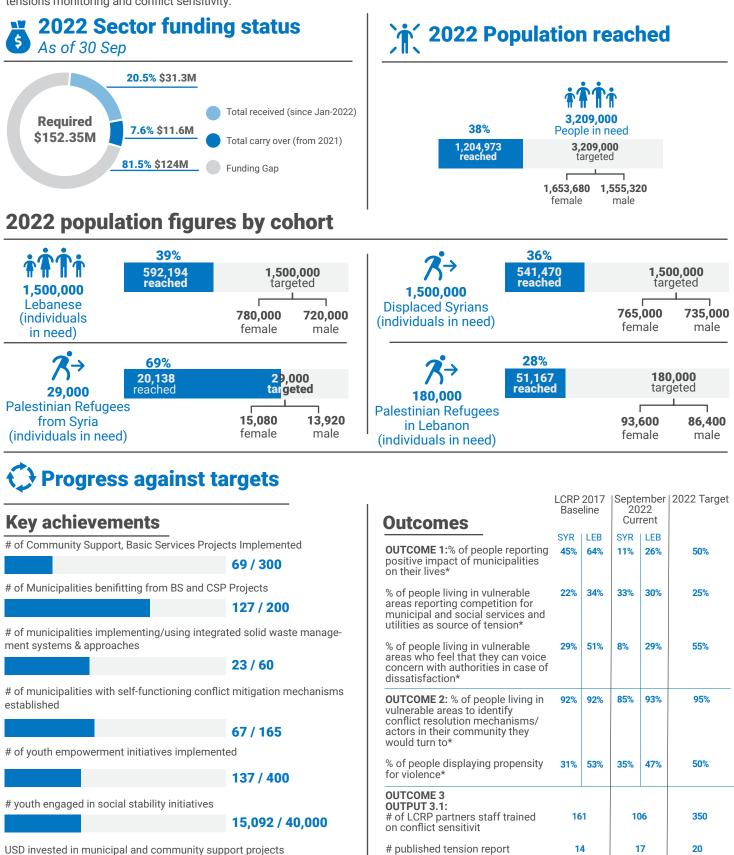
2022 3rd QUARTER SECTOR DASHBOARD Social Stability



The 3rd quarter dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Social Stability Sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure, reduce resentment, and build peace; OUTCOME 2) Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts; OUTCOME 3) Enhance the LCRP's capacities on tensions monitoring and conflict sensitivity.



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 $\# \ {\rm local} \ {\rm participatory} \ {\rm planning} \ {\rm processes} \ {\rm conducted}$

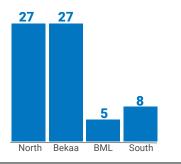
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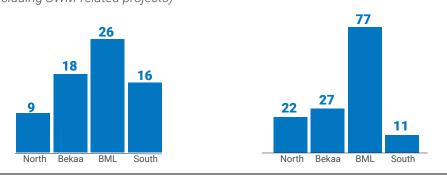
of youth empowerment initiatives

에 Analysis

of municipalities with newly established dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives



of municipal and community support projects implemented (excluding SWM-related projects)



implemented

Multi-sectoral situation update:

In the third quarter of 2022, families across Lebanon continued to face diminishing purchasing power, affecting vulnerable peoples' ability to meet basic needs. The Lebanese Pound continued to fluctuate, reaching average levels of LBP 36,346 to the dollar in the month of September. The monthly Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) increased from LBP 8,156,858 per family in June vs. LBP 9,982,662 per family by September and is expected to continue to rise in the coming period. Since the beginning of 2022, food prices have increased by 37% and since the start of the crisis in October 2019 by more than 2,000%, or 21-fold. Families relying on bottled water for domestic use had to pay 3 to 5 times more than the prior year (July 2022, UNICEF).

A price hike in telecommunications costs in July triggered a response across sectors, monitoring the development and reviewing mitigation measures to address the impact on contact between affected populations and response actors, including as a barrier to services and information. After a drop in beneficiary hotline call numbers in July, the numbers started to normalise in August and September as partners and beneficiaries identified alternative ways to maintain regular communication.

Protection monitoring continues to highlight that economic vulnerability is contributing to a worsening rate of legal residency among displaced people, which in turn inhibits freedom of movement and access to justice. Respondents identified difficulty accessing work opportunities and limitations on social interactions as ongoing challenges. According to the latest UNDP-ARK perception survey (July 2022), 37% of respondents reported negative inter-communal relations (compared to 36.1% in August 2021 and 21% in July 2018). This suggests that relationships remain strained, with pressure points ranging from access to services and job competition, to historical tensions between communities.

