Lebanon: North Governorate Profile (as of 4 March 2014)

OCHA

GENERAL OVERVIEW

T5 Area - T5 is composed of 6 districts; Tripoli, El Koura, El Batroun, Bcharre, Zgharta, and El Minnie-Dennie, which are commonly referred to as 'Tripoli +5 (T5)'. Tripoli is the capital of the north Governorate and second largest city in the country.

Akkar - Akkar district covers 788 km² of territory and is one of the most deprived rural regions in Lebanon and shares 100km of borders with Syria. Akkar is divided into three main areas; Al-Sahel, Middle and Higher Dreib. Its capital Halba, lies 30km away from Tripoli. There are at least 27 border villages with Syria, with three official crossing points (El Aarida and El Aaboudieh).

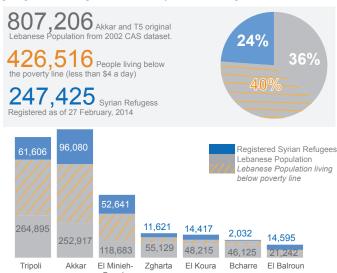
Akkar Akkar Akkar Open official border crossing Unofficial crossing Capital

POPULATION OVERVIEW

The majority of Syrian refugees in north Lebanon come from Homs, Idlieb, Aleppo, and Hama.

T5 has a population of 550,000 Lebanese and the majority are Sunni. The Syrian refugees are mainly settled in Bab al-Tibbaneh, Abou Samra and Mina in Tripoli district. 867 Lebanese households have returned from Syria to T5 and been registered by IOM and HRC. According to IOM's assessment, returnees in T5 have listed food as their priority need, followed by access to work, health, shelter and NFIs.

Akkar has a population of 252,917 Lebanese scattered across 229 villages and towns. The population is primarily Sunni with a minority of Christians and Alawites. Wadi Khaled, hosted the first displaced Syrians who entered Lebanon in 2011. Syrians enter Akkar both legally (84%) and illegally (16%), giving some the right to move freely and restricting others.



Palestinian Refugees

There are two established Palestinian camps in T5.

Naher El Bared camp was hosting 27,000 Palestine refugees before the crisis. **Beddawi** hosts more than 16,500 registered refugees.

8,500 Palestine refugees are living outside the camps. In addition 8,200 Palestinian refugees from Syria are settled in the North both in camps and in the villages with the host community.



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Historically, northern Lebanese have had strong ties with Syrians and extensive trade relations with them. This commercial relationship has been seriously strained after two years of conflict in Syria.

T5 - One of the main concerns is the growing number of informal tented settlements, currently over 110, as a result of the high cost of renting apartments and scarcity of accommodation options. Access to health is a challenge with three hospitals in the Governorate, located at a distance for most people in need. Local curfews have been imposed in some towns where the concentration of Syrian refugees has increased and arrests and detention for lack of valid permits have reportedly increased. Residents also face insecurity related to sporadic clashes between Bab-al-Tibbaneh and Jabal Mohsen neighborhoods. Inter-agency coordination takes place in Tripoli.

Akkar - The response is complicated by the spread of refugees in 210 out of 229 villages. In addition, there are over 145 informal tented settlements where the living conditions are difficult. At the end of 2013, 31 community support projects had been completed and 36 were on-going in order to address growing needs caused by an increase of the population by 24%. One of the main challenges in 2013 was related to pressures made against humanitarian partners by some municipality members in the area of Wadi-Khaled, which disrupted humanitarian programming and at times led to temporary suspensions of distribution and assistance. Enrolment in primary school was extremely low with only 23% of school going-aged children enrolled as of November 2013. Inter-agency coordination takes place in Qubbayat..

Security Situation

The Bab al-Tibbaneh and Jabal Mohsen conflict in Tripoli is a recurring conflict between Sunni and Alawite. The residents of the two neighborhoods are divided along sectarian lines, as well as by their opposition to or support of the Syrian Government. In May and Dennie June 2013, the conflict between the two communities grew in intensity following the capture of the Syrian town of Qusayr by GoS forces. The LAF was deployed to contain the conflict. However, intermittent clashes have continued since, resulting in the death of of at least 115 people and injury of 827 people. The main pocket of insecurity in Akkar is located in Wadi Khaled and in the border areas. Wadi Khaled continues to be an area of concern for humanitarian agencies and necessitates a specific security clearance to access the area, manned by a check-point.

Humanitarian Intervention

Number of Partners

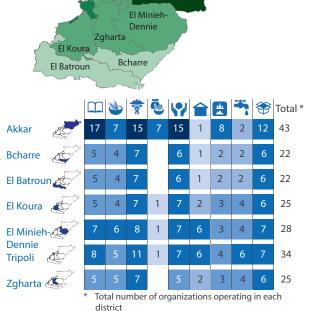
23 - 28

29 - 34

35 - 43

Tripoli

per District



Social Cohesion Sector 🐉

Akkar