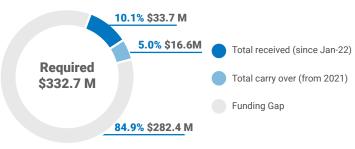


The 2nd quarter dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Livelihoods Sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Stimulate local economic growth and market systems to foster income-generating opportunities and decent and safe employment; OUTCOME 2) Improve workforce employabilty; OUTCOME 3): Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation.

2022 Sector funding status As of 30 June



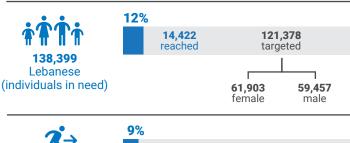
1 2022 Population reached





90% 5,021 5,600 MSMEs reached targeted

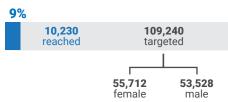
2022 Population figures by cohort

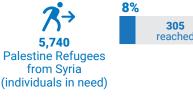


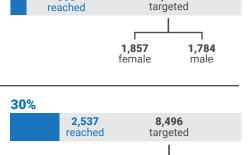


12,943Palestine Refugees in Lebanon

(individuals in need)







4,333

female

4.163

male

3,641

0

Progress against targets

Key achievements

of MSMEs/Cooperatives supported through cash & in-kind grants

5,021 / 4,500

of new Lebanese MSMEs established

0/1,100

of individuals employed through public infrasturcture, environmental and productive assets

11,692/40,000

USD value invested in infrastructure rehabilitation, environmental and productive assets

0.55m / 168.75m

of individuals benefitting from market-based skills training

5,815/15,000

of individuals benefitting from internships, on-the-job training or apprenticeship programmes

2,229 / 9,000

of individuals supported to access employment through career guidance, coaching, or individual folllow-up services

4,366 / 15,000

of targeted job seekers supported to start their own business

99 / 2,000

of decent work regulations amended and/or proposed approved by the government

0/3

of awareness-raising/advocacy material on labour regulations and decent work developed

27 / 4

Outcomes	LCRP 2016 Baseline	Jan - Jun 2022 Reached		202 Targe	et	
OUTCOME 1: Total number of jobs created/maintained	494	540	SYR LEB PRS PRL 16,000			
OUTCOME 2: # of job seekers place into jobs # of targeted vulneral persons engaged in h based income general	ole ome- N/A	239 84	900	1000	30	70 70
OUTCOME 3: Ranking of doing Rank 126 business**		N/A	N/A			

^{*}Out of 30,598 individuals reached, 3,104 individuals were not disaggregated by cohort. This relates to Outcome indicator 2 and Output indicator 2 (individuals supported to start their own businesses and individuals accessing jobs after completion of employability programmes).

[★] Target overachieved. Target value to be revised for the 2023 strategy.

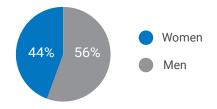
^{**}Source: World Bank



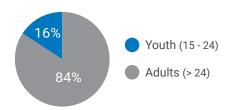


Breakdown by age and gender

30,598 Number of individuals reached by Sector partners by gender (Jan - Jun 2022)

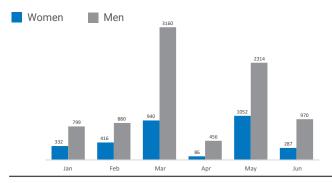


3,959 Entrepreneurs benefitted from business management training by age (Jan Jun 2022)



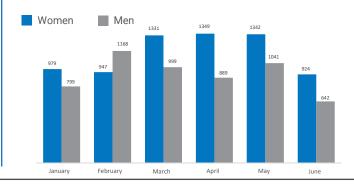
11,692

Individuals employed through public infrastructure, environmental assets and productive assets by gender per month (2022)



12,410

Number of beneficiaries receiving technical and soft skills training (market-based skills trainings, career guidance, awareness sessions and work-based learning opportunities)



