

# UNHCR Lebanon

## Monthly Updates



- **UNHCR's Achievements at a Glance**
- **Protection**
- **Child Protection**
- **Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)**
- **Statelessness**
- **Community Development**
- **Education**
- **Cash Assistance & Core Relief Items (CRI)**
- **Shelter**
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**
- **Health**
- **Institutional and Community Support**



Numbers indicate the cumulative number of individuals reached or benefitting from the given activity, service, or distributed item.



## Protection and Outreach

Persons registered (or pending registration)	1,119,585
Specific needs cases referred	37,250
Individuals receiving info on birth registration	18,756
Legal counseling	6,346
Persons departed (HAP + resettlement)	3,774
Applications submitted for HAP + resettlement	3,022
Persons at risk identified and supported	3,388
Identified children at risk referred and assisted	1,614
Detention visits	1,612



## Education

Primary education "second shift"	31,380
Primary education "first shift"	31,284
Accelerated Learning Programmes (ALP)	15,129
Remedial classes after school	2,673
Children with special needs accessing education	62



## Core Relief Items

Cash for Hygiene and baby kits	193,320
Newcomer and vulnerable families assistance	28,130
Cash for shelter	21,855
Emergency cash for protection	1,656



## KEY FIGURES 2014

**1,119,585**

Refugees (registered + pending registration)

**468m**

UNHCR funding requirement RRP6 (USD)

**37%**

Funding level

**42**

# of Implementing Partners



## Shelter

Total - beneficiaries from shelter support	91,205
Cash-for-rent and unconditional grants	33,621
Informal settlements weatherproofed	23,571
Unfinished houses weatherproofed	13,650
Apartments and houses rehabilitated	7,905
Collective shelters renovated	4,881
Formal tented settlements	380



## WASH

Hygiene items	309,517
Water supply	201,082
Solid waste management	56,163
Repair/construction of sanitation facilities	45,053
Hygiene promotion sessions	74,606
Water quality improvement	5,828



## Health

Health education	200,000
Primary health care	162,074
Life-saving referral healthcare	29,897



## Institutional and Community Support

Total number of projects*	132
Total number of locations benefitting*	198
Community infrastructure and services*	109
Recreational, sporting and community facilities*	13
Livelihoods activities*	10

\* Number of schools, projects or locations, not number of beneficiaries



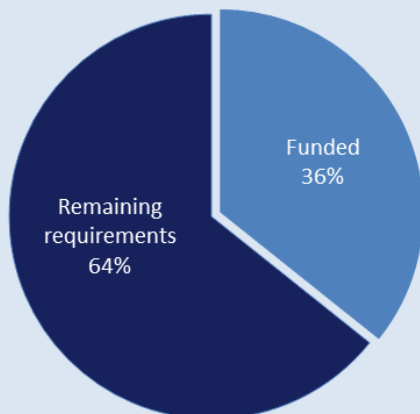
### Key figures

**1,119,585** individuals registered or pending registration

**38%** persons with specific needs

### Funding

UNHCR total requirements: USD **468 m**



Protection requirements: USD **106 m**

A family of Syrian refugees take shelter in the ground floor of a house in Chebaa, Lebanon  
 @UNHCR / A. McConnell



### June developments

#### Access to territory and timely registration

- The Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MOIM) on 31 May publically announced that all Syrian refugees who go back to Syria should no longer be considered refugees by the Government of Lebanon. UNHCR informed refugees of the government's decision. It reiterated its commitment to working with the government to ensure civilians facing persecution or generalized violence will continue to have access to Lebanon. The borders remained relatively calm on 3 June, the day of the Syrian Presidential election.
- 42,323 Syrian refugees were registered in May. The average waiting time for registration in decreased by one day to 28 days.
- Over 48,850 refugees approached UNHCR for verification and renewal of their registration certificates. To date, approximately 47,000 individuals have been inactivated through the renewal-verification exercise.
- 30% of refugees surveyed lacked or had expired residency permits, a 5% increase from May.

#### Protection violations prevented, monitored and addressed

- Protection monitoring partners IRC, Mercy Corps, DRC Intersos and Oxfam met with 2,527 individuals in 177 different locations. Issues highlighted include increased inter-community tensions, including, due to water scarcity and an increase in employers withholding wages from refugee employees and requests for work permits, including for daily labour.
- UNHCR supported a security sector analysis entitled 'Policing the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Lebanon: Policies, Procedures and Prescriptions' identifying needs and recommendations for the ISF and municipal police in responding to the refugee crisis. The findings are being reviewed before presentation to MOIM.



#### Access to legal services and civil status documentation enhanced

- 158 refugees (97% Syrian nationals) arrested were referred to UNHCR. 18% of the individuals were referred solely for reasons related to illegal entry and stay.
- In June, 53 detention visits were carried out by UNHCR and partners, reaching 361 individuals in total. 112 individuals received legal counselling and 168 received medical and psychosocial assistance. At the end of June, 358 asylum seekers and refugees were detained in different prisons in Lebanon.
- 1,604 persons were provided legal counselling by UNHCR and partners and 41 persons with legal representation before the courts on matters of personal status, including custody documents and marriage registration.
- 6,373 individuals attended legal information session primarily focused on marriage and birth registration.

#### Durable solutions made available

- In June, 606 refugees were submitted to third countries for resettlement or humanitarian admission and 962 departed, including 539 to Germany. These are the highest numbers since the beginning of the year.
- A delegation from the Netherlands arrived at the end of the month to interview 125 Syrians for resettlement.

## Achievements: January - June

Activity	 reached January- June	 2014 Target
Persons interviewed at the border	2,574	8,000
Persons registered (or pending registration)	279,571	600,000
Monitoring visits	12,921	50,000
Legal counseling	6,346	11,400
Detention visits	1612	3,000
Persons submitted for HAP and resettlement*	3,022	8,400
Departures (HAP and resettlement)*	3,774	5,900

\*Includes Syrian and cases of other nationalities

mistreatment, evictions, secondary displacements and other protection incidents. Lack of legal representation, awareness and irregular legal status complicate access to justice and remedies for these and other rights violations.

## Challenges

### Lack of legal or administrative refugee framework:

Lebanon is not a state party to the 1951 Convention or to its 1967 Protocol nor does it have specific legislation or administrative practices for refugees and asylum-seekers. As such, refugees lack safeguards beyond the domestic law applying to other foreigners.

### Irregular legal status:

An average of 13% of registered refugees enter through unofficial border crossings and are not recognized as legally present in Lebanon. In addition, the vast majority of refugees are unable to pay the often prohibitive residency renewal fees at the expiry of 12 months. Based on a legal decree that exempts Syrians from paying these fees, discussions are ongoing with the Government of Lebanon.

### Dispersed refugee population:

Refugees live in over 1,700 different locations in Lebanon making protection monitoring and information dissemination critical to address protection incidents and ensure access to registration and essential services. Restrictions on freedom of movement due to security checkpoints, curfews, distance and lack of documentation also present serious challenges.

### Lack of civil status documentation:

Many refugees lack civil status documentation. Worn out documentation can cause delays or rejections at the border, and sometimes, separation of family members. Lack of documents can create obstacles for refugees in accessing basic services like healthcare and education, and in obtaining other critical documentation, such as birth registration. The inability to register births may put refugees at a heightened risk of statelessness and increase vulnerability of individuals to exploitation and trafficking.

