



#1naMillion  
#syria



LEBANON

# Lebanon Inter-Agency Response: Syrian Refugees

September 06, 2013



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:

- More than 27,000 individuals received World Food Programme (WFP) food vouchers and food parcels;
- 16,800 refugees benefited from the distribution of hygiene and baby kits;
- 2,400 individuals benefited from primary healthcare services;
- 623 individuals were admitted to the hospitals across the country;
- The Ministry of Social Affairs, along with UNHCR and partners established a reception/waiting area composed of two rub-halls at the Masnaa border as part of contingency planning;
- This week, over 15,000 persons registered with UNHCR.



## REGISTRATION AND NEW ARRIVALS

This week, over 15,000 persons registered with UNHCR, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees assisted by UNHCR and partners to over 726,000 (over 622,000 people registered and 104,000 awaiting registration).

Current geographical distribution of the registered population is as follows:

**North Lebanon:** 204,000 – 33%

**Bekaa:** 210,000 – 34%

**Beirut and Mount Lebanon:** 125,000 – 18%

**South Lebanon:** 81,000 – 13%

The number of Syrian refugees passed the threshold of two million regionally this week, with Lebanon hosting the biggest share. The number of two million represents Syrians who have registered as refugees or who are pending registration. Some 52 per cent of this population are children aged 17 years or below.

## PROTECTION

The past week did not witness any significant changes in the patterns of arrivals at the borders. As a means of contingency planning, the Ministry of Social Affairs, along with UNHCR and partners, established a reception/waiting area composed of two rub-halls (240 m2 each at the Masnaa border. The waiting area will be equipped with water and sanitation facilities and provide medical assistance and referrals if necessary. Refugees, however, are not expected to overnight at this reception area. The Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA), UNHCR, UNRWA and the International Medical Corps (IMC) will continue to be present at the border to provide support and referrals to vulnerable refugees.

Contingency planning efforts were enhanced in all sectors this week in order to strengthen preparedness for a possible influx. Core relief items have been made available for 100,000 people while UNHCR and the Government continued their work on identifying buildings that could be rehabilitated and used as collective shelters for refugees.

## SECURITY

No major security incidents were recorded this week. Humanitarian access to northern Bekaa was at times impeded by the increased number of checkpoints in the area.

## DISTRIBUTION

More than 27,000 individuals received World Food Programme (WFP) food vouchers and food parcels this week distributed by World Vision and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC).

In addition, over 6,900 individuals received bed sheets, summer blankets, diapers and other household items provided by UNHCR and Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC).

## EDUCATION

With the beginning of the school year approaching, preparations are underway to provide an increased number of places for Syrian refugees in public schools. CLMC, through projects supported by UNICEF and UNHCR, will enroll 63,250 children who will benefit from tuition fees, school bags and supplies. Some children will also benefit from school uniforms and transportation. Visits to schools in Bekaa being considered for the second shift are ongoing. Directors are not registering new Syrian children before September 15, in order to prioritize the registration for Syrian and Lebanese children who attended school in the previous year.

## HEALTH

This week, more than 2,400 individuals benefited from primary healthcare services including consultations, treatments, referrals, medication, vaccinations and diagnostic tests provided by UNHCR, IMC, Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC).

In addition, 623 individuals were admitted to the hospitals across the country by UNHCR and IMC. The majority of referrals (49 per cent) were pregnancy related. Other referrals included gastro-digestive problems (14 per cent), Trauma (seven per cent), neonatal (six per cent) and general surgery (five per cent). Some 946 individuals received clinical and social consultations through IMC's outreach and centre based services.

Also this week, a total of 2,441 individuals received awareness sessions on health, mental health, early marriage, and gender-based violence provided by UNHCR and IMC through primary health care centers and mobile visits in nationwide.

Over 1,100 children were screened for malnutrition this week by UNICEF and IOCC (Get full name from previous update), 54 of which were referred for treatment and 12 were admitted to hospitals.

## SHELTER

Over 1,240 refugees benefited from shelter solutions including cash for shelter, cash for host families, weatherproofing, support to informal tented settlements and the rehabilitation of collective shelters. Agencies have also identified nine buildings in Chouf and Aramoun to be rehabilitated and prepared to serve as potential collective shelter sites.

As temperatures in some parts of the country are beginning to drop, agencies have started to roll out the winterization programme for the season to come. Over 12,000 shelter kits that include timber, plastic sheeting, and shelter tools such as nails, a hammer, and a saw, heavy kit repairs are being purchased to be stored in the Bekaa and Akkar.



Hala, a Syrian refugee, at a tented settlement in south Lebanon ©UNHCR/J.Eid

## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Over 16,800 refugees benefited from the distribution of hygiene and baby kits provided by UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision, Danish Refugee Council (DRC). Other water, sanitation and health interventions included the installation of 169 latrines and 170 water tanks and hand-washing stations by UNHCR, UNICEF, and World Vision.

More than 2,000 women and girls benefited from hygiene promotion sessions and the distribution of dignity kits provided by UNICEF and Heartland Alliance. Additionally, 2,407 individuals received access to safe drinking water provided by UNICEF, PU-AMI, GVC and Solidarites International.