

Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (2017-2020) **ANNUAL REPORT - 2018**



**Inter-Agency
Coordination**
Lebanon

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ACRONYMS	2
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
REFERENCE MAP	6
OVERVIEW OF THE 2017-2020 RESPONSE	8
2018 AT A GLANCE	9
EVOLUTION OF CONTEXT	10
RESPONSE MANAGEMENT	14
INTER-SECTOR RESULTS ANALYSIS	16
SECTOR RESULTS ANALYSIS	25
BASIC ASSISTANCE	26
EDUCATION	32
ENERGY	38
FOOD SECURITY	42
HEALTH	48
LIVELIHOODS	52
PROTECTION	58
SHELTER	64
SOCIAL STABILITY	70
WATER	76

3RP	Refugee-Resilience Response
ALP	Accelerated Learning Programme
ATM	Automated teller machine
BLN	Basic Literacy and Numeracy
BTS	Back to School
CB-ECE	Community-Based Early Childhood Education
CERD	Curriculum Development, Training and Research
CoC	Code of Conduct
DOPS	Department of scholar pedagogy
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EdL	Electricité du Liban
ETF	Environment Task Force
EWARS	Early Warning and Alerts Response System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GBVIMS	Gender-Based Violence Information Management System
GIS	Geographic information system
GoL	Government of Lebanon
GSO	General Security Office
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HH	Household
IAMP	Inter-Agency Mapping Platform
ICLA	Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance
ISF	Internal Security Forces
IS	Informal settlement
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices
LCRP	Lebanon Crisis Response Plan
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEB	Minimum expenditure basket
MEHE	Ministry of Education and Higher Education
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoET	Ministry of Economy and Trade
MoEW	Ministry of Energy and Water
MoIM	Ministry of Interior and Municipalities
MoL	Ministry of Labour
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
MPC	Multi-purpose cash
MSMEs	Micro Small and Medium Enterprises
NCD	Non-communicable diseases
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NPTP	National Poverty Targeting Programme
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODK	Open Data Kit
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OFC	Occupancy Free of Charge
OOSCI	Out of School Children Study
PHC	Primary Health Care Centre
PMU	Project Management Unit
PRL	Palestine Refugee in Lebanon
PRS	Palestine Refugee from Syria
PSD	Personal Status Department

PSEA	Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse
PSS	Psychosocial support
PwSNs	Persons with specific needs
RACE	Reach All Children with Education
RNA	Rapid Needs Assessment
RRP	Refugee Response Plan
SDC	Social Development Centre
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SMEB	Survival minimum expenditure basket
SO	Strategic Objectives
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
T&D	Transmission and Distribution
TPA	Third Party Administrator
TTCM	Teacher Training Curriculum Model
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VASYR	Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
WAP	Water Assessment Portal
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WEC	Water Executive Committee
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 2017, the response to the multifaceted impact of the Syrian crisis has been guided by a revised Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), jointly developed by the Government of Lebanon (GoL) and the humanitarian community (United Nations, national and international NGOs and donors) covering a multi-year period up to 2020. It provides an integrated humanitarian and stabilization framework, aiming to tackle Lebanon's challenges holistically, taking into account the vulnerability of all people affected by the crisis.

The response aims to ensure protection and provide immediate assistance to the most vulnerable populations, primarily the displaced population from Syria, the Lebanese host community, the Palestine refugees in Lebanon and those from Syria. It also aims at strengthening the capacity of national and local service delivery systems and at expanding access to basic services, while striving to reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability.

In 2018, the second year of the four-year LCRP began with more than 3 million individuals identified as in need of assistance and 2.8 million targeted by implementing partners. For 85 partners, \$1.4bn (52 percent) was made available for programming, including \$312m carried over from 2017, out of an overall funding appeal of \$2.68bn. At the end of the year, 1.6 million persons had been assisted by the response. Foresight beyond 2018 remains a concern with limited multi-year funding and low levels of sector specific support, in particular for the Livelihoods, Shelter and Energy sectors.

Persons living with disabilities face considerable challenges to access livelihoods and services autonomously. Children are among the most vulnerable, in particular unaccompanied children or those separated from their families. Partners have been able to mitigate the deterioration of vulnerabilities, but not halt them completely.

Over two-third of displaced Syrians households remain below the poverty line. 69 percent of Syrian displaced households live on less than US\$ 3.84 per person per day, a slight improvement compared to 2017, when 76 percent of displaced Syrians lived below the poverty line. The increase in

cash-based assistance in 2018 has prevented further deterioration into poverty, particularly through the multi-purpose cash assistance program which reached 15,000 additional vulnerable households in 2018. Yet, the worsening economic situation in Lebanon had an impact on displaced Syrian households who primarily resorted to accumulating debt as a coping mechanism regardless of their economic vulnerability level: nearly nine out of ten households remain in debt, with the average debt rising to US\$ 250 per person (compared to US\$ 227 in 2017). There are currently nearly 190,000 displaced families living below minimum and survival expenditure levels, of whom only 62,000 receive multipurpose cash support, or 19 percent of the displaced Syrians population.

Protection risks of the vulnerable population remains high, with legal protection continuing to be a key challenge despite waivers granted in 2018. Only 27 percent of Syrian displaced over 15 hold legal residency, similar to 2017 results. In terms of civil documentation, the majority (97 percent) of Syrian children born in Lebanon have some form of documentation to attest to their birth. However, despite improvements in birth registration for Syrian children born in Lebanon, 79 percent of displaced births remain technically unregistered in 2018, as they have not completed the entire seven steps process to officially register the birth. Child labour continued to be a concern, with a stable percentage of children working at 5 percent since 2017 (although there is underreporting because of social stigma). Children were still affected by violent disciplinary practices (73 percent of them suffered from some form of violence, 78 percent in 2017). Furthermore, early marriage remained high, with 29 percent of girls aged 15 to 19 married, an increase of 7 percent from 2017.

Vulnerable populations face difficulties meeting their basic immediate needs. There has been a marked deterioration in shelter conditions amongst displaced Syrian households and an increase in the number of displaced population living in non-permanent structures, from 26 percent in 2017 to 34 percent in 2018. Whilst the access to water results are encouraging (access to improved drinking water sources has increased by 4 percent over the last four years to 91 percent in 2018), there is a lack of evidence related to water quality or availability, two essential components for having safely managed water, which in 2016 was measured at only 36 percent nationally. Overall, levels of food security

have slightly improved, with 34 percent of Syrian displaced households being moderately to severely food-insecure, compared to 38 percent in 2017. Only 10,000 out of 41,000 vulnerable Lebanese families received food support.

Public services deliver at scale but require sustained attention. 68 percent of Syrian children between 6 and 14 years are enrolled in school, compared to 52 percent in 2016. Costs of transport and school supplies continues to hinder enrolment, with work also figuring as a prominent reason among the 15-17 age group. In terms of primary health care, 87 percent of displaced Syrians were able to receive it out of the 54 percent who needed it. Similarly, 77 percent of displaced were able to access secondary health services out of the 23 percent who required it. There was a 7 percent increase in the percentage of children under two years old who were reported to be sick (mainly fever, coughing, and diarrhea) from 34 percent in 2017 to 41 percent in 2018. The most commonly reported barriers for the 13 percent of households who were not able to access needed primary healthcare was cost, including for drugs and treatment, doctors' fees and transportation.

Strained inter-communal relations. Frustrations are growing amongst both groups despite relations between displaced Syrians and host communities being relatively stable in 2018 and intercommunal violence largely avoided. For instance, 30 percent of Syrians reported that they had been verbally harassed compared to 20 percent in 2017. Moreover, 21 percent of displaced rarely or never interact with host communities in social circles, indicating a relatively large proportion of displaced remain isolated. Competition over jobs persist as the most prevalent source of tension nationally, though competition over services and utilities is the fastest growing, with environmental issues in particular causing tensions in 2018.

The employment status of the vulnerable population remains fragile. 968 Lebanese businesses were supported in 2018. On average, 68 percent of Syrian households had at least one working member, which was an increase of almost four percentage points compared with 2017. Yet, trends varied greatly by governorate. On average, 55 percent of Syrian female-headed households did not have any working members, compared to 27 percent of households headed by men, similar to 2017. The few Syrian women that were employed

worked mainly in agricultural activities (38 percent), occasional work (10 percent) and cleaning (4 percent) with men working mostly in construction (32 percent), agricultural activities (21 percent) and occasional work (11 percent). In 2018, 6,672 casual jobs for construction of water reservoirs and for land rehabilitation were created for both displaced population and host community. In addition, Lebanese businesses were supported to generate income for local economies across Lebanon with a special emphasis on micro, small and medium enterprises, including WFP-contracted shop and women cooperatives.

The impact of the crisis on the environment remains salient. Research has demonstrated that the Syrian crisis has resulted in an increase in pressure on the environment, notably on solid waste, water and wastewater, air quality, land use and ecosystems. Some progress was made in 2018: 55 municipalities implemented integrated solid waste management systems and approaches in order to reduce quantities of waste discharged in open dumps; the Environment Task Force addressed 17 environmental complaints, in majority related to solid waste management issues observed in the Bekka, and conducted pro-active inspections; several Water Sector partners introduced adequate wastewater management solutions that are in line with environmental legislation; over 3,000 farmers adopted sustainable farming practices. In 2018, the Environment Task Force began developing an LCRP Environmental Marker system to screen all LCRP activities and ensure they are aligned with national environmental safeguards. In addition, measurement methodologies are being developed by the Ministry of Environment to keep track of the impact of the response on the environment. Across sectors, immediate assistance was provided to the most vulnerable and key achievements have been realized (as illustrated in the next page).

Despite these achievements, more sustainable solutions are required. There is a need for more predictable, balanced funding for short and particularly long-term support to reverse increasing vulnerability as the crisis becomes more protracted, and people further deplete their savings and assets to cope.

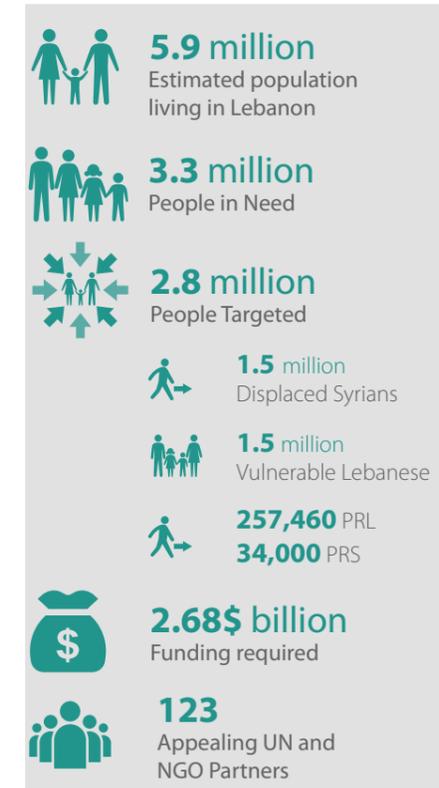
REFERENCE MAP

Governorate, Caza and major towns in Lebanon



OVERVIEW OF THE 2017-2020 RESPONSE

2018 PLANNING FIGURES



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



2018 TARGET & REQUIREMENT BY SECTOR

PEOPLE TARGETED	SECTORS	REQUIREMENTS (US\$)
2,236,299	Social Stability	109.9m
1,890,000	Protection	171.6m
1,579,000	Water	250m
1,564,800	Health	290.2m
1,354,000	Basic Assistance	542.3m
1,119,172	Energy	99.2m
920,821	Food Security & Agriculture	507.6m
711,893	Shelter	137.3m
457,682	Education	367m
60,663	Livelihoods	207.9m

DONOR CONTRIBUTION



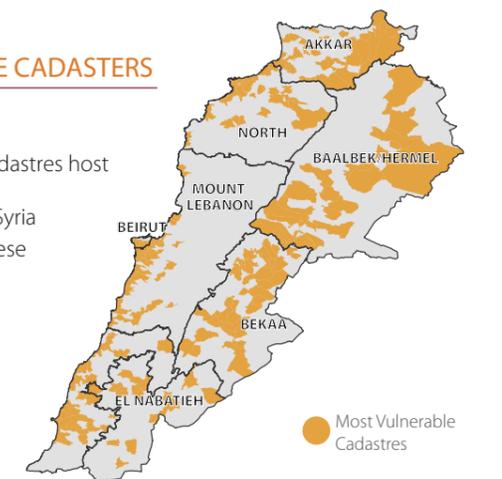
FUNDING TREND



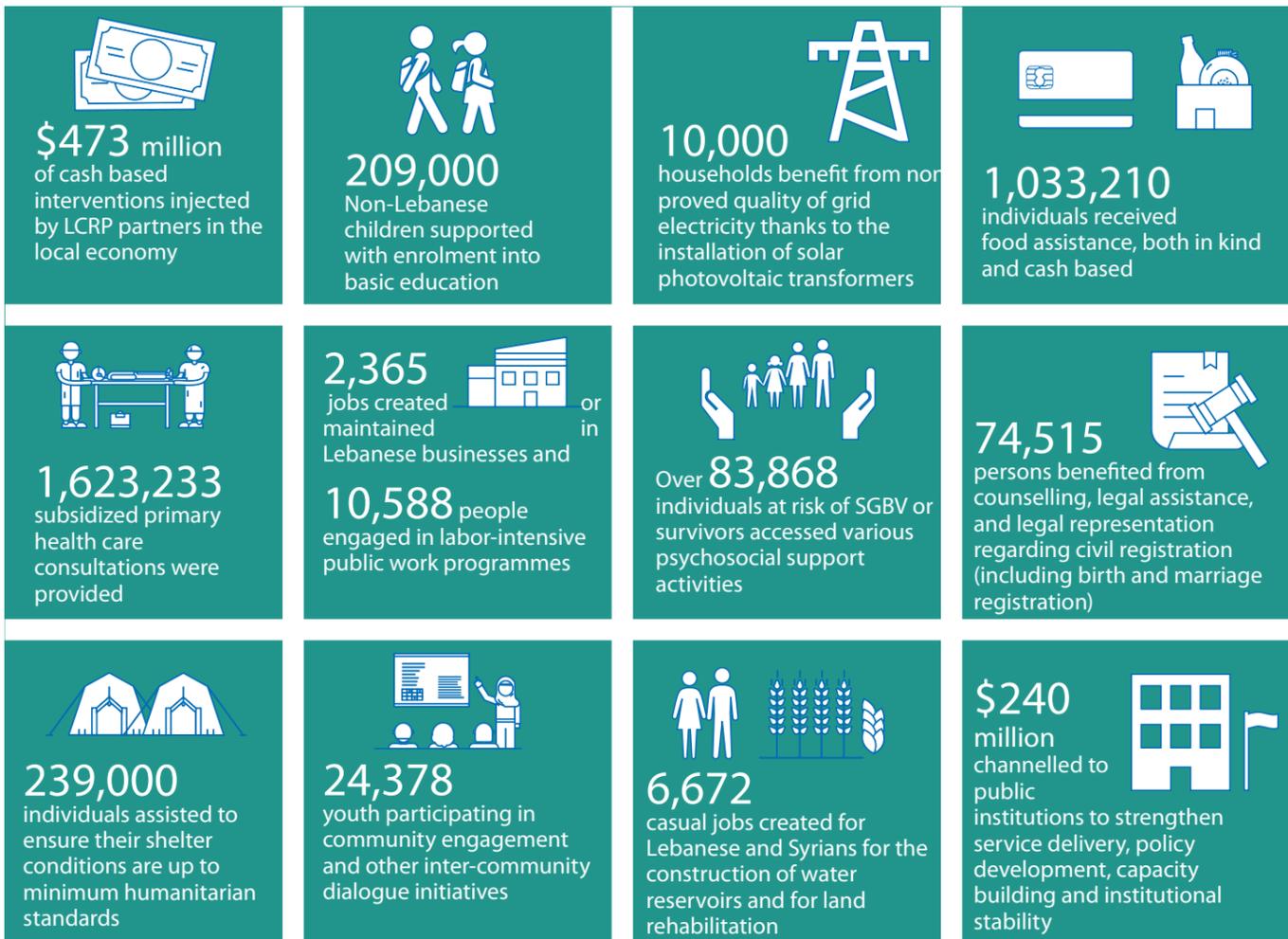
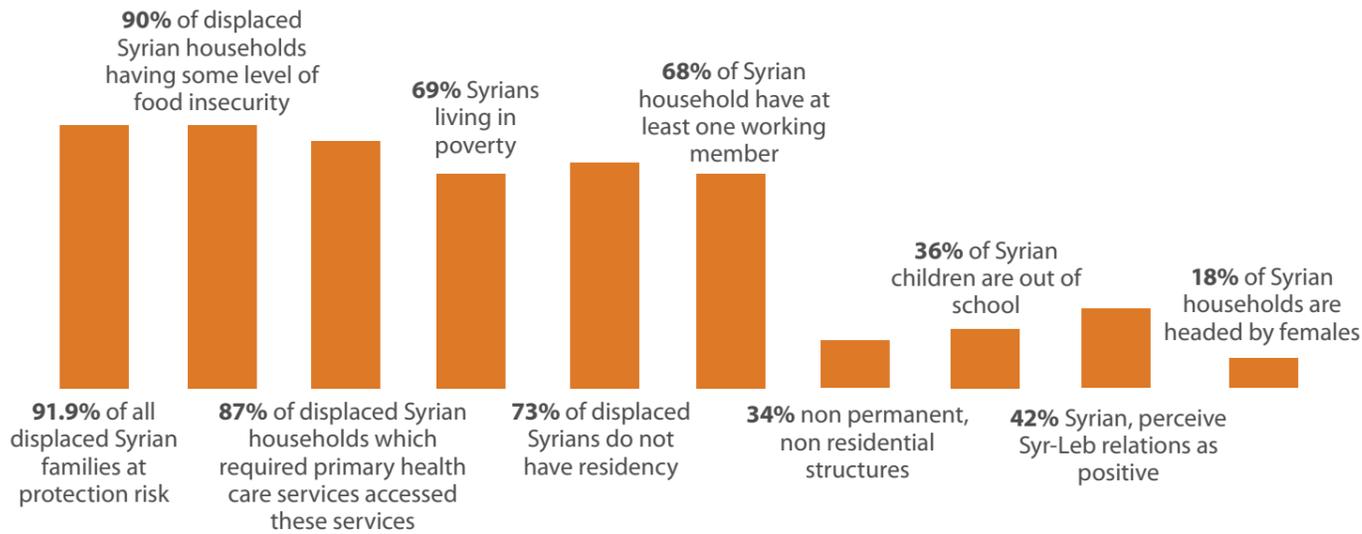
MOST VULNERABLE CADASTERS

251 Most Vulnerable Cadastres host

%87 Displaced from Syria
%67 Deprived Lebanese



AT A GLANCE



EVOLUTION OF CONTEXT

Financial Overview

Humanitarian aid flows to Lebanon remained at a stable and high level for 2018, with \$1.4bn available for programming towards the \$2.62bn appeal through 85 partners. With 52 per cent coverage, the LCRP remains one of the best funded appeals globally. Overall, partners have received \$5bn since the launch of the LCRP in 2015 and a total of \$7.4bn since the start of the crisis in 2011. However, in terms of new funding received in 2018 for programming in 2018, the appeal is funded at 42 per cent, leaving a significant gap in partners' capacities to meet needs. Funding gaps were seen particularly in the shelter and livelihoods sectors.

Furthermore, funding remains focused on short-term humanitarian needs and limited progress has been made in attracting predictable and flexible funding. At the end of 2018, 33 partners reported receiving \$194million to be implemented in 2019-2021 programming. This is \$114million less than what was available at the start of 2018, when \$308million were received in 2017 and implemented in 2018.

