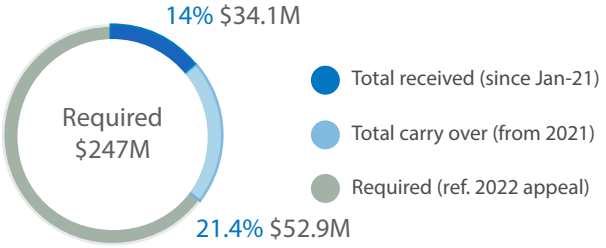
2022 Quarter 1 SECTOR DASHBOARD
Water

Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon

The Quarter 1 dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Water Sector in Lebanon is working towards its expected outcome: by 2023, more vulnerable people in Lebanon are accessing sufficient, safe water for drinking and domestic use with reduced health and environmental impacts from unsafe wastewater management.

2022 Sector Funding Status
As of 31st of March 2022



2022 population reached

2,688,071 People in need

21% — 2,067,041 targeted
- 923,529 female
- 887,314 male

2022 population figures by cohort

1,500,000 Lebanese individuals in need

11% — 132,358 reached; 1,200,000 targeted
- 624,000 female
- 576,000 male

990,000 Displaced Syrians in need

39% — 293,716 reached; 754,000 targeted
- 384,540 female
- 369,460 male

20,161 Palestinian Refugees from Syria (individuals)

1% — 80 reached; 11,600 targeted
- 6,032 female
- 5,568 male

177,910 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (individuals)

0% — 4 reached; 101,441 targeted
- 52,749 female
- 48,692 male

Progress against targets

Key Achievements

of affected people assisted in permenant location with improved access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and for domestic use

148,947 / 1,706,500

# of affected people assisted with temporary access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and water for domestic use

277,211 / 360,541

# of affected people with access to improved safe sanitation in temporary locations

278,263/ 270,040

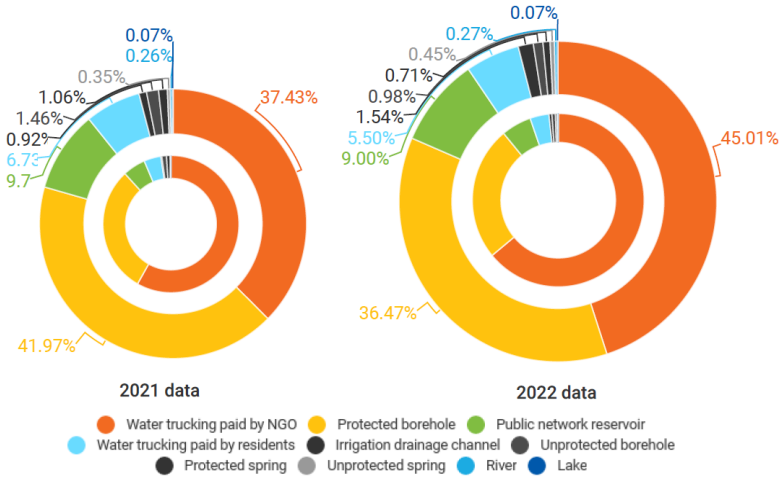
#of rehabilitated latrines to meet environmentally friendly practices

162 / 2,220

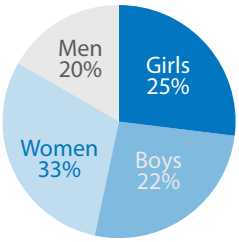
# of individuals who have experienced a WASH behaviour change session/activity

127,071 / 615,000

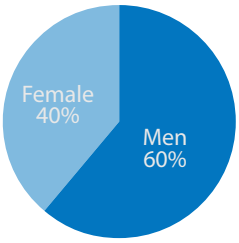
The current Energy crisis is increasing the dependency of sites on water trucking as it reduces the possibility of production of onsite sources. In 2022 this has resulted in an increase of 450 informal settlements and 15,000 being dependent on water trucking paid for by NGOs. The graph under are presenting the repartition of the main water source per type when the inner one present its associated number of individuals. (Source: WaSH Sector Assessment Platform 2022)



Age/Gender Breakdown



men/women/boys/girls who have experienced a WASH behaviour change session/activity



