

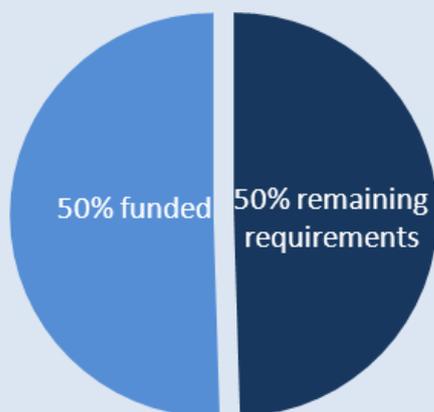
### Key figures

858,641	individuals registered or pending registration
78%	women and children
36%	persons with specific needs
24%	children at risk

### Funding

UNHCR protection requirements:

USD **83.1 m**



### December developments

#### Access to the territory, registration and civil status documentation

- Following the influx of over 18,000 refugees to Arsal last month, by early December, the arrival rate dropped to 10-15 families per day. In total, close to 20,000 refugees arrived in Arsal.
- The waiting time for registration decreased to 29 days, the lowest average since January 2013.
- 700 refugee parents received individual counseling on birth registration.

#### Ensuring respect of refugee rights and providing solutions and services

- An Iraqi refugee received a landmark court decision awarding 60 million Lebanese Pounds in damages for his prolonged detention.
- The rapid assessment on housing, land and property issues, developed with UN-HABITAT to prepare for responding to threats of evictions of refugees and improve their overall security of tenure, began with field visits conducted in Akkar, Tripoli and the Bekaa.
- This month, 160 Syrian refugees left for Germany under the Humanitarian Admissions Programme. In 2013, cases of 4,249 individuals were submitted, and 860 departed.
- UNHCR surpassed its annual resettlement target with the submission of 155 Syrians in December, bringing the 2013 total to 529. In addition, 152 Syrian refugees departed for resettlement countries in December, mainly to Sweden.

#### Community empowerment

- Training on psychology, first aid and birth registration were provided to ROV nationwide.
- UNHCR and partners identified 4 new community centres, bringing the total to 26 community centres country-wide.

#### Prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)

- Six organizations and MoSA received SGBV training delivered through INTERSOS.
- As co-chair of the UN PSEA Task Force, UNHCR drafted SOPs on prevention, reporting and investigation, which were shared within agencies for comments.

#### Child protection

- 30 case management actors were trained as part of the child protection coaching project through IRC.
- 76 UNHCR registration staff was trained on child protection principles to enhance identification and referral of high risk children.
- 34 children and 3 families were interviewed as part of the scoping exercise on street children launched in December through IRC.

## Achievements: January – December

Activity	 reached Jan- Dec	 2013 Target
Persons registered (or pending registration)	858,641	1,000,000
Community awareness raising	29,751	13,840
Specific needs cases referred	27,739	9,000
Legal counseling	2,920	2,000
Detention visits	560	300
Applications submitted for the Temporary Humanitarian Admission Program (HAP) Germany	4,249	4,000
Applications submitted for resettlement	524	500
Departures (HAP and resettlement)	1,041	-
Provision of assistance for identified SGBV survivors	100%	100%

## Challenges

### Dispersed refugee population:

Refugees live in close to 1,600 different locations in Lebanon. This makes information dissemination and outreach even more important for refugees to access registration and essential services, especially for women and girls whose mobility is often restricted by family members.

### Protracted displacement:

With limited livelihood opportunities, the vulnerability of refugees increases over time as their resources diminish. When living costs exceed household earnings debt can lead refugees to consider negative coping mechanisms including child labor, and, in some cases, survival sex and child marriage.

### Lack of adequate housing and shelter:

Overcrowding and lack of privacy in shared housing, collective shelters and tented settlements can increase risks for women and children.

### Limited social services:

National health, legal and social systems require additional support, especially for the specific needs of women and children. Clinical care for sexual violence and specialized skills for dealing with child survivors remain scarce or absent, especially in remote areas.

## UNHCR implementing partners

Association Justice and Misericorde (AJEM), Caritas Lebanon Migrants Center (CMLC), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Relief and Development (IRD), International Rescue Committee (IRC), INTERSOS, Amel Association-Lebanese Popular Association for Popular Action (AMEL), Makhzoumi Foundation, Mercy Corps, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Restart Centre for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence and Torture, Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention For Local Development (SHEILD), Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA).

## Needs

Refugees fleeing violence in Syria are in need of protection from their arrival in Lebanon at the border, and throughout the length of their stay in the country. Over 39 percent of refugees have been identified with specific needs. This includes: persons with disabilities, older persons, women and children at risk, persons with serious medical conditions and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) among others. These needs require rapid identification and referral for a variety of assistance including: psycho-social counseling, material assistance, shelter, food, other relief items, and health care. As the refugee population within Lebanon is dispersed in rural and urban areas, outreach is essential to identify and respond to vulnerabilities and need for assistance within the community.

## Strategy

UNHCR's protection strategy addresses the main protection challenges and priority concerns of refugees with the following main components:

- Ensuring access to territory, registration and civil documentation, including birth registration;
- Ensuring respect of refugee rights and physical safety;
- Through mobile outreach, delivering quality protection, care and access to basic needs and essential services for persons with specific needs, including children and survivors of SGBV;
- Strengthening government and community protection capacities;
- Identifying vulnerable refugees for resettlement and humanitarian admissions programmes;
- Incorporating protection principles and mitigating potential risks linked to shelter, water, sanitation, health, distributions, etc.