



2021 2nd QUARTER SECTOR DASHBOARD

Basic Assistance

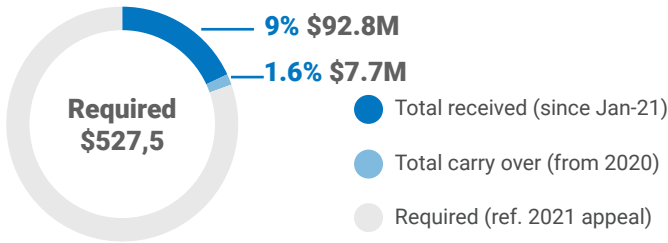


Inter-Agency
Coordination
Lebanon

The 2nd quarters dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Basic Assistance Sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Strengthen the ability of vulnerable households, including female-headed, to meet their basic survival needs; OUTCOME 2) Strengthen the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic survival needs; OUTCOME 3): Support the National Poverty Targeting Programme.

2021 Sector Funding Status

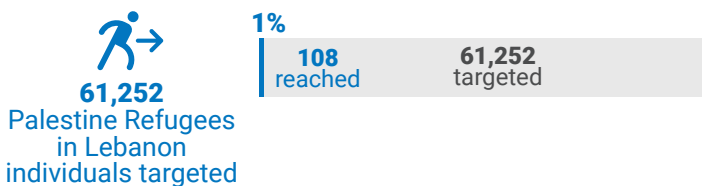
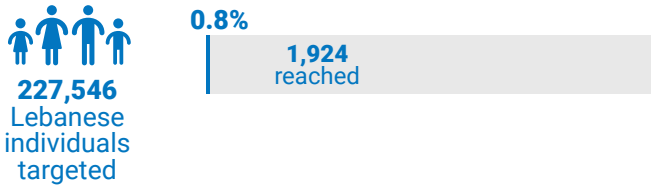
As of 30 June



2021 population reached

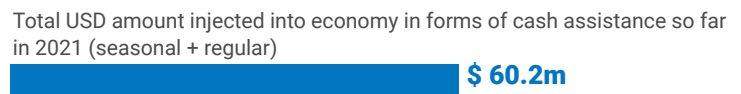
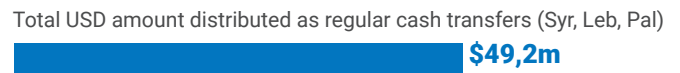
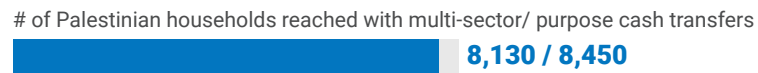
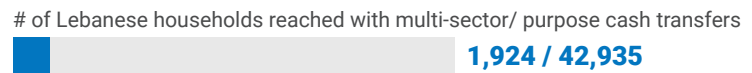
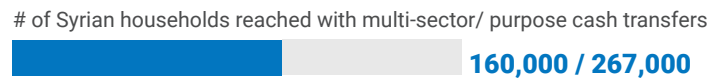
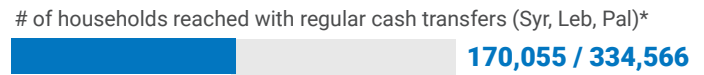


2021 population figures by cohort



Progress against targets

Key Achievements



* Includes UNICEF child focused cash transfer

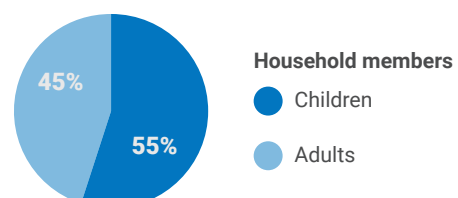
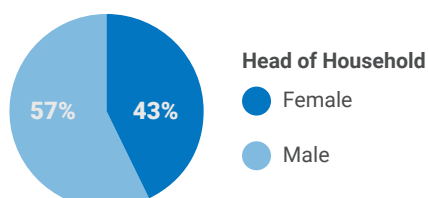
Outcomes

	LCRP 2017/2020 Baseline				Q2 2021 Current				2021 Target			
	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL
OUTCOME 1: % population that is severely vulnerable	53%	10%	89%	-	89%	22%	89%	-	88%	10%	98%	65%
% of assisted severely economically vulnerable households report being able to meet their basic survival needs	90%	-	89%	-	33% ¹	-	-	-	90%	-	90%	-
OUTCOME 2: % of assisted households affected by seasonal shocks who are able to meet their additional basic survival needs	90%	-	-	-	25% ²	15%	-	-	100%	100%	100%	100%

