Lebanon: South Governorate Profile (as of 4 March 2014)

GENERAL OVERVIEW

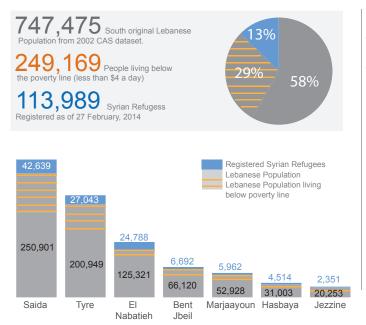
Southern Lebanon consists of two governorates: South Lebanon (Saida, Jezzine and Tyre) and El Nabatieh (El Nabatieh, Hasbaya, Marjaayoun and Bent Jbeil). The area was severely affected by the 2006 war. The influence of the central government is relatively weak in the South. However, the private sector and faith and political groups play an important role.

POPULATION OVERVIEW

The South has a population of about three quarter of a million with the largest towns being Saida, Tyre, El Nabatieh and Jezzine. The population is mainly Shiite, although there are pocket of other confessions across the area.

The South has seen only a limited number of Lebanese returnees from Syria, with 502 individuals having returned to El Nabatieh and 33 to South Lebanon. With most returnees renting accommodation, their main concern is related to finding a durable shelter solution.

The South hosts almost 110,000 Syrian refugees, with the largest number living in Saida, Tyre and El Nabatiyeh.



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Inter-agency coordination takes place in Tyre and humanitarian partners working in the South tend to split activities between those in and around Saida and those elsewhere. A large number of charitable societies and local NGOs in Saida are organised through the 'Relief Institutions Union in Saida and Southern Lebanon' which provides assistance with funds mainly from the Gulf.

Most Informal Tented Settlements and collective centres are concentrated in and around Saida, whilst in other areas refugees tend to rent accommodation or live with host families. The issue of finding suitable shelter solution is of concern to partners, as are the WASH and health.

Security Situation

Although the security situation in the South has been relatively stable, cross border incidents continue to occur on a regular basis. Anti-personnel mines along the Blue Line and cluster munitions contamination also continue to pose a risk.

Access and movements of humanitarian actors have at times been affected by high security measures implemented by the local authorities, communities and groups. Like in other parts of the country, some municipalities have imposed night curfews to address in increase in security and criminal threats.

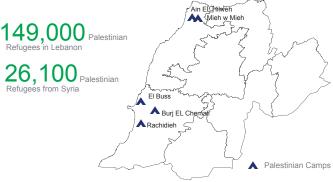
UNIFIL

UNIFIL's Area of Operation covers the area south of the Litani River. Following the 2006 war UNIFIL's mandate was extended to monitoring the cessation of hostilities; accompanying and supporting LAF's deployment throughout the south; and ensuring humanitarian access to civilian populations and the voluntary and safe return of displaced persons. UNIFIL has 11,000 international troops and 1,000 civilian staff with its headquarters in Naqoura.

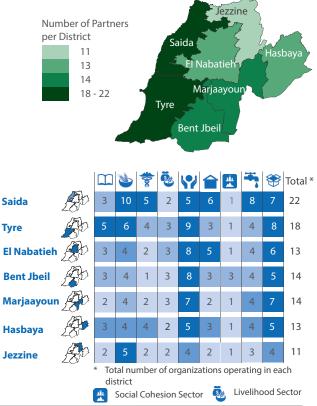
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Palestinian Refugees

There are five Palestinian camps in the South (Ein El Hilweh, Mieh Mieh, Bourj Shemali, Rashidieh and El Buss) as well as 23 unofficial gatherings which are characterized by chronic overcrowding and high poverty rates. Most Palestinian refugees are concentrated in Saida (73,000) and Tyre (76,000). There are also 16,000 Palestinian Refugees from Syria in Saida and 9,500 in Tyre.



Humanitarian Intervention



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Data Source: Lebanese Population - Central Administration of Statistics (CAS), Syrian Refugee Population and Humanitarian Intervention Data - UNHCR, Palestinian Refugee Population- UNRWA