



**SUPPORT TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN LEBANON
UNDER THE LEBANON CRISIS RESPONSE PLAN
(LCRP 2017-2020)
2018 RESULTS**



**Inter-Agency
Coordination
Lebanon**

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AFP	Acute Flaccid Paralysis	PSS	Psychosocial support
ALP	Accelerated Learning Programme	RACE	Reach All Children with Education
AMR	Antimicrobial resistance	RH	Reproductive Health
BMLWE	Beirut and Mt Lebanon Water Establishment	SARI	Severe acute respiratory infection
BWE	Bekaa Water Establishment	SDC	Social Development Center
CB-ECE	Community-Based Early Childhood Education	SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
CBRN	Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear	SLWE	South Lebanon Water Establishment
CERD	Curriculum Development, Training and Research	SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
CoC	Codes of Conduct	TOT	Training of Trainers
CSO	Civil Society Organization	TTCM	Teacher Training Curriculum Model
cVDPV	Circulating vaccine derived poliovirus	TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
DG	Directorate General	UN	United Nations
DOPS	Department of scholar pedagogy	UNDP	United Nations Development Program
ECL	Education Community Liaisons	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
EdL	Electricite du Liban	UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Fund
EIA/SEA	Environmental Impact Assessment / Strategic Environmental Assessment	UoM	Union of Municipalities
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunization	VASYR	Vulnerability Assessment for the Syrians
ETF	Environment Task Force	VDPV	Vaccine Derived Polio Virus
EWARS	Early Warning and Alerts Response System	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
FP	Family Planning	WFP	World Food Program
GBV	Gender-based Violence	WHO	World Health Organization
GoL	Government of Lebanon	YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
IEC	Information, Education and Communication		
IHR	International Health Regulations		
ISF	Internal Security Forces		
IUD	Intrauterine Device		
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding		
LARI	Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute		
LCRP	Lebanon Crisis Response Plan		
MEHE	Ministry of Education and Higher Education		
MH	Mental Health		
mhGAP	Mental Health Gap Action Programme		
MM	Maternal Mortality		
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture		
MoE	Ministry of Environment		
MoEW	Ministry of Energy and Water		
MoIM	Ministry of Interior and Municipalities		
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health		
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs		
MSS	Mechanisms for Social Stability		
NCD	Non-communicable diseases		
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization		
NLWE	North Lebanon Water Establishment		
NPTP	National Poverty Targeting Programme		
NWSS	National Water Sector Strategy		
OOSCI	Out of School Children Study		
PFA	Psychological First Aid		
PHC	Public Health Center		
PMU	Project Management Unit		
POE	Points of Entry		
PPE	Personal protective equipment		
PSEA	Preventing sexual exploitation and abuse		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There has been a steady and increasing trend in the support to public institutions under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) in Lebanon since 2015. In 2018, more than \$240 million was channeled to strengthen service delivery, policy development, capacity building and institutional stability in the public sector. This is an increase of more than 38 percent since 2015. This report provides a detailed overview of the technical, operational, financial and staffing support provided to Lebanese public institutions by LCRP partners in 2018. It also highlights how this support has empowered the institutions to deliver better quality services to Lebanon's vulnerable communities. By providing the Government of Lebanon with crucially needed support, the LCRP has strengthened the capacities of these institutions. They successfully enrolled around 430,000 children into public formal education, constructed and rehabilitated 144 km of canals that benefitted 21 villages in Akkar, Bekaa and the North, as well as reinforced the power distribution network through the installation of equipment for more than 20,000 individuals, to name just a few achievements. These investments have focused on the poorest regions of the country where the majority of refugees are hosted.

Overall, the technical, operational and financial assistance provided in 2018 to Lebanese public institutions addressed challenges, gaps and priorities not least by supporting over 1,000 staff members to these institutions, up from 789 in 2017.

The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and its extended network of Social Development Centres (SDCs) were supported to both lead the crisis response and provide social services to an increasingly high number of vulnerable communities. This was achieved through an estimated \$23 million in financial support that was mobilized to strengthen Lebanon's social system. The support to MoSA peaked in 2017 at \$25 million and reached \$20 million the following year. This support includes \$16 million targeting specifically the implementation of the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) for Lebanese. Overall, no less than 353 staff were contracted in 2018 to strengthen service delivery in social institutions both at the central and local level. This staffing capacity has enabled MoSA not only to respond to the crisis, but also to build towards a future of delivering social services better.

The support provided to the public education system through **the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE)** enabled around 430,000, of whom more than 220,000 are Lebanese to enroll in formal public education across the country for the 2018/2019 school year. Overall, \$148.5 million were channeled through Education institutions to support service delivery (including the salaries and training of teachers, registration fees, running, administration and

rehabilitation costs of second shift schools), out of a total funding of \$273 million that was made available under the LCRP to implement MEHE's Reach All Children with Education (RACE) II plan.

To strengthen the public health system and support **the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)**, partners reported a total of \$19 million in support of hospitals and healthcare centres, down from \$29 million in 2017. Overall, 420 health facilities were supported to better address the needs of the most vulnerable communities. This support includes the provision of acute medication and vaccines, health equipment, subsidized services to displaced population and Lebanese, etc. In addition, 165 staff were seconded to MoPH at central, peripheral and health care centers level. For instance, more than 185,000 individuals received chronic disease medications through the national system supported by health partners through 420 facilities. Also, nearly 90 percent of displaced Syrian households have indicated during an assessment undertaken in 2018 that they received the primary healthcare services they required. Yet, due to the lack of funding, Health sector partners were not able to fulfill all the institutional gaps and consequently many referrals of patients in need of primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare or specialized diagnostics were not supported.

At the local level, \$26 million was invested in support to **Municipalities and Unions** in 2018 to respond to increased pressure on services, up from \$21 million in 2017. Within this total, \$9 million was directly invested in nearly 84 municipal services projects in 100 municipalities. This included the construction of 12 water catchment systems, 15 public parks, playgrounds and other public social infrastructures, the rehabilitation of 13 sewage systems, and 17 km of sidewalks. In addition, 55 municipalities implemented integrated solid waste management systems and approaches in order to reduce quantities of waste discharged in open dumps. A further \$10.4 million was investments supporting **water, energy and environment institutions**, including \$4.5 million in Water Establishments which contributed to improve access to adequate quantity of safe water for over 467,000 individuals connected to water supply systems.

In agriculture, partners supported **the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)** by providing around \$3 million in 2018, similar with 2017. 1,000 farmers received financial support to invest in their businesses, and seven technical schools were supported to provide 3,000 youth with short and long-term courses on agriculture and employability skills, as well as basic literacy and numeracy. Finally, 1,000 MoA staff were trained on food security, information management and statistics, as well as monitoring of plant diseases.

This report provides an overview of the results achieved in 2018 by LCRP partners, including the Government of Lebanon, UN Agencies, NGOs and donors to strengthen public institutions. It also highlights the necessity to sustain these results. This next priority will require more predictable and longer-term funding.



930 staff were supported to enhance crisis response capacities within the public institutions, up from 781 staff reported in 2017 (an increase of 19percent)



\$148 million in support of Education institutions, up from \$87 million in 2017

Around **430,000** children and adolescents enrolled in formal public education, almost all of whom provided with learning materials.
 Around **12,000** children enrolled in Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP)
284 school personnel, technical experts, child protection specialists, field coordinators in support of Education institutions and of the implementation of "Reaching All Children With Education" strategy
 Around **23,000** Syrian refugees and Lebanese children provided with school meals.



\$3 million in support to Agriculture institutions, similar to 2017

1,000 farmers received financial support to invest in their businesses
 All **7** MoA technical schools supported to provide 3,000 youth with short and long-term courses on agriculture and employability skills, as well as basic literacy and numeracy.
1,000 MoA staff trained on various agriculture issues and practices.



\$26 million in support to Municipalities and Unions, up from \$21 million reported in 2017

169 municipal services projects implemented in 83 municipalities, worth over \$10million.
19 additional staff provided to municipalities and Unions of municipalities
100 municipalities and Unions benefitting from capacity building and mentoring programmes to improve community outreach and strategic planning.
98 municipalities benefited from labor intensive interventions in public infrastructures



\$10 million in support to other institutions, up from \$8 million reported in 2017

Technical assistance provided to Ministry of Industry regarding the development of three industrial zones
 Over **100** youths trained on carpentry through the support to the Technical institute of Zagharta.



\$11 million in support to Water, Energy and Environment institutions, down from \$34 million reported in 2017

Around **460,000** people were served with better WASH services
32 staff provided to MoEW, MoEnv and Water Establishments
19,135 households benefitted from improved quality of grid electricity.



\$23 million in support to MoSA and SDCs, down from \$25 million reported in 2017

Includes \$16m in support to the NPTP for vulnerable Lebanese

353 staff provided and/or incentivized to MoSA and its network of Social Development Centres (SDCs)
220 SDC and central staff trained on the deployment and utilization of NPTP mobile monitoring tools
360 community-based front-liners at both SDC and other GBV/protection services structures trained on caring for special groups (elderlies & disabled) in protection from GBV, community-based approach, etc.
58,000 Lebanese benefited from monthly food assistance through the NPTP



\$19 million in support to Health institutions (MoPH and PHCs), down from \$29 million reported in 2017

312 primary healthcare facilities received reproductive health drugs/commodities
 Over **185,000** individuals received chronic disease medications supported by health partners through 420 facilities
 Over **1,623,000** subsidized primary health care consultations were provided through MoPH, PHCs, dispensaries, as well as mobile medical units
374 staff provided to Health institutions

Support to public institutions (2017-2018)



\$240 million was disbursed in support of public institutions in Lebanon in 2018, up from \$207 million reported in 2017 (an increase of 16 percent).



SUPPORT TO SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

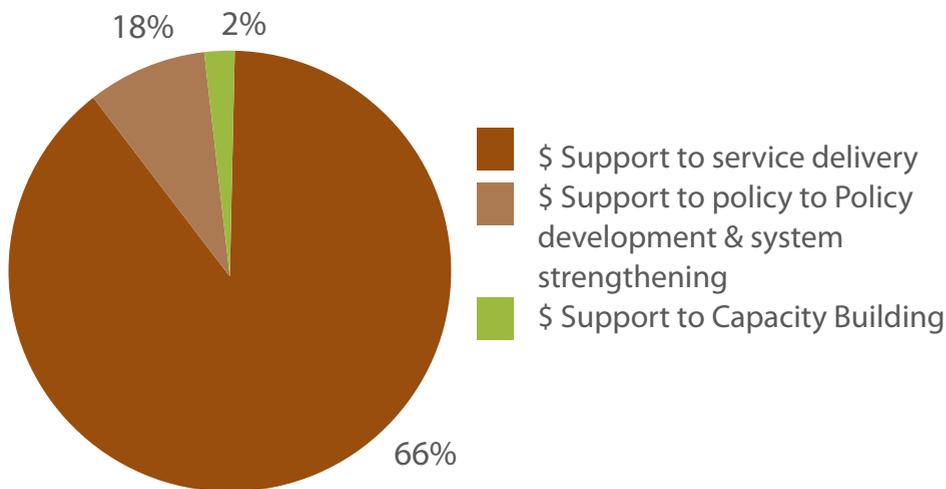
The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) has been mandated by the Government of Lebanon (GoL) to lead the response to the Syrian crisis, with the financial, technical and operational support of the international community. In 2018, the assistance provided to MoSA played a critical role in strengthening its leadership and coordination capacities as well as in improving the delivery of protection, health and social services through its extended network of SDCs.

Overall, LCRP partners mobilized \$23 million in 2018 in support to MoSA and its network of Social Development Centres (SDC). 66 percent of this amount aimed to support service delivery of Social institutions, 18 percent supported policy development and system strengthening, and 2 percent was allocated to capacity building initiatives. \$16 million was channeled through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) to support the provision of food assistance to 58,000 vulnerable Lebanese. 353 staff positions were provided and/ or incentivized to MoSA and its SDCs.

Support to the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA)

Policy development and system strengthening

A number of technical assistance and policy advice were provided in 2018 to support the development of a national social protection system, including an orientation on social protection for MoSA staff held in May 2018 and the drafting of a National Study on Social Safety Nets in Lebanon, with a focus on MoSA programmes: the Disability, the Social Care for children. The preliminary results of the study were presented to Government and donor staff in May and the study was widely shared for feedback to be finalized by early 2019. A roadmap was drafted in mid-2018 outlining the key actions that need to be undertaken to move Lebanon towards the development of a national social protection system.



Graph 1. Financial support channeled through social Institutions under the LCRP, from 2015 to 2018

\$23m in support to MoSA and SDCs, a slight decrease (8 percent) compared to 2017

- 9.5 percent of total support channeled through public institutions in 2018 (\$240 million)
- Includes \$ 16 million in support to the NPTP, an increase (+14 percent) compared to 2017

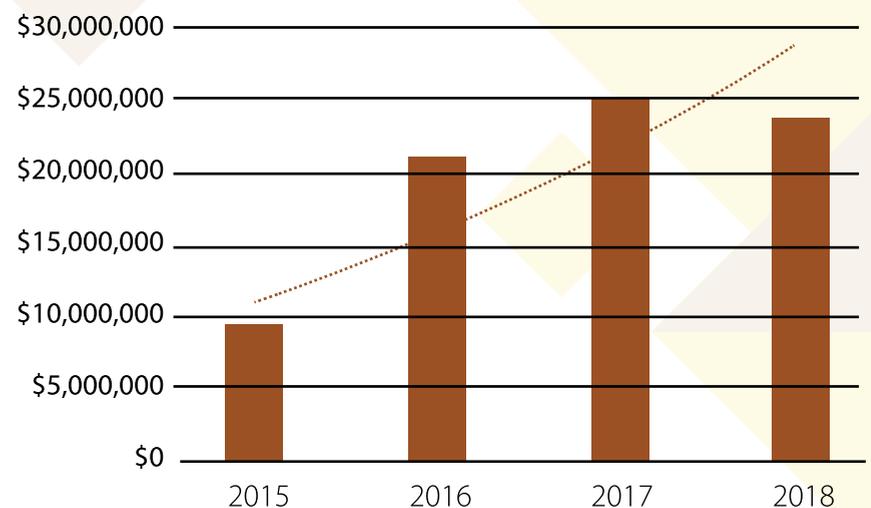
61 SDCs assisted through staffing and in providing social, recreational, counselling, awareness raising and skills building activities for persons with specific needs (PWSNs), including women, youth, older persons, and persons with disabilities

353 SDC staff (directors, focal points, case workers, ops, regional and protection staff), technical staff (IM, shelter officer, security clerk, advisor, social protection coordinator, socioeconomic officer, etc.), and staff receiving financial compensations

220 SDC staff and central staff trained on the deployment and utilization of NPTP mobile monitoring tools.

360 Community-based front-liners working on protection and GBV issues at both SDC and other GBV/protection services structures trained on caring for special groups in protection from GBV (elderlies & disabled), roll out of the basic life skills toolkit, community-based approach, etc.

