



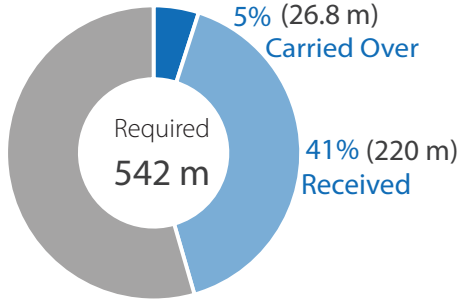
Basic Assistance End Year 2018 Dashboard



Inter-Agency
Coordination
Lebanon

The end year dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Basic Assistance Sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Strengthen the ability of vulnerable households, including female-headed, to meet their basic survival needs; OUTCOME 2) Ensure that In-kind assistance in support of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies is provided; OUTCOME 3) Develop National Social Safety Net Strategy.

2018 Funding Status in USD as of 31 December 2018

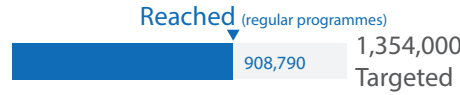


Programmes are funded by a combination of flexible/unearmarked funds and funds specifically earmarked to the sector

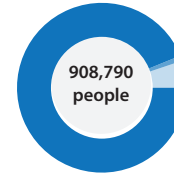


Targeted Population groups

2.2 m (People in Need)



Population reached by cohort



Syrian	94%
Lebanese	1%
Palestine Refugees	5%

Progress against targets



Key Achievements

	reached / target
# of households receiving regular cash transfers - every month (Syr, Leb, Pal)*	93,612 / 238,700
Total USD amount distributed as regular cash transfers (Syr, Leb, Pal)	\$ 141.3m / \$ 307 m
# of Syrian households receiving multi-sector/ purpose cash transfers (every month)	62,627 / 193,000
# of Lebanese households receiving multi-sector/ purpose cash transfers (every month)	912 / 35,500
# of Palestinian households receiving multi-sector/ purpose cash transfers (every month)	9,674 / 10,200
# of Syrian households receiving child focused cash transfers (every month / unique)	20,399 / 26,500
# of households receiving seasonal cash grants or vouchers	181,758 / 238,200
Total amount of seasonal cash distributed in USD	\$ 69.1 m / \$ 175 m
Total USD amount injected into economy in forms of cash assistance so far in 2018 (seasonal + regular)	\$ 210.4 m / \$ 482 m

* Includes UNICEF child focused cash transfers



Outcomes

OUTCOME 1:

% population that is severely vulnerable¹

% of assisted severely economically vulnerable households report being able to meet their basic survival needs²

OUTCOME 2:

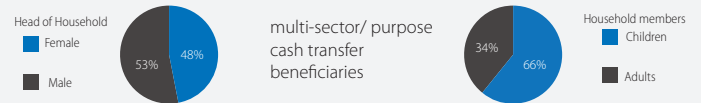
% of assisted households affected by seasonal shocks who are able to meet their additional basic survival needs³

OUTCOME 3:
National Social Safety Net Strategy endorsed

LCRP 2017/2020 Baseline				Dec 2018 Current				2020 Target			
SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL	SYR	LEB	PRS	PRL
53%	10%	89%	65%	51%	-	-	-	50%	10%	89%	65%
90%	-	90%	-	69%	-	-	-	90%	-	90%	-
90%	-	-	-	92%	-	-	-	100%	100%	100%	100%
No				No				Yes			



Age/Gender Breakdown of Cash Beneficiaries



Analysis

Syrian Households Receiving Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) in 2018



