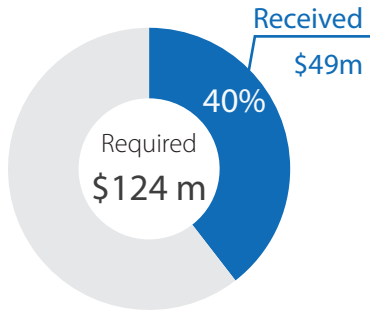


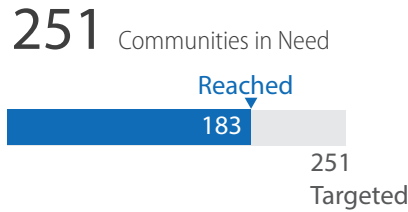


The end year dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. Social Stability in Lebanon is working to: Outcome 1) strengthening municipalities, communities, systems and institutions ability to mitigate tensions and prevent conflict, and ensuring early warning within the response.

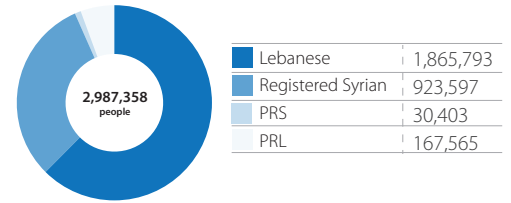
### 2017 Funding Status as of 31 December 2017



