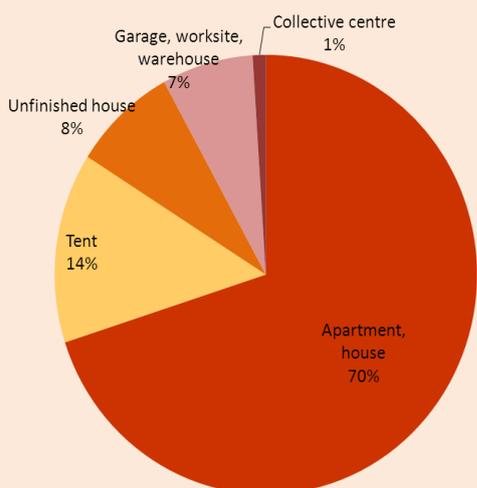


### Breakdown of current refugee accommodation



Statistics from September 2013 phone survey

### Funding

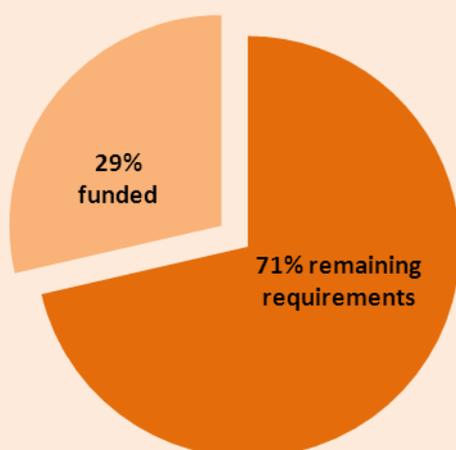
UNHCR shelter requirements:

**USD 79.4 m**

Percentage funded: **29%**

■ Remaining UNHCR requirements (RRP5)

■ Funding received as of November



### November developments

- Over 5,132 families (approximately 25,660 individuals) benefited from UNHCR-implemented shelter activities including weatherproofing, rehabilitation of unfinished buildings, cash-for-rent and temporary shelters.
- Among these, 2,348 families (some 11,742 individuals) living in unfinished buildings and in informal settlements benefitted from weatherproofing materials to improve protection from winter conditions. This represents 80% of UNHCR's targets for winterization 2013-2014.
- With the support of the Ministry of Social Affairs UNHCR established Lebanon's first temporary shelter site for Syrian refugees on land provided by Dar Al Fatwa in Aarsal. The site is providing shelter for 70 newly arrived families (some 350 individuals). Additional temporary sites are under evaluation in Akkar and Mount Lebanon.
- 60 informal tented settlements located near Zahle in West Bekka have been improved to mitigate and prepare for seasonal flooding through the creation of elevated walkways, improved water drainage, wastewater and solid waste management.
- Four large farms have been rehabilitated in Akkar which will provide shelter for 187 refugee families (some 935 individuals). Three additional farms are planned for renovation by the end of the year.
- 414 refugee families (some 2,070 refugees) will benefit from contracts signed with landlords this month for the rehabilitation of properties through UNHCR's project with UN-HABITAT.
- UNHCR procured an additional 10,000 weatherproofing kits for the contingency stockpile.

### Achievements January – November

Total target # of beneficiaries: 194,500

Activity	 reached Jan- Nov	 reached Jan - Nov
<b>Total beneficiaries from shelter support</b>	<b>14,429</b>	<b>72,924</b>
Informal settlements weatherproofed	5,331	26,762
Unfinished houses weatherproofed	3,084	15,477
Cash-for-rent and unconditional grants	3,800	19,550
Houses rehabilitated	1,081	5,495
Collective shelters renovated	867	4,310
Temporary shelter including new temporary shelter site in Aarsal	266	1,330

## Needs

Shelter is an urgent concern, especially as refugees run out of resources to pay their rent and as the winter months and colder weather arrive. With constantly increasing numbers of refugees in Lebanon, more and more live in substandard dwellings, with limited privacy and protection from the elements. A phone survey conducted in September confirms that some 14% of refugees live in makeshift shelters in informal settlements.

Refugee needs include:

- Adequate shelter and dignified living conditions for individuals in informal settlements, flood-prone areas or facing eviction;
- Improvements to existing dwellings, in particular, materials (and tools) to seal off shelters from winter weather. These include: plastic sheeting, timber, external doors and/or door coverings, associated ironmongery and tools;
- Support to the most vulnerable who rent accommodation.

## Challenges

### **Lack of wide-scale shelter options:**

In the absence of facilities capable of receiving large numbers of refugees, the availability of affordable and decent shelter greatly exceeds demand. The dispersion of the refugee population in close to 1,600 locations requires a multi-faceted shelter strategy and close coordination with host communities, local authorities and religious entities.

### **Winter risks:**

Despite efforts to improve conditions in some informal settlements, 8,000 individuals living in flood-prone areas require alternative accommodation due to seasonal weather conditions. Vulnerable families living at high altitudes also need winter support to prevent deterioration in their wellbeing.

### **Increased resort to informal settlements:**

The unmanaged growth of informal settlements, currently home to some 80,000 refugees, presents risks to refugees and increases tensions with host communities. Identifying alternatives with municipalities and local actors is an ongoing challenge. Dialogue with some municipalities, especially in the Bekaa, has become increasingly strained. While the Government has not been keen to set up tented temporary shelter sites, in November, UNHCR received permission to establish the first such site in Aarsal (Bekka) and Kousha (Akkar).

## Strategy

UNHCR will prioritize the provision of temporary (emergency) shelter while continuing to support longer-term options where available by:

- Providing safe emergency shelter to newly arriving households including through establishment and management of temporary shelter sites in West Bekaa and Akkar.
- Weatherproofing and site improvement in informal settlements in line with minimum standards.
- Cash assistance for shelter to vulnerable households in rented accommodation, who would otherwise be at risk of eviction.
- Improving substandard shelters through rehabilitation and weatherproofing of houses that can provide adequate longer-term shelter, and provision of semi-permanent shelter.
- Expanding collective shelter capacity through rehabilitation of private and public buildings, including private houses.
- Ensuring preparedness for sudden mass influx by prepositioning sufficient stock of emergency shelter solutions (sealing-off kits for weatherproofing, materials to improve shelters in informal tented settlements, temporary shelters including UNHCR family tents).
- Inclusion of Lebanese host communities in shelter assistance schemes such as cash-for-rent or rehabilitation and improvements to property for those hosting refugee families.

## UNHCR implementing partners

Danish Refugee Council (DRC); Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI); Norwegian Refugee Council(NRC); Social Humanitarian Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD); Cooperative Housing Foundation International (CHF); MEDAIR; Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP); Islamic Relief (IR); Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC); Secours Islamique France; Makhzoumi Foundation; UN-HABITAT, Concern, Save the Children UK.

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