Multi-Sectoral Situation Update

In the second quarter of 2022, families across Lebanon continued to face depleting purchasing power, affecting vulnerable peoples' ability to meet their basic needs. 94 per cent of refugees surveyed through May protection monitoring reported that they had difficulties buying food due to lack of money, while 81 per cent reported an inability or increased difficulty in paying rent. By May 2022, the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) had increased by more than 150 per cent since the same time in 2021. Based on WFP price monitoring, in mid-June 2022, the food SMEB sat at 770,000LBP per person (an increase of 50,000LBP compared to the previous week), while the non-food basket reached 1,400,000LBP per family of five. The price of combustible fuel continued to increase, while a rapid increase was noted in gasoline, despite the fact that in Q2-2022, gasoline remained the only commodity for which the Central Bank provides USD through Sayrafa for its import. Food availability continued to be affected, including an 18 per cent decrease in unloaded food imports through the Port of Beirut when comparing the first five months of 2022 with 2021, and a 33 per cent decrease compared to 2020. WFP-contracted shops however saw some stability in stock availability, with 79 per cent of shops reporting at least two weeks of stock coverage by May 2022. During Q2, the exchange rate averaged 27,988 LBP to the USD, peaking at 38,000 LBP in May. According to a Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) 2022 survey, Lebanon reported an all-time high unemployment rate of

29.6 percent. A World Economic Forum report published in 2022 shows that women's economic participation stands at almost 20 percent, placing Lebanon a concerning 132nd in the world ranking.

Lebanese parliamentary elections were held on 15 May 2022, in the midst of ongoing economic turmoil in Lebanon. Voter turnout stood at 49 per cent, on a par with the 2018 parliamentary election. The ARK/UNDP perceptions survey revealed that 58 per cent of Lebanese were concerned in advance about the threat of electoral violence, however the overall process took place in a generally calm and organized climate with no major security incidents reported. In terms of inter-communal tensions, however, monitoring data from May shows that negative perceptions remain extremely high, with 49 per cent of Lebanese and Syrian respondents report that they perceive inter-communal relations as negative, an increase from 24 per cent in January 2021. Negative sentiments expressed online regarding the presence of Syrian refugees in Lebanon spiked in Q2-2022 including in response to political statements made around the Brussels VI Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region, held in May 2022. Despite fears that funding and international attention may be diverted from the Syria crisis response given escalating needs associated with the crisis in Ukraine, the Conference delivered financial pledges at an equivalent level to 2021 for the response in Syria and across the region.



1. Analysis and acheivements of the sector at the output level

Output 1.1: By the end of Q2, the sector partners have successfully supported 5,021 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and cooperatives (exceeding the target of 4,500) with business trainings and financial and non-financial services (87% nano enterprises, 3% micro enterprises, 7% SME, 2.8% social enterprises and 0.2% cooperatives). The partners focused their support towards MSMEs and cooperatives because such services are important to ensure that MSMEs and cooperatives are enabled through the needed resources to preserve and grow their businesses and ultimately the job opportunities they offer. The reported USD value of grants was \$1,052,548, while the loans disbursed to businesses reached \$5,591,554. Furthermore, 3,959 individuals (target 6,000; 16% youth and 84% adults; 35% males, 65% females) received business management trainings. These trainings included, in addition to management skills and financial management, topics such as decision making, communication skills, and business ideation.

Output 1.2: The number of value chains interventions implemented by the sector partners by end of Q2 reached 57 (target 90). These interventions were across different governorates and mostly targeted the agricultural sector, specifically fruits and vegetables. This is in line with the sector's recommendations to support the agriculture sector in order to increase the ability of local production to meet the local needs. Unfortunately, the number of jobs created and/or maintained in value chains remained the same as in Q1. The sector believes that this is the result of underreporting and will ensure adequate follow-up with the partners in Q3.

Output 1.3: The number of individuals employed through labour intensive programs reached 11,692 (corresponding to 52,614 indirect beneficiaries; 45% Lebanese, 52% displaced Syrians, 2% Palestine refugees in Lebanon and 1% Palestinian refugees from Syria) by the end of Q2 (target 40,000). Of these, 43% were engaged in public infrastructure projects, 55% in environmental assets improvement and 3% in productive assets improvement. It is worth mentioning that targeting public and environmental assets improvement indirectly served the purpose of supporting local authorities in delivering some of the services they are not able to provide in the current situation, such as solid waste collection, cleaning of rainwater canals and rehabilitation of irrigation channels. Although the overall percentage of women participating in these activities is 27% compared to 73% for men, the percentage of women involved in environmental assets improvement remained higher than the average employment rate at 37%.