¹ UNHCR Post Distribution Monitoring, May 2021

² UNHCR Winter Cash Assistance Post Distribution Monitoring

Age/Gender Breakdown of MPCA (SYR) Beneficiaries





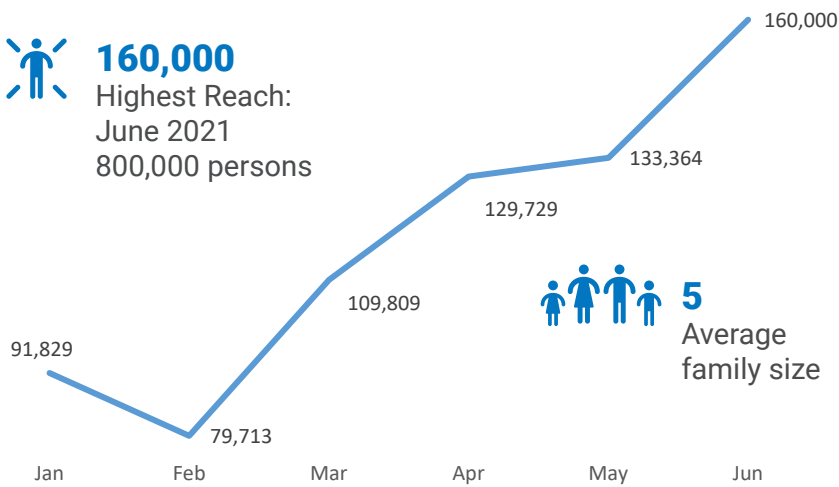
Analysis

Syrian Households Receiving Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) in 2021

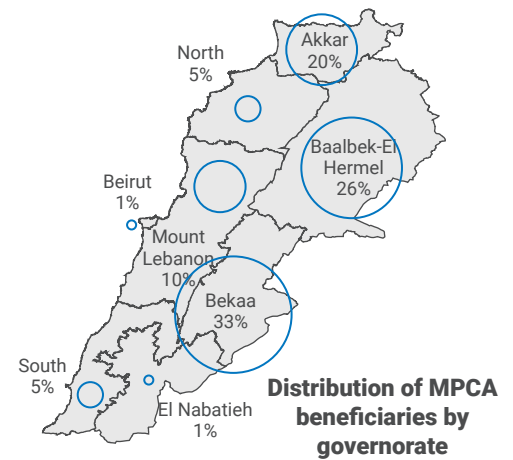


160,000

Highest Reach:
June 2021
800,000 persons



5
Average
family size



Distribution of MPCA beneficiaries by governorate

1. Key achievements of the sector at the output level

Throughout the second quarter of 2021, 170,055 households had a strengthened ability to meet their basic needs through the receipt of monthly multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA). This constitutes 50% of the targeted severely economically vulnerable households. Per population group, 160,000 Syrian (60% of those targeted), 1,924 vulnerable Lebanese (3% of those targeted) and 8,130¹ Palestine refugees from Syria (PRS) (97% of those targeted) households received MPCA. As of June 2021, coverage of extremely vulnerable Syrian households receiving MPCA increased by 26 percentage points, as compared to the start of the year (34% to 60%). A total of ten partners were disbursing MPCA throughout the first half of 2021². Additionally, over 8,000 children received monthly cash grants through the Integrated Child Wellbeing Program (ICWP)³ linked to service provision, covering vulnerable Lebanese, Syrian, PRS and Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (PRL) compared to the targeted of 7,000 children. In June, UNICEF launched a nationwide child grant initiative, known as "Haddi" to reach around 70,000 children in total, of which over half are Syrian refugees, a third of households are Lebanese (under the ERP) and the remainder Palestinians.

Data from LOUISE⁴ agencies shows that redemption rates for cash programs remains high (around 98-99%), indicating that beneficiaries continue to be able to access cash assistance through ATMs.

The value of MPCA, including the ICWP, in the second quarter of 2021 totaled US\$20,960,521, across all LCRP population cohorts. From January to June 2021, cash assistance under the BA sector amounted to US\$49,238,379⁵.

Additionally, households who faced emergency shocks were able to cover their additional needs with in-kind assistance, including mattresses, blankets, winter clothing, heaters, jerry cans and other essential non-food items. In-kind assistance is provided to families on a need's basis, usually following an emergency shock which could include evictions, fires, movement, or others. A total of 3,137 households received blankets, 338 received heaters, 11,692 received clothing kits and 1,319 received mattresses.

