



# PROTECTION SECTOR

## PEOPLE IN NEED



3,209,000

## PEOPLE TARGETED



1,935,000

## NEEDS-BASED APPEAL



\$229M

## PARTNERS



71

## GENDER MARKER



4\*

\*Intends to contribute to gender equality, including across age groups AND/OR people with disabilities

## CONTACT

### LEAD MINISTRY

Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA)  
Afaf Khalil  
afafkhalil.t.2020@gmail.com

### COORDINATING AGENCIES

UNHCR  
Elsa Bousquet  
bousquet@unhcr.org  
Collette Hogg  
hoggc@unhcr.org  
UNICEF  
Joud Munwar  
jmunwar@unicef.org  
UNFPA  
Erica Talentino  
talentino@unfpa.org

## SECTOR OUTCOMES

### OUTCOME 1:

Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have their fundamental rights respected and have access to an effective justice and protection system.

#### INDICATORS

- Percentage of persons with legal stay
- Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Nofous level
- Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Foreigners' Registry level
- Percentage of households who have moved accommodation in the last 6 months due to eviction
- Percentage of children aged 2-14 who experienced violent disciplinary practices
- Percentage of women and girls aged 15-49 who state that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife

### OUTCOME 2:

Women, men, boys and girls in all their diversity are safe, empowered and supported in their communities.

#### INDICATORS

- Percentage of women and girls who report actions taken in their communities in the past 6 months that made them feel safer (disaggregated by disability and age)
- Percentage of women, men, girls and boys report feeling very or fairly safe walking around their neighborhood
- Percentage of diverse women, men, girls and boys who report knowing how to report a complaint or provide feedback on humanitarian assistance





### OUTCOME 3:

Women, girls, men and boys in all their diversity live in dignity and are resilient to shocks

#### INDICATORS

- Percentage of persons referred provided with services
- Percentage of persons receiving protection and emergency cash assistance who report it contributed to addressing their protection risk/incident
- Number of persons benefitting from resettlement or other humanitarian pathways
- Percentage of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labour
- Percentage of children (boys and girls) who reported an improvement in their psychosocial well-being as measured through the SDQ
- Percentage of women (20-24) married before 18

## POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	FEMALE ♀	MALE ♂
 Vulnerable Lebanese	1,500,000	336,000	174,720	161,280
 Displaced Syrians	1,500,000	1,500,000	780,000	720,000
 Palestinian Refugees from Syria	29,000	29,000	14,404	13,296
 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon	180,000	70,000	10,400	9,600



adequately reached and may lack privacy. This may be particularly the case for women and girls, persons with low literacy rates and persons living with disabilities, who can be cut off from reliable sources of information and devices, contributing to challenges finding help and reporting complaints.

Women, men, girls and boys of all ages and diverse backgrounds are more frequently exposed and susceptible to the damaging effects of shocks, leading to their growing inability to live in dignity and to recover safely. With people increasingly unable to pay rent, find work and meet their basic needs, coupled with more limited community support, there is an increase in harmful coping mechanisms reported. 5.3 per cent of Syrian children (8.1% boys, 2.1% girls) were engaged in child labour in 2021, increasing to 16 per cent among children aged seventeen years old, and higher numbers of street-connected children observed. Twenty per cent of Syrian girls, aged fifteen to nineteen, were reported to be married in 2021, with concerns of underreporting and a likely increase due to difficulties accessing education and families looking for ways to ease financial pressure<sup>10</sup>. Households are also accumulating higher levels of debt and community groups report an increase in survival sex and trafficking in persons.

There are reduced feelings of safety in the home for women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities and persons with mental health concerns due to a reported increase in levels of violence, deprivation, exploitation and abuse. Cases of sexual exploitation reported in the SGBV IMS doubled in the first six months of 2021 compared to 2020 and deteriorating levels of mental health and psychosocial wellbeing have been reported. Twenty-four

<sup>10</sup> Thirty-one per cent of the Lebanese community reported negative intra-communal relations and 36 per cent reported negative relations with the Syrian community in August 2021 compared to 21 per cent and 24 per cent in January 2021 respectively, according to ARK Perception Survey, August 2021.

<sup>11</sup> VASyR, 2021

per cent of Syrian refugee adults surveyed in protection monitoring in 2021 reported symptoms of psychological distress and, on average, there is one suicide attempt within the Lebanese community every six hours<sup>12</sup>. Female-headed and child-headed households as well as persons with disabilities, those with lower literacy rates and undocumented migrant domestic workers appear to be at greater risk of sexual exploitation and survival sex due to a non-protective legal framework, harmful social norms and economic discrimination. Positively, since 2018 there has been a gradual increase in the percentage of Lebanese survivors seeking services from organisations using the GBV IMS (21% in 2018, 26% in 2019 and 35% in 2020). Palestinian refugees, meanwhile, accounted for 2 per cent of cases reported and refugees of other nationalities accounted for 1 per cent in 2021<sup>13</sup>.

Refugees in Lebanon have limited pathways to achieving a durable legal status that ensures protection for their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights. Lebanon is not a party to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. However, in December 2018, Lebanon joined the UN General Assembly in affirming the Global Compact on Refugees and is a signatory to the core human rights conventions. The Government of Lebanon has consistently affirmed its commitment to the principle of non-refoulement. Furthermore, the Government of Lebanon and its international partners “reiterated that the main durable solution for displaced Syrians in Lebanon is their safe, dignified and non-coercive return to their country of origin, in accordance with international law and the principle of non-refoulement.”<sup>14</sup> The sector recognises that while resettlement figures have dwindled in recent years, it remains an important alternative durable solution which must be promoted.

<sup>12</sup> An analysis of calls in 2021 from the Embrace National Hotline in Lebanon; What we do- Embrace ([embracelebanon.org](http://embracelebanon.org))

<sup>13</sup> Results from the GBV Information Management System in 2021

<sup>14</sup> Brussels II Conference, Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region, Lebanon Partnership Paper, para. 41, 24-25 April 2018 <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/34145/lebanon-partnership-paper.pdf>

## 2. OVERALL SECTOR STRATEGY

### THEORY OF CHANGE

The overarching objective of the Protection sector is that persons at risk in Lebanon, including but not limited to displaced women, girls, men and boys from Syria, live in a safe and protective environment, where their fundamental rights are respected in safety and dignity. This result should be achieved collectively through three key outcomes which aim to address the critical issues identified in the situation analysis. These positive and measurable changes are achieved as follows:

- **Outcome 1 reflects the Protection sector's approach to improving persons' access to fundamental rights**, including access to justice and its work to strengthen protection systems. It is achieved through a combination of three interdependent pillars: 1) people have the necessary information, knowledge and opportunity to understand, demand and exercise their rights in relation to legal topics; 2) people have access to quality legal counselling, assistance and representation, especially survivors of

sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), survivors of trafficking and children at risk, and in relation to matters of civil documentation, legal residency, housing land and property (HLP); and, 3) prevention and response systems for Child Protection (CP), counter-trafficking and SGBV are strengthened, legal frameworks align with international standards, due process and the rule of law are respected and legal procedures are inclusive, accessible and implemented effectively. If these pillars are achieved, then **women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity will have their fundamental rights respected and have access to an effective justice and protection system.**

- **Outcome 2 captures the community-based protection approach of the Protection sector.** It is achieved by three interconnected pillars: 1) diverse women, girls, men and boys are sensitised and engaged on matters of equality, trafficking in persons, SGBV and CP in their community; 2) communities have the information and resources to make and act upon informed decisions, including in

response to community protection issues, and participate in inclusive and accessible community spaces and, 3) communities know and can access functional complaints and feedback mechanisms, including for sexual exploitation and abuse and child safeguarding, with the aim to inform adequate responses. If these pillars are achieved, then **women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity will be safe, empowered and supported in their communities.**

- **Outcome 3 works at the individual and household level to prevent and respond to violence, coercion, deliberate deprivation, exploitation and abuse and to the forced reliance on harmful coping mechanisms.** It is achieved through two interdependent pathways: 1) quality case management, emergency safe shelters, individual and group Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services and protection and emergency cash are available, accessible, safe and informed by the participation of all ages, genders, disability and diversity backgrounds, leading to improved self-reliance and recovery from shock and 2) there is improved access to durable solutions. If these pillars are achieved, then **women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity can live in dignity and will be resilient to shocks.**

The sector's theory of change importantly relies on complementary and sustainable interventions delivered with and through other sectors, government and non-government entities and response frameworks. It will be essential to the achievement of outcomes that strong partnerships are forged with national and local government and that coordination is maintained with the Inter-Sector Working Group, specifically with the social stability, basic assistance, livelihood, shelter, education and health sectors. In 2022, the sector will make a concerted effort to make progress on localisation by strengthening its partnerships with local civil society organisations and coalitions. Paramount will be the sectors' role in promoting protection mainstreaming as well as the provision of a sustainable and integrated package of services which effectively address chronic protection needs, particularly for complex cases. The coordination required with other sectors and line ministries, which is critical to the achievement of protection outcomes, will be outlined through the strategy.

