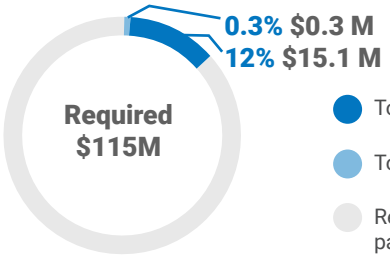
2023 2nd Quarter SECTOR DASHBOARD
Shelter

Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon

This dashboard summarizes activity reported by shelter partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) between January and June 2023 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: Improve access to adequate shelter as part of a multi-sectoral approach in disadvantaged areas for enhanced stability; OUTCOME 3: Enhance the contribution of national institutions and organizations to the housing situation in Lebanon.

2023 Sector Funding Status
As of 30 Jun



2023 population reached

1,993,390
People in need

5%

33,078 reached | **681,311** targeted

348,664 female | **332,647** male

2023 population figures by cohort

911,990
Lebanese individuals in need

7%

5,508 reached | **81,651** targeted

42,458 female | **39,193** male

870,000
Displaced Syrians in need

5%

26,835 reached | **561,660** targeted

286,446 female | **275,214** male

31,400
Palestinian Refugees from Syria (individuals)

1%

150 reached | **19,000** targeted

9,880 female | **9,120** male

180,000
Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (individuals)

3%

585 reached | **19,000** targeted

9,880 female | **9,120** male

Progress against targets

Key Achievements

of displaced people assisted in keeping their temporary shelters weatherproofed, repaired or otherwise maintained.

3% — **12,141 / 362,235**

# of individuals benefitted from site improvments in informal settlements

20% — **8,129 / 40,000**

# of areas that benefitted from multi-sectoral profiling

15% — **6 / 40**

# of shelter units upgraded to minimum standards

0% — **148 / 45,817**

# of vulnerable individuals benefitted from cash for rent

16% — **20,206 / 124,270**

Outcomes

of most vulnerable households whose shelters in informal settlements or in substandard residential and non-residential buildings have improved privacy, safety and security

6% — **6,529 / 101,585**

# of households in substandard buildings living in disadvantaged areas benefitting from shelter upgrades to minimum standards

0% — **87 / 33,299**

# of 332 most vulnerable localities containing a multi-sectorally assessed or profiled area

2% — **6 / 332**

For more information, please contact:
Senior Inter-Agency Coordinators Camilla Jelbart jelbartm@unhcr.org and Michael Schaadt michael.schaadt@undp.org

2023 2nd Quarter SECTOR DASHBOARD
Shelter

Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon

1. Multi-sectoral situation update

The economic situation in Lebanon continued to deteriorate during the second quarter of 2023, leading to a significant decline in purchasing power for families. In June 2023, the annual inflation rate reached a record high of 260 per cent compared to June 2022, the highest level since comparable records began in 2018. The cost of living, as measured by the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) covering food, essential goods and services, reached LBP 24,925,064 in May 2023 (down slightly from LBP 27,214,894 in April, but an overall increase from earlier in the year). The food SMEB increased by 94 per cent between January and May 2023. The average price of bottled water in Lebanon during the first six months of 2023 amounts to a 1,400 per cent increase in Lebanese pound and 135 per cent increase in USD value when compared to the price in January 2021. The price of trucked water increased by over 1,500 percent (15-fold) in Lebanese pounds and over 350 per cent in USD value during the same period.

In April and May 2023, a series of raids and arrests were conducted by the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) leading to the deportation of displaced Syrians. These events created anxiety amongst the displaced community, coinciding with the implementation of restrictive measures by various municipalities, leading to families reducing their movements and access to services. This represented an overall reduction in the protection space in Lebanon. Disturbingly, gender-based violence is on the rise across all areas of Lebanon. Reports indicate an increase in sexual violence and harassment, particularly in workplaces such as farms, agricultural sites, and domestic housework employment. Additionally, child marriage, a continuous violation of child rights, has seen a concerning shift in the age of forced marriages, with girls as young as 12-13 being subjected to early marriages. Gender disparities persist in the labour market, with women and girls being underrepresented in cash-for-work opportunities and facing limited employment opportunities overall. Inter-communal relations in Lebanon have reached their lowest point since 2017. The latest UNDP-ARK perception survey from March 2023 reveals that 46 per cent of respondents reported negative inter-communal relations, compared to 34 per cent in April 2022 and 21 per cent in July 2018. The main drivers of tension include competition for lower-skilled jobs and access to vital services such as electricity, healthcare, and waste management.

2. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SECTOR AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL

Output 1.1: Temporary shelters (informal settlements and non-residential buildings) and residential shelters (for protection/referral cases) hosting vulnerable populations are maintained at liveable and safe conditions. All activities under Output 1.1 have a strong focus on protection and specifically target households that are living in the most severely degraded shelter conditions.

Up until the second quarter of 2023, support was provided to 32,643 individuals, which accounts for 6.3 per cent of the annual target of 515,593 individuals. This represents a significant decline of 39 per cent compared to the number of people reached in the same period last year. Despite the scaling up of some of the activities under this output, the main decline in the achievement in due to the decrease in the emergency weatherproofing response. This can be attributed to both the milder winter experienced this year and the substantial efforts of the sector partner to prepare people living in settlements through several interventions (details provided below).

10,858 individuals (5,320 males, 5,538 females divided between 10,704 displaced Syrians and 154 vulnerable Lebanese) living in informal settlements, received shelter kits[1] containing plastic sheeting, timber and toolkits . These items allow families to cover their shelter and reinforce its structure in preparation for the winter season. From the families that received weatherproofing assistance, 69 per cent reside in Baalbek Hermel governorate . This assistance included 6,984 individuals (6,907 displaced Syrians and 77 vulnerable Lebanese, composed of 3,422 males and 3,562 females) who were provided with shelter materials to help rebuild fully damaged shelters or reinforce damaged ones following either storms, emergencies, fires, flooding or eviction. The high reach in Baalbek Hermel governorate is connected to the high number of emergencies occurring because of the harsh weather affecting the area[2]. The 67 per cent decrease from last year's achievement in Q2 is due to lesser emergencies and a milder winter in comparison with last year. The highest reported number of emergencies occurred in Baalbek Hermel governorate (4,170 individuals supported, 2,043 males and 2,127 females) followed by Bekaa (1,310 individuals supported, 642 males and 668 females).

Fires pose a significant risk in informal settlements due to the use of highly flammable materials such as timber and plastic sheeting. Moreover, the proximity of shelters resulting from the ad-hoc planning of these settlements further increases the vulnerability to fire incidents. To address this challenge, fire kits were distributed, and comprehensive sensitization trainings were provided to a total of 82,825 individuals across all age groups (40,584 males and 42,241 females). This intervention plays a crucial role in equipping families to respond to fires effectively and promptly, enhancing their ability to protect themselves and their communities from potential disasters. Site improvement activities took place in 4 districts, Baalbek, Zahle, West Bekaa and Akkar targeting 8,129 individuals (3,983 males and 4,146 females).

Ensuring adequate accessibility to shelters in informal settlements is crucial to improve the ability of people to live safely, especially in the winter season. In Q2 of 2023, 8,129 individuals (3,983 males and 4,146 females) have improved living conditions, as a result of the implementation of site improvement activities. Such assistance can help mitigate water inundation in winter, which can limit safe access to and circulation around shelters for service providers and individuals, with particular implications for those with compromised mobility.

In non-residential buildings, such as garages, shops, and warehouses, a total of 577 displaced Syrians, 524 vulnerable Lebanese, and 182 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (628 males and 655 females) have benefited from minor repair assistance. This assistance aimed to improve their living conditions, including upgrades in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities to enhance safety and privacy. However, it is important to note that there has been a 56 per cent decrease in comparison to last year's Q2 results, primarily due to funding limitations. Another intervention impacted by the sector's low funding is the upgrading of residential shelters to meet minimum standards. Only 296 individuals (145 males and 151 females, divided between 190 displaced Syrians and 106 vulnerable Lebanese) were able to benefit from this intervention. Despite the importance of this intervention in providing a dignified living for severely vulnerable households (marginalized groups, female-headed households, the elderly, and individuals with specific needs or disabilities), limited resources have hindered its broader implementation.