58,000 Lebanese benefitting from monthly food assistance through NPTP.



Graph 2. Type of support received in 2018

Increased food assistance for vulnerable Lebanese and improved monitoring

In 2018, partners continued to support the food assistance component of the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) for vulnerable Lebanese through a cash-based transfer system.

In the frame of digitizing the NPTP food voucher M&E tools, the Ministry staff, as well as over 200 social workers and coordinators across the country were trained to use new mobile data collection tools (ODK) and ensure an effective deployment and utilization of these tools.

The training was conducted in Nabatiyeh and Mount Lebanon. A thorough overview of the NPTP Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey and on the use of mobile data collection was also conducted. The PDM form was updated. The three weeks trainings were followed by refresher trainings in January 2019 prior to the data collection. 82 social workers were trained (who must have attended the first training) and 12 coordinators.

Improved support to livelihoods

MoSA participated in the mapping and development of a roadmap and strategic paper to improve formal and non-formal TVET system that resulted in the 2018-2020 National Strategic Framework for Technical Vocational Education and Training in Lebanon. Furthermore, the Ministry conducted a market research and feasibility study for the craft sector covering six subsectors. The study identifies potential development opportunities within the value chain and relevant skills needed in order to design and implement corresponding training programs for vulnerable groups.

Operational and staffing support has also been provided and a total of eleven employees were supported by UN Agencies. Furthermore, seven persons from the Ministry benefitted from workshops and capacity buildings on various technical issues related to management of Vocational Trainings as well as market assessment and skills development improvement interventions.

Support to Social Development Centres (SDCs)

Social Development Centres play an essential role as the primary providers of social services in Lebanon. Since the onset of the Syrian crisis, their capacities to respond to the needs of vulnerable communities have been significantly challenged and their resources overstretched. In this fragile context, the assistance furnished by partners has been critical to increasing the quality and scope of SDCs' services to Lebanese and displaced communities.

Better healthcare services for the most vulnerable communities

In 2018, access to primary healthcare services for the most vulnerable communities across Lebanon was improved through strengthening capacities of around 400 service providers (doctors, nurses, midwives and social workers) in providing quality Sexual Reproductive Health and Family Planning (SRH/ FP) services. This contributed to providing awareness raising on family planning, reporting on maternal mortality, cause of death and birth defect, identifying and notifying

maternal near miss cases, identifying and handling early stages of cervical cancer and enhancing provision of RH services in Social Development Centers (SDCs) across Lebanon.

More effective gender-based violence prevention and child protection

The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) led the implementation of the National Plan to Safeguard Women and Children in Lebanon by ensuring coordination and collaboration with Protection, Child and SGBV Sector Partners to deliver interventions that aim to both prevent and respond to child protection abuses. Technical and financial support was provided to MoSA at both central and field level with a total of 139 staff positions being funded and 117 staff receiving financial incentives to support the implementation of the National Plan, among which 65 SDC directors and 65 SDC based social workers.

63 SDCs were further assisted through staffing and in providing social, recreational, counselling, awareness raising and skills building activities for women, youth, older persons, and persons with disabilities, in line with the SDCs roles and responsibilities. MoSA was provided with staffing capacity to address the response, including through deployment of MoSA regional coordinators, 57 field workers and staff at four reception centers to respectively strengthen coordination, enhance outreach, safe identification and referrals, as well as ensure counselling on birth registration and reviewing additions of new born babies.

In parallel, a total of 104 SDCs, including satellites, were supported to enhance protection, SGBV and child protection interventions, predominantly through staff capacity building and direct implementation of activities such as awareness raising sessions, life skills curricula, case management services. Trained staff include MoSA social workers, nurses and midwives. Trainings covered a large variety of topics and aimed at enhancing the quality of services provided to children, caregivers, survivors of SGBV and any other individual in need of protection services.

285 SDC staff were trained on child protection, including safe identification and referral and Best Interest Determination for refugee children, while MoSA, MoSDA and MEHE participated in the 2018 participatory assessments, or structured dialogue with refugee women, men, boys and girls of diverse background, following training on the subject. Additionally, 48 SDC staff were trained on GBV core concept, safe identification and referrals, early marriage, sexual and reproductive health and communication skills, and MoSA's health frontline workers received trainings on Clinical Management of Rape to ensure they would facilitate timely access to life saving medical services for survivors requesting assistance. Some 11 staff from MoSA were trained on the National Standard Operating Procedures for Juvenile Protection. To increase quality of services provided, MoSA social workers also received case management coaching throughout 2017.

Better trained and informed MoSA and SDC staff has significantly improved the quality of GBV and child protection interventions. In 2018, over 135,000 women, girls and boys including SGBV survivors

and persons at risk were reached, including in underserved areas, through sensitization, and around 84,000 were reached through safe spaces. They benefited from quality individual and group psychosocial support that allowed healing and recovery from GBV risks and were equipped with skills to be able to identify, mitigate and respond to GBV risks.

SDCs as Livelihoods actors

The role of SDCs as a local community actor has been enhanced by increasing their capacity to provide livelihood trainings for individuals who reside in the vulnerable areas surrounding the SDCs.

Under the Alliance2015 Partnership, different organizations have supported SDCs to improve infrastructures and service provision, including market-based skills training programmes and provision of Market Resource Guides to a total of 18 SDCs.

Enhanced Mechanisms for Social Stability (MSS), Maps of Risks and Resources (MRR) and Mechanisms for Stabilization and Resilience (MSR)

MoSA MRR portal is established and accessible to everyone. In 2018, a web-based questionnaire was developed and launched targeting the MRR web portal's registered users (761). It was intended to measure the portal's level of effectiveness and the use of the MRR results, and to collect recommendations to improve the usage of the MRR web portal for coordination purpose.

The collected results show that 71 percent of viewers are using the MRR portal for coordination purposes and creating partnerships. Respondents stated that these partnerships were mainly established with local organizations, municipalities, and ministries.

The International Agencies, Municipalities, and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) were on top of the list for partnerships established followed by the Ministry of Economy and Trade (MoET) and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE). The nature of coordination is mainly directed towards project implementation in the first place, and exchange of technical expertise.

MoSA and its partners conducted 74 Mechanisms for Stability and Resilience (MSR) in 74 communities. The new MSR process is the result of the merger of two processes: the MSS and the MRR.

The merger of the two processes was necessary to ensure synergy between MSS and MRR at the process and outcome level in communities. It aimed to:

- Better target the main needs and the triggers of instability in the villages (social, cultural, livelihood and infrastructure related)
- Save resources and avoid repetition of processes to enter villages and establish trust
- Create sustainable local structures that can increase the impact of local interventions and assure long term influence
- Position SDC staff as key development actors that are equipped with enough knowledge, skills, and resources to support municipalities and local actors in addressing local challenges
- Assure MRR interventions are inclusive and highlight in a more direct way their link to local stability
- Assure MSS interventions are well accepted by local communities and highlight a holistic and systemic intervention to achieve local stability
- Develop the capacity of municipalities and their specialized committees to manage the process of development and social stability later on.

Mechanisms for Social Stability

The MSS is a locally driven process that allows communities to identify and resolve local vulnerabilities and sources of tension. From a peacebuilding and social stability perspective, it primarily involves the training of local social workers in the Social Development Centers (SDCs) across the country to support its implementation.

Three years ago, UNDP started working on linking the MSS process to regional entities that are already institutionalized under the mandate of MoSA. Those entities are the Social Development Centers (SDCs). The purpose of involving MoSA personnel is to ensure the sustainability of the MSS model, safeguard the quality and consistency of its implementation and encourage the contextual adaptation of the process in different regions; in addition to incorporating MSS components into the SDCs working system, thus forming a more holistic and localized intervention scheme at the level of social stability.

From this perspective, capacity building program was designed and initiated in 2017 to familiarize MoSA SDCs personnel with the MSS methodology and train them on its different components, and to equip them with the needed skills and tools to be able to play a leading role in the development and implementation of the Mechanisms for Social Stability (MSS).

In phase III 2018, the same MoSA SDCs personnel were provided with hands-on exposure to the full MSS process. Around 108 MoSA SDCs personnel representing 62 SDC are accompanying four consultants along the full course of the MSS implementation in 38 villages across Mount Lebanon and Beirut, the Bekaa, North Lebanon and Akkar, and South Lebanon.

The different stages of the MSS process implemented in 38 targeted villages were facilitated by both UNDP consultants and SDC staff, representing the hands-on exposure component of the staff's capacity building framework. However, coaching sessions were to provide SDC staff with conceptual and analytical skills.

During the kick off of each of the MSS phases, the consultants met with the SDC teams, and together reviewed the objectives of the implemented phase. As part of the learning process throughout this project, this was very important as it helped the team take

ownership of the data being shared and influence the process in itself. The first phase of the MSS process, focused on the identification of priorities and local needs as well as analyzing local conflict and points of tension. The second and third phases involved designing as well as implementing mechanisms for social stability in response to the needs for intervention identified in the first phase, taking into consideration contextualized conflict-related realities within every village. MoSA SDCs personnel participated in the local groups working workshop where they had the opportunity to practically test the acquired skills throughout the UNDP MSS intervention in the targeted villages: systems conflict analysis, data collection, analyzing Key Driven Factors and identifying entry points, working with the local working groups to develop the theory of change, resources to capitalize on, resources to tap into, and linking their interventions with the theories of change (TOC) developed per area. Each of the MOSA teams (per village) got to experiment in thinking and implementation of activities that would bring the committees closer to achieving their TOC. This also included thinking of available and needed resources to successfully implement the activities and a suggested timeframe for their implementation.

Furthermore, SDCs personnel were trained on mediation and communication, project management skills and tools, strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation, and facilitation to maintain the sustainability of the established mechanism and to be able to fully lead on the MSS process in the process.

“Being able to gather the different segments of the community on the same table to discuss their point of views, is considered an achievement for the MoSA officials”

Suheir Al Silani, SDC Labweh



MOSA SDCs personnel taking part in the local working groups workshops



MoSA SDCs capacity building workshops in different areas

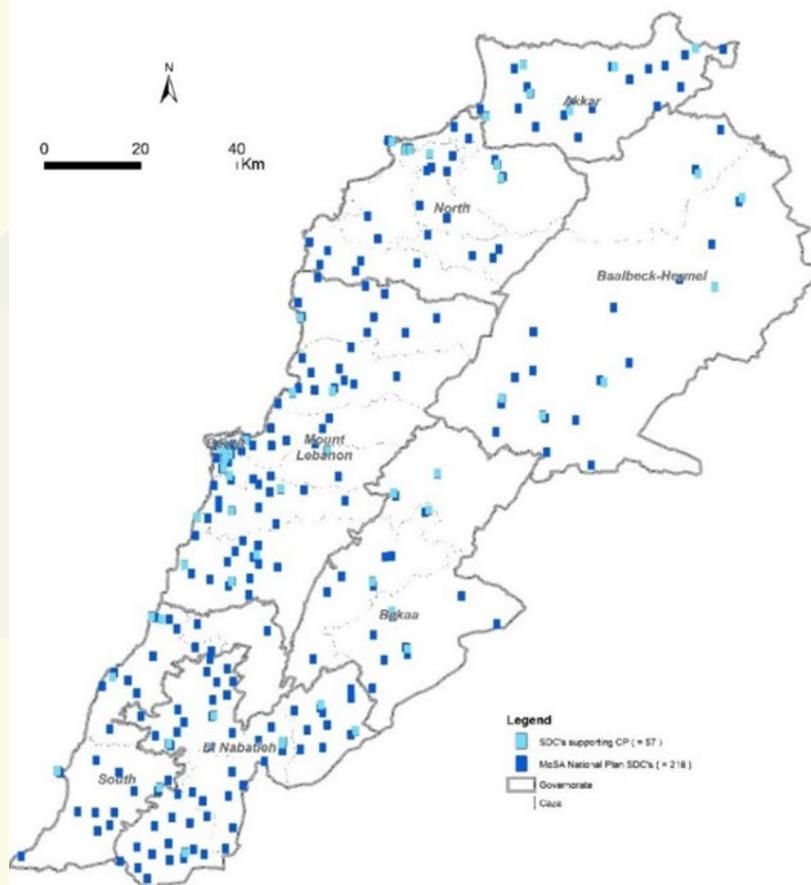


Figure 1: Social Development Centres in Lebanon - 2018

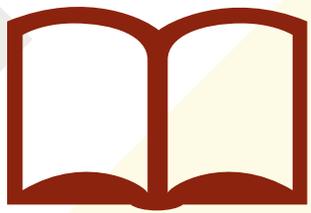


2019 Next Steps

In 2019, partners will continue to work closely with existing safety net structures (such as the National Poverty Targeting Programme) to reach the most vulnerable Lebanese and streamline assistance and programmes. At the same time, technical support (institutional and capacity building for staff) is also planned.