Overall, though donors are largely fulfilling their pledges made at the Brussels Conference, a substantial proportion of needs identified under the LCRP remains uncovered. The provision of funding remains unbalanced between sectors. Recognizing the obligation of LCRP partners to maintain direct humanitarian assistance, it is also vital that predictable support to longer-term programmes and more sustainable solutions is stepped up. In 2018, \$473million (34 per cent) of the financial resources available were delivered through direct cash assistance and \$240million (26 per cent) of programmed resources were delivered in support of public institutions to enhance service delivery and capacities for crisis management.

The LCRP remains the main funding vehicle for humanitarian and development partners in Lebanon. Overall, donors disbursed \$1.57billion to Lebanon in 2018, 76 per cent of which was in support of the crisis response. In addition, since 2016, donors have contributed \$357million to the Global Concessional Financing Facility for

Lebanon, with two projects now approved for implementation. It is expected that with the launch of the Government of Lebanon's Capital Investment Plan, further development financing and investments will be made available for larger scale projects. Nevertheless, the LCRP will continue to be the key platform for investing in humanitarian and stabilization outcomes over the next few years and will require continued support from the global aid community to achieve its expected objectives.

Policy Environment

Over the past year, some positive policy developments have taken place:

To increase access to legal residency and simplify procedures, the General Security Office (GSO) announced in March 2017 the waiver of fees for legal residency renewal and overstay (\$200 per person aged 15 and above per year). The waiver applies to Syrian displaced Syrians registered with UNHCR prior to 1 January 2015 and who had not renewed their residency previously based on tourism, sponsorship, property ownership or tenancy. Data from May 2017 indicates that only 26 percent of Syrian displaced over 15 years of age had legal residency. International partners have increased technical support to General Security Offices and GSO has taken measures to increase consistent implementation of the waiver on residency fees. Nevertheless, results from VASyR 2018 show that there has only been a 1 percent increase in Syrian displaced over 15 years of age who have legal residency.

Another important step was taken in September 2017 with the announcement by the Personal Status Department of a simplification of birth and marriage registration procedures, namely that valid legal residency of the parents of a newborn is no longer required for birth registration and only one spouse is required to have valid legal residency in order to register their marriage. Furthermore, in March 2018, a waiver was issued by the Government of Lebanon related to the one-year deadline to register a child's birth at the Noufous level (local civil registry) for children born in Lebanon to Syrian and Palestinian refugees between 1 January 2011 and 8 February 2018. This has led to a moderate increase by 4 percent of Syrian children who have had their births registered with the Foreigners' Registry. Despite these positive steps, however, key policy challenges remain for partners to move from

providing direct humanitarian assistance (in the form of, for example, water trucking, desludging and weatherproofing), primarily in informal settlements, towards more sustainable solutions with strengthened development outcomes.

Grand Bargain Commitments

At the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, 22 donors and 31 major humanitarian actors signed an agreement to get more means into the hands of people in need.

Within the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan, partners are working to make progress under each of the ten Grand Bargain commitments:

Greater transparency

The monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework for the LCRP is an important step towards greater transparency. Coupled with quarterly financial tracking of all funds received against the appeal, data on results and resources is published on a regular basis. Moving forward, the LCRP is undertaking a mid-term review in 2019 as well as a final evaluation of the response in 2021, to enhance learning and build in feedback loops for improved planning and programming.

More support and funding tools for local and national responders

The tracking of support to public institutions has shown a steady increase in funds supporting national service delivery. In 2018, partners reported \$240 million in support to public institutions, up from \$202 million in 2017 and representing an increase of 40 percent since 2015. Furthermore, 930 staff were supported to enhance crisis response capacities within the public institutions, up from 781 staff reported in 2016 (an increase of 19 percent). In addition, a growing number of partners are working to support localization in Lebanon, from the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (which aims to allocate at least 50 per cent of its funding directly to national NGOs) to donors such as AFD, RDPP and BPRM as well as INGOs including Oxfam. Nevertheless, partners can do more to ensure local capacities are in place and facilitate direct funding of local actors, and this should be a focus in 2019. In 2018, funds were channelled through 85 of the 123 appealing partners, with the vast majority of the direct funding going to the larger UN agencies and international NGOs.

Increase the use and coordination of cash-based programming

Lebanon has one of the largest cash programmes in the world. As indicated 34 percent of the \$1.4bn response was delivered through cash. This high level has been fairly consistent over the past few years. Several partners have joined efforts to deliver multi-purpose cash, cash for food and cash for education through a common platform entitled LOUISE ("Lebanon One Unified Inter-Organisational System for E-cards"), with the aim to reduce transaction costs and further increase efficiencies. An informal Social Safety Net Forum has been convened to discuss the linkage between cash and safety net programming to better inform the response moving forward.

Reduce duplication and management costs with periodic functional reviews

The LCRP Steering Committee launched in November 2017 a review of the coordination structure to address a number of challenges identified. Though not finalized, a number of lessons learned from partners have informed discussions in 2018 to strengthen cross-sectoral discussions and greater coherence across the response. This evolution is discussed in more details below in the Response Management section. Furthermore, the mid-term review planned for Q2 of 2019 will address a series of questions around the operationalization of the response:

- How adequate is the response model (governance mechanism, implementation framework, financing mechanism, targeting approach) for the current environment, taking into consideration the evolution of the aid coordination structure in Lebanon? Are there any recommendations with regards to the future design of the response post 2020?
- What capacities are built within national institutions, communities, and at individual level? What steps are taken to ensure a coherent exit and/or transition?
- Has the response operationalized the humanitarian-development nexus? What are the key success factors or constraints?

Improve joint and impartial needs assessments

With the M&E framework in place, the information needs and assessments required to report on outcome and impact level data for the response have been identified and partners have committed

to their timely implementation. The response plan is developed based on commonly identified needs by sector and an agreed upon strategy to address those needs. Work is currently underway to further expand key assessments to address the vulnerability of the Lebanese population cohort (a multi-dimensional poverty index for instance, using the complete dataset of the Labor Force and Households Living Conditions Survey (ILO, 2019)). Additional surveys, such as the perception surveys on social tensions, the upcoming Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS, UNICEF) are also strengthening the evidence base for the response. Nevertheless, results from the coordination review indicate that joint gap analysis and cross-sectoral prioritization are areas which need further improvement and this will be addressed in the LCRP mid-term review (July 2019).

A participation revolution: include people receiving aid in making the decisions which affect their lives.

Although the level of communication with affected communities is relatively solid, participatory planning processes need strengthening. The Mapping of Risks and Resources, conducted by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) in collaboration with municipal stakeholders, is a good example and lessons learned could be drawn to inform similar targeting and planning processes. Direct engagement with displaced populations in decision-making processes remains a challenge for some programmes, and the Protection sector will support other sectors in this regard in 2018.

Increase collaborative humanitarian multi-year planning and funding, and reduce the earmarking of donor contributions

As noted above, the level of multi-year funding is low despite having a multi-year response framework in place. Furthermore, partners are not yet witnessing a reduction in earmarking by donors.

Harmonize and simplify reporting requirements

With the establishment of the LCRP Monitoring & Evaluation framework and reporting calendar, considerable efforts have been made to ensure that each sector logframe is complementary to the others and that all the indicators are linked to the results chain moving from the four over-arching strategic

objectives, through to the impact statements, and outcomes and outputs at sector level. However, partners still have to fulfill their individual reporting requirements to their donors and in the case of the UN to the UN Strategic Framework, often using similar, yet not fully comparable indicators. This adds a considerable burden on partners.

Enhance engagement between humanitarian and development actors

With the launch of the Government's Capital Investment Plan, the funds committed through the Global Concessional Facility and other bilateral development initiatives, the LCRP response management will continuously need to evaluate its structures and processes to allow for greater collaboration and engagement with actors that do not formally appeal under the LCRP. Similarly, as the Government scales up its work towards the Sustainable Development Goals, LCRP partners will need to discuss how the response can best support these efforts.



RESPONSE MANAGEMENT

A number of key changes in the response management have taken shape in 2018.

Adapting the coordination structure to an evolving response

The suitability of the coordination structure was assessed following the evolution from Refugee Response Plans (RRPs) to an integrated Refugee Resilience Response (3RP/LCRP) in 2015; however, no substantial changes came out of the process at the time. Still, the general consensus remained among partners that there is scope for improved efficiency, streamlining and overall effectiveness within the coordination architecture as coordination structures are meant to expand, and contract based on changes in the operational context.

In this context, in November 2017, the LCRP Steering Committee decided to launch a new review of the coordination architecture. The objective was to obtain feed-back on the most efficient and effective structure and ensure buy-in through a review conducted by the country team itself. Consultations took place with stakeholders at the national and field level, and a countrywide partner survey, including Government of Lebanon, UN, NGOs and donors, was launched in February 2018 to review the current coordination structure and to understand better how it could evolve.

Under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator, the aim was to present a proposal to the LCRP Steering Committee by mid-2018 for approval, but this action was put on hold by the authorities, especially within the context of challenges to government formation the country faced through most of 2018. Nevertheless, the key findings of the coordination survey were shared with partners across Lebanon and were used to improve coordination at all levels (national, regional, inter-sector and sector). In general, partners were satisfied with the current performance of the coordination structures, but made some recommendations for improvements. Accordingly, concrete steps have been taken forward in the following areas:

- Strengthening the inter-sector at national level to play a stronger leadership role in providing analysis, guiding planning processes and carrying out monitoring & evaluation functions

across the response. In turn, this has enabled a more evidence-based, protection-centered and conflict-sensitive approach, with stronger accountability and advocacy.

- To carry out the above recommended functions, the inter-sector analysis capacity is being further strengthened and current work on vulnerability assessments, perception surveys, conflict analyses, protection analyses and early warning is being fed through the inter-sector to allow for mainstreaming and technical support to all sectors.
- The inter-sector is maintained as a flexible forum to ensure enough space is provided for ongoing and meaningful discussions on key issues. These discussions are linked, feed into and inform discussions into strategic decisions at the HCT.
- Regular agenda items are included at the inter-sector on key issues, for example graduation, social protection, support to public institutions and capacity development.

Overall, there has been no notable change to the sector structure, except that working groups at the national level have been more actively exploring synergies and engaging in cross-sectoral initiatives and discussions. This has led to increased joint planning and more regular communication to further develop these linkages. (see section below on 'Enhanced cross-sectoral coordination and collaboration').

This partner survey will take place periodically, on an annual basis, to enhance accountability and encourage continuous improvement of the response. Furthermore, during the second quarter of 2019 a joint mid-term review (MTR) of the LCRP and the UNSF will be conducted to ensure resource efficiency as well as benefit from recommendations on how to optimize the linkages between the two frameworks. More specifically, the LCRP coordination architecture will be reviewed by an evaluation team, including its interface with the UNSF, and assess actions for increased efficiency, stronger accountability (including accountability for affected populations) and the operationalization of the humanitarian-development nexus.

Enhancing mainstreaming efforts and cross-cutting interventions in the response

Efforts were made and intensified throughout 2018 to better ensure that cross-cutting priorities are not only articulated at the strategy level but also operationalized throughout the response:

Strengthened analysis: The inter-sector has been working to strengthen data analysis at the national and regional level through a number of initiatives. As part of the 2019 LCRP update, sector logframes were updated to better report on progress and impact by choosing indicators based on reliability and timely reporting of data. Also, key evaluation and research questions at the inter-sectoral and sectoral levels were developed to highlight areas that could benefit from additional research and analysis, including by external researchers and academics who could contribute to the response. The issues identified take stock of progress in terms of strategic direction and give an indication as to the priorities going forward.

In 2018, a series of Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) workshops were organized at both the national and field level to provide in-depth interpretation of the assessment results, taking into account regional variations, identify and validate key findings and provide recommendations. The VASyR results are crucial in informing the 2019 planning process and adjustment of strategies and responses.

In addition, a Protection Information Management (PIM) training was conducted for sector coordinators and key partners to strengthen the use of evidence available within the response to inform quality protection outcomes. This training will continue to be rolled out for partners across the response throughout 2019.

Enhanced cross-sectoral coordination and collaboration: Focus has been placed on having cross-sectoral and thematic discussions on key areas of interest to improve the effectiveness of the coordination structure and ensure more comprehensive solutions are found. Several sectors are working more closely together to identify cross-sectoral linkages, namely Protection/Cash, Protection/Livelihoods, BA/Livelihoods, Shelter/WASH and Health/SGBV, etc. These discussions are happening in different fora, whereby coordinators are encouraged to examine potential areas of collaboration with other sectors. These efforts will continue in 2019.

Mainstreaming initiatives: During the planning process, significant efforts were made to strengthen the centrality of protection, including accountability to affected population, gender and SGBV, conflict sensitivity and the environment. In terms of protection mainstreaming, direct

support was provided to the sectors through a protection mainstreaming consultant which enhanced integration of protection concepts into the planning of the LCRP. This is done to ensure that all assistance promotes meaningful access, safety, dignity and basic rights of affected people. Main areas of focus include improving compilation and dissemination of information on protection trends, strengthening IA referrals, strengthening and identifying feedback/complaint mechanism to better inform programming and building capacity amongst partners. A workplan is being drafted with the Protection sector and the inter-sector team to move forward with the action points on a national and at a field level.

As for conflict sensitivity mainstreaming, each sector strategy analyzes its potential adverse effects on local conflict dynamics and how to maximize its contribution to social stability, which in turn guides partners' respective programmes. In addition, regular information on tension trends and risks are provided to partners as well as research and evaluations on the impact of different types of LCRP programming on the level of tensions. These analyses were complemented by training sessions organized by the Social Stability Coordinator at national and field level to introduce the concept of conflict sensitivity to sector coordinators to ensure that programmes designed and implemented under the LCRP do not exacerbate tensions between displaced populations and host community.

The environment remains a priority and a key area for mainstreaming within the LCRP. During 2018, the Environmental Task Force (ETF) drafted guidance to better track/monitor the environmental impact of the response and on the establishment of an environment marker to strengthen accountability of this issues in the response. This will be rolled out during the 2020 LCRP planning.

The area-based approach will be further explored in 2019.

Bolstering the response to ensure readiness in large-scale emergencies

Lebanon's humanitarian community updated its HCT Contingency Plan for 2018-2019, with a stronger emphasis on operational preparedness this year. The exercise, led by UNHCR and OCHA was launched on 25 June 2018 with a workshop that was attended by 65 experts from UN agencies, the UNIFIL peacekeeping mission, donors, national and international NGOs, the Lebanese Red Cross and Government counterparts. Participants

focused their discussions on the three following crisis scenarios validated by the UN Humanitarian Country Team:

1. Armed clashes in the Palestinian camps
2. Renewed conflict with Israel
3. New refugee movements

The revised Contingency Plan, includes an analysis of the context, an overview of all the crisis response tools and mechanisms in Lebanon, and four area-level contingency plans, as well as an annex outlining coordination arrangements with UNIFIL in case of an emergency and other related plans (such as for acute water diarrhea, etc.).

Systems for emergency response also continue to be strengthened for smaller and medium-scale emergencies in an effort to enhance coordination of both international and national actors. Namely the Inter-agency unit is exploring how the Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) Tool can be better used in the field to respond to smaller emergencies, such as fire, floods and evictions. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) and related processes are being fine-tuned in accordance with lessons learned and best practices. Working group members across the country are reminded on a regular basis to update contingency stocks, warehouse locations and staffing capacities in the ActivityInfo contingency stock database in order to continuously assess levels of preparedness in the case of materialization of any of the scenarios outlined in the Contingency Plan or lower level emergency.

Better tracking the impact of the response through the Inter-sector Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework

Over the years, the coordination structure has gradually strengthened its analysis, planning and targeting capacity, and several important new studies and assessments have been developed and implemented. In 2017, an inter-sector M&E framework was developed outlining how the different sectors are contributing to the four strategic objectives of the LCRP, and enables stronger analysis at outcome and impact level. In 2018, the response M&E system has been further strengthened, as follows:

- A list of research questions at inter-sector and sector levels have been identified to better shape data collection and prioritize learning needs across the response. These research questions will feed into the upcoming mid-term review of the LCRP as well as the final evaluation of the response;

- New qualitative indicators have been incorporated in sector logframes to capture the response's accountability to affected populations. Reporting on these indicators will start in 2019 and help assess the level of engagement of beneficiaries in the response;

- A monitoring framework of the commitments made by the international community and the Government of Lebanon at the Brussels 2 conference, organized in April 2018 has been developed and incorporated into the LCRP M&E system for greater accountability. Progress will be reported to the LCRP Steering Committee on a yearly basis; and

- Finally, the mid-term review (MTR) of the response was designed and is expected to: 1) take stock of progress since January 2017; 2) review the existing response coordination model, and; 3) identify possible evolutions of existing frameworks beyond 2020. The findings of the mid-term review are expected mid-2019 to support decision-making and strategic planning.

5.5 Creating greater accountability in the response through improved complaints and feedback mechanisms and tracking of referrals to services

In Lebanon, given the duration of the crisis, and based on feedback from participants on the importance of accountability to affected population (AAP), efforts have been made to focus on communication and feedback to displaced populations and affected communities in all interventions, as well as ensuring that affected communities participate in each stage of the project cycle. In some sectors a strong focus is put on ensuring that complaints and feedback mechanisms are in place and result in organizational learning and adaptation. Lessons learnt from the Protection sector, which is piloting the use of AAP indicators in 2019, and its efforts to develop minimum standards on complaints and feedback systems will be extremely helpful in understanding how the use of these tools can support inform the response. These efforts will be furthered in 2019 and expanded throughout the response.

In addition, the IA referral monitoring system that is in place at the protection sector level ensures quarterly monitoring of the effectiveness and responsiveness of partners receiving referrals and is an accountability tool for the protection sector. This system will continue to be strengthened along and expanded to the other LCRP sectors. Moreover, in 2018, different initiatives were further strengthened with regard to individual referral tracking such as

RIMS or the shelter referral pathway on RAIS. The IA referral monitoring system and the individual tracking systems are complementary as one is providing an overview of an agency's diligence toward referrals while the others ensure timely and effective responses at the individual level.

5.6 Moving towards a more comprehensive understanding of risk and vulnerability to strengthen multi-sectoral approaches. The term "most vulnerable" is currently defined within the sectors, mainly using socio-economic, geographic or categorical concepts of vulnerability. These concepts have informed sectors in targeting their response. As part of the 2019 LCRP planning process, a workshop was organized to revisit these concepts and move towards creating a multi-dimensional understanding of vulnerability to facilitate a more multi-disciplinary and integrated approach that incorporates different perspectives and promotes involvement of a wide-range of actors. Sectors explored the different circumstances and factors at the individual, community and institutional level can increase a person's vulnerability and/or reduce their capacity to cope with a particular situation. In 2019, more work will be done in this regard so that programming decisions and targeting of displaced populations can be informed through a comprehensive analysis of risk, considering vulnerability in relation to threats and coping capacities. This will also be done in an attempt to articulate a package of services for different profiles within the population in need and get a sense on what those services would look like over time.

5.7 Operationalizing the humanitarian-development nexus for longer-term and sustainable solutions

Over the last four years, the response in Lebanon has evolved significantly from a purely refugee-focused response to include further stabilization elements and longer-term dimensions. However, as the situation becomes more protracted, amid host community fatigue and rising social tensions, further work is needed to bridge the humanitarian-development nexus to include sustainable support for displaced populations and host community in Lebanon.

