



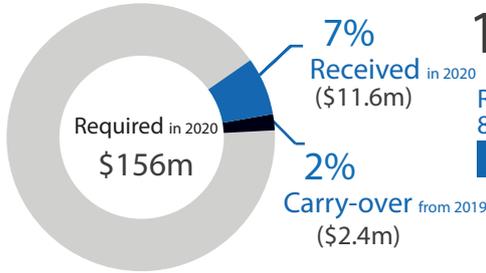
Shelter Mid-year 2020 Dashboard



Inter-Agency
Coordination
Lebanon

This dashboard summarizes activity reported by shelter partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response between January and June 2020 and highlights trends affecting people in need. Shelter partners in Lebanon aim to achieve the following: OUTCOME 1 Reduce immediate protection-related shelter needs of most vulnerable households; OUTCOME 2 Contribute to multi-sectoral upgrading of disadvantaged areas for enhanced stability; OUTCOME 3 Enhance the contribution of national institutions and organizations to the housing situation in Lebanon.

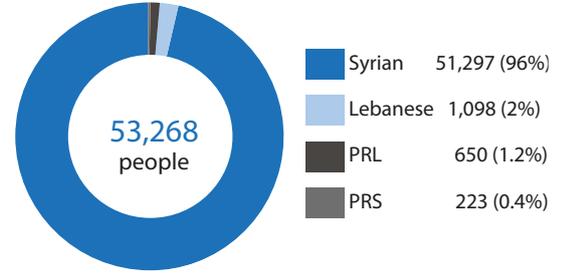
2020 Funding status Midyear 2020



Targeted population groups



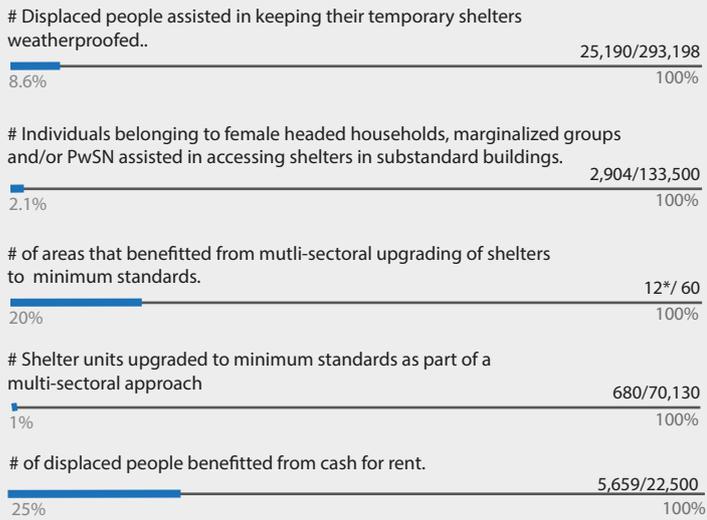
Population reached by cohort



Progress against targets

Output indicators

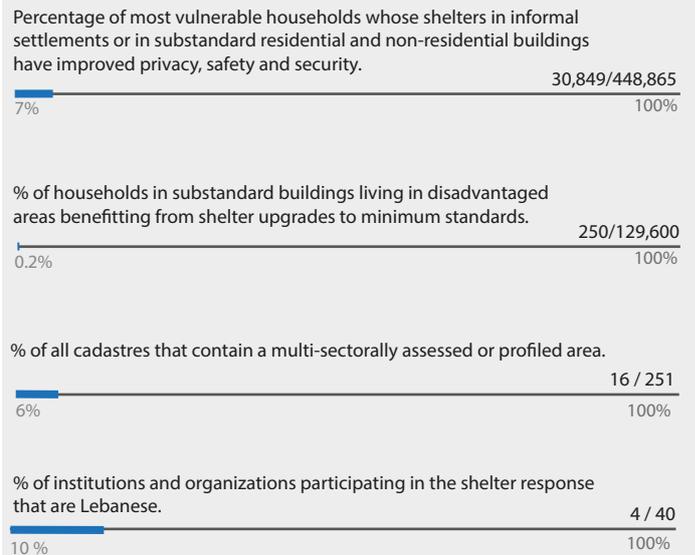
reached / target



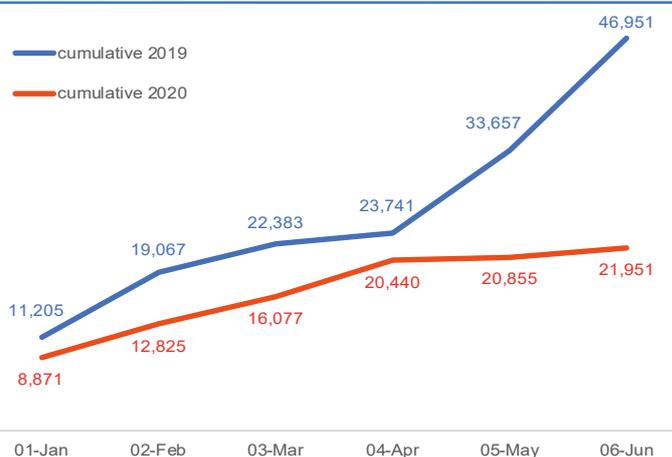
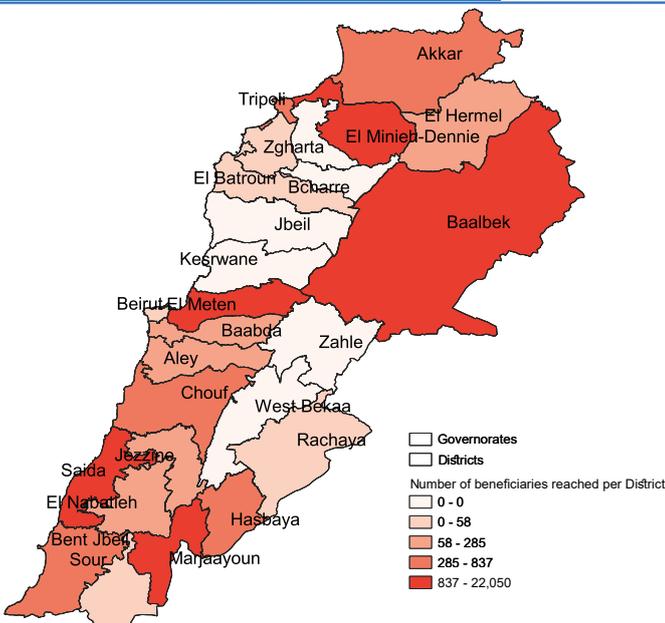
* Hayy El-Blat, Daouk-Ghawash, Hayy Tamlis, Barja El-Qadimeh, Katermaya El-Qadimeh, Maraash, Naameh, Sibline, Hayy El-Jadid, Shoaab, Taalabaya El-Fawaa , El-Marj.

Outcome

reached / target



Analysis



of individuals benefitted from weatherproofing in informal settlements including for emergency events (fire, flood and evictions)

The surge in assistance in April 2019 reflected the response to the Higher Defense Council's decision to enforce the dismantlement of shelter structures in informal (temporary) settlements made from hard materials not authorized for use in these settings



Analysis of achievements

- Some 33,753 shelter vulnerable individuals benefitted from weather-proofing, repair or otherwise maintaining their shelters within informal settlements, residential and non-residential buildings. This represents 7.5 per cent of the target of 448,865 individuals and is contributing to enhance the protection of the most vulnerable.
- 9,071 individuals received shelter kit and were able to weatherproof their shelters in informal settlements, which contributed to improving their living conditions. Some 396 individuals also benefitted from weatherproofing kits in non-residential units and 2,843 additional individuals benefitted from minor repairs of their substandard buildings. 2,904 vulnerable individuals living in substandard shelter and with protection concerns, including female-headed households, households with at least one person with specific needs or marginalized groups had their shelter rehabilitated by partners combined with tenure security enhancement measures. This represents 2.2 per cent of the target of 133,167 individuals. Some 5,659 individuals who were unable to cover their rental payments received cash-for-rent to mitigate their risk of eviction or risk of resorting to negative coping-mechanisms.
- In addition to regular weatherproofing activities in informal settlements, sector partners responded to the needs of 12,880 individuals following emergency events including fires, flooding or eviction.