Sustained and focused institutional support to line ministries and their representatives at local levels will therefore continue in close coordination with MoSA at central level and in the field.

Support will encompass material, staffing, and capacity-building to meet the identified needs. Equipment will be provided to social development centres (SDCs) to deliver child, adolescent-friendly, and gender-sensitive services and provide safe spaces for persons at risk, including persons with disabilities, older persons, socially marginalized groups, youth, women and children, and all SGBV survivors. SDCs have been selected in close collaboration with MoSA within the 251 most vulnerable cadastres. Resources will be allocated to ensure adequate coverage of host communities, mostly through support to MoSA SDCs.

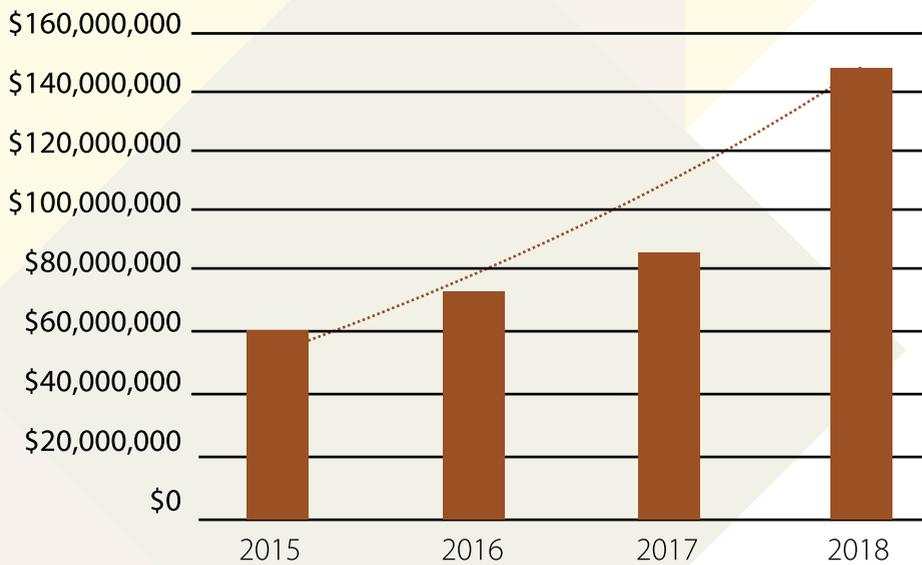


SUPPORT TO EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Eight years after the Syria Crisis, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), in collaboration with sector partners, continues to provide access to formal and accredited non-formal education to the vulnerable Lebanese and non-Lebanese children.

Under the leadership of MEHE, the Education Sector partners implemented the Lebanon's Education response plan through the RACE II Strategy. Structured over three pillars – Improving Access, Quality, and strengthen the Systems of Education, the second year of the RACE II witnessed many achievements.

Overall, the LCRP partners increased substantially their support to Education institutions in 2018, to \$148 million, up from \$87 million a year before. 94 percent of this assistance aimed to support service delivery of Education institutions, while 3 percent was allocated to policy development and systems strengthening, and 3 percent to capacity building. 284 staff were supported and seconded to MEHE and national education institutions to fill key government positions.¹



Graph 3. Financial support channeled through education institutions under the LCRP, from 2015 to 2018

\$148m in support to MEHE and public schools, including for the enrollment of children (+70 percent compared with 2017)
61.6 percent of total support channeled through public institutions in 2018 (\$240 million)

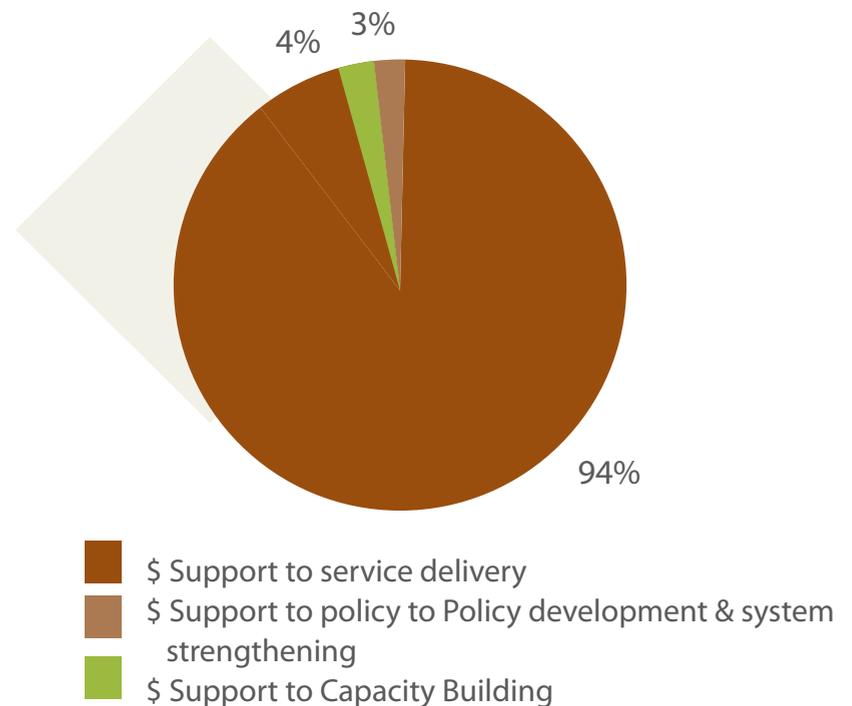
284 MEHE staff supported to implement Reaching All Children with Education strategy

429,916 children and youth enrolled in formal education provided with learning materials for 2018/2019

26,750 children enrolled in Accelerated Learning Programmes in 2018

349 schools functioning as second shift schools in 2017-2018 school year

23,200 Children benefitting from school meals



Graph 4. Type of support received in 2018

¹ Including legal advisors, education/child protection/public health specialists, engineers, IT experts and finance officers.

Support to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE)

3.1.1 Improved regulations for the Non-Formal Education

In 2017 the Center for Educational Research and Development (CERD), a Research and Training institution of MEHE, in coordination with RACE /PMU and technical experts from Education partners, developed the content and guidelines for Community-Based Early Childhood Education (CB-ECE). The roll-out of the CB-ECE package was crucial to supporting 03-05-year-old children's access to quality early learning and development.

In 2018, CERD continued this collaboration in finalizing the development of the unified content and guidelines for the Youth Basic Literacy Numeracy (YBLN) program; this package was endorsed and is currently operational.

Education partners are collaborating with MEHE to finalize the National Policy on Alternative Pathways to Education which aims to identify key priorities and challenges related to Non-Formal Education in Lebanon.

Strengthened Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) systems

In 2018, support was provided by Livelihoods Partners on various technical issues related to management of Vocational trainings as well as a market assessment to improve skills development interventions. The latter benefitted five staff from MEHE-DGTVET.

Enhanced Child Protection policy

In 2017, support was provided to MEHE, MoL and MoSA to develop a roadmap and strategic paper for TVET in Lebanon³. 11 heads of departments and technical staff within the MEHE – DG TVET took part of the participatory consultation process. Furthermore, two consultants were placed within MEHE – DG TVET for 12 months to define a common approach and plans for TVET in Lebanon.

Better quality and relevance of Education response

In partnership with the mandated institution for Curriculum Development, Training and Research (CERD) a Teacher Training Curriculum Model (TTCM) was designed, based on the national Lebanese competency framework and quality standards. 10,000 teachers were trained on child-centered pedagogy and on approaches to aligning principles of inclusion and child protection inside public schools.

Stronger evidence on Out of School Children (OOSCI)

Lebanon's Out-of-School-Children Study (OOSCI) is close to completion; having benefited from close partnership between the MEHE and UN agencies. This research piece is intended to provide an evidence-base and policy recommendations to support MEHE's reach towards out of school children, policies to reduce drop-out, and improvement of the policy-space to discuss systemic improvements in the public education system.

3.1.6 Management and monitoring capacity of MEHE supported

Over the last two years, the RACE Program Management Unit (PMU) has implemented an improved data collection system to support the implementation of RACE II Education programme. Education partners supported PMU through direct deployment of technical experts and assisted the PMU in designing a data-management system to track refugee students' data. This has improved the MEHE's ability to plan-ahead of each scholastic year, as well as improved its ability to report publicly on refugee education in a timely manner.

Support to Public Schools

Education fee and associated cost subsidized

For the 2018/2019 school year, the MEHE through LCRP partners' support subsidized more than 220,000 Lebanese and more than 209,000 Non-Lebanese children enrolled into public formal education both in first and second shift schools, and around 5,000 Non-Lebanese youth in formal secondary education. These children further benefitted with learning supplies and a proportion of eligible beneficiaries with transportation support to ensure their daily access and attendance during the scholastic year.

Safer and child-friendly learning environment

An assessment of the youth GBV and protection risks in vocational schools was conducted in 2018. This study allowed the identification of the different risks that girls and boys face in the schools at the level of infrastructure, physical space, with tutors. Recommendations were made to enhance the protective environment of youth in educational facilities.

WASH partners supported MEHE to develop national health education package for schools. This will sensitize future generations on adequate WASH practices, contributing to the sustainability of current interventions and adoption of responsible behaviour, while asserting the role of education in improving social norms and practices. In parallel, Food security partners supported MEHE through school feeding activities in order to enhance school attendance and retention rates, addressing short-term hunger and nutritional intakes and social protection of children enrolled in schools. In addition, partners supported the development of educational nutrition package covering five topics: food sources, food groups, the importance of healthy eating, breakfast and snacks, healthy choices. The package includes a set of activities covering school grades from KG1 up to grade 9.

Improved participation and inclusiveness

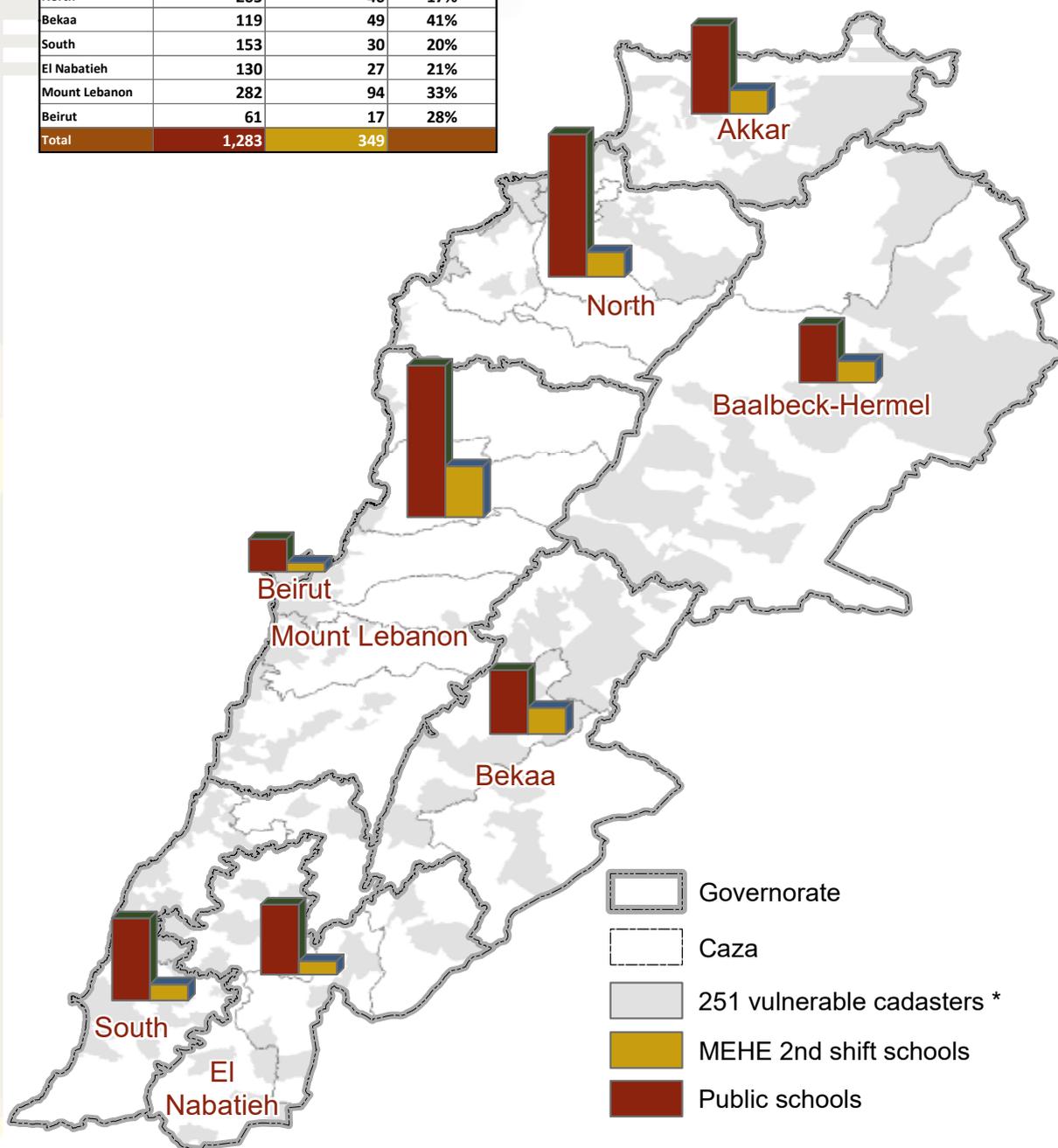
To further reduce the number of children who are excluded or who are unable to attend formal learning or certified education, UN agencies partnered with MEHE on an Inclusive School Pilot project, in 30 public schools. This included hiring and training special educators, paraprofessional teams, and therapists. Piloted over two scholastic years, this Pilot Project will develop an inclusive education policy for Lebanon. Of the 23 rehabilitated public schools in 2018,

approximately ten were specifically rehabilitated to include accessibility components to mainstream children with special needs into existing classrooms due to the limited space available.