### Targeted Communities

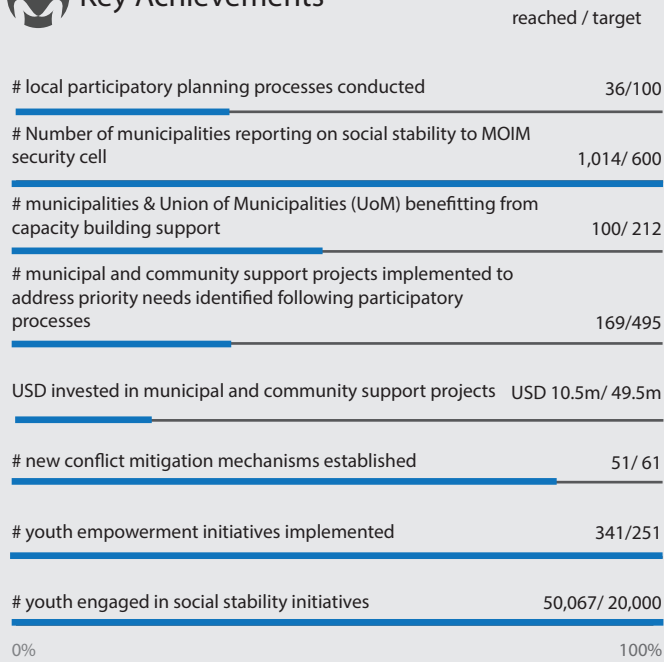


### # population in cadastres reached by SoSt Partners



## Progress against targets

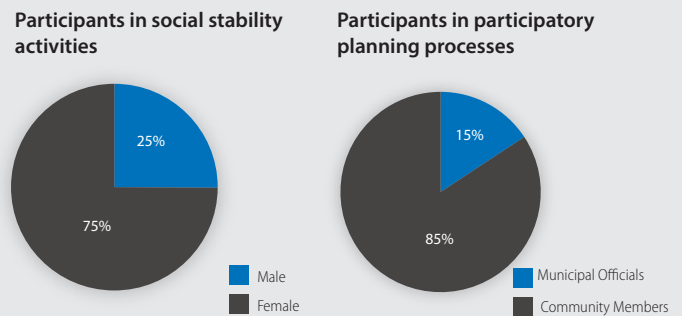
### Key Achievements



### Outputs

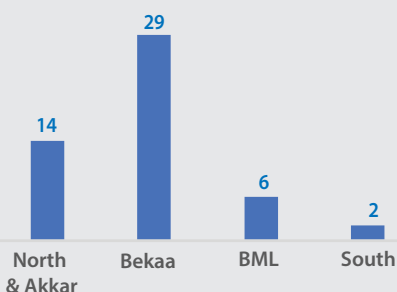


### Gender/Type Breakdown

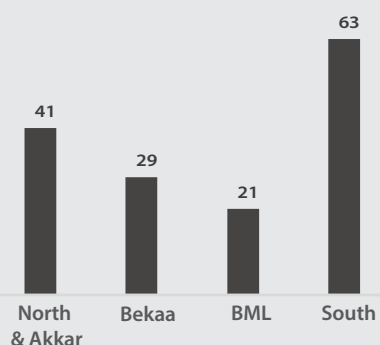


## Analysis

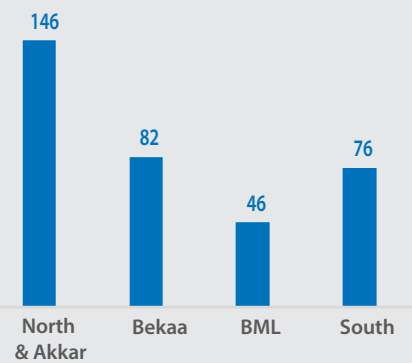
### # municipalities with newly established dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives



### Number of municipal and community support projects implemented



### Youth empowerment initiatives



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 169 municipal services projects, aimed at alleviating resource pressure and enhancing service delivery, in total worth over 10m USD, implemented in 83 municipalities.
- 100 municipalities and Unions benefitting from capacity building and mentoring programmes to improve community outreach and strategic planning.
- 285 SDC staff trained to facilitate local dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives.
- 51 new dialogue and conflict prevention mechanisms set up, bringing the total number of municipalities with functional conflict prevention mechanisms to 100.
- 50,000 youth participating in community engagement and other inter-community dialogue initiatives.
- 210 tons of solid waste sorted and/or recycled through environmentally sound sorting facilities.



### Facts and Figures

**251 # cadastres identified as most vulnerable**

(Source: Vulnerability Map)

**92% of people who believe the Lebanese people have been good hosts to refugees since 2011 (93% of Lebanese and 87% of Syrian respondents)**

(Source: 2017 Stabilization Survey)

**90% of people who agree that the presence of so many Syrian refugees is placing too much strain on Lebanon's resources like water and electricity**

(Source: 2017 Stabilization Survey)

**3% of people who report 'no tensions' between Lebanese and Syrians in their area (2% of Lebanese respondents and 11% of Syrian respondents)**

(Source: 2017 Stabilization Survey)

## KEY CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS LCRP IMPACT(S)

2017 saw a relative shift in the evolution of the social stability sector, following two years of expansion and consolidation of its activities with a particular focus on supporting municipalities. The principal shift was in decreasing support to municipalities while expanding many other elements of the sector strategy.

While the sector increasingly prioritized supporting the most vulnerable municipalities in alleviating resource pressure and addressing priority host community needs over the past two years, this trend has slightly reversed in 2017. Indeed, while a total of 169 projects were completed this year, this represents a marked decrease in terms of the number of projects (-25%), the amount of investment (\$10m vs. \$17m or -40%), and in terms of the number of municipalities benefitting (83 vs. 100 or -17%). Moreover, these figures include solid waste interventions which were not part of the sector previously. This is a concerning trend in a context where 35% of Lebanese now identify competition for services as a source of intercommunity tensions – an increase of 12% compared to 3 months ago – and 85% feel that vulnerable Lebanese have been neglected by international assistance (ARK-UNDP Perception Surveys). 168 of the most vulnerable localities have therefore been left without tangible support this year.

In addition to more limited funding, the main reason for these decreases is the larger size of projects. Whereas the average size of the biggest investments in 2016 was \$100,000, this increased to \$150,000 in 2017. These larger projects, such as a larger solid waste management initiative involving multiple municipalities, are now necessary to create economies of scale to deliver greater impact on sources of tensions, particularly in smaller municipalities. This approach stands in contrast to earlier years of the response, which were dominated by smaller interventions delivered in a more scattered manner. While larger interventions have their benefits, these interventions have a much longer design phase, especially as they often require collaboration between several municipalities. Nevertheless, 60 such projects are currently ongoing and when completed in early 2018 will nearly double the investments made in 2017. This type of investment is much needed to ensure that the sector is contributing to the LCRP objective to preserve social stability in Lebanon. The perception surveys conducted in 2017 confirmed that such investments are leading to positive impact, not only in strengthening municipalities as one of the country's most trusted institutions, but also because respondents who benefitted from assistance not only displayed more positive perceptions of institutions, but also less prejudice towards other communities and a lower propensity to turn to violence.

