

251 cadasters in Lebanon identified as vulnerable, while Social Cohesion partners have set up good basis to reach 2016 targets

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

In Lebanon, partners have achieved more results in terms of activities related to local economic development in the first quarter of 2015 than in all of 2015 combined. The Livelihoods Sector has already provided support to 180 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and cooperatives through in kind and cash-grants of a cumulated value of USD 340,000 (compared to 164 businesses supported with USD 200,000 in 2015).

In parallel, partners are working in Akkar and Bekaa to upgrade key value chains, working from the production stage of a product till the final consumer. Eleven interventions have been implemented, compared to only three in 2015. The Sector reached 4,371 beneficiaries in total this quarter, primarily through employability support and labour-intensive infrastructure rehabilitation

In Turkey, Livelihoods partners procured equipment to improve the delivery capacity of several Government Vocational Educational Training (VET) Centres (VET) in provinces hosting large numbers of refugees. This will help maximize Livelihoods support to Syrians and vulnerable Turkish communities.

Activities this month also included workshops to promote awareness of the new regulation that gives registered refugees the right to work permits for formal employment. A total of 1,314 male and female Syrian and Turkish beneficiaries gained Livelihoods and Income Generating training that included: Textiles, Arc Welding, Glass Bead making, and Turkish Language skills for Syrian refugees.

In Egypt, 3RP partners established an online job offer referral platform to share employment opportunities open to refugee populations and carried out livelihoods training for some 714 people in areas of soft skills and job readiness to enhance their employability. There have been discussions on methods to ensure safe employment and safeguards for refugee employment, considering that the majority of employment opportunities are restricted to the informal sector in Egypt.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Expanding access to livelihoods is central to resilience-building. In 2016, the livelihood and social cohesion sector will target around 770,100 refugees and vulnerable host community members with a range of interventions to expand opportunities to cope with, recover from and transform in response to crisis, as well as improve access to and quality of service delivery. Assessed in financial terms, this sector makes up 10 per cent, or USD 477 million of the resources required to implement the 3RP in 2016.

3RP partners will work together with the private sector and national Governments to determine how best to create livelihood opportunities for women and men that fill gaps within labour markets and contribute to the establishment of new enterprises, rather than fostering competition for jobs and driving down wages.

Overall objectives for the livelihoods and social cohesion/stabilization sector in the five 3RP countries include creating the necessary conditions and environment for job creation while enhancing existing systems and promoting social cohesion and community integration initiatives at the community and municipal levels. With expanded livelihood opportunities, affected households will be better able to contribute to local economies and move towards self-sufficiency.



Syrian Refugee in Turkey. UNHCR/ Emrah Gurel

Sector Response Summary:



770,100 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end of 2016
6,430 assisted in 2016



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,687,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2016
4,765,000 currently registered



Livelihoods Sector Funding status:



USD 687 million required in 2016
USD 26 million received in 2016



PROGRESS LEBANON'S SOCIAL STABILITY SECTOR

Social Stability partners in Lebanon have established a good basis for the sector to reach its 2016 target of providing support to key institutions and local stakeholders in all most vulnerable cadastres. Interventions are already ongoing in 165 out of the 251 vulnerable municipalities.

Partners have facilitated 72 local participatory processes, engaging municipalities and community representatives to identify priority needs. Over 2,000 people, 30 per cent of whom are women, have participated in these processes so far this year.

The Sector has reviewed conflict mitigation mechanisms and local dialogue forums set up in the past two years. Some 65 conflict mitigation mechanisms have been set up by 10 different partners, covering nearly 100 municipalities, providing a local forum/committee to support municipalities on community outreach, mediation, and project identification. In Lebanon's Wadi Khaled, this support helped eight municipalities to agree on forming a new Union of Municipality to improve not only their response to the current crisis, but also the long-term development prospects of the area.

An evaluation of 11 such mechanisms recommended continuing such initiatives, emphasizing the need to integrate protection and service delivery within such projects and to work on linkages with other actors from the inception stage. The Sector has established 12 new mechanisms this year, aiming to establish at least 32 more of these mechanisms by the end of 2016. The Sector will reach out to other sectors (Protection, Energy & Water) sectors gradually to facilitate linkages between different community mobilization initiatives.

A new focus of the Sector for this year, which is already well developed, is to support central level institutions' presence and role at the community level. Four of the eight governors' offices are receiving support on coordination to better enable them to engage with the crisis response partners.

Eighty-five youth peacebuilding initiatives (out of 251) were implemented so far in 2016, with around 1,576 youth participations in these initiatives.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - MARCH 2016 *

■ Progress ■ Planned Response, by end-2016

2,301 individuals accessing wage employment opportunities

1% **282,414**

65 community support projects implemented

1% **5,178**

4,129 people trained and/or provided with marketable skills and services

3% **153,106**

These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Progress and targets may change in line with data revisions. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 31 March 2016.

* Progress data not yet received for Iraq in March 2016.