# of affected women / men benefiting from WaSH livelihood opportunities

MULTI-SECTORAL SITUATION UPDATE

In the second quarter of 2022, families across Lebanon continued to face depleting purchasing power, affecting vulnerable peoples' ability to meet their basic needs. 94 per cent of refugees surveyed through May protection monitoring reported that they had difficulties buying food due to lack of money, while 81 per cent reported an inability or increased difficulty in paying rent. By May 2022, the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) had increased by more than 150 per cent since the same time in 2021. Based on WFP price monitoring, in mid-June 2022, the food SMEB sat at 770,000LBP per person (an increase of 50,000LBP compared to the previous week), while the non-food basket reached 1,400,000LBP per family of five. The price of combustible fuel continued to increase, while a rapid increase was noted in gasoline, despite the fact that in Q2-2022, gasoline remained the only commodity for which the Central Bank provides USD through Sayrafa for its import. Food availability continued to be affected, including an 18 per cent decrease in unloaded food imports through the Port of Beirut when comparing the first five months of 2022 with 2021, and a 33 per cent decrease compared to 2020. WFP-contracted shops however saw some stability in-stock availability, with 79 per cent of shops reporting at least two weeks of stock coverage by May 2022. During Q2, the exchange rate averaged 27,988 LBP to the USD, peaking at 38,000 LBP in May. According to a Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) 2022 survey, Lebanon reported an all-time high unemployment rate of 29.6 per cent. A World Economic Forum report published in 2022 shows that women's economic participation stands at almost 20 per cent, placing Lebanon a concerning 132nd in the world ranking. Lebanese parliamentary elections were held on 15 May 2022, in the midst of ongoing economic turmoil in Lebanon. Voter turnout stood at 49 per cent, on a par with the 2018 parliamentary election. The ARK/UNDP perceptions survey revealed that 58 per cent of Lebanese were concerned in advance about the threat of electoral violence however, the overall process took place in a generally calm and organized climate with no major security incidents reported. In terms of inter-communal tensions, however, monitoring data from May shows that negative perceptions remain extremely high, with 49 per cent of Lebanese and Syrian respondents reporting that they perceive inter-communal relations as negative, an increase from 24 per cent in January 2021. Negative sentiments expressed online regarding the presence of Syrian refugees in Lebanon spiked in Q2-2022 including in response to political statements made around the Brussels VI Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region, held in May 2022. Despite fears that funding and international attention may be diverted from the Syria crisis response given escalating needs associated with the crisis in Ukraine, the Conference delivered financial pledges at an equivalent level to 2021 for the response in Syria and across the region.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SECTOR AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL

In May 2022, the Ministry of Energy and Water, in collaboration with Water Establishments (WEs), Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and the European Union, finalized a Roadmap to Recovery of the Water Sector in Lebanon, MoEW 2022 (5-year recovery plan), which includes proposed annual tariffs increase over the next 5 years and aiming to close the budget gaps for the Water Establishments by 2026 [Output 1.1, Develop institutional governance to adopt key water strategies]. During the first half of 2022, the sector reached nearly 277,211 displaced Syrians (135,833 men, 141,376 women, 146,922 children) in temporary locations (77% of the target) through the provision of adequate quantities of safe water for drinking and domestic use [Output 2.1]. Nearly 983,000 m3 of safe drinking water was delivered via water trucking services and provision of storage volume of tanks of over 4600 m3. Similarly, over 278,263 displaced Syrians (136,349 men, 141,914 women, 147,479 children) in temporary locations (103% of the target) have been reached with improved access to sanitation and safely managed wastewater services [Output 2.1]. Nearly 258,000 m3 of sludge was removed from the informal settlements and disposed of in wastewater treatment plants, while 162 latrines were rehabilitated or constructed to meet environmentally friendly practices (7% of the target). This low achievement is due to the fact that the majority of the decentralized wastewater treatment plants pilots in informal settlements are still under construction. The Sanitation Thematic Group is planning to revise the sector target to align it with the ongoing projects as part of the Sectoral mid-year review. In permanent locations, almost 150,000 people were assisted with improved access to adequate quantities of safe water for drinking and for domestic use through rehabilitation of existing pumping stations and drilling and equipping of one new well. Nearly 90 % of these beneficiaries were vulnerable Lebanese in Akkar. There are 17 ongoing water stabilization projects in 80 locations across the country that will be reported once finalized. In nine of the locations, projects have a solarization component and in more than 35 locations the projects will contribute to lower reliance on fuel for water provision (directly or indirectly). The projects' locations fall well in the 261 most vulnerable cadastres of Lebanon (2020) as well as the Water Sector Vulnerability assessment (2021). In line with the Conflict Sensitivity mainstreaming efforts, many of the locations are tension hotspots including Bekaa, Akkar and North Districts. Through the Stabilization Thematic group, the Sector aims to increase the visibility of the Stabilization component of the projects under LCRP, hoping to contribute to mitigating inter-community tension raising around water in different areas of Lebanon.