On another encouraging note, other 'softer' interventions of the sector have been significantly scaled up throughout the year. This is notably the case for dialogue and conflict prevention mechanisms (typically local committees), which are now operational in 100 municipalities throughout the country. These mechanisms are increasingly linked to local systems and institutions, notably with SDCs, with nearly 300 staff trained to facilitate such approaches. Partners are also increasingly building the capacity of local civil society and grassroots groups to participate and take charge of these dialogue and confidence building processes, with 109 CSOs supported compared to only 12 last year. These initiatives also led to tangible local impact throughout the year, most notably by supporting municipalities to defuse escalating tensions during particularly tense periods of the year – for example in mediating host community frustration with Syrian labour competition in the Bekaa, which manifested itself in protests and shop closures, or in preventing ripple effects of evictions in the Zgharta area following a murder in Miziara.

These core interventions of the sector were complemented by two other sets of interventions that have registered significant progress this year. First, the rule of law and community security component of the sector strategy built on the normative work done in 2016 (development of municipal police Code of Conduct and SOPs for municipal police) to starting implementation of pilot stations in up to 10 municipalities. Nearly 200 police officers have been trained on the code of conduct and SoPs so far this year.

In parallel, tailored efforts to empower youth to play a positive role in their community have reached an unprecedented scale. Over 7,000 youth have led 340 local initiatives (summer camp, sport/artistic activities) in half of the vulnerable cadastres, engaging a total of 50,000 youth. This constitutes an unparalleled number of participants for the social stability sector.

Overall, this suggests that the sector's prospects are promising, especially as the capacity (42 active partners vs. 34 last year, 60 expressing interest for 2018), reach (248 cadastres targeted in total in 2017 vs. 238 last year) and funding (40mUSD already available for 2018, more than in the whole of 2017) of the sector are expanding.

## CHALLENGES

The main challenge faced by the sector in 2017 was the relative degradation of the public discourse on issues concerning displaced Syrians and the general rise of tensions in the country, in addition to the decrease in support to municipalities. Indeed, 2017 was marked by successive developments in the context which all contributed to degrading social stability. This includes the string of local demonstrations against Syrian labour competition at the beginning of the year, the political and media debate on potential returns, the army operations in Aarsal in the summer, as well as eviction threats and measures at the end of the year in Zgharta, Bcharre and Baabda areas.

While this reinforced the need for social stability programming altogether, it made the work of partners more sensitive and difficult as distance between communities grew. In particular, this meant taking a more careful and conflict-sensitive approach to any activity involving interactions between communities, which are key in debunking misperceptions, but can also backfire if not properly implemented.

Another challenge was the increased politicization of restrictive measures taken by some municipalities against their local refugee population. In such cases, local authorities tend to be unreceptive to offers of support and assistance from the international community to help defuse tensions in their localities. Close cooperation and engagement with the lead ministries (MoSA as well as MoIM) proved more successful in cases where these obstacles were present.

Finally, the fact that tensions continued to rise in 2017 despite the extensive work undertaken by the sector and the response as a whole is also due to the growing concerns related to livelihoods. Competition for job opportunities - and in particular for lower-skills jobs - is now identified by both Syrians and Lebanese alike in all districts as the main perceived cause of intercommunity tensions (ARK-UNDP perception survey). While the focus of the sector on strengthening municipal legitimacy, opening dialogue spaces and facilitating opportunities for interaction remains salient, this finding calls for increasing funding and collaboration for job creation opportunities undertaken by livelihoods partners to maximize their impact on drivers of instability.

## KEY PRIORITIES AND GAPS FORESEEN - 1ST QUARTER 2018

The immediate priority for the sector for the start of 2018 will be to complete the implementation of ongoing municipal support projects, in addition to identifying additional ones to be implemented throughout the year. Further, as elections have now been confirmed for May 2018, the sector together with protection partners, will need to monitor the repercussions of electoral campaigning on inter-community dynamics very closely. The issue of refugees is very likely to feature prominently in campaigning, which may exacerbate local tensions. Field working groups and tension task forces will play a key role in monitoring these tensions and informing the response partners in this regard.

Finally, in terms of coordination, the sector needs to unpack and consolidate lessons learnt from the work of various partners on youth. As mentioned above, such activities reached an impressive scale in 2017 and remain the area that attracts the most interest from partners. In particular, the sector will need to work closely under the leadership of MOSA to identify how the current work could support existing governmental strategy such as the national volunteer programme or the national youth policy.