Women and girls reported an increased perception of insecurity. Female headed households often live in sub-standard shelter conditions, and gender-based violence has increased, including child marriage. Syrian women in ITS struggle with menstrual hygiene management, with an estimated price increase on some menstrual hygiene items since 2019 of 234%.

Following the identification of cholera cases in Syria, a draft National Cholera Prevention, Preparedness and Response plan was developed for Lebanon. The plan is centred around interventions under the Joint Health Sector, Joint Water/WASH Sector and Risk Communications and Community Engagement Taskforce (RCCE), with cross-sectoral coordination across the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) and the Emergency Response Plan (ERP). Lebanon is considered a high-risk country due to the deterioration in water and sanitation standards across the country and limited access to hygiene among the most vulnerable populations.

1. Key achievements of the sector at the output level

Throughout the third quarter of the year, under the Outcome 1 "Strengthening municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure", interventions were mainly related to services provided at the municipal level to alleviate resource pressure, reduce resentment, and build peace.

Under Output 1.1, the sector marked significant achievements, where **69 Basic Services (BS) and Community Support projects (CSPs)** have been achieved as of the Q3, **compared to 18 in Q2**, and against an annual target of 300 projects. A total amount of **USD 18,427,722 was invested in Q3 (compared to USD 2,162,394 in Q2)** versus an annual target of USD 84.5M, implemented **in 127 municipalities (compared to 7 in Q2)** against an annual target of 200. This demonstrates a major progress from Q2 to Q3, which is thanks to solving the reporting gap through mapping exercise of key partners and training them on reporting during the Q3. Another

reason for success is overcoming and coping with delays of implementation caused by among other operational factors and the shortage of resources at the municipalities level. This achievement is coupled with **6 local participatory planning processes** that have been achieved in Q3 (**compared to 4 in Q2**) against an annual target of 100. These inclusive processes included 40 participants (70% female and 30% female), being essential to strengthening municipalities' governance and help communities attracting funds and implementing projects based on local priorities.

Under Output 1.2, 26 integrated solid waste management (SWM) systems and approaches were implemented in Q3 (compared to 21 in Q2), versus an annual target of 50. These projects were implemented across 23 municipalities (mostly implemented in Bekaa) against an annual target of 60 municipalities. Within the current context, such projects are particularly crucial as many municipali-





ties are facing challenges in maintaining SWM services due to shortages of resources. Solid waste remains a key driver of tensions between the Lebanese and displaced Syrian communities, in terms of competition on resources and causing environmental and health issues. 80% of population agree that the presence of so many displaced Syrians is placing too much strain on Lebanon's resources like SWM, water and electricity.

Under Output 1.3, the number of municipalities reporting on security surveys is 925 against an annual target of 1,009. Security surveys are conducted by the Operation Unit under the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM) and Internal Security Forces (ISF) to collect data from all municipalities on security and tension situation in relation to the Syria crisis in Lebanon.

Under Output 1.4, the sector overreached the target with **63 municipalities** that were supported to implement the municipal police (MP) strategic reform framework, against an **annual target of 35**, to ensure a comprehensive and sustainable provision of community security services at municipal level, complementing the ISF work and preventing alternative security arrangements from taking hold. This included the production of 13 templates for the MP to be used by all municipalities along with corresponding short training videos. These tools help in the management of the MP's work, ensures their proper oversight and accountability, and institutionalize their daily work. The sector will review the annual target for 2023 based on the achieved results and needs to ensure a relevant annual target for this type of activities.

Under Outcome 2, related to strengthening municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts, achievements throughout the third quarter under Output 2.1 include that 67 municipalities (compared to 39 in Q2) have now self-functioning conflict mitigation mechanisms, including women participation, against an annual target of 165, predominantly in the North and Bekaa. These mechanisms seek to address the root causes of conflicts and tensions at the local level. The achievement in Q3 shows major progress achieved compared to Q2, however, it is still far from the annual target, hence the need to monitor the progress of this output in Q4 and review its annual target for 2023 planning.