62,627

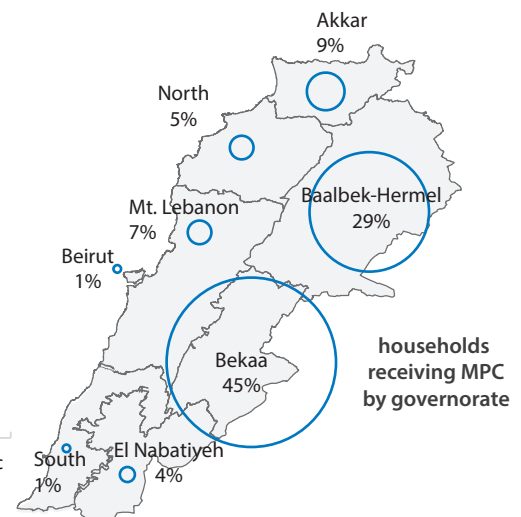
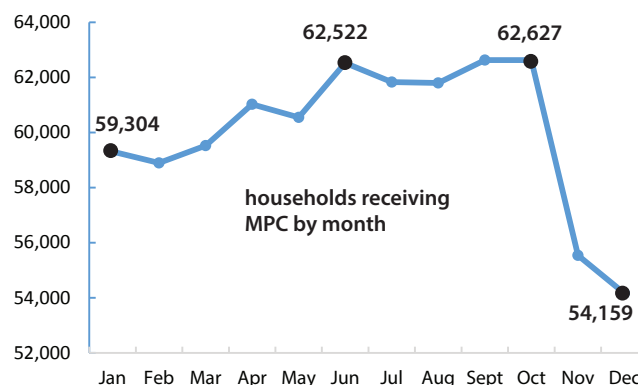
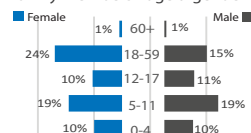
Families received MPC in September 2018
387,625 persons



6.2

Average family size

Family members - age & gender



1: Displaced Syrians (Baseline: VASyR 2016; Current: VASyR 2018); PRS/PRL (UNRWA Vulnerability Assessment 2015); Lebanese (NPTP, extreme Poverty Line)

2: Displaced Syrians (Baseline: 2016/17 UNHCR Cash OM; Current: March 2018 UNHCR Cash Outcome Monitoring); PRS (UNRWA Cash OM)

3: Displaced Syrians (Baseline: 2016/17 UNHCR Winter Cash OM; Current: 2017/18 UNHCR Winter Cash PDM); PRS (UNRWA Cash OM)

KEY CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS LCRP IMPACT(S)

Severely vulnerable people with limited economic means had improved access to basic goods and services essential to their survival.

238,500 households (Syrian, Palestine refugee, and Lebanese) living below extreme and survival monthly expenditure¹ were prioritized in 2018 for targeted assistance, of which, **193,000** are Syrians, mainly concentrated in the northern and eastern governorates of the country; **35,500** Lebanese families identified by the national targeting poverty programme (from a total of 105,000 families - pre-recertification); and **10,200** Palestine refugees from Syria.

Households were supported with immediate humanitarian assistance through regular and unrestricted cash transfers. These helped to boost their purchasing power and prioritize their spending. Overall, **93,613 (39%)** economically vulnerable households have been reached through regular cash transfers.

Some of these households were targeted by multiple interventions given their specific vulnerabilities; **62,627² (32%)** severely vulnerable Syrian and **912 (2%)** vulnerable Lebanese households were targeted with \$175 monthly multi-purpose cash assistance packages, in addition to **9,674 (94%)** poor Palestinian refugees from Syria who received \$100 packages. In addition, **20,399 (76%)** vulnerable Syrian households with school aged children received additional child focused cash transfers³.

The total value of the regular assistance provided and injected in the local economy in forms of direct transfers reached **\$141.3 million** by the end of the year.

During winter months, Basic Assistance sector partners design specific interventions that aim at increasing the preparedness levels of the most economically vulnerable households to face cold temperatures and properly insulate and warm their shelters. Overall, **181,758 (76%)** economically vulnerable households were reached with winter assistance during January, February, October, November, and December 2018, of which **171,193 (88%)** are vulnerable Syrian targeted and **1,207 (3%)** vulnerable Lebanese households targeted with \$100 - 147 monthly packages, as well as **9,358 (91%)** poor Palestinian refugees from Syria targeted with \$75 monthly packages, and.

Winter cash transfers value reached **\$69.1** million, representing additional support to families, and spent in local markets mainly on fuel, insulation and weatherproofing, additional food, and winter clothing for children.

With the value of regular assistance added, the Basic Assistance sector partners have transferred **\$210.4** million in direct cash assistance to the most vulnerable households across the country.

Regular and seasonal cash assistance provided under the Basic Assistance sector are meant to complement existing direct assistance and specialized services targeting most vulnerable receive under different sectors.

