



## SITUATION ANALYSIS

In January, winter related support to weather-affected refugees is ongoing and have been scaled-up due to the increasingly severe climate conditions in Lebanon. Refugees and vulnerable Lebanese households living above 500 metres have received basic assistance – in the form of fuel vouchers, cash-for-winter and core relief items – to help them cope with harsh temperatures and extreme environment. In addition to this support, families assessed to be economically vulnerable under jointly agreed upon criteria among humanitarian operational response agencies, are being provided with multi-purpose cash assistance to meet a range of basic needs. The difference between cash-for-winter and multi-purpose cash assistance is in the (1) transfer value (e.g. \$80 and \$100 for the former and \$175 for the latter) and (2) targeting rationale (e.g. between 500-1,100 metres and economic vulnerability determined by access to income and expenses through a household visit targeting exercise). Targeting exercise started as of mid-December 2014. So far over 7,000 Syrian registered refugee case numbers have been visited within the period of 1 month. This will significantly increase in coming months with the plan of 10-15,000 households visited per month. The objective of this exercise is to determine food insecurity and economic vulnerability in order to establish eligibility for food assistance and multi-purpose cash. It is relevant for winter programming as it ensures that households that are severely economically vulnerable (i.e. determined as those below the survival living costs – \$435 is the monthly threshold) are not supported by temporary stop-gap seasonal assistance such as cash-for-winter (e.g. \$80 and \$100) but rather by more sustainable/ year-round (funding allowing) support (e.g. \$175).

