



LEBANON

# Lebanon Inter-Agency Response: Syrian Refugees

August 9-16, 2013



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:

- More than 213,000 individuals received World Food Programme (WFP) food parcels;
- More than 2,600 refugees benefited from the distribution of hygiene and baby kits;
- 2,100 refugees nationwide received primary healthcare services including consultations, treatment, referrals, medication, vaccinations and diagnostic tests;
- Over 2,000 Lebanese and Syrian students benefited from Accelerated Learning Programmes (ALPs) and remedial classes;
- Over 1,800 individuals received health awareness sessions on mental health, nutrition, early marriage and the importance of breastfeeding;
- Some 560 patients were admitted to supported hospitals;
- 11,000 refugees were registered with UNHCR.



## REGISTRATION AND NEW ARRIVALS

This week, over 11,000 persons registered with UNHCR, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees assisted by UNHCR and partners to over 688,000 (over 576,000 people registered and 131,000 awaiting registration).

Current geographical distribution of the registered population is as follows:

**North Lebanon:** 194,000 – 33%

**Bekaa:** 197,000 – 34%

**Beirut and Mount Lebanon:** 111,000 – 18%

**South Lebanon:** 74,000 – 13%

Average waiting periods nationwide remain at an average of 39 days as fewer registration appointments were being scheduled daily during Ramadan, and the no-show rate continued to be relatively higher than normal due to eid celebrations. Waiting periods are expected to gradually decrease in the coming weeks.

## PROTECTION

Syrians refugees holding proper documentation continue to have unimpeded humanitarian access to Lebanon. Border officials exercised greater scrutiny of documents at border points to ensure that those they have reason to believe are not seeking refuge in Lebanon for legitimate humanitarian reasons are not allowed entry. UNHCR maintained its presence at the Masnaa border, and will work closely with the Lebanese government to support their efforts and ensure access for persons in need of humanitarian assistance and international protection.

Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center staff have also established a help desk center at the Masnaa border operational from 8 A.M. till midnight. Through this information desk, Caritas staff provide guidance about available services, distribute guiding flyers to people entering Lebanon, provide first aid to people in need, and refer vulnerable persons to UNHCR registration centers across the country and specialized health actors for medical support.

Two women's shelters opened in the Bekaa and north Lebanon this week and are now fully operational. Survivors of gender-based violence and vulnerable women are offered immediate temporary relocation to these safe environments pending the identification of longer-term solutions for them. These shelters provide physical safety and also psychosocial support (individual counseling, art therapy, peer support) and as needed, referral to appropriate health and mental health services. Caritas Switzerland have also opened a safe shelter for gender-based violence survivors in Mount Lebanon, which should help further expand protection services to vulnerable refugee women across Lebanon.

## SECURITY

The security situation in northern Bekaa this week impacted humanitarian programmes – with attacks in Aarsal leading to an increased no-show rate in registration as many refugees living around the area were afraid to commute to central Bekaa.

## DISTRIBUTION

More than 26,000 individuals received the World Food Programme (WFP) food parcels distributed by World Vision and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). In addition, some 1,800 individuals benefited from the distribution of summer blankets, mattresses and other household items provided by UNHCR and the Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC).

## EDUCATION

This week, over 2,000 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.

Over 350 children also participated in recreational activities provided by World Vision this week in the Bekaa.

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), UNHCR, and Caritas met in Sidon to roll-out a plan for the implementation of afternoon classes in the upcoming school year in the South, as these have proved to be successful in pilot areas. UNHCR is also liaising school coordinators in the south and the Chairperson of the Education Committee in Parliament to explore different ways through which enrolment of children in schools could be enhanced in the next academic year.

## HEALTH

More than 2,100 refugees nationwide this week 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 and Premiere Urgence (PU-AMI). Additionally, over 560 patients were admitted to the supported hospitals.

At UNHCR's registration centre in the Bekaa, 1,073 individuals benefited from vaccinations against measles and polio and received vitamin A supplements provided by UNICEF.

Some 704 individuals benefited from clinical and social consultations provided by IMC's mental health unit through both its outreach and centre based services.

Also this week, over 1,800 individuals received health awareness sessions provided by UNHCR, IMC and PU-AMI through primary healthcare centres and mobile visits. The sessions focused on mental health, nutrition, early marriage and the importance of breastfeeding.

## SHELTER

This week, 2,458 individuals received 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.

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and CONCERN have started the rehabilitation of 10 farms in Akkar where 2,250 individuals (450 families) will be accommodated by the end of the year. Another 450 individuals will also be moving to four newly identified schools to be used as collective shelters in the Bekaa as soon as DRC finishes their renovation. This adds to the over 100 collective shelters that currently host Syrian refugees.

Caritas resumed their cash for rent programme targeting 150 families in central Bekaa with US\$150/ month over a period of two months. This programme will target families who have not yet registered and who have no alternative shelter solutions.

## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

More than 2,600 refugees benefited from the distribution of hygiene and baby kits provided by UNHCR, World Vision, SHIELD, and Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC) this week. Other water, sanitation and hygiene interventions included the installation of four latrines and a washbasin in Mount Lebanon by Premiere Urgence (PU-AMI), in addition to the distribution of 21 water tanks, 26 latrines and 304 water vouchers in the Bekaa by World Vision.

## WHAT'S NEW ON THE PORTAL

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

### UPDATES

- UNHCR LBN WASH 2013-Aug-06 A4, MoM SOUTH WASH WG
- UNHCR LBN SHELTER 2013-Aug-06 A4, MoM-ITS
- UNHCR LBN SHELTER 2013-Aug-06 A4, MoM-Shelter-WG
- NEW Lebanon Contact List - Syrian Refugee Response 12.08.2013
- UNICEF Syria Regional Crisis Bi-weekly Humanitarian SitRep
- Lebanon Registration Trend Overview 08 August 2013

### MAPS

- UNHCR LBN WASH MAP 2013-08-012 A3, Selected WASH Sector Activities Reached During July-2013
- UNHCR LBN WASH MAP 2013-08-12 A3, Selected WASH Sector Partners During July-2013
- UNHCR LBN SLT Map 2013-July A0, DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMAL TENTED SETTLEMENTS FOR BEKAA
- UNHCR LBN SLT Map 2013-July A0, DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMAL TENTED SETTLEMENTS FOR NORTH
- UNHCR LBN SLT Map 2013-July A0, DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMAL TENTED SETTLEMENTS FOR SOUTH
- UNHCR Lebanon Registration Map 31-July-2013 A3, Syrian Refugees Registered In Lebanon

### STATISTICS

Lebanon Registration Daily Stats 09, 12-14 August 2013

### REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS

International Medical Corps Lebanon Syrian Refugee Response January-June 2013