

LEBANON/SYRIA SITUATION

WASH MONTHLY UPDATE

July 2014

JULY DEVELOPMENTS

- Some 7,000 persons (Syrians and Lebanese) are now able to access safe water in Andaket, Akkar. In partnership with ACTED, UNHCR has completed a water pipeline project which connected the village to the nearest water supply network.
- 1,885 refugees benefited from installation of water storage tanks, two pumps and distribution of 175 water filters in Saida district, implemented by UNHCR through PU-AMI and ACF.
- Another 1,041 refugees in Saida district have benefited from cleaning campaigns, distribution of cleaning kits and 16 hygiene promotion sessions by UNHCR through PU-AMI and ACF. The sessions addressed the topics hand washing, waste management, and water conservation.
- UNHCR in partnership with ACF and PU-AMI installed 25 latrines in informal settlements located in Tyre. Over 350 refugees are now able to access safe sanitation facilities.
- 1,345 refugees have attended hygiene promotion sessions by UNHCR through ACTED and CHF on water conservation in Beirut, Metn, Jbeil and Keserwen.
- 60 septic tanks/toilet pits in Hay el Tanak and Hara al Jadeed (Tripoli) used by some 1,800 refugees were de-sludged by UNHCR and CISP. The sludge was safely disposed off.

Needs

Water: Sufficient access to safe drinking water is a critical on-going need. Improvements to infrastructure and support to the municipalities are necessary to address water shortages faced by both refugees and host communities. Particularly as the refugee population has put significant pressure on water systems in areas where they reside in large numbers.

Sanitation: Basic sanitation facilities are a necessity for the health and dignity of refugees. An increasing number of refugees live in informal settlements with limited or no sanitation facilities. This creates increased risk of the spread of preventable diseases. Waste management remains poor in most of places where refugees live, increasing the pressure on host communities. Infrastructural improvements in the area of sanitation are needed for both refugees and host communities.



Challenges

Strained infrastructure in host communities: The presence of refugees in the local community has put pressure on existing infrastructure and resources including water. Water supply and waste management in areas hosting Syrian refugees has deteriorated, and UNHCR is working with water

establishments and municipalities to ensure continuous access to safe water at household level and basic sanitation facilities. The lack of sewage treatment facilities in the country creates a significant risk for the spread of diseases, should there be an outbreak in one area. The Government's urgent action is needed to resolve the problem.

Dispersed refugee population: Different solutions are needed in different areas given the dispersion of refugees over a wide geographical area. For example, in some areas water shortages can only be addressed through infrastructure projects which need significant funding.

Security: In some areas the security situation creates delays in distribution of materials and ongoing works.

Strategy

The WASH strategy consists of the following three main components:

- **Improving access to safe water** including through the rehabilitation of water networks and providing the means for safe water storage;
- **Improving basic sanitation** including through the installation of emergency hygiene facilities and improved capacity in local communities for the collection and disposal of solid waste;
- **Promotion of good hygiene practices:** provision of basic hygiene items to new comers as well as being part of an outreach activity to refugees and host communities during hygiene promotion activities.

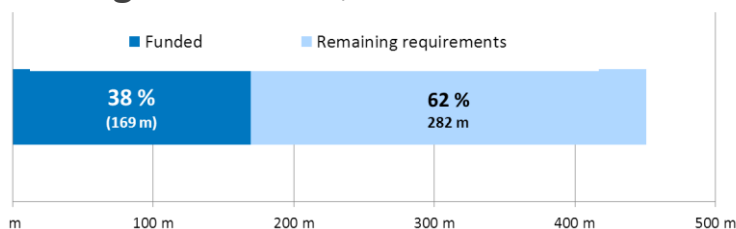
Achievements: January - July

Activity	reached Jan- Jul	2014 Target
Hygiene items	601,506	400,938
Hygiene promotion sessions	148,922	593,700
Water supply	220,341	227,800
Water quality improvement	8,307	695,100
Solid waste management	58,408	383,550
Repair/construction of sanitation facilities	49,533	384,550

Key figures

- 1,138,874 Individuals registered or pending registration
- 27% lack access to potable water
- 29% need improved sanitation facilities (latrine and solid waste facilities)
- 70% need assistance adapting to hygienic conditions in displacement

Funding (UNHCR total requirements: USD 451 m)



UNHCR implementing partners

Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Social Humanitarian Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), CISP, CHF, Makzhouni Foundation, Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC), World Vision (WVI), Concern Worldwide, Oxfam, INTERSOS, Agence d'aide a la Cooperation Technique et au Développement (ACTED).

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