

Lebanon started feeling the effects of a heavy storm on Sunday 6 January 2019. Heavy rain, high winds and colder temperatures were reported all over Lebanon. Some regions were affected by either floodings, erosions or heavy snow. This situation reports highlights the impact of the storm on Syrian refugees and response that followed.

AFFECTED POPULATION



850
Settlements at risk of extreme weather¹



70,000
Refugees at risk



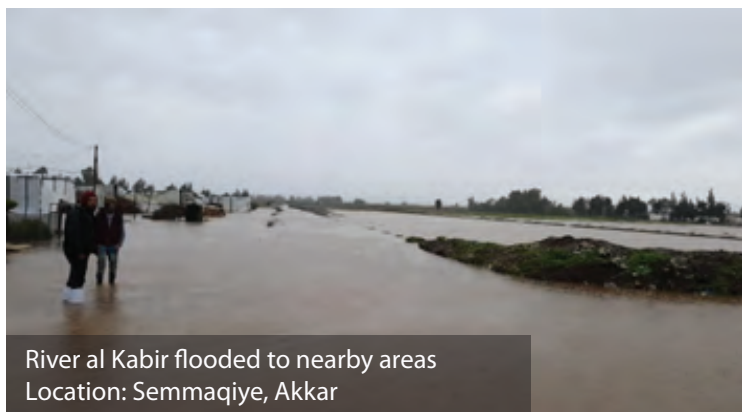
151
Sites Heavily Affected



11,000
People

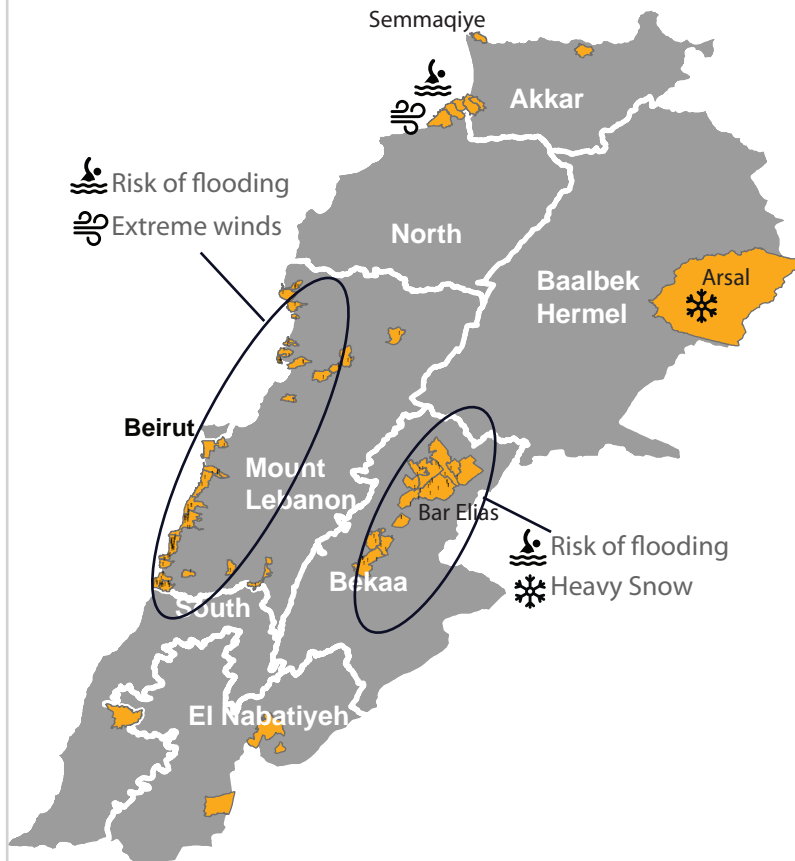
A response to the extreme weather is underway as high winds, rain and snow across Lebanon continue to have a severe impact on people and their living conditions, especially in informal settlements. The storm is expected to subside in the afternoon of Wednesday 9 January, which will enable a more comprehensive impact assessment. The extreme weather response is being coordinated by MoSA and UNHCR, through the Inter-Agency coordination mechanism.

To date, 151 informal settlements across the country have been found heavily impacted. One child has been reported missing.



River al Kabir flooded to nearby areas
Location: Semmaqiye, Akkar

AREAS MOST AFFECTED



24 baby kits. 37 families benefitted from Emergency Cash Assistance.

- Referrals continue to be received through partners, the call centre and hotline and are being followed up.

