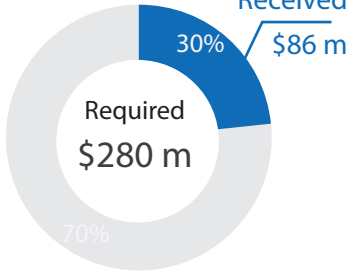




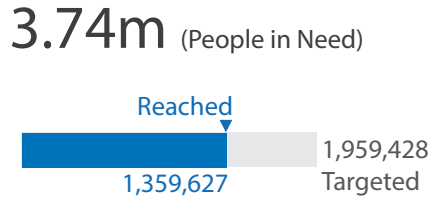
WATER SECTOR LEBANON End of Year 2017 Dashboard

The end-of-year dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Water sector in Lebanon is working towards its expected outcome: by 2020, more vulnerable people in Lebanon are accessing sufficient, safe water for drinking and domestic use with reduced health and environmental impacts from unsafe wastewater management.

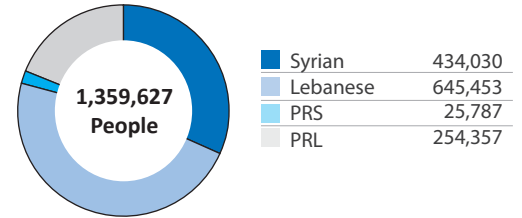
2017 Funding Status as of 31 December 2017



Targeted Population groups

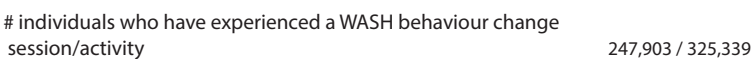
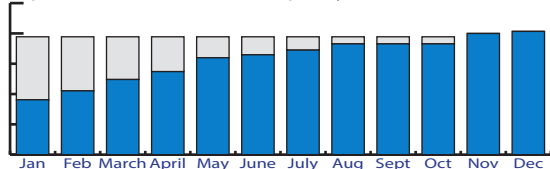
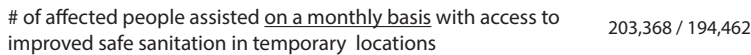
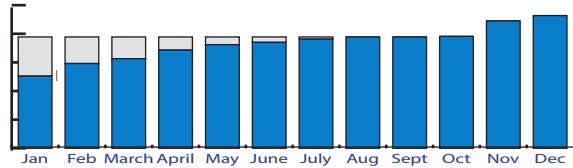
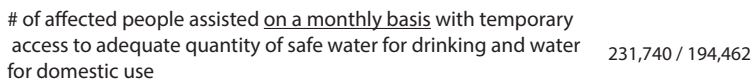
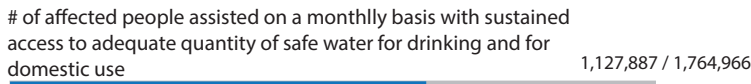


Population reached by cohort

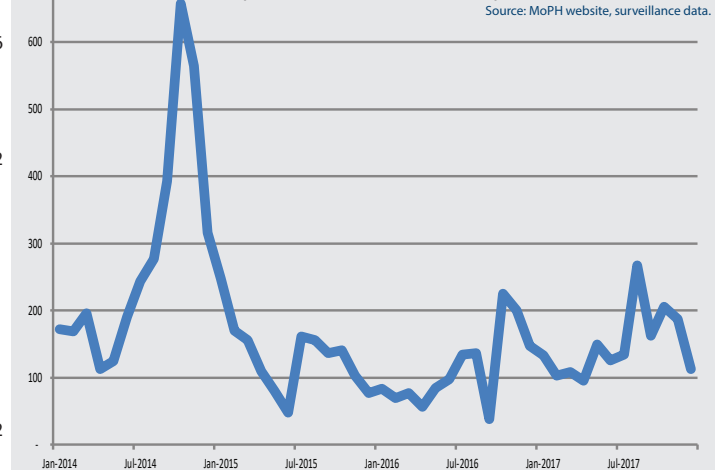


Progress against targets

Outputs



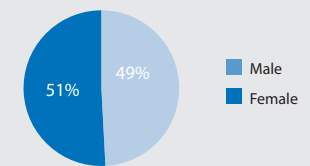
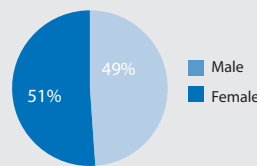
of Cases per month of Water Borne Diseases (Jan. 2014 to Dec. 2017)



