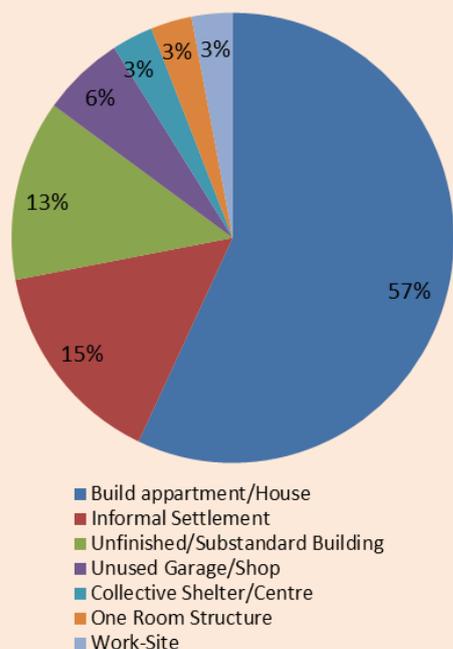


Key Figures

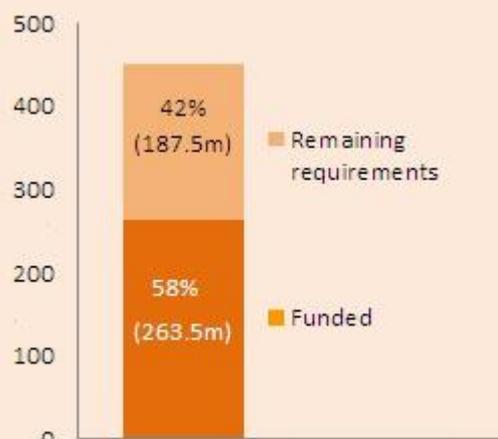


September developments

- Over 26,011 families (130,056 individuals) have benefitted from shelter assistance in 2014.
- 137 families received cash-for-shelter in Koura, Batroun, and Tyre, provided by UNHCR in partnership with COOPI and SHIELD.
- 3,624 refugee families living in informal settlements and unfinished houses in Bekaa, Hasbeya, Tyre, Saida, Jezzine, Chouf, and Aley were provided with weatherproofing kits.
- In response to fires that occurred in North Bekaa, 11 families received newcomer kits by Medair in collaboration with Ras-Baalback and Qaa municipalities. In addition, 55 families living in five informal settlements benefitted from the site improvement works conducted by Medair.
- UNHCR rehabilitated small shelter units for 250 families living in Bekaa, Tripoli, Mount Lebanon, and the South. Following events in Aarsal, partners are facing increased challenges when contracting housing units, as owners are less interested in renting accommodation for refugees and municipalities are imposing restrictions on the use of public services.
- UNHCR is managing 20 collective centers in Akkar, home to 383 refugee families. This month, UNHCR rehabilitated collective shelters for 204 vulnerable families living in Bekaa, Mount Lebanon, Tripoli, and the South.
- Out of 12 schools in Lebanon undergoing rehabilitation, two have already been completed in Mount Lebanon. In addition, rehabilitation works planned in three rented schools in Tripoli were put temporarily on hold after owners refused to sign rental agreements. UNHCR is working jointly with the Ministry of Education to solve the problem with both owners and school directors.

Funding

UNHCR total requirements: USD 451 m



Achievements: January – September

Activity	Reached January-September	Reached January-September	Target by end of 2014
Total beneficiaries from shelter support	26,011	130,056	382,731
Informal settlements weatherproofed	7,400	36,999	73,584
Site improvement	1,193	5,964	41,250
Unfinished houses weatherproofed	5,591	27,956	112,580
Cash-for-rent	8,117	40,587	47,330
Apart/Houses rehabilitated	2,251	11,256	41,234
Collective shelters renovated	1,319	6,594	9,979
Formal tented settlements	70	350	38,250

Needs

Shelter remains an urgent concern, especially as refugees run out of resources to pay rent. With constantly increasing numbers of refugees in Lebanon, more and more live in substandard dwellings, with limited privacy and protection from the elements.

Refugee needs include:

- Adequate shelter and dignified living conditions for everyone;
- Improvements to existing dwellings, in particular, materials (and tools) to seal off shelters from cold weather;
- Support to the most vulnerable who rent accommodation

Challenges

Lack of wide-scale shelter options: In the absence of facilities capable of receiving large numbers of refugees, the demand for affordable and decent shelter greatly exceeds availability. The dispersion of the refugee population in over 1,750 locations requires a multi-faceted shelter strategy and close coordination with host communities, local authorities and civil society.

Evictions: With an increasing refugee population, a saturated and fluctuating housing market and growing tensions between host communities and refugees, the number of evictions is growing every month.

Increased resort to informal settlements: The growth of informal settlements, currently home to over 193,000 refugees, presents risks to refugees and increases tensions with surrounding communities. Identifying alternatives with municipalities and local actors is an on-going challenge.

Strategy

UNHCR will prioritize the provision of temporary (emergency) shelter while continuing to support longer-term options where available by:

- Providing safe emergency shelter to newly arriving families including through establishment and management of temporary shelter sites in West Bekaa and Akkar;
- Weatherproofing and improving informal settlements;
- Assisting vulnerable families through cash for renting accommodation;
- Rehabilitating and weatherproofing substandard shelters;
- Expanding collective shelter capacity through rehabilitation of private and public buildings
- Ensuring preparedness for sudden mass influx by stocking sufficient emergency shelter solutions (sealing-off kits, materials to improve shelters and temporary shelters including UNHCR family tents); and
- Including Lebanese host communities in shelter assistance schemes such as cash-for-rent or rehabilitation of host's property.



UNHCR implementing partners

Agence d'aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement (ACTED), Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP), Concern, Cooperative Housing Foundation International (CHF), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Islamic Relief (IR), MEDAIR, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), PCPM (Polish Centre for International Aid), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Social Humanitarian Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD) and UN-HABITAT.

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