The Protection sector follows a human rights-based and conflict-sensitive approach through the timely identification and mitigation of risks across all activities and is underpinned by a comprehensive and regular protection analysis of the threats, vulnerabilities and coping capacities of different age, gender, ability and diversity groups. The sector will mainstream age, disability, gender and diversity considerations at each stage of the programme cycle. It will also respect a One Refugee Approach whereby non-displaced Syrians (including refugees of other nationalities) and other vulnerable groups (including stateless persons) will be included in sector advocacy and protection services.

## ASSUMPTION, RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Taking into account the unpredictable planning context, the Protection sector theory of change is underpinned by two key assumptions for 2022:

- That despite the fragile political situation and the deteriorated socio-economic conditions, the Government of Lebanon, along with its local level structures, will continue to provide and facilitate access to essential protection services while continuing to facilitate the work of humanitarian actors to provide quality and impartial assistance to persons at risk in Lebanon. To mitigate any potential risks in this regard, the Protection sector will maintain its transparent and jointly coordinated approach with the relevant line ministries (see partnership section).
- Lebanon continues to receive appropriate donor attention. Sufficient aid is channeled to protection as well as other complementary multi-sector assistance packages in line with Protection sector priorities and increased protection needs for the most vulnerable people in Lebanon, including but not limited to displaced persons from Syria. Furthermore, the Protection sector will continue to advocate for sufficient funding and flexible funding arrangements in response to context-specific budget management challenges for protection partners.

The Protection sector will put in place mitigation measures to address the following key risks identified as highly probable and having a high impact in 2022:

- Further deterioration of the socio-economic situation will exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and undermine positive coping strategies. It will lead to growing protection needs across communities, which may be combined with barriers for communities to access protection and other humanitarian services. These barriers may include fuel and electricity shortages, price hikes, and possible COVID-19 restrictions<sup>15</sup>. This will mean persons at heightened risk will more easily fall through the cracks. Key mitigation measures in that regard will be to ensure proper targeting and prioritisation through a comprehensive multi-sectoral approach, strengthened referral pathways, program adjustment, prioritising the importance of in-person services in close proximity to communities, strengthening the quality of remote service provision and introducing new approaches that are inclusive and accessible.
- The risk of political deadlock has the potential to undermine governance, legal and policy reforms and the implementation of national action plans which aim to strengthen the protection system for women, children and socially excluded groups. This also has the potential to derail Protection sector advocacy goals related to enhancing the rule of law and to the implementation of consistent legal procedures. The Protection sector will work to mitigate this risk by adapting advocacy and action plan interventions to target civil servant and public administration level officials in addition to ministerial and parliamentary stakeholders.
- The risk of escalating social tensions in the lead-up to the elections and in the current socio-economic crisis has the potential to result in an increase in inter-/intra-communal disputes, security incidents and increased scapegoating and harassment of refugees. To mitigate the potential risk of harm for refugees, the Protection sector will work with the Social Stability sector and the tensions monitoring task force to anticipate triggers and identify preventative measures and timely responses. In order to respond to medium-impact incidents, programmatic adaptations (such as remote modalities, hotlines and work from home) will be made where needed.

<sup>15</sup> LCRP Business Continuity Plan for COVID-19, April 2021, p.3



## SECTOR RESULTS: LCRP IMPACTS, SECTOR OUTCOMES, OUTPUTS

The results of the Protection sector directly contribute to the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan's (LCRP) Strategic Objective 1 and Impact 1 to ensure the protection of vulnerable populations. The sector also indirectly contributes to Impact 2 (Immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable populations are met) through Outcome 1 and Outcome 3, to Impact 3 (vulnerable populations have equitable access to basic services through national (public and private) systems) through Outcome 1 and to Impact 5 (Social stability is strengthened in Lebanon) through Outcome 1 and Outcome 2<sup>16</sup>. The sector also contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), especially to SDG 5 on Gender Equality, SDG 8 on Decent Work and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

## EXPECTED RESULTS AND PLANNED INTERVENTIONS

The overarching sector objective is to ensure that persons from both the refugee and the host communities, including stateless persons, live in safety and dignity and can enjoy their basic rights. This is articulated through three main outcomes which are each based on interconnected pathways.

### **Outcome 1: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have their fundamental rights respected and have access to an effective justice and protection system.**

In order to achieve this result, the sector will work through three pillars; (a) ensuring all persons know and can exercise their rights; (b) the provision of direct legal aid services and; (c) strengthening Lebanon's legal and protection framework, including respect for the rule of law and implementation of legal procedures. The sector will strengthen its partnership with the government to support public systems to better protect women and children, in particular. The sector will also strengthen its linkages with civil society on key advocacy priorities.

#### *Output 1.1: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have access to information on legal topics and know how to access their rights*

The Protection sector will ensure that women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have access to information about their rights and available services to help understand the available choices they have, particularly in relation to civil documentation, legal residency and HLP rights. For civil documentation, the emphasis will be on raising awareness and disseminating harmonised messaging to ensure people are able to seek assistance or obtain registration by themselves to reduce risk of statelessness. For legal residency, the emphasis will be on ensuring people understand the criteria and procedures to obtain legal residency so they can seek to obtain registration themselves or seek assistance. The sector will aim to increase efforts to provide tailored age-, gender- and region-specific information and outreach.

<sup>16</sup> The Protection sector linkages with impact 2 stem from the sector's work to support access to justice as well as its prevention and response to eviction. Its contribution to impact 3, meanwhile, stems from its work to strengthen the legal framework to better protect women and children and its efforts to promote gender equality and equitable access to education. Through conflict-sensitive interventions, the Protection sector works to contribute to social stability outcomes in impact 5.

Tailored awareness-raising on legal topics will be guided through regular analysis of the ability of persons displaced from Syria to obtain legal residency, as well as an analysis of the evolution of legal, policy and practical barriers, such as mobility restriction or an increase in associated costs. In this respect, community support structures will play a vital role in better understanding social and attitudinal barriers hindering access. Regionally tailored information on the importance of securing legal residency and civil documentation, especially birth registration, will be systematically included in all outreach and awareness-raising activities by child protection, SGBV, protection and education actors. This will assist in scaling up the number of individuals reached and, importantly, ensure that messages are tailored in consultation with target populations of different age, gender and disability backgrounds, given their different experiences and behaviors in relation to legal residency, and to ensure that messages are better able to speak to their specific challenges. Women and youth (especially those between 15 and 17 years old, due to specific legal requirements) will be targeted in particular. Information sessions will address specific misconceptions and concerns among these groups, for which a high percentage of individuals are without legal stay.<sup>17</sup> Furthermore, in 2022, the sector will make a concerted effort to leverage existing community outreach and support structures to raise awareness and tailor messaging on legal residency through training on key messaging.

