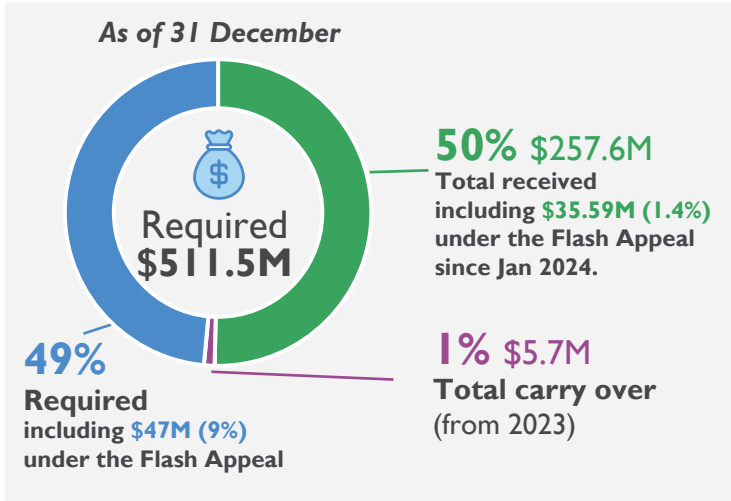


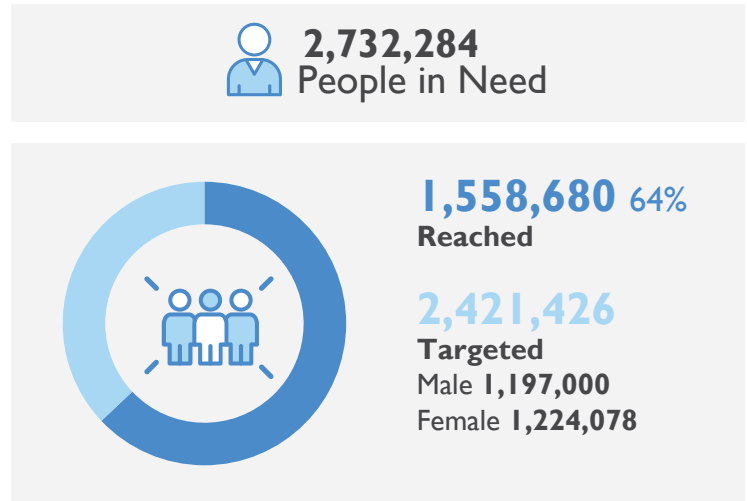


The 2024 end year Basic Assistance sector dashboard summarizes the progress made by Basic Assistance sector partners involved in the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP), identifies key challenges and priorities, and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Basic Assistance sector in Lebanon is working to: **OUTCOME 1)** Strengthen the ability of poor and vulnerable households and individuals, including female-headed HHs, persons with disabilities and children, to meet their basic needs; **OUTCOME 2)** strengthen the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic needs; **OUTCOME 3)** Technical assistance to the national social assistance system is provided;