20,206 individuals were supported with conditional cash for rent to mitigate eviction or eviction risk (15,130 displaced Syrians, 4,529 vulnerable Lebanese, 397 PRLs and 150 PRS, consisting of 9,901 males and 10,305 females, reaching 16.3 per cent of the annual target). The achievement for Cash for Rent (CfR) is 54.5 per cent higher than that of last year's in Q2 mainly due to sector's effort to advocate for the funding and the increase in referrals and vulnerability. Noting the positive increase in the population reached and the slight increase in the funding for this activity in 2023, funding for CfR nevertheless remains low in comparison with the high number of eviction referrals the sector is receiving monthly.

Output 2.1: Residential shelters for vulnerable communities in disadvantaged areas are upgraded. Under Output 2.1, 435 individuals (212 males and 223 females divided between 234 displaced Syrians, 195 vulnerable Lebanese and 6 Palestine refugees in Lebanon) living in 87 housing units benefitted from upgrading of their shelter conditions to minimum humanitarian standards as part of an area-based approach. In addition, 123 individuals (60 males and 63 females divided between 110 displaced Syrians and 13 vulnerable Lebanese) benefitted from the rehabilitation of the common areas in the buildings where they live. The low achievement (0.44 per cent of the set target of 33,299 shelter units and 1.23 per cent of the target for the rehabilitation of common areas) is linked to the extremely low funding of upgrading residential shelters . As a result of the low available funding, the Shelter sector

1 The shelter sector identifies different types of shelter kits: Light Repair Kit (LRK), Medium Repair Kit (MRK), New Arrival Kit (NAK), Heavy Repair Kit (HRK), Timber Repair Kit (TRK) and Door Kit (DK). For detailed information about the kits, please refer to the guidance note "Weatherproofing in Informal Settlements"
2 The toolkit contains a carpentry hammer, wood saw, cutter, screwdriver and tape measure

For more information, please contact:
Senior Inter-Agency Coordinators Camilla Jelbart jelbartm@unhcr.org and Michael Schaadt michael.schaadt@undp.org

is taking an evidence-based approach to ensure assistance is delivered in a coordinated manner, thus advocating for the implementation of multi-sectoral area-based interventions. In Q3, the Shelter sector is planning to work on a guidance note to support partners implementing or planning to implement area-based multi-sectoral projects or studies.

Output 2.2: Multi-sectoral assessments are produced for areas of vulnerable populations to facilitate sectorally integrated response. Six multi-sectoral assessments were completed by Q2 (set target is 40).
The Sector expects that the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Medair will be completing more assessments this year.

Output 3.1: Capacity building support to national organizations and institutions contributing to shelter and housing situation in Lebanon. Minor progress has been made under Output 3.1 in Q2. The sector has actively reached out and supported national NGOs to directly submit or collaborate with international NGOs to submit proposals to the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) First Standard Allocation . One national NGO who submitted a proposal under LHF was selected to continue to the second phase.

In the first half of 2023, the Shelter sector received 3,640 referrals[3] , making 5.1 per cent of the total referrals made in Lebanon. 70 per cent of the referrals were received in Q1 of 2023, reaching their peak in March 2023. This could be the result of the sudden spike in the value of USD compared to the Lebanese lira and the inflation increasing from 190 per cent to 264 per cent. Since then, the number of referrals continued to increase, especially in the North (41.8 per cent of referrals) and Akkar (25%). Unfortunately, more than 45 per cent of the received referrals remain pending due to the limited funding and the Shelter partners' inability to take on any new cases.