A high priority has been placed on building further strategic engagement between the LCRP and different humanitarian and development actors and initiatives. The LCRP continues to work on resource mobilization strategies to encourage

multi-year funding and engages in advocacy for sustained humanitarian and development support to the Government of Lebanon and its people. Key to these aims is the engagement of development actors, including the World Bank and the EU, as well as local academia and research institutions.

At the technical level, LCRP structures also strive to be aligned and coordinated with the UNSF (United Nations Strategic Framework) in terms of reporting and articulation of meetings, with some common agency representatives in both structures. The World Bank regularly participates in the Livelihoods Working Group and is represented in the Livelihoods Steering Committee. UNIFIL and UNSCOL attend Social Stability Working Groups. Ad hoc coordination meetings are also organized on specific topics of common interest, for example on support to municipalities, social safety nets, and job creation.

Furthermore, building on previous work on enhancing multipurpose cash assistance and exploring linking complementary services from other sectors, there have been advances in discussions around the concept of humanitarian social safety nets and Social Protection. Efforts to assess and strengthen alignment between humanitarian actors and the Government's Social Safety Net Program – the National Poverty Targeting Program (NPTP) – were considered by the Lebanon Cash Task Force that was created in early 2018 with the 'objective of proposing a framework for complementary national safety nets to cover the socio-economic vulnerabilities of both Lebanese and non-Lebanese'. The Task Force recently agreed to continue these discussions under the framework of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) Steering Committee. The World Bank also convened a number of meetings to agree on a common approach that will be presented to MOSA's new leadership.

While advances are being made in several areas in terms of operationalizing the humanitarian-development nexus in Lebanon, a number of key challenges remain, notably funding, policy, and coordination constraints.

INTER-SECTOR RESULTS ANALYSIS

LCRP outreach

In 2018, 2.8 million people, out of 3.3 million people in need identified in the planning figures, were specifically targeted by sector partners, and 57 per cent of them (1.6 million) were reached, compared with an 82 percent outreach in 2017. The Response was not able to reach the entire target population due to the lack of funding. Fewer projects in the Water sector, which usually reach out to many beneficiaries, also possibly explains the lower outreach in 2018. The following table shows the details per population cohort.

Table1: Planning population figures and population reached in 2018

Population in need	Population targeted	Population reached
3.3 million individuals	2.8 million individuals	1.6 million individuals
1.5 million vulnerable Lebanese	1.03 million vulnerable Lebanese	372,302 vulnerable Lebanese
1.5 million displaced Syrians	1.5 million displaced Syrians	1.1 million displaced Syrians
277,985 PRL	257,400 PRL	107,870 PRL
31,500 PRS	31,500 PRS	31,500 PRS

Source: LCRP 2017-2020, sector end-of 2018 reports

Beneficiary outreach varies from sector to sector. The Food Security and the Education sectors are the only two sectors that overshot their beneficiary target, respectively by 12 and 4 percentage points. Food Security partners have provided cash-based and in-kind food assistance to a higher number of individuals than originally planned. Overall, the Food Security sector was funded up to 59 percent of its 2018 appeal and is still the best funded sector in cash terms, at \$299 million.

Outreach in other sectors fell short compared to their 2018 targets, especially in Energy and Shelter sectors, where funding reached critical levels in 2018, as the following table shows.

Table 2. Sectors' outreach in 2018

Sector / cohort	In need	Targeted	Reached	Reached vs. Targeted	Sector funding coverage
Basic Assistance	2,200,000	1,354,000	908,790	67%	46%
Education	1,100,000	532,682	554,834	104%	74%
Energy	3,000,000	1,119,172	334,575	30%	1%
Food Security	2,000,000	920,821	1,033,210	112%	59%
Health	2,400,000	1,564,800	851,526	55%	46%
Livelihoods	182,169	60,663	55,987	92%	32%
Protection	3,200,000	1,890,000	1,315,172	69%	94%
Shelter	1,720,000	596,144	238,833	40%	25%
Social Stability	251 ¹	251	227	90%	57%
Water	3,300,000	1,560,550	738,403	47%	41%

Source: LCRP 2017-2020, sector 2018 year-end reports

¹ Number of communities in need/ targeted / reached

Strategic Objective One: Ensure protection of vulnerable populations

Impact One: Displaced persons from Syria and vulnerable populations live in a safe protective environment

Progress towards Impact One is measured through a Protection Risk Score at household level. This score considers the risks associated with the following five conditions:

1. Not having legal residency in Lebanon
2. Not having his or her birth registered
3. Being engaged in child labour
4. Being married before 19-years-old
5. Being affected by violent disciplinary practices

VASyR 2017 and 2018 data, weighed by district, was used to determine the overall proportion of displaced Syrian households with a protection risk. As a result, 91.9 percent of all displaced Syrian families were found to be with a protection risk in 2018, up from 91.5 percent in 2017, illustrating the high protection risk environment that displaced Syrians are facing in Lebanon. At Governorate level, the highest protection risk for displaced Syrian families was found in the Bekaa (97 percent), whereas the lowest one was in Beirut (84 percent).

Table 3. Protection risk of displaced Syrian households per Governorate and at national level

Governorate	Protection risk	
	2017	2018
Bekaa	97%	97%
Baalbeck El Hermel	93%	98%
North Lebanon	95%	93%
Akkar	95%	90%
El Nabatiyeh	84%	89%
South Lebanon	92%	88%
Beirut	90%	87%
Mount Lebanon	87%	84%
National	91.5%	91.9%

Source: VASyR 2017, 2018 and Inter-agency calculations

At each protection risk level, the following trends were shown:

Displaced Syrians' legal status has not improved as expected. Obtaining documentation for legal residency continues to be a critical challenge despite waivers granted in 2018. 27 percent of Syrian displaced over 15 hold legal residency, similar to 2017 results. For displaced who are not eligible to benefit from the legal residency fee waiver, the cost of renewal remains a challenge. At the same time, eligible displaced report difficulties submitting applications or being rejected, due to either limited capacity or uneven practices by local authorities in the application of the waiver. Protection threats such as arrest and detention, raids, evictions, GBV and child labour increase without legal status.

Evidence shows that female-headed households remain more vulnerable than male-headed households in 2018. Women and girls are less likely than men to apply for free legal residency, although it is more probable to be granted to them by the GSO; without legal residency, women's risk of exploitation is higher. Trends vary by governorate and even by district; for example, 54 percent of Syrian displaced in the South hold legal residency compared to just 14 percent in Akkar, in the North.

The majority of Syrian children born in displacement in Lebanon are still at risk of becoming stateless. Despite improvements in birth registration for Syrian children born in Lebanon, 79 percent of births remain technically unregistered in 2018, as they have not completed the entire process of official birth registration (some of which, until recent waivers, required legal residency from the parents). Yet, the majority (97 percent) of Syrian children born in Lebanon have some form of documentation to attest to their birth, in particular a delivery certificate from the hospital and a Mukhtar certificate.

Child labour remains a concern. VASyR 2018 data indicate that five percent of Syrian children aged 5 to 17 reported working in 2018, similar to 2017. Household chores account for 16 percent of child labour. The upcoming Labor Force Survey (ILO) will provide further evidence in 2019 on child labour across population groups. The scale of the problem around child labor may not be well reflected due to underreporting. Besides, VASyR indicates that 14.5 percent of boys aged 13 to 15 reported working (3.2 percent of girls).

Early marriage remains prevalent. VASyR 2018 data indicate that early marriage deteriorated by 7 percentage points between 2017 and 2018, from 22 to 29 percent of Syrian girls aged 15 to 19. Early marriage increased in all Governorates, except in Baalbek and in the South. Data on the Lebanese and Palestine refugee groups are not collected as regularly. Research indicates that from 2009 to 2016, the proportion of Lebanese girls aged 15-19 married or in union has increased from 2.6 to four percent. The upcoming Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS, UNICEF) will provide comparable data in 2020.

Despite improvements, the number of children affected by violent disciplinary practices is alarming. VASyR 2018 data indicate that a large majority (73 percent) of Syrian children below 18 years old were subject to violent discipline in 2018, down from 78 percent in 2017. Data on other population groups are not collected as regularly as the VASyR. In 2016, a national survey indicated that 65 percent of Syrians, 57 percent of Lebanese, 82 percent of PRL and 77 percent of PRS² children were affected. The upcoming MICS (UNICEF) will help assess the effect of the response on such practices.

Contributing interventions at partners level

The protection sector was the best funded sector in 2018 in proportion of its appeal (94 percent). LCRP Protection partners have continued providing assistance to vulnerable individuals, assisting families in the registration of their children's birth, engaging caregivers in positive parenting skills, supporting programmes to reduce the use of violent disciplinary practices, as well as mitigating further deterioration in early marriage. Partners have reached out 74,515 people with the provision of counselling, legal assistance and legal representation regarding civil registration including birth, marriage registration, etc., as well as 30,497 people with legal counselling, assistance and representation regarding legal stay. In parallel, partners have increased technical support to General Security Offices (GSO), and GSO has taken measures to increase consistent implementation of the waiver on residency fees.

² Baseline survey, UNICEF, MoSA, 2016.

³ Live on less than \$3.84 per day per person

Strategic Objective Two: Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations

Impact Two: Immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable populations are met

Progress towards Impact Two is measured through an analysis of poverty levels and based on the following selection of immediate humanitarian needs: shelter, food and water, as well as seasonal needs. In 2018, there is a relative improvement in economic vulnerability, food security and access to water. Yet, shelter partners have had difficulties to provide the required level of assistance and maintain the quality of shelter materials due to a significant decrease in funding in that sector. As highlighted in the key trends below, shelter conditions have deteriorated in 2018.

Despite relative improvement in economic vulnerability, over two-third of displaced Syrian households in Lebanon remain below the poverty line.³ The increase in cash-based assistance in 2018 compared with 2017 has prevented further deterioration into poverty (76 percent of households were below the poverty line in 2017), particularly through the multi-purpose cash assistance program which reached 15,000 additional vulnerable households in 2018. Yet, the worsening economic situation in Lebanon also has an impact on displaced Syrian households who have primarily resorted to accumulating debt as a coping mechanism regardless of their economic vulnerability level: nearly nine out of ten households remain in debt, with the average debt rising to \$250 per person (compared to \$227 in 2017). There are currently nearly 190,000 displaced families living below minimum and survival expenditure levels, of whom only 62,000 receive multipurpose cash support. Only 10,000 out of 41,000 NPTF families received food support.

Shelter conditions deteriorate. There has been a marked deterioration in shelter conditions amongst displaced Syrian households and an increase in the number of displaced living in non-permanent structures. 34 percent of Syrian households live in non-residential or non-permanent structures, compared to 26 percent in 2017. 79 percent and 55

percent of people living in informal settlements and non-residential buildings have expenditures below the SMEB.

Despite a slight improvement, one third of Syrian households remain moderately to severely food-insecure in 2018. 34 percent of Syrian displaced households are moderately to severely food-insecure, compared to 38 percent in 2017. High levels of food insecurity are associated with high economic vulnerability: 84 percent of severely food insecure households and 65 percent of moderately food insecure households fall below the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB⁴).

Access to water improves. 85 percent of displaced report that they have access to basic drinking water services, and access to improved drinking water sources has increased by 4 percent over the last four years to a level of 91 percent in 2018. However, this result has to be nuanced noting that this increase is related to the use of bottled water. There is still a lack of comprehensive data on water quality, two essential components for having safely managed water, which in 2016 was measured at only 36 percent nationally. In 2010, 70 percent of Lebanon's natural water sources were bacteriologically contaminated (up to 90 percent in urban areas)⁵.

Basic Assistance partners have continued and increased the amount of multi-purpose cash transfer in 2018, from \$118 million in 2017 to \$141.3 million the following year, reaching 62,627 households, up from 56,820 households in 2017. This has contributed in reducing the economic vulnerability of households in 2018. Yet, needs still outweigh available funding, as only 33 percent of eligible households received it in 2018.

The Shelter sector is still the second least funded sector in 2018. On top of that, its funding coverage decreased from 30 to 25 percent-funded. Funding shortfalls had a significant impact on the sector, with a sharp decrease in the number of people benefitting from weatherproofing and/or maintenance of makeshift shelters within informal settlements, residential and non-residential buildings (from 180,244 in 2017 to 142,516 in 2018), or in the number of people benefitting from rehabilitation, upgrade or repair of substandard buildings into adequate shelters, from 63,768 to 22,821, to name a few.

With a 59 percent funding coverage in 2018, Food Security partners provided around \$236 million in cash-based food assistance through various modalities (vouchers, ATM cards and e-cards). Both food availability and food accessibility were successfully promoted with a number of beneficiaries that exceeded annual targets. Around 1,033,000 individuals received food assistance, in kind and cash-based, representing a 112 percent achievement against the established target of 920,821 individuals. This has contributed to the slight improvement in the food security of vulnerable households.

Water sector partners have continued their effort to collectively contribute and implement infrastructure projects benefitting around 431,000 persons, as well as WASH support to displaced Syrians residing in informal settlements (provision of water storage containers and water points, delivery of trucked potable water, installation of latrines, implementation and desludging of wastewater systems, and hygiene promotion). Evidence show that 53 percent of individuals living in informal settlements rely on trucked water provided by sector partners.

Strategic Objective Three: Support service provision through national systems

Impact Three: Vulnerable populations have equitable access to basic services through national system

Progress towards Impact Three is measured based on the level of access to the following basic services: education services, health care and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. Available data indicate that public services deliver at scale yet require sustained attention. This is illustrated by the following key trends.

Access to education services slightly increases in 2018, but 30 percent of school-aged children remain out-of-school. School enrolment figures from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) indicate that around 430,000 students, of whom more than 220,000 are Lebanese, enrolled in formal public education (KG to grade 9) across the country for the 2018/2019 school year, representing a two percent increase compared to 2017. However, 30 percent of children between 6 and 14 are still out of school, and there is an even more severe gap in school enrollment in younger (3-5) and older (15-17) children, with nearly four out of five not in school. School-aged children (3-17) with disabilities are at an even bigger disadvantage with only 44 percent enrolled. Costs of transport and school supplies remain the main reason behind not enrolling, with work also figuring as a prominent reason among the 15-17 age group.

Access to primary and secondary healthcare is stable in 2018. Of the 54 percent of displaced who needed primary health care in 2018, 87 percent were able to receive it, similar to 2017. Likewise, among the 23 percent who needed secondary health care, 77 percent were able to access it, similar to a year before. However, there was a higher pressure on primary healthcare providers in 2018 due to an increase in demand, from 46 to 54 percent. The measles outbreak in March 2018 is a plausible explanation, among other contributing factors. For children under two years old, there was an increase in the percentage that were reported to be sick (mainly fever, coughing, and diarrhea) from 34 percent in 2017 to 41 percent in 2018.

For the 13 percent of households who were not able to access the needed primary healthcare, the most commonly reported barriers are the cost, including the cost of drugs and treatment, doctors' fees and transportation.

Access to sanitation facilities has seen a consistent increase since 2015. The percentage of displaced Syrian households reporting access to improved sanitation facilities remains stable, at 87 percent in 2018. The proportion of households using facilities which are not shared increased from 61 to 68 percent. Moreover, the use of disability-adjusted facilities increased from 85 to 89 percent in 2018.

The amount of support provided to Lebanese public institutions to deliver better services continues to increase. There has been a consistent and increasing trend since 2015, with more than \$240 million channeled through public institutions in 2018 to strengthen service delivery, policy development, capacity building and institutional stability. This represents 17 percent of total funding received by LCRP partners. This public institution support has increased by 20 percent since 2015.

⁴ Live on less than \$2.9 per person and per day
⁵ 2010 National Water Sector Strategy (NWSS)

Contributing interventions at partners level

The funding coverage of the Education sector increased in 2018, from 70 to 74 percent of its appeal, at \$272.5 million. Partners continued to provide a range of services and assistance in support of school enrollment, out-of-school children, school rehabilitation, covering both formal and non-formal education programmes. Upstream policy work has also contributed in finalizing and launching critical policies in the Education sector, for instance the Child protection policy and the Inclusive education policy.

Despite being underfunded, the health sector funding coverage increased over the past two years, from 32 to 46 percent of the sector's appeal (\$134 million available in 2018, out of an appeal of \$290 million). Underfunding affects Health partners' capacity to respond to needs. 1,623,233 consultations for vulnerable Lebanese and displaced Syrians were subsidized in 2018, a 13.7 percent decrease from 2017. This reduction may be explained by the decrease of mobile medical units, as the sector is increasingly moving towards health system strengthening and therefore additional efforts are needed to increase community demand for health services in the primary healthcare centres. In parallel, health partners supported primary healthcare facilities to provide medications for chronic diseases to over 185,000 displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese. This constitutes a 6.5 percent increase from 2017 and is likely due to people being more aware of the availability of these medications in the health facilities. Partners also supported access to obstetric and emergency/life-saving care: 88,181 hospitalizations were supported in 2018, a 6.6 percent increase from 2017.

Despite the underfunding of the Water sector (41 percent), partners have continued efforts to expand access to WASH services. Over 460,000 individuals (49 percent Lebanese) were assisted with improved access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and for domestic use (30 percent of the target). Partners also continued providing some level of WASH support to a majority of displaced Syrians living in informal settlements.

Strategic Objective Four: Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability

Impact Four: Mitigated deterioration in the economic condition of vulnerable populations

Progress towards Impact Four is measured through an analysis of extreme poverty level, employment status of vulnerable individuals, and income-generating opportunities they benefit from. Accessing the labour market continued to be difficult in 2018. This is demonstrated by the following key trends.

Over half of Syrian displaced households live in extreme poverty (live on less than US\$ 2.90 per person per day). There was a 7 percent decrease in Syrian households living in extreme poverty, from 58 to 51 percent. Yet, as we discussed in impact two section, 90 percent of households have accumulated debt, with an average debt level increasing from \$227 per person in 2017 to \$250 in 2018. This may be explained, among other factors, by few work opportunities across the country in 2018. Evidence show that WFP assistance and informal debt continued to be key sources of income in 2018.

Despite moderate improvement, access to jobs for displaced Syrians remain limited. The proportion of Syrian households that had at least one working member increased by 4 percent in 2018, from 64 to 68 percent. Yet, access to jobs varies by governorate, and holding a residency permit is a contributing factor. 87 percent of Syrian households living in El Nabatieh and 84 percent of those living in the South have at least one working member. In these two governorates, respectively 64 and 67 percent of households have at least one member holding legal residency, the highest rates in the country. Besides, at national level female-headed households remain the most vulnerable, with 55 percent without any working member, compared to 27 percent of households headed by men, similar to 2017.

Contributing interventions at partners level

Livelihoods and Food security partners have traditionally provided job opportunities to vulnerable households through a range of interventions. The Livelihoods sector has been underfunded since the beginning of the LCRP 2017-2020, with \$67 million available in 2018, out of an appeal of \$208 million. Partners were able to create or sustain 2,365 jobs, supporting 986 Lebanese businesses through cash & in-kind grants and technology transfer. 763 job seekers were supported to start their own business. In parallel, partners continued providing vocational trainings for 23,000 individuals and 11,000 beneficiaries were engaged in short-term activities, such as infrastructure projects.

The Food security sector is the best funded in cash terms, with around \$300 million available in 2018, or 59 percent of the sector's appeal. Partners were able to support over 5,000 Lebanese farmers in sustainable agricultural production and livestock production so as to upgrade their skills. In addition, interventions included the rehabilitation and construction of water networks, market places and irrigation canals. A land reclamation project created 6,672 casual jobs in 2018 (i.e. 40,530 working days) for the construction of water reservoirs and for land rehabilitation. In addition, Food security partners supported Lebanese micro, small and medium enterprises, including WFP-contracted shop and women cooperatives.

