LEBANON CRISIS

RESPONSE PLAN

2017- 2020 (2020 update)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Reference Map 5

PART I: LEBANON CRISIS RESPONSE STRATEGY

Executive Summary 8
At a Glance 9
Situational Analysis 10
Population in Need and Targeted 27
Response Strategy 28
Response Monitoring and Evaluation 40

PART II: OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLANS

Basic Assistance 51
Education 63
Energy 75
Food Security & Agriculture 83
Health 99
Livelihoods 113
Protection 127
Shelter 145
Social Stability 159
Water 173

PART III: ANNEXES

Annex 1: Best Practices 184
Annex 2: Developing the LCRP 184
Annex 3: Commitments of the LCRP Response 185
Annex 4: Planning Figures 186
Annex 5: LCRP Sector Steering Committee (SSC) Terms of Reference 187
Annex 6: Environment Task Force Terms of Reference 189
Annex 7: Acronyms 191

Terminology in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP)

The UN characterizes the flight of civilians from Syria as a refugee movement, and considers that these Syrians are seeking international protection and are likely to meet the refugee definition.

The Government of Lebanon considers that it is being subject to a situation of mass influx. It refers to individuals who fled from Syria into its territory after March 2011 as temporarily displaced individuals, and reserves its sovereign right to determine their status according to Lebanese laws and regulations.

The Lebanon Crisis Response Plan uses the following terminologies to refer to persons who have fled from and cannot return to Syria:

1. "persons displaced from Syria" (which can, depending on context, include Palestinian refugees from Syria as well as registered and unregistered Syrian nationals);
2. "displaced Syrians" (referring to Syrian nationals, including those born in Lebanon to displaced Syrian parents);
3. "persons registered as refugees by UNHCR" and;
4. "Palestinian refugees from Lebanon" (referring to 180,000 PRL living in 12 camps and 156 gatherings) and;
5. "Palestinian refugees from Syria" (referring to 27,700 PRS across Lebanon).

CORE PRINCIPLES AND COMMITMENTS

Building on the lessons learned from previous LCRP frameworks, as well as a needs and results-based approach used for defining outputs, targets and related budgets, key priorities for improving delivery of the LCRP include:

- Strengthening current tracking, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms;
- Improving transparency, efficiency and accountability;
- Reinforcing Government institutions' leadership and partnership with UN organizations, the donor community, international and national non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors;
- Enhancing the programmatic design and implementation systems in view of the broadened focus on stabilization and targeting the most vulnerable; and
- Improving field level coordination in light of the multi-year programming envisioned for 2017-2020.

As a basis for addressing these priorities, several core principles and commitments have been agreed between GoL and its international partners: see section 4.6, '*Principles of partnership and accountability*'.

Partners involved in the LCRP

ABAAD, ACF, ACTED, ADRA, AMEL, AND, ANERA, ARCS, AVSI, Akkarouna, Al Fayhaa, Al Majmoua, Al Midan, Alpha, Ana Aqra, Arche Nova, B&Z, British Council, CARE, CESVI, CISP, CONCERN, COOPI, Caritas, Common Effort, DAF, DRC, Expertise France, FAO, FR, Fair Trade Lebanon, Fondation Mérieux, GVC, HCI lebanon, HI, HWA, HabitatForHumanity, Himaya, IDRAAC, IECD, IMC, INARA, IOCC, IOM, IR, IRC, ISWA, International Alert, Intersos, JWF, LAECD, LOST, LSESD, LebRelief, MAGNA, MAP-UK, MAPs, MCC, MDM, MEDAIR, MEHE, MSD, MTI, Makassed, Maharat, Mercy Corps, Mercy-USA, MoA, MoE, MoET, MoEW, MoFA, MoIM, MoL, MoPH, MoSA, MoSDA, Mouvement Social, NRC, OXFAM, PCPM, Peaceofartlb, PU-AMI, Plan-International, Positive Planet International, QRCS, RET Liban, RI, RMF, RtP, SAMS, SAWA, SAWA Group, SCI, SDAid, SHEILD, SIDC, Safadi Foundation, Salam LADC, Solidarités, Taawon, Tabitha-Dorcas, Tahaddi Lebanon, TdH - It, TdH - L, Thiqah, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UN-OCHA UNOPS, UNRWA, UNWOMEN, URDA, Un Ponte Per, WCH, WFP, WHO, WRF, WVI, Welthungerhilfe.

Please note that appeals are revised regularly. The latest version of this document is available on http://www.LCRP.gov.lb and http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php. Financial tracking can be viewed from http://fts.unocha.org.