### Physical safety and security and limited access to justice:

The overall security situation in locations such as the Bekaa and northern Akkar, conflict-prone neighborhoods in Tripoli, and tensions in some villages, places the physical safety of refugees at risk of violence. Solutions remain limited due to the lack of shelter or relocation alternatives as well as lack of access to justice, particularly for those considered irregularly present in Lebanon.

## Strategy

UNHCR's protection strategy addresses key challenges and priority concerns of refugees including:

- Ensuring access to territory and reducing the risk of *refoulement*,
- Ensuring timely registration and adequate reception conditions,
- Preventing, monitoring and addressing protection violations,
- Providing access to legal services and civil status documentation to ensure the rights of refugees are respected, and
- Ensuring durable and humanitarian solutions are made available.

## UNHCR implementing partners

Association Justice and Misericorde (AJEM), Caritas Lebanon Migrants Center (CMLC), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Relief and Development (IRD), International Rescue Committee (IRC), INTERSOS, Makhzoumi Foundation, Mercy Corps, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Oxfam, Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention For Local Development (SHEILD), Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA).

## Needs

Refugees fleeing violence in Syria often undertake perilous journeys through conflict-affected areas and some are forced to resort to unofficial border crossings. Upon arrival in Lebanon, prompt registration and documentation remain priority needs to ensure access to services, relief assistance, identification of specific needs and protection interventions.

Refugees who entered through unofficial border crossings or who are unable to renew their residency are not recognized as legally present in Lebanon. The consequences of irregular legal status can be vast, not least relating to risks of arrest and detention, severe limitations on freedom of movement, limited access to livelihoods/employment, risks of exploitation, civil registration and problematic access to essential services, including birth registration.

Physical safety remains an issue of concern, particularly in communities affected at times by shelling or shootings from Syria. Refugees and members of the host community have been exposed to threats, physical



## Child Protection Update

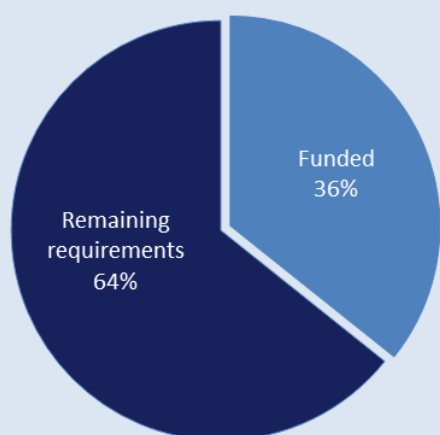
## June 2014

### Key Figures

571,280	registered refugee children
77%	of registered children are under 11
25%	of registered children are at risk

### Funding

UNHCR total requirements: USD 468 m



Protection requirements: USD 106 m



Young boys collecting plastic around the town of Benine, Akkar province, Lebanon@ UNHCR/ A. McConnell

### June developments

#### Identification and referral of children-at-risk:

- In collaboration with IRC and UNICEF, training began this month on the practical guidance on child protection case management and the emergency referral and care of children at risk which was endorsed by Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA) in May.
- 243 children at high risk including accompanied minors and separated children were identified and provided with basic assistance including psycho-social counseling by case management agencies.
- In Akkar, DRC has established three community based youth committees to support social cohesion, peaceful co-existence and promotion of resilience among fellow youth.
- In Mount Lebanon 643 children and 93 adolescents benefited from psycho-social activities and non- formal education activities.

#### Training/coaching:

- In Bekaa, IRC conducted two training for 30 case workers from different NGOs to enhance their knowledge and practical skills working with children involved in child labour.
- In Mount Lebanon, 75 police officers were trained on child protection (basic concepts and interviewing skills) with a focus on working with street children in urban areas.

### Achievements: January - June

Activity	reached January- June	2014 Target
Identified children at risk referred and assisted	1,614	1,515
Training for persons working with refugee children (# individuals trained)	463	600

### Needs

Many refugee children are in need of psycho-social support due to their exposure to violence and other traumatic events. Refugee children who need assistance require proper identification for referral. Their needs include prevention and response to physical violence, verbal harassment, or pressure, particularly among adolescent boys, to return to Syria to fight. Refugee children subject to sexual violence, child labour and early marriage also

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require correct identification and referral for assistance by appropriately trained professionals. Separated or unaccompanied children need safe living arrangements and assistance to help locate and reunite them with their families, whenever possible.

Educational opportunities, support to parents, activities targeting adolescents and youth can contribute to protect refugee children against negative coping mechanisms and a wide range of child-specific protection risks.

## Challenges

### **Dispersed refugee population:**

Since refugees live in over 1,700 different locations in Lebanon, outreach to refugee children to identify and respond to their needs is both a challenge and priority. Outreach is crucial to ensuring that refugee children are registered with UNHCR and have access to basic services. It is also important in ensuring that parents register the birth of newborns, and that school-aged children living in remote areas and those with specific protection risks have access to education, health care and other services.

### **Protracted displacement:**

With limited access to livelihood opportunities, and dwindling resources, some families resort to child labour and other negative coping mechanisms such as child marriage. As their time in displacement prolongs, the lack of educational opportunities for the majority of school-aged Syrian children presents a significant challenge. Currently, there are over 200,000 school-aged refugee children who lack access to age-appropriate education due in part to the fact that the capacity of the public education system is overstretched.

### **Fragile national child protection system:**

The national child protection system is struggling to provide appropriate care and services to refugee children at risks of abuse and exploitation and children survivors of violence. The Union for the Protection of Children is the only organization mandated by the Ministry of Justice to investigate cases involving child abuse and violence. UNHCR works together with implementing partners to provide support to both refugee children and national institutions providing services to refugees.

## Strategy

UNHCR works to ensure that refugee children at risk and/or victims of violence have timely access to appropriate services by:

- Improving outreach to ensure identification and safe referral of children at risks and victims of violence through training of refugee outreach volunteers, frontline workers and others providing services to refugee children;
- Building capacity of child protection actors to better prevent and respond to child protection needs particularly through the establishment of a coaching mechanism for social workers;
- Strengthening national child protection system to ensure emergency referral and provision of adequate care for children at high risks, and reinforce to existing services such as psychosocial support and legal counselling;
- Mainstreaming child protection into all activities carried out within refugee and host communities especially within the health, education and shelter sectors;
- Advocating for expanding access to services for both refugee and Lebanese children;
- Contributing to the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on grave child rights violations committed in Syria;

UNHCR co-leads the inter-agency working group on child protection together with the Ministry of Social Affairs and UNICEF, and works to ensure the complementarity of interventions benefiting refugee children.

## UNHCR implementing partners

Caritas Lebanon Migrants Center (CMLC), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Relief and Development (IRD), International Rescue Committee (IRC), INTERSOS, Amel Association-Lebanese Popular Association for Popular Action (AMEL), Makhzoumi Foundation, Restart Centre for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence and Torture, Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention For Local Development (SHEILD), Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA).



## Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Update

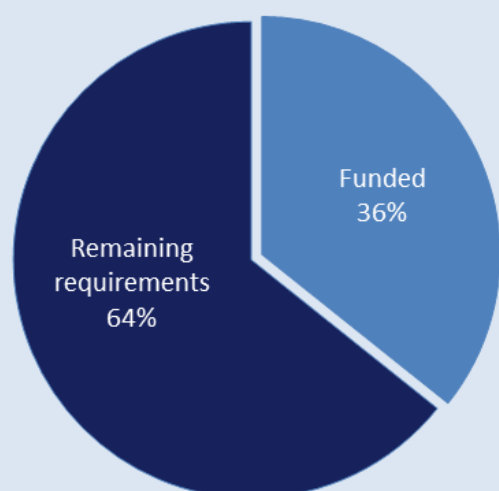
## June 2014

### Key figures

<b>1,119,585</b>	individuals registered or pending registration
<b>79%</b>	of refugees are women and children
<b>39%</b>	of women and girl refugees have specific needs
<b>30%</b>	of refugee households are female headed

### Funding

UNHCR Requirements 2014: USD 468 m





Protection requirements: USD 106 m

### June developments

- In collaboration with IRC, UNHCR successfully completed training for 37 medical doctors from 5 health facilities in Mount Lebanon area on the clinical management of rape.
- In collaboration with DRC, ABAAD-Resource Centre for Gender Equality and UNICEF, UNHCR organized a one-day workshop to finalize and validate standard procedures for mid-way houses to ensure harmonization of services, policies and procedures across Lebanon.
- 126 partners and government officials, including municipal officials, were trained on legal provisions and existing referral pathways related to SGBV to ensure effective support for SGBV survivors and women and girls at risk.
- 2,465 community members including 430 men participated in sensitization sessions organized by partners in safe spaces, including mobile ones, in various regions.
- 21 women and children who are either survivors or at risk of gender-based violence were referred to the mid-way houses for assistance. Case management and appropriate services were offered, including psycho-social support, health assistance and legal counseling.

### Achievements: January - June

Activity	 <b>reached</b> January- June	 <b>2014</b> <b>Target</b>
Provision of assistance for identified survivors	100%	100%
Persons at risk identified and supported*	3,388	-
Safe spaces established for women/girls	12	13
Mid-way houses maintained	2	2
Individuals trained and sensitized on SGBV prevention and response	7,269	15,000
Men and boys mobilized on SGBV	33	330

\*Individuals identified as at protection risk who benefitted from psycho-social support and counselling services.

### Needs

Refugee women and children are disproportionately affected by SGBV. Unaccompanied girls and adolescents, single heads of households, child

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mothers and spouses, and women and girls living with disabilities are among the most at risk. 25% of survivors of reported SGBV cases are under 18 years of age.

As local and institutional capacities to address SGBV-related issues are overstretched, refugees need support both for SGBV prevention and response. Due to the negative social stigma associated with SGBV and risks to personal security, survivors are often reluctant to seek assistance. In order to encourage SGBV survivors to seek assistance, the availability of specialized services and safe spaces is essential. Survivors also need emergency and life-saving services medical services which are often inadequate or lacking. Psycho-social and legal support services need systematic and institutional support to strengthen capacity. Above all, these services need to be available and accessible to refugees.

Refugee women and girls are in need of safe spaces, such as the twelve centres including Women's Resource Centres which provide life skills activities, and help women establish support networks. Community mediation initiatives and the engagement of men and boys are as part of the programming activities are also critical to address the root causes of violence.

## Challenges

Due to the dispersal of refugees in over 1,700 locations throughout Lebanon, community outreach efforts require significant allocation of resources and time. Community outreach for SGBV prevention and response is a priority, in particular to provide access to services for women and girls at risk whose mobility is restricted due to security concerns and cultural values.

A weak legal framework, limited resources and social barriers prevent refugees at risk of SGBV, or victims of violence and abuse from receiving adequate protection. Multiple barriers, including social stigma and risk to personal security prevent survivors to come forward and seek services. Challenges also include a lack of documentation among refugees, growing tension between refugees and host communities.

With the numbers of refugees increasing, overcrowding in refugee accommodation is a growing problem. Overcrowding and lack of privacy in shared living accommodation such as collective shelters and tented settlements, places refugees at heightened risk for SGBV.

Scarce economic opportunities coupled with the high costs of accommodation and associated living expenses causes some families to negative coping mechanisms which place refugees at heightened risk of SGBV. These include: early marriage, child labour, survival sex.

## Strategy

UNHCR works with partners to mitigate SGBV through prevention and response activities. These activities are being pursued in close cooperation with governmental partners including in the areas of social services, security, and the judiciary. In 2013 UNHCR prioritized the establishment of specialized services for SGBV survivors. In 2014, UNHCR will focus on improving case management, quality of services and on SGBV prevention, including:

- Providing safe environments for women and girls through mass communication, community mobilization, and establishment of women resource centres and listening and counselling centres.
- Improving outreach to refugees, including through mobile services to ensure identification and safe referral of SGBV survivors.
- Strengthening existing specialized services for SGBV survivors such as psycho-social, medical, legal services.
- Promoting engagement of men and boys in SGBV prevention and response.
- Mainstreaming of SGBV into other sectors such as shelter, wash and distribution to mitigate the risks.
- Working closely with child protection to promote integrated programming such as prevention and response to child marriage.
- Working with UN agencies government and NGOs, communities to strengthen SGBV prevention, response and coordination mechanism for effective service delivery.

## UNHCR implementing partners

Amel Association, Caritas Lebanon Migrants Centre (CMLC); Danish Refugee Council (DRC); INTERSOS, International Medical Corps (IMC); Makhzoumi Foundation, Internal Relief and Development (IRD); Save the Children; Mercy Corps; Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC); Oxfam; Restart Centre for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence and Torture; Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHIELD); Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA).

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## Statelessness Update

June 2014

### Key figures

- 29,170** Syrian newborns registered – (March 2011- June 2014)
- 72%** Syrian newborns lack official birth certificates\*
- 42%** Syrian newborns lack official birth certificates because their parents lack documentation required by civil registries\*

\* This is based on a survey of 5,779 newborns registered with UNHCR between 1 August 2013 and 31 January 2014.

#### Excerpt from information leaflet on birth registration





Animated film on birth registration available at:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=39ape83HiZE&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39ape83HiZE&feature=youtu.be)

### June developments

- The Statelessness Unit counselled 947 individuals on birth registration.
- The Statelessness Unit met with mukhtars and religious authorities to gather information on diverse procedures for concluding and registering marriages. This information will contribute to awareness-raising products on marriage registration.
- The Statelessness Unit finalised a contract for the production of a TV spot and radio spot on birth registration to be launched later this year.

### Achievements: January - June

Activity	 Reached January-June	 2014 Target
Individuals receiving information on birth registration	18,756	22,000
Families of newborns provided with individual counselling on birth registration	5,629	9,000
Training on birth registration with officials and front-liners	299	600
Individuals provided with legal assistance for civil registration/ nationality cases	375	1,000

### Needs

There are estimated to be **tens of thousands** of stateless persons in Lebanon. The exact number is difficult to ascertain. Two significant reasons for this are that there has not been an official census since 1932 and many stateless persons do not have civil registration records. There are a number of different profiles of stateless persons in Lebanon, as well as individuals who are at risk of statelessness.

Stateless persons in Lebanon face obstacles in accessing healthcare, education and social services, as well as the labour market. They are unable to move freely and face risks of detention and arrest. In addition, unregistered persons have no civil status records with the authorities and are unable to register births and marriages.