Impact Five: Social stability is strengthened in Lebanon

Progress towards Impact Five is measured through an analysis of data and evidence produced by the existing tensions monitoring system. Over the years, host community fatigue has increased. Tensions between Lebanese host communities and displaced Syrians remain pervasive, and they are growing to be more complex and localized, while propensity for violence is rising nationally. This overall trend is further reflected below.

The quality of relations is worsening. Evidence shows a 9 percent decrease in the proportion of Syrian displaced who perceive Syrian – Lebanese relations as positive, from 51 to 42 percent. Moreover, geographical disparities are widening, with higher proportions in the North and Bekaa Governorates expressing "very negative" or "negative" perceptions relative to 2017.

The frequency of contact is widening. Research indicates that the proportion Syrians reporting that they have 'daily' or 'regular' social interactions with Lebanese communities decreased by 17 percent in 2018, from 70 to 53 percent. In addition, 14 percent of Syrians report that they face curfews infringing on rights and further limiting interactions. This is particularly concerning considering the importance of interactions between displaced and host community in maintaining positive relations.

Competition over lower-skilled jobs remains the most widely reported source of tension. 47 percent of Syrians consider that competition over jobs is the main source of tensions with Lebanese, compared to 52 percent in 2017. Besides, competition over services & utilities increased by 13 percent in 2018 according to both Lebanese and Syrians (36 percent in 2018 versus 23 percent in 2017).

Contributing interventions at partners level

The Social stability sector remains underfunded in 2018, yet the sector coverage increased from 40 to 57 percent, reaching \$62 million of available funding in 2018. Sector partners expanded their reach, covering 227 communities in 2018, an increase from the 189 reached in 2017. A proliferation of new conflict dialogue mechanisms and a sustained increase in youth initiatives contributed to this expansion.

Impact Six: Mitigated environmental impact of the Syrian crisis, to avoid further degradation of the natural eco-system and ensure its long-term sustainability

Progress towards Impact Six is measured through environmental assessments conducted by LCRP partners and the Environmental task force⁶ at the Ministry of Environment.

Previous research has demonstrated that the Syrian crisis has had a significant and negative impact on the environment, especially on solid waste, water resources, land use and emissions of air pollutants. Results from the environmental monitoring in 2018 can be summarized as follows:

The incremental quantity of solid waste attributed to displaced populations is about 324,000 ton per year, equivalent to 15.7 of the total solid waste generated in Lebanon prior to the crisis. This leads to the overburdening of the



SECTOR RESULTS ANALYSIS

BASIC ASSISTANCE

Key achievements in 2018

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$572,000,000	\$542,300,000
Received	\$186,000,000	\$247,500,000
%	33%	46%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	2,200,000	2,200,000
Targeted	1,276,000	1,354,000
Reached	943,530	908,790
	94% Syrians	94% Syrians
	1% Lebanese	1% Lebanese
	5% PRS/PRL	5% PRS/PRL

Selected key trends - Outcome level	Baseline	2018
% population that is severely vulnerable	53%	51%
% of assisted severely economically vulnerable households report being able to meet their basic survival needs	90%	69%
% of assisted households affected by seasonal shocks who are able to meet their additional basic survival needs	90%	92%

Selected key trends - Output level	2017	2018
# of households receiving regular cash transfers – every month (Syr, Leb, Pal)	88,503	93,612
Total USD amount distributed as regular cash transfers (Syr, Leb, Pal)	\$118m	\$ 141.3m
# of Syrian households receiving multi-sector/ purpose cash transfers (every month)	56,820	62,627

# of Lebanese households receiving multi-sector/ purpose cash transfers (every month)	1,269	912
# of Palestinian households receiving multi-sector/ purpose cash transfers (every month)	9,672	9,674
# of Syrian households receiving child focused cash transfers (every month / unique)	n/a	20,399
# of households receiving seasonal cash grants or vouchers	188,706	181,758
Total amount of seasonal cash distributed in USD	\$ 114.5m	\$ 69.1 m
Total USD amount injected into economy in forms of cash assistance so far in 2018 (seasonal + regular)	\$232.4m	\$ 210.4 m

Key contributions towards LCRP impacts Severely vulnerable people with limited economic means had improved access to basic goods and services essential to their survival.

238,500 households (Syrian, Palestine refugee, and Lebanese) living below extreme and survival monthly expenditures were prioritized in 2018 for targeted assistance, of which, 193,000 are Syrians, mainly concentrated in the Northern and Eastern governorates of the country. In parallel, 35,500 Lebanese families were identified by the national targeting poverty programme (NPTP) from a total of 105,000 families - pre-recertification), as well as 10,200 Palestine refugees from Syria.

Households were supported with immediate humanitarian assistance through regular and unrestricted cash transfers. These helped boost their purchasing power and prioritize their spending. Overall, 93,613 (39 percent) economically vulnerable households have been reached through regular cash transfers. Some of these households were targeted by multiple interventions given their specific vulnerabilities; 62,627 (32 percent) severely vulnerable Syrian and 912 (2 percent) vulnerable Lebanese households were targeted with \$175 monthly multi-purpose cash assistance packages, in addition to 9,674 (94

percent) poor Palestinian refugees from Syria who received \$100 packages. In addition, 20,399 (76 percent) vulnerable Syrian households with school-aged children received additional child-focused cash transfers.

The total value of the regular assistance provided and injected in the local economy in forms of direct transfers reached \$141.3 million by the end of 2018. During winter months, Basic Assistance sector partners designed specific interventions that aim at increasing the preparedness levels of the most economically vulnerable households to face cold temperatures and properly insulate and warm up their shelters. Overall, 181,758 (76 percent) economically vulnerable households were reached with winter assistance during January, February, October, November, and December 2018, of which 171,193 (88 percent) were vulnerable Syrians and 1,207 (3 percent) vulnerable Lebanese households targeted with \$100 - 147 monthly packages, as well as 9,358 (91 percent) poor Palestinian refugees from Syria targeted with \$75 monthly packages. Winter cash transfers value reached \$69.1 million, representing additional support to families, and spent in local markets mainly on fuel, insulation and weatherproofing, additional food, and winter clothing for children.

With the value of regular assistance added, the Basic Assistance sector partners have transferred \$210.4 million in direct cash assistance to the most vulnerable households across the country.

Regular and seasonal cash assistance provided under the Basic Assistance sector are meant to complement existing direct assistance and specialized services targeting most vulnerable received under other sectors. For instance, the multi-purpose cash assistance programme, which is meant to provide \$175 monthly regular support to identified households should top-up what these households receive in terms of food assistance. Together, these assistance packages represent a bit more than 70 percent of the survival basket.

Moreover, winter assistance represents additional seasonal monthly support during winter months to mitigate additional winter-related needs and their associated expenditures; in case gaps in the regular programme exist, targeted households who do not receive food assistance and / or multi-purpose cash will use these packages for basic needs and therefore fail to meet the arising seasonal needs. Additional tiers of support in forms of monetized assistance do also complement these interventions, such as protection cash assistance provided

under the protection sector and linked with case management to address specific needs, and transportation support provided for children to reach schools and therefore compensate for any additional expenses that might limit families from enrolling children in education.

Beyond cash, specialized services under health, protection, shelter & WASH are critical to the optimization of the impact of any cash intervention provided under the basic assistance sector.

Challenges

Needs outweigh available funding. The regular cash assistance programme is constrained by limited resources. Even though more than 62,000 Syrian households received assistance during 2018, it represents only 32 percent of those identified and prioritized for assistance. Running an equitable programme has become a complex process as a result of these constraints. Existing targeting tools have facilitated the efficient identification of households on a large scale but can lead to certain proles (with specific vulnerabilities, small household sized, etc.) falling in the cracks. A grievance redress mechanism was piloted in late 2018 to address these limitations but its implementation is restricted as funding is only available for approximately 2,000 households.

Predictable winter programmes with funds provided to individuals and families in September 2018 is essential to better ensure survival during harsh weather conditions. The winter programme in 2018 was well funded but it was not until November 2018 that commitments from donors materialized. This negatively impacted the ability of sector to ensure a harmonized assistance package and use of standardized targeting criteria.

Lastly, funding limitations and earmarking continues to prohibit the extension of different cash programmes to vulnerable Lebanese, an issue all stakeholders should pay attention to and work to address.

Key priorities and gaps foreseen in 2019

Current levels of economic vulnerability remain high among the affected population from different population cohort. Therefore, maintaining coverage of the most economically vulnerable households with basic needs assistance is critical. Yet, the current projections of the number of households to be supported with assistance indicate a potential

decrease during the first quarter of 2019 due to more partners ending programmes as a result of funding limitations.

The 2019 sector strategy is an extension of 2018 interventions in order to allow households to reach acceptable expenditure levels and compensate the need to resort to harmful / negative coping mechanisms.

At the same time, making sure to meet the needs of households affected by seasonal hazards through maintaining generous and predictable funding levels is another key area.

Operationally, the 2019 sector strategy will seek to address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable in a more holistic and complementary manner. During 2018, the targeting approaches were enhanced, with the introduction of protection-sensitive indicators.

Over the course of 2019, special attention will be given to strengthening protection mainstreaming components into ongoing programmes and interventions. The Basic Assistance sector will work to specifically strengthen its accountability to affected populations, to ensure that those persons served, participate and are empowered throughout each stage of the humanitarian programme cycle.

Mainstreaming also necessitates a shift in the way the sector operates, and more evidence-based analysis around value chains and links with markets will be developed. In addition, approaches to social protection and safety nets will have to be further explored.

Lastly, the sector recommends implementing agencies to invest further in evaluations in an attempt to better unpack the impact of cash assistance provided at individual and communal levels (including social stability and protection dividends). This will allow to better picture how individual cash assistance can be complemented with ongoing interventions in other areas, strengthening linkages between cash programs.

CASE STUDY

In 2018, households enrolled in the cash assistance programme were selected to be amongst the poorest families demonstrating different types of overlapping vulnerabilities. These families are not able to make it on their own and rely heavily on humanitarian assistance, which they consider a critical lifeline.

Nearly 40 percent of these households are female headed households. Manar and Rana, and despite living in two different areas in Lebanon, share a lot in common when it comes to the daily struggle to secure the bare minimum for their families.

Manar, a 29-year-old mother of three from Homs now living in Baabdat – a town in the Mount Lebanon range overlooking the capital, Beirut – came to Lebanon in 2013 following eight months of displacement inside Syria. Her husband was killed in a car accident in 2015, leaving her alone and struggling to care for her kids. While trying to secure some income through unskilled labour to help cover the rent and bills, Manar says that since she began receiving US\$175 a month in assistance from UNHCR, it has helped her provide what she hopes will be the foundation for her children's future. "I can secure them an education, and through education, they can get whatever they want." "The cash assistance allows me to pay for my children's school transport", she explained. "I always tell them that I won't be able to leave them an inheritance after their father". Rana's case is not that far from what was described. She is a single mother of four children living in an informal settlement in Aarsal. With her family, she lived on monthly financial support of \$175 that they received from Action Against Hunger (ACF). Life has been particularly difficult for Rana, as two of her youngest are sick, while the two eldest daughters both display a degree of mental impairment. The modest amount she got per month has changed the quality of life for her family as she states. She used the money to buy clothing for her children, got food, nappies, mattresses, gas, and payed electricity bills. Despite the fact that she got assisted for ten months, and she still owed money and needed cash to pay for medication costs for her children, she managed to independently decide what kind of food to buy and was able to breathe easier knowing that her debt is not increasing as fast as it used to as she

described.

Regular cash assistance represents a support of last resort of other families who fall amongst the most vulnerable as self-reliance opportunities are very limited, yet recipient families optimize the use of assistance when they decide on what to spend. Fayeze al Mohamad and his wife Zahra are trying to make the best of the cash support they receive from Relief International (RI). Fayeze and Zahra and their five children now live in a tent settlement plunked among the lush fields and snow-capped mountains of Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Before Relief International began providing cash assistance to the Mohamads, their home was one room, composed of a flimsy wood frame and plastic sheeting distributed by refugee agencies. Sturdy planks now reinforce the walls and heavy-gauge tarpaulin provides better cover from the elements. With the cash, the Mohamad pay \$50 for rent and electricity, buys cleaning supplies, diapers for their 1-year-old daughter, and fresh fruits and vegetables that are not part of food aid. Jars of preserved vegetables line the small kitchen.

War has reshaped the lives of this family. While in Lebanon, they still aspire to go back home. For now, their children are in school, Fayeze says, and they almost have enough money to get by. But they long to relocate, to a place with better schools, where they can have a real home, not a tent. Someplace, he says, like Syria. "The only thing we think about is whether the war will end," he says. "Will we have a chance to go back to our life? Your country is the best place in the world for you."

Humanitarian cash assistance, like the multi-purpose cash programme are meant to provide short term support for families awaiting more durable solutions, yet without it, severe living conditions increases all sorts of risks they may witness.



UNHCR: A young Syrian refugee holds an ATM card provided by UNHCR inside a distribution point in Tripoli, Lebanon, April 2018. She will use the cash to provide for her daughters, aged four and six.
© UNHCR Diego Ibarra Sánchez

The achievements described in this report are the collective work of the following 21 organizations: MoSA, CONCERN, ACF, ACTED, ADRA, Caritas Lebanon, Dar El Fatwa, HDA, Intersos, IR Lebanon, Lebanese Red Cross, Makhzoumi, NABA`A, NRC, PCPM, PU-AMI, RI, Solidar Suisse, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, URDA, WFP, WVI.



Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$373,000,000	\$366,300,000
Received	\$260,000,000	\$272,500,000
%	70%	74%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	1,232,883	1,100,000
Targeted	543,616	532,682
Reached	526,712 59% Syrians 41% Lebanese 0.4% PRL 0.2% PRS	554,834 57% Syrians 41% Lebanese 1% PRS 1% PRL

Selected key trends	2017	2018
# of students (KG – grade 9) enrolled in formal public education	422,124	429,916
Children (age 3-5) participating in community-based early childhood education (CB-ECE)	37,247	30,716
Syrian displaced children & youth benefited from Language programmes in community venues	3,830	5,033
Youth (15 to 20) participating in functional basic literacy and numeracy programme (Youth BLN)	11,077	8,752

Key contributions towards LCRP impacts

The Education sector's priority in response to the Syrian crisis draws on the MEHE's RACE II strategy (2017-2020), which aims at sustaining increased and equitable access to quality education and learning for all children and youth aged 3-18 years in Lebanon. A number of progress were made in 2018. Some examples:

- Increase in enrolment of Lebanese & non-Lebanese from previous academic year and transition from NFE to Formal Education;

- Development of the Community Based Early Childhood Education (CB-ECE) including the curriculum, SOPs, and training for NGOs by CERD;
- Launch of the Child Protection Policy;
- Launch of the Inclusive Education Policy;
- Shift from mass outreach to outreach focused on Out of School Children (OOSC);
- Progress of Out of School Children OOSC Pro le analysis;
- Digitizing of data-collection process undertaken by MEHE / RACE-PMU at both central and second-shift school level.

Challenges

According to VASyR (2018) more than half of school-aged Syrian displaced children (3-18) are still out of school, many of whom do not have prior education or have had their education interrupted for a long time.

Many of these out of school children live in areas far from public school and making their re-integration into formal education even more challenging.

Demand-side barriers to education for displaced families remains challenging. Displaced families often have to prioritize economic needs, and children are required to work to support family income, resulting in dropping out of public schools. Families have also highlighted the transportation costs as one of the major reasons for dropping out of second shift public school.

One of the barriers to education is early marriage. Syrian adolescent girls are pushed into early marriage due to economic difficulties thus preventing them from continuing their education. Despite the introduction of the Child Protection Policy, alleged cases of violence and discrimination at home, on the way to school and in school (peer to peer and between students and teachers) are among the most cited barriers hindering enrolment or causing the families to withdraw their children from school.

Raising awareness among displaced parents/caregivers of children in public schools regarding the importance of collecting and safekeeping their children's school records (report cards) will facilitate their academic achievements and mobility.

7.2.4 Key priorities and gaps foreseen in the 2019

The shortage of reliable and predictable funding

is hampering efforts to increase the number of second shift schools in the areas with high concentration of school-aged children. One of the major sector gaps is the lack of an online (dynamic) information management system and insufficiently detailed disaggregated figures on enrolment. A fully integrated data management system at student level between Non-Formal Education programs and Formal education to track learning and transition is in progress and will be given priority.

Approximately 20,000 children who were enrolled in second-shift public schools in the academic year 2017-18 have not shown up in the academic year 2018-19. Retention remains a gap that needs further follow up. On the other hand, more than 39,000 new students showed up during this school year.

A priority is to improve the understanding of the underlying drivers of access and retention in public schools (enrolment-learning- transition continuum) and of the educational profiles of OOSC which is ongoing.

CASE STUDY

The story of Saeed Al Saeed

by The Lebanese Organization for Studies and Training (LOST)

Saeed, a ten-year-old boy, is the younger son of a modest Syrian family of eleven members. The family is currently living in a humble home at Derzanoun-Bar Elias which became their residence since the start of the Syrian crisis.

Saeed was referred by Caritas to a Basic Literacy and Numeracy program (BLN) executed by the Lebanese Organization for Studies and Training (LOST) in partnership with UNICEF at Majdal Anjar-Bekaa. The LOST team addressed his learning needs since day one. His first week at the center was not easy. Saeed cried, refused to attend his classes, and he was not able to interact and socialize with his classmates and surroundings.

Academically, Saeed was not able to focus, memorize, nor pay attention to the educators.

The educators at LOST made serious efforts to accommodate Saeed's needs and help him get all the academic and social support required. Educators removed a few posters that were distracting Saeed from focusing and created a relaxing and calm atmosphere.

Saeed was also trained on social behaviors in addition to discussions on how one's behavior affects others. Saeed showed real progress during the cycle, became committed, and gained many skills. He began greeting his educators and friends, respecting everyone and asking for permission for going out. Saeed made great improvement in learning, writing letters and numbers correctly.

Ibrahim and Hanaa, Saeed's parents, expressed how thankful they are for seeing their son learning and socializing like his peers. "I am happy that my son Saeed has changed a lot. I am thankful for the educators and LOST", stated Hanaa.

By the end of the BLN cycle, Saeed was referred to Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) managed by MEHE.



* Case Study provided by LOST. Photo Credit: LOST.



Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$99,000,000	99,240,000
Received	\$3,000,000	900,000
%	3%	1%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	3,000,000	3,000,000
Targeted	1,119,172	1,119,172
Reached	114,290	334,575 67% Lebanese 33% Syrians

Selected key trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
increase in MWh resulting from installed capacity through renewable energy sources (MWh/year)	221	1,741
#of persons reached through installation of necessary equipment to reinforce the transmission network & the distribution network	100,715	20,255

Key contributions towards LCRP impacts

In 2018, the projects implemented by Energy partners (three partners reported their projects in 2018) focus on the installation of renewable energy equipment (Output 1.1: Increase in electricity production through implementation of renewable energy, two partners) and the rehabilitation of the electric distribution networks (Output 1.4: Improve access to electricity through implementation of reinforcement and rehabilitation works on the distribution network, two partners). By enhancing electrical services and capacity at the national and local level in a sustainable manner, these interventions contribute to the LCRP's third objective of supporting service provision through national systems, and the fourth objective of reinforcing Lebanon's economic, social, and environmental stability. By its nature, these interventions benefit both gender equally.