For Output 2.2, 137 youth empowerment initiatives were implemented in Q3, against the annual target of 400 (compared to 124 in Q2). Such initiatives reached a total of 15,092 youth (including 8,110 females and 6,982 males) versus an annual target of 40,000 (compared to 8,457 in Q2). Through these interventions, youth are now better equipped to engage positively and participate actively in their communities. The sector will follow up on the reasons of not reaching the target including the impact of transportation and telecom prices on outreach to youth and commitment of participants in youths-led initiatives.

Under Output 2.3, 18 media and social media entities were engaged in initiatives to defuse tensions against an annual target of 100. All the reporting under those activities has been done during the first quarter, hence there is no progress in Q3, and the sector will follow up and monitor related progress and adjust the annual target for 2023 if needed. In total, 108 journalists and media students and academic, (52% female and 48% male) were trained or engaged (versus an annual target of 275) on mitigating tensions through positive messages, commitment to objective reporting, or countering misperceptions.

Under Outcome 3, enhancement of the LCRP's capacities on tensions monitoring and conflict sensitivity, and as part of conflict sensitivity mainstreaming, 106 partners staff (including 82 female and 24 male) from all LCRP sectors were trained on conflict sensitivity as of the Q2, against the annual target of 350, with no further achievement in Q3. More trainings will be taking place in the last quarter of the year to reach further participants under different sectors. The number of early warning/conflict analysis reports published is 17 that have been disseminated across the response versus the annual target of 24 (compared to 8 in Q2).

The mid-year review process was carried out by the Social Stability Sector in July/August 2022 through inclusive consultations with the sector Core Group and key stakeholders, to identify gaps and the needed changes for the LCRP 2023 planning process. Figures of concern from Q2 reporting were the gaps under community support projects (CSPs) and basic services (BS) projects, SWM interventions, local participatory planning processes implementation, and others. The Social Stability sector will review the appeal funds and annual targets of these interventions during the planning process for any needed adjustments in 2023.

Referral Trends - As of Q3, the sector received 176 referrals, mostly from Mount Lebanon (43.2%), followed by 15.3% in Bekaa, 13.1% North, 12.5% Beirut, 4.5% Akkar, 4% South and Baalbeck/Hermel and 3.4% Nabatiyeh. Even though the total number of referrals to Social Stability is relatively low as the sector can only respond to the referrals related to Youth Support, 44.9 % of referrals were accepted, 11.9% were acknowledged and 7.4% of referrals were not accepted because the referrals did not meet the criteria. However, 35.8% of referrals did not receive feedback, therefore efforts are being made to enhance the process including promotion of Social Stability services for referrals at all LCRP sectors' working groups.

Mainstreaming Activities - The Social Stability sector continued during the Q3 to implement the Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) trainings at the regional level, organized by the LCRP Inter-Agency Coordination Unit and the Gender Working Group in Lebanon. A total of 214 (56 male, 158 female) key LCRP sectors partners participated in the 6 two-day-trainings across all the following Governorates in Lebanon, the North/Akkar, Beirut & Mount Lebanon and Bekaa and Baalbeck/ El Hermel. The aim was to strengthen gender mainstreaming throughout all sectors including the Social Stability programming and activities. These trainings included theoretical and practical elements in the field and participants committed to transfer the acquired knowledge into their organizations and mainstream gender in their programming.

2. Key challenges of the sector

In Q3, the Social stability sector faced further challenges smiilar to Q2, given the continuously deteriorating socio-economic situation and increased negative inter-communal relations, Litani river's resurfacing challenges, and the looming Cholera outbreak. Below are key challenges in the sector during Q3.

Continuous pressure on partners by authorities and municipalities that are becoming more reliant on international assistance, as they are now unable to deliver basic services, and ensure rule of law, order, and security control under their mandate, due to limited funds, weak infrastructure, gaps in human/financial resources, etc. This is leading to poor service delivery, increased pressure on resources, environmental and health consequences, and tensions/access issues. To manage these challenges, partners are trying to support municipalities within their current priorities and with their capacities e.g., solarization, operational and management support, and focusing also on capacitating them to raise funds and efficiently manage their existing resources, services, and engagement in projects.