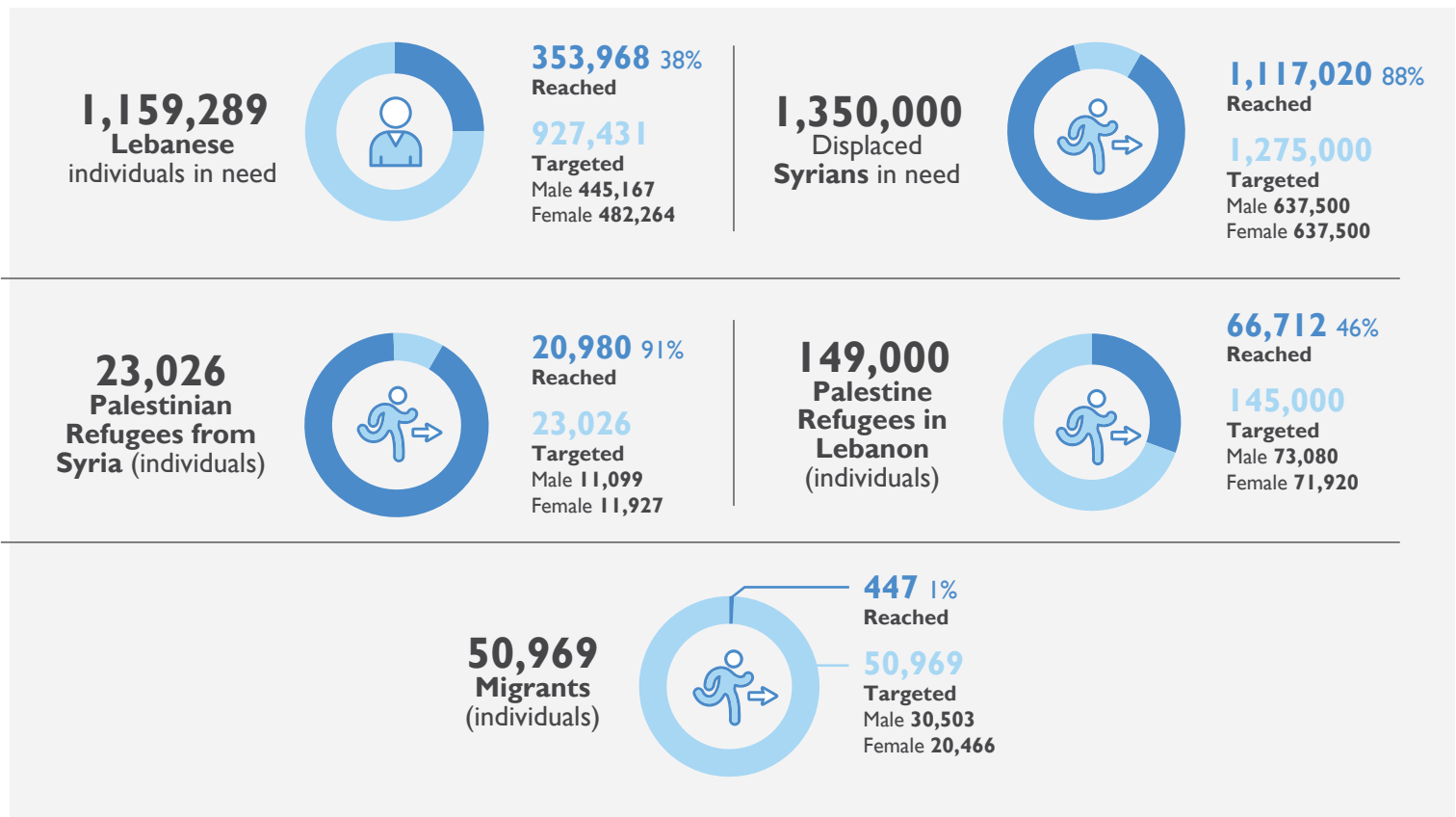
2024 Sector Funding Status *



2024 Population Reached



2024 Population Figures by Cohort



* The end-of-year funding figures presented in this dashboard include both regular LRP funding and Flash Appeal funding, as the Flash Appeal is an annex to the LRP framework and part of the overall humanitarian response.



Progress Against Targets

OUTCOME 1: Strengthen the ability of poor and vulnerable households and individuals, including female-headed HHs, persons with disabilities and children, to meet their basic needs



of households reached with regular cash assistance for basic needs (Syr, Leb, Pal)



of Syrian households reached with multi purpose cash assistance for basic needs



of Lebanese households reached with multi purpose cash assistance for basic needs



of Palestinians from Syria households reached with multi purpose cash assistance for basic needs



of Palestinians from Lebanon households reached with multi purpose cash assistance for basic needs



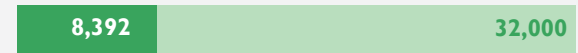
of Other households reached with multi purpose cash assistance for basic needs



of individuals with specific vulnerabilities receiving cash assistance through focused programmes (Small Scale)



of PWDs receiving social grants (National Disability Allowance)

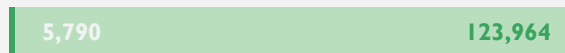


118,316,300

Total USD amount disbursed as regular cash transfer (Syr, Leb, Pal, Mig, Oth)

OUTCOME 2: STRENGTHEN THE ABILITY OF POPULATIONS AFFECTED BY SEASONAL HAZARDS AND EMERGENCIES TO SECURE ADDITIONAL BASIC NEEDS

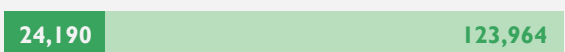
of vulnerable households receiving seasonal cash assistance