#### *Output 1.2: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have access to quality legal counselling, assistance and representation*

Legal counselling, assistance and representation will be provided as needed to women, men, girls and boys in relation to the following prioritised issues: to support access to civil documentation, including through accompaniment to the Personal Status Department (PSD); to support access to legal residency, including through accompaniment to the General Directorate of the General Security Offices (GSO); and to support access to security of tenure, in particular with regards to prevention and response to eviction. Legal aid will be available for survivors of SGBV (both legal counselling and representation), children in contact with the law and survivors of trafficking across population groups, making a concerted effort to reach refugees, vulnerable Lebanese and other socially excluded groups, including stateless persons. Where necessary to address access and mobility challenges, the sector will use efficient remote modalities, such as legal counselling over the phone on simple issues that do not require face-to-face discussion. The Protection sector will continue to monitor the application of legal procedures and policies, with the aim of understanding the legal, policy and practical barriers restricting access, such as cost increases, inaccurate or uneven implementation and discriminatory practices.

The Protection sector takes a cross-sectoral and area-based approach to prevention and response to eviction, in line with the Guidance note on response to individual eviction incidents, which was jointly developed with the Shelter sector and will be finalised and rolled out in 2022. Through cross-sector engagement (in particular, with the Shelter and Basic Assistance sectors), a holistic approach to eviction diversion, relocation and mitigation of the impacts of eviction will be taken.

<sup>17</sup> Youth under 18 years old can use a civil extract no older than 3 years as an Identity document.

General preparedness measures will be put in place, including maintaining an updated mapping of operational actors across sectors who can prevent and respond to eviction. These measures will also include mapping roles and responsibilities of shelter, basic assistance, protection and livelihood partners as part of a cross-sectoral action plan for response. Protection monitoring, feedback channels as well as cross-sector referrals will support the identification and response to eviction incidents, including for the Lebanese community. Legal partners will continue to provide preventative activities to increase security of tenure. This will be done through the facilitation of lease agreements and response through legal counselling, legal assistance and representation, including collaborative dispute resolution to resolve HLP disputes. Where deviation attempts fail, legal and protection actors will support households to make a voluntary and informed decision with regards to available relocation options and will conduct the necessary referrals to the shelter and to other relevant sectors. Individuals who experience aggravated protection risks due to a change in their shelter arrangements, such as persons living with disabilities and chronic illnesses and older persons at risk, will be prioritised. Only where necessary, emergency cash will be provided by protection partners alongside legal mediation and advocacy before transitioning eligible households to a more sustainable intervention.

*Output 1.3. Protection and legal frameworks are strengthened and implemented accurately and evenly to better respond to the protection needs of women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity*

The Protection sector will work at an institutional level to ensure that legal procedures and processes in relation to civil documentation, legal residency and HLP, as well as other fundamental rights, are inclusive, accessible and affordable and are implemented accurately and evenly by the responsible institutions. In the Lebanon Partnership Paper, the Government of Lebanon and international partners have highlighted the importance of supporting and upholding the rule of law to preserve the dignified stay of persons displaced from Syria<sup>18</sup>. To achieve this, the sector will prioritise interventions that help to maintain the protection of persons from both host and displaced communities. It will also support the strengthening of a national system that ensures that the rights and protection of women, girls, men and boys of all abilities are respected and fulfilled. This will be done through the monitoring of the protection environment and continuous advocacy, including greater collaboration in 2022 with local civil society organisations and coalitions engaged in protection, legal aid and justice programming to improve access to justice and the legal framework and to enhance the rule of law and capacity building of relevant institutions. The sector will also further its advocacy and research engagement with local human rights organisations, including those working on women's, gender and disability rights issues.

The reversal of the downward trend for all communities in terms of access to residency is of primary importance<sup>19</sup>.

<sup>18</sup> Brussels II Conference (24-25 April 2018), *Supporting the future of Syria and the Region - Lebanon Partnership Paper*, para. 46, <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/34145/lebanon-partnership-paper.pdf>.

<sup>19</sup> In 2021, 84 per cent of displaced Syrians are without residency, VASYR 2021; 51 per cent of Palestinian refugees from Syria are without residency, UNWRA protection monitoring reports 2021. Eighty per cent of refugees from other nationalities are without residency, with 86 per cent of non-Iraqi refugees from other nationalities without residency (VARON 2020) and a growing number of migrants.

Access to legal residency has a critical impact on the overall protection of displaced persons and on their ability to enjoy all basic rights, including access to justice and other services. Lack of valid legal residency remains the main reason for arrest and detention both for Syrians, refugees of other nationalities and migrants. In certain circumstances this may also put these individuals at risk of deportation. The Lebanon Partnership Paper agreed upon between the Government of Lebanon and the co-chairs of the 'Brussels II Conference' in 2018 will continue to provide strategic direction to the sector in fostering legal residency<sup>20</sup>. The paper points to expanding the fee waiver to all displaced persons to ensure free-of-charge access to legal residency, independent of registration status or means of entry. This will continue to be a top priority for the Protection sector in 2022, given that most displaced persons are unable to cover the fees and/or obtain or maintain a sponsor. The paper also outlines the need for enhanced efforts to ensure that the 2017 residency fee waiver is consistently and evenly applied across the GSO in all regions. The Protection sector will continue to provide financial and technical support to strengthen the GSO's capacities, based on regular assessment of the GSO needs, capacities and performance in the field, in order to roll out tailored, sustainable and effective capacity building interventions.

The Protection sector will enhance efforts to ensure continuous improvement in access to civil documentation, including birth, marriage, divorce and death registration, for persons displaced from Syria and other vulnerable populations<sup>21</sup>. The sector will reinforce the national action plan on birth registration for displaced persons from Syria, including for Lebanese children and migrants, through close engagement with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM) and will support its implementation and mainstreaming through other sector and government entities. As part of this effort, the Protection sector will advocate with MoIM as well as with religious courts to further facilitate the marriage registration process for displaced persons from Syria. The sector will also advocate to expand the late birth registration waiver to Syrian children born after the 9th February 2019 and, importantly, to expand the waiver to include children of other nationalities, including Lebanese children. This will lead to a reduced risk of statelessness as well as the simplification of procedures, harmonisation and reduction of fees related to obtaining civil documentation. Capacity building interventions will be conducted in line with the national action plan to enhance the capacities of local and national institutions to register civil events and deliver documentation, including through support to equipment and staffing to the PSD. Interventions will be prioritised based on different institutions' needs, on identified knowledge gaps and on results of capacity building activities previously conducted.

The Protection sector, in coordination with the Shelter sector, will promote housing, land and property rights to increase access to adequate housing and security of tenure, particularly for persons at a heightened protection risk, that guarantees legal protection against forced evictions, harassment and other threats. In 2022, the sector will scale up its HLP services to Lebanese households living in rental accommodations. The sector will also advocate to ensure that due legal process is followed, in accordance with the provisions of the law, in cases where the eviction of tenants cannot be avoided. In 2022, the Protection, Social Stability and Shelter sectors

<sup>20</sup> Lebanon Partnership Paper (April 2018), para. 42

<sup>21</sup> Non-Syrians will be included in interventions of the Protection sector where relevant to ensure a non-discriminatory and "one refugee" approach is being applied.

will work to improve the tracking and reporting of forced and unlawful collective and individual evictions, including for Lebanese households where data is currently limited. Furthermore, the sector will work with the social stability sector, MOIM, MOSA and local authorities to monitor and prevent the application of discriminatory and restrictive measures specifically targeting refugees, including forced and unlawful evictions and curfews, including at the municipal level.