Age/Gender breakdown

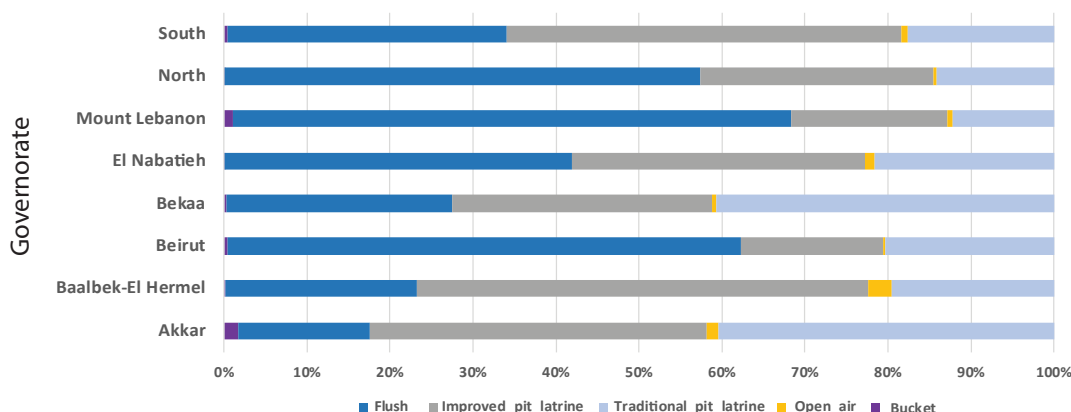
of affected people assisted with sustained access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and for domestic use

of affected people with access to improved safe sanitation in temporary locations



Analysis

% of Households with access to different types of Latrines *



* UNHCR ongoing Household assessment as of 5th April 2017



Key contributions towards LCRP impact(s)

Over 25 organizations have together reached more than 1.3 million people with some form of assistance. Of these, around 645 thousand (47%) are Lebanese, and over 1.1 million benefitted from stabilization interventions, mostly focused on water supply infrastructure, expanding, rehabilitating, or introducing water production, storage, distribution, or treatment systems. Critical humanitarian interventions and continuous servicing of Informal Settlements has reached over 230 thousand people (88% of residents) with activities such as provision of water storage containers and water points, delivery of trucked potable water, installation of latrines, implementation and desludging of wastewater systems, and hygiene promotion. These activities, while essential, have proven largely unsustainable, and continue to hamper the sector's capacity (particularly financial) to transition beyond the emergency and into wider stabilization programming. Palestinian refugee camps also benefitted from several improvements to water, wastewater, and solid waste infrastructure and management systems, reaching around 250 thousand people. Beneficiaries of the Water sector's response have seen improvements in the form of increased average daily water quantity or improved quality, but the vast majority (64% of all households in Lebanon) still do not access safely managed water (SDG 6.1), as reliability, safety, and availability on premises are persistent shortcomings. A communication strategy has been developed with and for Water Establishments (WE), to be implemented over the coming three years, with the aim of fostering trust, strengthening participation, and improving relations with customers and communities. Programs promoting hygiene awareness, safe practices, and responsible water use have reached around 240 thousand people (74% of target population), and a national Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) study has been completed, establishing a baseline and guiding future interventions.

A feasibility study was conducted to tackle cost-effective water supply to Informal Settlements through national systems. Coupled with hydrogeological

studies completed in 2016, the sector aims to develop evidence-based approaches to transitioning Informal Settlements out of emergency water and wastewater service modalities while avoiding adverse impact on the environment and quality of services to the host community. The Ministry of Energy and Water has established a Water Executive Committee (WEC) to provide a platform for strategic guidance, assessment, planning and review of investments in programmes and projects in the water sector in Lebanon to ensure achievement of national objectives related to LCRP, which has already expanded enabling environment for humanitarian to stabilization transition by approving cost-effective national solutions in Informal Settlements, subject to the do-no-harm principle and maintaining social stability.