## Challenges

**Influx of Syrians:** With the continued arrival of refugees from Syria, the number of stateless persons and persons at risk of statelessness has risen. Stateless refugees in Lebanon include Syrian Kurds who were denaturalised in Syria in 1962. Non-Kurdish stateless from Syria may lack nationality due to gaps in Syria's national legislation or lack of access to civil registration procedures. A number of groups of individuals may find themselves at risk of statelessness in Lebanon. Over time, migrants and refugees may lose links to their country of nationality. In addition, despite the fact that 29,000 Syrian refugees have been born in Lebanon, indications are that birth registration levels are extremely low. According to a survey of 5,779 Syrian newborns, 72% do not possess an official birth certificate.

**Gaps in Legislative and Administrative Framework:** Gaps in the legislative and administrative framework in Lebanon create new cases of statelessness as well as prevent longstanding cases from being resolved. The highly politicised nature of nationality issues in Lebanon presents a barrier to reform.

Lebanon is not a signatory to either the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons or the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. The Lebanese nationality law contains gender-discriminatory provisions, which only allow a Lebanese woman to confer her nationality on her children in exceptional circumstances, meaning that children whose fathers are stateless will inherit this status despite having a Lebanese mother. Provisions allowing for naturalisation are generally not applied to stateless persons and neither are safeguards against statelessness at birth.

Not all children are registered at birth in Lebanon. This is despite the fact that Lebanon is a signatory to the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child and the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which require the registration of the birth of every child and reaffirm a child's right to a nationality. Barriers to birth registration include a relatively complex procedure with onerous requirements for documentation.

## Strategy

UNHCR has a global mandate to work on the identification, prevention and reduction of statelessness, and the protection of stateless persons. In Lebanon, UNHCR is working to respond to statelessness through three strategic actions.

- **Identification of the population:** The advancement of rights and protection for stateless persons in Lebanon is constrained by the lack of data on persons concerned. UNHCR is supporting a survey on statelessness in Lebanon being undertaken by a local NGO called Frontiers Ruwad Association. UNHCR is also undertaking qualitative research on statelessness through individual casework and participatory assessment. This information is contributing to strategy for the prevention and reduction of statelessness as well as the protection of stateless persons.
- **Advocacy for legislative changes:** UNHCR works with the Lebanese government for improvements to the Lebanese nationality law, access to civil registration, as well as the protection situation for stateless persons. The Lebanese Ministries of Interior, Justice, Health, Education and Social Affairs have appointed statelessness focal points. These representatives are engaged with UNHCR bilaterally and are also participating in working groups on statelessness.
- **Direct Assistance:** UNHCR is assisting Syrian refugees to access birth registration procedures in Lebanon. UNHCR has started work on developing a legal aid network on statelessness to assist unregistered persons of Lebanese origin to access Lebanese nationality. This work has included documenting test cases on marriage registration to inform strategic litigation and information counselling to assist with prevention and reduction of statelessness.

## UNHCR implementing partners

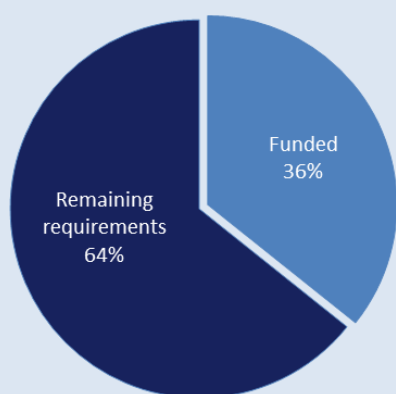
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Caritas, International Relief and Development (IRD).

### Key figures

1,119,585	individuals registered or pending registration
79%	women and children
38%	persons with specific needs
25%	children at risk

### Funding

UNHCR requirements 2014: USD 468 m



Protection requirements: USD 106 m

### June Developments

#### Community mobilization

- Over 3,000 families were referred by 356 Refugee Outreach Volunteers (ROVs) to UNHCR and partners for assessment and support.
- ROVs noticed increased scrutiny on the part of partners regarding the distribution of newcomer items. ROVs also reported an increase in number children who do not attend school and are obliged to work to support their families. They expressed concerns about the increasing incidence of child marriage due to deteriorating social-economic conditions.

#### Case management

- 449 persons received one-time protection cash assistance. 1,656 persons have received such assistance to date.



#### Livelihoods and self-reliance

- 1,140 persons, 50% Lebanese and mostly women, participated in vocational, life-skill activities, and entrepreneurship training through community and livelihood centres.
- 23 persons, 40% Lebanese, accessed group lending (micro-credit) services.
- 59 persons, 50% Lebanese, had training on wage earning employment.

#### Social cohesion and conflict mitigation activities

- SFCG released a conflict scan report of 11 communities in Tripoli and the South of Lebanon selected from the localities at the highest risk of tension and conflict. Since October 2013, SFCG Lebanon has been implementing a UNHCR funded project that aims to mitigate tensions between the Syrian refugees and the Lebanese host communities.
- SFCG conducted 40 focus groups, 44 key informant interviews and 900 surveys in order to identify the prominent layers and dynamics of conflict and cooperation between Lebanese and Syrian refugees in the target communities. The report provides valuable findings and recommendations for the humanitarian community in Lebanon to ensure the conflict sensitivity of their programming amidst the on-going refugee crisis.

### Achievements January – June

Activity	 Reached January- June	 2014 Target
Specific needs cases referred	37,250	75,000
Vocational training	12,740	30,030
Refugee outreach volunteers	331	1000
Community centres established	31	50
Conflict resolution trainings	-	400

## Needs

Shelter, health care, education and livelihoods are among the main needs voiced by refugees. Persons with disabilities and older persons at risk have limited access and exiting services and specialized care. As a result, issues such as child labour, non-treatment for chronic health care, evictions, isolation, neglect and low-esteem abound. A UNFPA assessment on Syrian youth showed that 89% of Syrian Youth described themselves as depressed, anxious or afraid most of the time. 33% were forced out of school because of their refugee status, while only 11% attempted to resume education in Lebanon but dropped out mainly because of high cost of education, curriculum difficulty and transport. Persons with disabilities and older persons expressed during UNHCR participatory assessments (PAs) that they feel isolated, neglected and a burden on their families. Women are the ones mostly unemployed due to family, cultural and health reasons. With high costs living, these factors are pushing children into the labor market, making families economically vulnerable and placing youth at risk of engaging in harmful practices. With a dispersed Syrian population and limited capacities, UNHCR is exploring innovative ways to timely identify needs, risks and priorities.

## Challenges

**Dispersed refugee population:** With the widespread dispersal of refugees in over 1,700 locations throughout Lebanon, there is a need to build upon existing outreach and support initiatives to prevent and respond to the immense scale of protection risks.

**Overstretched social services and limited job opportunities:** According to a livelihood assessment of the ILO, 30% of the refugees are unemployed and 88% of the employed are unskilled or semi-skilled laborers are paid 40% less than the minimum wage in Lebanon with an average salary of 277 USD per month. Female Syrian workers earn 30% less than male workers with an average salary of 165 USD per month.

**Increasing tensions:** Pressure on services and increasing economic competition threaten the wellbeing of both refugees and vulnerable Lebanese. Diminishing salaries and opportunities linked to an increasing workforce have brought about tensions and restrictive government policies regarding livelihoods programmes for Syrians. The impositions of curfews in a growing number of local villages and a recent spate of evictions of refugees from informal settlements are testament to rising tensions.