This represents a decrease of 36 per cent compared to mid-2019 where 19,369 individuals were reached. This steep decrease in emergency response figures relative to the previous year is because of the inflated emergency activity for 2019, driven by the response to the Higher Defense Council's enforcement of informal settlement hard structures dismantlement in May 2019.

- Twelve multisectoral assessments were completed for disadvantaged areas. These assessments identify and map the socioeconomic and built environment conditions and needs in these areas, support referrals to relevant local actors and aim to precipitate multisectoral upgrading interventions with shelter components. Linked to these and to previous assessments, some 393 shelters (1 per cent of 43,497 targeted households) were rehabilitated as part of multisectoral programs that includes complementary WASH, Protection and other components.
- 4,868 individuals residing in informal settlements, residential and non-residential shelters received firefighting kits contributing to enhancing their preparedness and resilience. An additional 13,713 informal settlement residents, including 993 elderly persons and individuals with limited mobility, benefitted from access and mobility improvements within the settlement through site graveling and leveling works.
- By mid-year, five different local organizations had benefitted from dedicated training on responding to shelter needs in line with sector guidance. Strengthening the capacity of Lebanese entities to contribute to the shelter response through this training and knowledge generation will support the sustainability of interventions. While training initiatives and shelter partner activity generally have been curtailed in the pandemic context, the 2020 target for the Sector is to improve the shelter response capacity of 60 Lebanese institutions and organizations and produce 15 studies and field reports in order to advance knowledge and understanding of the Lebanese housing market.

FACTS AND FIGURES

68%	Of displaced Syrians live in residential buildings.
23%	Of displaced Syrians live in informal settlements.
9%	Of displaced Syrians live in on-residential buildings.
273,000 LBP	Average rent per month for displaced Syrians
18,000	Displaced Syrian households have changed accommodation between March and May 2020 due to eviction and/or difficulty in paying rent.
48,000	Displaced Syrians households are expecting to change accommodation, in the coming three months, largely due to difficulty in paying rent.

The source of the above information is from the 'Monitoring of the Effects of the Economic Deterioration on Refugee Households' Wave II conducted in May 2020.

Challenges

- The Sector continues to face chronic underfunding that has severely impacted its ability to meet the needs of the most vulnerable populations. The Sector is just 7 per cent funded as of the mid-year point, having received some \$11.5 million of the required \$155.6 million. Limited funding continues to severely hamper the capacity of the Sector to provide for households outside of informal settlements, where approximately 80 per cent of the refugee population currently live, mainly in poor urban settings alongside vulnerable Lebanese households.
- The various successive levels of COVID-19 lockdowns has disrupted shelter programs and field activities, from shelter works in urban settings to kit distributions and site improvements in informal settlements, especially during March and April. At the beginning of the outbreak, the sector developed business continuity and contingency plans to mitigate the effects of the pandemic while maximizing service delivery.



- Local currency devaluation since October 2019 has led to cost increases in several types of construction materials typically used to implement shelter assistance. This has further limited shelter partners' ability to deliver residential shelter upgrades, an intervention that heavily depends on cash transfers to landlords, contractors or beneficiary households to complete the work. Linked with rising poverty levels amongst all cohorts including Lebanese people, the downward pressure on living conditions on a protracted basis is expected to translate into rising shelter vulnerability, with rising eviction counts a clear indicator of this. It is likely that the multi-year trend of a higher proportion of displaced Syrians moving into informal settlements, the least adequate type of shelter, (17.5 per cent in 2018 and 19 per cent in 2019), will continue in 2020. This will mean a growing need to provide the most unsustainable forms of shelter assistance of short-term weatherproofing, water-trucking and repeated sanitation services to informal settlements.

