parties including the Office for Transition Initiatives (OTI), and related constancy firms Chemonics and CDSmith and agreed on ways to share and exchange information on sites selected for the implementation of water supply projects, scope of work and complementarity of activities.

DONORS

USA, UK, EU, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Slovak Republic, Saudi Arabia, Republic of Korea, Qatar, Poland, Norway, New Zealand, Netherlands, Mexico, Luxembourg, Kuwait, Japan, Italy, Ireland, Holy See, Germany, France, Estonia, Ecuador, Denmark, China, Canada and Australia.

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AGENCIES THAT HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPORT



This report is produced by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) on behalf of humanitarian agencies working on the Syrian refugee response in Lebanon. The report is based on information provided by UNHCR and partner agencies. For more information, please contact Dana Sleiman at sleiman@unhcr.org or Mona Monzer at monzer@unhcr.org.