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Community support projects (CSPs) and basic services (BS) interventions: There has been a gap during the Q2 in reporting of different initiatives by the partners on the LCRP ActivityInfo platform. Given the importance of these projects on municipalities, social stability, and the protection of people, a mapping of key sector partners was done during Q3, where 134 CSPs/BS initiatives were identified under the sector. This was followed by a meeting with key sector partners and Core Group to identify major related challenges and recommendations that the sector should prioritize, including 1) organizing targeted training sessions on reporting CSPs/BS activities under the Activityinfo platform, aiming to generate better dashboards and enhance the coordination among partners; 2) organize thematic discussions to discuss key technical challenges such as the prioritization of areas of interventions for CSPs/BS projects, monitoring, and evaluation mechanisms to measure the impact on communities, and 3) map out further partners under CSPs/BS, etc.

The overall social instability is increasing nationally: 37% of the people reported negative inter-communal relations in August 2022 compared to 21% in July 2018. As of July 2022, more than 30% of the population consider that competition for services and utilities is a key driver of tensions. This is leading to greater pressure on the sector to respond to the deteriorating social stability and the negative impact on the protection of people especially displaced Syrians living in informal settlements (ISs) and in areas that are anti-displaced Syrians. This is coupled with an increase in intra-Lebanese tension due mainly to political/sectarian differences and economic competition.

Community insecurity increase: Notable increase in crimes and theft, as well as an overall increase in violence related mostly to access to services and goods (e.g., bread, fuel, SWM, etc.) leading to an increased sense of insecurity where 74.8% worried about the threat of crimes. As a reaction to this situation, more discriminatory restrictive measures such as curfews and raids took place, causing limited freedom of movement and affecting displaced Syrians' livelihoods. This has also been leading to different coping mechanisms, such as self-movement restriction, buying more

house locks, resorting to informal justice channels by displaced Syrians, trying to take justice into their own hands due to gaps in access to justice, or Lebanese creating informal vigilante groups to protect their own neighbourhoods, etc. This poses more pressure on Social Stability partners mainly to mitigate conflicts and support municipal police to control better the security and safety situation.

The Litani river's environmental and health challenge has been a high concern for the sector especially in light with the Litani River Authority's complaints regarding the alleged pollution of the river by sewage and solid waste deriving from informal settlements (ISs) in both the Bekaa and South areas. This has been leading to environmental and health hazards, and inter-communal tensions and would lead to eviction risks for thousands of displaced Syrians and putting families at heightened protection risks, specifically that the relocation to a new area is very challenging in the Bekaa. The Social Stability sector is following up on the community messaging on SWM under the guidance of the Ministry of Environment and on monitoring tensions in collaboration with the LCRP Protection sector.

The cholera outbreak looming on the door constitutes a main concern for the sector, considering that people know that it is originating from Syria, hence there is a risk of increasing tensions, stigmatization, and potentially hate speech, discrimination, and violence against displaced Syrians. The media is heavily affecting communal relations through negative rhetoric, misinformation, and dissemination of fake news, specifically in the context of the spread of diseases, crimes, pressure on resources (water), and pollution. The sector has prepared to engage in the cholera preparedness, prevention, and response plan, mainly in the tension monitoring and prioritization of risk areas, mobilization of social stability communities (conflicts mitigation mechanisms) to feed into the work of the RCCE (risk communication and community engagement) in awareness raising and engagement with communities, as well as provision of conflict sensitivity resources to mitigate negative impacts of interventions and aid bias perception, etc.

3. Key priorities for the following quarter

In the rest of 2022, the Social Stability sector continues to implement work under all three sector outcomes, taking into consideration the rising tensions, the increasing challenges faced by local authorities to provide services under their mandate, and the cholera outbreak-related impact on tensions and protection space. In addition, the sector will kick start the planning process for 2023, building on the mid-year review and including a reflection session to identify partners' priorities at the field and national levels for next year. Priorities for Q4 include:

1) Continue to support municipalities and public institutions

The sector will continue to follow up with key actors on the major gaps under CSPs/BS and SWM interventions, viewing the critical needs for support to municipalities in covering basic services delivery. To better support partners, the sector will update and finalize two In-focus Thematic Briefs. The first brief's title is "Municipalities' shortage of resources and its impact on the operational environment", and the second one's title is "Solid Waste Management Situation and Ways Forward". The briefs should be issued in Q4 of 2022 and will include practical recommendations for partners, donors, and the Government, to move forward with the support to municipalities and the SWM situation. Moreover, under the same outcome, the sector will build on the support delivered to 63 municipalities to implement the MP strategic reform framework, including the production of tools to help and harmonize the work of MP across all municipalities. Meanwhile, roll-out sessions will be organized in early Q4 with all Governors and Kaymakams to discuss the best methodology for disseminating those tools and ensure their proper use. Pilot workshops have taken place in the district of Aley, where 28 municipalities agreed on the next steps, which will include SOP workshops, training requests, and eventually communication for development activities to be conducted in the following months.