Output 2.1: Through market-based skills training activities (vocational and soft skills), partners were able to increase the employability of 5,815 individuals (target 15,000; 46% males and 54% females). The beneficiaries were from the different nationalities: 58% Lebanese, 32% displaced Syrians, 8% Palestine refugees in Lebanon and 2% Palestinian refugees from Syria and other nationalities. In addition to the continuing emphasis on the need to adopt gender transformative approaches in vocational trainings, the sector also initiated discussions on inclusion of elderly in the activities, given their increasing vulnerabilities.

Output 2.2: In Q2, the total number of individuals who participated in work-based learning activities (internships, on-the-job training, or apprenticeships) reached 2,229 (target 9,000; 65% females and 35% males). Most of the beneficiaries were Lebanese (66%) followed by displaced Syrians (27%) and finally Palestine refugees

in Lebanon (7%). Additionally, 4,366 individuals (target 15,000; 47% Lebanese, 26% displaced Syrians, 22% Palestine refugees in Lebanon and 5% Palestinian refugees from Syria) benefited from support with access to employment through career guidance, coaching and individual follow up. Like the work-based learning activities, females had the highest share in this activity with 57% compared to 43% males. Finally, in terms of job seekers supported to start their own businesses, a total of 99 individuals (target 2,000) were reached (58% females and 42% males).

Output 3.1: The number of advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns on labour regulation was 4 by the end of Q2 with no changes from the previous quarter. The same applies for the development of related materials which remained at 23. This is mainly justified by the nature of the activities that require a longer term to be completed and achieved.

Output 3.2: The reported number of agreements signed to strengthen institutions and the number of workshops delivered to these institutions were 3 and 5 respectively by the end of Q2 with no changes from Q1. This can be attributed to the nature of the activities that require longer time intervals to be finalized, as well as the effect of the public sector strike which is leading to delays or even suspension of activities within these entities.

Referral trends:

The Livelihoods sector continued to promote its activities and cross-sectoral referrals through presenting the available services in the different sectors' working groups. By the end of Q2, 1,468 referrals were made to the Livelihoods sector with the Bekaa being the area with the highest share (28%) followed by the North (24%), then Akkar (18%), Mount Lebanon (13%), Beirut (7%), South (6%) and Baalbek-Hermel (4%). Of these referrals, 20% (300) were accepted, 33% (479) were acknowledged by the receiving partners and 37% (544) referrals were not provided with feedback. Of the 145 not accepted referrals, 94% were reported to not meeting the eligibility criteria for the service, or the organization having reached its maximum capacity. The Sector will continue to work with concerned colleagues to ensure that the referrals are strengthened, especially to reach the most vulnerable groups. The survey on the understanding and utilization of referral tools which was planned in Q2 was postponed to Q3, in order to be aligned with the Inter-sector training sessions on the topic.

Mainstreaming activities

In Q2, the sector continued the work on the Guidance note "Gender Mainstreaming in Livelihoods Activities", which will be published in Q3. Though the exercise was planned to end in Q2, the sector opted to run the document through another round of revisions to cover additional aspects such as protection and disability inclusion. This will provide the sector partners with the practical recommendations to ensure and increase women participation in Livelihoods activities. In addition to this, the sector Core Group dedicated work on several other guidelines, including: 1) the Parameters on outreach, identification, and selection of beneficiaries, 2) the Guidelines on Work-Based Learning, and 3) the National recommendations on provision of financial incentives for skills training. The main objective of these is to harmonize, to the extent possible, the approaches among the sector partners and by that eliminating or reducing possible conflicts that might arise between different groups, such as beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.

With the Protection mainstreaming colleagues, efforts were joined to ensure that the "Parameters on outreach, identification and selection of beneficiaries" are inclusive not only of people with disabilities (PwD), but also of elderly. Furthermore, the Livelihoods sector along with the protection mainstreaming focal point and through the analysis of available information on the level of inclusion of PwDs and older people have identified some action points for the sectoral mid-year review. These include adding new indicators to cover the current information gaps.