**Monitoring stability and places of tensions in Lebanon.**

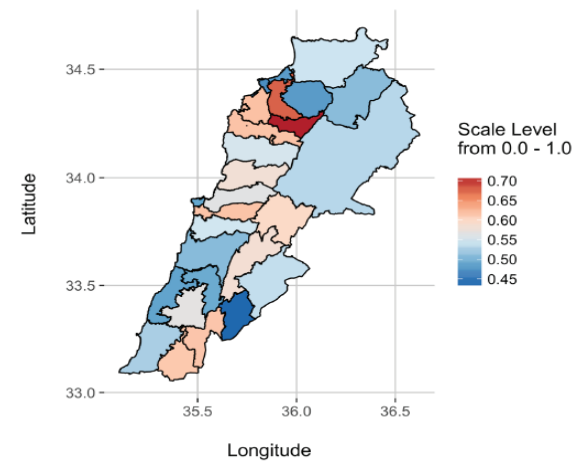
One of the most significant achievements of the sector in 2017 was establishing the stability monitoring system to track the evolution of stability in Lebanon and to evaluate the impact of the response on key factors. While this has been a long-standing priority for social stability actors, the only available information has been incident tracking and one-off reports by partners limited to specific areas. This changed in 2017, notably with the introduction of regular perception surveys looking at proximate, intermediate and structural causes of tensions, and factors of conflict in Lebanon. The surveys are conducted on a quarterly basis on both Lebanese and Syrians throughout the country. This enables the sector - but also the wider response - to track the evolution of tensions over time, as well as to identify local specificities. The first two waves of surveying were key in identifying livelihoods as the primary source of tension, but also in confirming that municipalities remained highly trusted institutions, or that increased interaction was resulting in lower prejudice and propensity to violence and higher feelings of safety.

The general trends identified through the perception surveys are then both refined and operationalized through the work of the coordination structure, notably through the setting up of tension task forces that bring together key field partners to identify local hotspots and share information on incidents or negative developments. This system notably allowed the sector to react quickly to the string of labour protests earlier in the year, organizing joint field visits between local MOSA representatives and field partners to local municipalities to prevent both spill-over of protests to new locations or instrumentalization of international assistance to deescalate situations.

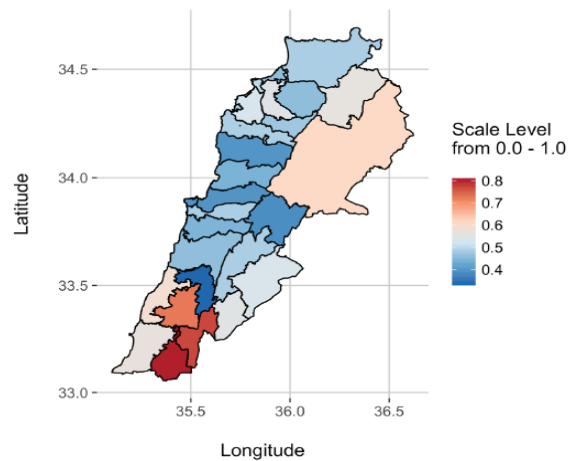
This will prove crucial ahead of the 2018 electoral campaign. In addition, the analysis provided by partners served a wider conflict-sensitivity purpose, as it enables the sector to provide tailored recommendations to other sectors on where their work is more likely to contribute to increasing stability.

**Perception of pressure of Refugees on services and actual dissatisfaction with service provision are not directly related**

Lebanese Perception of Syrian Refugee Population Pressure, on scale from 0.0 - 1.0



Lebanese Dissatisfaction with Level of Service Provision, on scale from 0.0 - 1.0