Key Priorities And Gaps For The Second Semester 2020

- A key priority in the second half of the year is to ensure the preparedness of informal settlements for winter 2020-2021, which will require recovery from COVID-19 related delays to the weatherproofing program to ensure timely delivery of seasonal assistance. Partners aim to complete the annual universal assessment for all informal settlements before the end of October 2020, with distribution of shelter kits planned for November. Partners should also ensure completion of planned site improvements activities by end of November.
- Another priority is the updating of selected technical guidelines that are produced by the Sector to harmonize the shelter response on the basis of best practice. A current aim is to update the technical guideline for 'Cash for Rent', as well as the integration of the Cash for Rent approach into the anticipated 'Rehabilitation and Eviction Mitigation Response' technical guideline, which is a joint effort between the Shelter and Protection Sectors to develop a comprehensive prevention and response strategy to evictions.
- The Sector has been identifying buildings with visible signs of deteriorated structural integrity potentially at risk of collapse through multisectoral assessments of disadvantaged urban neighborhoods. However, the Sector does not have the resources to perform the necessary structural works to restore structural integrity. The Sector is currently mapping relevant government and non-government entities to identify referral pathways and will assist in developing a framework to advocate for the immediate safety of and support to households in structures provisionally identified as unsound.
- Unfortunately, the number of shelter partners in BML and the South has decreased due to a lack of funding. This has further decreased the reach and response capacity of the Shelter Sector and will limit the capacity to respond to any emergencies or challenges in the future.
- As established at the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Shelter Sector will continue to support the COVID-19 response to:
 - 1) Provide guidelines and shelter assistance that permit self-isolation in overcrowded settings;
 - 2) Set up L3 isolation facilities through the refurbishment of existing buildings; and
 - 3) Build dedicated hospital expansion facilities or rehabilitate existing unused structures to increase the capacity of hospitals to accommodate COVID-19 cases.

Securing Shelter through Cash for Rent

by PCPM

"Our journey started in 2011, after my husband was killed when he went out to bring bread and food. He left and never came back" explained Amira* with discernible sadness in her voice as she discusses the event of almost nine years ago in her home country of Syria. She never found out what exactly happened.



Amira and her family standing in the patio of their home in Halba.

Alone with her three small children, Amira was forced to make difficult decisions: "I was thinking of their safety and future. After a month of hesitation, I decided to leave my home and go to Lebanon." This was only the beginning of a difficult journey that continued once in Lebanon, taking them from one village to another, from an apartment to a garage, until they finally found a safe shelter in the North Lebanon town of Halba in Akkar.

With the security and safety of a home, this is where Amira's children were finally able to resume their education, which had previously been interrupted by the war in Syria.

Amira considers education as one of the top priorities for her children's future. But her oldest son declared when he was 10 years old that he would leave school and start working to support his mother and siblings. "He was only 10 when he decided to be a man, and this is the hardest thing a mother can ever hear", Amira added with a shaky voice. She had no means to stop him, since she had to take care of the younger children and was unable to find work with her own health problems. "It was not easy to get the needed medication and take care of the children alone, while being a refugee."

Today, Amira's son is 17 years old and is ready to take on any job to meet the needs of the family. However, with the deteriorating economic situation in Lebanon, thousands of people are losing their jobs and shops and businesses are closing, while the prices of products are rising above the purchasing power of an increasing number of Lebanese and Syrian families.

Like many other families, Amira and her children are struggling even more than before: "The landlord wanted us to leave since we could not afford the rent due to the bad situation. I was losing hope." Eviction would have meant that whatever Amira had fought to maintain in recent years would be disrupted and her children would need to change schools.

Amira's story was brought to the attention of Polish Centre for International Aid (PCPM) by another humanitarian organization who referred them for assistance. PCPM's team visited Amira to make sure the family is living in decent conditions and they were provided with Cash for Rent, which ensured their rent was covered for a period of 6 months.

When the burden of securing a safe shelter was taken off her shoulders, Amira was able to provide for her family's basic needs and take care of her health condition: "I felt happy and secured. I was then able to afford my medication and take it regularly as it was recommended by the doctor."

However, the dream remains: "I miss my home a lot, where I left my mother, my brother and my sister. I hope to return one day, and I hope that things go back to normal."

*name changed for protection purposes.

