

# Defining Community Vulnerabilities in Lebanon

September 2014 - February 2015

## Background and Objectives

To better inform vulnerability targeting, the REACH Initiative (REACH), in partnership with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) launched an assessment of community-level vulnerabilities in the most vulnerable cadastral zones across the country. In September 2014, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) joined the assessment effort to significantly expand geographic and thematic coverage.

The assessment sought to provide an evidence base to guide humanitarian and development actors towards a more comprehensive way of conceptualising vulnerability at community level, and provide key recommendations for developing a vulnerability ranking index to improve targeting in relation to vulnerability.

## Methodology

Building on the vulnerability ranking and mapping exercise led by UNICEF and conducted jointly with the Government of Lebanon (GoL) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), REACH aimed to assess 252 communities across Lebanon, including the most vulnerable villages or neighbourhoods situated in the 242 most vulnerable cadastral zones (as identified by UNICEF in May 2014 and updated since) as well as 10 communities falling outside of the 242 most vulnerable cadastres. This study employed a mixed methods qualitative methodology consisting of a secondary data review and three distinct phases of primary data collection: a first phase with 536 key informant (KI) interviews in 536 communities, a second phase with 113 focus group discussions (FGDs) in 10 communities (2 in each of the 5 UNHCR operational areas) and a third phase with 13,120 individual interviews. The findings of this report are based primarily on the final two stages of data collection, drawing upon the previous phases and the secondary data review to cross check and validate findings.

## Community Profiles

To support operational humanitarian and development actors, 207 individual community profiles have been produced, detailing key indicators related to priority needs, demographic pressure, income & poverty, shelter, WASH and education. Links to consolidated profiles at governorate and country level are included below, together with links to the individual profiles of each of the assessed communities. These profiles are accompanied by an analytical report, which discusses general trends observed across the assessed communities.

All completed profiles are available via links below:

Resource Type	Location	Resource Title
<b>Report</b>	Lebanon	<a href="#">Defining Community Vulnerabilities in Lebanon</a>
<b>Country Profile</b>	Lebanon	<a href="#">Lebanon Country and Community Profiles</a>
<b>Governorate profiles</b>	Akkar	<a href="#">Governorate Profile, Akkar</a>
	Baalbek El Hermel	<a href="#">Governorate Profile, Baalbek El Hermel</a>
	Beirut	<a href="#">Governorate Profile, Beirut</a>
	Bekka	<a href="#">Governorate Profile, Bekka</a>
	Mount Lebanon	<a href="#">Governorate Profile, Mount Lebanon</a>
	North	<a href="#">Governorate Profile, North</a>
	South	<a href="#">Governorate Profile, South</a>
<b>Governorate &amp; Community Profiles</b>	Akkar	<a href="#">Communities in Akkar</a>
	Baalbek El Hermel	<a href="#">Communities in Baalbek El Hermel</a>
	Beirut	<a href="#">Communities in Beirut</a>
	Bekka	<a href="#">Communities in Bekaa</a>
	Mount Lebanon	<a href="#">Communities in Mount Lebanon</a>
	North	<a href="#">Communities in North Governorate</a>
	South	<a href="#">Communities in South Governorate</a>

In addition to the consolidated profiles listed above, separate community profiles are available for each of the 207 communities assessed. These are available here: [Community Vulnerability Profiles Spreadsheet](#).