



LIVELIHOODS 2018 End of Year Dashboard



Inter-Agency
Coordination
Lebanon

The end of year dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Livelihoods sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1: Stimulate local economic development and market systems to create income generating opportunities and employment, OUTCOME 2: Improve workforce employability, OUTCOME 3: Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation.

2018 EoY Funding Status

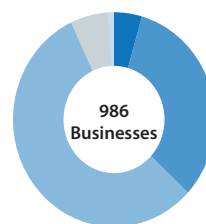
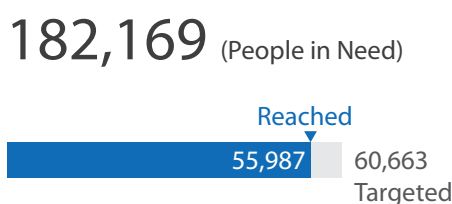
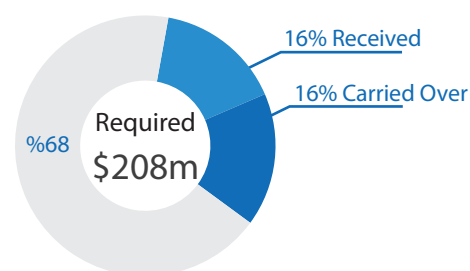
Funding received Jan to Dec 2018



Targeted population groups



Business reached by type



Nano enterprises	4%
Micro enterprises	32%
Small-medium enterprises	56%
Cooperatives	6%
Social Enterprises	1%

Progress against targets



Outputs

reached / target

# entrepreneurs & employees who benefitted from business management training	2,144 / 4,160
# of MSMEs/ Cooperatives supported through cash & in-kind grants	587 / 3,090
# of new Lebanese MSMEs established	21 / 1,091
# of value chains valorized and/or being upgraded	0 / 25
# of targeted vulnerable persons enrolled in public work projects	10,819 / 37,651
\$ value invested in public work projects	\$ 8,438,973 / \$ 37,273,500
# of individuals benefitting from market-based skills training	24,093 / 15,000
# of people benefitting from internships, on-the-job training or apprenticeship programmes	2,913 / 3,000
# of individuals supported to access employment through career guidance, coaching	11,770 / 10,000
# of targeted job seekers supported to start their own business	763 / 3,000
# of decent work regulations amended and/or proposed approved by the Government	0 / 4
# awareness-raising/advocacy material on labour regulations and decent work developed	0 / 3
	0%



Outcomes

LCRP 2016 Baseline

Jan-Dec 2018 Current

2018 Target

OUTCOME 1:

total number of jobs created / maintained*

OUTCOME 2:

of job seekers placed into jobs*

targeted vulnerable persons engaged in home-based income generation *

OUTCOME 3:
Increase in ranking of Doing Business**

*Source: Activity info

**Source: World Bank

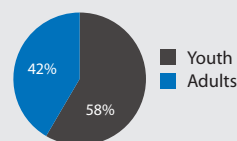
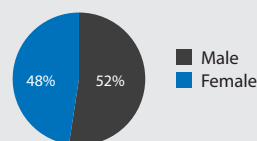
	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL
OUTCOME 1:	494				2,365				8,012			
OUTCOME 2:												
# of job seekers placed into jobs*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	610	605	750	2,100	45	105		
# targeted vulnerable persons engaged in home-based income generation *	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	107	310	750	2,100	45	105		
OUTCOME 3:												
Increase in ranking of Doing Business**	Rank 126				Rank 133				Rank 124			



Breakdown by Age and Gender

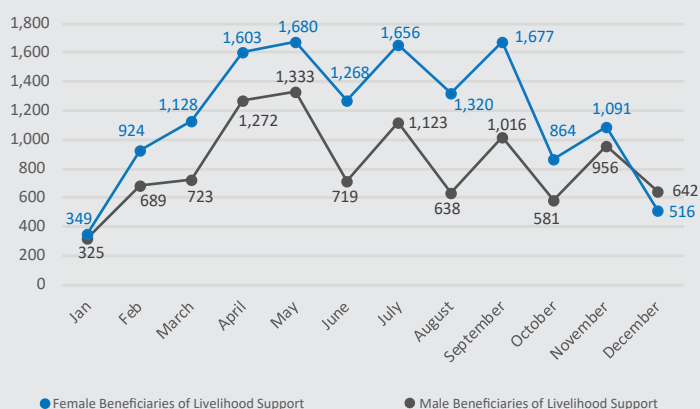
Men vs. Women supported who access employment