Over 610 people (243 women, 369 men, of which 327 Lebanese and 284 Syrian) benefitted from water, sanitation and hygiene (WaSH) livelihood opportunities, which makes 38% of the sector target. For the Access and Gender and protection mainstreaming achievements, 174 female-headed households were provided safe access to improved WaSH services. The main activities implemented have been the construction and rehabilitation of 123 latrines to meet GBV standards including a safe path to the facilities at night. At the same time, 698 elderly with special needs were provided with safe access to improved WaSH services, and 169 Individuals with a form of Impairment/Disability (138 Individuals with motor Mobility/Disability, 17 with Intellectual Disability, 15 with Audio (Hearing) Disability, 12 with visual Disability) were provided with safe access to WaSH services. Under Output 2.2, in the first half of 2022, over 127,000 individuals (31,682 girls, 28,122 boys, 42,358 women, and 24,909 men) have experienced a WaSH behaviour change session/activity. This represents 21% of the sector target. The community engagement thematic group as part of the mid-year review will align the sector target with the ongoing community mobilization projects. The community engagement thematic group has also designed the SAP tool that includes elements of the Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) survey, that will be adopted by the sector for tracking progress in the coming implementation.

Mainstreaming activities- Gender and Protection: An Inter-agency Gender in Humanitarian Action Training for the Water sector partners was held in Q2. A total of 19 partners (7 men, 12 women) participated in the training with the aim to strengthen gender mainstreaming throughout WASH programming and activities. The sector has also started updating its Protection Risk Analysis. Conflict Sensitivity: Standard Operating Procedures for dealing with issues of landlords, suppliers, and municipalities have been developed by the Sanitation and Community Engagement Thematic Groups of the Water Sector. The ARK UNDP tension monitoring dashboard is shared with Sector partners to be taken into consideration for prioritising interventions. The Sector works to improve the mapping of tensions linked to unequal access to water, aiming to better support partners' prioritisation of interventions. Environment: The sector has discussed and agreed with the Environment Task Force and Food Security sector on key actions to mainstream the environment within the Water Sector actions. The sector is looking into the potential environmental risk associated with wastewater treatment plants, dumpsites and informal settlements, that could be used for the WASH sector vulnerability mapping and prioritization

2022 Quarter 1 SECTOR DASHBOARD
Water

Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon

KEY CHALLENGES OF THE SECTOR

The operational capacity of the Water Establishments and other institutions remains a major challenge for the sector, mainly due to the severe electricity shortages and spiralling inflation that disables the procurement of critical consumables and spare parts [Risk 4: Supply gaps]. With insufficient electricity from the national grid, the water pumping stations have to switch to backup generators, which run with costly fuel that is out of financial reach for the Water Establishments. Many water systems have been facing a total blackout from the public grid by the end of each month, which has been bridged by the limited fuel distribution to sustain a minimal level of operation. There has also been an increase in municipalities managing pumping stations, in some cases linked to May 2022 elections and politically driven funding. The Water Establishments are also facing a brain drain of critical technical and managerial staff. Due to ongoing economic challenges, the personnel is unable to reach the workplace or is leaving the position and in some instances the country in search of a dignified life and to make ends meet. Among the cascading effects of the decrease in the public supply capacity of water institutions, particular attention needs to be given to increase inter-community tensions, especially in areas hosting a high number of Syrian displaced people.2 The districts with the highest recorded score in water and socio-economic conflict are Tripoli, El Hermel, Baalbek, Wes Bekaa, Marjayoun, and Saida. Following the recommendation from the UNICEF IFI report, the Water Sector will promote the solarization of water sources with a focus on these areas as a tool to reduce tensions related to unequal access to services between Lebanese and Syrians.The rapid increase in Hepatitis A cases, mainly in Tripoli and Bekaa areas, poses some challenges to the sector. In Bekaa, where the cases were mainly from the informal settlements, an increase in other water-borne and water-related diseases has also been observed. The Water Sector is responding in coordination with the Health Sector by mapping the possible sources of contamination while conducting awareness-raising campaigns and distributing hygiene kits with an additional quantity of soap. The relevant Standard Operating Procedures have also been updated and developed by the Water Quality Thematic Group.

