

# UN Inter-Agency Update

## on Syria Situation Response in Lebanon

UNHCR, May 11-18, 2012



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*This update provides a snapshot of the inter-agency response to the influx of Syrians into Lebanon. The response is undertaken in full coordination with the Government of Lebanon.*

### Highlights of the week

#### Numbers

No significant change in numbers from last week. Currently over 26,000 displaced Syrians are being assisted throughout the country.

#### Registration

Registration in the North this week was disrupted by the events in Tripoli but continued in Akkar where 590 persons were registered. As a result 13,203 are now registered.

Registration in Aarsal ended this week with 1,415 persons (316 families) registered, the majority of whom are under 18 years of age.

#### Protection and Security

Clashes and protests erupted in Tripoli last Saturday, 12 May, following the arrest of Shadi al-Mawlawi, a young man accused of belonging to a "terrorist organization". To date, eight people

have been killed, and 120 wounded.

The ongoing insecurity in Tripoli has impeded the movement between Tripoli and Akkar field locations. Nonetheless, agencies maintained essential services for beneficiaries in Akkar as Tripoli was considered insecure.

This week, 12 wounded Syrians were admitted to hospitals.

#### Assistance in north Lebanon

##### Distribution

The security situation in Tripoli forced the temporary suspension of distribution of food and core-relief items.

HRC requested a halt to distribution of food in the Akkar region until HRC completes an assessment of recent distribution of food by external organizations. Distributions in Akkar will resume next week.



### *Shelter*

An additional 25 unfinished houses in Wadi Khaled were identified as potential residences for some 625 displaced Syrians. The logistics are being negotiated with the home owners.

### *Health*

Home visits, community awareness sessions and case management services in Tripoli were interrupted due to the ongoing clashes. Referral of urgent medical cases and hospital monitoring continued. There were no reports of displaced Syrians injured in the clashes in Tripoli.

In Akkar, vaccinations were provided through the primary health care centers and mobile medical units.

A community-based awareness session on maintaining psychological well-being was conducted in the Rahmah hospital in Tripoli.

### **Assistance in the Bekaa Valley**

#### *Distribution*

Some 1,080 displaced Syrians living in Aarsal and El-Ain received food, hygiene and baby kits over the past week.

The next distribution is set to start on the last week of May. In preparation for this exercise, volunteers from both the local and refugee communities have been recruited and trained on how to reach-out to displaced families with assistance.

Needs-assessments in Al-Hermel revealed a pressing gap in the provision of food and non-food items. Accordingly, the distribution of food, hygiene kits and mattresses in the area will start next week.

Work has been done with local actors on enhancing their warehouse space-management, including keeping electronic log records and reporting on stock condition.

Outreach teams visited some 900 people in order to monitor the distribution provided and identify pressing protection concerns that require follow-up.

#### *Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)*

A local committee was formed in Aarsal in order to discuss needed projects in the village given the increased size of the population in the area. The committee submitted two project proposals. The first entails the launching of an awareness campaign about waste management to the local and displaced communities, and the distribution of garbage bins in the whole village. The committee also suggested the creation of a cine club for children, as this project proved to be very successful among youth in the North.

#### *Education*

A hotline was established to receive calls from displaced Syrians with questions about education assistance.

*For UNICEF's latest update on Education, Health and WASH, see the following link:*

*<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=122>*



Preparations are underway to establish child-friendly spaces in five locations in the Bekaa. At these locations counselling will be provided to families and children and referrals made specialised services including school and remedial classes. In addition, educational support will also be provided (bags, stationery, uniforms, books, coverage of tuition fees).

#### Health

The recent registration exercise in Aarsal revealed a large number of cases in need of primary and secondary healthcare services. Outreach workers were in turn trained on counseling the displaced about healthcare services available and the referral mechanism in place. A service information note, which included contacts of various local health providers, was developed and shared with registered Syrians to increase their access to critical services.

#### Protection/Community Services

An information campaign to raise awareness on the registration process began in Central Bekaa where registration is scheduled to take place in Saadnayel, Bar Elias, Majdal Anjar, Zahle, and Chtoura.

#### Shelter

The rehabilitation of 18 small collective shelters, each with the capacity to house 3-4 families, was completed this week in Aarsal. An additional 35 host-family homes are currently being rehabilitated through cash installments in Aarsal, Saadnayel, Fakeha and Al Ain. In addition, 51 more dwellings are in line to be renovated.

Contractors are submitting their bids for the rehabilitation of the Masjed al

Bukhari School in Baalbeck (Kobbat Al Sayadin). The shelter will have the capacity to house 8 families.

#### Water & Sanitation (WASH)

Water tank distribution and water trucking (a house-to-house delivery of water) began in Aarsal, particularly targeting collective shelters which are not connected to existing water networks. Such assistance is critical for the displaced – especially with the arrival of the summer season. Summer preparedness and contingency planning continue to be a priority in the WASH coordination group meetings.

#### Overview of relief provided to date

Relief item	Quantity
Core relief items	17,053
Food kit	15,525
Hygiene kits	13,018
Clothing	1,124
Heating Fuel coupons	37,122
Baby kits	771

*For more information on Syrian displacement in Lebanon, please visit the Lebanon page on the webportal: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>. There you will find facts, figures, and ‘who does what’, as well as updates on food and non-food items distributed per area and by agency. Additionally, for more on how the response is being coordinated and the many contributions of various agencies, please click on “situational overview” of the Lebanon page.*