The Water sector contributes to (1) protection of vulnerable populations through tailored WASH services for persons with special needs, (2) immediate assistance to vulnerable populations through humanitarian WASH activities during evictions, influxes and other emergencies of displaced persons from Syria, as well as mitigating WASH-related disease outbreaks, and ensuring immediate and temporary service delivery in Informal Settlements and Palestinian camps and gatherings, (3) supporting service provision through national improvements to water and wastewater systems that are primarily managed by the Water Establishments, while also supporting MoEW planning and implementation, monitoring and management processes, and (3) reinforcing Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability through projects that: (a) support livelihoods by generating construction related jobs for displaced Syrians as well as the host community; (b) increase service levels for all in underserved communities where conflict has flared over scarce resources; and (c) mitigating negative environmental consequences through improvements to management of wastewater, protection of water sources, and treatment of water supply.



Challenges

Whilst the enabling environment has improved significantly, with regards to partner readiness and MoEW approval through the recently established Water Executive Committee (WEC), transitioning Informal Settlements out of dependency by scaling up holistic interventions has remained limited, curtailed by a chronic underfunding. Furthermore, the eviction trend in 2016 continued into 2017, significantly affecting WaSH conditions in relocation sites and, consequently, stretching partners' capacity to respond to emergent needs in parallel with ongoing programs.

In anticipation of further funding decline the sector has developed a prioritisation and targeting approach built around an online, interactive live GIS database called the WaSH Assessment Platform (WAP) which determines, through a weighted scoring system, which IS are the most WaSH vulnerable

and what specific factors contribute to this vulnerability. The database has been populated by 14 partners which have conducted the 100+ question and observation survey for each of the nearly 5,000 sites targeted by the sector, establishing the first such national baseline. This enables the sector, in 2018 and beyond, to more accurately target emergency interventions and guide and prioritize investment.

Similarly, the overall impact on Lebanon's public service systems remains limited and scattered. An update to the National Water Sector Strategy and regional masterplans and action plans are behind schedule, requiring that partners coordinate projects on an individual, ad-hoc basis with relevant authorities, affecting their level of complementarity.



Issues in coordination

With WaSH-related (and more specifically waterborne) diseases making up ever larger share of 'Notifiable Communicable Diseases' reported to the Epidemiology Surveillance Unit (ESU), it is crucial that national epidemiological surveillance be improved and expanded by the Health sector. This would translate to earlier, more accurate detection and referral of cases, allowing for quicker WaSH responses which pre-empt a wider outbreak. Considering the threat of Cholera and other waterborne diseases in the region, the draft Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD)/Cholera Response Plan must be finalized and corresponding preparedness ensured.

The Water sector has largely focused its support on Informal Settlements, leaving significant gaps in WaSH coverage for (1) Non-residential buildings, which do not benefit from the Shelter sector's rehabilitation (including WaSH

facilities) support, (2) Building connection to public water and wastewater networks, and (3) Common areas and public spaces, especially in poor neighborhoods, with regards to environmental hygiene. Mapping exercises have been planned or started by the Shelter sector at the building and neighborhood levels, and are to be followed by WaSH assessments and corresponding coordinated responses.

Issues of potential overlap with the Social Stability, Livelihoods, and Food Security sectors on WaSH-related interventions persist, masked by the gross mismatch between needs and funding. Inter-sectoral coordination ahead of programming commitments must take place comprehensively and consistently, so as not to undermine each respective sector's mandate.



Key priorities and gaps foreseen - 1st quarter of 2018

The key challenge for the Water sector remains the transition of Informal Settlements out of the dependency cycle and away from WaSH vulnerability. In the first quarter of 2018, significant underfunding for these sites, not only delaying prospects of the transition but even reversing progress made thus far, with critical interventions and services reduced below sector standards. Coupled with ongoing risk of evictions, Informal Settlements have the potential to degrade into more severe forms of vulnerability than in previous years. This also hampers the sector's capacity to channel resources towards investments in stabilization programming, slowing progress in infrastructure and system improvement for the wider community.

