



LEBANON

Lebanon Inter-Agency Response: Syrian Refugees

August 2-9, 2013



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:

- More than 213,000 individuals received World Food Programme (WFP) food parcels this week;
- More than 33,000 refugees benefited from the distribution of hygiene and baby kits;
- Over 2,400 Lebanese and Syrian students benefited from Accelerated Learning Programmes (ALPs) and remedial classes;
- More than 4,000 refugees nationwide received primary healthcare services including consultations, treatment, referrals, medication, vaccinations and diagnostic tests;
- Some 550 patients were admitted to hospitals nationwide;
- Over 2,600 individuals received awareness sessions on various health related topics including pre/post natal care;
- Some 10,000 refugees were registered with UNHCR this week;
- UNHCR, UNICEF and UNDP are contributing to a World Bank Impact Assessment of the Syrian crisis in Lebanon.



REGISTRATION AND NEW ARRIVALS

This week, over 10,000 persons registered with UNHCR, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees assisted by UNHCR and partners to over 677,000 (over 566,000 people registered and 110,000 awaiting registration).

Current geographical distribution of the registered population is as follows:

North Lebanon: 191,000 – 33%

Bekaa: 193,000 – 34%

Beirut and Mount Lebanon: 107,000 – 18%

South Lebanon: 73,000 – 13%

In view of Ramadan, average waiting periods nationwide increased from 37 to 39 days as fewer registration appointments were being scheduled daily in addition to a slight increase in the no-show rate. Waiting periods are expected to gradually decrease in the post-Ramadan period as scheduling is expected to go back to normal.

PROTECTION

Lebanese borders by and large remain open, despite greater scrutiny of documents at border points, which has resulted in some rejections at the border. UNHCR has been present at the border and continues to work closely with the Lebanese government to support their efforts to ensure access for persons in need of humanitarian assistance and international protection.

This week, over 1,700 refugees attended recreational activities and vocational training sessions provided by UNHCR, UNICEF, DRC, INTERSOS and World Vision. Activities included making cards for Eid, awareness sessions about the five senses, sewing and cooking classes and awareness sessions on non-violent communications.

In addition, 436 women and girls attended recreational and awareness activities for gender based violence survivors (GBV) as well as those who are at risk of GBV. Activities were provided by UNICEF and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) at community centres across the country.

SECURITY

The volatile security situation in Arsal and Hermel district continued to limit humanitarian access to some locations. IED incidents in the Bekaa have re-emerged with the latest being reported in Majdal Anjar (Masnaa road), with some injuries reported.

DISTRIBUTION

More than 213,000 individuals received the World Food Programme (WFP) food parcels distributed by World Vision and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). In addition, over 3,400 individuals benefited from the distribution of summer blankets, mattresses and other household items provided by UNHCR and the Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC).

Also this week, over 4,000 newly arrived individuals were assessed by DRC and provided with the standardized food and non-food items kit which includes mattresses, blankets, one kitchen set and one hygiene kit.

Agencies are currently developing a winterization plan. Initial agreement on contents of assistance, targeting and possible monetization is underway. The plan is expected to be finalized next week.

EDUCATION

This week, over 2,400 Lebanese and Syrian students benefited from Accelerated Learning Programmes (ALPs) and remedial classes provided by UNHCR, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), World Vision and Amel Association. Students continue to receive English, math, sciences and Arabic classes in addition to psycho-social activities.

Coordination with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) has been further strengthened over the past month through the development of a national education strategy that defines the ways forward for the refugee response within the government system and the setting up of second shifts in public schools which would allow the enrollment of more refugee children this year.



Salwa, a seven year-old refugee , fled Syria 3 months ago and today lives with her family at the Imam Ouzai collective shelter in Saïda, Lebanon. ©UNHCR/J.Eid

HEALTH

More than 4,000 refugees nationwide received primary healthcare services including consultations, treatment, referrals, medication, vaccinations and diagnostic tests provided by the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), UNHCR, International Medical Corps (IMC), Amel Association, Premiere Urgence (PU-AMI) and Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC). Additionally, over 550 patients were admitted to the supported hospitals this week.

Also this week, 1,568 children received vaccinations against measles and polio provided by UNICEF at UNHCR's registration centre in Tripoli. To date, a total of 24,399 refugee children have been immunized in the North.

Over 2,600 individuals received awareness sessions on various health related topics including pre/post natal care, mental health etc. provided by UNHCR UNICEF, IMC, and PU-AMI and 713 individuals benefited from clinical and social consultations conducted by IMC's mental health unit, 81 of which were mental health cases.

In addition, more than 200 women benefited from awareness sessions provided by International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) and UNICEF, on infant and young child feeding with focus on the importance of breast-feeding.

Malnutrition was a priority health activity this week following the recent identification of three malnourished children in the Bekaa. UNHCR, IOCC, IMC, along with other agencies are working on early identification and ensuring access to specialised clinics to treat the children.

SHELTER

This week, over 2,500 individuals benefitted from shelter assistance including cash for shelter, cash for host families, weatherproofing, support to tented settlements and the rehabilitation of collective shelters provided by agencies nationwide.

More than 6,200 refugees today reside in collective shelters across Lebanon. Some 104 of these shelters have so far been identified, under approval or under rehabilitation. In coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA), agencies continue to assess additional potential spaces that would shelter more refugees this winter. In Akkar, 18 identified farms will be rehabilitated by UNHCR, CONCERN and DRC by the end of 2013.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

More than 33,000 refugees benefitted from the distribution of hygiene and baby kits provided by UNHCR, UNICEF, DRC, International Medical Corps (IMC), INTERSOS, International Rescue Committee (IRC) and Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC) this week.

In the Bekaa, over 1,300 individuals benefitted from the distribution of 220 water filters and tanks and the construction of 68 latrines provided by UNHCR, UNICEF, Action Contre La Faim (ACF), World Vision and Premiere Urgence (PU-AMI).

WHAT'S NEW ON THE PORTAL

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

UPDATES:

- SOUTH New Comers (NFI's) Working Group – Minutes of Meeting 24.07.2013
- Information on Health Services for Syrian Refugees in North
- INTER AGENCY MEETING - Presentation – 2 August 2013
- Inter-Agency Regional Response - Syrian Refugees 25 July - 7 August
- NEW Lebanon Contact List - Syrian Refugee Response 05.08.2013
- Better understanding the needs of Vulnerable Lebanese Returnees from Syria
- Winterization Planning Meeting - Presentation, 2013-07-30
- Winterization Group - Meeting Action Points, 2013-07-30
- Logistics Forum Lebanon_Meeting Minutes_31/07/2013

MAPS:

- UNHCR Lebanon Education Map July 2013 A0, Lebanese Public School Maps For North-Lebanon
- UNHCR Lebanon Education Map July 2013 A0, Lebanese Public School Maps For South-Lebanon
- UNHCR Lebanon Education Map July 2013 A0, Lebanese Public School Map For Mt-Lebanon And Beirut
- UNHCR Lebanon Education Map July 2013 A0, Lebanese Public School Map For Mt-Lebanon And Beirut
- Map of registered Syrian Refugee at Cadastral level - South
- Map of registered Syrian Refugee at Cadastral level - Mt Lebanon/Beirut
- Map of registered Syrian Refugee at Cadastral level - North (except Akkar)
- Map of registered Syrian Refugee at Cadastral level – Akkar

STATISTICS:

- Child Protection statistical updates April 2013
- Oxfam: Syrian Refugee Children Enrolled in School in Lebanon

REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS:

- From slow boil to breaking point: A real-time evaluation of UNHCR's response to the Syrian refugee emergency