



QUOTE

Responding to water scarcity and acute water diarrhea (AWD) outbreak risk remain the highest priority

HIGHLIGHTS:

Significant progress has been made by the WASH sector with respect to water scarcity. Mapping highlighting the high-risk locations for water scarcity in each of the 5 field areas has been completed. The maps indicate specific locations where the supply of water is not expected to meet the anticipated demand of the affected population. They are one of the tools that the WASH sector is using to target its activities to minimize the impact of water scarcity up until winter rains replenish water sources.

Further to this there has been an overwhelming response from WASH partners with over 30 proposals submitted to UNOCHA for ERF funding for a variety of projects that aim to alleviate the effect of water shortage on the most vulnerable. The projects are to be implemented in a short timeframe to have an impact during summer and autumn.

Finally whilst there are signification efforts being put into optimizing water supply there has been progress on managing demand through developing key messages for water conservation and appropriate IEC materials and awareness campaigns by partners in their different areas of intervention.

Preparedness and response planning for Acute Water Diarrhea (AWD) outbreak risk is ongoing with drafting of a Health and WASH Plan and organizing of training for NGO and Government WASH and Health professionals in the different field areas.



A young Syrian refugee girl slowly makes her way across a pipe over a pile of rubbish in an informal settlement outside of Zahle, Lebanon. © UNHCR/ Baldwin

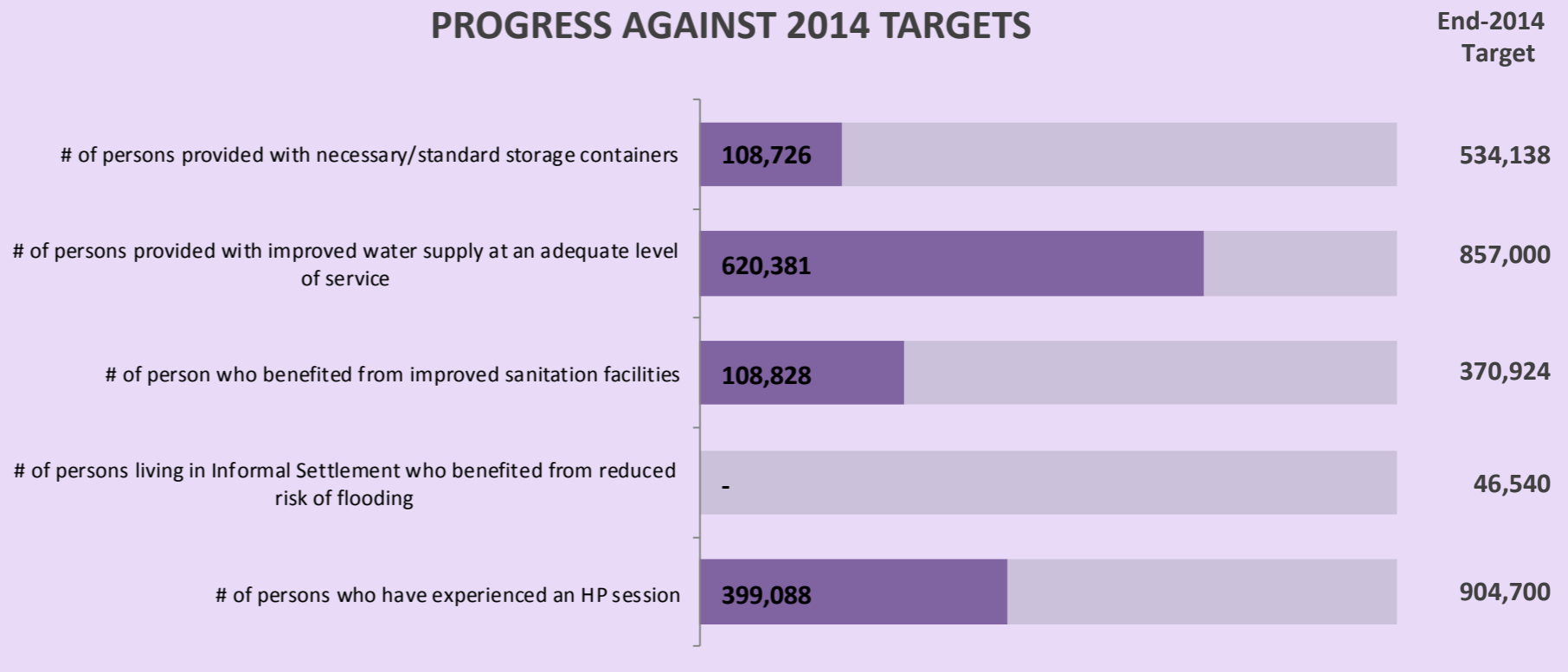
NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The ongoing mapping of Informal Settlements (ISs) and the recent multi-sectorial assessment of ISs have highlighted very clearly the coverage of WASH both geographically and thematically. Whilst only preliminary assessment results are available critical gaps have been identified and are in the process of being filled through 3W coordination of partners in the field. The assessment and mapping data will be highly useful for quantifying the ongoing needs enabling better advocacy and increased efficiency.

Following an abrupt end to Hygiene and Baby kit distribution by UNHCR the WASH sector urgently needs to reassess its strategy for ensuring access to hygiene items. An increased level of targeting providing the minimum service and using the most appropriate modality is expected. At the same time the situation highlights the need for better monitoring and evaluation by the WASH sector of such interventions to inform decisions and strategy.

The reduction in future funding levels, which is already manifesting itself, highlights the need for more systematic cost-benefit analysis approach to interventions in addition to better coordination between communal level and household level responses to ensure they compliment not duplicate each other in priority areas for response.

PROGRESS AGAINST 2014 TARGETS



Source: figures reported above reflect the information reported to Sector Coordinators by Partners participating in Working Groups

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