

SITUATION ANALYSIS

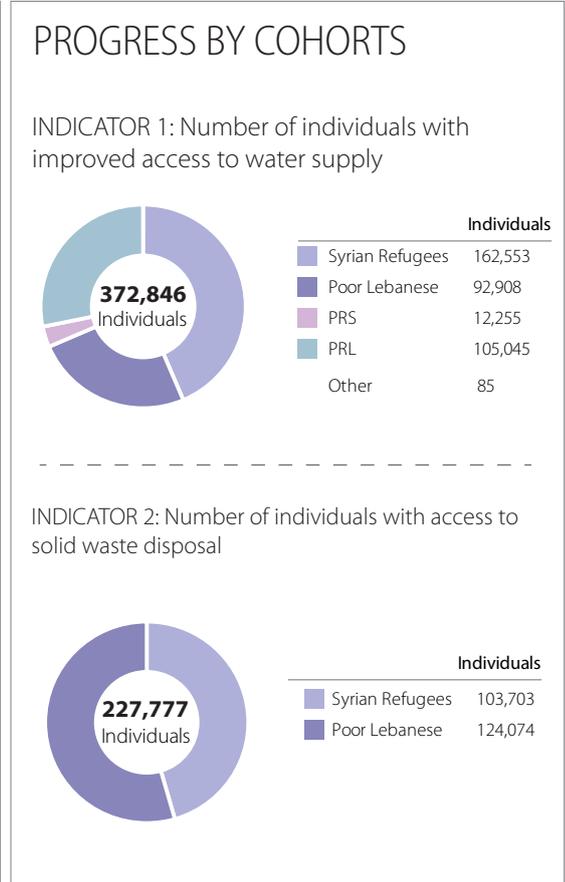
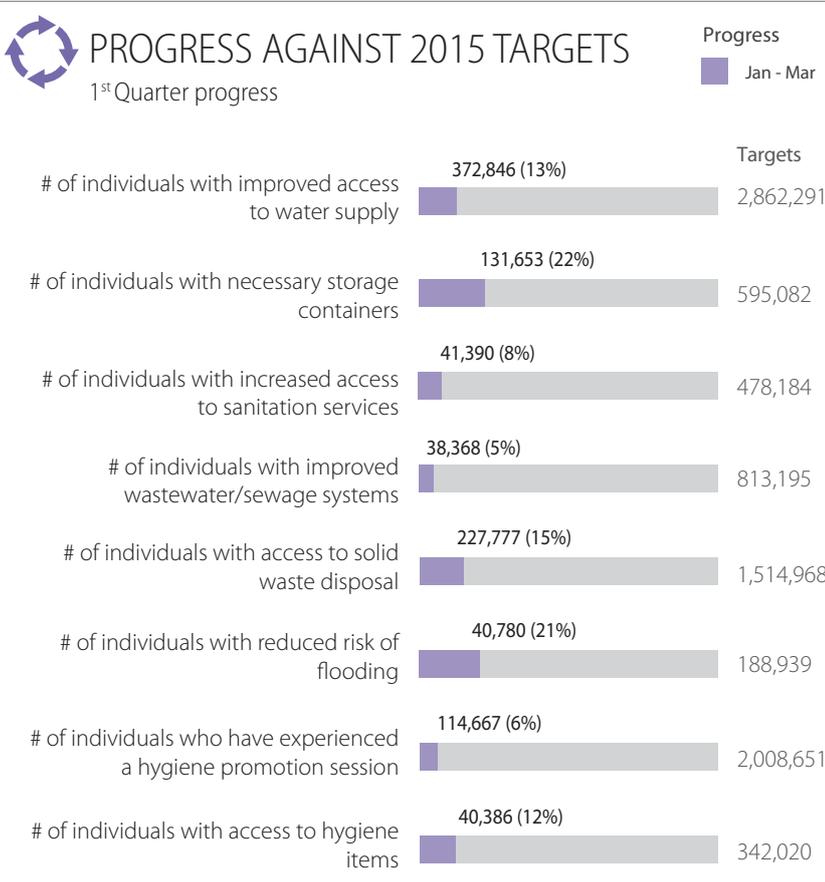
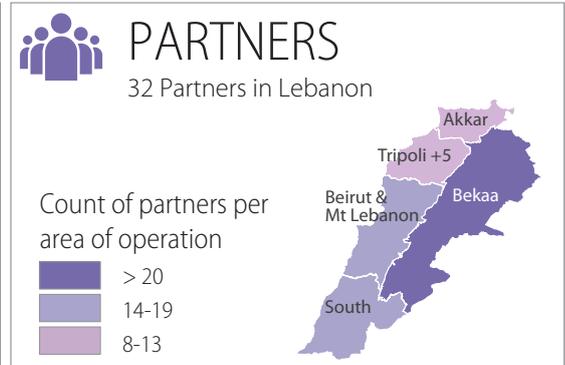
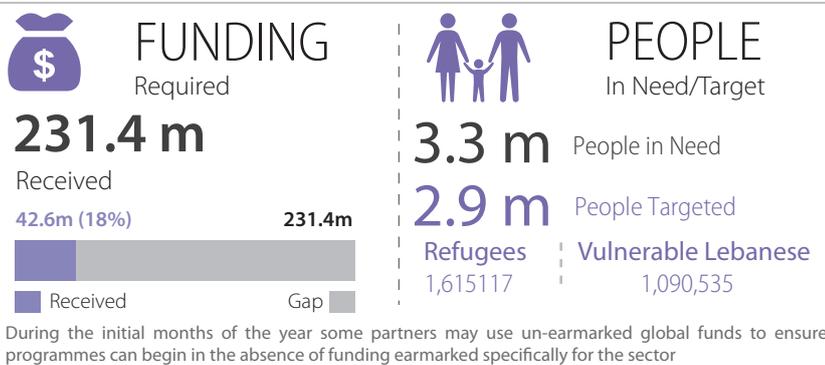
In March 9 Municipal water systems have been completed with work including the supply of pump equipment at 7 locations, source rehabilitation or development at 9 locations and distribution networks for a total of 3,550 meters of piping at 3 locations. In addition 32 communal water reservoirs have been completed. For water treatment 39 chlorination systems have been installed in the North and South of Lebanon and 1,714 household filters have been distributed in the Bekaa.