USD Disbursed in seasonal assistance

832,550

of affected households receiving in-kind seasonal assistance



of vulnerable households receiving emergency cash assistance for basic needs



USD Disbursed in Emergency cash assistance

15,370,460

of affected households receiving in-kind Emergency assistance





I. Analysis of Achievements of the Sector at the Output Level

Throughout 2024, 336,966 economically vulnerable households (64 per cent of the target) had a strengthened ability to meet their basic survival needs through regular, unconditional, and unrestricted cash grants. The highest coverage of monthly multi-purpose cash assistance for basic non-food needs in 2024 reached 223,404 Syrian households, 88,492 vulnerable Lebanese households¹, 8,382 Palestine refugee families from Syria and 16,678 Palestinian refugee families and 1,178 refugees of other nationalities in Lebanon.

Among displaced Syrians, 88 per cent of households deemed to be socio-economically vulnerable in 2024 were assisted with regular cash for basic needs². This coverage is significantly higher than in 2023, where around 67 per cent of socio-economically vulnerable households received assistance. This is due to a cycle extension and caseload expansion of regular multi-purpose cash in November 2024 for around 95% of the Syrian displaced population.

Coverage of assistance through the National social safety net programmes has significantly decreased (40%) starting July 2024 due to the exclusion of the National Poverty Targeting Program³ beneficiaries who are integrated in a one fully unified system by the end of 2024. Together with NGO-led programs that aim to support vulnerable Lebanese meet their basic needs, the sector targeted 88,492 vulnerable Lebanese households by the mid 2024. Hence for the duration between October and December 2024 the Lebanese population was targeted under the Shock Responsive Safety Net (SRSN).

In response to the multiple crises affecting Lebanon, the National Disability Allowance⁴ (NDA) which is a social assistance program that aims at supporting persons with disabilities in facing the extra cost of disability, providing a basic level of income support and facilitating their access to existing services. Throughout the year, the program provided USD40 per individual between the age groups 15 to 30, reaching around 27,000 beneficiaries in December 2024 alone.

The value of regular cash assistance provided in 2024 under the Basic Assistance Sector totalled US \$118,316,312 across all population cohorts⁵. Despite the challenges outlined below in more detail, monthly redemption rates remained high (97-98 per cent) throughout the year, indicating that cash beneficiaries were able to redeem assistance in a timely manner⁶.

In addition to regularly assistance, only 5,791 vulnerable households were supported to meet additional basic survival needs caused by seasonal hazards, through seasonal cash assistance contributing to heating and other costs. This was a slight increase in overall coverage as compared to 2023/2024 last year's winter season reaching around 2,900 HHs. The very low coverage is due to large funding gaps in seasonal support.

During the escalation, the Basic Assistance sector played a critical role in delivering emergency cash assistance, reaching approximately 163,469 households across all population cohorts. A total of \$15,370,462 was disbursed to support vulnerable families in meeting their urgent needs. In addition, 2,803 households received seasonal cash assistance, amounting to a total of \$456,120.

Additionally, 84,194 households affected by seasonal, or emergency shocks and conflicts were supported through in-kind assistance, which included blankets, mattresses, heaters, pillows, kitchen sets, clothing kits and other essential items. In-kind assistance significantly increased during the last quarter of 2024 compared to 2023 (210,215 items) where around 694,300 items were distributed inside and outside collective shelters targeting all nationalities (mainly Lebanese Internal Displaced Persons) taking into consideration the re-allocation of funds and prepositioning in responding to the last conflict. This included 25,139 Syrian, 57,755 Lebanese, 237 PRS and 616 PRL and 447 migrant families.

The total value of cash assistance disbursed under the sector in 2024, including regular, seasonal and emergency support, amounted to US \$134,519,324.

During the mass displacement situation following the escalation of hostilities in 2024, cash activities were closely monitored for tensions and early action measures. Given the high-tension impact of cash activities during the displacement situation, conflict sensitivity was prioritized by adopting recommendations on conflict-sensitive cash assistance. Context-specific recommendations were disseminated by the conflict sensitivity focal point in both regular and ad-hoc working groups.

Prioritization and Localization:

The sector's efforts are focused on supporting emergency response by prioritizing humanitarian needs identified by the Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Risk Reduction Units (DRM/DRR). Sector partners responded by distributing core relief items to people affected by the conflict both inside and outside collective shelters. Besides the growing demand for cash assistance, the sector is prioritizing emergency cash support for conflict-affected populations, including returnees and Internal Displaced Persons, while working to transition toward a more sustainable recovery-focused cash system based on the unified MoSA registration system.

