



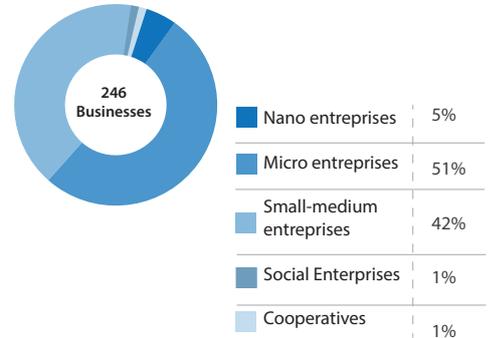
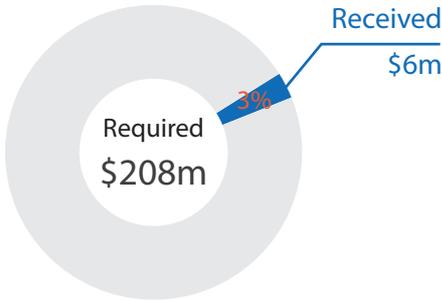
The Jan_April dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Livelihoods sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1: Stimulate local economic development and market systems to create income generating opportunities and employment. OUTCOME 2: Improve workforce employability. OUTCOME 3: Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation.

2018 Q1 Funding Status

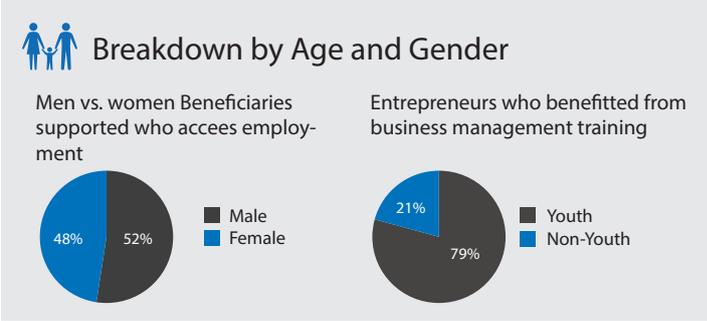
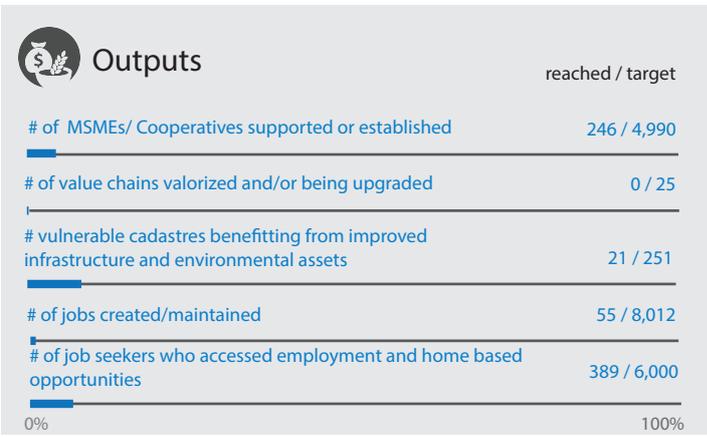
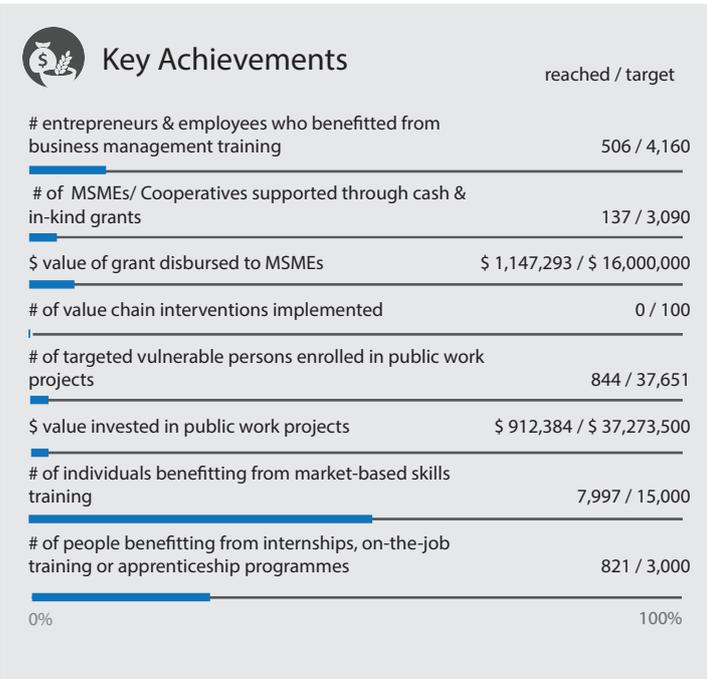
Funding received Jan to March 2018