The Protection sector will also reinforce national action plans which relate to SGBV, child protection and counter-trafficking prevention and response systems and older persons through close engagement in the development and implementation of the government's SGBV response, child protection policies and plans and of the National Strategy for older persons in Lebanon. For child protection actors, this will include the advancement of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) Policy for the Protection of Students in the School Environment. The sectors will also support the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) in mainstreaming Child Protection and SGBV in the Health sector by supporting internal and external coordination and referral mechanisms on CP and SGBV and mainstreaming the CP/SGBV guidelines. Additionally, the sector will ensure the implementation of the MoPH CP and GBV Advisory Technical Committee and the National Action Plan. The sector will also work to help the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) undertake steps towards a justice for children reform as well as the advancement of the endorsed national action plan for child labour. It will also support ministerial efforts to eradicate child labour on the national and regional levels. For SGBV response actors, this will entail advancing the implementation of the Child Marriage Action Plan with the Higher Council of Childhood and MOSA, national SGBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and National Action Plan 1325 of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security. Strengthening the commitment, accountability, and national capacity of the social, justice, education and health sectors in Lebanon will promote the sustainability of protection mechanisms through enhanced SGBV and child protection responses and procedures across the country. For counter-trafficking, this will include supporting the adoption and implementation of the national SOP to identify and protect survivors of trafficking. For the protection of older persons, the Protection sector will support the National Strategy for older persons in Lebanon 2020-2030 by mobilizing partners toward promoting their rights and dignity, including exploring options for further outreach to Lebanese older persons and persons with disabilities at risk.

Building on the progress made towards developing policy frameworks for the protection of women and children, including for survivors of trafficking in Lebanon, the sector will continue to support MOSA in the implementation of its endorsed Strategic Plan for the Protection of Women and Children (2020-2026)<sup>22</sup> and to advance the Child Marriage National Action Plan and strengthen the legal and policy framework. Moreover, jointly with the Health sector, efforts will be made to support the development of an action plan as part of the recent National Clinical Management of Rape strategy in coordination with MoPH and other SGBV actors. Specifically, efforts will continue to be made for the amendment of Law 25 of bill 422 on Child Marriage and the MOJ proposal to amend law 164/2011 on counter-

trafficking and to advocate for the enforcement of the new laws – 205/2020 (on sexual harassment) and the law 204/2020 (which amended law 293 on domestic violence). In Palestinian refugee camps, the Protection sector will work with relevant authorities, including security forces, to improve knowledge and adherence to these laws and support the recruitment of female officers. Similarly, outside of camps, there will be close collaboration with the Social Stability sector in line with the strategic reform framework developed by MOIM and the ISF to train municipal police on human rights, protection, gender, SGBV and anti-trafficking.

Technical support will continue to be provided to the MOJ to lead necessary legal reform that is relevant to child justice and to provide the needed judicial support to children in contact with the law. MOIM will also be supported to integrate child protection standards in their curriculum/resources used by the ISF academy to train municipal police. Other line ministries, such as MEHE and MoPH will also be supported to operationalise and effectively enforce commitments made in 2018 through the MEHE Policy for the Protection of Students in the School Environment and policy recommendations to MOPH on Strengthening Child Protection Practices in Healthcare Institutions and the implementation of the National Clinical Management of Rape strategy.

The sector will also invest in on-going training and coaching on child protection, SGBV and counter-trafficking response for case management agencies and relevant government staff to ensure case management and psychosocial support services are provided in a safe and consistent manner, in line with Global Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) minimum standards. This will further be complemented by the continuous use of the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) and by enhancing the usage and efficiency of the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS), including the upgrade to Version Two and training the relevant actors.

The Protection Sector will continue to engage with the government to promote protection-sensitive border management, in line with Lebanon's legal framework and international law, to avoid immigration detention, to uphold Lebanon's non-refoulement obligations and to secure procedural safeguards in case of deportations, including the determination of the best interests of the child and respect for the principle of family unity. Furthermore, and in accordance with the Lebanon Partnership Paper<sup>23</sup>, the sector will continue advocating for the resumption of UNHCR registration of displaced Syrians, which will contribute to a fuller understanding of the scale and scope of needs and consequently of the support required. This will also help facilitate solutions in the form of resettlement to third countries and the safe, dignified, non-coercive return of refugees, when conditions permit.

<sup>22</sup> Part of this strategy is also "Qudwa", a national social behavioral change and communication (SBCC) plan to prevent child marriage, child labour and violence against girls, boys and women in Lebanon that was also launched. The Qudwa initiative is designed to encourage behaviors that promote the wellbeing, dignity and equality of women, girls and boys in Lebanon.

<sup>23</sup> Lebanon Partnership Paper (April 2018), para. 44 and 47



## **Outcome 2: Women, men, girls, and boys in all their diversity are safe, empowered and supported in their communities**

The Protection sector's community-based protection approach recognises the importance that the wider environment – interpersonal relationships, community and society – plays in a person's protection and how a person's circumstances both shape and are shaped by their community. The sector aims to foster a community environment that is safe, participatory and empowering for refugees, vulnerable Lebanese and other socially excluded groups of all ages, genders, disability and diversity backgrounds, while aiming to expand outreach to those in remote areas and socially excluded communities, including stateless persons. The Protection sector takes a rights-based, conflict-sensitive and community-based approach that builds on and mobilises the strengths and skills of the community through their meaningful participation and leadership with a focus on promoting gender equality and ensuring women's participation informs programmes and reduces harm.

*Output 2.1: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have the information and resources to act upon informed decisions and participate in inclusive and accessible community spaces*

The Protection sector will work to strengthen the social fabric of the community in an effort to enhance the resilience of women, men, girls and boys of all ages and diverse backgrounds by supporting them to find solutions to protection issues which affect their lives. A critical component of this work must include Protection partner efforts to ensure the inclusion, participation and empowerment of women, men, girls and boys of all ages and diverse backgrounds at each stage of the programme cycle, in line with the inter-agency standards for community-based interventions. The Protection sector will make a concerted effort to mainstream these minimum standards through Protection and other sector interventions in 2022.

In 2022, the protection sector will take steps to improve its partnership with local civil society organisations and coalitions, including with local women-, youth- and disability-led organisations which can better assess the safety and protection issues these groups face and develop prevention activities to reduce violence. Furthermore, partnerships will be strengthened with community support structures and groups, including local mediators, informal community networks, local leaders and other key gatekeepers. In this respect, the role of communities, in particular women, in providing protection solutions for local issues will be supported. The Protection sector will make efforts to ensure that the feedback, priorities and concerns of these groups and individuals will shape the work of the sector, and in turn will leverage these relationships to expand its reach to foster meaningful community engagement across gender, age, nationality, ability and socio-economic profiles.

Targeted capacity building plans based on the regular assessment of community needs and strengths, community-based interventions and social mobilisation will also support the identification, referral and response to community-level protection concerns. In addition, these plans will enhance the inclusion of persons at heightened risk within community spaces and groups,

including centres, schools, clinics and other places. Specific attention will be paid to the inclusion of women, youth, persons with disabilities and older persons to enhance their engagement, and consideration will be paid to the sustainability of interventions. Leveraging the knowledge and capacity of the community to prevent and respond to protection concerns and to protect those who are most at risk among them will be a key focus in 2022. In this respect, Protection partners will continue to consult and engage with women, men, girls and boys of all ages and diversity backgrounds as well as provide support to identified training needs. This support will include but is not limited to the provision of up-to-date localised service mappings, safe identification and referral trainings and training on Psychological First Aid (PFA) as well as how to provide basic psychosocial support.

Access to reliable and timely information remains a key priority and is critical for individuals to enjoy their rights and to make and act upon informed decisions in their everyday lives and for their futures. The Protection sector will enhance the dissemination of localised, accessible, accurate and updated information on services and eligibility criteria linked to service access, as well as on protection-related concerns. It will continue to use a broad range of information and communication channels based on community preference to facilitate two-way communication. In this respect the sector will consult with the community with respect to the development of robust hotline standard operating procedures (SOP), as one type of communication channel. Inclusive in-person and remote outreach modalities, based on an age and gender analysis of information channels used by different groups, will be used to address mobility constraints and access barriers, especially for persons with disabilities, older persons at risk, children and those with low literacy levels or who do not speak Arabic. Furthermore, attention will be paid to designing inclusive information materials and products in accessible formats (easy to read, interpreters) and ensuring respect for the decision-making capacities of all persons. Innovative outreach methods will also be explored with respect to engaging with vulnerable Lebanese as well as other vulnerable groups, including stateless persons.

