

Institutional and Community Support Update

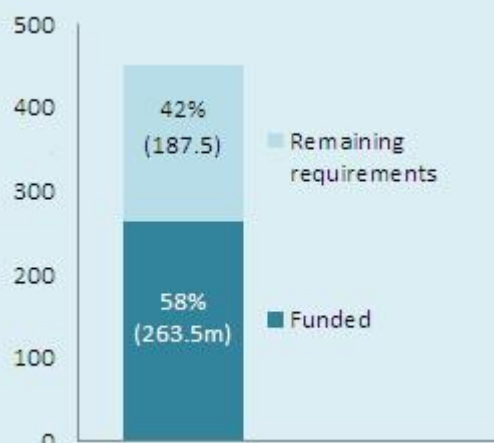
September 2014

Provision of medical equipment to the primary health care center in Chiyah, Mount Lebanon @ UNHCR/ D. Khamisy



Funding

UNHCR total requirements: USD **451m**



September developments

Institutional support

- In cooperation with UNHCR and WHO, the Ministry of Public Health launched the Mother and Child Health Care initiative in Rachaya. The initiative capacitates primary health care centres in Rachaya and other locations in Lebanon with full healthcare services for non-insured pregnant women including antenatal and delivery services, in addition to child healthcare and vaccination for children up to two years of age.
- An MOU was signed with the Water Establishments of the Bekaa and North Lebanon for nine project sites for water supply infrastructure upgrades. Feasibility studies were completed and bids received for detailed design of the nine projects that are in line with the National Water Sector Strategy. UNHCR together with these Water Establishments are working with the private sector in Lebanon to meet the growing demand for water and to respond to the impact of the Syrian crisis through increased access to water and a more efficient water supply system.

Community support programme

- Two community support projects (CSPs) providing recreational summer activities to children in Miyeh Miyeh and Tyre ended this month. Attended by close to 400 Lebanese and Syrian children, and also involving the participation of their parents, these CSPs aimed to promote social cohesion and strengthen relationship between Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities.

Needs

The Lebanese people have made tremendous efforts to host and meet the needs of Syrian refugees over the last three years. Currently, over one million registered Syrian refugees are living in more than 1,750 locations, and some towns have more refugees than resident Lebanese. Substantial and prolonged refugee influx invariably place increased political, social, economic and environmental pressures on hosting communities. This is the case in Lebanon where infrastructure that was fragile prior to the Syrian crisis is now under severe strain. The effects of this are visible across the country. Insufficient waste management and sanitation facilities, insufficient water supply and increased demand for basic public services such as health as well as greater competition for jobs are all outcomes of a spike in population. Communities and

municipalities are struggling to cope with the pace of the crisis and resultant surge of needs.

Challenges

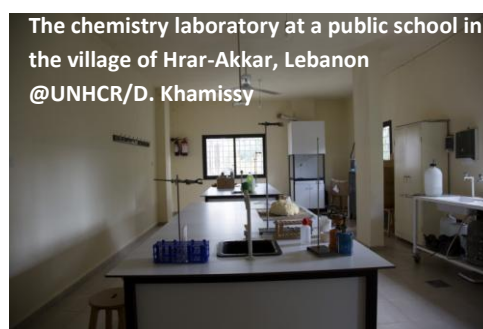
Support to public institutions, municipalities and hosting communities is critical to mitigate some of the impacts of refugees' presence, to promote social cohesion so that Syrians in need of protection continue to be welcome in Lebanon and to help government respond to increased demand for public services.

Strengthening institutional capacities at both central and municipal level and well as direct support to local communities in various sectors has begun. Hundreds of community support projects have been initiated in areas where poverty levels, refugee numbers and tensions are high. Villages are benefiting from waste management facilities, community centres, school and medical facility improvements and livelihood projects. UNHCR is supporting five government ministries to increase service delivery in health, education, social services, protection and security and water supply. Yet these projects are only the beginning of a much needed scaled up effort to support Lebanon deal with the socio-economic impact of the Syrian crisis and refugee influx.

Strategy

UNHCR reserves 15 per cent of its humanitarian budget for support to public institutions and projects that bring services to local communities providing assistance to refugees.

- The CSP Program is designed to fund quick impact and short-term community projects that meet priority needs of the community and improve the living conditions of both refugees and Lebanese communities.
- Support for government institutions that are providing services to refugees: the Ministries of Public Health (MOPH), Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Social Affairs (MOSA), Interior and Municipalities (MOIM) and Water Establishments within the Ministry of Water and Energy. From the outset of the crisis, UNHCR's strategy has been to anchor its support to refugees in national systems which could, to the extent possible, also benefit Lebanese.
- Through the CSP program and the institutional support for public services, UNHCR strives to ensure that humanitarian interventions are linked with national and municipal plans and structures that are supported by development actors.



2013 Expenditures and 2014 budget

UNHCR institutional and community support	2013 Expenditures	2014 Budget
Institutional support (Rehabilitation of infrastructure, staffing and training, equipment, supplies, medications and vaccines)	7.5	35.7
Community based projects (Health, education, livelihoods, WASH, road & communities facilities)	13.5	10
Total USD	21 million	45.7 million

UNHCR implementing partners

Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement (ACTED), Caritas, Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP), Concern Worldwide, Cooperative Housing Foundation International (CHF), Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Alert, International Medical Corps (IMC), International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC-USA), International Relief and Development (IRD), Oxfam GB, Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Right to Play, Save the Children International, Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention For Local Development (SHEILD), Terre Des Hommes Italy, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN-HABITAT, War Child Holland (WCH) and World Health Organization (WHO).

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