For instance, the multi-purpose cash assistance programme, which is meant to provide \$175 monthly regular support to identified households should top-up what these households receive in terms of food assistance. Together, these assistance packages represent a bit more than 70 percent of the survival basket.

Moreover, winter assistance represent additional seasonal monthly support during winter months to mitigate additional winter related needs and their associated expenditures; in case gaps in the regular programme exist, targeted households who do not receive food assistance and / or multi-purpose cash will use these packages for basic needs and therefore fail to meet the arising seasonal need.

Additional tiers of support in forms of monetized assistance do also complement these interventions, such as protection cash assistance provided under the protection sector and linked with case management to address specific needs, and transportation support provided for children to reach schools and therefore compensate for any additional expenses that might limit families from enrolling children in education.

Beyond cash, specialized services under health, protection, shelter & wash are critical to the optimization of the impact of any cash intervention provided under the basic assistance sector.

CHALLENGES

Needs outweigh available funding. The regular cash assistance programme is constrained by limited resources. Despite the fact that more than **62,000** Syrian households received assistance during 2018, it represents only **32%** of those identified and prioritized for assistance. Running an equitable programme has become a complex process as a result of these constraints. Existing targeting tools have facilitated the efficient identification of households on a large scale but can lead to certain profiles (with specific vulnerabilities, small household sized, etc.) falling in the cracks. A grievance redress mechanism was piloted later 2018 to address the limitation but implementation is restricted as funding is only available for approximately **2,000** households.

Predictable winter programmes with funds provided to individuals and families in September is essential to better ensure survival during harsh weather conditions. The winter programme in 2018 was well funded but it was not until November that commitments from donors materialized. This negatively impacted the ability of sector to ensure a harmonized assistance package and use of standardized targeting criteria.

Lastly, funding limitations and earmarking continues to prohibit the extension of different cash programmes to vulnerable Lebanese, an issue all stakeholders should pay attention to and work to address.

KEY PRIORITIES AND GAPS FORESEEN FOR 2019

Current levels of economic vulnerability remain high among the affected population from different population cohort. Therefore maintaining coverage of the most economically vulnerable households with basic needs assistance is critical. Yet, the current projections of the number of households to be supported with assistance indicate a potential decrease during the first quarter of 2019 due to more partners ending programmes as a result of funding limitations.

¹ Syrian Refugee Expenditure Baskets thresholds: Minimum expenditure levels: \$571/family of five/month; Survival minimum expenditure levels: \$435/family of five/month;

² Highest number of households reached in September 2018.

³ \$13.5 per month for children aged 5-11; \$20 top-up for children aged 12-15 – during this reporting period, these households received the last payment for the scholastic year 2017/2018 in May. The programme was not resumed for the 2018/2019 scholastic year due to funding shortage.

The 2019 sector strategy is an extension of 2018 interventions in order to allow households to reach acceptable expenditure levels and compensate the need to resort to harmful / negative coping mechanisms.

At the same time, making sure to meet the needs of households affected by seasonal hazards through maintaining generous and predictable funding levels is another key area.

Operationally, the 2019 sector strategy will seek to address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable in a more holistic and complementary manner. During 2018, the targeting approaches were enhanced, with the introduction of protection-sensitive indicators.

Over the course of 2019, special attention will be given to strengthening protection mainstreaming components into ongoing programmes and interventions. The Basic Assistance sector will work to specifically strengthen its accountability to affected populations, to ensure that those persons served, participate and are empowered throughout each stage of the humanitarian programme cycle.

Mainstreaming also necessitates a shift in the way the sector operates, and more evidence-based analysis around value chains and links with markets will be developed. In addition, approaches to social protection and safety nets will have to be further explored.

Lastly, the sector recommends implementing agencies to invest further in evaluations in an attempt to better unpack the impact of cash assistance provided at individual and communal levels (including social stability and protection dividends). This will allow to better picture how individual cash assistance can be complemented with ongoing interventions in other areas, strengthening linkages between cash programs.



CASE STUDY

In 2018, households enrolled in the cash assistance programme were selected to be amongst the poorest families demonstrating different types of overlapping vulnerabilities. These families are not able to make it on their own and rely heavily on humanitarian assistance, which they consider a critical lifeline.