Entrepreneurs who benefitted from business management training

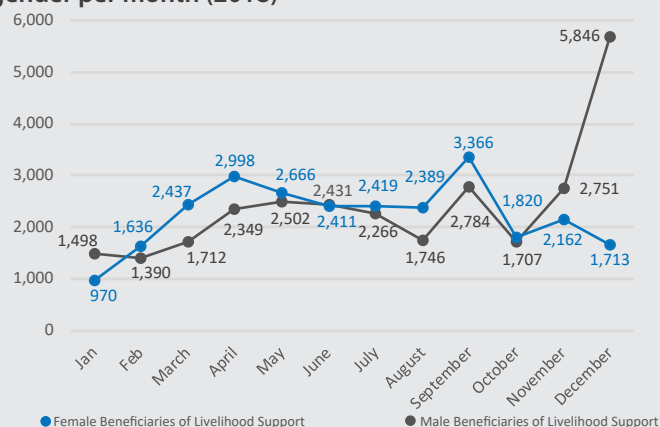


Analysis

Number of beneficiaries of market based skills training by gender per month (2018)



Number of beneficiaries of livelihoods interventions by gender per month (2018)





KEY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SECTOR TO LCRP IMPACTS

During 2018 the sector has struggled to meet its targets and scale up impact on job creation. Results have confirmed the trend emerging in 2017, when the sector witnessed a huge mismatch between demand and supply of the local market and a limited number of jobs created or people accessing job opportunities. (Though in 2017 2,305 jobs were created representing a 466% increase compared to 2016 when only 494 were created). In 2018 partners were able to create or maintain 2,365 jobs of which 2,217 were maintained and 148 created, supporting 986 businesses through cash & in-kind grants and technology transfer (excluding financial services) and 763 job seekers were assisted to start their own business. Moreover, almost 23,000 people benefitted from VTs, almost 3,000 were enrolled in work-based learning opportunities and 11,000 received counseling support to find employment. While this represents a small progress, given that the number of VTs provided has decreased if compared to 2017 and has been better coupled with work-based learning opportunities and career guidance, it also remains limited in a context where employment rate is at around 25%, with youth unemployment reaching 37%. It is therefore crucial to identify sectors of growth and better match demand and supply of the local market.

Nevertheless, it is important to highlight that significant results have been achieved to support vulnerable populations in accessing work and income, and maintain social stability, under the leadership of the Ministry of Social Affairs. This has been possible through labor intensive activities that have offered immediate support and relief to very vulnerable families, while benefiting 250 municipalities. In 2018 almost 11,000 beneficiaries have been engaged in short-term activities (activities such as infrastructures rehabilitation, walls repairing/painting, etc.) benefitting indirectly another 40,000-vulnerable people. Furthermore, despite no visible results on Value Chains valorized/upgraded, some interventions have started and are expected to have a huge impact on job opportunities. Value chains interventions, mainly in agriculture and new renewable energies, will be of benefit for the local market through the support to cooperatives and SMEs. This may represent the beginning of a promising trends that would need to be significantly scaled up to contribute to reducing socio-economic vulnerabilities and to increasing stability in Lebanon.

Overall, although results have proved an increase in women's engagement in livelihoods interventions, women's participation rate in labour intensive programmes continues to be extremely low (1,081 females vs 9,507 males). This may be due to the nature of such programmes (e.g. infrastructures rehabilitation/construction of retaining walls, etc.) that require physical potential and long hours of work as well as cultural barriers that restrict women's engagement in such activities. Bearing in mind the difficulties of the sector in generating new job opportunities, short-term income generating activities represent the first source of income, particularly for highly vulnerable people. Therefore, it is important to increase women's participation rate in labour intensive programmes readjusting interventions and tailoring activities. This may be achieved through awareness raising sessions that demonstrate the benefits arising from being engaged in such activities as well as through amendments to work conditions (e.g. limited/reduced number of hours for women with children, female HHs, etc). In particular, female headed HHs should be prioritized in partners' targeting. Indeed, Vasyr 2018 figures report that 55 per cent of female headed HHs do not have a working member and they are 62 per cent more likely to engage their children in work.