Halba community centre- Akkar @UNHCR/S.  
Hoibak



## Strategy

To effectively address vulnerabilities and safeguard protection space for refugees, UNHCR's strategic priorities are:

- Assist refugees in accessing basic services;
- Strengthen outreach with refugees and host communities;
- Empower and promote self-management in communities;
- Increase livelihood opportunities, as well as promote social cohesion among Lebanese and Syrians through dialogue and community support projects;
- Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Development Centres

## UNHCR implementing partners

Caritas Lebanon Migrants Center (CMLC), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Amel Association-Lebanese Popular Association for Popular Action (AMEL), Makhzoumi Foundation, Restart Centre for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence and Torture, Right to Play, Social Humanitarian, Economical Intervention For Local Development (SHEILD), Search for Common Ground (SFCG), International Alert, UNDP, Al Majmoua, Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA).



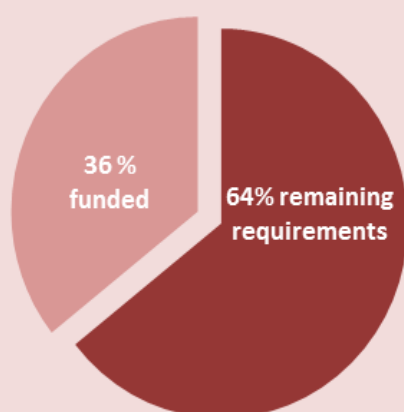
### Key figures

**365,000** School aged Syrian refugee children (5-17 years old) currently registered or awaiting registration with UNHCR

**90,000** Syrian refugee children enrolled in public schools in 2013/2014 (5 – 17 years old), both first and second shift.

### Funding

UNHCR total requirements: USD **468 m**





Education requirements: USD **54 m**

### June developments

- UNHCR is advocating for allowing children to complete the academic learning cycle, while the Ministry still has to take a decision on the mechanism for enrolment of Syrian children in schools next year. So far, the Ministry of Education has authorized the continuation of Accelerated Learning Programmes in public schools only until June 30, 2014.
- UNHCR undertook a profiling of out-of-school children. Preliminary findings indicate that the importance of strengthening outreach to parents and that many children are attending community-run Syrian schools.

### Achievements: January - June

Activity	reached January- June 	School year 2013/14 Target 
Total number of children supported for primary education in the "first shift" (school year 2013/2014)	31,284	20,000
Syrian refugee children supported for primary education in the "second shift" (school year 2013/2014)	31,380	32,000
Children with special needs accessing education	62	500
Syrian refugee children enrolled in accelerated learning programmes	15,129	15,000
Syrian refugee children enrolled in remedial classes after school	2,673	2,100

### Needs

Uprooted from their homes and schools in Syria, refugee children need to continue their education in Lebanon. Education is a key protection tool and prepares refugee children to lead healthy and productive lives. Local public schools in Lebanon lack both the capacity and resources to accommodate the large increase in the number of school-aged children. Despite the Ministry's efforts to expand capacity in schools to enroll almost 90,000 Syrian children and the availability of non-formal education, more than 50% of Syrian refugee children aged 5 to 17 are estimated to be out of any form of education (some children might be enrolled in private schools, but

8 year-old Syrian refugee student in a second shift school in Qwechra @UNHCR/S. Hoibak

numbers are unknown). Adolescents are particularly left out of any form of education.

## Challenges

Education assessments have highlighted a number of barriers to learning for Syrian students including: financial difficulties, differences between the Lebanese and Syrian curriculum, language barriers, accessibility of school, transportation and additional costs such as uniforms, as well as bullying and limited psycho-social interventions to help children in need of specific support.

For the 2013/14 school-year, the MEHE accommodated close to 90,000 refugee children in public schools. This includes 32,000 children supported by UNHCR in newly established second shifts to expand capacity. This second shift is expensive, but crucial in providing formal education opportunities for refugees. Identification of new schools where second shift could be open is ongoing in close consultation with the Ministry of Education.

UNHCR supports more than 15,000 children in non-formal education to help them catch up and prepare their future integration in schools. Dedicated programmes and resources are needed to tackle specific issues related to language barriers. Older children and youth are also confronted with the prospect of child labor. The integration of these children in formal schooling leading to certification will require time, increased capacity and creative solutions. A profiling of children out-of-school is under completion. The role of the education outreach volunteers, 70 currently being deployed by UNHCR, is pivotal for outreach.

Ensuring access to quality education in a safe environment is difficult due to the pressure on school resources. This may lead to discriminatory attitudes, building frustration and occasional violence. Provision of equipment to all students, as the distribution of scholastic materials by UNHCR and partners helped mitigate this. However, more is to be done to ensure social cohesion in schools. Inclusive approaches and access to education remain challenging for children with specific needs.

## Strategy

UNHCR has a three-fold strategy for education of school-aged children:

- **Formal Education:** ensuring access for refugee children through payment of tuition fees and transport costs, supporting access to secondary and vocational education, supporting creation of space for children in the public system and supporting social cohesion in and around schools.
- **Non-Formal Education:** increasing other educational opportunities for school-aged children including through better identification of out-of-school children, provision of Accelerated Learning Programs and other ways to prepare children for access to certified and quality education.
- **Support to the MEHE:** providing coordination support, secondment of staff to central and regional offices to ensure information-management and monitoring, as well as providing equipment and material support to schools and regional offices.

## UNHCR implementing partners

Lebanese Popular Association for Popular Action (AMEL), ACTED, Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center (CLMC), Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Save the Children (SCI), Terre des Hommes (TdH), War Child Holland (WCH).

### Key figures

1,119,585	individuals registered or pending registration as of 26 June 2014
38,664	registered refugee households with cash ATM cards for Hygiene and Baby Kits assistance
658	Vulnerable refugee households assisted with core relief items in the South

### June developments:



#### Cash Assistance

- An initial 7000 refugees will receive cash through UNHCR's new unconditional cash assistance programme (UCAP) which will last for five months (August to December 2014).
- The targeting methodology and amount of monthly transfer for the UCAP were agreed upon by the cash working group.
- Each household will receive a monthly payment of LBP 260,000 via an ATM card. Further, 1000 more households will be added each month to the list of beneficiaries.
- The final transfer of cash for hygiene and baby kits via ATM is ready for distribution to 38,664 households.

#### Core Relief Items (CRIs):

- UNHCR along with its implementing partners in the South (Solidar Suisse, Shield and CISP) assisted 658 vulnerable families with blankets, buckets, hygiene kits, sleeping mats, jerry cans, kitchen sets, mattresses and 888 solar lanterns.

### Achievements: January - June

Activity	 reached January-June	 2014 Target
Cash for shelter	21,855	31,170
Emergency cash for protection	1,656	16,500
Cash for hygiene and baby kits	193,320	360,000
Newcomer and vulnerable families assistance	28,130	96,780

### Needs

**Cash Assistance:** Refugee households throughout Lebanon are struggling to meet their basic needs because of lack of access to income generating opportunities and dwindling family resources and savings. As most households rely on market provided



Syrian refugee uses the UNHCR ATM card in Saida, Lebanon@ UNHCR/ A. McConnell

goods and services and accommodation, financial support is critical for the survival of vulnerable families. As an alternative to in-kind assistance and distribution of core relief items, refugees frequently express a preference for financial assistance, which enables them to prioritise their needs and saves time and costs of travelling to distribution sites.