Targeted population groups

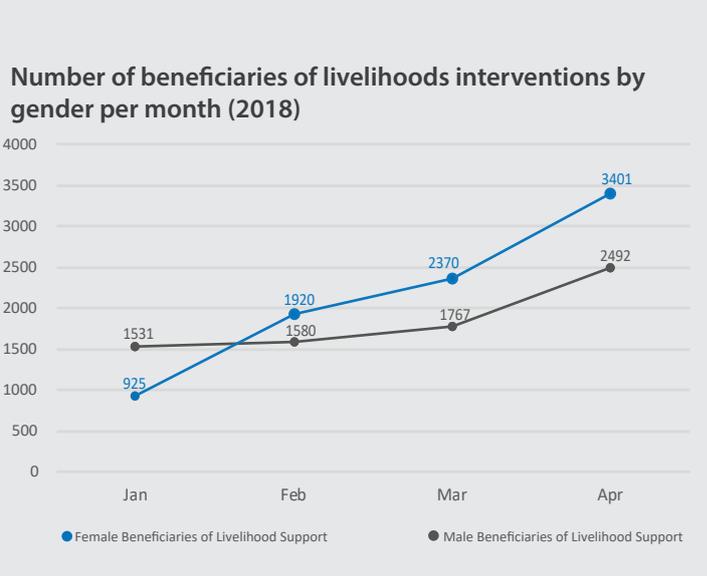
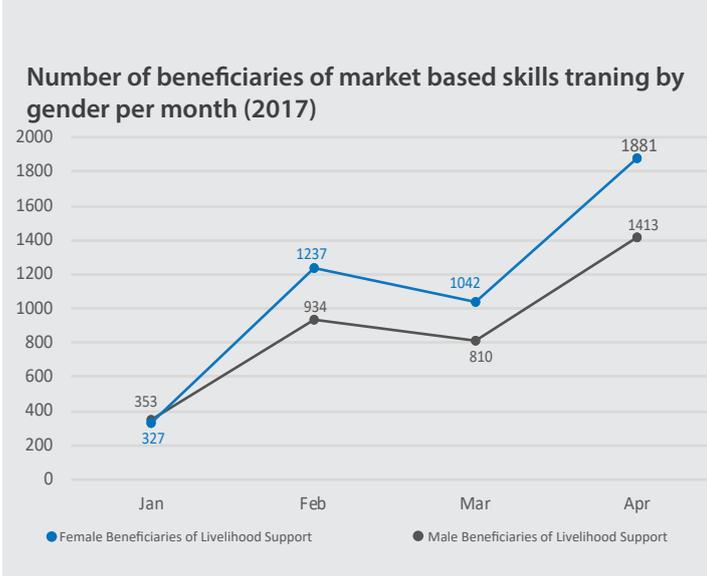
Business reached by type



Progress against targets



Analysis



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 55 jobs created or maintained in Lebanese Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Value Chains
- 844 vulnerable persons employed through public infrastructure and environment assets improvement.(325 Lebanese / 503 Syrians Refugees / 16 Palestinians Refugees).
- 389 persons accessed employment or are engaged in home-based income opportunities following skills training programmes, out of 7,997 persons trained. (235 Females / 154 Males)
- 54 Lebanese Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Cooperatives improved their productivity and profit, and/or accessed new clients and markets

KEY CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS LCRP IMPACT(S)

During this first quarter, partners have only received 3% (\$6 million) of the 2018 appeal (\$37 million with a carry-over of around \$31 million from 2017). Despite the shortage in new funding, the sector's partners have been able to contribute to the LCRP impact of mitigating Lebanon's economic stability by addressing the deterioration in the economic conditions of vulnerable communities.