Finally, with the Child Protection sub-sector, work will commence to support the Livelihoods sector partners to ensure that their vulnerability assessments can help them in identifying and prioritizing beneficiaries who are caregivers of children engaged in worst forms of child labour.

In terms of gender mainstreaming, Livelihoods sector partners (28 women and2 men) participated in the Gender in Humanitarian Action training organised by the LCRP Inter-agency and Gender Working Group. The training focused on how to integrate gender in livelihoods interventions, including how to conduct a gender analysis, scenario-based gender planning, implementation and M&E. On a separate note, the sector received candidates' profiles for the Gender and SGBV sector focal points from partners and will finalize the selection in Q3. The focal points will assist the sector coordinator to roll out the sector's gender mainstreaming plans with a focus on improving gender analysis, providing technical support to ensure that the sector response does not further perpetuate gender inequalities, achieve gender-focused results, and is gender transformative.

2. Key challenges of the sector

Electricity shortages and the increasing fuel prices continued to be a challenge for partners who are supporting MSMEs and cooperatives, as this became a priority to ensure that beneficiaries can sustain their production and businesses. The access to raw materials used in MSMEs' and cooperatives' activities is another challenge as the prices continue to fluctuate with the changing exchange rate, and if the raw materials are found in the first place. Lastly, partners reported challenges in cash transfers to suppliers and beneficiaries of cash grants through banks (accounts or cheques) or direct cash payment from the organization to the supplier or the beneficiary. For this, most partners are using financial services providers.

In terms of market-based skills training and work-based learning, increasing transportation costs are a main challenge and leads to gaps in ensuring continued attendance of beneficiaries who are not able to cover the costs. Even in the cases where transportation fees are covered by the partners, the rapid increase in the cost is not met by an equivalent increase in the contribution of the partners who are usually limited by budgets and reallocation of

funds. Donor flexibility in terms of budget re-allocation continues to be pivotal to allow a rapid response by the partners to the rapid changes. As in the cash support for MSMEs and cooperatives, cash transfers are challenging for the beneficiaries of employability activities, more specifically in the availability of the money bills at the branches of the financial services providers. For this, partners are coordinating beforehand with these companies to ensure financial liquidity prior to the payment schedule.

Lastly, the increasing needs of both Lebanese and displaced Syrians is increasing the pressure on partners to meet those needs. This not only requires that partners increase their operations, but also to ensure that assistance they are providing, especially those related to labour intensive programs, have a meaningful value that allows these beneficiaries to meet their basic needs. This relates mostly to the harmonization of the transfer values and currency as partners are still using different approaches that are mostly driven by donor requirements and preferences.

3. Key priorities for the following quarter

Noting the increasing vulnerabilities and needs, in Q3 the Sector will work on strengthening referrals through dedicated sessions to reintroduce the available referral tools in addition to bilateral follow up with the sector partners who, as per the reporting, have not been providing feedback to referring partners. The sector will also continue to work with the Protection sector and the Child Protection sub-sector to ensure that Livelihoods sector partners are able to identify and prioritize cases for their activities.

On a more holistic level, and with guidance from the Inter-Sector team, a mid-year review will be conducted to identify any challenges that are not being addressed in the strategy and any new approaches that would need to be added. Furthermore, it will focus on practical and applicable changes such as adding new indicators to reflect on activities, especially those related to people with

disabilities, older people and caregivers of children engaged in worst forms of labour.

Furthermore, and based on initial discussions within the sector Core Group, prioritizing support to MSMEs will be elaborated in a way that allows all sector partners to identify best practices and approaches, to make sure that services provided to businesses are yielding in new job opportunities and retainment of existing ones.

Finally, the discussion with the concerned ministries (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Economy and Trade) which was initiated during Q2 will continue with the aim to identify key collaboration points, especially sharing of information, related to these ministries' plans and strategies that could affect the sector.