Partners involved in the response: MoSA, MoSDA, Governor offices, UNHCR, UNICEF, Solidarite, IRC, PU-AMI, SCI, Concern, RMF, Leb Relief, LRC, PCPM, NRC, URDA, DAF, MSF and Refugee Outreach Volunteers.

BEKAA / BAALBEK - HERMEL

SITUATION UPDATE - Tuesday 8 Jan - 17:00

Assessment and response continues following torrential rain and heavy snowfall.

- 117 Informal settlements have been affected, with 67 heavily and 38 moderately affected as well as 12 sites needing minimal intervention.
- Pumping water remains a challenge and will resume when the rain stops.
- Rains have weakened tent structures and a comprehensive assessment will be conducted once conditions allow.
- Temporary relocation was facilitated for 16 families from Houch el Harime to the URDA camp, identified with a capacity to accommodate 200 tents. Kayani and Sawa schools have also been made available with over 100 rooms to accommodate families in need.

NORTH & AKKAR

SITUATION UPDATE - Tuesday 8 Jan - 17:00

Assessment and response continues following strong winds, heavy rainfall and flashfloods.

- 76 informal settlements are affected by heavy rain, with 12 informal settlement completely flooded and 64 partially flooded.
- At least 407 tents are destroyed impacting 2,035 refugees. Referrals continue to be received, and are expected to increase in numbers.
- The most affected municipalities are Ouadi El Jamous, Bebnine, Kouachra, Mohamarret and Semmaqiye in Akkar. 12 affected sites were visited today to assess needs and to monitor distributions of core relief items.
- Distribution of core relief items have supported 110 families and 504 individuals with 502 mattresses, 504 blankets, 75 shelter kits, 26 hygiene kits and

1) source: IAMP58, Windy.com Weather forecast, CNRS flood hazard: analysis showed 70,000 refugees living in around 850 informal settlements could be at risk of either flooding, heavy snow or extreme cold.



- The road to Aarsal was opened and people have access to markets and shops. The wooden infrastructure and tarpaulins in several settlements have been damaged due to the heavy snow, resulting in leakages, and an inter-agency mission is planned for Wednesday 9 January to further assess the needs and respond.

- Distribution of core relief items has scaled up with 1,000 blankets and 1,000 mattresses provided to affected refugees, including Aarsal as required. Rain boots were distributed to a site affected in Joub Jannine.

Partners involved in the response: MoSA, MOIM, MosDA, UNHCR, UNICEF, GVC, Oxfam, Sawa Group, URDA, SI, DAF, Medair, SCI, DRC, ACF, WVI, RI, NRC, MSAs, Mayors, Refugee Outreach Volunteers.



Credit: SAWA Group for development and aid
Location: Aarsal, Baalbek El Hermel

BEIRUT / MOUNT LEBANON

SITUATION UPDATE - Tuesday 8 Jan - 17:00

Response is ongoing prioritizing those at higher altitude or coastal areas.

- 99 sites informal settlements in Chouf, Kersewane, Aley and Jbail are affected, with 3 sites collapsed, 5 fully flooded, and the remaining 91 sites facing heavy water leakages. 342 households with 1,841 individuals have been affected.

- Tent repair is required, including 336 plastic sheets and 52 sealing kits. 342 households need core relief items and winter clothes. 5 sites need support to drain flood water.

- Referrals continue to be received through partners, the call centre and hotline and are being followed up.

- Partners through community centres are distributing core relief items, including blankets and mattresses, to refugees living in neighbouring informal settlements.

SOUTH

SITUATION UPDATE - Tuesday 8 Jan - 17:00

Continuous monitoring and assessment of the situation in the South.

- An informal settlement in Zahrani, Saida District and two others in Ghaziyé located at the river bed which is flooded have been assessed. 17 families and 70 individuals have been affected. Refugees are being hosted by other families or where possible occupying the same residence.

- Referrals are being received through partners, the call centre and hotline. All individual referrals are assessed through a rapid phone assessment and followed up.



Location: Jibjenin, Bekaa

INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

An Inter-Agency coordination meeting was held in the Bekaa on Tuesday 8 January amongst the Shelter and Wash service providers, as well as other relevant partners, to the response. In Mount Lebanon, an Inter-Agency coordination meeting will be held on Wednesday 9 January on the response. In the North, the partners continued to coordinate through the Inter-Agency Extreme Weather Response mechanism. Refugee volunteers continue to actively communicate information between affected communities and response partners.

Daily Situation reports will be issued.

Emergency stockpiles were placed in municipalities as part of the winter campaign and agency specific stockpiles are being used to respond to affected areas.

FOCAL POINTS FOR EXTREME WEATHER RESPONSE AND REFERRALS

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