Effective communication between schools and community forms the foundation of developing and maintaining partnerships. In 2018, UNHCR deployed and trained 389 Education Community Liaisons (ECLs) inside public schools to facilitate better communication and resolve issues between refugee children and parents, and school management.

Second shift schools in 2017-2018 school year

Mohafazat	Public Schools	2nd shift Schools	2nd shift / PS
Akkar	165	45	27%
Baalbeck-Hermel	108	41	38%
North	265	46	17%
Bekaa	119	49	41%
South	153	30	20%
El Nabatieh	130	27	21%
Mount Lebanon	282	94	33%
Beirut	61	17	28%
Total	1,283	349	



* 251 vulnerable cadasters are under review, to include most vulnerable cadasters; it will be updated in 2019.

This map has been produced by the Education Sector IM of the Inter-Agency Information Management Unit. Data Sources: MEHE (schools), UNICEF & UNHCR databases. All data used were the best available at the time of map production.

Case study

Saeed, a ten-year-old boy, is the younger son of a modest Syrian family of eleven members. The family is currently living in a humble home at Derzanoun-Bar Elias which became their residence since the start of the Syrian crisis.

Saeed was referred by Caritas to a Basic Literacy and Numeracy program (BLN) executed by the Lebanese Organization for Studies and Training (LOST) in partnership with UNICEF at Majdal Anjar-Bekaa. The LOST team addressed his learning needs since day one. His first week at the center was not easy. Saeed cried, refused to attend his classes, and he was not able to interact and socialize with his classmates and surroundings. Academically, Saeed was not able to focus, memorize, nor pay attention to the educators. The educators at LOST made serious efforts to accommodate Saed's needs and help him get all the academic and social support required. Educators removed a few posters that were distracting Saeed from focusing and created a relaxing and calm atmosphere. Saeed was also trained on social behaviors in addition to discussions on how one's behavior affects others. Saeed showed real progress during the cycle, became committed, and gained many skills. He began greeting his educators and friends, respecting everyone and asking for permission for going out. Saeed made great improvement in learning, writing letters and numbers correctly.

Ibrahim and Hanaa, Saeed's parents, expressed how thankful they are for seeing their son learning and socializing like his peers.

"I happy that my son Saeed has changed a lot. I am thankful for the educators and LOST", stated Hanaa.

By the end of the BLN cycle, Saeed was referred to Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) managed by MEHE.



2019 Next Steps

The “Reaching All Children with Education” (RACE) II strategy provides a joint framework for government and development partners which will seek to maximize the effectiveness and sustainability of the education system in Lebanon moving forward. To further this objective, an appeal of \$ 381 million was made to directly strengthen education institutions and public schools in 2019.

The RACE II strategy systematically addresses structural weaknesses and gaps through a qualitative shift in the approach towards more sustainable and strategic interventions to ensure that education results are irreversible in Lebanon.

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The main features of this ambitious plan are centered on the following four strategic orientations:

- Ensuring that quality education opportunities are available for the most vulnerable Lebanese and displaced children and families.
- Implementing systemic and holistic interventions aimed at addressing both the demand for, and the availability of, quality public education services.
- Ensuring that all children and youth aged 03-18 years are enrolled in quality and inclusive education opportunities (including early childhood education, life skills trainings and primary, secondary and vocational education).
- Integrating human rights and child protection principles as key components of RACE interventions.

In 2019, the implementation of RACE II will contribute to enhancing the quality of teaching and learning while ensuring equitable access to formal educational opportunities in 1,263 schools across the country. This five-year strategy will pave the way for the durable and sustainable reinforcement of national education systems, policies and monitoring in Lebanon.







SUPPORT TO HEALTH INSTITUTIONS

Under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) 2018, Health sector partners extended their financial, technical and operational support to the public health system to increase access to quality health services for displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese and to strengthen healthcare institutions and enable them to withstand the pressure caused by the increased demand on services and the scarcity of resources.

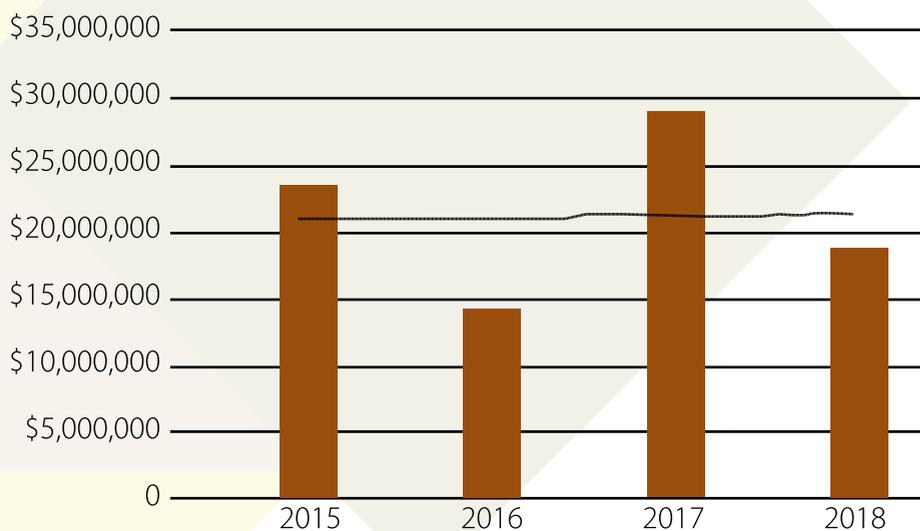
Overall, \$18.7 million was injected to support the Ministry of Public Health at central, peripheral and healthcare centers level (including PHCCs and hospitals) and 374 staff were seconded to strengthen the system as well enhance service delivery across the country.

Support to the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)

Better service delivery

In 2018, partners provided support to service delivery by MoPH at central level. The support is summarized as follow:

- Procurement of Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) medications. MoPH was supported to secure funds to cover additional 92,000 vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian patients with NCDs attending its network of Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs) and dispensaries. In line with the National Health Response Strategy, namely to use existing systems of health services delivery, Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)



Graph 5. Financial support channeled through health institutions under the LCRP, from 2015 to 2018

\$ 19m in support to MoPH and Healthcare Centres, down from \$ 29 million in 2017

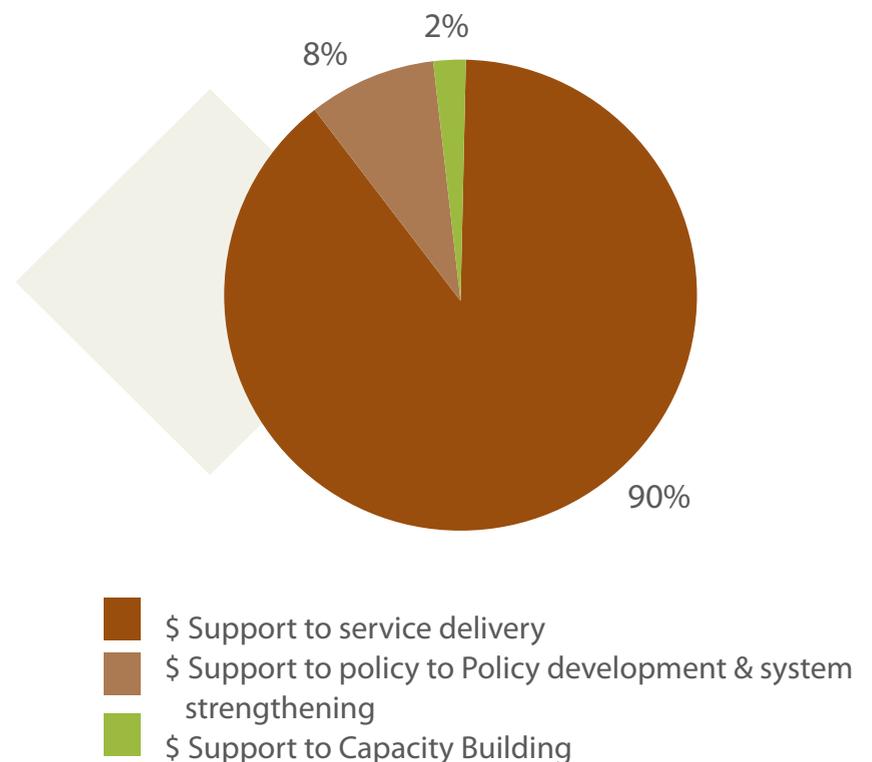
8 percent of total support channeled through public institutions in 2018 (\$240 million)

374 staff seconded to MoPH at central, peripheral and health care centers level (incl. PHCCs and hospitals), up from 240 in 2017

185,231 Individuals received chronic disease medications supported by health partners through 420 facilities

312 primary healthcare facilities received reproductive health drugs/commodities

366 health workers received trainings on Mental Health



Graph 6. Type of support received in 2018

purchased and distributed the medications across all the 420 health facilities included in the YMCA network for 2018.

- MoPH was supported with the delivery of Reproductive Health (RH) services. Through Health partners, the piloting and adoption of an integrated approach for linking RH including Family Planning (FP) services with services for survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) at health/social service delivery outlets as well as in community settings was pursued. RH medical equipment and supplies were also procured, including all modern contraceptives which, under the supervision of MoPH, were made available to vulnerable populations free of charge through 312 primary healthcare facilities across the country (229 MoPH-PHCCs and 83 health outlets). Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Kits were provided to all facilities providing Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) services. In addition, MoPH was supported to launch the national RH campaign that aims at enhancing access and utilization of RH services within the Ministry's PHCCs network.

Enhanced human resources in support of MoPH

As part of health system strengthening, various health actors provided support to MoPH to fill the human resources gaps and therefore support the delivery of quality healthcare services. In 2018, the main staffing support to MoPH at central level included:

- 36 staff in total supporting multiple MoPH departments including the Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) Surveillance programme, the National NCD program, the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) programme, including the response to the measles outbreak, the national Health Statistics Observatory, the Antimicrobial resistance program, the Health system reform and policy support Observatory, as well as the Central drugs warehouse pharmacy team.
- In order to strengthen governance in the provision of services related to the EPI and Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) programmes, 8 staff were appointed centrally, (including central warehouse). The support aimed at strengthening the immunization programme and reinforcing the information system aiming towards a more evidence-based health programming. In addition, 2 international consultants were recruited to respectively: conduct a gender analysis of the barriers and bottlenecks preventing Pregnant & Lactating Women (PLW) to have access to Ante-Natal Care (ANC).
- With the aim to strengthen the capacities of MoPH in planning, monitoring, analyzing and documenting Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) outcomes, public health personnel were recruited. This support led to the development of regular reports and briefs disseminated to decision and policy makers, international community and local communities.
- In line with the national strategic plan for Tuberculosis (TB) control and particularly to increase human resources at National Tuberculosis Programme (NTP) centrally, MoPH recruited centrally 34 additional staff. The support increased the capacity of the NTP

to conduct additional activities for TB elimination and ensure continuity of activities when external funding will cease.

- Training and coaching for 117 midwives and nurses on family planning counseling. The training was conducted by the Lebanese Order of Midwives
- Training of 155 focal person/VDO on reporting maternal mortality, causes of death, birth defect and notification of near miss cases. Training was conducted with LSOG.

Strengthened systems (SoPs, guidelines, referral pathways, monitoring and evaluation systems or contingency planning/ DRM)

MoPH developed strategies related to MCAH. This included the development and launching of the Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) policy as well as the reiteration of the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI). Furthermore, WASH national standards in PHCCs and nurseries were integrated. In addition, support was provided to MoPH within the National Mental Health Programme to develop and conduct a capacity building proposal tailored for non-specialized health and social welfare/protection care staff at all levels of care in collaboration with all relevant actors, with inclusion of the focused Psychological Support Services (PSS) emotional wellbeing curriculum for adolescents in the PSS approach. MoPH was also able to develop mental health packages related to the integration of evidence based mental health promotion and prevention into maternal and child programmes, and the national protection programming in collaboration with Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA).

MoPH launched the 5 years family FP strategy that aims to increase the demand and contraceptive prevalence rate namely among displaced Syrians. The multi-layered strategy developed in 2017 and adopted by MoPH in 2018 is expected to provide an overall operational plan for all actors and stakeholders working on health towards reducing unmet needs for modern families.

In addition, a roadmap for action within academic curricula of interested universities was developed for integrating youth concepts in medical curricula (based on the WHO core competencies). The integration of youth core competencies will start in early 2019 in one medical and one midwifery programs.

In collaboration with the Arab Institute of Human Rights, a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) situation analysis was conducted to advance the promotion and protection of SRHR in compliance with international obligations. The findings of this landmark study, launched with representatives from government, human rights advocates and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), resulted in entry points to work with key concerned actors to integrate the right based approach in applying legislative amendments, programs and activities in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights.

With the support of Health partners, MoPH continued to implement a robust hospital based maternal mortality surveillance system through investigating maternal death cases followed by the introduction

of corrective measures. This system has contributed to a reduction in maternal mortality and mitigation of possible causes of death. MoPH was also supported to establish a national web-based Hospital Deaths Notification system as part of its national Health Statistics Observatory. In addition, the MoPH was supported to establish and operationalize an automated latent tuberculosis management program in 27 public hospitals.

Strengthened Health security/ International Health Regulations (IHR)

An extensive range of expertise and support was provided to the MoPH in 2018 to move its agenda forward in health security and International Health Regulations. This includes the strengthening of:

- **Points of Entry (POE):** as part of the national IHR plan, a health unit at the Port of Beirut was built. Plans for the construction of another Health Unit at the Masnaa border point (Bekaa) have also been initiated.