2. Key challenges of the sector

- Basic Assistance remains largely underfunded with only 24% of the total appeal available in 2021. This has particularly affected support to vulnerable Lebanese with 97% of targeted Lebanese not receiving regular assistance for basic non-food needs

- The challenge of securing a meaningful assistance package through an adequate transfer value remains. As of June 2021, the MPCA transfer value was only covering 47% of estimated needs⁶. Recent monitoring findings show that most assisted families (67%) are only able to meet half or less than half of their basic needs⁷. The main barrier to increasing the transfer value beyond 400,000LBP include concerns around rising social tensions as

most assistance is directed to refugees. Partners continue to advocate for increased transfer values for MPCA to meet beneficiaries' needs.

- Cash actors under the Sector continue to face challenges in securing exchange rates with Financial Service Providers (FSPs) reflective of the market rate, leading to a continued loss in the dollar value of received funds. By June 2021, some partners were able to secure rates at around 12,000LBP/USD, while others were still operating at much lower rates of 6,240LBP/USD or 3,900LBP/USD. The unofficial market rate averaged at 15,200LBP/USD⁸. With the currency continuing to depreciate, the prices of basic goods and

¹ Figure based on coverage in April and May 2021, as June figures remain pending finalization of payments

² Partners included UNHCR, WFP, ACF, SCI, Oxfam, LRC, ICRC, DRC, UNRWA

³ Provided by UNICEF

⁴ The Lebanon One Unified Inter-Organisational System for E-card (LOUISE) is an innovative Operational Model set up with the intention of streamlining the operational coordination of sectoral and multi-sectoral Cash and Voucher Assistance in Lebanon.

⁵ Assistance is disbursed in beneficiaries in Lebanese Pounds. The dollar value of assistance is calculated using agency specific exchange rates, which varied from 3,900 LBP/USD to 6,240 LBP/USD throughout Q1.

⁶ Based on the Non-Food Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket, accounting for income.

⁷ UNHCR Post distribution monitoring, May 2021

⁸ Lirate.org



services are on the rise and families are increasingly struggling to meet their needs.

- Due to the challenges in securing adequate exchange rates with FSPs, some partners have begun shifting disbursement of assistance to USD. The sector remains concerned to ensure that a harmonized approach is supported and a shift to dollar disbursements is managed in a coordinated and conflict sensitive way, with

operational actors collaborating on risk mitigation.

- Due to the on-going fuel crisis, several partners have been forced to reduce activities to the minimum needed, leading to logistical and operational challenges. To mitigate this issue, the LCRP has developed a business continuity plan with partners in order to find solutions moving forward.

3. Key priorities for the following quarter

Priorities for the BA Sector in Q3 include:

- Continued coverage of regular assistance through MPCA will remain the Sector's main priority, with a focus on closing the assistance gap to Lebanese through the provision of cash directly to poor and vulnerable households. Regional gap analysis for MPCA to displaced Syrians will allow the Sector to prioritize assistance to areas where coverage remains lower in comparison to other regions.

- At the same time, in light of the ongoing crisis, the Sector will continue discussions around an improved transfer value for MPCA and adequate exchange rates. Close coordination of the potential dollarization of cash assistance will also be carried out across response plans, building on previous risk analyses and draft mitigation strategies, both for Lebanese and Syrians, including the development of guidance at the Sector and Inter-sector level (focusing on coordination with the Food Security and Livelihoods Sectors).

- In terms of protection mainstreaming, the Sector will continue to monitor and follow up on prioritized risks under the Protection risk assessment. Through the identification of two Sector focal

points for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), and in collaboration with the PSEA network, mainstreaming PSEA continues to be a priority, in alignment with identified inter-sector priorities. Focal points will aid in providing support to the sector through information sharing and capacity building opportunities where needed.

- The Sector will review the M&E tools available at the Sector level to ensure relevance. This includes post distribution monitoring tools, which focus on process level monitoring as well as outcome monitoring tools which aim to measure outcomes of interventions.

- Finally, with the results of the Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) 2021 expected to be ready in the coming month, the Sector will look to results to understand changes in the vulnerability levels of the targeted population. UNHCR and WFP will be kicking off the 2021 targeting cycle through the re-calibration of the targeting model. This will include consultations and discussions with the BA Core Group and Working Group.