



Background

Although ten days have passed since the end to major clashes between the LAF and armed groups, the security situation in Arsal remains volatile and unfavorable to the restoration of a regular humanitarian presence.

Discussions are on-going with the municipality and other security stakeholders regarding the resumption of humanitarian activities as soon as possible, and a security assessment will take place on Thursday.

Local authorities and security officials remain opposed to the rehabilitation of informal settlements and the resumption of distribution although some small scale distributions through local NGOs and limited reconstruction have been undertaken.

Humanitarian situation and response

Protection

The number of families displaced internally (30 Lebanese households) or secondarily (95 refugee households) continues to drop and most Lebanese families are believed to have returned to Arsal while some refugees have chosen to relocate to other locations. According to sources in Mashari' El Qaa, the largest concentration point of displaced during the clashes, all Lebanese families had returned to Arsal.

The 125 households that remain displaced are now mainly located in three locations, namely in El Fakehe, Chaat and Baalbek with suburbs. Reports suggest that movement in and out of Arsal is now possible for Syrian refugees holding documentation. There are new reports in the last two days of refugee families who have relocated to other locations in Bekaa and also to Tripoli.

Shelter

A remote shelter assessment was undertaken, according to which 763 tents were destroyed and 499 damaged, 13 collective shelter rooms were destroyed and 172 damaged, 544 latrines in informal settlements and communal shelters were destroyed, and 623,000 liters of water storage capacity in informal settlements were destroyed, putting the need at 1,306,500 liters in order to meet standards. A number of families displaced from tented sites are now residing in schools and other spontaneous collective shelters. This solution is unsustainable, especially with the start of the school year approaching. The rehabilitation of informal settlements and other refugee shelters remains contentious.

WASH

WASH actors estimate that the daily average of water being provided supports approximately 4,700 families daily. While there is sufficient coverage, the costs are extremely high as over 7.5 million liters of water have been trucked since 2 August. Against this backdrop, WASH actors are considering various scenarios for future intervention to ensure sufficient access to water.

Food and non-food items:

Between 5 August and 13 August more than USD 590,000 was redeemed in 14 WFP-contracted shops in Arsal. About 49% of the funds reloaded on e-cards distributed in Arsal have been spent. Given the short period in question, the level of spending suggests that the majority of vulnerable refugees have adequate access to food.