- **National health contingency and preparedness plans:** In 2017, and in close coordination with the MoPH team, one health contingency plan was elaborated in each Governorate/Mohafaza. In 2018, the plans were reviewed, updated, and translated. In addition, the national EBOLA preparedness plan, the cholera preparedness plan, and the national influenza pandemic plan, were updated.

- **Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) defense/ Hazardous Materials and Items (HAZMAT):** In 2018, and in line with the national CBRN committee plan, the training of a Hazardous Materials' Management Team (HAZMAT) in Bekaa was supported along with the provision of the required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other safe transportation equipment. A drill was also completed in Bekaa.

- **Surveillance and Early Warning and Alerts Response System (EWARS):** the EWARS expansion was accelerated, paralleled by a steady reinforcement of routine surveillance. This included the automation of additional 500 health outlets and the introduction of events-based reporting system. The assessment of interoperability of an automated reporting system on animal diseases between the Ministry of Agriculture and the MoPH was conducted, and the software was amended accordingly.

- **Pandemic Influenza Preparedness:** procurement of reagents and consumables, the production of updated Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material, the training of 80 staff (from NIC, sentinel sites, MoPH central and peripheral personnel) on rapid response.

- **Infection Prevention and Control:** In 2018, a strategy's framework of action was developed that encompasses IPC related policies, interventions, guidelines, surveillance systems, legalities, trainings, and stewardship programs. Roll out of the strategy started; in collaboration with the MoPH, the first activity conducted was a training on IPC to 211 staff working in oral health clinics in PHCCs.

- **Measles Outbreak Surveillance and Response:** In response to the measles outbreak, technical support was provided to the

MoPH to conduct an outbreak risk assessment. Moreover, 30 measles sensitization sessions were conducted targeting ESU peripheral teams, health centers and hospitals to enhance measles surveillance; around 800 participants attended these sessions. Specimen collection sets, consumables and reagents for measles laboratory testing were procured.

- **Enhancement of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) Surveillance:** the MoPH was supported in the recruitment of additional human resources to support AFP active surveillance in order to maintain AFP surveillance indicators up to international standards, with a clear phasing out plan finalized with the MoPH. MoPH was also able to develop the IEC material and the implementation of sensitization sessions for health workers on AFP surveillance.

- **Environmental Surveillance of AFP:** expansion of monthly environmental surveillance to detect Wild Polio Virus (WPV), Vaccine Derived Polio Virus (VDPV), and Sabin viruses to four areas considered high risk for polio was supported. A mission was held to assess the need for expansion and guide the sampling techniques. Support included refresher training of MoPH staff during the mission, the provision of necessary equipment and supplies and the shipment of samples collected to the regional reference laboratory in Jordan.

- **Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) surveillance:** In 2018, preparations started for a proficiency testing training targeting medical laboratories to introduce the Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) on proper antimicrobial susceptibility against bacterial pathogens in order to improve the accuracy of laboratory test results for the appropriate management of patients suffering from bacterial infections. Moreover, a national expert was recruited for the development of the AMR national action plan. The plan has been developed and roll out will start in 2019.

- **Rabies:** In 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture identified several Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) positive rabies in animals in different Lebanese regions and three rabies cases were detected in humans. MoPH was supported to update the rabies reporting forms and automated them. Technical support was provided to updating guidelines and developing IEC material for detection, reporting and management of rabies cases. Furthermore, support was provided to the MoPH in conducting a training on the management of rabies cases; the training reached around 163 Emergency Room (ER) physicians and nurses.

Training and capacity building at central level

As part of health system strengthening and to ensure more sustainable service delivery, trainings and coaching of staff reached around 900 staff in 2018 including:

- 366 health workers received trainings on mental health (25 psychiatrists and neurologists trained on rationalizing prescription of medications for priority mental and neurological conditions, 96 health workers trained on crisis management, 20 health workers trained on the WHO mental Health Gap Action Programme, 168 professionals trained on LGBT guide, 57 health workers trained on psychological first aid).

- Around 400 service providers (doctors, nurses, midwives and social workers) were supported in providing quality SRH/ FP services.
- The rollout of training and coaching to midwives on FP counselling at primary and secondary care was continued. This latter training has resulted in increasing access to FP counselling not only by women but also their spouses. Around 12 midwives were recruited and deployed to several primary healthcare facilities for provision of needed SRH services including FP and community outreach.
- 101 healthcare professionals/administrators were trained on providing quality health services to beneficiary populations.

Support to PHCs and public hospitals

Increased service delivery

A multitude of Health sector partners contributed to increasing access to primary healthcare through the provision of subsidized consultations and laboratory diagnostics at primary healthcare level, spreading awareness amongst the community on the available services at the centers, supporting maternal and child health services at the facilities by hiring skilled midwives, providing one-on-one counseling sessions to pregnant and lactating women attending the primary healthcare facilities on antenatal and postnatal care, supporting mental health services through case management teams, topping up essential drugs in instances where there was a stock out of MoPH essential drugs among other activities.

MoPH-led Accelerated Immunization Activities (AIA) initiative was supported. Through community outreach efforts, additional human resources and/or incentives as well as vaccine commodities to allow the provision of vaccination services free of charge, AIA were implemented across Lebanon. By securing the gratuity of the vaccination process, the accessibility of the immunization services by the most vulnerable children was ensured as the direct and indirect cost barrier was addressed.

Policy development and system strengthening

Health Partners provided staff support as well as equipment and renovation services, as follows:

Staffing support

- Support at the peripheral level was of 16 staff in total supporting the Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) Surveillance Programme.
- In addition to central staffing support, support to the Primary Health Care (PHC) department of MoPH was of 43 staff at Qada level (18 Public health officers, 16 EPI Qada Nurses, 09 Data IT officers) and 29 staff at the borders and UNHCR vaccination points.

Equipment and renovation

- Medical equipment to hospitals and primary healthcare centers.
- Rehabilitation of vaccination points at the official Lebanese borders.
- Procurement of medical equipment supplies to primary healthcare facilities.
- Supply SDCs with medications, office and medical equipment and heaters.

- Rehabilitation of the existing (non-functional) water treatment system at Ftouh Keserwan Governmental Hospital – Bouar.

Capacity Building at decentralized level

In 2018, various capacity building initiatives took place at primary healthcare and public hospitals level; below is a summary of what has been provided:

- Various capacity building workshops to around 1300 healthcare providers on different topics related to HIV, infection prevention and control, early warning, influenza preparedness, AFP, rabies and measles
- Complementary trainings for healthcare providers in 35 PHCCs to become breastfeeding-friendly (these are the centres where breastfeeding corners were established in 2017);
- Workshop for focal persons in 16 selected hospitals (governmental and UNHCR contracted Hospitals) to set the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative action plan.
- Four workshops for the dissemination of IYCF policy in four different Lebanese regions (North, Bekaa, South and Beirut) targeting around 200 healthcare professionals from the order of Midwives, Nurses and Lebanese Paediatric society.

Case study

Reaching the Hard to Reach (UNICEF Lebanon and the Ministry of Public Health's Accelerated Immunization Activities)

Lebanon's Beqaa Valley is a largely rural district, with numerous scattered and often isolated villages. The area's infrastructure has been impacted by the influx of a large number of refugees, which only adds to the challenges for the nation's healthcare providers. Household incomes are low, education presents its own challenges, whereas distances and difficulty of movement further exacerbate routine healthcare checks for the children of the region.

It is within this context that UNICEF Lebanon - generously funded by the European Union (EU) Regional Trust Fund "MADAD" and The Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM)- is supporting the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to ensure the highest levels of vaccination coverage amongst those whom without such focused efforts, would remain exposed to the risk of otherwise preventable diseases.



Through Accelerated Immunization Activities (AIA), MoPH with the support of UNICEF reaches identified low coverage cadasters by door to door home visits, aiming to reach every child by calling at every house to bring back these children to the Lebanese health system. This activity that raises the population's overall vaccinations level may be time consuming, but it is deemed essential. It is an educational approach that is saving lives and connecting children defaulting from immunization to the public health system.

"I'm happy that we are now receiving a team sent by the MoPH to raise our awareness on the importance of vaccination. We did not know that vaccines are available free of charge." Said a father of an 8 years old child in Taalabaya.

"I used to think that we have to pay fifty thousand or one hundred thousand Lebanese pounds or even one hundred dollars to vaccinate my children", says Abed Al-Raheem, father of five during another AIA visit. *"As soon as I was informed we could get our children vaccinated free of charge, I shared the news with my sister and my brother. They both told me that they were reached by the Ministry as well".*

Through AIA, UNICEF supported MoPH to enhance vaccination coverage in Lebanon and to strengthen routine immunization. Support included human resources, health information system strengthening, vaccines, technologies and service delivery. AIA reinforced that vaccines at the MoPH-PHCCs are safe, effective and meet the standards of the World Health Organization and supported MoPH in bringing back children to the immunization system in high vulnerable localities.

Through the EU and BPRM financial support, and with the close partnership of UNICEF Lebanon and the MoPH, the ongoing AIA aims at ensuring the hardest to reach are today receiving their rights to safety and health through a strengthened immunization system.

2019 Next Steps

A health system is defined as consisting of all people, institutions, resources, and activities whose primary purpose is to promote, restore, and maintain health. In Lebanon, after the onset of the Syrian crisis and due to the increased demand on health services, gaps were faced in all core health system strengthening functions: human resources; health finance; health governance; health information; medical products, vaccines, and technologies; and service delivery. Consequently, the key challenges faced by Health sector partners in supporting the above-mentioned functions are to a significant level related to funding. As a result of insufficient funding, Health sector partners are not being able to fulfill all the institutional gaps and consequently many referrals of patients in need of primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare or specialized diagnostics were not supported. Furthermore, the political situation in the country and the delays in forming the cabinet have hindered transfer of funds from the Ministry of Finance to MoPH, which reflected in severe shortage in medications for chronic diseases; and as contingency funds were not available, it was challenging to secure funds to fill the gaps in a timely manner.

To mitigate the risks, the strategy of the health sector in 2019 aims towards sustained health outcomes through continuous improvement of the core health system strengthening functions. While maintaining a direct service delivery component to cover critical needs for displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS) and Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL), the priorities of the Health sector are increasingly shifting toward continued investments in health system strengthening to sustain service provision and quality of services and achieve a positive and sustainable impact on health indicators.

At the primary healthcare level, the Health sector prioritizes supporting MoPH with complementarity models that offer more coverage to people in need. In addition, and similar to previous years, the sector aims to improve outbreak and infectious disease control through strengthening and expanding the Early Warning Alert and Response System (EWARS) and by strengthening the national tuberculosis and AIDS programmes. The sector aims as well at improving adolescent and youth health through the school health program. At the secondary and tertiary healthcare level, the sector is focused on improving access to hospital care to displaced Syrians and Palestinian Refugees from Syria, and therefore is dedicated to sustain and increase financial support to hospital care.

The Health sector prioritizes the mainstreaming of institutional support to i. Promote country ownership and sustainability, ii. Scale up solutions, and iii. Promote greater efficiencies in health investments, iii progressively ensure expansion of Universal Health coverage

In 2018, the overall health sector appeal amounts to \$267.5 million.

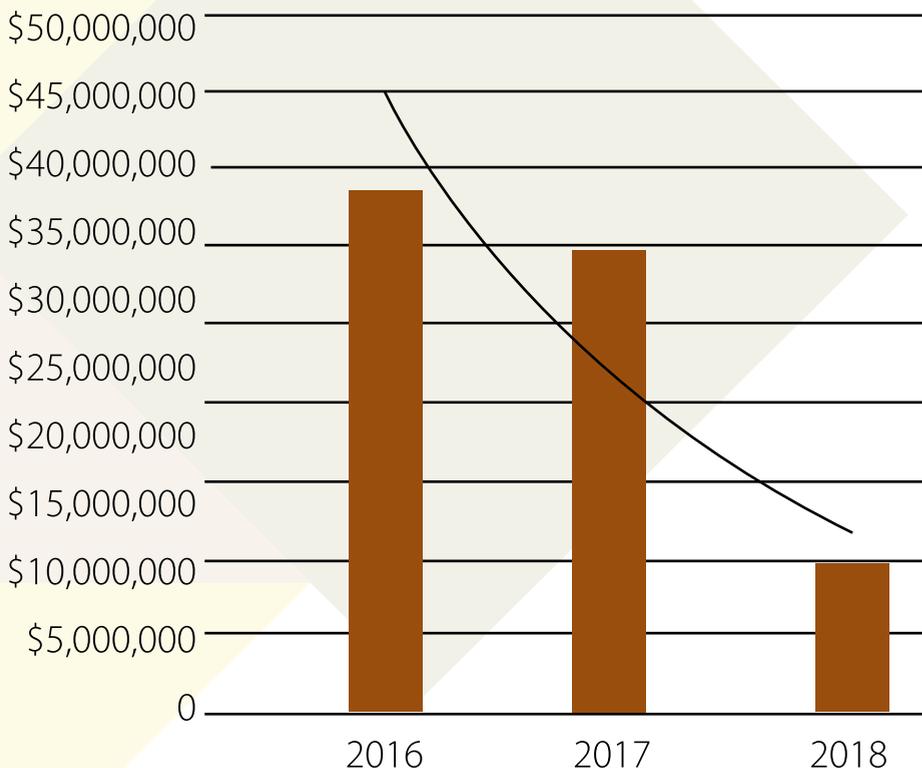


SUPPORT TO ENERGY, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTIONS

Partners throughout 2018 have supported the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW) and the Water Establishments as well as other government institutions from national to local level that are responsible for various aspects of water, sanitation and hygiene related service provision.

In the context of the endemic systemic challenges confronting the Water sector, at large, which affects the Syria Crisis Response Plan and in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW), pursued a systematic approach to address the enabling environment difficulties. In terms of systems-strengthening, LCRP partners supported the Government through informed decision making and coordination of the WASH response. In addition, there has been a continued support to the Government's communication strategy and boosting consumer confidence for improved revenue collection. A pilot project implemented in the poorest suburbs of Tripoli through community engagement increased the number of applicants to the water establishment from these areas to 587 applicants and 299 subscribers.