3. KEY CHALLENGES OF THE SECTOR

The available funding in 2023 remains critically low in Q2, with available funding decreasing by 62 per cent compared to the second quarter of 2022 (USD 5,800,000 available in the second quarter of 2023 vs USD 15,200,000 that were available in the second quarter of 2022). This situation is forcing Shelter sector partners to apply several layers for the selection of beneficiaries, focusing primarily on protection cases, female-headed households and people with specific needs. Despite this, many extremely vulnerable families are not receiving any support, which increases protection and Gender Based Violence (GBV) risks, with households having to resort to negative coping mechanisms to survive and afford rent . When asked about negative coping mechanisms in the latest UNDP/ARK regular perception survey, 35.3 per cent of families in July 2023 reported that they used up all their savings while 21.6 per cent reported incurring more debt and 5.8 per cent cut down on their electricity consumption. In addition to that, sexual harassment has been reported in Baalbek El Hermel governorate (2 per cent of respondents) and Nabatiye (1.23%) while physical harassment reports were the highest in Nabatiye (13.3%), followed by Baalbek El Hermel (5.9%) and South (3.24%).

The increase of rental prices that was noted in 2022 continued in the first half of 2023 , with the inflation reaching its highest rate of 269 per cent in April 2023 since the start of the crisis in Lebanon before dropping back to 260 per cent in May 2023. Despite this drop, the price of housing and utilities accelerated, reaching 182 per cent in May 2023 (an increase from 151 per cent in April 2023) . Rent is expected to continue to be dollarized, given that property owners consider it an important and sometimes the only income stream that they have. Despite the market exchange rate stabilizing in Q2, rental prices continued to increase, reaching their highest in June 2023 in all but one governorate, Beirut . In Beirut, the highest rents were observed in April 2023, reaching the equivalent of USD 152 (a significant increase of 220% from USD 69 which is primarily linked to the severe depreciation of the currency in March) before dropping to USD 146 in May and USD 125 in June (to be noted that the rental prices in Beirut are the highest across the country). Since 2022, the shelter sector started monitoring the average rental costs on a quarterly basis to set the ceilings for cash for rent assistance in each governorate. In Q2 of 2023, the Shelter sector moved forward with the dollarization of CfR and the ceiling amounts were set for each governorate based on the results of the protection monitoring and the analysis of the rent trend since January 2022. The Shelter sector partners didn't report any major challenges faced with this switch. Throughout Q3 and Q4, the Shelter sector will continue to monitor the situation and evaluate the impact of dollarization on the supported households and on the rental market.

Tenure security remains a challenge, with shelter partners reporting difficulty to sign free rent agreements since rent is considered as a primary source of income for property owners. It was also reported in some working group meetings that more property owners are starting to breach the agreements that they signed in return for shelter rehabilitation assistance. One partner reported 30 per cent breach in the agreements they signed, while another partner reported 22 per cent breach. These percentages are higher than previous years and can be linked to the deterioration of the economic situation affecting all the population. As of Q2, the Shelter sector in the North launched a pilot to refer the cases of breach of agreements to legal units for legal mediation, to support the beneficiaries and reinforce the signed memorandum of understanding (MoUs). The initial findings show that this collaboration between Shelter and legal actors can reduce the number of breach of agreements and resolve the differences between the property owners and the beneficiaries. However, due to the limited resources and the lack of funding, only 23 out of 64 cases were accepted by the legal team and out of those 23, 10 cases were resolved. One of the lessons learned that were highlighted is the importance of having the teams trained on housing, land and property (HLP) rights to ensure a thorough understanding of applicable laws, regulations, and best practices to effectively handle HLP-related cases. The Shelter sector in the North is currently working on expanding this pilot and strengthening the collaboration between Shelter and Legal. In the second half of 2023, the Shelter sector will work on improving the link between Shelter and Protection, focusing on strengthening sector partners' knowledge on HLP rights.