Cover photo credit: Mohamed, a young refugee from Deir ez-Zor carries blankets after UNHCR distribution; UNHCR, Diego Ibarra Sanchez, 2019.

Produced by the Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, January 2020.

REFERENCE MAP

LOCATION DIAGRAM

- Capital
- Major Towns
- Waterways
- International Boundaries
- Governorate Boundaries
- Caza Boundaries

PART I

LEBANON CRISIS RESPONSE STRATEGY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
LCRP AT A GLANCE
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS
RESPONSE STRATEGY
RESPONSE MONITORING AND EVALUATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Now in its ninth year, Lebanon remains at the forefront of one of the worst humanitarian crises of our time and continues to host the highest number of displaced per capita in the world, showing tremendous commitment to displaced Syrians and vulnerable populations within its borders. As of November 2019, the Government of Lebanon (GoL) estimates that the country hosts 1.5 million Syrians who have fled the conflict in Syria (including 918,874 registered as refugees with UNHCR, along with 27,700 Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) and a pre-existing population of an estimated 180,000 Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (PRL) living in 12 camps and 156 gatherings. Since 2015, Lebanon has received US$5.64 billion in support under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP).

The assistance made possible by donor contributions and implemented by humanitarian, Government and development partners under the LCRP, along with the exceptional hospitality of Lebanese communities, has brought substantial, vitally-needed support across all sectors and has prevented an even greater deterioration of living conditions for the poorest groups. Achievements under the LCRP and through government include: support to Lebanese critical infrastructure such as water and waste management; a wide range of initiatives helping local municipalities address livelihoods and service provision for their communities; extensive cash assistance bringing life-saving support to the poorest groups while boosting the local economy; support to health centers and hospitals around the country; and substantial advances in helping the Government of Lebanon enroll greater numbers of children in public schools every year.

Notwithstanding, the conflict in Syria has significantly impacted Lebanon's social development and economic growth, caused deepening poverty and humanitarian needs, and exacerbated pre-existing development constraints in the country. Amid the unfolding economic crisis, poverty levels amongst displaced Syrians and Lebanese are on the rise, aggravated by a series of emergencies, from natural disasters to evictions, and this has crippled their ability to cope with the crisis. It has also increased social tensions, noting that competition for jobs and access to services remain among the primary drivers of tension at the local level, compounded by the recent implementation of more restrictive measures on refugees. In a nationally representative survey, the proportion of Lebanese respondents stating that relations are 'negative' or 'very negative' increased by 10 per cent from July 2018 to August 2019.

The first half of 2019 was marked by an increase in the number of identity controls and arrests, mostly due to the lack of legal residency. Despite the importance of legal stay documents, the percentage of displaced Syrians aged 15 years and above having legal residency continues to show a downward trend, from 27 per cent in 2018 to 22 per cent in 2019. On other fronts, progress is more tangible. The rate of official birth registration of refugee children at the Foreigners' Registry level continues to show a positive development, increasing to 30 per cent of births of children born in Lebanon registered in 2019, compared with 21 per cent in 2018 and 17 per cent in 2017. Further progress is expected in 2020.

The LCRP, a joint plan between the Government of Lebanon and its international and national partners, aims to respond to these challenges in a holistic, comprehensive and integrated manner through longer-term, multi-year planning to achieve the following strategic objectives: ensure the protection of displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese and Palestinian refugees; provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations; support service provision through national systems; and reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability. The LCRP uses a needs-based approach which adapts to changes in experiences and context. The yearly appeal is developed based on this annual review of needs.

AT A GLANCE

2020 PLANNING FIGURES

5.9 million
Estimated population living in Lebanon

3.2 million
People in Need

2.7 million
People Targeted

1.5 million
Displaced Syrians

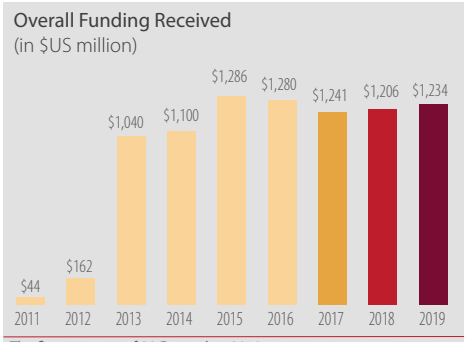
1 million
Vulnerable Lebanese

180,000 PRL
27,700 PRS

$2.67 billion
Funding required

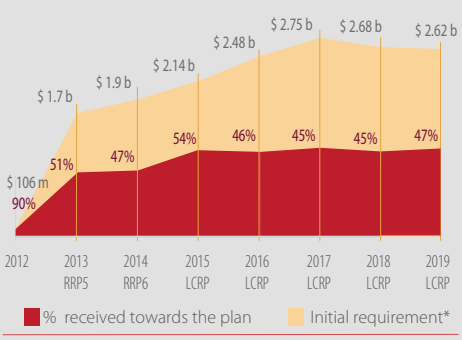
112
Appealing UN and NGO Partners

DONOR CONTRIBUTION



The figures are as of 30 December 2019
Source: Financial Tracking Service (FTS) and LCRP financial tracking.