This has been achieved through support to both host and refugees' communities via a range of interventions that have focused primarily on creating income opportunities, while supporting Lebanese SMEs and municipalities. Many infrastructural projects, such as roads cleaning and repair or rehabilitation of water canals, have indeed been carried out based on municipalities' identified needs and requests to help them cope with the crisis, while engaging both Lebanese and Syrians in labour intensive activities. The Storm Water Drainage Canal that is under construction in Aarsal, for example, will benefit the municipality by collecting rain water to avoid flooding, while supporting host and refugees' communities through short-term income opportunities.

So far, 64 villages, mainly in Akkar and in the North, and 844 people have benefitted from Livelihoods interventions. Although the number of beneficiaries is low, it is worth noting that several programs are presently under design and partners are expected to start the implementation in the upcoming months.

Partners have also been able to support 54 Lebanese MSMEs by increasing their revenues and improving their production, as a result of \$1.1 million delivered in-kind and through cash grants. This is in addition to business management trainings that have benefitted 506 entrepreneurs and employees. This support has already resulted in helping establish three new MSMEs and has also helped 13 existing ones in accessing new clients or markets to expand their production.

On a less positive note, partners haven't started any intervention on value chains. The integrated nature of value chain approaches, working all along a product cycle, is critical to address market deficiencies in a way that will have a sustainable impact in terms of new job creations. Although the assessment studies for five new Value Chains (Agriculture and Renewable energy) to be implemented all over Lebanon have just been finalized, the Livelihoods Team strongly encourages partners to intervene more in this sector, and this also requires a multi-year funding commitment from donors.

Moreover, since last year, partners have started enhancing pathways between skills training delivery and employment (out of 7,997 beneficiaries of the VTs courses, 821 have benefitted from internships, on the job trainings or apprenticeship schemes and 4,039 have been supported with employment and counseling services). These results represent a step forward towards the sector's strategy and are in line with the broader outcome of the LCRP to create a transition out of poverty through the humanitarian-development nexus. Indeed, by providing skills trainings, partners are also helping beneficiaries to find jobs. This trend has so far showed good results but needs to be reinforced, particularly because the mismatch witnessed in 2017 between the number of people trained and those who are able to access employment is still there. As per Q1, out of 7,997 beneficiaries of skills trainings, 79 female job seekers supported have been able to access employment against 87 males, and 51 females are engaged in home-based income generating opportunities, and these figures remain at an alarming level.

Facts and Figures

13 %

Percentage of Lebanese Households registered with NPTP who have access to full time employment (MoSA NPTP Database)

75 %

Percentage of Syrian households living below the poverty line (VASYR 2017)

18 %

Percentage of Syrians children at work (ARK Wave III)

5 %

Percentage of Lebanese children at work (ARK Wave III)



CHALLENGES

The capacity of the sector to achieve its objectives has diminished particularly with regard to job creation. Compared to 2017 when the sector was able to create 712 new jobs in quarter 1, this year only 55 jobs have been created/ maintained. This may be due to the fact that programme cycles of a few larger interventions have ended whilst new ones will require some time to yield results. Although this will become clearer throughout the year, the Livelihoods sector needs to constantly monitor the evolution of this situation.

In addition to the above, partners have reported persistent difficulties in identifying Lebanese beneficiaries willing to be involved in both Labour Intensive programming and Skills Training Courses. This is creating difficulties in reaching the sector target of an overall balance between nationalities for such programmes. Partners report that beneficiaries' lack of knowledge of opportunities associated with these programmes

coupled with a perceived negative social status of engaging in certain activities are the main causes for Lebanese deciding not to be engaged in these Livelihoods activities. To remedy this, partners have started to conduct awareness raising sessions to inform beneficiaries on the potential benefits that may arise from Livelihoods Interventions. Moreover, the Livelihoods sector is aiming at developing a structured system to use the NPTP list to select and track Lebanese beneficiaries once the revision of the list will be finalized by MoSA. Lastly, the increased focus on support to businesses in the livelihoods strategy precisely aims at having a variety of programmes in place to suit the various needs and requirements of various target groups.

