





January UPDATE

- January developments
- Recycling in Sarafand
- Support provided to Lebanese Public Institutions in 2015





FUNDING



Agencies and the Government of Lebanon have requested US\$
2.48 billion in the 2016 Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP)

REGISTERED REFUGEES

A total of 1,069,111 are currently registered with UNHCR in Lebanon

LEBANON

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE

JANUARY DEVELOPMENTS

Winter distributions: update

Over 161,000 Syrian refugee families (805,000 individuals) have received winter cards and fuel vouchers so far. Additionally, some 40,000 families (200,000 individuals) have received items such as clothes, stoves, and blankets.

The distribution of shelter materials continued throughout January, with a total of 14,789 families (73,945 individuals) living in substandard buildings having been assisted with weatherproofing and repairs. Another 35,777 families (178,885 individuals) residing in informal settlements have received weatherproofing materials including plastic sheets and wood.

Site improvement works were conducted in particularly flood-prone informal settlements. Such works entail the digging of trenches to clear stagnating water from the site and gravelling to facilitate movement. More than 6,200 families (31,000 individuals) have so far benefited from such improvements.

Over 8,060 vulnerable refugee families (40,000 individuals) residing in Arsal have received US\$ 200 worth of Medco fuel cards for the months of November and December. These same families are currently receiving an additional US\$200 worth of cards for the months of January and February.

In coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA) and the National Poverty Targeting Program (NPTP), UNHCR provided over 1,500 warm blankets to 215 vulnerable Lebanese families in Arsal through Dar Al Fatwa (DAF).

On 19 January 2016, DAF started the daily distribution of hot meals to vulnerable families in Arsal, with 2,500 meals distributed daily.

With regard to shelter assistance, over 3,060 shelter kits – including wooden panels - in addition to 2,072 plastic sheets have so far been distributed in Arsal.

Storm response

The impact of the Vladimir storm in northern Lebanon and in the Bekaa was reportedly minimal.

Contingency stocks including blankets and plastic sheets were placed in strategic locations such as community centres, local NGOs and municipalities for swift distribution as necessary. Interagency emergency preparedness teams were mobilized during storms to respond immediately and assist families who were affected by heavy rains, low temperatures, winds and snow. Refugee Outreach Volunteers played an important role in referring needs.

In order to equip refugees residing in informal settlements to respond adequately to any weather-induced flooding, UNHCR, the Lebanese Red Cross Disaster Management Unit and SAWA distributed 787 drainage kits (wheel barrow, broom, shovel, rake, excavation pick) in 1,085 informal settlements across the Bekaa.

The Ministry of Social Affairs provided over 458 families (2,290 individuals) in the North with plastic sheets to stop water leakages and enhance water proofing of damaged shelters. Residents of impacted informal settlements in Akkar, Koura, Batroun and Akroum were assisted by UNHCR, the Lebanese Red Cross Disaster Management Unit, Concern Worldwide, PU-AMI, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and CISP with plastic sheets, mattresses, blankets, food, drinking water and gravel for site improvement.

Local NGOs in the Bekaa also distributed winter items to vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian refugee families ahead of the storm. The organizations, including Sawaed Al Amal, Ghirass, the Lebanese Red Cross Disaster Management Unit, DAF, and LOST distributed winter items that include winter clothes, blankets, heating stoves, food parcels, and fuel vouchers and US\$100 winter cards.

In order to respond to urgent medical cases, Beyond deployed medical teams throughout the Bekaa. The field hospital in Arsal, with the support of Siraj NGO, also provided outreach medical activities in several informal settlements in the area.

Education: update

The 2016 Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) was launched on 5 January. This programme allows children aged 7- 17, who have been out of school for more than two years, to catch up with the Lebanese formal educational system and in turn enroll in public schools. Placement evaluations were conducted in most areas and will be completed in the coming week.