FUNDING TREND



*includes GoL requirement The figures are as of 31 December 2019
Source: Funding figures used are from FTS and LCRP financial tracking.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Ensure protection of vulnerable populations
- Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations
- Support service provision through national systems
- Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability

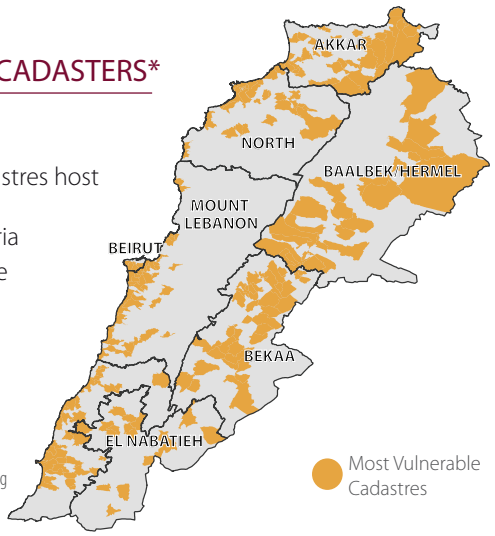
2020 TARGET & REQUIREMENT BY SECTOR

People Targeted	Sectors	Requirements (US$)
2,155,037	Social Stability	126.1m
1,892,700	Health	275.9m
1,883,700	Protection	174.1m
1,375,474	Water	212m
1,102,791	Food Security & Agriculture	510.5m
1,082,811	Basic Assistance	495.6m
678,487	Energy	99.2m
666,352	Shelter	155.6m
497,171	Education	350.5m
92,036	Livelihoods	275m

MOST VULNERABLE CADASTERS*

251 Most Vulnerable Cadastres host

87% Displaced from Syria
67% Deprived Lebanese



* The map will be reviewed and updated based on an agreed methodology for targeting as part of the LCRP Mid-Term Review process scheduled for the second quarter of 2019.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

The concerted response by the Government, international partners and civil society has prevented a sharp decline in socio-economic vulnerability levels for displaced Syrians between 2015 and 2019, compared to the steep deterioration witnessed between 2014 and 2015. However, the situation in Lebanon continues to be precarious, with extensive humanitarian and development needs. The estimated 1.5 million displaced Syrians, around 51 per cent are women and 54 per cent children[1], add to the 1.5 million Lebanese whose vulnerabilities have been exacerbated by the crisis. The affected population also includes an estimated 27,700 Palestinian refugees from Syria and 180,000 Palestinian refugees from Lebanon.[2,i,ii]

Entering the ninth year of this humanitarian crisis, the concerns around the economy and its impact on the stability of the country is palpable. There is rising frustration over the protracted stay of persons displaced from Syria, and the limited number of returns to Syria. This can be found in public narratives where hospitality fatigue is increasingly relayed within the media and society. Polarised narratives on Syrian displacement are entangled with the longstanding and evolving economic, social and environmental problems in the country. In parallel, while well over 80 per cent of refugees express their intention to return, a more limited number are opting to go back in 2019.[iii] The main barriers to return cited by refugees remain the lack of sustainable safety and security in Syria, housing, land and property issues, lack of access to services and livelihood opportunities in areas of return.[iv]

(1) Out of the 54% of registered displaced Syrian children, 43% are considered at risk. This includes 3500 unaccompanied and separated children (53% are boys and 47% are girls).

(2) This situational analysis relies on a combination of datasets collected through surveys and focus group discussions with affected men, women, boys and girls from the refugee and Lebanese host communities. The needs of different segments of the population have been considered in relation to their exposure to threats, vulnerabilities and coping capacities. However, data on persons with difficulties remains a gap and hampers collective understanding of their exposure to risks and threats, in so far as they differ from the broader community. According to WHO, 15% of the global population has some form of disability. Persons with disabilities are one of the most vulnerable and socially excluded groups in any crisis-affected community. They may be in hidden in homes, overlooked during needs assessments and not consulted in the design of programs. A needs assessment conducted by UNICEF and Women's Refugee Commission in 2017 confirmed that women, children and youth with disabilities in Lebanon and their caregivers are facing a range of GBV-related risks including: Child marriage among girls with disabilities, intimate partner violence (IPV) against women with disabilities, sexual harassment by male community members, and at risk of exploitation by family members who forced them to engage in begging on the street.