As it applies a tougher prioritization and targeting approach, the Water sector shall at the same time (1) pilot, monitor, and evaluate new support modalities, (2) identify sites and approaches suitable for transitioning Informal Settlements out of dependency, (3) explore mechanisms which reduce costs of

current services while channelling them through public systems, and (4) monitor the impact of reduced support on the population of concern. The sector will build on these analyses to inform future programming and prepare an evidence-based appeal for capital investment to donors at the end of the first quarter.

In parallel to investment in infrastructure, efforts to improve public water systems will focus on supporting the Water Establishments' capacity to expand, rehabilitate, operate, and maintain their assets, as well as ensure cost recovery. Communication strategies launched in 2017 with the aim of promoting the WEs customer-centric public establishments, coupled with tailored capacity building programs and institutional support in the form of human resources, equipment, and information systems, will help develop the WEs' service models and reverse their financial deficits.



Case Study

Najla*, 40, did not have any other choice but to pay for water delivery by trucks, every week, due to water scarcity near the cow farm where she has been living with members of her extended family since they fled the conflicts in their besieged town in Syria five years ago. However, she no longer has to face that burden after International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) completed water infrastructure improvements in her hosting village, Mansourah, in West Bekaa, Lebanon, benefiting 7,000 Syrian refugees and 5,500 Lebanese citizens, who now have a more reliable water supply and increased knowledge of optimal hygiene practices.

As refugees with scarce resources, Najla, her husband, and four children needed water, a vital element to survive. Although her husband works as a daily labourer, and she helps out earning money by cleaning some houses, Najla's family could not afford many expenses. The water scarcity in Mansourah was also not helpful. She recounted, "I used to buy two gallons of mineral water for cooking and drinking, which would cost around \$4 daily." In addition, although there is a small borehole near the farm, it was not enough for household chores. Instead, Najla would pay about \$20 every couple of days, for water delivery by trucks—more in summer, due to the increased need. Najla recalled, "When I wanted to do laundry or other house chores, I would discover that there is no water. Sometimes, turning on the generator for the borehole pump was not possible as there was no electricity."

After IOCC's intervention in the village, Najla finally has enough water. IOCC constructed a 500 m3 communal water reservoir to increase water storage capacity in the area, installed a booster solar pump for better water supply, and connected 500 households in the village to a new water network to improve their access to water.

IOCC's hygiene-awareness work among host and refugee communities complemented IOCC's project by encouraging positive hygiene behaviour change and preventing the spread of diseases. Najla explained how attending awareness sessions on personal hygiene and food safety with IOCC dispelled some misconceptions and increased her knowledge of safe practices when handling kitchen utensils, introducing her to behaviours which could improve her family's health. Before, she said, "I used the same dish cleaning sponge until it was completely worn out. I did not know the effect it would leave when contaminated with germs and non-safe substances that leave a residue. Now, to prevent the spread of germs, I make sure to replace it every week. I also learned to use separate cutting boards for every kind of food, i.e. vegetables/chicken etc. ... to prevent cross-contamination."

Najla's youngest daughter, Nisma, did not wash her hands frequently. "Now, I ask my daughter if she washed her hands after using the toilet and playing, and before eating. I focus on that issue more now, after the awareness sessions that I attended," said Najla.

As reflected in the impact survey that IOCC conducted in Mansourah, 87% of the respondents have reduced their expenditure on water trucking by at least 30%, and have an increase of water availability at their household level and an improved water accessibility at community level.

All the respondents said that there is some behaviour change within their households related to hygiene practices. Also, 97% said that the hygiene awareness provided were relevant to their needs. IOCC's WASH project reduced expense burdens on the vulnerable Syrian and Lebanese communities, supported the Lebanese villages by strengthening and improving their infrastructures, raised awareness on hygiene related topics and successfully started to positively change behaviours.