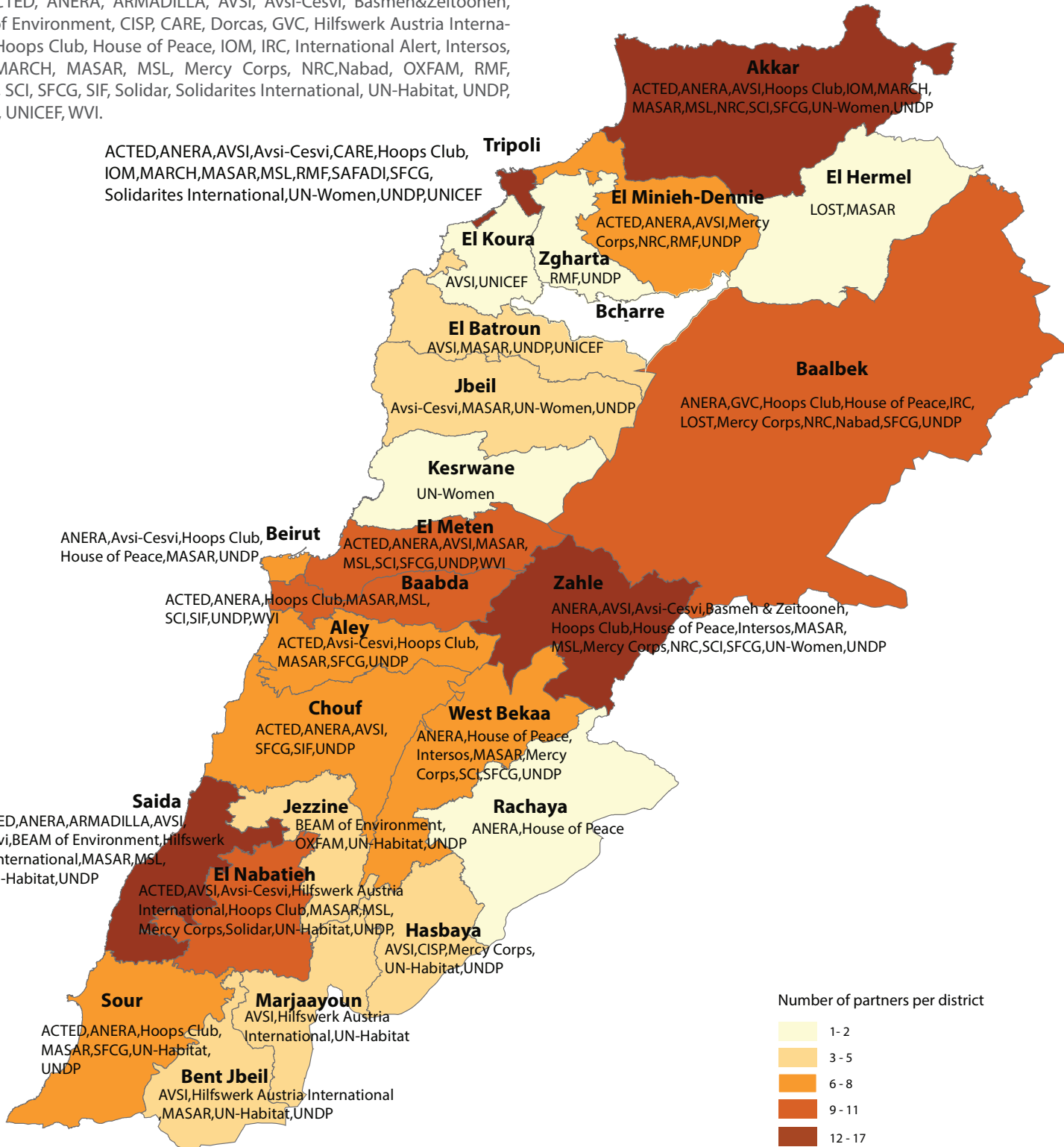


# Organizations per district

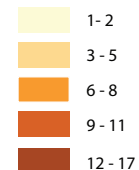
The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 39 organizations:

ACF, ACTED, ANERA, ARMADILLA, AVSI, Avsi-Cesvi, Basmeh&Zeitooneh, BEAM of Environment, CISP, CARE, Dorcas, GVC, Hilfswerk Austria International, Hoops Club, House of Peace, IOM, IRC, International Alert, Intersos, LOST, MARCH, MASAR, MSL, Mercy Corps, NRC,Nabad, OXFAM, RMF, SAFADI, SCI, SFCG, SIF, Solidar, Solidarites International, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WVI.

ACTED,ANERA,AVSI,Avsi-Cesvi,CARE,Hoops Club, IOM,MARCH,MASAR,MSL,RMF,SAFADI,SFCG, Solidarites International,UN-Women,UNDP,UNICEF



Number of partners per district



Note: This map has been produced by UNHCR based on maps and material provided by the Government of Lebanon for UNHCR operational purposes. It does not constitute an official United Nations map. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.