Humanitarian Crisis within an Economic Crisis

This dynamic is unfolding within the context of an economic crisis in Lebanon. On 2 September 2019, Lebanon's political leaders declared a "state of economic emergency" as a result of the country's long standing structural problems, including the mounting public debt of $85 billion (close to 150 per cent of Gross Domestic Product), low GDP growth and a high fiscal deficit (around seven per cent of GDP).[v] Consequently, Lebanon's real GDP growth fell from an average of eight per cent during the period 2007-2010, to an average of 1.5 per cent during the period 2012-2018.[3,vi] In 2018, $473m was provided through direct cash assistance. This represents 34% of the total financial resources raised within the LCRP. Despite this, the crisis has exacerbated certain economic and investment losses.[vii] In particular, the demographic and economic shocks brought by the Syria crisis has impacted key drivers of growth in sectors such as construction, real estate, industry, services and tourism.[viii] While imports continue to rise significantly, exports have decreased in the past years[4] due to the loss of overland transport routes to the region which all passed through Syria. Alternative options by air or sea remain expensive.[ix] In the same period, the price of importing raw materials also rose, driving an increase in industrial production costs and a reduction in the competitiveness of Lebanese firms.[5,x]

Notwithstanding, the more recent economic downturn has exacerbated pre-existing fragilities and an already challenging economic situation for the most vulnerable within host communities and for displaced persons from Syria, increasing poverty and social tensions between different communities and deepening the country's socio-economic disparities. Despite high levels of human development and tertiary education, between 27 and 30 per cent of people in Lebanon were living

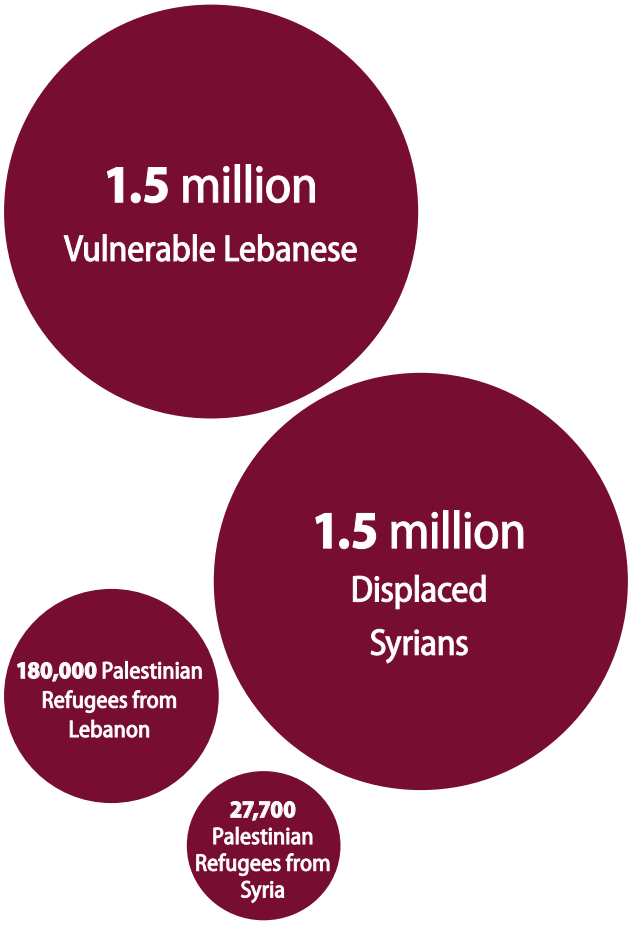
(3) The GDP was at 1.3% in 2015. In 2017, the real GDP growth was estimated at 2%, unchanged from 2016 (1.8%). In 2018, projections of annual growth continued to be around 2% over the medium term.

(4) For the period January-August 2018, the trade balance recorded a U$11.7 billion in deficit. This constitutes a 4.8% increase compared to the same period last year when the trade balance recorded a deficit of $11.2 billion (source: Customs and the Ministry of Finance).

(5) In 2011 (pre-crisis), Lebanon ranked 93 out 139 (66.9%) against 105 out of 137 in 2017-2018.

