



SITUATION ANALYSIS

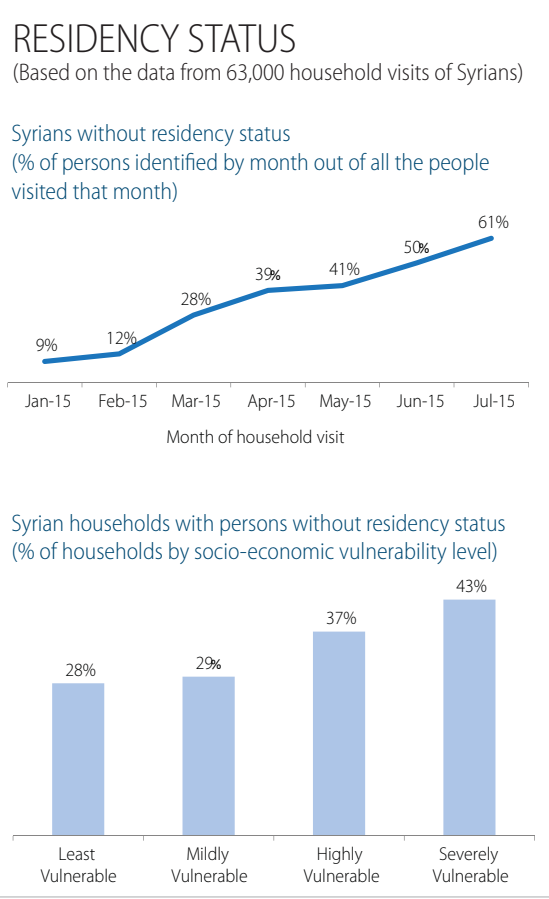
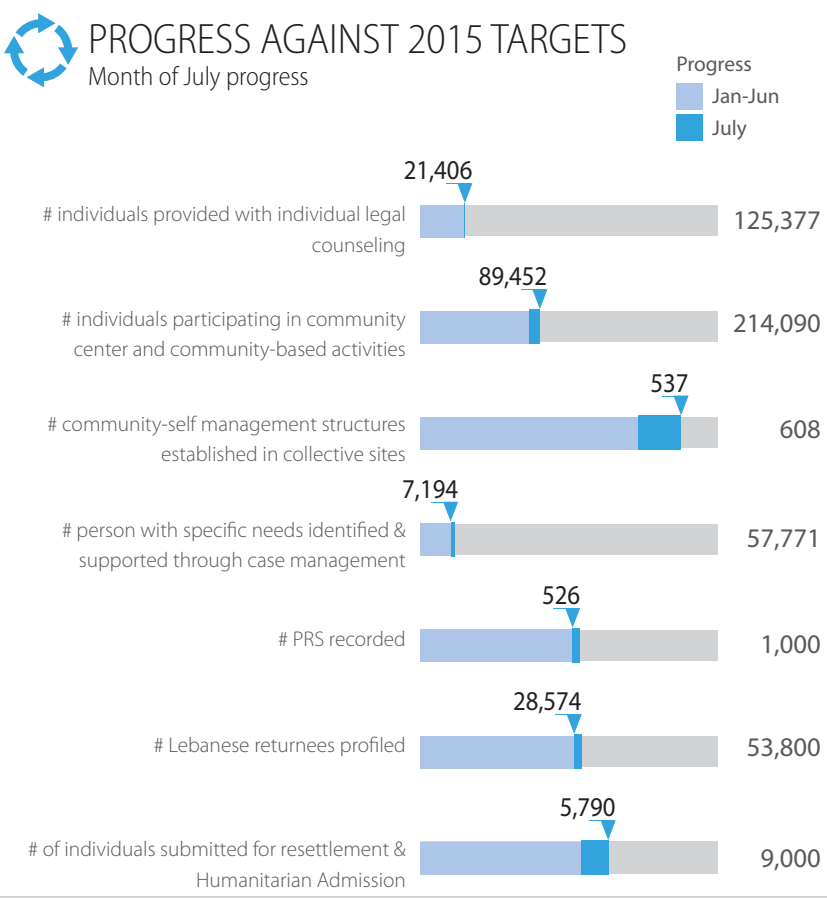
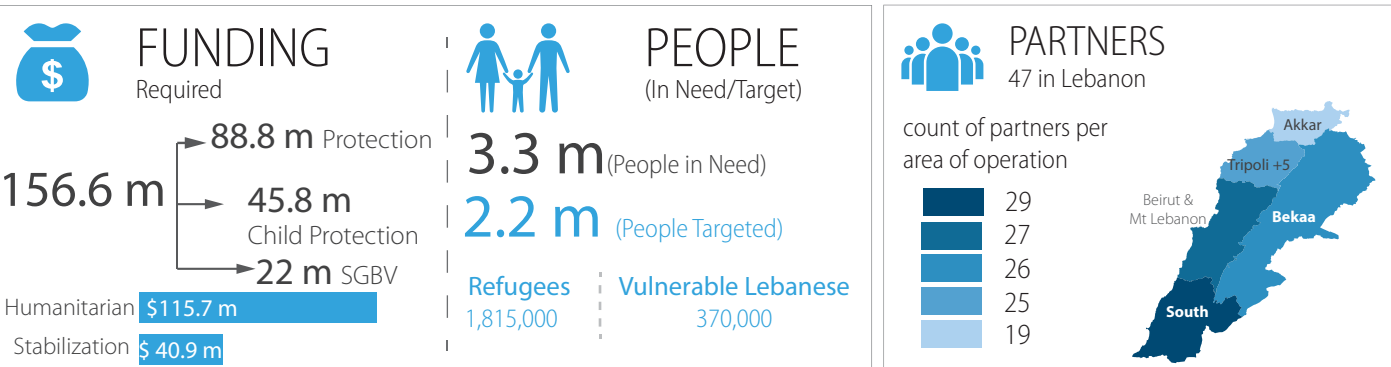
As the implementation of the Government's October 2014 refugee policy continues to take effect, the protection sector maintained its response strategy in line with the LCRP, with a particular attention to addressing obstacles to legal residency. Challenges to renewing residency that include prohibitively high fees, the requirement to sign a pledge not to work as well as furnish proof of financial means, mean that more and more refugees are unable to maintain legal residency status. Based on 75,000 household visits conducted since January 2015, the percentage of households without valid residency has steadily risen from 9% in January 2015 to over 61% at the end of July 2015. Protection partners continue to provide counseling and awareness to refugees to raise awareness of the new government policies and help them renew their residency where possible.

A large number of refugees living in informal settlements in the North, including in the Sahel area and Minnieh Dinnieh, were suddenly evicted due to security consideration and requested to relocate far from main access roads and military facilities. The situation triggered a rapid inter-agency response, including with legal partners who provided advice on property lease issues. Following recent fires in some collective sites, partners have also been engaging with some communities to equip them with greater awareness on reducing risks of fire, first aid training and provision of fire extinguishers in some areas, but this activity requires more funding support as the needs are many.

Preliminary VASyR 2015 results indicate a worrying increase in households applying severe negative coping strategies, from 28% in 2014 to 67% in 2015. This includes reports of increased begging, protracted debt, withdrawing children from school, child labour and engaging in other risky activities.

In an effort to find durable solutions for people in need, 5,790 Syrians have been submitted for resettlement this year until the end of July.

UNRWA announced that it was facing one of its most serious financial crisis ever, to the amount of 101 USD million deficit, that would affect its core services to Palestine refugees if not addressed promptly. Funding cuts particularly in the education sector would expose children to a variety of protection risks if they are not able to access education in a safe space.



Reporting Agencies