Regarding renewable energy (Output 1.1), the installation of distributed solar photovoltaic

systems in public institutions has succeeded in creating sustainable impacts on various institutions, which can be a transition solution for other LCRP sectors. To support the vulnerable public and non-governmental organizations in mitigating their financial burden regarding electricity bills, distributed solar photovoltaic systems have been installed under LCRP. The Energy sector so far installed hybrid solar photovoltaic systems in 12 public institutions (two waste water treatment plants, two schools, two health institutions, four NGOs, and two other public institutions) across Lebanon. In total 1,481 kilowatts of solar photovoltaic systems were installed. This will save around 2,080 megawatt hours of electricity consumption per year from the diesel generator and the grid and provide around \$375,000 a year in electricity bill reductions throughout its lifetime (c.a. 20 years). Since the cumulative financial savings from the solar photovoltaic systems are much larger than their investment cost, the project will have sustainable impacts on the public institutions, which can potentially shift energy savings to their service provision and its greater access. Interestingly, through the provision of the grant, some of the beneficiaries (e.g. private hospital and NGO) could even mobilize their capital from the financial savings it provided to re-invest in renewable energy or even in enhancing some of their services, hence multiplying the impacts of the grant element.

In collaboration with Electricite du Liban (EdL) and the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW), the partner's project demonstrated the community-led centralized solar PV system with the virtual net metering scheme in the village of Qabrikha (the centralized diesel generators are replaced by a grid connected battery energy storage system). This innovative micro-grid scheme would allow the community to co-invest and share its benefit, thereby has the potential to further accelerate installation of solar PV systems in Lebanon.

The off-grid street lighting has been installed in 22 municipalities, where it was found that street lighting was limited, or the available public infrastructure has fallen into disrepair before the intervention. While increasing the production of renewable energy, the street lighting plays an important role in reducing crime and vandalism, and making residents and pedestrians feel safer during the night.

The reinforcement of the distribution network is one of the key interventions aiming to increase the capacity to deliver quality electricity to additional end-users, especially to the most vulnerable people and communities (Output 1.4). Installation of the

new transformers was done in the most vulnerable communities and around 10,000 households connected to the national grid are now benefiting from the improved quality of grid electricity. Through a project that aims at the prevention of illegal connections, a total of 224 legal electrical connections, along with net metering systems, have been installed in Bekaa, Akkar, Baalbek, and the North in 2018.

Challenges

The main challenge of the sector remains to raise funds and to advocate for the importance of the sector. Electricity in Lebanon remains a controversial issue: the challenges that the sector faced before the Syria crisis have been severely exacerbated by the extra consumption of electricity, causing more losses to the government and the Lebanese population.

The ministry estimated that the installation of approximately 700 new medium and low voltage transformers are needed to accommodate the demand increase while the partners have installed 122 transformers to date. Because upgrading of the distribution network is a capital-intensive activity, it is a difficult challenge to raise sufficient funds to reach the vulnerable communities most in need. Regarding the installation of renewable energy, given solar photovoltaic positive return on investment, and immediate and sustainable monetary saving, the possible solutions for this are to 1) mainstream renewable energy and energy efficient projects in other sector's strategic interventions, especially support to public institutions, and; 2) leverage private investments through technical and financial support with grant.

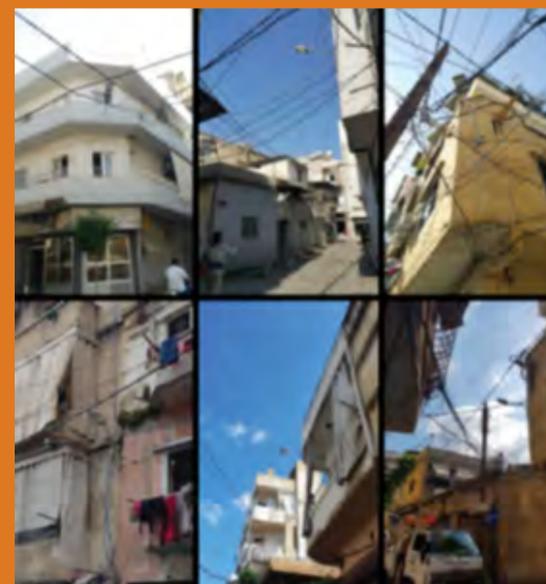
Key priorities and gaps foreseen in the first half of 2019

The 2019 Energy sector strategy remains the same as 2018. The sector aims at achieving higher targets for Output 1.1: Increase in electricity production through implementation of renewable energy. There are 13 partners that are appealing under this activity across Lebanon, with a focus on Bekaa region. As for coordination issue, the Energy sector, under the guidance of MEHE will closely coordinate with the Education sector for the implementation of renewable energy projects mainly distribution of Solar PV systems and installation of energy efficient

(LED Lighting) projects in public schools. Since the installation of solar PV in schools can generate monetary savings throughout its lifespan (c.a. 20 years), the financial savings can be re-directed to core education activities such as school enrolment.

CASE STUDY

Based on the Nabaa neighborhood profile conducted and published by UN-Habitat in 2017, several streets showed defect in their street lighting fixtures. The aim of Nabaa interventions was to address safety issues, pedestrian accessibility and safe mobility, in addition to promoting inclusive societies, and sustainable green interventions. And knowing the effect of dark streets at night in a highly dense and populated neighborhood, with a total displaced population constituting 63 percent of the total population residing in Nabaa (based on the profile), UN-Habitat installed and provided 32 solar street lighting fixtures wall mounted on brackets (8 fixtures of 40Watts, and 22 fixtures of 70Watts, and left 2 for the Municipality stock).



And to ensure community engagement in the installation process, UN-Habitat led community consultations backed-up with awareness raising sessions to ensure the fixtures' sustainability and functionality. The solar panels were installed on buildings' roofs, batteries were also protected with a galvanized steel box with locks handed to each building elected resident.

Hayat a local resident said: "It is a very needed intervention for the community, people are asking for more lights than other kind of assistance". A total of 4,428 residents (1,461 Lebanese; 2,790 Syrian Displaced; 177 other nationalities) in Nabaa neighborhood are benefiting from this project (see more details here: https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UN-Habitat_2017.05.08_NPS_Nabaa_web.pdf).

The profile findings led other NGOs working in the area to implement additional solar street lights in the rest of unlit streets. ACTED installed 36 wall mounted fixtures of 20Watts lights in the main Nabaa street, and CARE international 19 wall mounted fixtures of 40Watts).

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 3 organizations: NRC, UN Habitat, UNDP

Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$507,000,000	\$507,000,000
Received	\$311,000,000	\$299,000,000
%	61%	59%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	2,000,000	2,000,000
Targeted	961,388	920,821
Reached	1,103,627 86% Syrians 8% Lebanese 6% PRS/PRL	1,033,210 85% Syrians 12% Lebanese 3% PRS/PRL

Selected key trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
# of vulnerable people reached with cash-based food assistance	968,439	963,368
Total USD amount of cash for food transferred through vouchers, ATM cards and e-cards	\$258,940,000	\$235,800,000
# of farmers with enhanced farming production	2,305	3,124
# of people supported for employment in the agriculture sector	3,797	2,269

Key contributions to LCRP impacts

The Food Security and Agriculture Sector aims at reducing the percentage of food insecurity among

all vulnerable population groups in Lebanon, hence improving food security stabilization in the country and the resilience of the Lebanese agricultural farmers and host community. The most vulnerable groups in need of assistance are the displaced Syrians (1.5 million), the Palestinian refugees from Syria (28 800), the Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (180 000) and the vulnerable Lebanese farmers (170 000).

The 2018 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASR) results demonstrate an increasing trend in the proportion of food secure households, reaching 10 percent of total households. The assessment shows the proportion of the marginally food insecure households increasing by 4 percent to 57 percent, while the proportion of moderate and severe food-insecure households decreased by 4.5 percent to reach 33 percent.

During 2018, the sector contributed to the LCRP Strategic Objectives 2, 3 and 4. Under the second objective “Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations”, up to 1,033,210 individuals received food assistance, in kind and cash-based, representing a 112- percent achievement against the established target of 920,821 individuals.

Under the third objective “Support service provision through national systems”, the sector supported services of the Ministry of Agriculture through trainings in integrated pest management and in child labour. It supported the Green Plan, institution in charge of land reclamation by farmers, with trainings in management, procurement, and in monitoring and evaluation (M&E); it also provided support to seven technical agricultural schools of the Ministry in reviewing the formal baccalauréat technique curriculum.

In addition, the sector supported the Ministry of Social Affairs’ social development centres (SDCs) enhancing their delivery of social welfare and services under the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) for the food assistance component through cash-based transfer system. In addition, the sector organized training on the use of mobile monitoring tools within the framework of digitizing the NPTP food voucher M&E tools, and training for more than 200 social workers and coordinators on the use of mobile data collection tool.

The sector provided support the Ministry of Education and Higher Education through school-feeding activities provided to 24,000 students enrolled in the public education system in order to enhance school attendance and retention rates. The sector also developed a comprehensive nutrition

activities package, highlighting food sources, food groups, and the importance of healthy eating, for use by health educators for all grades from kindergarten to grade nine.

Under the fourth objective of the LCRP “Reinforce Lebanon’s economic, social, institutional and environmental stability”, the sector continued promoting labour-intensive projects for casual and seasonal jobs, for Lebanese and Syrians. In 2018, interventions included the rehabilitation and construction of water networks, market places and irrigation canals. The land reclamation project created 6,672 casual jobs (i.e. 40,530 working days) for construction of water reservoirs and for land rehabilitation. In addition, the sector supported businesses to generate income for local economies across Lebanon with a special emphasis on micro, small and medium enterprises, including WFP-contracted shop and women cooperatives.

Challenges

The sector has to ensure that all vulnerable communities and households have access to sufficient and nutritious food and understand how to manage sustainable agriculture production systems.

Those challenges lead to three potential accelerators:

- With improvement of food availability and accessibility, through in-kind and cash-based assistance and through sustainable agriculture livelihoods, food security and food production increase among vulnerable households and communities, and therefore ensuring that a big proportion of the vulnerable groups do not fall back into poverty;
- Improvement of food use through the production and consumption of more diverse and nutritious foods, from individual households and community gardens applying sustainable and climate-smart practices, induce a strengthening of the resilience and nutritional well-being of vulnerable communities. It then empowers vulnerable families to climb out of poverty and become self-reliant;
- When the sector reinforces the capacity of municipalities, communities and targeted households with knowledge and information on issues such as sustainable agricultural practices, natural resources management and food market prices, then agricultural productivity increases, and the condition of renewable natural resources improves. It leads to improved

competitiveness and create adequate job and livelihood opportunities for vulnerable women and men.

Key priorities and gaps foreseen in the first half of 2018

The sector priority will continue providing life-saving, in-kind and cash-based, food assistance for the most vulnerable households so that food is available and accessed to them. In addition, the sector will develop environmentally sustainable solutions through support to human capital, agriculture livelihoods and agriculture production systems, with a special focus on women, youth, children and persons in need.

The focus on agricultural livelihoods will create a win-win situation for displaced Syrians and host community with investments in the agriculture sector providing means to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of relevant agriculture-based value chains. It will improve livelihoods for farming communities and creating temporary employment opportunities for women and men.

Another priority of the sector remains the support to national and local food security systems, including integrated social protection schemes, safety nets, capacity building and promotion of stabilization.

The sector will also advocate for an enhanced system supporting sustainable rural poverty reduction. Partners will receive policy advice and capacity development. The sector will promote the integration of conflict sensitivity, gender mainstreaming, youth and children, including combatting child labour in agriculture, in all programmes design and interventions in addition to facilitating food access distribution to persons with specific needs and their inclusion in agricultural livelihoods activities.

CASE STUDY

"Let me show you some pictures!" an enthusiastic Mr. Fouad Wansa answered when we asked him if he benefitted from the two-day FAO training on 'Child Labour in Agriculture and Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)'. He proceeded in showing us a photo series of his students at the Technical Agriculture School holding pesticide warning signs that he printed himself and wearing pesticide protection gear.



Wansa uses the 'Visual Guide on the Protection of Children from Pesticides' during a classroom session to raise awareness on the harmful effects of pesticides and protective measures / ©FAO

Fouad Wansa is the Head of the Agricultural Center, an Extension Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture in Marjeyoun, South Lebanon. He also teaches 15-18-year-old students at the Technical Agriculture School in the area. Wansa has recently participated in an extensive two-day FAO training on child labour and occupational safety and health in agriculture with special focus on child protection.

Wansa has recently participated in an extensive two-day FAO training on child labour and occupational safety and health in agriculture with special focus on child protection.

"I have always known about harmful effects and protective measures in agricultural labour; but my knowledge only focused on adults, until I started participating in FAO trainings". Wansa is among 179 participants who attended OSH trainings with emphasis on child protection. These sessions were conducted across the seven Lebanese governorates, targeting Ministry of Agriculture staff, child protection workers, and farmers.

One specific tool used in the training: 'The Visual Guide on the Protection of Children from Pesticides' proved to be very beneficial for Wansa. "This was such a simple, practical, clear, and informative tool that helped me transfer this important information to 12 of my young students. I have used this guide and will continue to use it and implement related activities to make learning effective, interactive, and pleasant". Wansa has also based one of his monthly extension sessions to farmers on the visual guide itself, naming the session: Protect Children from Pesticides.

Wansa took it upon himself to raise awareness on occupational safety and health in agriculture in his area with a focus on child protection. This is not his first training with FAO; he previously participated in an awareness session about the laws and conventions for combating and eliminating the worst forms of child labour. "I now know the right messages and have great tools to advocate for protective measures for children engaging in agricultural labour. We now have more and more farmers less resistant to reduce child involvement in agricultural practices where young educated farmers fully respect protection measures and are actively working on reducing the harms of the agriculture labour, which is a pretty big success".

Even though Wansa's individual activities have proved to be successful, he still believes that more should be done. "We need to raise awareness on the impact of child labour in general and focus on the effects of pesticides on the health of both farmers and children". He eagerly says that "we should not stop, and that we need to target employers, parents and the local community; we need more sessions, and informative material like posters and brochures".

Fouad Wansa's journey to combat child labour and raise awareness on protective measures in agriculture labour is a journey that, he assures, is still in the beginning but one that will make a difference.

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 42 organizations: ABAAD, ACF, ACS, ACTED, AFDC, Amel, AVSI, Care (CIL), Caritas Lebanon, CCIAZ, CONCERN, DAF, Dorcas, DRC, ESDU, FAO, HDA, ICU, Intersos, IOCC, IR, Kayany-AUB, Lebanese Relief Council, LOST, LRC, LRI, LSESD, MAPS, MCC, Mercy-USA, MoSA, Muslim Aid, PCPM, PU-AMI, SCI, SHIELD, SIF, UNIDO, UNRWA, URDA, WFP, WVI.



Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$308,000,000	\$290,000,000
Received	\$100,000,000	\$134,000,000
%	32%	46%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	2,400,000	2,400,000
Targeted	1,535,297	1,564,800
Reached	985,013 82% Syrians 15% Lebanese 3% PRS/PRL 80% Syrians 16% Lebanese 4% PRS/PRL	1,033,210 85% Syrians 12% Lebanese 3% PRS/PRL 851,526

Selected key trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
# of subsidized primary health-care consultations	1,881,702	1,623,233
# of patients who received chronic disease medication	173,852	185,231
# of PHCCs within MoPH-PHC network	n/a	218
# of functional EWARS centres	730	656

Key contributions towards LCRP impacts

In 2018, the Health sector continued to provide equitable and quality primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare to displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS) and Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL) through direct service delivery and health system strengthening.

To provide access to primary health care services, partners supported 1,623,233 subsidized consultations for vulnerable Lebanese and displaced Syrians; however, this represents a 13.7 percent decrease from 2017 when partners provided a total of 1,881,702 subsidized consultations. This reduction can be explained by the decrease of mobile medical units, as the sector is increasingly moving towards health system strengthening and therefore additional efforts are needed to increase community demand for health services in the primary healthcare centres. In 2018, displaced Syrians (74.1 percent) made up the biggest share of people benefiting from subsidized consultations, followed by vulnerable Lebanese (16.8 percent), PRS (8.9 percent) and PRL (0.2 percent).

In 2018, 86.5 percent of subsidized consultations were provided through fixed health outlets compared to 77.4 percent in 2017, marking a shift towards health system strengthening and strengthened institutional resilience. The remaining 13.5 percent of subsidized PHC consultations were provided through Mobile Medical Units (MMUs). Of the consultations subsidized through fixed health outlets, 41 percent were provided through the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs), 6 percent through Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) Social Development Centers (SDCs), 43 percent through other health outlets and 10 percent through UNRWA clinics. This represents an increase in the percentage of primary healthcare services provided through fixed clinic compared to 77.4 percent in 2017 which reflect the increasing shift towards health system strengthening and strengthened institutional resilience. Overall, 60 percent of subsidized consultations were provided to females and 40 percent to men which reflects relatively gender balanced access to primary healthcare services. Moreover, 185,231 displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese were able to receive medications for chronic diseases at primary healthcare facilities. This constitutes a 6.5 percent increase from 2017 and is likely due to people being more aware of the availability of these medications in the health facilities; 57 percent of these patients were female and 43 percent were male, which reflects a gender-balanced service delivery.

Obstetric and emergency/life-saving care was provided to displaced Syrians, with 88,181 hospitalizations supported in 2018. This represents a 6.6 percent increase in the number of supported hospital admissions from 2017 (82,720 admissions) and a 19.2 percent increase from 2016 (73,951

admissions). Through UNRWA, 4,052 PRS received hospital care, which represents a 12 percent decrease from 2017 as a result of the decreased PRS total caseload. 149 displaced Syrians with chronic renal failure continued to receive free dialysis care, which enhanced their quality of life. Awareness on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) best practices was provided to around 25,000 pregnant and lactating women across Lebanon and 16 hospitals were engaged in the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI). In an effort to increase quality of life for some individuals, medical missions or projects were organized to complete specific surgeries such as cleft lip/palate surgeries and surgeries for congenital orthopedic malformations among others on a more limited basis, and covering a smaller number of patients.

The Health sector continued to provide support to the national health system by procuring vaccinations, medications, reproductive health commodities, as well as other medical supplies and equipment to facilities including MoPH-PHCCs and dispensaries. In addition, a national policy for Infant & Young Child Feeding was launched. Support was provided to the national health system through 374 staff at the MoPH-PHCCs level. As part of health system strengthening and to ensure more sustainable service delivery, trainings and coaching visits continued with a focus on immunization, Clinical Management of Rape (CMR), Baby-friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI), Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF), surveillance and response related to the measles outbreak among others.

Challenges

Funding, political situation and communication with the community issues have posed the biggest challenges to Health sector partners in the implementation of the sector strategy in 2018. As a result of insufficient funding, many referrals of patients in need of secondary healthcare or specialized diagnostics were not covered by partners. These include serious chronic diseases and catastrophic illnesses. As a result, many patients did not receive needed hospital care as they were not able to pay for the fees themselves. This has further negatively affected their health status. For displaced Syrian patients in need of in-patient psychiatric care, admission was often delayed because of the limited number of hospital beds. In addition, at the primary healthcare level, the unavailability of funds challenged the expansion of

Accelerated Immunization Activities to all cadasters where low immunization coverage is reported. Furthermore, the political situation in the country and the delays in forming the cabinet have hindered the transfer of funds from the Ministry of Finance to the Ministry of Public Health, which reflected in severe shortages in medications for chronic diseases; as contingency funds were not available, it was challenging to secure funds to fill the gaps in a timely manner. On the other hand, displaced Syrian women's access to ante-natal care and post-natal care remained relatively low and so it is important to enhance displaced Syrians knowledge of available services through intensifying awareness raising on the location of health facilities providing subsidized primary healthcare services.

Based on previous trends, it is estimated that for 2018 the Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) and Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) among displaced Syrians will continue to be higher than the NMR and MMR among Lebanese. This could be attributed to the lower levels of ante-natal care visits among displaced Syrians, the higher rates of adolescent pregnancies, the higher frequency of home-based deliveries, and the delayed access to obstetric care.