## Challenges

**Reduced livelihood opportunities:** UNHCR winterisation baseline survey reported that only 22% of the households interviewed were able to work. Of those completely reliant on others for support, over 90% cited lack of work as the main problem. Medical conditions or permanent disability were cited as marginal reasons for refugee household members not working. Without any way to meet their living costs, households are dependent on external assistance.

**High cost of living:** The high cost of living in Lebanon has forced many households to move into substandard accommodation in order to make savings. The monthly cash assistance via ATM transfer is a contribution for the most severely vulnerable households to meet their survival needs.

**Dispersed refugee population:** Refugees are spread over 1,750 locations in Lebanon. This hinders the distribution of in-kind Core Relief Items (CRI) to those in need and increases logistic costs. It also makes it difficult to conduct quality needs assessment and design assistance according to requirements, gender and age composition of the household.

**Poor infrastructure, weather and insecurity:** Given the dispersed refugee population and the large number of refugees, distribution of CRIs requires coordinated procurement, transportation, storage and distribution of items. Moreover, ATM machines are not available in Wadi Khaled and Aarsal in the North. Hence UNHCR turned to providing assistance via fuel vouchers and in-kind stoves.

**Security concerns:** In some parts of the country, refugees face restricted movement and poor access to markets and ATMs. UNHCR is discussing with other agencies on how to address the needs of this group.

## Strategy

UNHCR is moving towards the increased use of ATM cards for the distribution of cash assistance, starting with the winterization programme in 2013 – 2014 winter. The use of ATM cards has a number of advantages:

- Given that refugees live in more than 1,750 locations across Lebanon, ATM cards provide a practical means for prompt delivery of cash assistance to refugees in the country.
- In addition, ATM cards empower refugees by providing a dignified means of receiving cash assistance, saving time spent at or travelling to distribution sites.
- The cards enable UNHCR and partners to make the best use of funds available. They eliminate costs related to procurement, storage, and distribution of in-kind assistance.
- Finally, monitoring of electronically recorded transactions allows partners to better assess refugee needs.

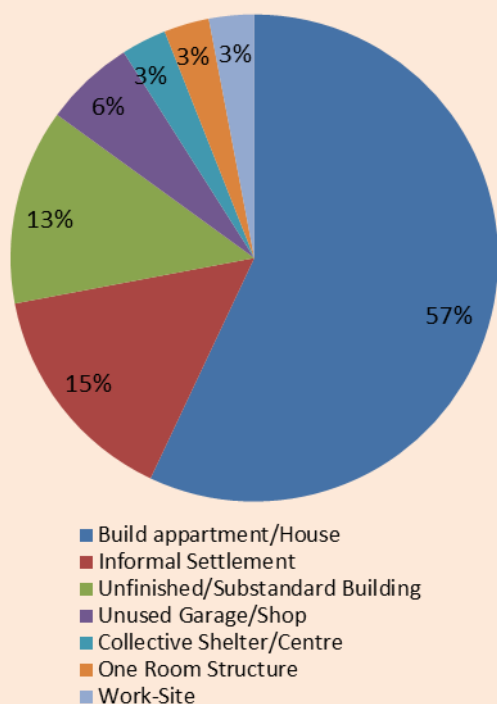
In 2014 UNHCR shifted from sector-specific or 'conditional' cash assistance to a more comprehensive 'unconditional' strategy to administer monthly cash grants with the objective of targeting the most vulnerable among refugees. The refugee population at large will continue to benefit from protection services, food, health and education and other *ad hoc* emergency interventions. In this way, cash assistance via ATM supplements, other forms of assistance.

**Emergency Stocks:** UNHCR maintains a capacity to respond to a sudden increase in new arrivals all through 2014. Supplies of Core Relief Items are regularly replenished, and more warehouse capacity is needed, especially in border areas.

## UNHCR implementing partners

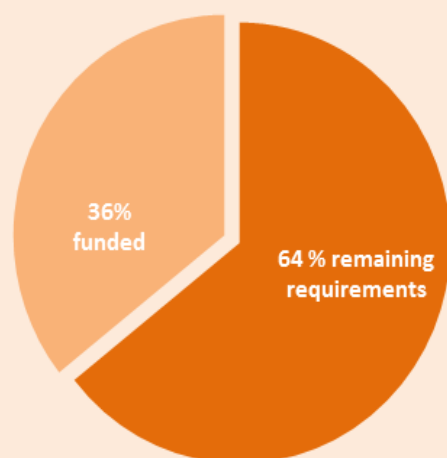
Danish Refugee Council (DRC); World Vision (WV); Save the Children; Makhzoumi Foundation; Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED); Caritas, Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD); Solidar Suisse; CISP; Concern, Medair and World Vision International.

### Key figures



### Funding

UNHCR total requirements: **USD 468 m**






Shelter requirements: **USD 77 m**

### June developments

Over 18,242 families (91,205 individuals) benefited from shelter assistance.

- 600 extremely vulnerable families received cash for rent from UNHCR in partnership with PCPM (200 refugees in Akkar), Coopi (200 families in Tripoli and surrounding areas), SHIELD (120 families in Tyr) and DRC (100 families in Bekaa).
- 4,900 families living in informal settlements in Bekaa benefited from site improvement work.
- 700, 80, and 35 families living in unfinished houses in Bekaa, T5 and Tyr respectively, received weatherproofing kits from UNHCR and Coopi.
- UNHCR rehabilitated small collective shelters of 14 apartments benefitting 15 families in T5 and 20 shelters for 30 families in Hasbaya (south).
- Over 500 refugees in Bekaa benefitted from improved shelters as UNHCR restored shelters in partnership with NRC and DRC, with ACTED (100 refugees in Mount Lebanon) and DRC, (benefitting 250 refugees in Majdal).
- In Majdal, temporary shelters are planned around each collective shelter to save costs, increase shelter options and pilot small formal tented settlements solutions.
- Over 150 families will benefit from nine collective centres built by CHF in Mount Lebanon. Similarly, 225 vulnerable refugees were provided rehabilitated apartments by DRC in T5.

### Achievements: January - June

Activity	 reached January-June	 reached January-June	 Target by end of 2014
<b>Total beneficiaries from shelter support</b>	<b>18,242</b>	<b>91,205</b>	<b>382,731</b>
Informal settlements weatherproofed	4,715	23,571	73,584
Site improvement	1,185	5,923	41,250
Unfinished houses weatherproofed	2,730	13,650	112,580
Cash-for-rent	6,724	33,621	47,330
Apart/Houses rehabilitated	1,581	7,905	41,234
Collective shelters renovated	976	4,881	9,979
Formal tented settlements	78	1,185	38,250



## Needs

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

Refugee needs include:

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



Syrian refugee showing the key to her room at a new collective shelter in Kherbet Dawood in northern Lebanon.  
@UNHCR / S. Baldwin

## Challenges

**Lack of wide-scale shelter options:** In the absence of facilities capable of receiving large numbers of refugees, the demand for affordable and decent shelter greatly exceeds availability. The dispersion of the refugee population in over 1,700 locations requires a multi-faceted shelter strategy and close coordination with host communities, local authorities and civil society.