Inauguration of public services

MSF-CH opened a maternal and children care center in Majdel Anjar, Bekaa, where Syrian refugee women will be able to deliver without having to pay any fees. Also in Majdal Anjar, the Qatar Red Crescent inaugurated a free-of-charge breast cancer screening service at the Ghirath Al Khayr clinic.

The Council of Development and Reconstruction (CDR) completed the construction and installation of a new facility at the Tripoli Wastewater Treatment Plant. This new facility will prevent untreated wastewater from being dumped along the North coastline (namely Chekka).

RECYCLING IN SARAFAND



A Lebanese and Syrian refugee committee in Sarafand identified waste management as a key issue to be addressed as a priority.

After agreeing that the municipality needed to carry out a more sustainable system of waste management, the committee designed a project for the collection of recyclable materials from households. Lebanese citizens and Syrian refugees work hand in hand in the collection of waste in Sarafand.

As Lebanon deals with an unprecedented garbage crisis, this project provides a great reminder of what communities can achieve by working together.

Watch this video for more information: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ir6n63WZt4A

SUPPORT PROVIDED TO LOCAL INSTITUTIONS IN 2015

Under the scope of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), more than US\$171.5 million were channeled through and to public institutions in order to provide assistance to vulnerable Lebanese, Syrian and Palestine refugees, support service delivery, as well as ensure capacity building of public officials and civil servants as well as policy development. The technical, operational and financial assistance provided in 2015 to public institutions addressed a wide variety of priorities within the crisis response and enabled the deployment of 919 additional staff members to public institutions.

The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and its Social Development Centres (SDCs) were supported to both lead the response to the ongoing crisis and provide social services to the most vulnerable. An estimated US\$10 million were injected into Lebanon's social system providing staffing support of 57 SDCs across the country under MOSA National Plan for Women and Children, while US\$ 7.9 million allowed the provision of monthly food assistance to 27,208 poor Lebanese under MOSA's National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP).

The biggest bulk of the support to public institution in 2015 (US\$ 60 million in total) went to the public education system through the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) and local schools, to support the implementation of MEHE's Reach All Children with Education (RACE) plan. It allowed the enrollment of 234,000 Syrian and Lebanese children in formal education across the country and the rehabilitation and equipment of 96 public schools.

In the health sector, more than US\$ 23 million were extended to the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), hospitals and health care centers across the country. As a result, 54 primary healthcare centers were renovated, eight hospitals and 180 health care centers were equipped with new tools and technology while 2,530 healthcare providers were trained at primary health care level to better address the needs of the most vulnerable communities and provide quality health services across the country.

Significant efforts were also made to enhance basic service delivery, notably to strengthen Lebanon's infrastructure in the water and energy sectors. A total of USD\$60 million were invested in that area. This includes support to the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW), municipalities and water establishments' delivery of basic services. Overall, US\$ 48 million were invested in completed projects supporting Lebanon's Water Establishments. Eleven Union of Municipalities and 244 municipalities are receiving capacity building support to respond to increased demand and pressure on services (104 more than in 2014), and 157 municipalities were directly supported to deliver services: US\$ 8.5 million were invested in 156 tangible municipal projects such as construction of public spaces, sports and

recreational infrastructure, equipment of local facilities, distribution of garbage bins or rehabilitation of water sources (50 percent more than at the same time last year - 54 more projects worth US\$8.2 million are underway). Nearly 90 municipalities were also supported through labor-intensive projects to perform small-scale infrastructure rehabilitation and cleaning services.

Food security partners supported the Ministry of Agriculture (MoAg) in the highly strategic areas of livestock vaccination, food safety procedures, agricultural statistics and information system, plant production and pine production management. Overall, US\$4 million were channeled to the Ministry of Agriculture and 700,000 animals were vaccinated in 2015 to prevent the spread of diseases and efficiently increase livestock production.

Other major institutions were also supported under the LCRP including the Prime Minister's Office, community development centers, governors' offices and security forces which specifically targeted disaster risk management, information management and coordination.

DONORS

Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Luxemburg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America.

Contributions have also been received from the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) as well as from private donors, national and international organizations.