Key priorities and gaps foreseen in the first half of 2018

While maintaining a direct service delivery component to cover critical needs for displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS) and Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL), the priorities of the Health sector in 2019 are increasingly shifting toward continued investments in health system strengthening to sustain service provision and quality of services and achieve a positive and sustainable impact on health indicators. At the primary healthcare level, the Health sector prioritizes supporting the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) with complementarity models that offer more coverage of people in need. In addition, and similar to previous years, the sector aims to improve outbreak and infectious disease control through strengthening and expanding the Early Warning Alert and Response System (EWARS) and by strengthening the national tuberculosis and AIDS programmes. The sector aims as well at improving adolescent and youth health through the school health programme. At the secondary and tertiary healthcare level, the sector is focused on improving access to hospital care to displaced Syrians and Palestinian Refugees from Syria, and

therefore is dedicated to sustaining and increasing financial support to hospital care. The Health sector prioritizes the mainstreaming of institutional support to 1) promote country ownership and sustainability; 2) scale up solutions; and 3) promote greater efficiencies in health investments.

CASE STUDY

Meeting the mental healthcare needs of the most vulnerable Lebanese and displaced Syrians

Before the onset of the Syrian crisis, mental healthcare in Lebanon has mainly been provided by the private sector yet poorly accessible especially in what concerns the outpatient mental healthcare. Mental healthcare services were further stretched with the advent of the Syrian crisis and the increasing reported needs. However, access to mental healthcare services including in-patient psychiatric care remains a challenge for vulnerable Lebanese and displaced Syrians.

The World Health Organization defined an optimal mix of mental health services which starts with self-care and informal care (generally provided by one's self or one's network and peers, and are cross-cutting across all levels of care), followed by formal mental healthcare services which should be offered through widespread primary healthcare services and general health services and should be made easily accessible and affordable to the population. Specialized psychiatric care should remain at the top of the pyramid.

In line with this model, the Rafik Hariri University Hospital (RHUH) and the National Mental Health Programme at the MoPH, with the support of the World Health Organization and in partnership with Médecins du Monde, International Committee of the Red Cross in Lebanon, and Skoun – Lebanese Addiction Centre, are collaborating together to provide access to affordable quality and evidence-based mental health and substance use services to person residing in Lebanon.

This model became operational in 2018 and services are provided based on a patient-centred and recovery-oriented approach, with a continuum of care at Rafik Hariri University Hospital premises, which is the largest public hospital in Lebanon. The model offers assessment, diagnosis, pharmacological treatment, psychotherapies, as well as awareness and psychoeducation, in the following premises:

- MoPH Primary Health Care Centre where mental health is integrated;
- Community Mental Health Centre where services are provided by a specialized team of psychiatrists, psychotherapists, and case managers (social workers);
- Emergency department where staff have been trained on psychiatric emergencies;
- General ward providing psychiatric consultations via specialized mental health staff from the psychiatric ward;
- In-patient psychiatric unit for cases necessitating admission;
- Treatment centre for substance use disorders.

So far, in the Community Mental Health Centre, around 155 patients are consulting a psychiatrist; in parallel, a total of 1,190 psychosocial support consultations by case managers and 465 psychotherapy sessions have been achieved. As for in-patient care, a total of 159 admissions were made in 2018. In addition, a total of 2,478 persons were reached through 129 awareness raising sessions

Around 45 percent of the patients are female while 55 percent are males. As for the nationality, around 51 percent are Lebanese, 38 percent are Syrians, and 11 percent are from other nationalities.

This innovative and collaborative initiative brought together various partners and different tiers of mental healthcare within the same location, towards community mental health and wellbeing. Coordination amongst all partners was challenging in order to avoid duplication and promote continuum of care. With support from the Agence Française du Développement, this model will be replicated in the North and the Bekaa where mental health services are a major gap.

All 37 organizations mentioned below are contributing to the achievement of Health Outcomes prioritized under the LCRP and reporting under ActivityInfo:

AMEL, ARCS, Bluemission, Caritas Lebanon, CCP JAPAN, fondation-merieux, FPSC - Lebanon, HDA, Humedica, HWA, IMC, INARA, IOCC Lebanon, IOM, IR Lebanon, Lebanese Red Cross, LFPAD, LOM, Magna Lebanon, Makassed, Makhzoumi, MDM, MEDAIR, Mercy USA, MoPH, Order of Malta, PCPM, PCRF, PU-AMI, RESTART Lebanon, RI, SAMS, UNHCR, UNRWA, URDA, Welfare Association, WHO.



Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$196,000,000	\$208,000,000
Received	\$64,000,000	\$67,000,000
%	33%	32%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	661,516	182,169
Targeted	65,558	60,663
Reached	68,939	55,987

Selected key trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
# total number of job created/maintained	2,305	2,365
USD value invested in public work projects	\$2,943,543	\$8,438,973
# of MSMEs/ Cooperatives supported through cash & in-kind grants	1,688	587

Key contributions towards LCRP impacts

During 2018 the sector has struggled to meet its targets and scale up impact on job creation. Results have confirmed the trend emerging in 2017, when the sector witnessed a huge mismatch between demand and supply of the local market and a limited number of jobs created or people accessing job opportunities, though in 2017 2,305 jobs were created representing a 466 percent increase compared to 2016 when only 494 were created. In 2018, partners were able to create or maintain 2,365 jobs of which 2,217 were maintained and 148 created, supporting 986 businesses through cash & in-kind grants and technology transfer (excluding financial services) and 763 job seekers were assisted to start their own business. Moreover, almost 23,000 people benefitted from VTs, almost 3,000 were enrolled in work-based learning opportunities and 11,000 received counselling support to find employment. While this represent a small progress, given that the number of VTs provided has

decreased if compared to 2017 and has been better coupled with work-based learning opportunities and career guidance, it also remains limited in a context where employment rate is at around 25 percent, with youth unemployment reaching 37 percent. It is therefore crucial to identify sectors of growth and better match demand and supply of the local market.

Nevertheless, it is important to highlight that significant results have been achieved to support vulnerable populations in accessing work and income, and maintain social stability, under the leadership of the Ministry of Social Affairs. This has been possible through labor intensive activities that have offered immediate support and relief to very vulnerable families, while benefiting 250 municipalities. In 2018 almost 11,000 beneficiaries have been engaged in short-terms activities (activities such as infrastructures rehabilitation, walls repairing/painting, etc.) benefitting indirectly another 40,000-vulnerable people.

Furthermore, despite no visible results on Value Chains valorized/upgraded, some interventions have started and are expected to have a huge impact on job opportunities. Value chains interventions, mainly in agriculture and new renewable energies, will be of benefit for the local market through the support to cooperatives and SMEs. This may represent the beginning of a promising trends that would need to be significantly scaled up to contribute to reducing socio-economic vulnerabilities and to increasing stability in Lebanon.

Overall, although results have proved an increase in women's engagement in livelihoods interventions, women's participation rate in labour intensive programmes continues to be extremely low (1,081 females vs 9,507 males). This may be due to the nature of such programmes (e.g. infrastructures rehabilitation/construction of retaining walls, etc.) that require physical potential and long hours of work as well as cultural barriers that restrict women's engagement in such activities. Bearing in mind the difficulties of the sector in generating new job opportunities, short-term income generating activities represent the first source of income, particularly for highly vulnerable people. Therefore, it is important to increase women's participation rate in labour intensive programmes readjusting interventions and tailoring activities. This may be achieved through awareness raising sessions that demonstrate the benefits arising from being engaged in such activities as well as through amendments to work conditions (e.g. limited/reduced number of hours for women with children,

female HHs, etc.). In particular, female headed HHs should be prioritized in partners' targeting. Indeed, VASyR 2018 figures report that 55 per cent of female headed HHs do not have a working member and they are 62 per cent more likely to engage their children in work.

Livelihoods remained the second least funded sector in the LCRP, with only \$67m available for programming, of which \$34.5m was carry over from 2017. Despite these funding constraints, 2018 achievements constitute evidence of livelihoods partners' ability to contribute to the LCRP impact statement of maintaining Lebanon's economic stability by mitigating the deterioration in the economic condition of vulnerable populations. Throughout the course of the year, livelihoods partners were able to impact the lives of almost 56,000 beneficiaries.

Challenges

The main challenge for the sector remains its capacity to create jobs. This is mainly due to continued lack of available resources (68 percent funding gap in 2018), the mismatch existing between demand and supply of the local market as well as limited growth of SMEs that can boost job creation.

To make progress in job creation, support for Lebanese micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) is paramount to enable them to produce goods and services that can be competitive on the market and would allow them to act as suppliers for bigger companies. This way, it would be possible to leverage the local market by replacing current imports with local production, while ensuring quality and competitiveness of products and increasing job opportunities. This can be achieved fostering coordination amongst Livelihoods partners and developing successful value chains. Indeed, due to the shortage in funding and multi-year funding, the number of partners that implemented Value Chains interventions has been very low in 2018 (only 6 VCs interventions implemented) while many other partners have worked on Value chains related interventions. Coordination is essential to develop partnership and comprehensive initiatives that link Vocational Trainings to MSMEs support to Value Chain development. This would be of major benefit for Lebanon as results of these interventions will strengthen the local market while increasing job opportunities and making a better use of limited funds available. Particularly, as small businesses are the main job creator in Lebanon, in line with the

Ministry of Economy and Trade SME strategy, much more needs to be done to set criteria to identify those that have growth and job creation potential. Unfortunately, the expression of interest from partners for 2019 confirmed that the majority of partners are intending to implement further skills training programmes, an already overprovided activity. With this in mind, it is therefore crucial for donors and partners to redistribute resources and prioritize funding for the demand side of the labour market. In this regard, it is important to highlight that information gaps represent one of the major challenges for the sector that hinder its ability to identify sectors with job creation potential and this reiterates the importance of carry out a National Labour Market Analysis. Furthermore, short-term opportunities (labour intensive) must remain available to secure access to income for the most vulnerable.

Other priorities for the sector will focus on the enabling environment for job creation, notably by developing more linkages with ministries and other stakeholders involved in ensuring decent work conditions in the labour market, considering the level of informality and exploitation that has been exacerbated by the crisis. The sector also needs to reinforce its linkages with the private sector, notably through lessons learnt events with key existing private sector partners.

Key priorities and gaps foreseen in 2019

The sector's theory of change is that if the sector simultaneously provides balanced support to the supply and demand side of labour, then livelihoods of vulnerable groups will be improved. To operationalize this statement, the sector has reshaped its strategy for 2019 increasing targets for all activities related to the demand side of the market (Outcome 1-support to SMEs/VCs/Labour Intensive Programme) and consequently dropping targets for the supply side (Outcome 2-in particular, targets for VTs has been drastically reduced). Bearing this in mind, the Livelihoods sector would focus on developing criteria for identification and selection of SMEs to be supported that present high potential in jobs creation.

With regards to Value Chains, coordination will be strengthened both at national and field level promoting partnerships and comprehensive initiatives that link vocational training to MSMEs support to Value Chain development. Indeed, although the efforts of the sector to reshape its

strategy and redefine programmatic priorities, in 2018 partners have provided VTs without being able to match demand and supply reconfirming the same trend of the past years. The sector coordination team will therefore work closely to monitor activities and trainings that may be provided within the scope of Value Chains development.

Moreover, to avoid overlapping of activities partners are encouraged to map activities against the SME Strategy initiatives. Compiling this data would present a clearer view on who is operating on what programs and where gaps exist while allowing cross-coordination between partners providing similar activities.

Furthermore, as competition over lower-skilled jobs has consistently been cited as the main factor driving intercommunal tensions, increasing the number of income opportunities would likely contribute to a reduction of tensions between Syrians and Lebanese host community (Ark Wave 4 impact of cash on social tensions). It is therefore necessary to continue securing funding to implement labour intensive projects that create short-term jobs for vulnerable people and are of value for the long-term recovery and development of affected municipalities.

After eight years into the crisis it is now a priority to promote more sustainable solutions. Job creation initiatives represent a key priority. Indeed, access

to job opportunities would have a high impact on reducing vulnerability and dependency on humanitarian assistance benefitting all sectors that provide direct and indirect access to services. In order to ensure that Livelihoods interventions are targeting the most vulnerable, the Livelihoods sector is coordinating closely with the Protection sector to address inequalities and/or protection threats and prioritize people with specific needs, SGBV, as well as female headed HHs and youth in Livelihoods interventions. Furthermore, Guidelines on identification of beneficiaries are currently under final revision to provide guidance on the outreach and criteria to identify beneficiaries for every type of interventions. Finally, some partners have started to closely coordinate with UNHCR to identify beneficiaries of labour-intensive programmes, namely those that are not receiving the Basic assistance and food security assistance. Lastly, the promising commitments of the Government of Lebanon presented at the CEDRE Conference, such as diversification of productive sectors, fiscal adjustment, cross-sectoral reforms, are expected to have an impact on Lebanon's macroeconomic stability, and consequently would contribute in enabling the environment for job creation.



CASE STUDY

"I received plastic boxes from Concern today printed with our logo, and I am so excited to pack and sell cherry tomatoes in these" said Bassam, a 36-year-old farmer from Akkar, as he showed his small sitting room now turned into a temporary store. Bassam is one of the poor Lebanese farmers supported by Concern, raising a family of nine in a small farmhouse set in 1.5 hectares of agricultural land that he owns. Bassam participated in one of five community-based Farmer Business Schools under the project "Enabling Inclusive Decent Employment by Investing in Labour-Intensive Value Chain of Cherry Tomato".



Implemented by Concern in collaboration with Welthungerhilfe and funded by the Government of Germany, this project worked to introduce cherry tomato production as a labour intensive and high demand crop. "Before I always used to wonder about my losses, but now I record every expense in my book. This cycle we all used less chemicals by learning non-chemical [pest] control and following practices demonstrated on our [demonstration] plot", said Bassam. In addition to good agricultural practices, and technical topics on Integrated Pest Management, the training course encompassed a number of topics to build the capacity of farmers as entrepreneurs who keep records to manage finances, understand markets, value collective branding for better sales and employ simple techniques to maintain the quality of the fruit. Bassam explained, "We knew that tomatoes have a good value. A few farmers in the neighboring village tried but the size of the fruit was too big and rotten inside. If labour is not skilled it is difficult to manage the harvest. Our results are better because the labour who worked to plant and harvest the crop also received trainings."

"We never grew these seedlings before because farmers don't grow them", said Mohammad owner of the only nursery in the area. Concern, in collaboration with Lebanese Agriculture Research Institute (LARI), supported the nursery to grow cherry tomato seedlings from certified seeds advised by the Ministry of Agriculture. These seedlings were later distributed to the farmers. Later when Concern visited Mohammad, he was confident of his work and said, "workers understand instructions [pointing at women refugee workers], they are experienced." During the project 100 farmers and 500 labourers were targeted at the different levels of the value chain.

The project focused greatly on the market and creating a marketing plan for each Farmer Business School. Later near to harvest, Concern's marketing team provided sessions for quality grading, packaging, weighing, and storage of the cherry tomato crop. "Going to the retail markets with [Concern's] trainer was very useful. Later I went again with other farmers and we found a distributor who will directly distribute to the stores. It is different from before because we preferred one buyer to buy whole crop which left us with less or no profit" said Saleh, a 43 year-old peer farmer who attended Farmer Business School.

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 56 organizations: ACTED, ANERA, ARCS, AVSI, Al Majmouaa, Avsi-Cesvi, Basmeh & Zeitooneh, CARE, CESVI, CONCERN, Caritas Lebanon, DOT, DRC, GVC, HDA, HWA, Hilfswerk, Austria International, ICU, ILO, IOM, IRC, Injaz, International Alert, Islamic Relief Lebanon, LLWB, LOST, Leb Relief, Lebanese Developers, Lebanese Relief Council, Lebanon Support, Mentor Arabia, Mercy Corps, Mercy-USA for Aid and Development, Mouvement Social, NRC, Nabaa, Nawaya network, Near East Foundation, OXFAM, PCPM, PU-AMI, RMF, Right to Play, Rural Entrepreneurs, SAFADI, SB Overseas, SCI, SHEILD, SIF, TDH, UN-Women, UNDP, UNIDO, UNRWA, WVI, YFORD



Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$164,000,000	\$172,000,000
Received	\$112,000,000	\$162,000,000
%	68%	94%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	3,200,000	3,200,000
Targeted	1,887,502	1,890,000
Reached	1,804,022 80% Syrians 15% Lebanese 5% PRS/PRL	1,315,172 94% Syrians 9% Lebanese 6% PRS/PRL 1% Other

Selected key trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
% of persons with legal stay	26%	27%
% of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered	17%	21%
% of women (15-19) married	22%	29%
% of children 2-14 years who experience violent disciplinary practices	78%	73%
% of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labour	4.8%	5%

Selected key trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
# of individuals who benefited from legal counselling, assistance and representation regarding legal stay	37,839	30,497
# of individuals who benefited from counselling, legal assistance and legal representation regarding civil registration including birth registration, marriage	96,157	74,515
# of individuals benefitted from community-based Interventions	58,661	27,070

# of women, girls, men and boys at risk and survivors accessing SGBV prevention and response services in safe spaces	97,361	83,868
# of women, girls, men and boys sensitized on SGBV	282,102	135,478
# of caregivers accessing child protection prevention (caregivers' programmes)	52,180	52,997

Key contribution towards LCRP impacts

In 2018, the Protection sector worked with line ministries and partners to preserve a dignified stay for displaced persons. Regarding the provision of legal services, Protection sector partners reached 74,515 of the affected population with the provision of counselling, legal assistance and legal representation regarding civil registration including birth, marriage registration, etc. International partners have increased technical support to General Security Offices (GSO), and GSO has taken measures to increase consistent implementation of the waiver on residency fees. In addition, Protection sector partners have continued to provide 30,497 people with legal counselling, assistance and representation regarding legal stay.

Birth registration of children between 0-5 years of age is improving. The 2018 VASyR results demonstrate a moderate increase (by 4 percent) in the percentage of children who have had their birth registered with the Foreigners' Registry. In March 2018, a waiver was issued by the Government of Lebanon related to the one-year deadline to register a child's birth at the Noufous level for children born in Lebanon to Syrian and Palestinian refugees in Lebanon between 1 January 2011 and 8 February 2018.

Persons with specific needs (PwSN) are being supported. Protection sector partners have reached, assisted and provided specific non-cash support to 13,851 persons with specific needs (PwSN) or 87 percent of its annual target. This is the result of continuous efforts by sector partners to reinforce the capacity of affected populations, including host community, to identify protection risks through community-based protection initiatives. Sector partners trained 3,324 persons on community-based mechanisms in 2018.

Delivery of a comprehensive package of prevention and response services to children at risk has proved effective. This package of services targeting

children, caregivers and the wider community (along with key stakeholders and influencers) has assisted the programme in addressing protection concerns at different levels and with a continuum of services, ranging from community-based and informal to more formal and specialized. Services have included community-oriented prevention approaches such as community-based child protection activities which aim to increase the capacity and awareness of children to negotiate and mitigate risks and know where to go for help, as well as and caregiver support programmes, reaching 129,186 children and 52,997 caregivers. Case management also continues to be a key component of the response, aiming to provide non-judicial and judicial protection to high risk children. In 2018, of the 8,418 children assisted through case management, at least 23 percent were cases of children who have been engaged in child labour and 27 percent were cases of children in contact or conflict with the law. Case management does not stand alone but is complemented by more tailored emotional peer support activities, delivered through focused psycho-social support (FPSS) activities. A participatory approach to case management remains at the core of the response, with children and caregivers actively engaged in identifying appropriate solutions for protecting and empowering children.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) actors were able to reach women and girls in underserved areas, where they reached 135,478 women, girls, men and boys through sensitization and 83,868 of women, girls, men and boys at risk and survivors through safe spaces. Women and girls reached benefitted from quality individual and group psychosocial support that allowed healing and recovery from GBV risks as well as were equipped with skills to be able to identify, mitigate and respond to GBV risks.

