

Significant progress made on business support and rapid-income generation in Lebanon over last two months

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

In the Livelihoods Sector in Lebanon, significant progress was seen in results and in the number of active partners, which increased to 19. Partners notably supported 14 micro, small and medium enterprises through counselling, business plan development and support in preparing a micro-grant application to address a specific need or offer a new service or product. In addition, 10 entrepreneurs benefited from business management training.

Progress on rapid-income generation projects in Lebanon is also being made, with more beneficiaries in the last two months than since the beginning of the year. Overall, labour-intensive projects completed by partners led to the creation of nearly 27,000 workmen days and contributed to the rehabilitation of infrastructures in 19 villages.

In the Social Stability Sector in Lebanon, three new conflict mitigation mechanisms were established in Bekaa, adding to the 39 similar mechanisms established this year. Peacebuilding initiatives for youth in Bekaa also engaged some 160 youth, while eight municipalities in Nabatieh benefited from the completion of small-scale community support projects aimed at alleviating resource pressure.

In Egypt, a mid-term evaluation has been launched of the Graduation Approach, which aims to provide training and coaching that will help participating refugees to move off cash assistance through self-employment or wage employment. The evaluation will measure the impact and effectiveness of the programme to date, highlight reasons for success or otherwise, and inform any potential programme design and implementation improvements.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

A critical dimension of building resilience is to expand livelihoods and employment opportunities for vulnerable men, women and, especially youth, in compliance with national laws and regulations. In all five countries, livelihoods support under the 3RP is a key way to slow and reverse depletion of individual, family and community assets. To ensure access to sustainable employment, it is vital to equip refugees and vulnerable local populations with the skills that the markets demand. Livelihoods initiatives give refugees the means to cope with hardship, to increase their skills and abilities, and to prosper, as well as improving their prospects in a future return to Syria. In turn, the skills of refugees can help to grow and diversify local economies.

Social cohesion interventions in the region include the development of conflict mitigation mechanisms, with stakeholders helping to conduct participatory conflict analysis to identify sources of tension, along with training on conflict resolution skills such as negotiation, problem solving and mediation.



Egypt. UNHCR

Sector Response Summary:



292,565 Refugees & Local
Community Members targeted for
assistance by end-2015
39,599 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees
expected by end-2015
4,279,567 currently registered or
awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.3 billion
required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 2.019 billion received in 2015



INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO LIVELIHOODS INVESTS IN HUMAN CAPITAL IN JORDAN

One of the 10 elements of the Dead Sea Resilience Agenda is to "strengthen the legal and programmatic basis for - and dramatically scale up - economic opportunities for affected refugees, vulnerable groups, and communities." With expanded livelihood opportunities, affected households will be better able to contribute to local economies and move towards self-sufficiency.

In Jordan, examples of projects to create jobs being taken to scale include the MSME and vocational training using the innovative approach of linking demand and supply through partnership with the private sector. This has resulted in high employment and retention rates of graduates from the training. The project was initiated in 3 municipalities and now been implemented in total of 8 municipalities. More municipalities are requesting for this project.

UNDP Jordan also implements a 3x6 project in municipalities starting with the Cash for Work phase. The '3x6 approach' adds to emergency employment through cash for work for rapid improvement of community infrastructure, the innovative dimensions of promoting savings and supporting emerging entrepreneurs with sustainable microbusiness development.

Through these projects, it is estimated that over 2,000 of the vulnerable population (50 per cent women) will benefit from the job creation, and at least 500 men and women with transition from short-term employment to more suitable employment to be self-reliant.

The 3x6 approach is a good example of building a bridge from the short-term to the longer term, with a clear view on increasing resilience by widening the range of opportunities available to vulnerable people.

In the process, the training also has an important effect on attitudes, perceptions and life skills, and since it is implemented with the full participation of the municipality to address priority needs, it contributes to alleviation of tensions and social cohesion and establishes a new relationship between the municipality and its constituency.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - OCTOBER 2015*

■ Progress ■ Planned Response, by end-2015

15,889 individuals assisted to access wage employment opportunities



170 community support projects implemented



23,710 people trained or provided with marketable skills and services



These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Targets are based on full funding of the 3RP and an expected 4.27 million refugees by end-2015. All data on this Dashboard is current as of 31 October 2015.

* Progress data not yet received for Iraq in October 2015.