In water trucking 39,500,000 litres of water have been distributed by 7 agencies in 240 sites, an increase of 24% from February based upon changes in need and access.

A total of 1,273 latrines have been completed serving 17,000 people primarily Syrian populations indicating an increased production from previous months. Also 95 vector breeding sites have been removed in Akkar.

In hygiene promotion 35,050 people have attended hygiene sessions – average is 18 people per session. In addition 66 municipality level mass hygiene promotion campaigns took place. In total 3,701 family hygiene kits and 2,669 baby kits or vouchers were distributed.

Key sectoral issues remain in waste water management and solid waste management where the existing infrastructure and services are under considerable strain.





Progress towards sector Outcomes and Outputs in Quarter 1

The WASH sector has three key priorities:

(a) Ensuring access to safe and equitable water in sufficient quantities. To date, 15 percent of the target population (372,846 people of which 164,000 refugees) has been reached, in particular through enhanced access to water storage facilities. Challenges include security access restrictions in Aarsal and Akkar; dependence on poor water quality in agricultural areas; identification of beneficiaries in peri-urban areas; and conflicting information on using sustainable water resources.

(b) Ensuring that the environment is not polluted by solid waste or affected by standing water or flood water. As a result of targeted interventions, some 227,700 beneficiaries now live in a cleaner and more sanitary environment. Improvements in municipal sludge and wastewater management benefited 38,368 Syrians over the first quarter of the year. Given the complexity and large scale of the work, progress is expected to come in spurts. Wastewater management interventions are heavily controlled in Lebanon. A critical challenge at the moment is sludge removal by trucks and approved, safe disposal.

(c) Ensuring better hygiene practices. More than 114,600 people have participated in 9,116 household/small group hygiene awareness sessions. The actual number of people reached through hygiene promotion is higher as this figure does not include health, education and mass hygiene campaigns.

Changes in context in Quarter 1

The Government of Lebanon and WASH sector partners have reinforced their collaboration. A planning process to develop approved technical solutions is being initiated to guide the response.

According to the Ministry of Public Health, reported cases of selected water-borne related disease totaled 619 in the first quarter, compared to 1,026 in the previous quarter. However, the risk of an outbreak has not significantly diminished. The Ministry of Public Health has taken the lead to engage partners in mitigating risks of water borne diseases as well preparing response capacities should an outbreak occur. Examples of such activities are the training of 124 health and WASH staff on rapid response mechanisms and activities, and planning for responses in locations with highest risk of the spread of communicable, water-related diseases.

Recent assessments revealed widespread bacteriological contamination in addition to high nitrate and phosphates contamination for water sources in agricultural areas. This may have health implications, such as diarrhea or, in the case of nitrates, infant mortality. The challenge in providing water that is safe under Government standards is becoming increasingly apparent. Various solutions are under discussion, including connecting communities to established, treated networks; identifying better quality water sources; and the use of better treatment techniques to replace unsustainable water trucking, or dependence on other contaminated water sources.

There was notable precipitation during the winter, leaving a good snow cover in the mountains and allowing for ongoing groundwater recharge. However, the risk of water shortages during the summer cannot yet be completely ruled out. WASH partners continue to work on improving the supply of water and better managing of demand in conjunction with communities and local authorities in the most vulnerable locations.