78% of displaced Syrians age15 years old and above are **without legal residency**

73% of displaced Syrian households live **below** the poverty line of (<**$3.84**/person/day)



More than **1/2** of **displaced** from **Syria** are **women** & **children**

below the national poverty line of $3.84 per person per day before the crisis.[6,xi] Furthermore, an estimated additional 200,000 Lebanese have been pushed into poverty and, where it already existed, poverty deepened.[xii] The highest poverty rates are found in the agriculture sector with 40 per cent of those employed in the sector, considered poor.[xiii] Estimates in 2017 report that the national unemployment rate is around 25 per cent, with 37 per cent for youth under 25 years of age.[xiv] Women are underrepresented in the formal labour market in Lebanon, with 23 per cent compared to 71 per cent of men.[xv] Persons with specific needs, including female heads of households as well as older persons and youth, have been disproportionately affected. Children constitute around 30 per cent of the total labour force in agriculture,[7] followed by women at a rate of 43 per cent.[xvi] Employing cheaper informal labour is one of the coping mechanisms that farmers resort to when facing economic challenges, exacerbating protection concerns.

Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) constitute 95 per cent of firms in Lebanon[xvii] and employ over 50 per cent of the workforce, in particular with 30 per cent of the employed population being self-employed.[xviii] Nevertheless, MSMEs continue to be hampered by a range of factors including access to start-up or expansion capital, inadequate labour market information or skill gaps, and limited opportunities for added value and vertical integration, as well as challenging procedures for setting up a business.[xix, xx] In addition, technical and managerial gaps negatively impact business planning, customer service, branding/marketing and financial management.[xxi] Weak regulations and enforcement limit micro, small and medium enterprises' productivity, as do factors such as the size of the domestic market, limited access to financial services (especially for informal[8] and women-led businesses), stringent foreign market access conditions and high rates of migration among young

(6) According to UNDP's multi-purpose household survey (2008), 28.5% of the Lebanese population lived below the poverty line pre-crisis.
(7) More than half of children working permanently in small farms in the Bekaa are girls (56%) and up to 64% in medium and large farms in the same area. In addition to being engaged in economic activity as much as boys, it is also assumed that girls are expected to also take on far more household chores and domestic duties than boys.
(8) Informality remains an overarching challenge for micro, small and medium enterprises' productivity and performance, as it limits access to financial and non-financial services from the banking system. The highest levels of informal employment are found in the agriculture sector (92.4% in 2009, according to Central Administration of Statistics estimates) followed by construction and transport (80.7% and 71.7% respectively) and finally trade (58.1%).

Only **30%** of displaced Syrian **children** born in Lebanon had their birth **registered** at foreigner's registry

55% of displaced Syrian households live **below** the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (<**$2.9**/person/day)

professionals.[9] The degradation in the general enabling environment is also illustrated by Lebanon's decrease in ranking, from 133 to 142 (out of 190 countries) in the World Bank's Doing Business indicators over the last year.[xxii]

Low productivity and profitability are still challenges for a struggling Lebanese agriculture sector.[xxiii] The agriculture sector itself, which accounts for three per cent of GDP,[xxiv] has equally been affected by the crisis due to disrupted production systems and subsequent impact on agricultural exports.[xxv] The current Ministry of Agriculture budget is reportedly less than one per cent of the government's total budget and is inadequate to support the needs of national institutions, agricultural infrastructure and labour market.[xxvi]

As a consequence, job creation in Lebanon is less than would be expected when compared to other regions.[xxvii] Nonetheless, there are a number of promising trends. Lebanon ranks 80th in the Human Development Index[10,xxviii] and ranks high in the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor.[xxix] Tourism is starting to recover: the number of visitors rose by 8.3 per cent by July 2019 compared to the same period in 2018, and hotel occupancies registered the highest rate since 2010.[xxx,xxxi] Pharmaceutical capacities and exports have also increased significantly since 2010.[xxxii]

Furthermore, there is potential for MSMEs to develop further in information and communication technology, where there have been successful start-ups, as well as in the agro-food, construction, industry and manufacturing sectors which have all been identified as catalysts for job creation.[xxxiii] Agro-industry valuechains, the cornerstone of the country's industrial economy, represent 18.2 per cent of the total economic activities in Lebanon. Agriculture is generally considered to be amongst the promising economic sectors for Lebanon.[xxxiv] With the re-opening of the Syria-Jordan border in October 2018, there is again potential for connecting with markets in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries and Iraq.[xxxv]

(9) Five challenges are considered cross-cutting across the micro, small and medium enterprises ecosystem in the Ministry's strategy: (1) the growth barrier, especially for small-to-medium enterprises which are unable to break through the next stages of growth; (2) a lingering old economy delaying the transition to the knowledge economy; (3) a changing business environment; (4) economic uncertainty and cash stressing due to the slowing of business cycles combined with inadequate financing measures; and (5) uncoordinated institutional framework leading to limited concerted efforts. The World Bank stated, in its Human capital project, that 44% of Lebanese graduates emigrate in search of job opportunities; http://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/human-capital.