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

### Increased resort to informal settlements:

The unmanaged growth of informal settlements, currently home to over 144,000 refugees, presents risks to refugees and increases tensions with surrounding communities. Identifying alternatives with municipalities and local actors is an on-going challenge. Dialogue with some municipalities, especially in the Bekaa, has become increasingly strained. While the Government has not been keen to set up tented temporary shelter sites, in November, UNHCR received permission to establish the first such sites in Aarsal (Bekaa).

## Strategy

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

- Providing safe emergency shelter to newly arriving households including through establishment and management of temporary shelter sites in West Bekaa and Akkar;
- Weatherproofing and site improvement in informal settlements;
- Cash assistance for shelter to vulnerable households renting accommodation, who may be at risk of eviction;
- Improving substandard shelters through rehabilitating and weatherproofing;
- Expanding collective shelter capacity through rehabilitation of private and public buildings, including private houses.
- Ensuring preparedness for sudden mass influx by stocking sufficient emergency shelter solutions (sealing-off kits for weatherproofing, materials to improve shelters and temporary shelters including UNHCR family tents); and
- Including Lebanese host communities in shelter assistance schemes such as cash-for-rent or rehabilitation of property for those hosting refugee families.

## UNHCR implementing partners

ACTED, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Social Humanitarian Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD), Cooperative Housing Foundation International (CHF), MEDAIR, Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP), PCPM (Polish Centre for international aid), Islamic Relief (IR), UN-HABITAT and Concern.



# UNHCR Lebanon

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Update



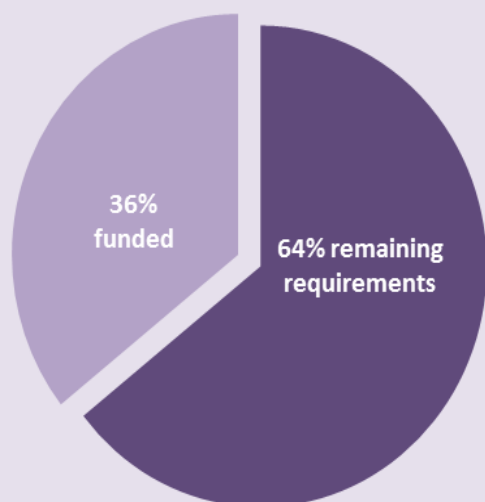
June 2014

### Key figures

1,087,814	Individuals registered or pending registration
27%	Lack access to potable water
29%	Need improved sanitation facilities (latrine and solid waste facilities)
70%	Need assistance adapting to hygienic conditions in displacement

### Funding

UNHCR total requirements: **USD 468 m**





UNHCR WASH requirements: **USD 59 m**

### June developments

- More than 1,200 refugees in North Lebanon will benefit from improved quality water through 30 water storage tanks installed by Oxfam. An additional 60 families will receive water through restored water points.
- 800 refugees in Waha and Barghoun collective centres, Tripoli will benefit from better external drainage pipes that were improved by Oxfam. They also organized 19 community health volunteers, 36 hygiene promoters and 17 committees in North Lebanon.
- Oxfam tested water quality in North Lebanon and 95% of the results were acceptable. They then cleaned tanks and treated water with chlorine where the quality was below standard.
- 880 people at a collective centre in Qobayat have benefited from Concern Worldwide's provision of water supply, de-sludging, solid waste collection and hygiene promotion.
- 74,400 families received a final round of distribution of hygiene and baby kits from UNHCR.
- 99,300 refugees attended hygiene promotion sessions.
- INTERSORS installed 11 solar water heating systems to benefit over 100 refugees in Marjeyoun in the South.

### Achievements: January - June

Activity	 reached January - June	 Target 2014
Hygiene items	309,517	400,938
Hygiene promotion sessions	142,812	593,700
Water supply	201,082	227,800
Water quality improvement	5,828	695,100
Solid waste management	56,163	383,550
Repair/construction of sanitation facilities	45,053	384,550

## Needs

**Water:** Sufficient access to safe drinking water is a critical, on-going need. Improvements to infrastructure and support to the municipalities is necessary to address water shortages faced by both refugees and host communities. Particularly as the refugee population has put significant pressure on water systems in areas where they reside in large numbers.

**Sanitation:** Basic sanitation facilities are a necessity for the health and dignity of refugees. An increasing number of refugees live in informal settlements with limited or no sanitation facilities. This creates increased risk of the spread of preventable diseases. Waste management remains poor in most of places where refugees live, increasing the pressure on host communities. Infrastructural improvements in the area of sanitation are needed for both refugees and host communities.

## Challenges

**Strained infrastructure in host communities:** Water scarcity continues to remain big challenge. Following a comprehensive mapping of communities facing water scarcity and current status of water supply managed by local and humanitarian agencies, an inter-agency WASH appeal was launched to reduce the impact of water scarcity on vulnerable communities across Lebanon. Water supply and waste management in areas hosting Syrian refugees has deteriorated, and UNHCR is working with water establishments and municipalities to ensure continuous access to safe water at a household level and basic sanitation facilities. The lack of adequate sewage treatment facilities in the entire country creates a significant risk for the spreading of diseases, should there be an outbreak in one area. Moreover, clean drinking water takes four hours to filter. With soaring temperatures and scarce water supply in the summer, many people have taken to drinking unfiltered water which puts them at risk on many water-borne diseases.



**Dispersed refugee population:** Refugees are living in more than 1750 locations in the country. Each geographical area has specific needs. For example, in some areas water shortages can only be addressed through infrastructure projects which need significant funding. Others such as Tripoli and surrounding districts that are hosting a dense refugee population are at risk of facing interruption in WASH services as some implementing partners have pulled out due to lack of sufficient funds.

**Security:** In some areas the security situation creates delays in the distribution of materials and ongoing works.

## Strategy

The WASH strategy consists of the following three main components:

- **Improving access to safe water:** including through the rehabilitation of the water network and providing the means for safe water storage;
- **Improving basic sanitation:** including through the installation of emergency hygiene facilities and improved capacity in local communities for the collection and disposal of solid waste;
- **Promotion of good hygiene practices:** including through the provision of basic hygiene items and outreach to refugees and hosting communities

## UNHCR implementing partners

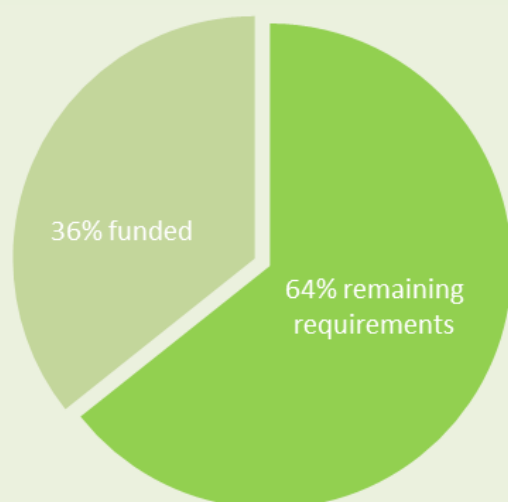
Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Social Humanitarian Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), CISP, CHF, Makzhouni, Action contre la Faim (ACF), Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre (CLMC), World Vision (WVI), Concern Worldwide, Oxfam, INTERSOS, Agence d'aide a la Cooperation Technique Et au Développement (ACTED).