In 2018, a total of \$10.4 million was channelled through Water, Environment and Energy institutions, down from \$34 million a year before. Overall, 32 staff were provided to Energy, Environment and Water institutions to support the development of the sector.



Graph 7. Financial support channeled through water, energy and environment institutions under the LCRP, from 2016 to 2018

\$10.4 million in support to Water and Energy institutions for service delivery and infrastructure, down from \$34m in 2017
4 percent of total support channeled through public institutions in 2018 (\$240 million)

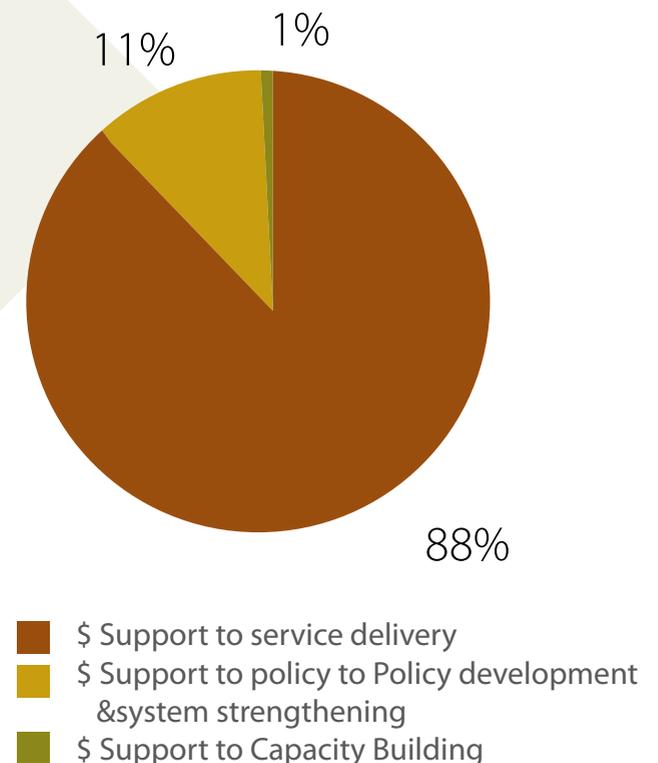
32 additional staff provided to MoEW, MoEnv and Water Establishments, up from 17 in 2017

456,627 people served with better WASH services

19,135 People benefiting from the improved quality of grid electricity

Support to the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW), and Water Establishments

Water sector leadership by MoEW has strengthened in 2018 with support from the Water partners. MoEW human resource capacity for water was extended for the groundwater approvals specialist and a senior level Advisor as well as Energy coordinator. MoEW was also supported by strategic research and technical studies to better inform decision making. The "National Guideline for Rainwater Harvesting Systems" was adopted as part of the 2010 National Water



Graph 8. Type of support received in 2018

Sector Strategy. The guideline aims to improve water governance in Lebanon as a means of preserving the country's water resources and contributing to the UN 2030 agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals, mainly Goal number 6 which commits the world to ensuring that everyone has access to safe water by 2030.

Through a collaborative effort between several Water partners and in partnership with MEHE, MoPH and MoSA a national water quality and WASH census was completed for 2,035 public institutions. A baseline for the level of WASH services against the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals for WASH in public institutions was defined. The resulting data allows prioritisation and targeting of WASH rehabilitation works in Public schools, Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs), Social Development Centres (SDCs), Childcare centres and UNRWA schools and clinics. The objective of the study is also the integration of WASH parameters in national accreditation and standards and the development of monitoring tools and cost estimates per cohort for public institutions.

MoE capacities were strengthened with human resources and transportation means dedicated to the Environment Task Force in charge of following up on environmental complaints, which is an important responsibility towards the Lebanese citizens and institutions and also is considered as an important conflict resolution instrument in increasingly fragile and overstressed situations.

The Water Establishment in North Lebanon through the implementation of a 3-year project on "Improved Water Resources Monitoring System/IWRM at regional level in Lebanon". It aims to provide effective means to monitor water resources in the North Lebanon Water Establishment and enabling data sharing amongst stakeholders and informed decision transfer to end-users. Ultimately, improved monitoring will enhance the water use in the Lebanese agriculture sector and the understanding of environmental risks, linked to water quality.

Support to Electricité du Liban

The increased electricity demand caused by the Syria Crisis has created additional stress on Lebanon's already-weak electricity system and aggravated its lack of resilience, mostly affecting vulnerable Lebanese, displaced people and essential public service providers such as schools and hospitals. The support was continued to improve access to electricity at agreed minimum standards to households affected by the Syria crisis, and public institutions providing vital services.

The installation of renewable energy is one of the key achievements. Distributed solar photovoltaic systems were installed across 13 public and non-governmental institutions such as school, orphanages, and hospitals, providing clean and affordable electricity. The reinforcement of the distribution networks has been continued since 2017. Since the current distribution networks are overloaded and damaged due to a sudden surge of population connecting the electricity network, it is not only worsening the quality of electricity supply, but also increasing the risk of fire accident. The rehabilitation of existing equipment or installation of the new transformer and relevant parts was conducted in the vulnerable communities, and approximately 19,135 individuals are now benefiting from the

improved quality of grid electricity. In addition to the rehabilitation of distribution network infrastructure, it is also important to prevent the illegal connections because it undermines the grid network and increase the non-recoverable cost for EdL.

Through a project that aims at the prevention of illegal connections, EdL is now capable of recovering cost from 224 households in Bekaa, Akkar, Baalbek and North region. The off-grid street lighting has been installed in 22 municipalities, where it was found that street lighting was limited, or the available public infrastructure has fallen into disrepair before the intervention. While increasing the production of renewable energy, the street lighting plays an important role in reducing crime and vandalism, and making residents and pedestrians feel safer during the night.

Support at the sub-national level

- The four Water Establishments (plus the Litani River Authority), which are responsible for the design, implementation, operation and maintenance of water and wastewater services, have been key institutions for implementation of the sector response. Five experts have been seconded to these Government Authorities, specifically one engineer, one information officer and three communications officers.
- The communications strategy is in its second year of implementation to help transform the Water Establishments of Bekaa, South and North into 'customer-centric' public establishments. A long term outcome of this should be an increase in cost recovery for public services that the government struggles to maintain partly due to lack of funds. Developed with and for them it is fostering trust between the customers and the service provider; supporting and strengthening the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management and building permanent, efficient and well-functioning communications and customer relations systems within each Establishment.
- Sector partners are also increasing their engagement in social or community related initiatives, including: KAP surveys on public service usage, expenditure and willingness to pay; supporting Water Establishment updating and geo-reference of their customers; undertaking subscription campaigns to promote renewal or new subscriptions; and conducting awareness campaigns on water conservation, water meters, right to service and duty to pay.

2 Commenced in 2017 this initiative is supporting the development of customer-centric public water authorities by building permanent, efficient and well-functioning communications and customer relations systems within these sub-national establishments. Through applying industry standards and best practices this initiative aims to transform WEs from being conservative, silent and reactive to become pro-active, open, and transparent in dealing with their stakeholders, whilst at the same time increasing the level of stakeholders' knowledge about their rights and duties.

3 Customer geo-reference, subscriptions and payments remain major challenges for Water Establishments in the North, Bekaa and South due to lack of capacity, thus support of sector partners has been welcomed.

4 Activity Info reporting against water sector results framework as at 30 September 2018.

- Thus far in 2018 over 23 organizations have collectively contributed and undertaken projects benefiting 456,627 people, 29 percent of the overall target, 39 percent being Lebanese, with some improvements in water and sanitation services. The outcome for the end user of these improvements to service delivery has been an increase to their daily water quantity or an improvement to the quality of their water or a more continuous and reliable flow of water to their premises.
- Furthermore, the stabilization interventions that predominately focused on improving water supply systems, from production to storage and distribution, as well as supporting resource and service management have been, in 2018, partly through funds carried over from previous years. The capacity to scale-up stabilization efforts has been limited by the prioritization of critical humanitarian activities, particularly due to the challenges in securing funds over the last year.
- With regards to Palestine refugee camps, several major infrastructure projects improving and rehabilitating water supply (water wells, tanks, extension of networks) and wastewater networks were completed to improve access to key services. A comprehensive Response Plan has also been developed to implement UNRWA's Environmental Health Strategy.
- On energy, the frequent power outage and low-quality electricity supply are affecting the most vulnerable population and critical public services in Lebanon. The electricity supply from the grid is unequal for poor regions as highlighted in the fact that the grid electricity is available for average 20 hours in Beirut while it is around 10 hours in the other governorates. During the blackouts, vulnerable communities and institutions have been forced to purchase electricity from costly and environmentally unfriendly private diesel generators. The cost of reliance on diesel generators places an additional fiscal burden on already stretched public institutions such as schools, health care centres and hospitals that provide service to Lebanese and displaced populations.
- To support the vulnerable public and non-governmental organizations in mitigating their financial burden in terms of electricity bills, Hybrid Solar PV-Diesel systems have been installed. The hybrid solar PV systems were installed in 13 public institutions such as schools and hospitals across Lebanon, amounting 1,481 kWp of renewable capacity. This will save around 2,080 MWh of electricity consumption every year from the diesel generator and the grid and provide around \$375,000 a year of electricity bills reduction. These public institutions are providing their services to at least 209,245 Lebanese 105,075 Syrians, who are indirectly benefiting from the installation of the solar PV system with improved quality and supply hours of electricity.
- Through the provision of the grant, some of the beneficiaries (e.g. private hospital and school) can even mobilize their own capital from the financial savings it provided to invest in renewable energy or even in enhancing some of their services, hence multiplying the impacts of the grant element.

Support to the Ministry of Environment (MoE)

The Syrian crisis is putting enormous pressure on Lebanon's natural resources and ecosystems, leading to increased environmental degradation and pollution.

In 2018, the ETF began developing an LCRP Environmental Marker system to screen all LCRP activities and ensure they are aligned with national environmental safeguards.

The ETF also developed a Guide for Environmental Indicators (at Outcome, Output and Activity level) to identify environmental benefits in the following LCRP sectors: Social Stability, Food Security, Water, Energy, Livelihood and Shelter. This will be complemented by impact level indicators which will be established and measured during 2019 as part of the update to the environmental assessment of the crisis.

Case Study

Based on the Nabaa neighborhood profile conducted and published by UN-Habitat in 2017, several streets showed defect in their street lighting fixtures. The aim of Nabaa interventions was to address safety issues, pedestrian accessibility and safe mobility, in addition to promoting inclusive societies, and sustainable green interventions. And knowing the effect of dark streets at night in a highly dense and populated neighborhood, with a total refugee population constituting 63 percent of the total population residing in Nabaa (based on the profile), UN-Habitat installed and provided 32 solar street lighting fixtures wall mounted on brackets (8 fixtures of 40Watts, and 22 fixtures of 70Watts, and left 2 for the Municipality stock). And to ensure community engagement in the installation process, UN-Habitat led community consultations backed-up with awareness raising sessions to ensure the fixtures' sustainability and functionality. The solar panels were installed on buildings' roofs, batteries were also protected with a galvanized steel box with locks handed to each building elected resident.

Hayat a local resident said: "It is a very needed intervention for the community, people are asking for more lights than other kind of assistance". Total 4,428 residents (1,461 Lebanese; 2,790 Syrian Refugees; 177 other nationalities) in Nabaa neighborhood are benefiting from this project (See more detail here: https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UN-Habitat_2017.05.08_NPS_Nabaa_web.pdf).

The profile findings led other NGOs working in the area to implement additional solar street lights in the rest of unlit streets. ACTED installed 36 wall mounted fixtures of 20Watts lights in the main Nabaa street, and CARE international 19 wall mounted fixtures of 40Watts.





Public Space - Nabaa



- ⊗ LED LIGHTS UN HABITAT
- ⊗ LED LIGHTS CARE
- ⊗ LED LIGHTS ACTED

2019 Next Steps

An appeal for \$313 million was made within the Water and Energy sectors of the LCRP to primarily support the Ministry of Energy and Water, the Ministry of Environment and the Four Water establishments in 2019. One of the main objectives will be to ensure that all vulnerable people in Lebanon have access to safe drinking water whilst mitigating environmental degradation.

At the institutional and policy level, the Water partners will aim to fill policy and legislative gaps, empowering the water establishments and enabling the Ministry of Energy and Water to update and launch a long-delayed National Water Sector Strategy, identifying priority gaps and areas of greatest vulnerability. A key element is to build the capacity of water establishments to recover costs with a focus on reducing Non-Revenue Water through appropriate tariff systems, communication to customers and through delivering a higher standard of service that ensures better quality, quantity and improved operation and maintenance. Previous experiences have proven that the most disadvantaged population are willing to pay the fees if water and wastewater public services are improved, as using the private sector is much more expensive.

At a service delivery level, the priority should be on strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus through the implementation of approved national solutions for cost-effective servicing of informal settlements that benefit also host communities. Water Establishments can take a stronger leadership in the overall coordination of the response, overseeing and directing both the humanitarian and the development part.

The 2019 Energy sector strategy remains the same as 2018. The sector aims at achieving higher targets for Output 1.1: Increase in electricity production through implementation of renewable energy. There are 13 partners that are appealing under this activity across Lebanon, with the focus on Bekaa region. As for coordination issue, the Energy sector, under the guidance of MEHE will closely coordinate with the Education sector for the implementation of renewable energy projects mainly distribution of Solar PV systems and installation of energy efficient (LED Lighting) projects in public schools. Since the installation of solar PV in schools can generate monetary savings throughout its lifespan (c.a. 20 years), The financial savings can be re-directed to core education activities such as school enrolment.