(10) The index ranks human development based on three criteria: (a) Living a long and healthy life; (b) Having access to knowledge, and; (c) Having a decent life.

Policy Environment

Lebanon is not party to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, but it is to core human rights conventions such as the Convention Against Torture. In December 2018, Lebanon joined the UN General Assembly in affirming the Global Compact on Refugees.[11] The Government of Lebanon has consistently affirmed its commitment to the principle of non-refoulement, which is essential so that no person is expelled or returned or subject to rejection at borders or compelled to return in any manner whatsoever to the frontiers of territories where his/her life or freedom would be threatened or where there are substantial grounds for believing that he/she would be in danger of being subjected to torture.[xxxvi]

Access to the Lebanon territory for Syrians is continuing to be regulated by clearly identified visa and residency categories including, among others, sponsorship, tourism, business and transit put in place in 2015, with registration of refugee suspended the same year. Following decisions by the Higher Defence Council and the Directorate General of General Security (GSO) in April and May 2019, displaced Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria –men, women and children– apprehended for lack of legal residency and found to have entered Lebanon irregularly after 24 April 2019 are subject to deportation and handed over to the Syrian immigration authorities. Discussions are ongoing between the authorities and partners about securing procedural safeguards to eliminate the risk of refoulement while ensuring effective border management.[12]

Legal residency is critical to the ability of persons displaced from Syria to receive protection, access basic rights and live in dignity during their exile in Lebanon. It has a positive impact on the physical and emotional health of displaced Syrians and their families, improving mobility, access to essential services and civil documentation, reducing negative coping mechanisms, such as child labour and child marriage, and decreasing the risk of deportation and/or arrest and on the financial resources of the country. Despite its importance, the percentage of displaced Syrians aged 15 years and above having legal residency continues to show a downward

(11) The Global Compact on Refugees, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 December 2018, is a framework for more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing, recognizing that a sustainable solution to refugee situations cannot be achieved without international cooperation. See: https://www.unhcr.org/the-global-compact-on-refugees.html.

(12) Lebanese law provides for such safeguards.

1/3 of displaced Syrians households are **moderately** to **severely food insecure**

46% of displaced Syrian men in working age **have access to work**

trend, from 27 per cent in 2018 to 22 per cent in 2019. While in 2014, 58 per cent of Syrian households had all of its members holding legal residency, this has decreased to only 10 per cent in 2019. To ease legal residency processes and increase access, in March 2017 the General Security Office (GSO) announced a waiver of legal residency and overstay fees ($200 per year, per person aged 15 years above). The waiver applies to displaced Syrians registered with UNHCR before 1 January 2015 and who had not renewed their residency previously based on tourism, sponsorship, or property ownership of tenancy.[13] As a result, legal residency rates are much higher among registered Syrian refugees (33%) than among non-registered Syrians (18%).[xxxvii] Women and female-headed households are less likely than men to have legal residency,[14] as are refugees under the age of 30.[xxxviii] In addition, the more economically vulnerable the Syrian households are, the less likely they are to have legal residency. Overall, there are geographic variations in the level to which displaced Syrians have obtained legal residency with Akkar (13%) having the lowest level of legal residency nationally and the South of Lebanon (39%) having the highest. This is partially indicative of differing levels of implementation of the waiver; however, lack of capacity or long queues are no longer cited as a main barrier.[xxxix] Other reasons for displaced Syrians not having legal residency include having previously renewed residency based on sponsorship and unable to obtain a Lebanese sponsor or pay the fees, arriving after 2015 and concerns over arrest and detention on the way to GSO offices due to lack of residency. To encourage eligible refugees to renew their residency, GSO has agreed in 2019 for UNHCR to accompany groups to GSO offices across the country and this process is showing positive results. Nevertheless, it requires additional efforts in terms of processing capacity and coherent application of national policies across the country.