On a different note, the recent perception surveys on social tension confirm that perceived competition over jobs remains the key driver of tensions between the host and refugees' communities. Therefore, both conflict sensitive programme design and targeting of beneficiaries represent priorities for the sector. Moreover, creating opportunities for Syrians in the three sectors identified by MoL would also directly help alleviating pressure on other economic sectors. To this end the sector is working on improving identification of beneficiaries as well as on referral mechanisms together with other sectors (e.g. Protection/CP) at national level and a task force was established in the North.



KEY PRIORITIES AND GAPS FORESEEN FOR THE NEXT 4 MONTHS

As mentioned above, Important gaps persist in the sector with regards to expanding economic opportunities. It is therefore urgent that donors prioritize funding for the demand-side of the market while supporting projects that (a) focus on scaling up value chains interventions that have a high potential in terms of job creation, (b) couple skill trainings with internship/placement within a company, and (c) use labour intensive methodologies that ensure a way out of poverty to families who are struggling on a daily basis to meet their immediate and basic needs.

Other priorities of the sector would be to create quality jobs, notably by implementing recommendations developed by partners in the Decent Work Workshop (OXFAM, ILO, UNDP, MoSA - March 2018) and building upon best practices that have been carried out by ILO during the implementation of the ILO-UNDP project EIIP (Employment Intensive Investment Programme). Furthermore, the sector will continue to explore opportunities to strengthen its linkages with the private sector, by continuing the dialogue established at the April 2018 roundtable, notably through lessons learnt events and additional meetings that aim at tackling the main challenges identified by partners when engaging/supporting SMEs.



LEADERS job training programme. Tripoli, North Lebanon.
April 2017.

Building Dreams in Tripoli

(By Dalia Traboulsi)

Ahlam, a fifty-year-old Lebanese woman faced hardship when her husband left, leaving her to care for nine family members with no work. After submitting several job applications over three months with limited income, she received no response. Her children were forced to work, while she sold assets and accepted loans from friends and family in addition to receiving aid from the National Poverty Targeting Programme.

Despite these challenges, Ahlam was able to receive counseling, vocational training and job placement in a sales apprenticeship through the LEADERS programme, a consortium of six international NGOs: Save the Children, Danish Refugee Council, CARE International, Oxfam, ACTED and Makhzoumi Foundation funded by the EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian Crisis and Regional Development and Protection Programme.



She attended a counseling session to determine job placement sponsored by the Danish Refugee Council, then joined the sales and customer service course for two months (90 hours), in addition to receiving awareness sessions in labour law, conflict resolution, work ethics and interview skills organized by the Makhzoumi Foundation.

After completion of the vocational training, she was placed in a sales apprenticeship at a trading company in Tripoli. According to her employer and apprentice evaluation conducted every two weeks, she received the highest marks for performance, improving her opportunities to find a job. Over the course of the training, her confidence and social skills improved, citing feelings of empowerment and hope for the future. With a big smile, she said, "I want to become a humanitarian worker one day."