2) Establish and engage in social stability dialogue mechanisms and youth initiatives - targeting 40,000 youth beneficiaries by the end of the year.

The sector will map out key sector partners and social stability mechanisms in all areas, in order to mobilize these groups in the work of the RCCE in the response to the cholera outbreak. This will include training these groups by the RCCE team on awareness sessions and communicating messages with communities. There are many lessons learned from the Covid-19 outbreak to build on, where these mechanisms were engaged in similar activities to raise





awareness and engage communities in the response.

The sector will also focus on strengthening the referrals for youth empowerment initiatives towards Social Stability partners, through promoting these services for referrals at all LCRP sector working groups.

3) Continue tensions monitoring and conflict sensitivity mainstreaming- with a renewed focus on gender

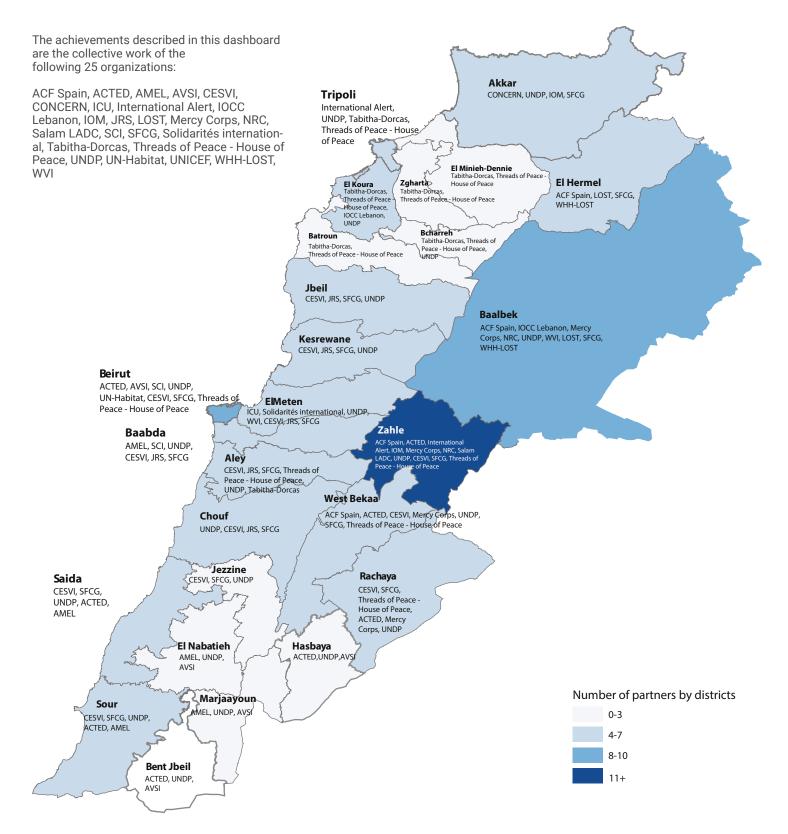
With the rising inter- and intra-communal tensions related to the compounded crises, the sector will continue to focus on monitoring tensions and incorporating such analysis in evidence-based planning for interventions. In Q4, tensions monitoring will feed into the cholera outbreak response, specifically through the C-RRT (Cholera rapid response team) at the regional level, to prevent and mitigate tensions at hotspot areas, in relation to Cholera spread and perceptions.

The sector will continue to play a key role in mainstreaming conflict sensitivity (CS) across the response. The work on ensuring conflict sensitivity in cash assistance, engagement with authorities, and institutionalization of conflict sensitivity, will continue with the aim of publishing three checklists in the last quarter of the year, in addition to ad-hoc sectoral guidance. The sector will provide CS resources to ensure a conflict-sensitive response to the Cholera outbreak across key sectors including the Health, Water, Food Security/Agriculture, and other sectors.





Partner Distribution Map



Note: This map has been produced by UNDP based on maps and material provided by the Government of Lebanon for Inter Agency operational purposes. It does not constitute an official United Nations map. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.