In July 2017, a fee waiver was made also available for Palestinian refugees from Syria who entered Lebanon legally before September 2015. However, the waiver excludes all who entered irregularly and those with a departure order, thus a considerable number of Palestinian refugees from Syria are unable to regularize their stay in Lebanon. According to UNRWA, during the first six months of 2018, more than 40 per cent of Palestinian refugees from Syria did not hold valid residency documents. The main reasons were: i) previously asked to pay fees; ii) irregular entrance and; iii) lack of response from the authorities on their case. From July 2017, Palestinian refugees from Syria continued to be granted free residency permits for six months (renewable multiple times). However, according to the conditions of the July 2017 memorandum, only Palestinian refugees from Syria, who entered Lebanon regularly before September 2016, are entitled to apply for the residency renewal.

Birth registration is essential to ensuring a child's legal identity under domestic and international law and reduces the risk of statelessness. It also increases their access to justice, education, freedom of movement and healthcare. Simplification measures were adopted by the GoL to facilitate displaced persons from Syria's access to birth registration and other civil documentation. A memorandum issued by the Personal Status Department in March 2018 allowing for birth registrations of displaced Syrian children and Palestinian refugee children from Syria above one year and born in Lebanon between 1 January 2011 and 8 February 2018, through administrative procedures. As a result, the registration rate at the Foreigners' Registry level continues to show a positive development, increasing to 30 per cent of births of children born in Lebanon registered in 2019, compared with 21 per cent in 2018 and 17 per cent in 2017.[xl] In September 2019, this waiver was extended to also apply to children born between 9 February 2018 and 9 February 2019. Lebanon's efforts on civil registration are considered a good practice and need to be sustained. Children born after 9 February 2019, Palestinian refugee children from Lebanon and Lebanese children (as well as other foreigners) continue to be subject to the normal birth registration procedures, including a one-year deadline for registration at the Nofous level, after which court procedures would be required to finalize birth registration. The birth registration rate is far higher in Beirut, at 65 per cent, than the national average, partially due to easier access to the civil registry offices, while the rates in Akkar and the North, as well as in the Bekaa and Baalbek/El Hermel, are well below the national average of 30 per cent.[xli] Lack of legal residency has an indirect impact on birth registration rates, as residency

(13) The Government of Lebanon has committed, during the 2017 Brussels Conference, to consider gradually expanding the waiver to cover other categories of refugees; see: Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region Conference (Brussels, 5 April 2017), Co-chairs declaration, Annex: Supporting resilience and development effort of host countries and refugees in the context of the Syrian crisis – Lebanon, http://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/24070/annex-lebanon.pdf. This has, however, not been implemented yet.

(14) Men are being prioritized for legal residency over other household members, so that they are able to cross checkpoints and access work.

63% of displaced Syrians households are **marginally food insecure**

89% of displaced Syrian **women** in working age remain **outside** the **labor force**

of at least one spouse/parent is required for marriage registration at the Foreigners' Registry, which in turn is needed for birth registration. Other barriers include the related cost and complex administrative procedures, lack of documentation, restricted movement due to lack of residency, inconsistent administrative practices, and retention of the birth notification or parents' IDs by hospitals due to inability to pay hospital fees for the delivery.

The lack of registration of other civil status events in Lebanon, certifying marriage, divorce or death, can have implications on protection, including legal guardianship over children and on inheritance rights. Marriage and divorce registration requires multiple steps and is often not completed, mostly due to costly fees, lack of documentation, and lack of awareness and the complexity of procedures. The percentage of displaced Syrians without any legal marriage documentation remains constant at 27 per cent,[15,xlii] despite simplification of the procedure in September 2017 requiring only one spouse (instead of both) to have legal residency to register their marriage. The lack of marriage certificate can be problematic for women and girls, especially those in child or forced marriages, mixed Lebanese and Syrian couples or for Lebanese mothers,[16] to divorce or annul a marriage, or contest the custody and support of children. Marriage registration being a requirement for birth registration, the low level of marriage registration also affects parents' ability to register births. Death registration for Syrians deceased in Lebanon remains very low, for similar reasons as marriage registration and tight deadlines to register a death before being fined, overall negatively impacting family members, particularly women wishing to access inheritance rights (including in Syria upon return).

There are an estimated 4,000 non-ID Palestinians in Lebanon. These are Palestinians who began to arrive in Lebanon in the 1960s and do not hold formal valid identification documents. They are not registered as Palestinian refugees with UNRWA in Lebanon and are not recognized by the Government of Lebanon as they do not have valid legal status in the country. Without documentation and legal status in Lebanon, non-ID Palestinians face restrictions of movement, risk detention and face severe obstacles in completing civil registration procedures. Their lack of documentation limits their access to public services (medical and educational), their access to formal employment and their access to justice in Lebanon, as well as their ability to exit the Lebanese territory.