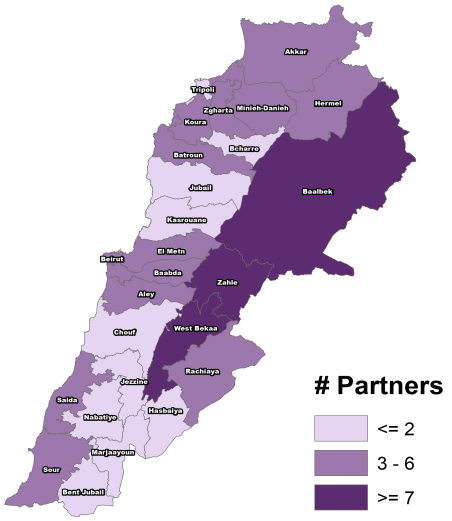
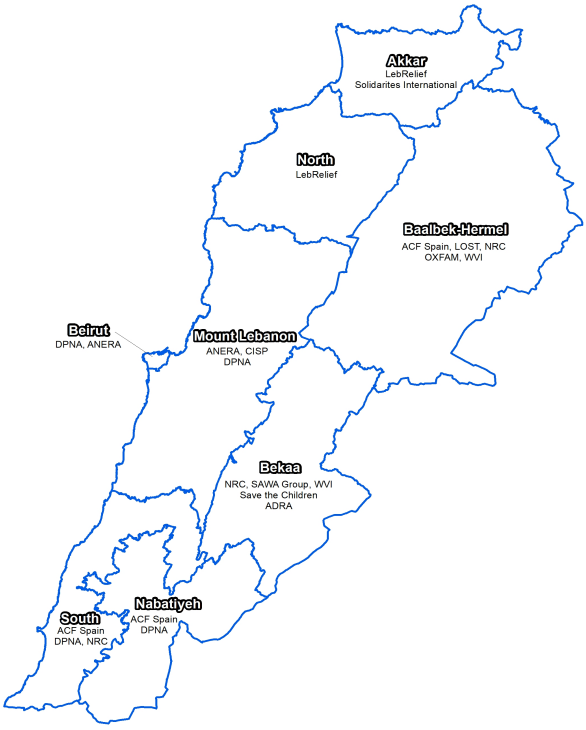
KEY PRIORITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING QUARTER

The immediate top priority for the sector is to resolve the power crisis by restoring the electricity supply through the national grid. In the meantime, the sector advocates for the fuel provision for standby generators at key water supply and wastewater treatment facilities. Without immediate action and with the prospect of even worse electricity blackouts across the country, the piped water provision is on the brink of total collapse, exposing millions of vulnerable Lebanese, Syrians, and Palestinians to harmful coping strategies and depriving their rights to safe, sufficient and affordable water. Fulfilling the Water Sector energy needs have to be accompanied by a continuation of the essential repair and maintenance support to Water Establishments, which will keep the facilities operational to the extent possible. With the continued deterioration of the infrastructure, the repair and maintenance support needs to be extended to cover more advanced rehabilitation of non-functional equipment.

In the mid-term, the sector will continue its effort to optimize operational expenditures of the Water Establishments by reducing water and wastewater systems power usage (solarization, gravity-fed systems) and reduction of non-revenue water. Such activities are in line with the MoEW recovery plan (Roadmap to Recovery of the Water Sector in Lebanon, MoEW 2022), aiming to achieve self-reliant water services in Lebanon within the next 5 years. Another area of focus for the sector is ensuring the continuation of water and sanitation services provision in temporary locations, with the emphasis on innovative, more sustainable and cost-efficient solutions (such as on-site wastewater treatment) that minimize public health and environmental risks. Those priorities are outlined in the Water Action Plan and in the Sanitation Action Plan developed by the sector, as well as in the Water Sector Work Plan for 2022 (Q3 and Q4).

3W Map (# Partners per Caza)

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following organizations: UNICEF, ACF Spain, ACTED, ADRA, ANERA, ArcheNova and Tankamel Sawa, CISP, DPNA, Leb-Relief, LOST, NRC, OXFAM, SAWA Group, Save the Children, Solidarites International, Tabitha-dorcas and World Vision (WVI).



Partners Reported in Quarter 2 in Activity Info