Livelihoods remained the second least funded sector in the LCRP, with only \$67m available for programming, of which \$34.5m was carry over from 2017. Despite these funding constraints, 2018 achievements constitute evidence of livelihoods partners' ability to contribute to the LCRP impact statement of maintaining Lebanon's economic stability by mitigating the deterioration in the economic condition of vulnerable populations. Throughout the course of the year, livelihoods partners were able to impact the lives of almost 56,000 beneficiaries.



CHALLENGES

The main challenge for the sector remains its capacity to create jobs. This is mainly due to continued lack of available resources (68% funding gap in 2018), the mismatch existing between demand and supply of the local market as well as limited growth of SMEs that can boost job creation.

To make progress in job creation, support for Lebanese micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) is paramount to enable them to produce goods and services that can be competitive on the market and would allow them to act as suppliers for bigger companies. This way, it would be possible to leverage the local market by replacing current imports with local production, while ensuring quality and competitiveness of products and increasing job opportunities. This can be achieved fostering coordination amongst Livelihoods partners and developing successful value chains. Indeed, due to the shortage in funding and multi-year funding, the number of partners that implemented Value Chains interventions has been very low in 2018 (only 6 VCs interventions implemented) while many other partners have worked on Value chains related interventions. Coordination is essential to develop partnership and comprehensive initiatives that link Vocational Trainings to MSMEs support to Value Chain development. This would be of major benefit for Lebanon as results of these interventions will strengthen the local market while increasing job opportunities and making a better use of limited funds available. Particularly, as small businesses are the

main job creator in Lebanon, in line with the Ministry of Economy and Trade SME strategy, much more needs to be done to set criteria to identify those that have growth and job creation potential.

Unfortunately, the expression of interest from partners for 2019 confirmed that the majority of partners are intending to implement further skills training programmes, an already overprovided activity. With this in mind, it is therefore crucial for donors and partners to redistribute resources and prioritize funding for the demand side of the labour market. In this regard, it is important to highlight that information gaps represent one of the major challenge for the sector that hinder its ability to identify sectors with job creation potential and this reiterates the importance of carry out a National Labour Market Analysis. Furthermore, short-term opportunities (labour intensive) must remain available to secure access to income for the most vulnerable.

Other priorities for the sector will focus on the enabling environment for job creation, notably by developing more linkages with ministries and other stakeholders involved in ensuring decent work conditions in the labour market, considering the level of informality and exploitation that has been exacerbated by the crisis. The sector also needs to reinforce its linkages with the private sector, notably through lessons learnt events with key existing private sector partners.

KEY PRIORITIES AND GAPS FORESEEN FOR 2019

The sector's theory of change is that if the sector simultaneously provides balanced support to the supply and demand side of labour, then livelihoods of vulnerable groups will be improved. To operationalize this statement, the sector has reshaped its strategy for 2019 increasing targets for all activities related to the demand side of the market (Outcome 1-support to SMEs/VCS/Labour Intensive Programme) and consequently dropping targets for the supply side (Outcome 2-in particular, targets for VTs has been drastically reduced)

Bearing this in mind, the Livelihoods sector would focus on developing criteria for identification and selection of SMEs to be supported that present high potential in jobs creation.

With regards to Value Chains, coordination will be strengthened both at national and field level promoting partnerships and comprehensive initiatives that link vocational training to MSMEs support to Value Chain development. Indeed, although the efforts of the sector to reshape its strategy and redefine programmatic priorities, in 2018 partners have provided VTs without being able to match demand and supply reconfirming the same trend of the past years. The sector coordination team will therefore work closely to monitor activities and trainings that may be provided within the scope of Value Chains development. Moreover, to avoid overlapping of activities partners are encouraged to mapping activities against the SME Strategy initiatives. Compiling this data would present a clearer view on who is operating on what programs and where the gaps exist while allowing cross-coordination between partners providing similar activities.

Furthermore, as competition over lower-skilled jobs has consistently been cited as the main factor driving intercommunal tensions, increasing the number of income opportunities would likely contribute to a reduction of tensions between Syrians and Lebanese host communities (Ark Wave 4th impact of cash on social tensions). It is therefore necessary to continue securing funding to implement labour intensive projects that create short-term jobs for vulnerable people and are of value for the long-term recovery and development of affected municipalities.