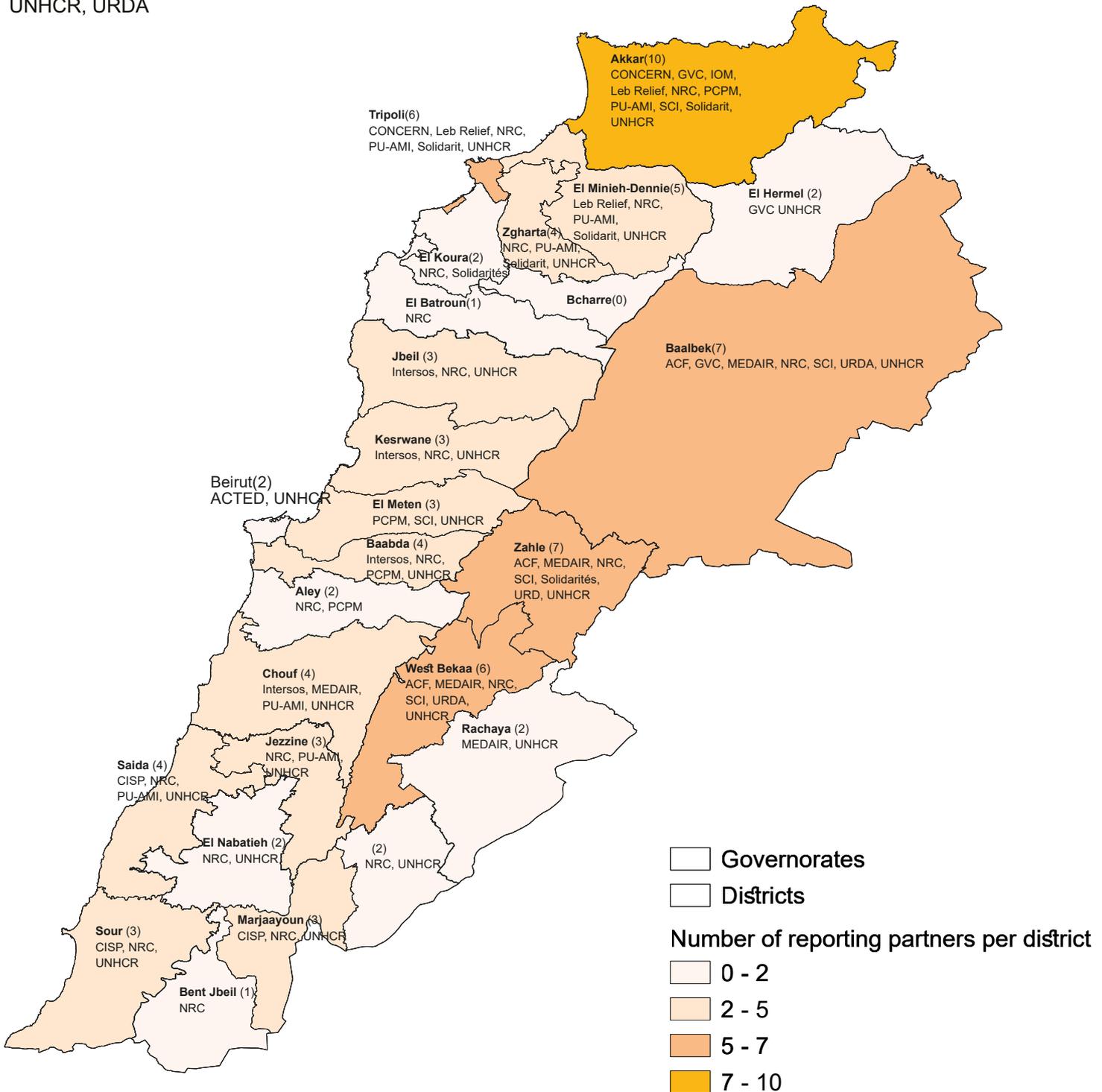


Organizations per district

16 partners reported shelter activities through ActivityInfo by Mid-year 2020

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following partners based on reporting on ActivityInfo:

ACF, ACTED, CISP, CONCERN, GVC, Intersos, IOM, Leb Relief, MEDAIR, NRC, PCPM, PU-AMI, SCI, Solidarités, UNHCR, URDA



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