¹ This does not include Lebanese families targeting through the Emergency Social Safety Net Program.

² Proportion of families reached reflects the highest reach throughout the year in a given month.

³ <http://nptp.pcm.gov.lb/>

⁴ Jointly Led by the Ministry of Social Affairs and UNICEF with the support of ILO

⁵ The assistance was provided in dual currency.

⁶ Based on redemption rates from UNHCR and WFP



The Basic Assistance sector has maintained a robust presence, with a sufficient number of local and international partners actively engaged in operations. At both the national and field levels, the sector has prioritized effective coordination through regular monthly and ad-hoc Basic Assistance Working Group (BAWG) meetings. These meetings have played a pivotal role in ensuring the alignment of activities, promoting transparent communication, and providing timely updates and strategic guidance to all partners, including local NGOs, thereby enhancing the efficiency and impact of the sector's response.

Since the onset of the conflict in Lebanon, many local and international NGOs have sought guidance and support from the sector to address emerging needs. In response, the Basic Assistance sector, at both national and regional levels, has kept partners informed about key developments through bilateral consultations and regional working groups. This approach ensures that all partners receive the necessary information and support to effectively respond to the crisis.

The sector collaborated closely with the Food Security and Agriculture sector on geo-splitting and refining targeting methodologies for IDPs specifically for cash assistance modalities. This collaboration aimed to optimize the use of existing resources, prioritize activities, and address coverage gaps more effectively.

KEY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SECTOR TO LRP OUTCOME AND IMPACTS

Outcome 1⁷ and 2⁸ under the Basic Assistance sector directly contribute to the LRP Strategic Objective : “Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations” This is achieved through the provision of regular cash assistance to address socio-economic vulnerability and life cycle vulnerabilities (including for children, Persons with Disabilities and older people) in addition to targeted cash and in-kind interventions addressing emerging needs during the winter as well as responding to emergency situations such as evictions, floods, fires, and other conflicts or crises.

Under Outcome 1, the provision of regular, unconditional, and unrestricted cash assistance represents the primary source of income for vulnerable households in Lebanon to support families to meet their basic needs. These regular cash programs either follow a poverty-driven targeting approach to support the most socio-economically vulnerable families or follow a lifecycle targeting approach to address specific needs of groups most at risk (including female heads of households, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly). For multiple years in a row, the VASyR has demonstrated that cash assistance, whether through unrestricted cash or vouchers, was the most reported primary source of income among displaced Syrians . Post distribution monitoring results showed that families who receive cash assistance continue to prioritize spending on rent, food, and healthcare ^{10 11} .

With continued inflation and rising prices of basic goods and services in the country , coupled with inter-communal tensions specifically linked to cash assistance and limited funds, and the need to maintain wide coverage of families, transfer values for basic needs and food cash programs have remained well below the Sector recommended value, leading to a diluted impact and weaker positive outcome level results. The reason behind this is the funding constraints in a first place in addition to conflict sensitivity considerations.

Outcome 2 strives to support families to meet additional needs when faced with seasonal hazards and emergencies. Annually, the sector develops a winter expenditure basket to estimate winter specific costs and determine accurate transfer values for seasonal cash assistance that would support families to meet these additional needs, such as complementary fuel for heating, heaters, blankets, and clothes without compromising basic survival needs. Like regular cash assistance, the winter cash assistance played a role in supporting households to partially meeting their needs such as buying fuel and wood for heating. Winter 2023-2024 post distribution and outcome monitoring results showed that winter cash assistance prevented families from resorting to further negative coping strategies.

In-kind support during the winter, but also in response to ad-hoc emergencies (including fires, evictions, and re-locations) is also a component of direct service provision to vulnerable families. While cash assistance allows families the flexibility to determine their own need and priorities, responding with in-kind assistance allows families to have access to basic items that have been either lost or damaged without compromising their already limited budgets used to secure food and access essential services. Additionally, the distribution of in-kind core relief items was prioritized by Basic Assistance partners to address the immediate needs of conflict-affected individuals residing both inside and outside collective shelters, based on assessed needs. This effort was complemented by a coordinated approach that integrated emergency and winter-specific in-kind distributions, ensuring a comprehensive response to the needs of the conflict-affected population.