After eight years into the crisis it is now a priority to promote more sustainable solutions. Job creation initiatives represent a key priority. Indeed, access to job opportunities would have a high impact on reducing vulnerability and dependency on humanitarian assistance benefitting all sectors that provide direct and indirect access to services. In order to ensure that Livelihoods interventions are targeting the most vulnerable, the Livelihoods sector is coordinating closely with the Protection sector to address inequalities and/or protection threats and prioritize people with specific needs, SGBV, as well as female headed HHs and youth in Livelihoods interventions. Furthermore, Guidelines on identification of beneficiaries are currently under final revision to provide guidance on the outreach and criteria to identify beneficiaries for every type of interventions. Finally, some partners have started to closely coordinate with UNHCR to identify beneficiaries of labour intensive programmes, namely those that are not receiving the Basic assistance and food security assistance.

Lastly, the promising commitments of the Government of Lebanon presented at the CEDRE Conference, such as diversification of productive sectors, fiscal adjustment, cross-sectoral reforms, are expected to have an impact on Lebanon's macroeconomic stability, and consequently would contribute in enabling the environment for job creation.

“I received plastic boxes from Concern today printed with our logo, and I am so excited to pack and sell cherry tomatoes in these” said Bassam, a 36 year-old farmer from Akkar, as he showed his small sitting room now turned into a temporary store. Bassam is one of Concern’s poor Lebanese farmers raising a family of nine in a small farmhouse set in 1.5 hectares of agricultural land that he owns. Bassam participated in one of five community-based Farmer Business Schools under the project **“Enabling Inclusive Decent Employment by Investing in Labour-Intensive Value Chain of Cherry Tomato”**. Implemented by Concern in collaboration with Welthungerhilfe and funded by the Government of Germany, this project worked to introduce cherry tomato production as a labour intensive and



high demand crop. **“Before I always used to wonder about my losses, but now I record every expense in my book. This cycle we all used less chemicals by learning non-chemical [pest] control and following practices demonstrated on our [demonstration] plot”**, said Bassam. In addition to good agricultural practices, and technical topics on Integrated Pest Management, the training course encompassed a number of topics to build the capacity of farmers as entrepreneurs who keep records to manage finances, understand markets, value collective branding for better sales and employ simple techniques to maintain the quality of the fruit. Bassam explained, **“We knew that tomatoes have a good value. A few farmers in the neighbouring village tried but the size of the fruit was too big and rotten inside. If labour is not skilled it is difficult to manage the harvest. Our results are better because the labour who worked to plant and harvest the crop also received trainings.”**