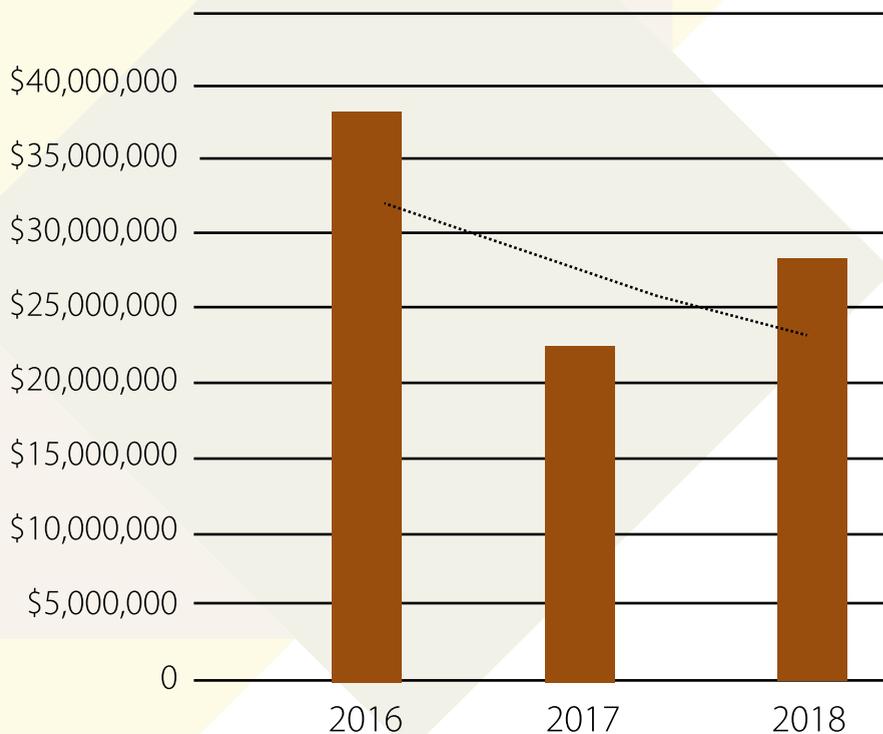
SUPPORT TO MUNICIPALITIES AND UNIONS OF MUNICIPALITIES (UOM)

Municipalities benefited from the continuous support and guidance of LCRP partners. In 2018, capital investment and capacity building support were provided to enhance the delivery of basic services in 98 municipalities through labour-intensive projects, including small-scale infrastructures, public spaces, hospitals and healthcare centers, public schools and housing. These interventions directly contributed to raising the confidence and trust placed in local institutions. Over \$26 million was invested into the work of Unions and municipalities in 2018, up from \$21 million in 2017, along with the provision and support to 19 staff.

Labor-intensive interventions focusing on small-scale infrastructure rehabilitation and environmental assets improvement were conducted at municipality level.

Better systems in place

Social Stability partners supported 227 communities in 2018, which is a significant increase from the 189 reached in 2017. Indeed, a proliferation of new conflict dialogue mechanisms and a sustained increase in youth initiatives contributed to this expansion. At the same time, the sector faced challenges in implementing



Graph 8. Financial support channeled through Municipalities and Unions under the LCRP, from 2016 to 2018

\$21m in support to Municipalities and Unions, down from \$34.9m in 2016 (-40 percent)

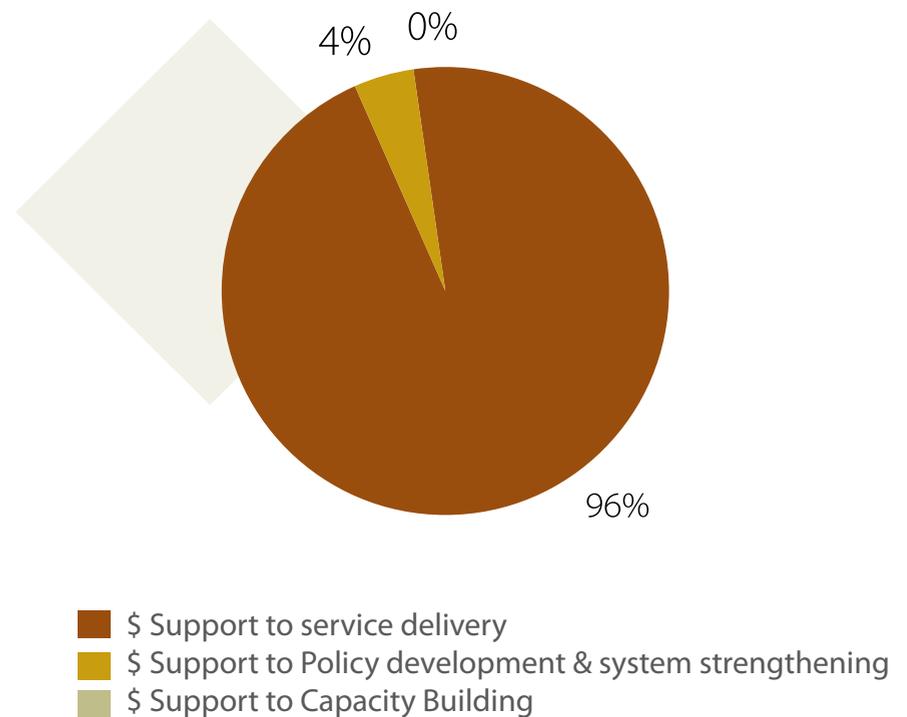
27 additional staff provided to municipalities and Unions of municipalities, down from 97 in 2016

100 Municipalities and Unions benefitting from capacity building and mentoring programmes to improve community outreach and strategic planning

83 municipalities benefited from service delivery projects

\$10m invested in 169 municipal services projects aimed at alleviating resource pressure and enhancing service delivery

210 tons of solid waste sorted and/or recycled through environmentally sound sorting facilities



Graph 9. Type of support received in 2018

community support and basic services projects to alleviate resource pressures and working with media to change negative perceptions of different groups. The delivery of projects to address pressure on resources, services and utilities is of primary concern as ‘competition for resources and services’ is the fastest growing source of tension between communities with 36 percent of communities now identifying it, compared to 23 percent in 2017. While the number of these types of projects increased in the latter half of 2018, the sector fell well short of its target of supporting 150 municipalities in 2018, with 84 municipalities receiving this support. This support is particularly lacking in the South & Nabatiye, where just 13 projects – or 10 percent of the national total – are being implemented. Overall, while confidence in municipalities increased further in 2018, the total amount invested in these institutions by sector partners was just \$9 million, lower than the \$10.5 million invested in 2017, meaning that further capacitating these institutions to deliver tangible service provision results to host communities and refugees will need to be prioritized in 2019.

Good progress was made in 2018 by partners working on solid waste management. These partners are now working in 55 municipalities, exceeding the target of 50 municipalities that were targeted. There remains further work to be done on scaling up efforts from awareness campaigns and bin distribution, to ensuring systemic changes that move towards integrated solid waste management systems.

Rehabilitation of infrastructures through labour-intensive interventions

Support to municipalities was provided through labor intensive interventions in public infrastructures. In total, \$41 million were disbursed to work in 98 cadasters benefiting 250 villages from improved infrastructures and environmental assets. These projects have dual benefits: better infrastructures and more livelihoods opportunities.

In total, \$8.7 million was invested in public infrastructure rehabilitation and environmental assets in 2018, up from \$2.3 million in 2017, with some examples:

- 144 km of canals/network were rehabilitated and/or maintained.
- 12 water catchment system were constructed.
- 22 Km2 of arable land reclaimed and slopes protected created by terracing.
- 13 sewage system established/rehabilitated.
- 15 public parks, playgrounds and other public social infrastructure were created,
- 113 buildings were constructed and/or maintained,
- 5.278 retaining wall were constructed, rehabilitated and/or maintained
- Almost 20 km of roads were cleaned, and 10 km of roads were paved.
- 17.23 km of roads sidewalks were rehabilitated.
- 70.4 hectares of green areas were planted

- 2 kilometers of canals were constructed /rehabilitated for flood prevention and/or rainwater harvesting,
- 1.3 km of canals were cleaned

Response to tensions and stability management

Conflict dialogue mechanisms continued to be a core component of social stability activity in 2018. Partners reached a total of 115 municipalities with these types of initiatives, constituting 85 percent of the targeted number of municipalities. By region, the lower number of mechanisms (21) in the Beirut and Mount Lebanon – with just 18 percent of the national total – is a concern as communities in these Governorates continually display high tensions, particularly driven by perceptions of cultural difference. Given research highlighting the importance of conflict dialogue mechanisms to reduce propensities to violence, further work to bring communities together to jointly discuss grievances needs to remain a priority of the partners.

Better trained security forces

The Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MOIM) was assisted to implement the reform of the municipal police through targeted assistance to the Internal Security Forces (ISF) Academy. Previously, there was a lack of training, SOPs and systems to structure the municipal police and articulate its work with other institutions – ISF, District and Governorates authorities. Human resources were managed on an ad hoc basis; there were no specific procedures for recruitment, advancement or discipline.

The ISF Academy was supported to reformat the municipal police curriculum, notably by introducing a training module on social skills; developing a protection module aimed at improving the capacities of municipal police agents to respond to specific security needs of children, refugees and SGBV victims; and transforming the shooting class into an optional module.

A GBV curriculum for municipal police was developed and finalized. This curriculum aims at equipping municipal police with knowledge and skills to address GBV in their communities. It includes definitions of GBV, the legal framework in Lebanon and the role of municipal police in addressing GBV.

The MoIM and ISF were also supported to strengthen their internal oversight mechanisms. The efficiency of the Anti-Torture Committee of the MoIM was improved. The ISF implemented the Accountability Pillar of its 2018-2022 Strategy; and the conditions of detention of detainees in Roumieh and Baabda prisons were improved.

Enhancing resilience Union of Municipalities of Akkar and Baalbek

The DRM Unit supported the Union of Municipalities of Northern Akkar and Union of Municipalities of Baalbek in developing their response plans, first responders and supporting equipping them with tools and equipment. In the Union of Municipalities of Akkar 82 first responders were established and trained from the municipalities on firefighting, first aid, coordination with stakeholders etc. Furthermore, the project supported the union of Akkar in equipping two trucks with firefighting tools and equipment to be used by first responders along with personal protective equipment for first responders and tools and equipment for forest observatory in Kobayat.

In the Union of Municipalities of Baalbek the DRM Unit, 88 first responders were established and trained on first aid, firefighting, evacuation and DRR awareness session. Moreover, the project supported in the development of community vulnerability assessment reports for the 7 municipalities as well as 10 public schools and also trained the school teachers and management on evacuation, firefighting and first aid. The project also supported in procuring communication tools for first responders, municipalities, union and governorate along with the procurement and installation of safety tools in municipalities and schools and basic personal protective equipment for first responders in the municipalities.



Solid Waste Value Chain Work with Municipalities

The solid waste crisis of 2015, and the armed conflict in Syria have both escalated the Solid Waste management situation in the Bekaa area, and specifically in West Bekaa and Qaraoun. The region was affected by the Syrian displaced and has witnessed an increase in municipal solid waste quantity estimated at 7tons/day in the 5 studied villages in Qaraoun region.

UNDP with funding from the Kingdom of Netherlands, has worked in close coordination with the Ministry of Environment on the improvement of the solid waste management in the following villages: Khirbet Qanafar, Lala, Qaraoun, Saghbine and Sohmor. The aim of the project was to encourage sorting at source initiatives while reducing the generated waste in those villages.

UNDP conducted several training sessions in the villages, for members of the community including municipality members, women's Clubs, students, scouts, and local NGO members. A door to door awareness raising campaign in close coordination with Mercy Corps was implemented in conjunction with the provision of bins (2,240 in total) needed for the sorting of household waste. At the municipal level, a storage facility for the collected recyclables was constructed in the village of Qaraoun to serve all the villages in this programme and related equipment were also provided including pickup trucks for waste collection.

As a result, an improvement was recorded in the waste management services of 30,000 residents along with 20 new job opportunities created.



2019 Next Steps

Partners will continue to support the roll-out of the reform of the municipal police across municipalities through an information campaign for municipalities, the production of a strategy, and targeted support in pilot municipalities. Further support will also be provided to the ISF Academy in ensuring the municipal police curriculum is in line with the service-delivery approach, notably with the production of new modules on protection, social skills and heads of municipal police. Besides, partners plan to further strengthen the internal oversight mechanisms of the ISF; and building/equipment maintenance capacities of Roumieh prison.

Through the Social Stability sector, partners have appealed for \$125.4 million to continue its support to municipalities and Unions in 2019. Partners will support the roll-out of the reform of the municipal police across municipalities through an information campaign for municipalities, the production of a strategy, and targeted support in pilot municipalities. Further support will also be provided to the ISF Academy in ensuring the municipal police curriculum is in line with the service-delivery approach, notably with the production of new modules on protection, social skills and heads of municipal police. Besides, partners plan to further strengthen the internal oversight mechanisms of the ISF; and building/equipment maintenance capacities of Roumieh prison.





SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

As the fourth largest employer in Lebanon, agriculture is a key economic sector having a direct impact on food security and livelihoods opportunities among the most vulnerable communities. LCRP partners are in line with the MoA Strategy 2015-2019 and they have continued to provide institutional support to those involved with food security and agricultural livelihoods, including but not limited to Ministry of Agriculture offices, its agricultural centres, the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI), the Green Plan, the agricultural and technical schools. Overall, \$3 million was channeled to MoA and agriculture institutions, similar to 2017, along with the provision of staffing support. Around 90 percent of this amount was in support to service delivery.

