

SYRIAN REFUGEE RESPONSE: LEBANON INTER-AGENCY UPDATE

29 August 2014

LEBANON



#FutureOfSyria

Agencies and the Government of Lebanon had requested 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

- The number of Syrian refugees registered in the region crossed the 3-million mark on 29 August. 1,175,000 are in Lebanon;
- The number of children enrolled in non-formal education in 2014 reached 48,651;
- 23,000 primary and secondary healthcare consultations were provided;
- 51 per cent of registered Syrian refugees have benefited from shelter support as of this month;
- 1,900 Syrian refugees accessed food in Aarsal.

REGISTRATION

The number of refugees fleeing Syria hit three million on 29 August, with growing insecurity and worsening conditions inside the country.

The vast majority remain in neighboring countries with the highest concentrations in Lebanon (1.175 million), Jordan (613,000) and Turkey (832,000). This has led to an enormous strain on these countries' economies, infrastructures and resources.

Many newly arriving refugees say they left Syria as a last resort. For instance, more than half of refugees coming to Lebanon have moved at least once before crossing the border and one in ten have moved more than three times. As the crisis extends, they face increasing difficulty to find work and pay for high food and commodity prices.

CHILD PROTECTION

More than 20 case workers and case managers in the Bekaa received training on "Caring for Child Survivors" from UNICEF and partner KAFA. . The training aimed at equipping humanitarian staff with guidelines and tools on the provision of health and psychosocial support to children who have survived sexual abuse.

More than 75 child protection actors working in informal settlements, community centres, and child friendly spaces in different areas in Lebanon are working on raising awareness on issues related to gender based violence among children, adolescents and youth.

FOOD SECURITY

Although humanitarian agencies have not fully resumed operations in Aarsal, e-card holders have been able to use their cards to purchase food. Almost 1,900 Syrian refugees were able to access food that they bought from local shops in town during the month.

SHELTER

More than 51 per cent of the total number Syrian refugees registered in Lebanon to date have received shelter support including rehabilitations, shelter kits distributions, and weatherproofing and cash assistance.

HEALTH

UNICEF and partners started the summer immunization programme mid-August in the 118 municipalities in Lebanon that are at highest risk for low routine immunization.

In Tripoli, a daily average of 500 children (aged between 9 and 18 months) have received immunization against polio and measles.

Agencies continue to run regular sessions on malnutrition screening, family planning and contraception, early marriage, reproductive health, first aid and mental health to refugees and host communities. More than 1,200 awareness sessions have been organized in the past two weeks.

EDUCATION

Since the beginning of 2014, more than 48,651 children have been enrolled in non-formal education classes, which would enable them to catch up and be enrolled in the coming school year.

Hanane's Story

Hanane is a very bright little girl. She completed Grade 6 in Syria before fleeing to Lebanon and thanks to assistance by partners, is now attending classes in a neighboring public school.

More than 23,000 consultations were conducted for primary and secondary health care services



Hanane is teaching her friends how to write and spell words in English. She uses the door of a room where she lives with her family. © Lisa Abou Khaled/ UNHCR

Unfortunately, many children are not as lucky as Hanane, as places are very limited in the overstretched public schools. This is why every day, after coming back from school, Hanane teaches her friends what she has learnt during the day. There is no classroom they can use, board or chalk for that matter – however, this has not discouraged Hanane or her friends. They gather in front of the wooden door of the makeshift room Hanane and her family live in.

Hanane takes the role of the teacher, her friends become the students, and she starts writing English letters on the door with a little stone.

Hanane's days are long. As life has become too expensive in Lebanon, she now has to get up very early every morning to work the fields to help her parents. As soon as she reaches "home", the bus picks her up to take her to school for the afternoon shift.

WATER, SANITATION, HYGIENE (WASH)

UNHCR and partner agencies continue to implement water projects in different areas in Lebanon to address water scarcity and improve

regular access to clean water for both refugee and host communities.

More than 50,000 persons are expected to benefit from six water reservoirs undergoing construction work in Mount Lebanon. .

Latrines, water tanks and hand washing stations have been distributed and installed in more than 10 informal settlements in South Lebanon and the Bekaa to make sure proper hygiene and sanitation installations are made available. WASH and Health sectors are coordinating regular awareness sessions on hygiene and water use.

DONORS

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

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



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.