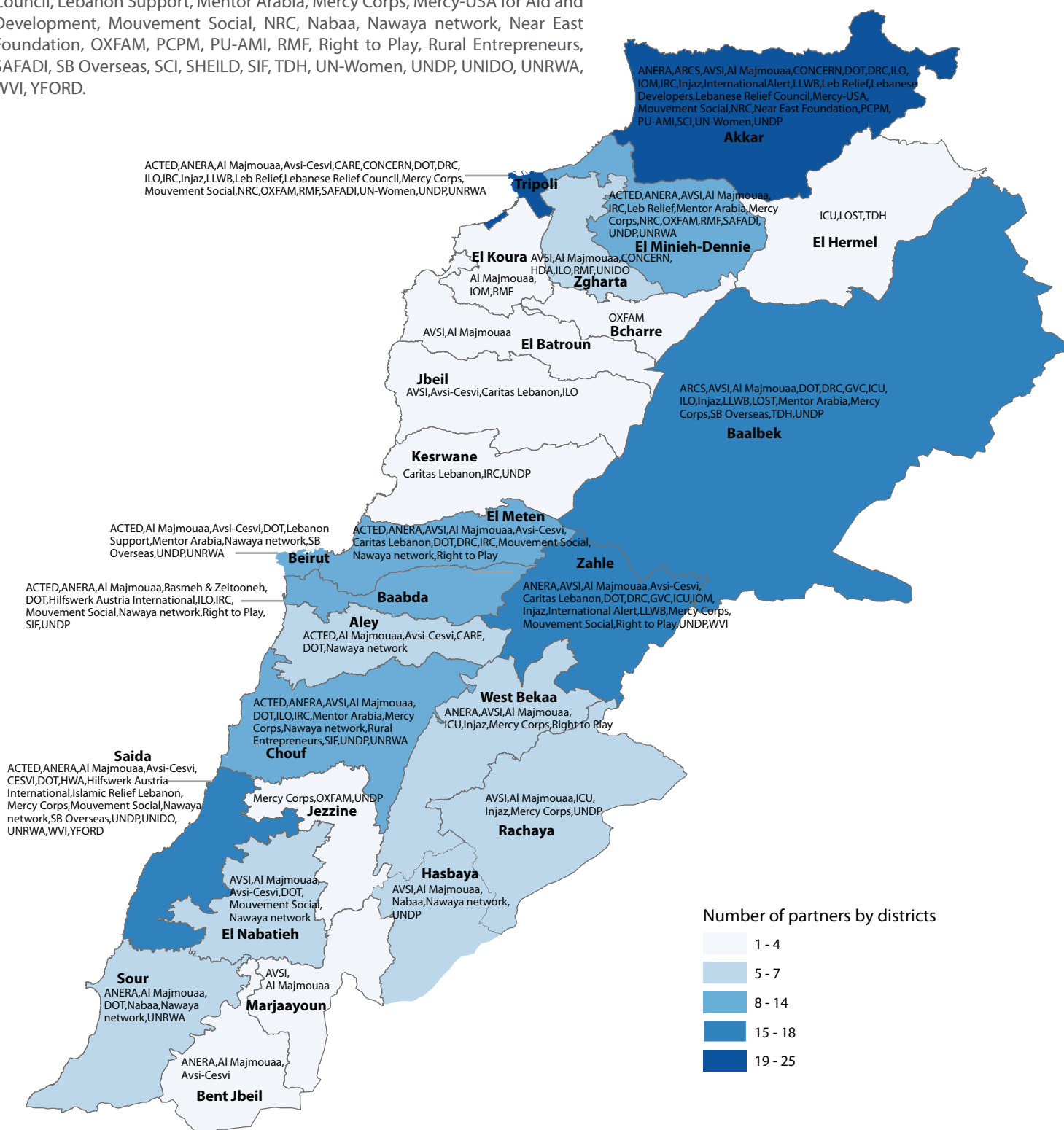
“We never grew these seedlings before because farmers don’t grow them”, said Mohammad owner of the only nursery in the area. Concern, in collaboration with Lebanese Agriculture Research Institute (LARI), supported the nursery to grow cherry tomato seedlings from certified seeds advised by the Ministry of Agriculture. These seedlings were later distributed to the farmers. Later when Concern visited Mohammad, he was confident of his work and said, **“workers understand instructions [pointing at women refugee workers], they are experienced.”** During the project 100 farmers and 500 labourers were targeted at the different levels of the value chain.

The project focused greatly on the market and creating a marketing plan for each Farmer Business School. Later near to harvest, Concern’s marketing team provided sessions for quality grading, packaging, weighing, and storage of the cherry tomato crop. **“Going to the retail markets with [Concern’s] trainer was very useful. Later I went again with other farmers and we found a distributor who will directly distribute to the stores. It is different from before because we preferred one buyer to buy whole crop which left us with less or no profit”** said Saleh, a 43 year-old peer farmer who attended Farmer Business School.



The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 56 organizations:

ACTED, ANERA, ARCS, AVSI, Al Majmouaa, Avsi-Cesvi, Basmeh & Zeitooneh, CARE, CESVI, CONCERN, Caritas Lebanon, DOT, DRC, GVC, HDA, HWA, Hilfswerk Austria International, ICU, ILO, IOM, IRC, Injaz, International Alert, Islamic Relief Lebanon, LLWB, LOST, Leb Relief, Lebanese Developers, Lebanese Relief Council, Lebanon Support, Mentor Arabia, Mercy Corps, Mercy-USA for Aid and Development, Mouvement Social, NRC, Nabaa, Nawaya network, Near East Foundation, OXFAM, PCPM, PU-AMI, RMF, Right to Play, Rural Entrepreneurs, SAFADI, SB Overseas, SCI, SHEILD, SIF, TDH, UN-Women, UNDP, UNIDO, UNRWA, WVI, YFORD.



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