Nearly **40%** of these households are female headed households. Manar and Rana, and despite living in two different areas in Lebanon, share a lot in common when it comes to the daily struggle to secure the bare minimum for their families.

Manar⁴, a 29-year-old mother of three from Homs now living in Baabdat – a town in the Mount Lebanon range overlooking the capital, Beirut – came to Lebanon in 2013 following eight months of displacement inside Syria. Her husband was killed in a car accident in 2015, leaving her alone and struggling to care for her kids. While trying to secure some income through unskilled labour to help cover the rent and bills, Manar says that since she began receiving US\$175 a month in assistance from UNHCR, it has helped her provide what she hopes will be the foundation for her children's futures: died. But I can secure them an education, and through education, they can get whatever they want.”

The cash assistance allows me to pay for my children's school transport,” she explained. “I always tell them that I won't be able to leave them an inheritance after their father Rana's ⁵ case is not that far from what was described. She is a single mother of four children living in an informal settlement in Aرسال. With her family, she lived on monthly financial support of 175\$ that they received from Action Against Hunger (ACF). Life has been particularly difficult for Rana, as two of her youngest are sick, while the two eldest daughters both display a degree of mental impairment. The modest amount she got per month has changed the quality of life for her family as she states. She used the money to buy clothing for her children, got food, nappies, mattresses, gas, and payed electricity bills. Despite the fact that she got assisted for ten months, and she still owed money and needed cash to pay for medication costs for her children, she managed to independently decide what kind of food to buy and was able to breathe easier knowing that her debt is not increasing as fast as it used to as she described.

Regular cash assistance represent a support of last resort of other families who fall amongst the most vulnerable as self-reliance opportunities are very limited, yet recipient families optimize the use of assistance when they decide on what to spend. Fayez al Mohamad⁶ and his wife Zahra are trying to make the best of the cash support they receive from Relief International⁷ (RI). Fayez and Zahra and their five children now live in a tent settlement plunked among the lush fields and snow-capped mountains of Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Before Relief International began providing cash assistance to the Mohamads, their home was one room, composed of a flimsy wood frame and plastic sheeting distributed by refugee agencies. Sturdy planks now reinforce the walls and heavy-gauge tarpaulin provides better cover from the elements. With the cash, the Mohamad pays \$50 for rent and electricity, buys cleaning supplies, diapers for their 1-year-old daughter, and fresh fruits and vegetables that are not part of food aid. Jars of preserved vegetables line the small kitchen. War has reshaped the lives of this family. While in Lebanon, they still aspire to go back home. For now, their children are in school, Fayez says, and they almost have enough money to get by. But they long to relocate, to a place with better schools, where they can have a real home, not a tent. Someplace, he says, like Syria. “The only thing we think about is whether the war will end,” he says. “Will we have a chance to go back to our life? Your country is the best place in the world for you.”

Humanitarian cash assistance, like the multi-purpose cash programme are meant to provide short term support for families awaiting more durable solutions, yet without it, severe living conditions increases all sorts of risks they may witness.



UNHCR: A young Syrian refugee holds an ATM card provided by UNHCR inside a distribution point in Tripoli, Lebanon, April 2018. She will use the cash to provide for her daughters, aged four and six.
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⁴ Story by Rima Cherri and Houssam Hariri (2018), UNHCR, Beirut – Lebanon.

⁵ Story of Rana by Racha Hayek, Charbel Francis, and Aida Burnett-Cargill (2018), ACF, Aرسال – Northern Bekaa.