The Protection and Social Stability sector will continue to work together with the aim to achieve a safe and inclusive community environment. A joint analysis of protection concerns and tensions at the community level will be produced to anticipate triggers and mitigate the harmful impact of inter- and intra-communal tensions. Bottom-up identification of community concerns and responses will be sought, with a specific focus on tension hot spots. The sectors will aim to reduce tensions by creating space for dialogue and interaction and to enhance positive narratives, with a greater involvement of women as mediators. Lessons learnt and best practices in relation to community mediation, negotiation techniques and communication and messaging will be important to share between sectors. Furthermore, the Protection sector will support the training of media stakeholders on unconscious bias and the human rights and legal framework in Lebanon to promote non-discriminatory and balanced narratives.

*Output 2.2: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity are sensitised and engaged on matters of equality, SGBV and child protection in their community*



The Protection sector will foster the meaningful engagement of communities in social and behavioural change, which will contribute to a protective environment for vulnerable groups and individuals. This includes challenging harmful social norms and practices and promoting positive norms and behavioural change towards protective practices, gender equality, (women's empowerment, male engagement to support gender equality and foster positive masculinity), disability inclusion, non-discrimination of all minorities and diverse groups and stronger child participation<sup>24</sup>. Child Protection actors will also focus on addressing social norms contributing to child labour, child marriage and SGBV risks for children, particularly adolescent girls.

Targeted community-based initiatives will be supported to further engage and empower communities, including women, adolescents and youth, boys and girls to identify their own child protection/gender-based violence issues and solutions and to find their own "champions" and role models. The sector will also aim to stimulate a substantive dialogue across community groups around the main drivers leading to harmful traditional practices and violence, such as child labour, child marriage, intimate partner violence, the use of violent discipline, neglect and sexual exploitation and abuse. It will continue to promote non-violent approaches to manage relationships within the family and the community, enhancing positive parenting skills and building resilience to deal with the stressful consequences linked to the protracted nature of displacement. This will allow the sector to capitalise on community allies, including men and boys, to challenge harmful social norms and promote behavioral change and gender equality while enhancing community ownership.

*Output 2.3: Known, accessible and available complaint and feedback, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and child safeguarding mechanisms are in place*

The Protection sector will strengthen its work to improve the accountability of local institutions and service providers vis-à-vis affected people. This will be done by promoting an open dialogue with communities on protection risks and needs by encouraging feedback on programmatic interventions and modalities, including remote modalities, through adapted and inclusive Complaint and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) to inform design and delivery of services; and by fostering the development of contextualised, effective and sustainable solutions with the communities. Efforts will be made to ensure that information and communication channels for organisation-specific CFM are designed in consultation with all groups and are safely accessible and appropriate for persons with disabilities, older persons, women at risk and children and socially excluded groups (including on the basis of gender) to use in a confidential manner. The sector will aim to address barriers individuals face in voicing their feedback and concerns, including through ensuring support for transportation as needed. The sector will promote the inter-agency minimum standard on complaint and feedback as well as the collective sharing of CFM trends to inform the protection response, and the provision of training on accountability for affected populations (AAP).

<sup>24</sup> This, for instance, will be achieved through positive parenting sessions encouraging role models and positive alternatives, and psychosocial support activities for adolescent girls addressing child marriage

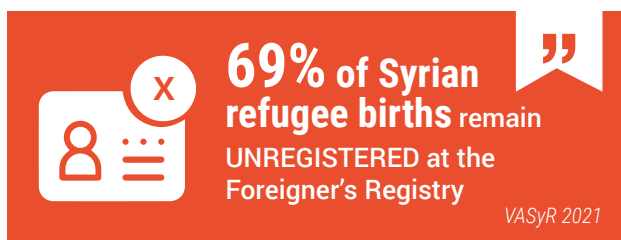
The Protection Sector will scale up efforts to reduce the risk of SEA for all vulnerable populations, in particular children and persons with disabilities, through adapted awareness-raising interventions on PSEA mechanisms. The sector will prevent the risks of PSEA across all interventions by adopting sector-specific preventive/mitigation measures. The sector will support capacity building initiatives on PSEA targeting, especially for frontline workers who have direct contact with recipients of assistance. Through its partners, the sector will ensure that vulnerable populations, including children and persons with disabilities, can safely access PSEA reporting mechanisms and be referred for assistance through the established SGBV/CP pathways. The sector will mitigate the risk of PSEA across all interventions, with a focus on areas of particular concern, such as cash assistance<sup>25</sup>. Partners will ensure that vulnerable populations are able to access PSEA reporting mechanisms through regular and inclusive consultations with communities. Mechanisms to handle complaints will be strengthened by all organisations and their implementing partners in the sector. The strengthening of PSEA systems will be more systematically integrated in international organisations' partnership with local actors for project implementation. The sector will address the risk of PSEA by providing partners with the relevant guidance and support to mainstream appropriate mechanisms to handle PSEA complaints. Links will be made to the Inter-Agency Community-based Complaint and Feedback Mechanism (CBCM) – PSEA, which is being established under the PSEA Network. At the same time, efforts will be made to ensure that Codes of Conduct which include commitments on PSEA are signed by all partner staff, consultants, volunteers and contractors. The sector will also strengthen and support international and local partners' capacities to implement child safeguarding policies and procedures, including community complaint mechanisms, to prevent any harm or abuse by employees, partners, volunteers and/or other representatives, as well as non-staff (including suppliers and contractors) against children from the affected population.

### **Outcome 3: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity live in dignity and are resilient to shocks**

At an individual level, the Protection sector aims to address growing levels of violence, coercion, deliberate deprivation, exploitation, trafficking and abuse against women, children and persons at heightened risk by their intimate partners, organised criminal networks, parents, caregivers or other family members, as well as high levels of mental health and psychosocial concerns and growing reliance on harmful coping mechanisms. The sector approach to prioritisation and targeting requires understanding how an individual's protective strengths and capacities can be compromised by risk factors in their life. Acknowledging this requires the sector to take a strengths-based, person-in-environment and trauma-informed approach to working with at-risk individuals, seeing them as active agents in dealing with difficult situations and the critical role their strengths, access to resources, relationships and capacities play in supporting their protection.

The sector will work to strengthen complementary sustainable multi-sectoral packages of assistance, including linkages to social protection schemes. A hybrid in-person and remote modality approach will be used with an emphasis on the monitoring of program quality and outreach.

<sup>25</sup> Protection Sector Guidance Note on the Use of Cash for Emergency Protection Responses, pg. 5



*Output 3.1: Protection, Child Protection and SGBV services, including mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) are available, accessible, safe and informed by the participation of women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity*

The Protection sector will strive to ensure that women, men, girls and boys, including survivors of violence and persons at heightened risk, have access to an integrated package of quality prevention and response services that improve their safety and psychological wellbeing. The Protection sector will scale up its support to survivors of SGBV, survivors of trafficking, children-at-risk and persons at heightened risk through the provision of case management, MHPSS and protection and emergency cash interventions.