4. KEY PRIORITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING QUARTER

The Shelter sector will continue to prioritize two interventions in informal settlements: weatherproofing (WP) of tents and site improvements. To ensure that assistance reaches the most vulnerable, the sector has established a temporary technical committee to tighten the WP eligibility criteria. This committee takes into account the assistance provided in previous years (since 2021) to determine kit type eligibility and ineligibility for 2023. Regarding site improvements, the sector has given priority to sites that were flooded during the winter of 2022/2023. Many sites have already been improved as of June, and the remaining sites are planned to be improved in the second half of the year.

As for urban shelter interventions, the sector has specifically prioritized support for female-headed households, elderly individuals, and protection cases. Unfortunately, there is a significant funding gap that has resulted in minimal achievements by Q2 compared to the identified needs of the sector. While the sector expects to meet its expected results in informal settlements, it projects that it will barely achieve 7 per cent of its set target in urban shelters due to the limited increase in funding. Consequently, the achievements for cash for rent have been affected as well.

Despite the funding situation, the sector will not adjust its logframe based on the current funding levels. Advocacy for the needs in urban shelters will continue, aiming to demonstrate that the sector's low achievements are primarily linked to funding constraints and not the capacity of sector partners to respond to shelter needs.

[3] Mhammara, Mishmish, Sir Ed Danniye in North, Chhim in BML, Aain Baal and Baissariyeh in the South

For more information, please contact:
Senior Inter-Agency Coordinators Camilla Jelbart jelbartm@unhcr.org and Michael Schaadt michael.schaadt@undp.org

Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon

4. CASE STUDY

The story of Amar
(prepared by Concern World Wide)

Amar, a female head of household in her 50s, ran away from eastern Lebanon with her three daughters aged 14, 21 and 28. The eldest whose name is Leen also has a child. Leen who was already married at the time, accompanied her mother and two sisters due to a protection incident that occurred following her marriage to a Lebanese man who did not want her to keep her unborn baby. Leen who refused her husband's wish to terminate the pregnancy started to receive death threats. Leen was threatened by her husband while her mother Amar also received threats from her in Laws for the same reason.

Afraid for their lives, Amar, and her daughters, including Leen and her child, started moving from one area to another. They struggled to find a secure and safe shelter where they could feel at ease. Fleeing from their residence, the family moved to several locations in different governorates and several shelters, they resided in tents, unfinished apartments, or were hosted by relatives. They constantly lived in fear of being homeless.

Concern's social team received a referral for Amar, her children, and her grandchild towards the end of January 2023, after the family was forced to leave their tent, with little to no notice. As part of their programming, Concern rehabilitate unoccupied shelters that could be used to support families who have protection concerns. This allowed them to relocate the family to a shelter in Northern Lebanon that they had previously rehabilitated using funds received from UNHCR. The shelter consists of two housing units where Amar and Leen benefitted from one housing unit each. To ensure their security of tenure, the organization drafted a tripartite agreement that was signed between the property owner, the beneficiaries, and the organization, which allows the family to stay in the rehabilitated shelter for 12 months, free of charge. The family also received core relief items and emergency cash assistance.

" Living in this shelter feels like I live in my own house. I used to not go out at night as I was afraid of being caught. Now, I have friends and my neighbours are very cooperative and supportive. Since my relocation, I have never received threats. I feel safer and more comfortable," said Amar. Amar, who is still living in the offered shelter, is under case management and succeeded in buying a sewing machine to generate income. This opportunity gave her the space she needed to invest in her livelihood.

Privacy Consideration: Please note that in this report, all names and identifying information have been changed to protect the privacy and confidentiality of individuals involved.

For more information, please contact:
Senior Inter-Agency Coordinators Camilla Jelbart jelbartm@unhcr.org and Michael Schaadt michael.schaadt@undp.org

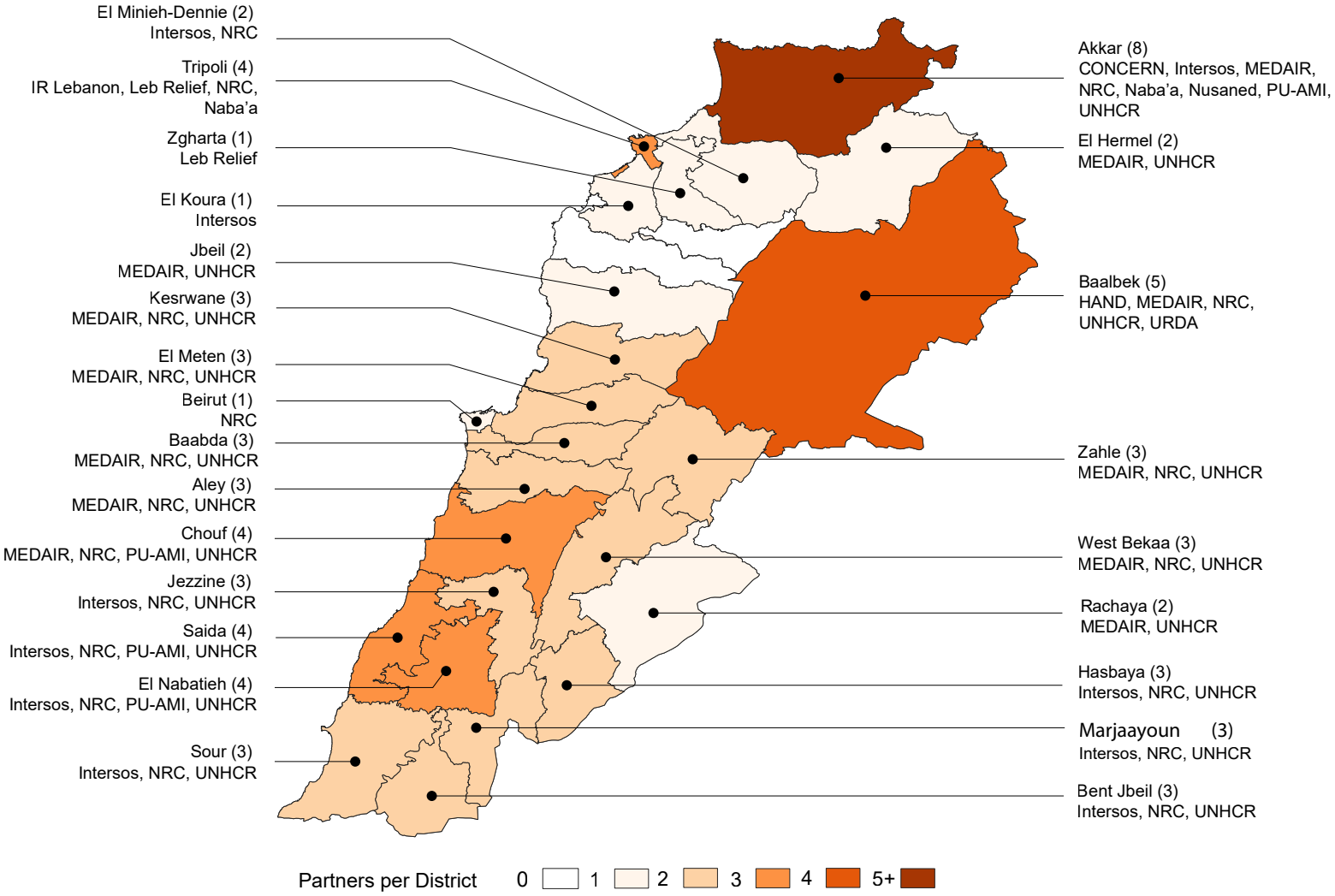
2023 2nd Quarter SECTOR DASHBOARD
Shelter

Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon

12 Partners reported shelter activities through ActivityInfo by June 2023

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

CONCERN, HAND, Intersos, IR Lebanon, Leb Relief, MEDAIR, Naba'a, NRC, Nusaned, PU-AMI, 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.

For more information, please contact:
Senior Inter-Agency Coordinators Camilla Jelbart jelbartm@unhcr.org and Michael Schaadt michael.schaadt@undp.org