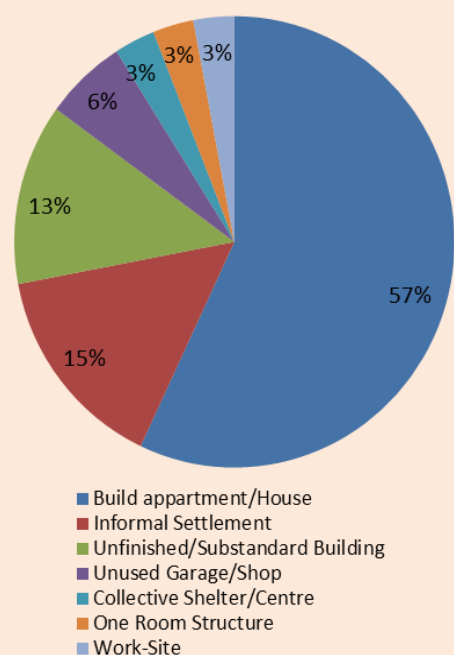


Key Figures

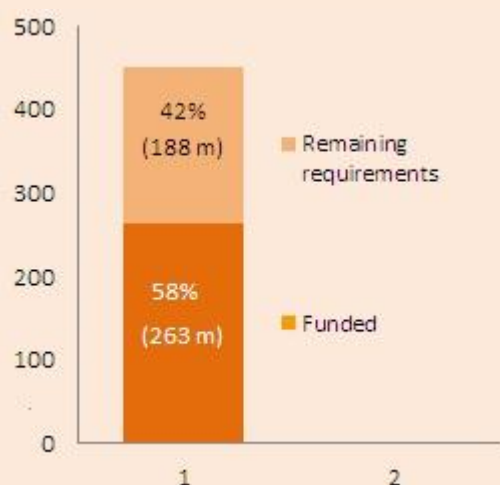


October developments




- Over 29,144 families (145,718 individuals) have benefitted from shelter assistance in 2014.
- 275 families received cash-for-shelter assistance in Miniyeh, Saida and Tyre, provided by UNHCR in partnership with DRC, PU-AMI and SHIELD.
- 3,545 refugee families living in informal settlements and unfinished houses in Baalbeck, Zahle, Keserwan, Metn, Tyre, Hasbeya, Nabatyeh, Saida, Jezzine and Aley were provided with weatherproofing kits to protect their dwellings against the wet months ahead.
- In Bekaa and Akkar, 186 families living in five informal settlements benefitted from site improvement works that will help prevent flooding in their homes. Improvements conducted by Medair, SCI and PU-AMI include the installation/repair of drainage, gravelling, and raising of floors in dwellings.
- UNHCR rehabilitated small shelter units for 119 families living in Chouf, Bekaa, Tripoli, Baalbek, and Saida.
- This month, 41 vulnerable families were placed in UNHCR collective shelters rehabilitated through CHF and DRC in Mount Lebanon and in the South.
- Out of the 22 schools undergoing rehabilitation, two schools in Mount Lebanon and three schools in Akkar have been completed. The schools in Tripoli and the South are still undergoing works with completion expected by end of November. Contractors for six schools in the Bekaa are being selected, and rehabilitation will start mid-November.

Funding

UNHCR total requirements: USD 451 m



Achievements: January – October

Activity	 Reached January-October	 Reached January-October	 Target by end of 2014
Total beneficiaries from shelter support	29,144	145,718	382,731
Informal settlements weatherproofed	10,577	52,886	73,584
Site improvement	1,379	6,893	41,250
Unfinished houses weatherproofed	5,959	29,795	112,580
Cash-for-rent	7,415	37,074	47,330
Apartments / houses rehabilitated	2,392	11,960	41,234
Collective shelters renovated	1,352	6,760	9,979
Formal tented settlements	70	350	38,250

Needs

Shelter remains an urgent concern, especially as refugees run out of resources to pay rent. Eighty-one per cent of refugees rent their accommodation, with the average rent being USD 200 per month. Some 57 per cent of all rentals are for apartments, generally small basic lodgings shared with other refugee families in overcrowded conditions. 41 per cent of refugees live in fragile environments with limited privacy and protection from the elements. This includes tents in informal settlements and substandard dwellings including garages, worksites and unfinished buildings. Finding appropriate accommodation is a constant concern, and as their resources decrease, incidences of eviction rise.

Refugee needs include:

- Adequate shelter and dignified living conditions for everyone;
- Improvements to existing dwellings, in particular, materials (and tools) to seal off shelters from cold weather;
- 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 demand for affordable and decent shelter greatly exceeds availability. The dispersion of the refugee population in over 1,750 locations requires a multi-faceted shelter strategy and close coordination with host communities, local authorities and civil society.

Increased resort to informal settlements: The growth of informal settlements, currently home to over 193,000 refugees, presents risks to refugees and increases tensions with surrounding communities. Identifying alternatives with municipalities and local actors is an on-going challenge.

Evictions: With a saturated and housing market, and growing tensions between host communities and refugees leading to tensions in many municipalities, refugees increasingly face the threat of eviction.

Strategy

UNHCR will prioritize the provision of temporary (emergency) shelter especially for those in insecure dwellings such as informal settlements, garages, warehouses and unfinished buildings. At the same time, it will continue to support longer-term options where available by:

- Providing safe emergency shelter to newly arriving families including through establishment and management of temporary shelter sites in West Bekaa and Akkar;
- Weatherproofing and improving informal settlements;
- Assisting vulnerable families through cash for renting accommodation;
- Rehabilitating and weatherproofing substandard shelters;
- Expanding collective shelter capacity through rehabilitation of private and public buildings
- Ensuring preparedness for sudden mass influx by stocking sufficient emergency shelter solutions (sealing-off kits, materials to improve shelters and temporary shelters including UNHCR family tents); and
- Including Lebanese host communities in shelter assistance schemes such as cash-for-rent or rehabilitation of host's property.



UNHCR implementing partners

Agence d'aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement (ACTED), Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP), Concern, Cooperative Housing Foundation International (CHF), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Islamic Relief (IR), MEDAIR, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), PCPM (Polish Centre for International Aid), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Social Humanitarian Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD) and UN-HABITAT

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