Outcome 3¹² under the basic assistance sector contributes to LCRP strategic objective and impact 3: “Strategic Support service provision through national systems including national rapid response capacity”; and “vulnerable populations have equitable access to basic services through national systems”. Regular assistance to vulnerable Lebanese households has been scaling up gradually through Government-led

⁷ OUTCOME 1: Strengthen the ability of poor and vulnerable households and individuals, including female-headed HHs, persons with disabilities and children, to meet their basic needs

⁸ OUTCOME 2: Strengthen the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic needs

⁹ Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, 2024

¹⁰ Post Distribution Monitoring Q3 2023 UNRWA

¹¹ Post Distribution and Outcome Monitoring for Multi-purpose Cash Assistance in Lebanon, 2023 endline results, UNHCR.

¹² OUTCOME 3: Technical assistance to the National Social Assistance System is provided



national safety net systems and reached 77,515 vulnerable Lebanese families. The sector has been working towards strengthening linkages between humanitarian interventions provided by sector partners and government-led programs. This included facilitating referrals from the national social safety nets to partners and supporting by information sharing across the two work streams.

In 2024, Lebanon advanced its social protection system despite escalating challenges. The National Social Protection Strategy¹³ (NSPS), emphasizes five pillars, including social assistance, insurance, and economic inclusion.

However, ongoing conflict has deepened economic and humanitarian crises, straining the underfunded system. Hence, prioritizing social security, improving funding, and expanding program reach/caseloads remain essential in reducing the vulnerability levels.

Despite a challenging year, with the support of partners, the Basic Assistance sector successfully provided vital assistance to vulnerable populations through regular cash transfers, in-kind support, and seasonal aid. These efforts helped families meet their basic needs, mitigate the impact of crises, and maintain access to essential services. The sector also made significant strides in integrating humanitarian aid with national systems, strengthening the long-term sustainability of support for vulnerable communities.

CHALLENGES, RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Over the past few years, the sector faced increasing challenges in supporting vulnerable people across Lebanon, driven by rising needs and limited resources amid the ongoing financial and economic crisis. Reduced funding availability has been one of the main challenges faced by the Basic Assistance sector, impacting the proper and effective implementation of its strategy and hindering the sector partners to reach all the people in need. As funds allocated to Lebanon have been continuously decreasing due to global chronic underfunding and increasing needs, the sector currently faces a critical funding shortfall with only 51% percent of its required budget funded in 2024. This has compelled partners to limit their support including transfer values and winter cash support to a minimum and stretch their already scarce resources, particularly amid increased needs driven by the conflict. As a result, there is little capacity to maintain regular multi-purpose cash assistance to vulnerable groups at previous levels and to adequately provide emergency responses, particularly in the form of emergency cash assistance. Similarly, the decline and no confirmed funding for winter assistance under the sector combined with an increasing level of needs across populations inevitably pose further challenges and barriers to the delivery of basic assistance and restrict partners in strengthening the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic survival needs. In addition, the Emergency conflict situation increased significantly the gap in addressing the emerging need, hence challenges in securing and re-allocating funds remain a challenge to partners responding to the impact of conflict in Lebanon.

To limit further funding reductions and constraints and therefore hinder their impacts and consequences on the sector's activities, partners enhanced their efforts to warn and alert donors about the lack of funds. In addition to this advocacy work, the Basic Assistance sector also cooperated and collaborated with the Food Security sector by participating in a joint exercise to review the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB). This highlights the importance of maintaining needs-based transfer values within regular multi-purpose cash programs. Currently, the transfer values under the Basic Assistance sector reflect a significantly lower percentage of the recommended needs-based amounts, primarily due to limited capacities and various conflict sensitivity considerations.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), which measures the average price change over time, recorded its most significant increase on record in October 2024. As of October 2024, the CPI had increased by 16 per cent compared to October 2023¹⁴, while the yearly inflation rate for 2023 stood at 221%, the highest since the crisis began in late 2019¹⁵. The cost of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) increased by 19 percent in both LBP and USD terms between October 2023 and October 2024 by reaching LBP 40.3 million (\$443) in October 2024 for a family of five¹⁶. The food component of the SMEB, consisting of essential food items providing 2,100 Kcal per day for a month, reached LBP 3.4 million (\$37.4) per person per month in October 2024, significantly surpassing its pre-crisis value, while the non-food SMEB reached LBP 23.2 million (\$259) for a family of five¹⁷.