Case management will remain the cornerstone for providing individual support and protection to the most vulnerable and at-risk individuals, including women and children. Individual case management will be complemented by focused and non-focused psychosocial support at the group and individual levels that targets women at risk, including SGBV survivors, survivors of trafficking, children and their caregivers and other persons at heightened risk. Services for children will be reinforced through the engagement of their caregivers in focused and non-focused PSS activities and positive parenting sessions. These sessions will be provided together to enhance their effectiveness as the opportunity costs of participation may be high and inaccessible for the family. Efforts will be made to provide children and their caregivers with flexible hours to allow for children engaged in income-generating activities, such as street-connected children, to attend. Combining interventions through an integrated multi-sectoral package of services (including cash assistance) is essential to support families facing multiple deprivations and complex issues, such as child labour, child marriage and violence in the household, and can facilitate their access to and participation in protection activities. Although multidimensional poverty is often observed as the strongest driver of deprivation, factors like strong cultural and social norms, civil or legal status (e.g. child of a single mother, migrant worker, undocumented or stateless person) and disability significantly exacerbate harm and limit access to services. Strengthening complementary referrals to basic assistance, education, health and livelihood programs will be imperative. Moreover, there is a demonstrated need to maintain both physical and virtual safe spaces for adolescent girls and women to support their safety and empowerment and to allow them to access information on available services, such as sexual and reproductive health and mental health services and others. The sector will also continue to support existing safe shelter options (mid-way houses) to allow survivors at high risk to have the possibility to seek assistance within safe shelters where they can also continue to access case management services.

The sector has observed an increase in mental health concerns, including suicidal ideations and psychological symptoms within the affected population. This

demonstrates the need to scale up the integration of basic MHPSS assessments into case management and the training for suicide prevention and response. The continued provision of quality remote and in-person psychosocial support will be reinforced alongside case management in coordination with the Health sector, as will the provision of messages by the community to address stigma and barriers to accessing MHPSS services. The Protection sector recognises the crucial role that MHPSS interventions play in achieving protection outcomes. Emphasis will be on further enhancing access to MHPSS by collaborating closely with the Health sector, the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Task Force and the National Mental Health Programme<sup>26</sup>. Joint-priority areas are: improvement of safe identification and referral of persons requiring a MHPSS intervention between the Health and Protection sectors, including at primary healthcare centres and SDCs and for other sector staff; provision of mental health services for humanitarian workers to improve and promote staff care (organisational health) and self-care awareness among staff; mainstreaming MHPSS through sectors through the provision of PFA training; strengthening engagement with local NGOs and civil society, providing MHPSS services to vulnerable populations; and improving data collection on MHPSS needs.

Protection and emergency cash assistance can be critical interventions to prevent and respond to specific protection risks with the aim of achieving protection outcomes. The Protection Sector Guidance Note on the Use of Cash for Emergency Protection Responses will be updated and expanded to include guidance on the use of cash as part of case management, in line with the scaling up of protection case management interventions and to reflect an appropriate transfer value<sup>27</sup>. Cash is often most successful in meeting protection outcomes when used alongside complementary interventions and as part of integrated multi-sectoral packages to enhance the capacity of vulnerable populations to cope with shocks. Harmonisation of cash practices will be strengthened alongside the improved monitoring and reporting of cash-related protection risks as well as the impact of cash on protection and social stability outcomes. The provision of cash plays a critical role in reducing the risk of individuals and families resorting to harmful coping mechanisms. In this respect, the Protection sector will continue working closely with the Basic Assistance, Food Security and Agriculture and Livelihoods sectors to increase successful referrals between sectors in an effort to ensure that persons and families at risk are prioritised and supported adequately to enhance the complementarity and sustainability of interventions. Close cooperation between the sectors will be reinforced to identify barriers and approaches to enhancing linkages between protection and emergency cash, with cash for basic needs and livelihood opportunities and social protection schemes. The sector will also work closely with the Livelihood sector to develop joint advocacy messages to ensure sufficient funding that considers the need for more inclusive livelihood opportunities and that takes into consideration the needs of persons at heightened risk to access safe livelihood opportunities. This will be done with an aim to reduce the vulnerability of displaced persons to exploitation, mitigate potential dependency on humanitarian aid and to support

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.moph.gov.lb/en/Pages/6/553/the-national-mental-health-program>

<sup>27</sup> As stated in the Guidance note "The eligibility criteria for ECA is based on three key cumulative criteria. Are eligible individuals/households who: face a specific protection risk (as a result of a shock or accumulation of factors); and have limited coping mechanisms due to a specific vulnerability (including persons with disabilities, older persons at risk, female-headed households) and for whom a one-off payment of cash assistance may address or mitigate a serious and direct harm."

their contributions to the local economy.

To ensure that all individuals are equally protected, the sector will prioritise activities that aim to enhance the delivery of quality and inclusive protection services to those most at risk or who are marginalised, including women and children at risk, SGBV survivors, trafficking survivors, persons with disabilities and socially excluded individuals (including on the basis of gender). The sector will promote equal access to services to all, including to specialised rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities. Disability inclusion mainstreaming will be ensured through systematic identification of disability using a functional approach<sup>28</sup> (e.g. Washington Group Short Set of Questions) and through prioritising interventions based on risk assessments and vulnerability criteria that include disability, together with age, gender, and other relevant factors. The adaptation of general services and the systematic inclusion of disability in monitoring to measure access to services will also be critical interventions to ensure an inclusive approach.

### *Output 3.2: Refugees have access to durable solutions*

To ensure the protection of displaced Syrians and refugees of other nationalities, it is essential they are able to access and make free and informed decisions on durable solutions. In that respect, “the Government of Lebanon and its international partners reiterated that the main durable solution for displaced Syrians in Lebanon is their safe, dignified and non-coercive return to their country of origin, in accordance with international law and the principle of non-refoulement.”<sup>29</sup> The Protection sector will provide basic counselling as part of regular activities and support displaced persons who have decided to return to Syria or another country of origin to assist them to re-establish themselves and access basic services upon return. The Protection sector will continue to advocate that discussions on return plans take into account protection thresholds<sup>30</sup>. At the same time, the identification of persons displaced from Syria with compelling protection needs and their referral to resettlement or other humanitarian admission programmes will be strengthened, while simultaneously advocating for increased opportunities in line with the Lebanon Partnership Paper, as they remain limited<sup>31</sup>.

## **IDENTIFICATION OF SECTOR NEEDS AND TARGETS AT THE INDIVIDUAL/HOUSEHOLD, COMMUNITY AND INSTITUTIONAL/PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT LEVELS**

The three outcomes of the Protection sector have been prioritised by focusing on the positive changes that can be made at the individual, household, community and institutional levels and through strategic collaboration and partnerships with other sectors, governmental entities and development actors.

At the individual and household levels, the sector delivers direct CP, SGBV, protection and legal services to refugees and Lebanese at heightened risk with immediate legal or physical protection needs and/or where protection risks are exacerbated due to their age, gender, disability or other diversity background. The sector targets based on a recognition that a person’s characteristics and circumstances, such as their age, gender, disability or other diversity characteristics, result in risk factors when they interact with threats and barriers in their wider environment (i.e. interpersonal relations, community and societal level). As such, categorical needs assessments are informed by a regular protection analysis of the threats, vulnerabilities and coping capacities and not through a predetermined category of vulnerabilities. The sector adopts the One Refugee inclusive targeting approach inclusive of refugees of other nationalities and other persons at risk. Targets have been set based on needs identified at the onset of the LCRP and have been adjusted to reflect increased needs based on 2021 protection monitoring results, the VASyR, UNRWA and IOM assessments and other specific assessments, as well as through exchanges with partners. A total of 1,935,000 (51% female; 49% male) displaced Syrians, Lebanese and Palestinian refugees from Lebanon will be targeted through Protection sector interventions.

At the community level, captured in Outcome 2, the sector aims to target tension hotspots for its work on tensions mitigation, in line with the approach of the SOST sector, while it also works to identify and leverage existing community structures (community organisations, groups, centers and social stability mechanisms) in vulnerable areas with a high refugee-to-host community ratio.

At the institutional level, national and local institutions will be prioritised based on capacities and needs and on the results of previous capacity building initiatives. For capacity building and technical and financial support, the sector targets government institutions which manage the border, process civil documents and legal residency permits and law enforcement, such as GSO, ISF and LAF. Also targeted will be the PSD, local CSOs, MOSA and social development centres that are used for child protection services and safe spaces for survivors of violence, and the ISF academy and municipal police under MOIM. MOSA and MOIM are key partners in eviction negotiations. Legal aid systems are reinforced to support access to justice, including representation through close engagement with the MoJ, the Courts and the Bar associations and the Ministry of Labour.