⁶ Story by Relief International, Families Give Cash Support High Marks (2018); Beirut – Lebanon

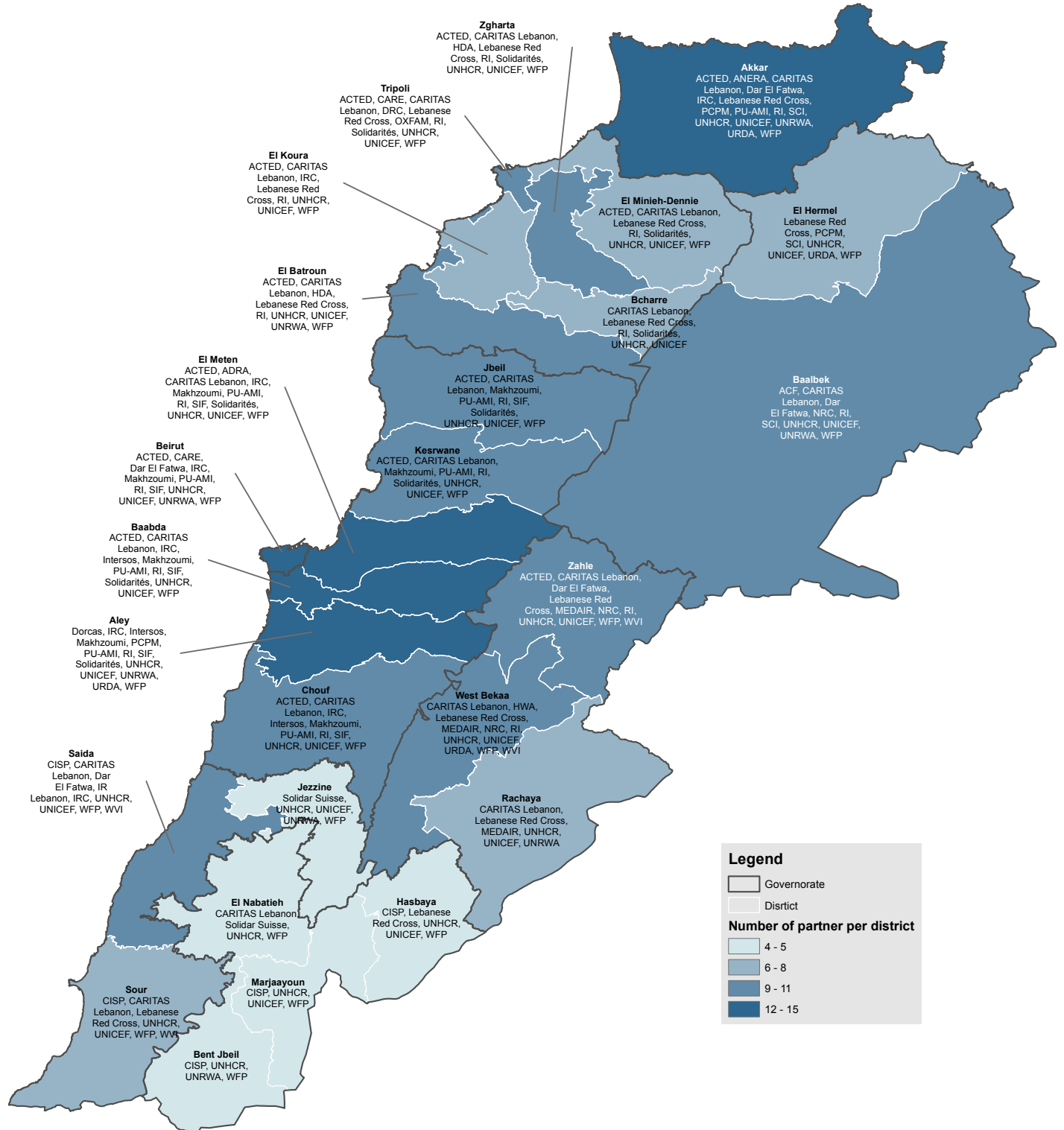
⁷ Relief International assisted nearly 1000 refugee families throughout 2018 in Bekaa, North, and Mount Lebanon thanks to the funding received from the U.S. Department of State Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration.



Organizations per district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 21 organizations:

MoSA, CONCERN, ACF, ACTED, ADRA, Caritas Lebanon, Dar El Fatwa, HDA, Intersos, IR Lebanon, Lebanese Red Cross, Makhzoumi, NABA`A, NRC, PCPM, PU-AMI, RI, Solidar Suisse, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, URDA, WFP, WVI.



Legend

- Governorate
- District

Number of partner per district

- 4 - 5
- 6 - 8
- 9 - 11
- 12 - 15

Note: This map has been produced by UNHCR based on maps and material provided by the Government of Lebanon for UNHCR 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.