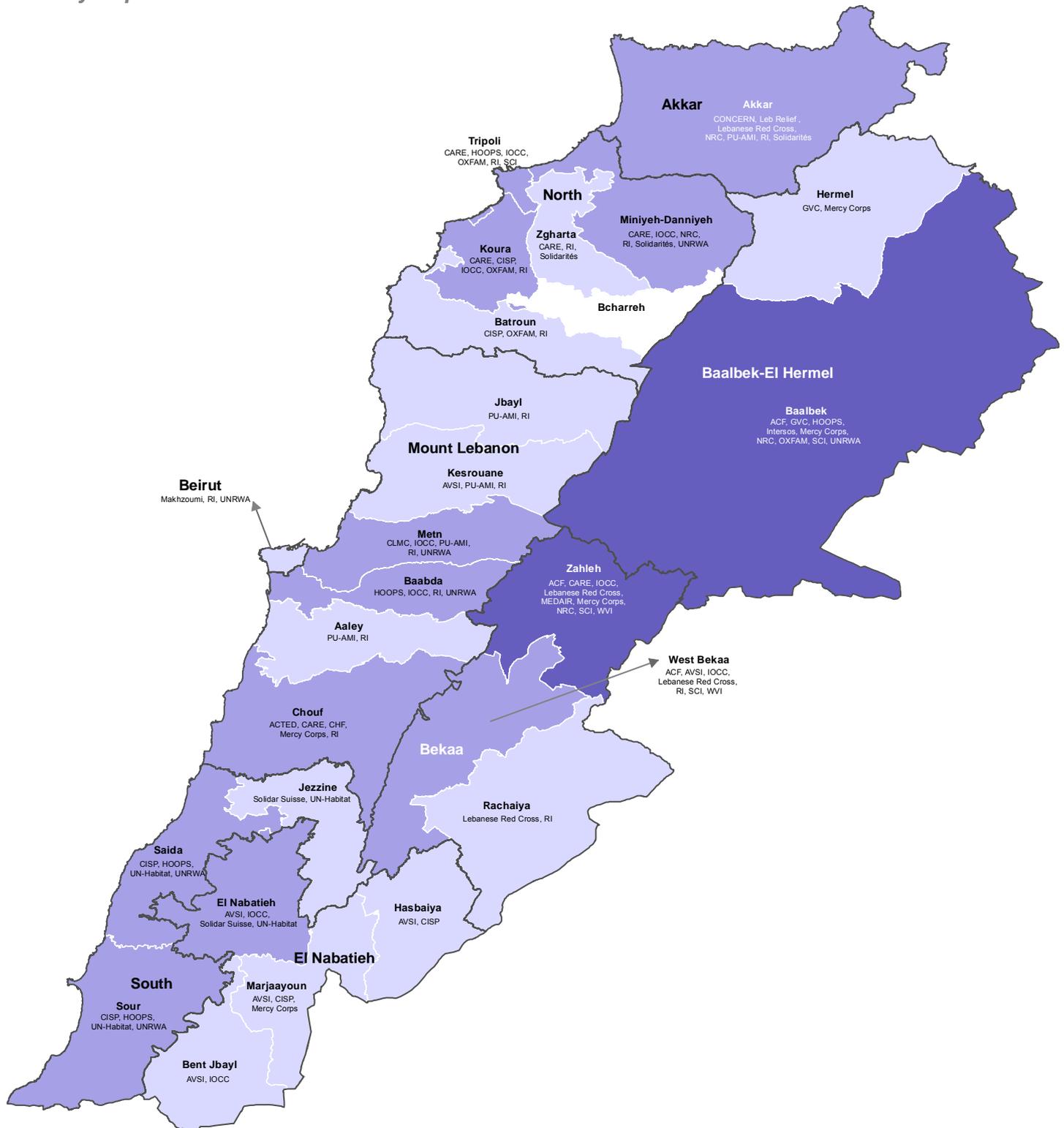
Health risks due to poor waste water and solid waste management have recently been cited by authorities as reasons for evictions from informal settlements. The sector is working closely with the eviction committees in the field to address these concerns, including through provision of immediate desludging.

A national plan for municipal solid waste (MSW) that would divide Lebanon into six areas for waste collection and disposal was launched in February 2015. This plan is likely to change the landscape of solid waste management. Any planning for new projects should consider the implications of this plan. Active coordination with relevant government authorities continues to ensure consistency with the Lebanese WASH guidelines and regulations.

Number of Partners per Caza/District

March 2015

*A Total Number of 32 Organizations
Currently Report Their Activities*



Contact Information:

For information about WASH Sector, please contact:
David Adams at dadams@unicef.org or Ross Tomlinson at TOMLINSO@unhcr.org
or if you have any inquiry about the map, please contact:
Georges Haddad at ghaddad@unicef.org

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Legend

□ Governorate

□ District

F3

□ 1 - 3

□ 4 - 8

□ 8 - 12

□ 12 - 21

Reporting Partners:

ABAAD, ACF, ACTED, ANERA, AVSI, Beddawi Pop Com, CARE, CHF, CISP, CLMC Lebanon, CONCERN, DPNA, GVC, HOOPS, Intersos, IOCC Lebanon, Leb Relief, Lebanese Red Cross, Makhzoumi, MAP-UK, MEDAIR, Mercy Corps, NRC, OXFAM, PU-AMI, RI, SCI, Solidar Suisse, Solidarités, UN-Habitat, UNRWA, WVI