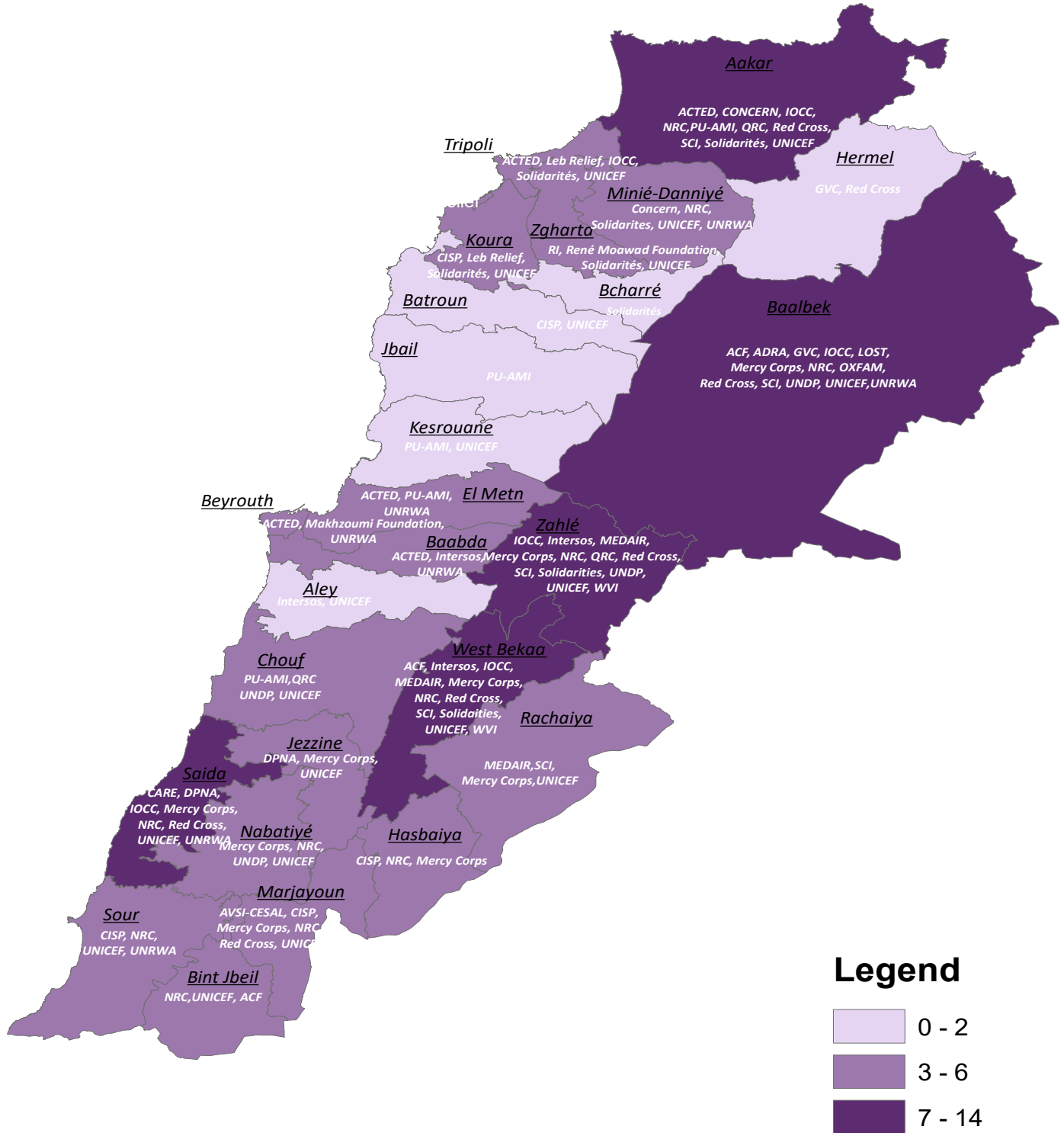


* Names of the beneficiaries have been changed to protect their privacy.



Organizations per district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 30 organizations: ACF, ACTED, ADRA, AVSI-CESAL, CARE, CISP, CONCERN, DPNA, GVC, Intersos, IOCC, Leb Relief, LOST, Makhzoumi Foundation, MEDAIR, Mercy Corps, NRC, OXFAM, PU-AMI, QRC, Red Cross, René Moawad Foundation, RI, SCI, Solidarités, UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNRWA, WVI.



Note: This map has been produced by WATER Sector information Management based on maps and material provided by the Government of Lebanon for UN 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.