Thirty organizations contributed to the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP). All actors were consulted and being updated regularly, and input was collected through sector core group discussions, national sector discussions as well as Child Protection (CP) and general protection discussions which resulted in refining the intervention strategies including strengthened coordination with CP and Protection. Capacity-building on key Sexual & Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) issues or SGBV programming has been reinforced through capacity-building and guidance documents. A needs assessment was conducted by the SGBV Task Force in the first and second quarter of 2018. Training sessions were conducted during the third and fourth quarters based on feedback received from

partners. Thematic priorities included community engagement; outreach with men, women and girls; case management; psychosocial support for adolescent girls. Two guidance notes on engaging men at community level to address GBV risks faced by women and girls were developed: one includes definitions of the different modalities of engagement with men and the second provides step-by-step guidance on how to engage with men at the community level. Guidance on Emotional Support Groups (ESGs) with women and girls at risk and survivors of GBV has been developed to support service providers on the best practices when facilitating ESGs.

Challenges

Persons displaced from Syria continued to face challenges in obtaining or maintaining legal residency. The percentage of displaced Syrians aged 15 and above without valid legal residency remains at 73 percent. In 2018, there was an increase to 62 percent of households with no members having legal residency, compared with 55 percent in 2017. This situation applies disproportionately to female-headed households (75 percent) relative to male-headed households (59 percent).

Despite the positive efforts made by the Government of Lebanon to simplify administrative procedures related to civil documentation, legal residency and to facilitate birth registration, only moderate improvements have been achieved, one of the reasons is the uneven field implementation of the fee waiver for legal residency throughout the country. In addition, as of 7 February 2019, Syrian children and Palestine refugee children from Syria turning one year will again face a one-year deadline for birth registration.

Key challenges include the delivery of comprehensive and integrated packages of services (across sectors) for addressing key child protection violations. This is particularly true for those child protection risks which result from compounded vulnerabilities and drivers which affect families. It has not always been possible to tackle the root causes of some issues such as child labour, child marriage and violent discipline, which in many cases are driven by multiple overlapping deprivations. Although there have been some advancements throughout the year such as collaboration between Livelihood and Child Protection partners, mostly at the level of referrals, further efforts need to be invested for fostering programme design that engages different sectors, especially when many

solutions rely on needs which are addressed via interventions such as basic assistance, livelihoods and education.

Data collected through the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS), agency assessments, focus group discussions, and protection monitoring highlight that displacement increases the risk of SGBV. 95 percent of reported incidents occurred in Lebanon. Married girls, including child mothers, adolescent girls, unaccompanied and separated boys and girls, women and girls with disabilities, older women, female heads of household and socially marginalized groups continue to be most at risk. The most commonly reported types of violence are physical violence (37 percent of reported cases), mainly linked to violence within the family or home; sexual violence (15 percent rape and sexual assault); emotional violence (31 percent); as well as forced and child marriage. In addition, another form of exploitation increasingly reported by women and children is cyber-violence and online exploitation, with rising concerns about photo misappropriation, blackmailing and obscene content. Provision of quality services remains essential to ensure women and girls at risk and survivors are supported in addressing their needs and in allowing them to recover from GBV incidents.

Key priorities and gaps foreseen in 2019

The focus will remain on preserving a dignified stay for displaced persons and on reinforcing social stability. At both national and field levels, efforts will be made to ensure that Syrian displaced are aware of the administrative changes to legal residency and civil documentation procedures and are able to register the births of their children and to renew their residency. In addition, partners will strive for advocacy towards the inclusive and consistent application of the criteria and procedures for legal residency and civil status documentation for persons displaced from Syria. Finally, the protection sector will continue providing targeted support services to persons with specific needs (PwSN) and their caregivers by ensuring that basic services available (legal assistance, case management, counselling, etc.) are known and accessible to them by mainstreaming inclusivity in programming to reduce their protection risks. Protection mainstreaming work across sectors including field capacitation will be continued, including a framework for the promotion of accountability to affected populations.

Continuous support and coordination with the

Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) will be a priority, to ensure greater synergy, and to ensure alignment and support in the implementation of the government's Strategic Plan for the Protection of Children and Women. This will go hand-in-hand with continuous engagement of other ministries such as MEHE, MoJ, MoI, MoL, etc. Further efforts will be invested by partners to ensure a tailored approach for targeting and reaching the most vulnerable and hardest-to-reach children; including those engaged in the worst forms of child labour, child marriage and those who are victims of violence, especially violent disciplinary practices. In addition, further guidance and support will be provided for piloting and launching holistic integrative programmes through a multi-sectoral approach that targets vulnerable children and their families. These programmes will be designed to address the needs of children and their families which are facing multiple deprivations, by enhancing and creating structural and functional linkages between sectors and services. To complete this, a focus on social norms and behavioral change work will also be included to target those drivers which result in behaviors which continue to allow for harmful practices.

The SGBV Task Force will focus on the implementation of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) SGBV Guidelines action plans in the identified key sectors, which include Protection, Health and Shelter. In addition, it will focus on enhancing the outreach component by developing a refined targeting methodology that complements existing outreach approaches. It will also focus on long-term coaching and capacity-building to ensure transfer of knowledge to local organizations and entities, including social development centres as well as preparing the phase-out strategies and community response structures.

Lastly, child marriage, child labour, civil documentation and persons with disabilities have been identified as 2019 priorities for Protection, Child Protection (CP) and SGBV partners. The Protection sector, with SGBV and CP, will work closely with other sector working groups (i.e. Basic Assistance, Livelihoods and Education sectors) to ensure complementarity in the approach and to maximize the impact of the interventions. For example, the Protection sector will work closely with the sectors to mainstream the specific needs of PwSN, particularly those exposed to child labour and child marriage, into their interventions and will reinforce processes to safely identify and refer PwSNs to protection partners.

CASE STUDY

Fatima is 18-year-old Syrian girl, currently living in Tall Abbas Al Gharbi village. She was previously married, then divorced, and is now living with her parents. This is her story in her own words:

"Before accessing the programme and activities, I used to be under pressure, with my parents continuously pressuring me to get married again. Friends, neighbors and family members weren't merciful; they labelled me as "The Divorced Girl". In addition, I lost friends after I divorced as their parents advised them to avoid me, expecting that I'd be a bad influence on them.

Before accessing the activities, I was shy and unable to express myself in front of the other girls. I used to skip sessions and would rarely commit to the curriculum. Later, the facilitator paid a couple of visits and introduced me to the case management service. I was really happy to see that there's actually someone out there who cares to listen to me and that my life is worth way more than the pressure put on me by my parents and people around me.

It didn't take much for me to start committing to the cycle again and regularly attending, regardless of how many times my mother told me to stop going to the safe space. Things have completely changed when I started gaining new information, especially after the sessions on "Setting and Achieving goals", "Friends and Trust", "Self-confidence", and "Problem Solving". I started to feel more confident and share the things I learned with my mother; I told her that I want to continue my studies as I am still young and can achieve my goal in learning arts and going to a school of arts. I've developed the ability to better communicate with her and tell her my opinions, particularly when it comes to resuming my studies and not getting married again, at least for now as long as I am still young. I've indeed managed to register in an art school in Tripoli and have engaged in hairdressing training with another NGO working in Tall Abbas Al Gharbi.

Finally, I definitely advise girls never to lose their self-confidence and always to have the courage to speak and open up. Each girl has the right to dream and achieve her goals. A girl is not a product; she has feelings, capacities and skills. I want to end my story that will never be over again, by saying that I do now feel freedom; I've been born again, and I am aware of my skills and objectives. I'll keep fighting because my life is worth living."

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 62 partners:

ABAAD, Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), Action Aid, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Al Mithaq, AMEL, Akkar Network for Development (AND), B&Z, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, CONCERN, Danish Red Cross (DRC), Dorcas, Gruppo Di Volontariato Civile (GVC), Handicap International (HI), Heartland, HelpAge, Association Himaya Daeem Aataa (HDA), Himaya, International Alert, International Medical Corps (IMC), Intersos, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Islamic Relief (IR), International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), International Rescue Committee (IRC), KAFA, Lebanese Council to Resist Violence against Women (LECORVAW), Lebanese Red Cross (LRC), Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Makhzoumi Foundation, Médecins du Monde, Mercy Corps, Mosaic-MENA, Mouvement Social, Naba'a, Nabad, Ninurta, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Orphan Welfare Society (OWS), OXFAM, Plan International, Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), RET Liban, René Moawad Foundation (RMF), SAWA, SB Overseas (SBO), Save the Children International (SCI), Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention For Local Development (SHEILD), Secours Islamique France (SIF), Solidarités, Terre Des Hommes Italy (TdH - It), Terre Des Hommes Lebanon (TdH - L), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), War Child Holland (WCH), Welfare Association, World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF), World Vision International (WVI), Youth Network for Civic Activism (YNCA), UNICEF.



Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$129,000,000	\$137,000,000
Received	\$39,000,000	\$34,000,000
%	30%	25%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	749,000	1,720,000
Targeted	536,000	596,144
Reached	244,545 92% Syrians 7% Lebanese 1% PRS/PRL	238,833 96% Syrians 3% Lebanese 1% PRS/PRL

Selected key trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
# of people benefitting from weatherproofing and/or maintenance of makeshift shelters within informal settlements, residential and non-residential buildings	180,244	142,516
# of people benefitting from rehabilitation, upgrade or repair of sub-standard buildings into adequate shelters	63,768	22,821
# of people benefitting from upgrade of common areas within substandard residential buildings	2,126	0
# of individuals received fire-fighting kits and awareness sessions in informal settlements and sub-standard buildings	95,799	65,405

Contribution towards LCRP impacts

In 2018, 19 Shelter sector partners assisted a total of just under 239,000 individuals, down from around 244,000 in 2017. The impact of this drop varied proportionally between nationality cohorts; the greatest impact relative to 2017 was on Lebanese, with 50 percent fewer individuals reached in 2018 (7,324) compared to 2017 (14,606). Of those reached in 2018, 96 per cent are displaced Syrians, three per cent vulnerable Lebanese and one per cent Palestine refugees from Syria or Palestine refugees from Lebanon. Partners targeted the most vulnerable households using common assessment tools and eligibility criteria.

Of the total displaced Syrian population, 24 percent live in informal settlements and non-residential structures, and are in precarious living conditions. In an effort to provide immediate assistance to the most vulnerable populations, one of the LCRP strategic objectives, 195,799 displaced Syrians living in these shelter types benefitted from humanitarian-focused assistance to maintain their temporary shelters in habitable conditions with more resilience to adverse climatic events. Within this, shelter partners provided 172,327 individuals in 3,568 informal settlements with weatherproofing kits to mitigate the risks associated with inclement weather. Of these 3,568 informal settlements, the majority are located in Baalbek/Bekaa (76 percent), a significant number in Akkar (15 percent), and minorities in the North (5 percent), Mount Lebanon (2 percent) and Nabatiyeh (2 percent). Technical guidance was provided through the Sector to partners implementing shelter interventions to ensure they undertake proper sealing of shelters. In addition to regular weatherproofing activities, sector partners responded to the weatherproofing needs of 8,235 individuals in informal settlements following emergency events including fire, flooding or eviction.

Following assessments of almost all informal settlements, 76 per cent of tents were deemed eligible for weatherproofing assistance. Of these, 80 per cent were reached by partners. The remaining 20 per cent were not reached because households, previously assessed were not present at the time of delivery of assistance or became ineligible due to improvement of their shelter conditions since assessment. A spike in the response to emergencies, namely following referrals related to severe weather events, was recorded between January and March 2018.

26,487 people living in 355 sites benefitted from activities that improve site conditions in informal settlements, such as gravelling, cleaning of trenches surrounding sites and installation of French drains. These types of activities help mitigate water inundation and mudding in the winter season, both of which can hinder safe access to shelters or can damage personal belongings. Site improvement activities also contribute to reducing health risks that result from the contamination of drinking water and storm water with grey and/or black water. Also, 65,673 displaced Syrians residing in informal settlements have been sensitized to the risks of fire, how to reduce such risks and how to fight fire with materials distributed to them.

The 'Cash for Rent' program, a smaller-scale intervention which targets severely socio-economically vulnerable families living in shelters that are physically adequate but who are not benefitting from the Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance program (MCAP), reached 9,605 individuals in 2018. In support of the LCRP strategic objective to reinforce socio-economic and environmental stability, the sector continued its commitment to enhancing access to adequate shelter for vulnerable populations. Partners upgraded residential structures to minimum humanitarian standards, benefitting 33,429 vulnerable people from both displaced and host community. However, this amounted to only 12 per cent of the year's target by December 2018, and the population reached under this activity is approximately half of that achieved in 2017. This is associated with a progressive year-on-year drop in sector funding, from a high of US\$53m in 2016, falling to US\$39m in 2017 and down again to US\$34m in 2018. The substantial decrease in funding limits the sector's reach in providing beneficiaries with adequate privacy, safety and security, improved security of tenure and in mitigating inter-community tension. At least 926 elderly Syrians, Lebanese, PRL and PRS and people with physical disabilities have benefitted from tailored shelter assistance under the residential shelter upgrading program. Activities included adapting shelters to allow better mobility within and around shelters.

In 2018, the sector designed the Collective Site Mapping Tool (COSIMA) to harmonize and consolidate data collected by field partners on collective sites, addressing a known data gap. This is now available to partners from all sectors to enhance coordination and assistance provision. Data has been collected in the North and BML areas with the prospect of expanding to the Bekaa and

South areas in 2019.

The sector is also committed to undertaking area-based multi-sectoral assessments as a basis for interventions that integrate other sectors complementary to shelter and their respective partners. Place-based, holistic interventions that benefit displaced and host community sharing residential locations can support social stability. Progress has been made on multi-sectoral area-based profiling and implementation. The first batch of a series of profiles of poor urban neighborhoods were produced for three locations and are being used for geographical coordination and evidence-based programming of multi-sectoral interventions. Similarly, in 2018, UNHCR developed and adopted an initiative to respond to multi-sectoral needs in specific geographic areas demonstrating high levels of need, vulnerability, protection concerns and social tension. This is through an integrated shelter and WASH response approach that also incorporates a strong protection focus.

Progress has also been made on thematic research aimed at capacitating Lebanese institutions to respond to immediate and longer-term shelter and housing challenges. Studies have been completed by UN-Habitat related to Housing, Land and Property issues amongst selected displaced Syrians; by the Norwegian Refugee Council related to Occupancy Free of Charge and another on aspects of the dynamics of low income housing in Lebanon; whilst Save the Children has mobilized an advisory panel to inform research into aspects of rent conditions including tenure security.

Challenges

The Shelter sector faced some major hurdles in implementing the strategy largely due to a continued decrease in funding to the sector, from US\$53m in 2016, down to US\$39m in 2017 and falling again to US\$34m in 2018. This has led to a reduced ability to reach targets and to lower partner presence in the field, specifically in the South, Beirut, Mount Lebanon and Tripoli where shelter needs are especially high in residential and non-residential shelters. Interventions have therefore been weighted more towards shorter-term emergency response at the expense of medium-term risk reduction activities.

Limitations in the sector's ability to address critical needs in non-residential shelters remains a challenge for the sector. Challenges stem from the inherent unsuitability of non-residential buildings for human occupation from physical and regulatory

perspectives, and the limitations on scope of intervention this implies for sustainability reasons. Another challenge is the limited number of partners focusing on this shelter type, partly linked to funding constraints. A third challenge is the heterogeneity of this shelter type, which means that standardized guidelines that are yet operationally useful are hard to formulate.

Similarly, the provision of materials that have a longer lifespan remains actively prohibited by the Government of Lebanon due to concerns of such materials being used to establish 'permanent structures,' which contradict government policies requiring the response be temporary in nature in urbanized areas of Beirut and surrounding Mount Lebanon, the challenges to upgrading of substandard residential buildings are greater than elsewhere. One reason is the more buoyant rental market in and around the capital. Partners typically seek fixed term rent reductions or freezes from landlords on behalf of vulnerable tenants in return for upgrade works. The incentive for a landlord to enter into such an agreement is relatively weak in places where the rental market is relatively strong because of the potential for loss of income to the landlord relative to a 'do-nothing' scenario. Another reason is that property ownership tends to be more fragmented in BML than elsewhere, presenting operational difficulties for activities that require permission from landowners.

Key priorities and gaps foreseen in 2019

Strategic approaches by the sector engaging donors and partners to address the trend of households moving to increasingly worse shelters will be required in 2019. These will highlight, amongst other points, how adequate shelter acts as a barrier to the development of other sectoral vulnerabilities – in particular health, WASH and protection – and the potential for knock-on costs to other sectors if this barrier is not supported. Linked to this, it will be suggested that the sustainability of shelter sector activities need to be assessed through a multi-sectoral lens.

Efforts will continue to mainstream protection, gender and environment in shelter activities. The priority for the Shelter sector remains to assist all those deemed vulnerable across all shelter types with a focus on female-headed households, Persons with Specific Needs and marginalized groups. Also, the sector will explore how to increase its capacity to respond to protection referrals through the provision of tailored shelter assistance. Segregated

reporting indicators have been introduced to better understand how the Shelter sector interfaces with gender. The Shelter sector, to the extent of its scope, will also contribute to minimizing negative environmental impacts across all shelter types.

During the first quarter of 2019, the Shelter sector will focus on updating the technical guidelines for five activities in order to reflect lessons learned by partners and evolving understandings of best practice: 1) Weatherproofing in informal settlements, 2) Upgrading of residential shelters, 3) Site Improvements in informal settlements, 4) Area-based profiling and Area-based implementation approach and 5) Cash for rent. These updated and new guidelines will include technical assessments that shall be used to assess eligibility for assistance. As part of the sector's commitment to mainstreaming protection in all its interventions, the Protection sector will be involved in Shelter sector core group meetings on the revision of eligibility criteria, targeting modalities and assessment tools for all shelter activities. All guidelines will be consolidated into a combined and updatable online Shelter Sector Manual that will serve as a main reference for shelter partners for a harmonized response.

For 2019, Aarsal remains a gap area without an identified partner or funding to cover weatherproofing needs neither in informal settlements nor in non-residential shelters. The latter shelter type, however, is particularly underserved by the response, due both to low visibility and barriers to intervention linked to the non-residential nature of the building's original construction permit. The point remains that the needs of those in non-residential shelters are indeed as urgent as for those living in informal settlements.

In 2019, the sector will work towards improved coordination with the WASH sector with the aims of ensuring a shared approach to the prioritization of informal settlements for site improvement activities, and of clarifying divisions of work in these activities in the field.

An engagement platform led by MoSA will be formed to consider emerging studies related to shelter and housing challenges in Lebanon, aiming to contribute evidence to discussions amongst government and entities with a mandate over these themes about how these challenges may be addressed in the future. In 2019 the terms of reference of the group will be set, its membership agreed, and studies already produced and in the pipeline considered in terms of implications and next steps.

CASE STUDY

The story of Farah

This is the story of a little girl that lives in one of over 2,300 informal settlements which are home to a quarter of the Syrian displaced living in Lebanon. In these settlements, people live in makeshift tents barely covered with plastic sheets on agricultural land that turns muddy with the slightest rain. Unexpectedly in this context, we find Farah with a striking bright smile on her face.