### Key figures

1,119,585	Individuals registered or pending registration
41	# UNHCR supported primary health centres
5	# UNHCR supported mobile clinics
68	# UNHCR supported hospitals

### Funding

UNHCR total requirements 2014: USD **468 m**





UNHCR health requirements: USD **93 m**

### June developments

- 31,000 patients received primary health care with UNHCR support this month. The top three consultations were for ante-natal care, respiratory tract infections, and routine child care.
- Over 4,555 people received life-saving care and support in June. The top demands for hospitalization were obstetric care followed by respiratory tract infections.
- Following a recent ministerial decision, UNHCR has started putting in place an alternative system of medical procurement with a view to preventing illegal trade of medical drugs and misuse.
- UNHCR organized workshops in field offices to improve referrals for refugees between Primary Health Centres and hospitals.
- The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) have received medical equipment as part of institutional support to improve surveillance systems.

### Achievements: January - June

Activity	 reached January-June	 2014 Target
Primary health care (including reproductive and mental health)	162,074	240,000
Life-saving referral healthcare	29,897	60,000
Health education	200,000	700,000

### Needs

As a consequence of the violence in Syria and the destruction of public infrastructure, many refugees arrive in Lebanon with health conditions that require immediate attention. Others have developed health problems during displacement related to trauma and substandard living conditions. Common health care needs of refugees include: reproductive health care and family planning, child health care (i.e. vaccinations), treatment for acute illnesses (respiratory infections, gastrointestinal diseases), chronic diseases (hypertension, diabetes) and mental health. In light of their limited financial resources, refugees need support in accessing primary, secondary and tertiary health care within the public and private health care systems.

## Challenges

### Refugees are facing difficulties in getting health care services:

Physical access to health care centres is a challenge for some refugees who live in remote locations. In addition, access is limited by short working hours and lack of trained health personnel. Visits of mobile medical units are in place to address this obstacle, but providing coverage in all areas remains a challenge. UNHCR's existing network of 41 primary health care centres needs strengthening in order to offer comprehensive services and adequate follow-up for chronic conditions.



Dr. Ahmad Bushnak, exams a young Syrian 4-year-old refugee at the Al Nahda Primary Health Care Clinic in Beddawi, Lebanon@ UNHCR/ S. Baldwin

**Needs for health care exceed available resources:** With the daily increase in the number of refugees, UNHCR resources are not able to meet all health care needs. Funds are increasingly stretched among prioritized and vulnerable cases, particularly at secondary and tertiary care levels. Lifesaving interventions in the area of maternal and infant health (surgical deliveries by caesarean section and care of premature infants) are extremely costly.

### High cost of health care:

Refugees are charged the same medical fees as Lebanese nationals. Despite contributions by UNHCR and other partners in health centres supported by the humanitarian community, many refugees still find it difficult to cover the costs of medical treatment. In addition, medications and diagnostic tests are frequently overprescribed thereby increasing costs borne by both the refugees and UNHCR. Moreover, some providers require upfront payment of costs that are not covered by UNHCR.

## Strategy

The role of UNHCR vis-à-vis refugee health is to facilitate, monitor, and advocate for refugee access to health care services in Lebanon.

- **Primary Health Care:**

UNHCR supports a network of primary health care centres, which serve as the entry point for refugees needing medical care. Through its partners, UNHCR covers most of the consultation fees for all refugees and 85% of the cost of diagnostic procedures for selected groups (including pregnant women, children under 5 and adults over 65 years). In addition, UNHCR is working to expand the existing network of mobile medical units to ensure free of charge access to the most vulnerable refugees and those living in remote locations. UNHCR prioritizes essential services for those most in need, especially reproductive healthcare, services for infants and young children (including immunizations and adequate infant and young child feeding), and mental health care services. By improving access to appropriate primary health care services, UNHCR aims to minimize the need for secondary health care.

- **Secondary and Tertiary Health Care:**

UNHCR supports secondary and tertiary health care in life-saving and emergency situations only. 75% of all emergency life-saving care and cost of delivery are covered. Moreover, UNHCR has established an exceptional care committee to review exceptional cases and decides based on prognosis, treatment plan and cost criteria.

## UNHCR implementing partners

International Medical Corps (IMC); Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center (CLMC); Makhzoumi Foundation; Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI); International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC); Lebanese Popular Association for Popular Action (AMEL) Restart Center and Association Justice, Misericorde (AJEM) and UNICEF.

## Institutional and Community Support Update

June 2014



Groundwork and equipping a mini football stadium in Sfireh, North @ UNHCR

### Overview

The Lebanese population has made tremendous efforts to host and cater for the needs of Syrian refugees over the last three years. Currently, over one million registered Syrian refugees are now living in more than 1750 locations, and some towns have more refugees than resident Lebanese. Host communities require institutional and capacity support to manage larger numbers of residents.

UNHCR reserves 15 per cent of its humanitarian budget for institutional support to public institutions and projects that build capacity of local communities providing assistance to refugees. Since 2011, UNHCR Lebanon has been increasing this support for institutions and communities to cope with the influx of refugees. These interventions are intended to mitigate the impact of the refugee presence on host communities and promote social cohesion so that Syrians in need of protection continue to be welcome in Lebanon.

### June developments

#### Institutional support

- The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) received equipment to improve systems for disease surveillance.

#### Community support programme (CSP)

UNHCR initiated the following community support projects in various locations in the country:

- Seven projects in Qubayat, in the areas of health, livelihoods, water and waste management;
- Water supply, sanitation and waste collection in various locations in Akkar;
- Provision of medical equipment to the Red Cross centre in Wadi Khaled.



Creating Al Marj market in the Bekaa @UNHCR



## Goals of Institutional Support

UNHCR is currently providing support to those Government institutions that are most impacted by the refugee influx: the Ministries of Public Health (MOPH), Education (MEHE), Social Affairs (MOSA), and Interior and Municipalities (MOIM). Examples of support include the provision of staff, training, materials and equipment which assist with the expansion of services, particularly in health, education and those offered by Social Development Centres.

## Goals of Community support

Community support plays a concrete role in direct support to vulnerable Lebanese communities hosting high numbers of refugees. The programme is designed to fund quick impact and short-term community projects which aim to fill critical service gaps in these communities.

CSPs aim at improving the living conditions of both refugees and host communities and cover a wide range of interventions including, livelihood, health, education, water, sanitation, social and physical infrastructure. Examples include support to municipalities for expansion of potable water and waste water networks and rehabilitation of markets. CSPs are also supporting the expansion of schools, equipping public health centres, providing machinery for improving food processing and packaging.

CSPs involve active participation from the community to ensure that they are in line with community priorities. So far, a total of USD 42.7 million has been allocated in 2014 for both institutional and CSPs.

## 2013 Expenditures and 2014 budget

UNHCR institutional and community support	2013 Expenditures	2014 Budget
<b>Institutional support</b> Health, education and social development activities (staffing, medicine, material, equipment, training, IT equipment, generators)	7.5	30.6
<b>Community based projects</b> (water, sanitation and waste management facilities, community centres)	13.5	12.1
Total USD	21 million	42.7 million

## UNHCR implementing partners:

Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Alert, International Relief and Development (IRD), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention For Local Development (SHEILD), International Orthodox Christian Charities, USA (IOCC-USA), Right to Play, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN-HABITAT, Cooperative Housing Foundation International (CHF), Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Tech. et Dev (ACTED), Concern Worldwide, Terre Des Hommes Italy, CARITAS, International Medical Corps (IMC), Oxfam GB, War Child Holland (WCH), Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), Save the Children International, Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP).