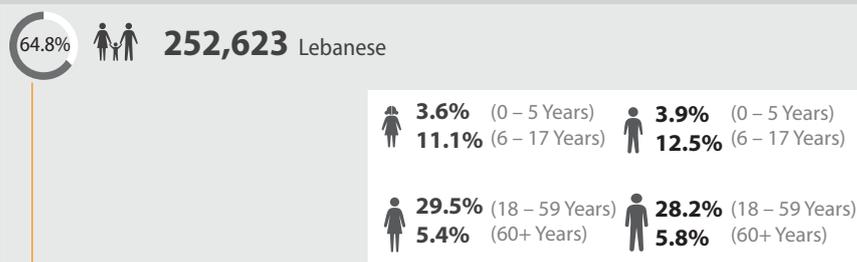


## GENERAL OVERVIEW

North Lebanon, which previously constituted one governorate with seven districts, was split into two governorates in 2014: Tripoli and five surrounding districts (T5) maintained the denomination of North Governorate, while the district of Akkar became a governorate in its own right. Akkar Governorate, which covers 788 km<sup>2</sup>, is one of the most deprived rural regions in Lebanon and shares a 100km border with Syria. Akkar is divided into three main areas; Al-Sahel, Middle and Higher Dreib. There are 27 villages along the border with Syria, with two official crossing points: El Aarida and El Aaboudieh. Akkar is predominantly Sunni with Christian, Alawite and Shiite communities. The average altitude is at 700m above sea level while the peak of the Governorate is situated at 1,900m. Inter-agency coordination and sector coordination meetings for Akkar take place in Qobbayat.

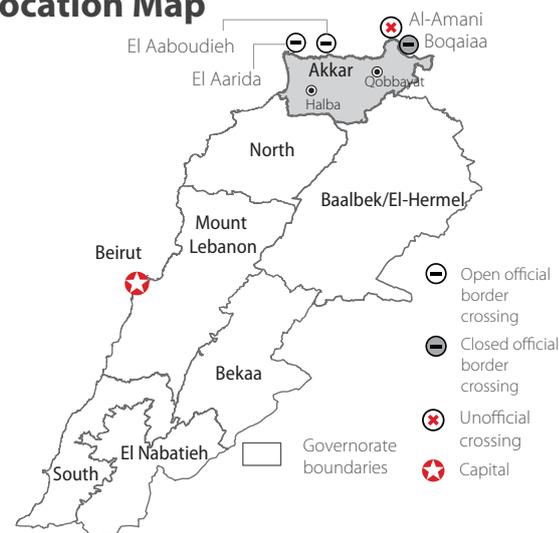
## POPULATION OVERVIEW

**389,899** People are living in Akkar Governorate



POPULATION COHORTS	Akkar
Lebanese above poverty line	23,273
Deprived Lebanese	9,832
Lebanese returnees	228
Registered Syrian Refugees	11,982
Palestine Refugees	188

## Location Map



## SOCIO ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

- 39.8%** of Syrian refugees living in substandard shelter
- 398** Informal Settlements, hosting **26,721** registered Syrian refugees
- 3.4%** refugees living in collective shelters
- 171** public schools. Second shift programs are supported in 20 schools in Central Bekaa, West Bekaa and Rashaya
- 4** public hospitals; **1** are supported
- 7%** unemployment rate (MICS 2009)
- 17** SDCs
- 121** Municipalities/ **6** Union of municipalities
- \$2,124,300** multipurpose cash distributed (Jan-May)

## CHANGES IN CONTEXT JANUARY TO JUNE

Akkar has suffered from the spill-over of the Syria conflict into Lebanon through cross border shelling which was at a height during the fighting of "Krak des Chevaliers" in March 2014 and reduced economic/commercial activities. The main pocket of insecurity in Akkar is in Wadi Khaled and the border areas. Wadi Khaled continues to be an area of concern for humanitarian agencies and requires a specific security clearance to access the area manned by a checkpoint.

Following a period of armed conflict in October 2014 between LAF and I/AOGs, and a spike in asymmetric attacks targeting LAF, the security situation in Akkar became relatively stable due in large part to an increase in LAF/ISF operations. During this period the safety & security situation in Akkar was largely dominated by factors contributing to the inhibiting context, as well as reports of adverse weather (roadblocks due to snow), and interpersonal disputes. Although SAF remains in control of the border area west of Homs (Syria), cross-border shooting and shelling from Syria continues to occur on a regular basis, particularly affecting the Minjez-Aboudiyeh highway. The perceived socioeconomic and security impact of the crisis has also contributed to a high rate of civil unrest which occasionally results in the disruption of aid delivery.

# HUMANITARIAN AND STABILIZATION TRENDS

Due to the drastic increase of population as a result of the Syria crisis, basic services and infrastructure are now considered a common and priority need all over the governorate, this includes water, electricity, solid and water waste management and public roads. The lack of shelter has also been particularly affected by the crisis. Wadi Khaled continues to be an area particularly deprived and has suffered from the breakdown of commercial trade with Syria.

Poor infrastructure is causing an increase of tensions between host and refugee communities. A study conducted in one of the villages in Akkar before and after implementation of infrastructure work, indicated a positive change in the perception of people towards each other, the community leaders and public sector in addition to an increase of sense of trust, safety and hope.