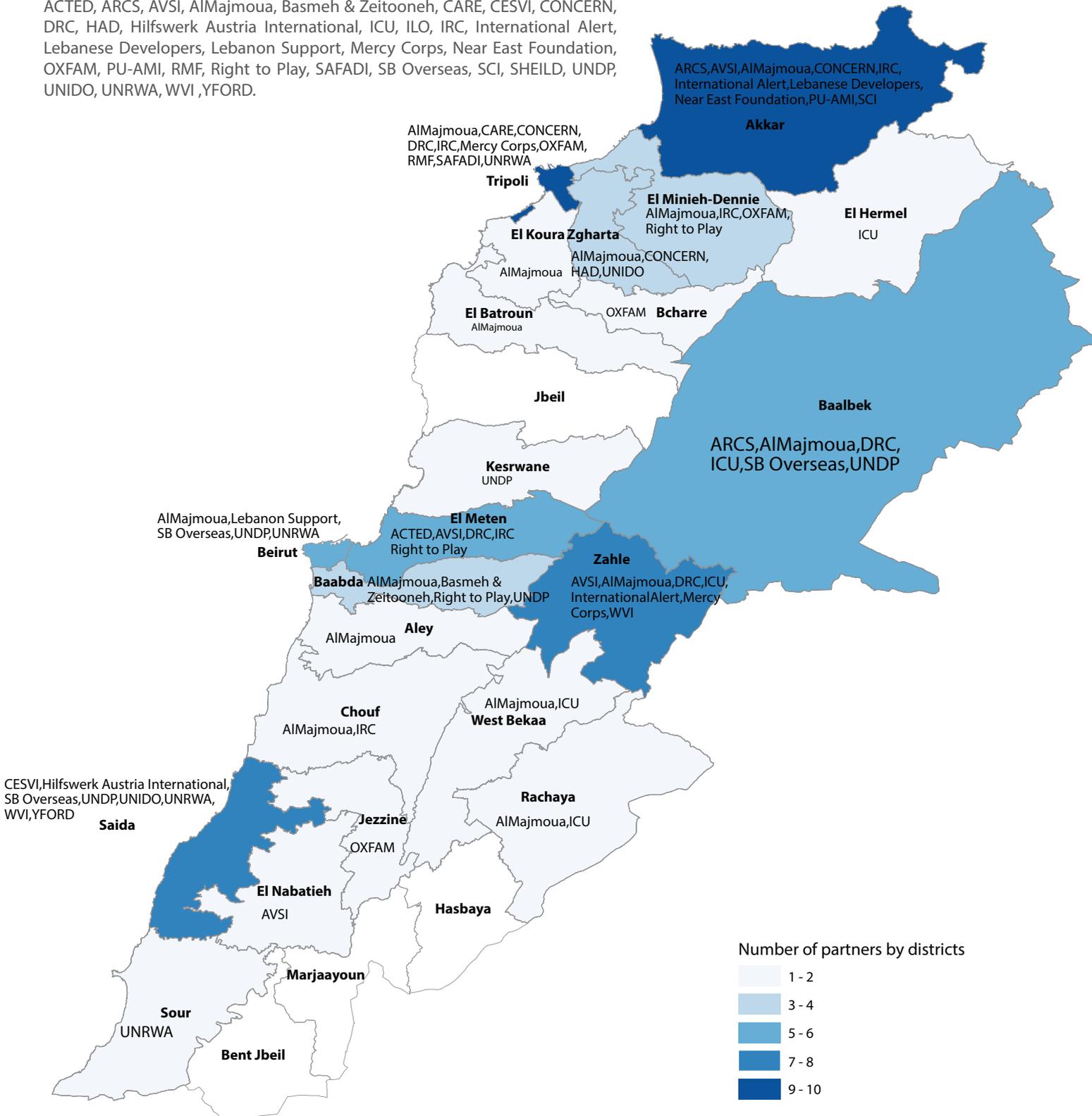
"This vocational training has given me the confidence and determination to push ahead and strive for my dreams."-
Ahlam



Organizations per district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 32 organizations:

ACTED, ARCS, AVSI, AlMajmoua, Basmeh & Zeitooneh, CARE, CESVI, CONCERN, DRC, HAD, Hilfswerk Austria International, ICU, ILO, IRC, International Alert, Lebanese Developers, Lebanon Support, Mercy Corps, Near East Foundation, OXFAM, PU-AMI, RMF, Right to Play, SAFADI, SB Overseas, SCI, SHEILD, UNDP, UNIDO, UNRWA, WVI, YFORD.



Note: This map has been produced by UNDP based on maps and material provided by the Government of Lebanon for Inter Agency operational purposes. It does not constitute an official United Nations map. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.