The social implications of these crises have disproportionately impacted vulnerable groups, including Lebanese¹⁸, displaced Syrians, Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS), refugees from other nationalities, Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon (PRL), and migrants.

In addition to the above, almost all partners under the sector remain completely allowing redemption through money transfer agents, not just for cash over the counter services but also as e-card cash out points. This has allowed for an expansion of redemption points and shorter travel distances to redeem assistance.

With regards to Lebanese specifically including IDPs, challenges in coordinating support persists due the absence of a centralized data system/social registry. Without an accessible database, systematic deduplication and crosschecking remain difficult. To address this, partners are encouraged to coordinate bilaterally and collaborate more closely with government-led programs for referrals and beneficiary verification. For conflict-affected populations, the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) is leading cash assistance efforts in coordination with humanitarian actors. An agreement with WFP and UNICEF aims to enhance data collection and sharing, improving targeting and implementation.

¹³ National Social Protection Strategy

¹⁴ Central Administration of Statistics (CAS)

¹⁵ Latest reported CPI values as of January 2023

¹⁶ WFP Market Monitor – October 2024

¹⁷ WFP Market Monitor – October 2024

¹⁸ According to the IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification PINHA analysis, 31% of Lebanese households were classified in Phase 3 and above.

Data-sharing agreements between the Ministry of Social Affairs and humanitarian basic assistance partners, as along with referrals from the national social safety nets database, will continue to strengthen coordination and prevent duplication. These efforts will be monitored under the 2025 Basic Assistance strategy, ensuring more effective support for vulnerable Lebanese families.

In conclusion, the Basic Assistance sector continues to face significant challenges due to rising needs, limited resources, and a critical funding shortfall. Despite these constraints, partners are enhancing coordination, advocating for sustained funding, and optimizing available resources to support vulnerable populations. Strengthened collaboration with government-led programs, improved data-sharing mechanisms, and adaptive response strategies remain essential to ensuring more effective and targeted assistance. Moving forward, sustained funding and enhanced coordination will be crucial to addressing the growing humanitarian needs in Lebanon.

CASE STUDY

Title: A Winter Without Worry: Jamal's Newfound Warmth

Theme: The power of giving

Author: World Vision Lebanon

As winter's chill began to creep into his small mountain village in Bekaa, Lebanon, 10-year-old Jamal could already feel the cold. Every year, he worried about staying warm on his long walks to school and during playtime with his friends. But this year was different. One sunny afternoon, World Vision, in collaboration with Canada Goose, visited Jamal's village, bringing gifts for more than 2,000 children.

Jamal was thrilled when they handed him a navy-coloured jacket, soft and sturdy. His eyes sparkled as he touched the smooth fabric.