4. Case study

Funded by the government of Netherlands and implemented by International Labour Organisation (ILO) in partnership with The LEE Experience, the PROSPECTS program promotes entrepreneurship and supports start-ups in the agriculture and agri-food industries. The project provided business training to 691 beneficiaries (56% females and 44% males) of which 300 were supported with feasibility studies, followed by selection and financial support to 58 start-ups and 8 social and solidarity projects. Other services included one to one coaching and business clinic, support in marketing and advertising, packaging, and branding, seed fund, and access to F-commerce.

Roudayn Hallak, a 21-year-old entrepreneur from AlBireh, North Lebanon, was one of the participants in the trainings.

Coming from a conservative community that limits women's role to staying at home caring for children and disapproves female employment and decision-making autonomy, Roudayn knew that she will face her community's objection to being a working woman,

let alone becoming a business owner. She joined the project where she was able to expand her knowledge, increase her self-confidence and acquire the skills needed to access the market. Most importantly, the project helped her to become the first business-woman in her village.

Her business idea consisted of using windmills for pumping water from the wells in her private land to other wells and water tanks, consuming wind energy that replaces fuel usage. A perfectly green project, with a reduced cost throughout the full value chain, starting with the producer, passing to the middle supplier, and ending with the final consumer. The project does not only provide drinking water but also irrigation water that is much needed in the agricultural area of AlBireh. Roudayn now has a base of 15 customers who are now able to save 50,000 LBP for each tank (decreased from 150,000 to 100,000) and she is selling up to 60 tanks per month (4,000 litres/tank).



FIRST WOMAN WHO LAUNCHED A BUSINESS PROJECT IN BIREH VILLAGE

77

I INVITE EVERY WOMAN TO THINK OF HER OWN PROJECT BECAUSE SHE HAS THE CAPACUTY TO ACHIEVE

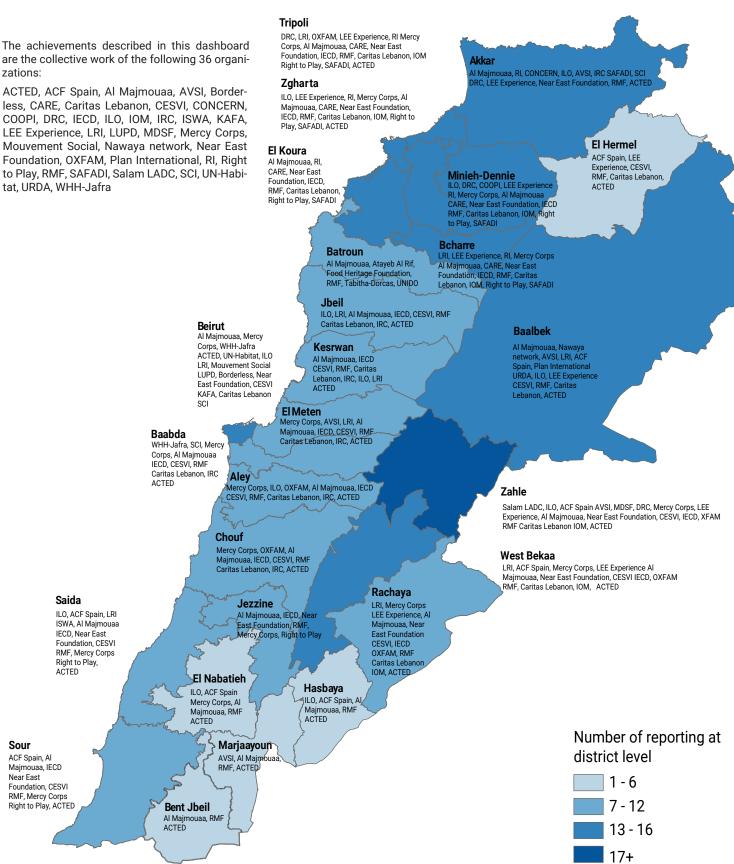




Partners by district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 36 organi-

less, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, CONCERN, COOPI, DRC, IECD, ILO, IOM, IRC, ISWA, KAFA, LEE Experience, LRI, LUPD, MDSF, Mercy Corps, Mouvement Social, Nawaya network, Near East Foundation, OXFAM, Plan International, RI, Right to Play, RMF, SAFADI, Salam LADC, SCI, UN-Habi-



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