





HIGHLIGHTS

The 2015 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) has highlighted an increase in vulnerabilities compared to last year. Syrian refugee households are exhibiting a higher dependency on external livelihood sources like food voucher, loans and credits. In addition, the percentage of households below the poverty line (3.84\$/person/day) has increased from 50% to 70% while those living under the SMEB increased from 29% to 50%.

Furthermore, households applying severe and crisis coping strategies have increased from 28% to 67%. Negative coping strategies include borrowing money, reducing food expenditure, and withdrawing children from school. The households' data from the ongoing economic profiling highlights the same issues as well. In light of the WFP food reduction due to funding shortfalls, and refugees' dependence on these vouchers, vulnerabilities are expected to increase even further. The Basic Assistance sector, jointly with other sectors, therefore is looking across options to mitigate the impact of decreased food assistance, and to prioritize the identification of those most affected by these reductions.

Amongst the mitigation activities is the 2015/2016 winter support. Analysis of the 2014/2015 winterization activities illustrated that cash is considered the most successful assistance modality for implementing partners and beneficiaries alike. According to post distribution monitoring exercises agencies conducted, cash for winter allowed families to prioritize their spending during winter, and hence meet part of their pressing needs. As a result, the 2015/2016 Basic Assistance winter strategy, which will be finalized by September, will focus primarily on cash assistance packages and guidance on nonfood items. The criteria for the winter assistance will be based on socio-economic vulnerability and geographical location to insure a wide inclusion of vulnerable families exposed to cold temperatures.

Out of the 75,254 refugee families that have had their economic vulnerability assessed, 27,694 were identified to require financial support. A total of 15,122 families are currently receiving cash assistance. The remaining 12,647 families are in the process of being referred to cash partners for assistance. Families who are assessed as eligible for cash but not receiving support are recorded in the Refugee Assistance Information System (RAIS) as eligible to be referred to partners as funding becomes available.

 <h3>FUNDING Required</h3> <p>298.8 m</p> <p>Humanitarian \$271.7 m</p> <p>Stabilization \$27.1 m</p>	 <h3>PEOPLE In Need/Target</h3> <p>1.3 m (People in Need)</p> <p>889,500 (People Targeted)</p> <p>Refugees: 500,000 Vulnerable Lebanese: 389,500</p>	 <h3>PARTNERS</h3> <p>33 in Lebanon</p> <p>count of partners per area of operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 13 11 10 
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PROGRESS AGAINST 2015 TARGETS

Month of July progress

	Jan-Jun	Jul	Progress (in %)
# of households profiled (vulnerability)*	75,254	120,000	
# of households receiving multi-sector/purpose cash transfers	23,268	93,595	
Total USD amount distributed as multi-sector/purpose cash	\$24,087,781	143,199,432	
# of in-kind CRI kits distributed to newcomers and families in need	24,113	38,940	
Seasonal			
# of households receiving seasonal cash	75,931	88,486	
Total USD amount distributed as seasonal cash	\$15,740,860	23,914,825	
# of households who received fuel vouchers	35,581	17,420	
# of High Thermal blankets distributed	261,297	232,645	