Public institutions including schools and public health centers need more support to provide better services to more beneficiaries. Competition in the labor market remains a trend in Akkar governorate especially in the construction field between Lebanese and Syrians. This varies from a village to another as each has its own specifications.

Social interaction between communities has improved since December. However, some have reported more negative Lebanese/Lebanese relations. 82 per cent of people in Akkar reported no violence in their area and 80 per cent reported that resource strain leads to social tension in their community.

A recent assessment revealed that both Lebanese and refugee communities identified employment as their top priority needs. This finding is consistent with data from VASyR 2014 which noted that Akkar was the region with the highest percentage of Syrian refugee households (49%) that did not have any working members.

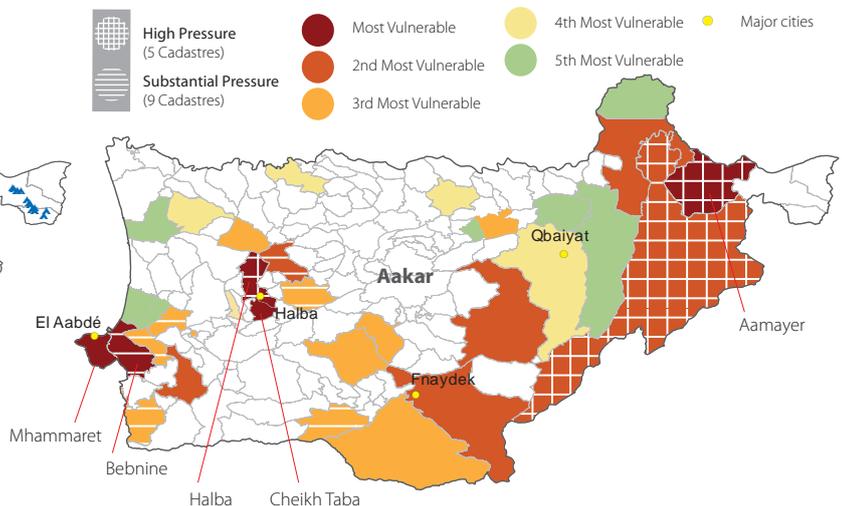
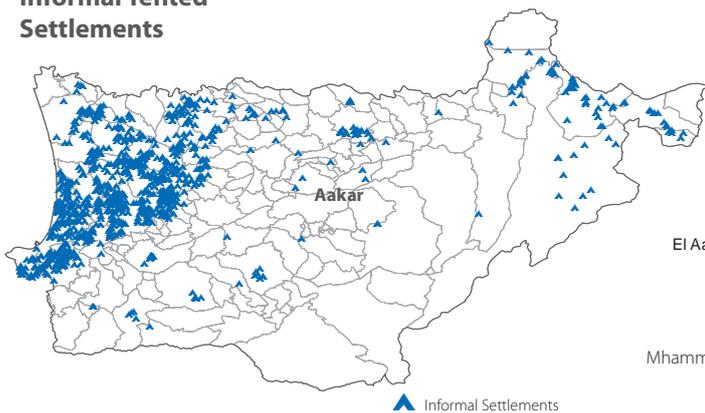
Interventions with municipalities through the Mapping of Risk and Resource programme have taken place in 14 municipalities.

Coordination among different actors is increasing and joint efforts are made to ensure good service delivery in a context of reduced resources.

## MOST VULNERABLE LOCALITIES

There are 32 vulnerable localities in Akkar, five of which are classified as most vulnerable. Eleven of the 32 localities are also considered as substantial and high pressure where the ratio of refugees to deprived Lebanese is at least three to one or more.

### Informal Tented Settlements



## HUMANITARIAN ACTORS



### 50 UN Agencies and NGOs operating in Akkar

ABAAD, AEC, AJEM Lebanon, ANERA, ARCPA, Beyond, CCP JAPAN, CLMC Lebanon, CONCERN, CYC, Danish Red Cross, DRC, FAO, Heartland, HI, Himaya, HWA, IA, ILO, IMC, IOCC Lebanon, IOM, IQRAA, IR Lebanon, IRC, IRD, Leb Relief, Lebanese Red Cross, LFPAD, Makassed, MAP-UK, MoSA, MS Lebanon, MSL Lebanon, NRC, Pal\_Scouts, Palestinian Scouts & Guides Association, PU-AMI, Relief & Reconc, RI, SCI, SFCG, Solidarités, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNRWA, URDA, WCH, WHO

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**UNDP** Alain Chatry, [alain.chatry@undp.org](mailto:alain.chatry@undp.org)  
**Akkar Governor** Mr Imad Labaki

**Disclaimer:** The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.  
**Data Source:** Lebanese Population - Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) year 2002 dataset, Poverty data: CAS, UNDP and MoSA Living Conditions and Household Budget Survey 2004-5, Syrian Refugee Population - UNHCR as of 30/06/2015, Humanitarian Intervention Data - Activity Info as of 30/06/2015, Palestinian Refugee Population- UNRWA, Lebanese Returnees data IOM as of 30/06/2015