Support to government institutions were provided mainly to the Ministry of Agriculture and its seven Regional Services, agricultural technical schools and to the Green Plan central office and its eight regional offices. The main purpose is to strengthen their implementation of service and technical support to vulnerable Lebanese farmers in enhancing their capacities and productivity through the adoption of Good Agricultural Practices, including Integrated Pest management; and improvement of the agricultural educational system through the review of the BT curriculum and enhancing the teaching capacities with refresher courses on new techniques in agriculture allowing the enrolment of youth to improve their access to decent work.

In addition, the Green Plan was supported through the provision of small grants to the Lebanese beneficiaries for land reclamation and water reservoirs construction and initiating the development of a Management Information System within the Green Plan and purchasing related equipment.

Furthermore, awareness sessions on *Xylella fastidiosa* or Quick Olive Decline Syndrome were organized to MoA extension and central staff. Besides, it is estimated that around 3,500 vulnerable individuals have been employed as casual or seasonal labors in the agriculture sector equivalent to 28,830 man-days.

In the fisheries sector, the MoA was supported in conducting a pilot case study to integrate monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) systems on the Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) and evaluate the feasibility of using these technologies in small-scale vessels.

Strengthened capacities

All seven of the Ministry of Agriculture technical schools were supported, where more than 3,000 youth were enrolled in both short and long-term courses receiving trainings on agriculture and employability skills and basic literacy and numeracy. MoA staff received capacity building on various topics. 60 agricultural schools

\$3m in support to MoA (including staffing, technical and material assistance), similar to 2017

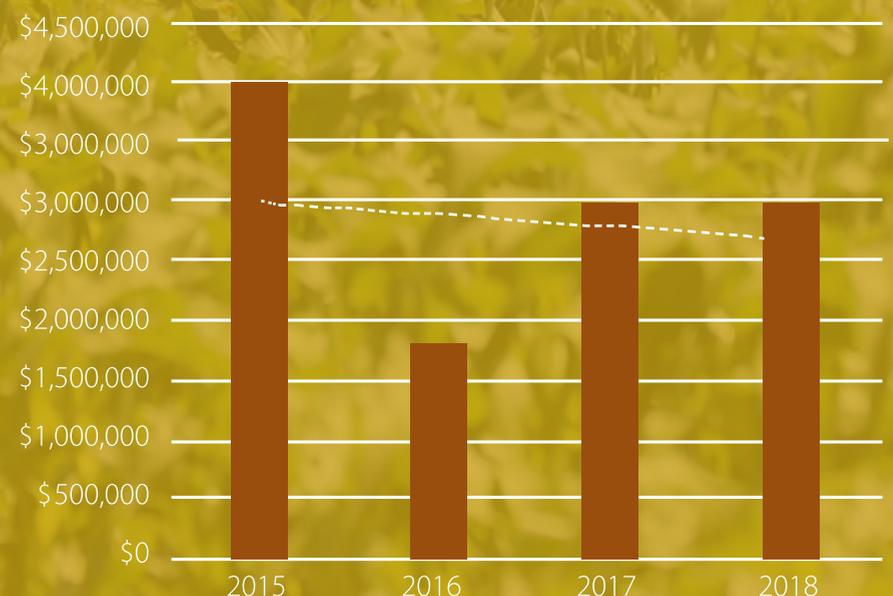
1 percent of total support channeled through public institutions in 2018 (\$240 million)

60 technical agricultural schools teachers trained on different topics including technical agricultural topics, pedagogic and decent work (50 percent women).

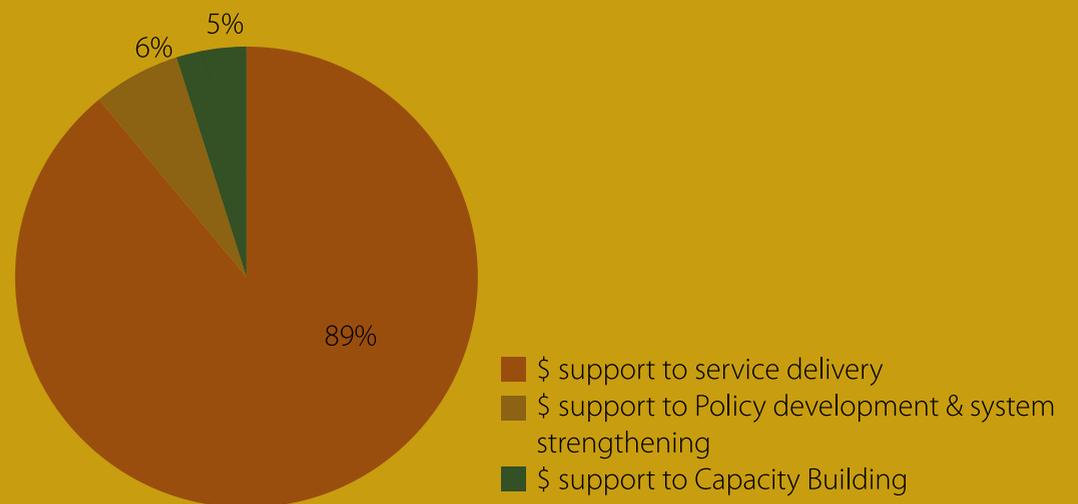
1,000 Number of beneficiaries' agricultural investments supported.

teachers (50percent women) were trained on TVET curriculum development, and on financial education curriculum. In addition, 75 MoA /LARI and Litani River Authority staff were trained on Integrated Management of Potatoes and Lettuce as well as 18 Green Plan staff were trained on irrigation network design and tendering.

As for the fisheries sector, support to the MoA for the improvement of data collection on socio-economic variables, catch and effort and biological sampling of priority species continued to be provided as in previous years in joint collaboration with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and FAO Regional Project. The aim is to better assess the status of the fisheries resources and monitor the situation of the fisheries' sector. In addition, a training course was organized to MoA staff and researchers from the National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS) on bycatch/discards sampling and species identification.



Graph 10. Financial support channeled through agricultural institutions under the LCRP, from 2015 to 2018



Graph 11. Type of support received in 2018

2019 Next Steps

Under the Food Security sector, an appeal for \$508.6 million was made for 2019 to address the basic needs of over one million vulnerable Lebanese and displaced.

The sector's priority is to continue providing life-saving, in-kind and cash-based, food assistance for the most vulnerable households so that food is available and accessible to them. In addition, the sector will develop environmentally sustainable solutions through support to human capital, agriculture livelihoods and agriculture production systems, with a special focus on women, youth, children and persons in need.

The focus on agricultural livelihoods will create a win-win situation for displaced Syrians and host communities with investments in the agriculture sector providing means to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of relevant agriculture-based value chains. It will improve livelihoods for farming communities and creating temporary employment opportunities for women and men.

Another priority of the sector remains the support to national and local food security systems, including integrated social protection schemes, safety nets, capacity building and promotion of stabilization.

The sector will also advocate for an enhanced system supporting sustainable rural poverty reduction. Partners will receive policy advice and capacity development. The sector will promote the integration of conflict sensitivity, gender mainstreaming, youth and children, including combatting child labour in agriculture, in all programmes design and interventions in addition to facilitating food access distribution to persons with specific needs and their inclusion in agricultural livelihoods activities.



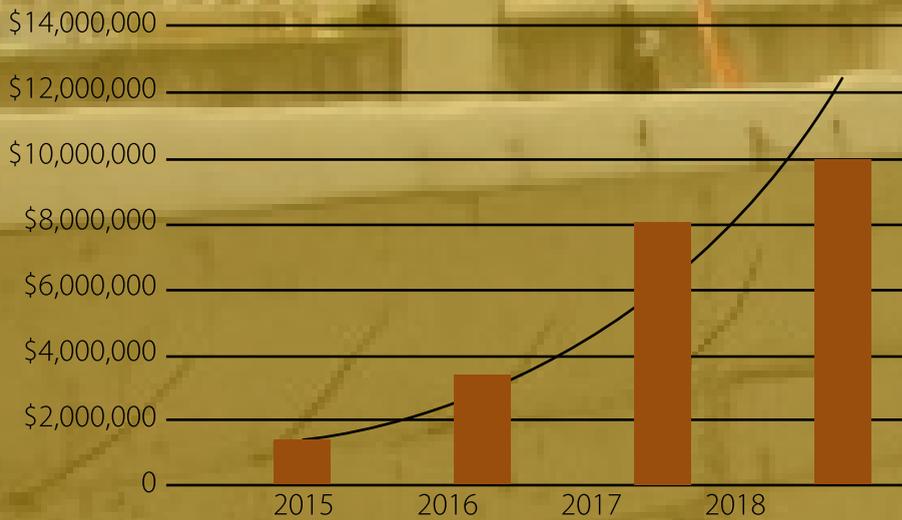
ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

In 2018, an additional financial contribution of \$10.4 million along with 92 additional staff were provided, up from \$8 million in 2017. Most of this support was channeled through MoIM (\$6.9 million) in support to policy development and systems strengthening.

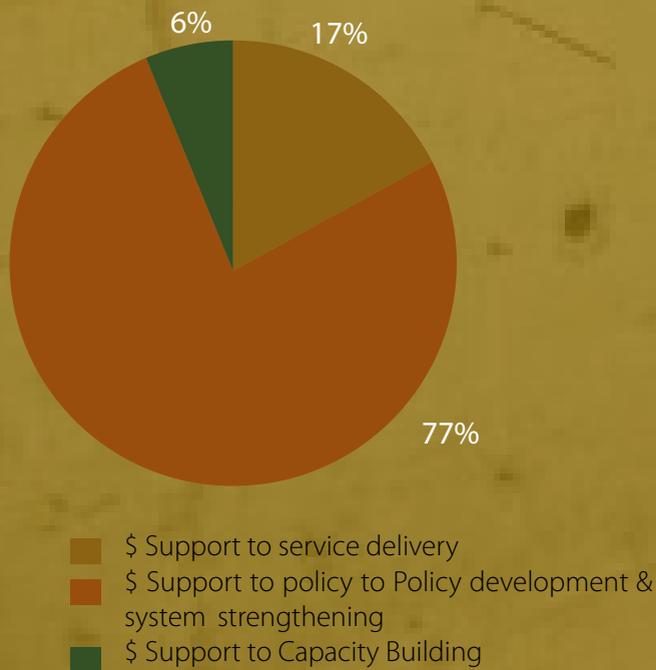
\$10.4 million support to other public institutions, up from \$8 million in 2017

4 percent of total support channeled through public institutions in 2018 (**\$240 million**)

92 additional staff provided



Graph 12. Financial support channeled through other public institutions under the LCRP, from 2015 to 2018



Graph 13. Type of support received in 2018

Strengthened disaster risk management and early warning

The DRM Unit supported the Union of Municipalities of Northern Akkar and Union of Municipalities of Baalbek in developing their response plans, first responders and supporting equipping them with tools and equipment.

In the Union of Municipalities of Akkar, 82 first responders were established and trained from the municipalities on firefighting, first aid, coordination with stakeholders etc. Furthermore, the project supported the union of Akkar in equipping two trucks with firefighting tools and equipment to be used by first responders along with personal protective equipment for first responders and tools and equipment for forest observatory in Kobayat.

In the Union of Municipalities of Baalbek, 88 first responders were established and trained on first aid, firefighting, evacuation and DRR awareness session. Moreover, the project supported in the development of community vulnerability assessment reports for the seven municipalities as well as ten public schools and also trained the school teachers and management on evacuation, firefighting and first aid. The project also supported in procuring communication tools for first responders, municipalities, union and governorate along with the procurement and installation of safety tools in municipalities and schools and basic personal protective equipment for first responders in the municipalities.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Awareness Materials: disaster risk reduction awareness materials for mass population on major hazards were developed with info graphics on what to do in preparation and response to hazards. The tools were accompanied with the development of trainer's manuals and the capacity building activities. The booklets were distributed to over 30 vulnerable communities in Baalbek, Akkar and South including schools, local authorities and local community members.

8.2 Support to Lebanese industrial sector

Technical assistance was provided to the Ministry of Industry to assess to feasibility and design the masterplan of a new sustainable industrial Zone in Al Kaa, that is expected to impact almost 19,000 jobs. This support is an extension to the assistance provided in phase



1 of the project, implemented in 2017 where feasibility studies and masterplans were undertaken for three industrial zones (in Ballabek, Tourboul and Jleiliye).

The Ministry was also assisted in securing funding for the zones' development whereby EUR 59 million were committed by the European Investment Bank and Italy for investing in the zones' infrastructures. Finally, the Ministry was assisted in the drafting of an Industrial Zones Strategy which will be finalized in 2019.

Support to the Ministry of Labour

Nine Social safeguard officers worked for the MoL to facilitate, support, coordinate and monitor social safeguard measures and community engagement activities of the Lebanon Employment and Infrastructure Programme (EIIIP) in close collaboration with the labor inspection department, regional offices of Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Social Affairs, Municipalities, Contractors. Support was also provided to the Dekwaneh Vocational Training Center through a) provision of vocational trainings in the Dekwaneh center b) procurement of equipment.

The National Employment Office was supported to conduct three sector studies along the value chain to identify employment and skills needs. The findings will be used for career guidance and development of relevant curricula and training programmes. Furthermore, capacity building initiatives were conducted on various technical issues related to management of VT, conducting market assessment and improving skills development interventions that benefitted five persons from NEO.

Support to the Ministry of Justice

In order to strengthen the quality and increase the capacity of social service provision for children who required urgent judicial protection or in conflict with the law, 30 social workers from a National NGO mandated to provide social services on behalf of the Ministry of Justice received ongoing training and coaching in core competencies in child protection, case management, clinical management of rape, etc.

Coaching sessions on core competencies in child protection were conducted throughout the year for MoJ mandated social workers. This included the provision of on the job coaching, and one on one support on sessions such as Communication skills with children and caregivers, Case Management/Child Protection Case Management National SOPs, Best Interest Determination, Managing Psychosocial Distress, and Working with Unaccompanied and Separated Children



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