Farah is nine years old and lives in this informal settlement with her father, who suffered a stroke and now struggles to move or talk, her mother, five sisters and two brothers. Farah's family fled the conflict in Syria when she was only three. Being so young at the time she doesn't remember anything about Syria or even their tough journey to seek refuge, but she clearly remembers the house they first moved to when they arrived in Lebanon. Unable to pay the rent and to find any source of income, Farah and her family had to move, a year ago, to an informal tented settlement.

"When it rains, it's not the rain or thunder that make me afraid. It's the tent", she says. "The plastic sheets on the roof make scary sounds, the wooden timbers seem about to collapse, the water gets in, my mattress gets wet during the night, and I feel as if the tent will collapse onto our heads" she explains.

"I stay awake through the night and sometimes I cry" she adds. "When it's very windy, my mother and brother go out in the night and in the rain to tighten the plastic sheets all around the tent to keep us warm and they get very wet."

"The mud used to reach up to our knees" she explains, pointing to her legs. "Sometimes we had to walk under the rain along the muddy road to reach the school bus which can't make it into the settlement." Concern Worldwide, with the support of International Relief Teams (IRT), carried out site improvement in Farah's settlement. This included providing gravel to cover the pathways between tents and on the main road in to the settlement to allow much improved access.

IRT carried out site improvement in Farah's settlement. This included providing gravel to cover the pathways between tents and on the main road in to the settlement to allow much improved access. Now vehicles can enter to the settlement including the school bus, trucks to empty the septic tanks and emergency vehicles.

Concern provided concrete blocks in order to construct a block lintel around tents and reduce the risk of tents flooding in heavy rainfall. Additionally, Concern has implemented winterization campaigns to distribute tarpaulin and wood to repair tents.

Site improvement is an activity carried out under the Shelter sector, targeting specifically informal settlements prone to adverse risks of weather such as flooding but also risks resulting from grey or black water over owing and risks resulting from fire. The activities aim at reducing these risks and improve the quality of life of the residents while increasing their access to and within their settlements. Priority sites are assessed by a technical team based on history of floods, frequency and impact, and the design of the activities are done through participatory exercises involving the residents of the settlements, particularly people with reduced mobility. These activities follow the set of guidelines developed by the Shelter Working Group, and also ensure integration with the WASH sector, with specific attention given to access to WASH facilities.

"I was very happy when watching my older brother and our neighbor constructing the blocks to stop the water from getting inside our tent" Farah says of these site improvement works. "My friends and I can now play outside all around the settlement when the rain stops, and we don't get dirty anymore."

The school bus stops just in front of our settlement” Farah explains. Site improvement activities not only mitigate risks of flooding, they also support people and especially children socialize outside their tents. Site improvement can also be implemented by residents of informal settlements, which helps strengthen the ownership over the implemented works. Some settlements are also located in highly flood-prone areas where site improvement works will not be enough to mitigate the risks; relocation is then the only solution, but informal settlements residents have also constraints on where to settle. Farah and her family are one example of the hundreds of Syrian displaced living in informal settlements in Northern Lebanon who have benefitted from improved living conditions in the winter weather due to the support of IRT and Concern Worldwide.

The achievements described in this report are the collective work of the following 19 partners: ACTED, AVSI, CARE, CISP, CONCERN, DRC, GVC, HabitatForHumanity, HDA, Intersos, MEDAIR, Mercy USA, NRC, PCPM, PU-AMI, SCI, Solidarités, UN-Habitat, UNHCR

SOCIAL STABILITY

Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$124,000,000	\$110,000,000
Received	\$49,000,000	\$62,000,000
%	40%	57%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	251	251
Targeted	251	251
Reached	183	227

Selected trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
% of people living in vulnerable areas reporting positive impact of municipalities on their lives	45% (Syrians) 64% (Lebanese)	74% (Syrians) 81% (Lebanese)
% of people living in vulnerable areas reporting competition for municipal and social services and utilities as source of tension	22% (Syrians) 34% (Lebanese)	24% (Syrians) 39% (Lebanese)
% of people living in vulnerable areas able to identify conflict resolution mechanisms/actors in their community they would turn to	21% (Syrians) 20% (Lebanese)	25% (Syrians) 18% (Lebanese)
% of people living in vulnerable areas identifying factors that could improve inter-community relationships	79% (Syrians) 49% (Lebanese)	82% (Syrians) 69% (Lebanese)
Proportion of LCRP partner informed on stability risks & trends and able to integrate conflict sensitivity in their programming	75%	69%

Selected trends – Output level	2017	2018
# community and municipal support projects implemented to alleviate resource pressure and reduce tensions	165	44
# new dispute resolution and conflict prevention mechanisms established	50	115
# youth and children engaged in social stability initiatives	47,808	24,378

Key contributions towards LCRP impacts

Social Stability partners either fulfilled or exceeded many of the targets set for their activities in 2019, while initiating new projects that should bear fruit in the coming years. The sector expanded in its reach, covering 227 communities by the end of the year, which is a significant increase from the 189 reached in 2017. Indeed, a proliferation of new conflict dialogue mechanisms and a sustained increase in youth initiatives contributed to this expansion.

At the same time, the sector faced challenges in implementing community support and basic services projects to alleviate resource pressures and working with media to change negative perceptions of different groups. The delivery of projects to address pressure on resources, services and utilities is of primary concern as ‘competition for resources and services’ is the fastest growing source of tension between communities with 36 percent of communities now identifying it, compared to 23 percent in 2017. While the number of these types of projects increased in the latter half of 2018, the sector fell well short of its target of supporting 150 municipalities in 2018, with 84 municipalities receiving this support. This support is particularly lacking in the South & Nabatiye, where just 13 projects – or 10 percent of the national total – are being implemented.

Overall, while confidence in municipalities increased further in 2018, the total amount invested in these institutions was just \$9m, lower than the \$10.5m invested in 2017, meaning that further capacitating these institutions to deliver tangible service provision results to host community and displaced population will need to be prioritized in 2019.

More positively, good progress was made in 2018 by partners working on solid waste management. These partners are now working in 55 municipalities, exceeding the target of 50 municipalities that were targeted. There remains further work to be done on scaling up efforts from awareness campaigns and bin distribution, to ensuring systemic changes that move towards integrated solid waste management systems.

Conflict dialogue mechanisms continued to be a core component of social stability activity in 2018. Partners reached a total of 115 municipalities with these types of initiatives, constituting 85 percent of the targeted number of municipalities. By region, the lower number of mechanisms (21) in the Beirut and Mount Lebanon – with just 18 percent of the national total – is a concern as communities in these Governorates continually display high tensions, particularly driven by perceptions of cultural difference. Given research highlighting the importance of conflict dialogue mechanisms to reduce propensities to violence, further work to bring communities together to jointly discuss grievances needs to remain a priority of the sector. A significant number of partners continued to work with youth in 2018. A total of 499 initiatives were set up, nearly doubling the target of 251 set at the beginning of the year. These initiatives often involve youth in planning activities, as well as in programs that build life skills. Although the sector did not reach the same number of youths as in 2017 (near 50,000), the 24,378 individuals reached still constitutes a significant element of social stability programming. Ensuring that transitional mechanisms are put in place for these youth to access decent jobs and be active members of society. A part of the sector that requires expansion is the activities designed to support the media. Only four initiatives out of a target of 80 were recorded in 2018, meaning that only 24 of the targeted number of 240 journalists were engaged in trainings. Supporting the media to ensure more balanced and impartial reporting on refugee-host community relations must occur in 2019 to ensure that negative perceptions do not entrench. An area of success in the sector in 2018 was the increasing awareness of conflict sensitivity with a total of 169 individuals trained from 71 different organizations across all sectors of the LCRP response. A strong foundation has been laid for partners to expand this area of work as a key focus area in 2019.

Challenges

While the parliamentary elections passed largely without the refugee issue being instrumentalized in the campaigning period, the post-election scenario witnessed a re-emergence of hostile narratives towards refugee groups. This has resulted in certain factions pushing for the returns of Syrian refugees to be accelerated. That discourse has likely contributed to some elements of local authorities and host community members

increasing the pressure on refugees. For instance, the trend of increasing verbal harassment witnessed in 2017, continued in 2018 with over 30 percent of Syrians now reporting that either them or a member of their family were verbally harassed in the past three months. In addition, an increase in municipal measures set on refugees was recorded over 2018, particularly in the implementation of curfews. These measures, if prolonged and as severe as they are currently, pose a risk to longer term stability and the quality of relations as interactions between groups becomes more infrequent.

In addition to this contextual challenge, the sector continues to suffer from a lack of longer-term funding to build social stability. Multi-year funding would allow much greater planning and more ambitious projects to maintain social stability – whether they are conflict dialogue mechanisms, or direct support to municipalities to deliver services – is much needed for a sustainable delivery of the response. Further, as per the results of an analysis on the effectiveness of programming on reducing tensions, integrated, area-based programming should be considered as a way in which to address grievances in a multi-dimensional manner.

Key priorities and gaps foreseen in the first half of 2019

The primary concern for the sector is to account for growing frustrations amongst host community and refugee groups, as measured by increasing harassment and occasional expressions of aggression towards other groups reported in late 2018. The sector will do this by keeping a close monitoring of the tensions landscape between community groups as the potential returns of Syrian refugees themselves – as well as the discourse around them – are likely to continue over 2019. At present, the extent of the returns is yet to be known, though, based on current observations, what is likely is that the pressure to return will grow.

The response will also need to prioritize the impact of its programming on reducing pressure on resources, services and utilities. Despite achieving many of its targets in terms of coverage, the amount invested and the impact on service delivery is evidently insufficient at present to reduce tensions around resource pressure. Another key focus of the sector will be in continuing its work on mainstreaming conflict sensitivity and ‘do no harm’ into the sectors of the LCRP – a key pillar of the response. Application

workshops will be held with four organizations in early 2019 that seek to apply these frameworks to their programming in a sustainable way. Further trainings on these principles are in the pipeline to broaden and deepen the learning and application of conflict sensitivity in 2019.

CASE STUDY

Who Said It's a Man's City: Al Mina's Female Municipal Police

On the seashores of North Lebanon lies a historical city that represents Lebanon's diversity and coexistence. Despite the challenges, more than 100,000 individuals learned to live together in peace and harmony. Al Mina, a Northern Lebanese city with an independent municipal body, aims at meeting its citizens' needs in every way possible.

The recruitment of female agents falls under a “new vision for Lebanon's Municipal Police” developed by the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM), with the support of UNDP. The new vision intends to transform Municipal Police in Lebanon into a service to the population, putting people's rights at the core of the Municipal Police's mission.

Al Mina might be one of the first municipalities to ensure the inclusion of women in such initiatives. “Nothing in the municipalities' law prevents women from being part of its police divisions,” explains Abdel Kader Alameddine, the city's mayor. “I have long been keen on the inclusion of women, this was something I started back in 1998 yet it didn't kick off until 2017.”

Out of Al Mina's 21 newly recruited police agents, 6 are women. “This is something very new to the North,” explains Hussam Ibrahim, head of the police. The newly recruited members benefited from a UNDP supported training which has helped their integration into the unit and sensitized them on the job's demands. The training is the second pillar of the “national tool box” deemed as vital for the transformation of Lebanon's municipal police.

Today, Al Mina's Mayor wants to inspire other municipalities across Lebanon to take on the step of including women on their Municipal Police Units. With UNDP's support he is serving as an advocate to the cause, by sharing expertise on the topic with other municipalities. “The support provided to one municipality does not stop at its level”, he says.

The achievements described in this report are the collective work of the following 38 organizations: ACF, ACTED, AVSI, Avsi-Cesvi, Caritas Lebanon, DPNA, Dorcas, GAME, HAD Association, HOOPS, Hilfswerk Austria International, IOM, IRC, International Alert, Intersos, Islamic Relief Lebanon, LOST, Leb Relief, Lebanese Relief Council, Lebanon Support, Mercy Corps, Mouvement Social, NRC, Nabaa, Nawaya network, OXFAM, RMF, Red Oak, Right to Play, SB Overseas, SFCG, SIDC, SIF, Solidarites International, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNICEF, WVI.





Key achievements

Funding	2017	2018
Required	\$280,000,000	\$250,000,000
Received	\$86,000,000	\$102,000,000
%	31%	41%

Outreach	2017	2018
Population in need	3,740,000	3,300,000
Targeted	1,959,428	1,560,550
Reached	1,359,627 32% Syrians 47% Lebanese 1% PRS/PRL	738,403 50% Syrians 49% Lebanese 1% PRS/PRL

Selected key trends – Outcome level	2017	2018
# of affected people assisted with improved access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and for domestic use	1,127,887	467,131
# of affected people assisted with temporary access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and water for domestic use	231,740	271,272
# of affected people with access to improved safe sanitation in temporary locations	203,368	254,051
# individuals who have experienced a WASH behavior change session/activity	247,903	245,651

Key contributions towards LCRP impacts

Through a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Energy and Water, the Ministry of Environment the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Education and the 25 organizations of the WASH Sector, significant achievements were reached in 2018. In terms of systems-strengthening, the Government has been supported in coordinating the WASH response and informed through strategic studies - the "National Guideline for Rainwater

Harvesting Systems" and the Water Quality Survey in Public Institutions.

A comprehensive Response Plan was also developed to implement UNRWA's Environmental Health Strategy. The communications strategy is in its second year of implementation to help transform the Water Establishments of Bekaa, South and North into 'customer-centric' public establishments and to boost consumer confidence for improved revenue collection.

The Ministry of Environment was capacitated to strengthen the Environment Task Force in charge of following up on environmental complaints, which is an important responsibility towards the Lebanese citizens and institutions and is considered as an important conflict resolution instrument in increasingly fragile and overstressed situations. The Ministry of Education and Higher Education was supported to develop a national health education package for schools, to sensitize future generations on adequate WASH practices.

In 2018, over than 25 organizations have collectively contributed and undertaken WASH infrastructure projects benefiting 467,131 people, 30 percent of the overall target, 49 percent being Lebanese, with some improvements in water and sanitation services. The outcome for the end user of these improvements to service delivery has been an increase to their daily water quantity or an improvement to the quality of their water or a more continuous and reliable flow of water to their premises.

Partners provided some level of WASH support to 79 percent of Syrian refugees residing in informal settlements; this includes the provision of water storage containers and water points, delivery of trucked potable water, installation of latrines, implementation and desludging of wastewater systems, and hygiene promotion. With respect to reducing the overall water trucking and desludging costs in informal settlements, a feasibility study to use available and not over-exploited groundwater resources was completed and a few temporary multi-stage onsite wastewater treatment systems have been piloted.

Sector partners are also increasing their engagement in social or community related initiatives, including: KAP surveys on public service usage, expenditure and willingness to pay; supporting Water Establishment updating and geo-reference of their customers; undertaking subscription campaigns to promote renewal or new subscriptions; and conducting awareness campaigns on water conservation, water meters,

right to service and duty to pay. A pilot project in the poorest suburbs of Tripoli through community engagement increased the number of applicants to the water establishment from these areas from none to 587 applicants and 299 subscribers. Some pilot projects in other areas managed to reach more than 80 percent subscription thanks to comprehensive subscriptions campaigns.

Challenges

The water sector reform and the National Water Sector strategy face significant implementation delays, and the Ministry does not have enough means to collect comprehensive quantifiable data on water and wastewater services to prioritize the limited funds in line with the masterplans for the benefit of the most in-need communities.

With the serious lack of funding and visibility over the last year in the WASH sector, slow progress has been made to improve on-site sanitary conditions of Syrian refugees' households: Only 68 percent of them use improved sanitation facilities, albeit it is essential to improving refugees' health and dignity. Only one pilot initiative has been undertaken to improve on-site wastewater treatment in Informal Settlements, mainly because the implementation requires significant capital investment, financial visibility, and time to plan, design and construct. Partners instead have had to direct the limited available funds to essential desludging services to mitigate environmental health risks. These advances in improving sanitation facilities and treating wastewater on-site are nonetheless critical in mitigating public health hazards and reducing tensions with hosting communities. Gaps have been inevitable and numerous complaints have been raised to the Ministry of Environment by municipalities.

Finally, the capacity to scale-up stabilization efforts has been limited by the prioritization of critical humanitarian activities, particularly due to the challenges in securing funds over the last year. With long-standing and severe shortcomings in public service provision, much of Lebanon's population have adopted coping mechanisms which are unsustainable. Promoting the principles of user-pays is therefore challenging.

Key priorities and gaps foreseen in 2019

At the institutional and policy level, the sector will aim to fill policy and legislative gaps, empowering

the water establishments and enabling the Ministry of Energy and Water to update and launch a long-delayed National Water Sector Strategy, identifying priority gaps and areas of greatest vulnerability. A key element is to build the capacity of water establishments to recover costs with a focus on reducing Non-Revenue Water through appropriate tariff systems, communication to customers and through delivering a higher standard of service that ensures better quality, quantity and improved operation and maintenance. Previous experiences have proven that the most disadvantaged population are willing to pay the fees if water and wastewater public services are improved, as using the private sector is much more expensive. At a service delivery level, the priority should be on strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus through the implementation of approved national solutions for cost-effective servicing of informal settlements that benefit also host community. Water Establishments can take a stronger leadership in the overall coordination of the response, overseeing and directing both the humanitarian and the development part.

CASE STUDY

Bilal is a young man in his 20s living with his 5 family members in a single room house in Jabal Mohsein. Since he was born, Bilal has suffered from Trendelenburg lurch or abnormal spinal curvature that causes difficulties in walking and uncountable challenges while growing up as a person with a specific need. Due to these challenges Bilal dropped out of school at a young age and is currently unemployed with no specific skill to support any type of career.

Under its integrated project in partnership with UNICEF, LebRelief has identified families with out of school children, working children, poorest and economically most vulnerable in Jabal Mohsein to provide one of the family members with a technical vocation training and then recruit them in its WASH projects. Bilal was one of the most vulnerable youth identified, he was provided with a competency based training on the technicalities of implementing water networks. The curriculum was developed in coordination with International Labor Organization (ILO) to fit the learning backgrounds of the participants and be purely competency based.

During the training Bilal specialized in asphalt cutting and successfully acquired the needed skills. Along with 45 other young men from Jabal Mohsein, Bilal was recruited in the implementation of the main water transmission pipe line that starts from Qobbeh, passes through Jabal Mohsein, to feed Tabbaneh water network.

This was the first time Bilal works and learns labor ethics, discipline, and respect of working hours. This job placement allowed him to be socially interactive and provided him with income to support himself and his family and improve their economic vulnerability. Not only is Bilal working, but he is contributing in the implementation of the water network that will feed thousands of most vulnerable. His sense of achievement and ownership has drastically increased and improved his wellbeing.

After the awareness sessions, communication for development plan performed by LebRelief's social workers and the neighbourhood committee, and the consecutive workshops performed between the water establishment and the community in coordination with LebRelief in order to rebuild the trust between the communities and the governmental authorities, Bilal and his family are considering to subscribe to the water establishment and receive water from the new water network once it is functional.



The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following organizations: ACF, ACTED, CISP, CONCERN, Arche-Nova, DPNA, GVC, Intersos, IOCC, Leb Relief, LOST, MEDAIR, Mercy Corps, NRC, OXFAM, PU-AMI, Red Cross, RMF, RI, SCI, Solidarités, UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNRWA, WVI

For further information related to the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan, contact:

Margunn Indreboe: margunn.indreboe@undp.org

Carol Anne Sparks: sparks@unhcr.org

Jean-Charles Rouge: jean-charles.rouge@undp.org



Inter-Agency Coordination
Lebanon