<sup>28</sup> A functional approach is designed to identify in a comparable manner people with a greater risk than the general population of not participating by collecting information on the difficulty of performing basic activities.

<sup>29</sup> Lebanon Partnership Paper (April 2018), para. 41

<sup>30</sup> Comprehensive Protection and Solutions Strategy: Protection Thresholds and Parameters for Refugee Return to Syria (2018, UNHCR)

<sup>31</sup> Lebanon Partnership Paper (April 2018), para. 47



Health facilities will receive capacity building on clinical management of rape in collaboration with the MoPH and the Clinical Management of Rape Taskforce under the national CMR strategy. Partnerships will be encouraged over one-off interventions to foster a comprehensive, effective and durable approach to capacity building.

## PARTNERSHIPS

A holistic approach for engaging different stakeholders and establishing partnerships will continue to be applied, through partnerships with government line ministries, civil society (national and international), UN agencies, donors and development agencies.

In partnership with the Government of Lebanon, the Protection sector will continue to support the strengthening of national, regional and local community systems to protect women, men, girls and boys. The sector will strengthen its engagement with the MoSA and MoIM on protection interventions at the central and local levels, including access to territory, legal residency, access to justice, civil status documentation and evictions as well as on trafficking, SGBV and Child Protection.

The sector will also engage with other line ministries, including MEHE, MoPH, MoJ, Ministry of Labour (MoL), Higher Council for Childhood, National Commission for Lebanese Women, Disaster Risk Management Unit, Internal Security Forces, municipal police, judges and bar associations, non-governmental agencies and civil society to strengthen national systems on protection, CP and protection against SGBV and trafficking in persons. This will include legislative and national policies to maintain a protective environment for everyone affected by the Syria crisis, and to increase access to justice for affected populations and ensure equitable treatment for all in accordance with global human rights standards.

In 2022, the sector will make a concerted effort to make progress on localisation by strengthening its partnerships with local civil society organisations and coalitions, including the Lebanon Humanitarian and Development Forum (LHDF), People Affected by the Syria Crisis Working Group (PASC) and legal actors. The sector will also further its advocacy and research engagement with local human rights organisations, including those working on women's, gender and disability rights issues. The Protection sector will ensure that the feedback, priorities and concerns of local organisations are able to shape the work of the sector.



An International Rescue Committee caseworker is leading a focused psychosocial support session (FPSS) for street and working children from Tripoli.

IRC (Pascale Feghali) September 2021



### 3. MAINSTREAMING PROTECTION (AGE, GENDER, DISABILITY), CONFLICT SENSITIVITY AND ENVIRONMENT

The Protection sector will support the Inter-Sector Working Group to ensure that the full range of the four key elements of protection mainstreaming – safety, dignity and do no harm, meaningful access without discrimination, accountability, and participation and empowerment—for all age, gender, disability and diversity backgrounds—are applied across the 2022 response plan. Through a protection mainstreaming approach, other cross-cutting issues will be mainstreamed with specific support provided by technical focal points. The sector will continue to provide technical support to other sectors to support the pursuit of joint-protection mainstreaming priorities as articulated in their strategies.

In 2022, the protection sector will focus on the following key priorities:

- To strengthen protection analysis to improve age, gender, disability and diversity analysis, to adopt an intersectional approach to vulnerability analysis, to fill identified data gaps for specific communities, including the Lebanese host community, and to improve the frequency of reports, overall contributing to the objective of delivering assistance that is accepted and inclusive.
- To strengthen and support the identification of protection risks in order to implement corresponding mitigation measures prioritised by other sectors, with focused support provided to the shelter and Basic Assistance sector to implement their protection mainstreaming action plans.
- To improve the monitoring and evaluation of protection mainstreaming actions through sector reporting channels and outcome monitoring.
- To continue to strengthen the effectiveness and accountability of inter-agency referrals through the provision of training, inter-agency service mapping and referral reporting. Thematic discussions will be held with key sectors, including Livelihood, Basic Assistance, Food Security and Agriculture and Health to address referral bottlenecks.

#### GENDER

The Protection sector takes an intersectional approach to vulnerability. In doing so it will enhance its age, gender and disability analysis in order to identify protection risks and develop mitigation measures adapted to the diverse needs of women, girls, men and boys, but also to promote gender equality, particularly throughout its interventions. Protection programming aims to be gender-transformative; at minimum, however, it should be gender-responsive, avoid reinforcing existing stereotypes and make efforts to understand the perspectives and experiences of diverse women, men, girls and boys.

Existing gender norms, including entrenched masculinity models, will be more systematically assessed and consistently addressed to ensure that the sector tackles gender dynamics, which are the root cause of some of the most complex protection issues, such as child marriage. The sector will promote the inclusion of gender mainstreaming and targeted action for gender equality and empowerment of women and girls in all protection mainstreaming activities. The sector will continue to support SGBV risk mitigation and mainstreaming activities in line with the Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action.

The sector will increasingly engage with grassroots women's organisations in order to support them and strengthen their capacities and put an increased focus on women's access to justice and women's perceptions of safety and proposed solutions. Women's role in providing protection solutions within their communities will be strengthened and supported. The sector will focus on adolescent girls' protection and empowerment.

#### DISABILITY INCLUSION

As indicated in the strategy above, the Protection sector will continue to enhance inclusivity of programmes and ensure that barriers – environmental, attitudinal, institutional and communication – to the full access to and participation of persons with disabilities are removed through capacity building and programme adjustment.

- Persons with disabilities and their caregivers will be more systematically consulted and their contributions will be reflected in programme design, implementation and monitoring.
- The inter-agency mapping of services<sup>32</sup> will be regularly reviewed to ensure that specialised services for persons with disabilities are identified, strengthened and included in referral pathways.
- The sector will also actively promote the use of contextually appropriate and verifiable data collection tools in the Protection and other sectors as well as through inter-sectoral tools. This will allow for greater identification, better understanding of barriers to services and for humanitarian activities being equitable for all.
- Closer attention will be paid to ensuring that programmes are accessible and inclusive across sectors, including to ensure the inclusive design of communication and information channels and materials, including through the development and dissemination of adapted guidance<sup>33</sup>.

<sup>32</sup> Inter-Agency Service Mapping found here: <http://ialebanon.unhcr.org/ServiceMapping/index.html> and Inter-Agency Minimum Standards on Referrals found here: [Inter-Agency Minimum Standards on Referrals.pdf](#)

<sup>33</sup> Such as IASC (2019), *Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action*, and DG ECHO (2019), *The Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in EU-funded Humanitarian Aid Operations*

## YOUTH

Protection programmes will be adapted following consultations to ensure that the distinctive needs, concerns and expectations of youth, including those with disabilities, are considered, and their active participation in tailored community-based interventions is promoted. Where possible, programmes will include youth in community groups.

**Child protection and SGBV programmes will support high-risk adolescent girls and boys and youth to be engaged in activities to prevent and respond to such risks and protection concerns.** As described in the above strategy, the Protection sector will engage with other sectors, such as Education, Livelihoods and Health, to promote the inclusion of youth in their activities, including through targeted outreach for youth who do not benefit from public health services because they are out of school.

## CONFLICT SENSITIVITY

The conflict sensitivity and do no harm principles are a core tenet of protection programming. Protection partners develop activities based on a thorough analysis of the protective environment. Pre-existing individual and community-level coping strategies are identified and built upon, and efforts are taken to avoid undermining positive coping capacities within the community and to avoid causing unintended harm. This is one of the fundamental principles underpinning a community-based protection approach. Protection programming partners will undertake, and programming will be closely informed by, appropriate tensions monitoring and conflict-sensitivity analysis, in a context where tensions related to perceived bias in aid provision are increasingly a source of tensions<sup>34</sup>. Partner participation in conflict sensitivity and do no harm training will be promoted, and a quarterly tensions update will be presented in the protection working group<sup>35</sup>. In this regard, the sector will monitor the risks resulting from its interventions and put in place mitigation measures. Furthermore, it will support efforts to improve effective communication with communities about aid and eligibility. Coordination with the Social Stability sector will be enhanced to ensure that regular tensions monitoring and protection risks analysis are used to support all sectors.