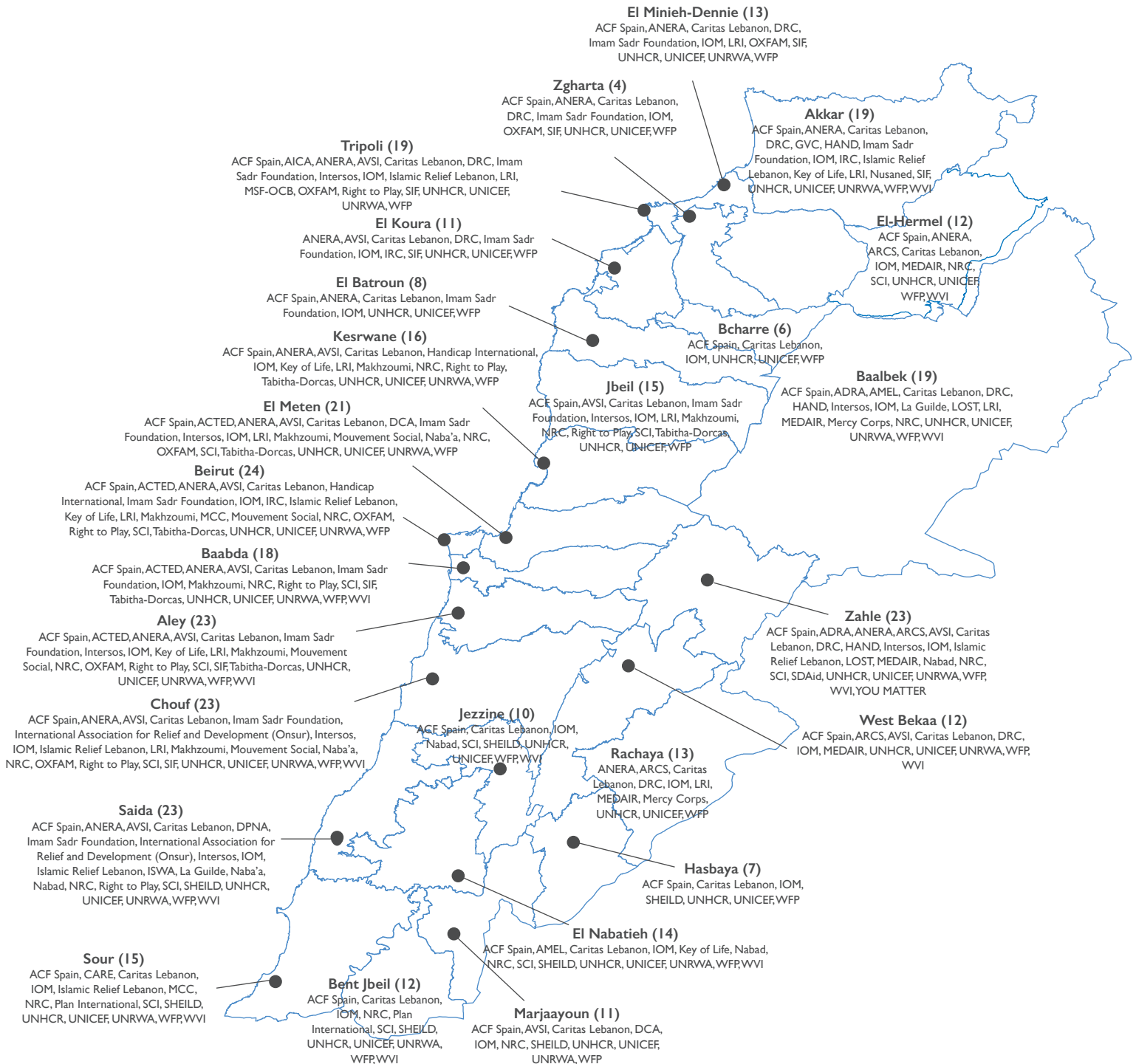
"This jacket feels like a hug," Jamal said with a big smile. "It's warm and so nice. I've never had a jacket this good before!" This jacket was more than just clothing—it was a lifesaver. As the days got shorter and colder, Jamal said, "I will wear this jacket every morning when I go to school."

Jamal loved the big pockets where he could keep his hands warm. "Before, I used to stay inside during breaks because I was too cold. But now, I can play with my friends again," he said.

At night, Jamal would carefully hang the jacket by his bed, eager to wear it again the next day. It wasn't just about staying warm anymore—it was about feeling safe, cared for, and ready to face winter with confidence. "When the snow comes, I won't be scared of it anymore," Jamal said with a determined grin. "I'll just put on my jacket and walk through it like a superhero !"

Winter assistance provides warmth, protection, and hope for vulnerable children and families. It ensures they can face the cold with dignity, continue their daily lives, and embrace the season without fear. More than just aid, it's a lifeline that safeguards lives and restores a sense of stability.





All 51 organizations mentioned below are contributing to the achievement of Health Outcomes prioritized under the LRP and reporting under ActivityInfo:

ACF Spain, ACTED, ADRA, AICA, AMEL, ANERA, ARCS, AVSI, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, DCA, DPNA, DRC, GVC, HAND, Handicap International, Imam Sadr Foundation, International Association for Relief and Development (Onsur), Intersos, IOM, IRC, Islamic Relief Lebanon, ISWA, Key of Life, La Guilde, LOST, LRI, Makhzoumi, MCC, MEDAIR, Mercy Corps, Mouvement Social, MSF-OCB, Naba'a, Nabad, NRC, Nusaned, OXFAM, Plan International, Right to Play, SCI, SDAid, SHEILD, SIF, Tabitha-Dorcas, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, WFP, WVI, YOU MATTER