## ENVIRONMENT

Given the implication of environment-related issues on protection risks, including the threat of collective evictions and community tensions, the Protection sector will increasingly coordinate with the WASH sector and the Solid Waste Management Task Force to enhance mitigation of protection concerns and the inclusion of protection criteria in the prioritisation of the sites to be supported. The sector will also coordinate with the Environment Task Force based at the Ministry of Environment for raising awareness on environment and hygiene-related messages to communities through community structures and on the inclusion of environmental considerations in programs related to social behaviour change.

<sup>34</sup> UNDP/ARK Perception Survey, August 2021 Document - UNDP & ARK, Regular Perceptions Survey of Social Tensions Throughout Lebanon, Wave VI (August 2019) ([unhcr.org](http://unhcr.org))

<sup>35</sup> Incorporation of the guiding principles on conflict sensitivity and do no harm will be done in line with 'Guidance Note One: Getting Started with Conflict Sensitivity in Lebanon' by UNDP Lebanon

## OUTCOME 1: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have their fundamental rights respected and have access to an effective justice and protection system.

INDICATOR 1A	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of persons with legal stay	Percentage of persons who have legal residency, out of the total displaced Syrian population. This indicator will be disaggregated by age group, sex and disability	VASyR	%	Yearly

### Displaced Syrians

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
26%	16%	40%

INDICATOR 1B	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Nofous level	Number of persons who have benefitted from resettlement or other humanitarian admission programmes procedures who have departed. This indicator will be disaggregated by age group, sex and disability.	VASyR	%	Yearly

### Displaced Syrians

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
36%	51%	50%

INDICATOR 1C	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Foreigners' Registry level	Percentage of children (aged 0-5 years) born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the level of the Foreigners' Registry (Personal Status Department). This indicator will be disaggregated by sex.	VASyR	%	Yearly

### Displaced Syrians

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
17%	31%	40%

INDICATOR 1D	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of households who have moved accommodation in the last 6 months due to eviction	Percentage of households who have moved accommodation in the last 6 months due to eviction. This indicator will be disaggregated by age group, sex and disability.	VASyR	%	Yearly

### Displaced Syrians

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
N/A	3%	2.80%

INDICATOR 1E	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of children aged 2-14 who experienced violent disciplinary practices	Children between 1 and 14 years old that have experienced at least one form of violent discipline.	VASyR 2021	%	Every 2 years

### Lebanese





### Displaced Syrians

### Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)

### Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (PRL)

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
57%	N/A	40%	65%	56.3%	45%	77%	N/A	45%	82%	N/A	45%

INDICATOR 1F	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of women and girls aged 15-49 who state that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife	Standard MICS indicator used to assess the attitudes of women age 15-49 towards wife beating by asking the respondents whether husbands are justified to hit or beat their wives in a variety of situations, including (i) goes out without telling him, (ii) neglects the children, (iii) argues with him, (iv) refuses sex with him, and (v) burns the food. The purpose of these questions are to capture the social justification of violence (in contexts where women have a lower status in society) as a disciplinary action when a woman does not comply with certain expected gender roles. By 2018, a reduction of 12% of the baseline in targeted communities is expected. By 2020, a reduction of 20% in targeted communities is expected.	MICS 2018, 2021	%	Every 2 years

 Lebanese			 Displaced Syrians			 Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)			 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (PRL)		
Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
6%	N/A	5%	10%	N/A	8%	5%	N/A	4%	11%	N/A	9%

## OUTCOME 2: Women, men, boys and girls in all their diversity are safe, empowered and supported in their communities.

INDICATOR 2A	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
% of women and girls who report actions taken in their communities in the past 6 months that made them feel safer (dissaggregated by disability and age)	Indicator will be measured through 1-2 questions in KAP survey and through regular monitoring of safe spaces through FGD in intervention areas. Questions will evaluate whether women and girls, including with disabilities, are able to report at least one intervention taken in their communities that made them feel safer. Communities are defined as places where individuals live, work and/or convene.	KAP survey and FGD; Tool 4 of the SGBV toolkit	%	

### Displaced Syrians

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
N/A	N/A	60%

INDICATOR 2B	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
% of women, men, girls and boys report feeling very or fairly safe walking around their neighborhood	VASyR question (asked to the main respondent/ collected at Household level): "How safe do you feel walking alone in your area or neighborhood?"	VASyR	%	Yearly

### Displaced Syrians

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
77%	N/A	85%

INDICATOR 2C	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
% of diverse women, men, girls and boys who report knowing how to report a complaint or provide feedback on humanitarian assistance	N/A	VASyR	%	Yearly

### Displaced Syrians

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
N/A	N/A	60%



**OUTCOME 3: Women, girls, men and boys in all their diversity live in dignity and are resilient to shocks**

INDICATOR 3A	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of persons referred provided with services	Percentage of persons referred, provided with services under the categories of the Inter-Agency Referral Database, e.g.: Legal, Persons with Specific Needs, etc.), and whose cases were successfully closed. This indicator will be disaggregated by age group, sex and disability	"Inter-Agency Tracking System through Activity Info = [Referrals accepted and successfully closed, all sectors] / [Total referrals to all sectors]"	%	Quarterly

**TOTAL**

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
N/A	N/A	40%

INDICATOR 3B	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of persons receiving protection and emergency cash assistance who report it contributed to addressing their protection risk/incident	This requires reporting on the number of surveyed individuals through outcome monitoring and of that number who said cash contributed to addressing a protection risk/incident. Disaggregated by gender.	Activity Info, Partner reporting	%	Quarterly

**TOTAL**

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
N/A	N/A	60%

INDICATOR 3C	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Number of persons benefitting from resettlement or other humanitarian pathways	Number of persons who have benefitted from resettlement or other humanitarian admission programmes procedures who have departed. This indicator will be disaggregated by age group, sex and disability.	Progress Reports	Individuals	Quarterly





**Displaced Syrians**





Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
7771	6064	12,000

INDICATOR 3D	DESCRIPTION	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	UNIT	FREQUENCY
Percentage of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labour	UNICEF Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey Indicator 8.2 Numerator = Number of children age 5-17 years who are involved in child labour Denominator = Total number of children age 5-17 years	MICS 2022 & VaSyR 2022 & MSNA 2022	%	Every 2 years

**Lebanese****Displaced Syrians****Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)****Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (PRL)**

Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
6%	N/A	3.60%	7%	N/A	4.50%	4%	N/A	3.50%	5%	N/A	4.50%

INDICATOR 3E			DESCRIPTION			MEANS OF VERIFICATION			UNIT	FREQUENCY	
Percentage of children (boys and girls) who reported an improvement in their psychosocial well-being as measured through the SDQ			Children (who are enrolled in PSS programmes) who report and increase in their well-being based on SDQ carried out in PSS activities.			SDQ administered in PSS programmes			%	Semi-annual	
 Lebanese			 Displaced Syrians			 Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)			 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (PRL)		
Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
45%	N/A	80%	45%	N/A	80%	45%	N/A	80%	45%	N/A	80%

INDICATOR 3F			DESCRIPTION			MEANS OF VERIFICATION			UNIT	FREQUENCY	
Percentage of women (20-24) married before 18			Standard MICS indicator on Child Marriage targeting women aged 20-24 married before age 18. The indicator will be measured every two years. By 2018, a reduction of 12% of the baseline in targeted communities is expected. By 2020, a reduction of 20% in targeted communities is expected.			MICS 2018, 2021			%	Every 2 years	
 Lebanese			 Displaced Syrians			 Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)			 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (PRL)		
Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022	Baseline	Result 2021	Target 2022
6%	N/A	5%	41%	N/A	32.8%	25%	N/A	20%	12%	N/A	10%