In accordance with the Ministry of Labour decision and Lebanese labour law, displaced Syrians are entitled to engage in activities and exercise professions not restricted to Lebanese. Enforcement of existing Lebanese regulations in 2019 coupled with the Higher Defence Council decision to ensure compliance with work permit regulations for foreign workers to increase formality and subsequently protection of the labour force, has led to a series of illegal shop and business closures. This has impacted a number of poor and displaced families who were working informally, either within or outside the authorized sectors. Further steps are required to prevent risks of exploitation and negative coping mechanisms, in particular, the risk of child labour, including the worst forms of child labour. The situation of displaced Syrians is particularly acute in Akkar, Baalbek-Hermel and Bekaa governorates, where close to three out of four individuals are unable to meet their survival needs.[17,xliii] These areas have also registered the highest level of social tensions, with increased competition for lower-skilled jobs identified as a key driver of inter-community tensions.[18, xliv] Palestinian refugees from Lebanon have a special labour-status in Lebanon but still face barriers in terms of access to work; they are required to obtain a work permit, they do no benefit from the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) and Palestinian refugees from Lebanon are still prevented from employment in 39 professions, such as medicine, law and engineering. Livelihoods opportunities are important to prevent the escalation of economic grievances, which are a powerful driver of conflict and instability. This is particularly true for young people given the link between employment, the sense of hope for the future and their ability to positively contribute to society.[xlv]

(15) This is stable compared to 2018 at 28%. While there have been slight improvements at some of the steps in the marriage registration process, 6% still do not have any documentation and 21% only a marriage contract from an uncertified Sheikh.
(16) Lebanese mothers by law do not have the right to pass on Lebanese nationality to their children.
(17) On average, 73% of households in the three worst-affected governorates of Akkar, Baalbek-Hermel and Bekaa live in extreme poverty (under SMEB), and 88% of households in these governorates live in poverty (under MEB).
(18) The key findings of the ARK Perception Survey (Wave 6) show that both Lebanese (58%) and Syrians (42%) consider competition for low-skilled jobs as the main source of inter-community tensions.

9 out of **10** displaced Syrians housholds are in **debt**

31% of diplaced Syrians **live** in **Permanent** or **non-residential** shelters

Resilient but Strained Communities

Taken in sum, findings point to a situation where, despite stability on the surface, underlying frustrations are growing in Lebanon with the protracted nature of the crisis. Intercommunal relations between displaced persons from Syria and host communities have deteriorated over the course of the past 12 months, particularly in vulnerable localities. In a nationally representative survey, the proportion of Lebanese respondents stating that relations are 'negative' or 'very negative' increased by 10 per cent from July 2018 to August 2019.[xlvi]

Syrian refugee Mariam and her husband in Arsal
Photo Credit: UNHCR, Diego Ibarra Sanchez, 17/01/2019.

Behind this are multiple, compounding sources of tension that continue to drive negative perceptions and increase the potential of violence between persons displaced from Syria and host communities. These range from perceived competition over lower skilled work, to strained resources, services and utilities, to historical and cultural grievances that date back decades. These social tensions exist in an already complex landscape of sectarian and political differences within Lebanese communities in addition to an overarching economic anxiety that affects all groups.

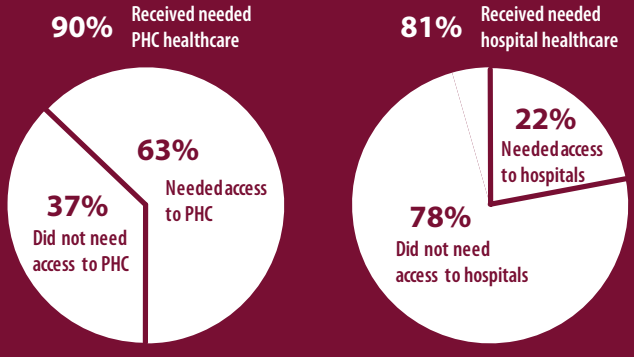
Notably, there is growing frustrations within the host community. For instance, 27 per cent of displaced Syrians reported having experienced verbal harassment in July 2019, an increase of seven per cent from the middle of 2017.[xlvii] In addition, tensions monitoring reports record an increase in the number of intercommunal violent incidents in 2019 compared to 2018, particularly in January and June when several incidents led to the relocation of refugees in country.[xlviii] Overall, the effect has been that interaction between displaced Syrians and host communities has continued to decline. The proportion of Syrians reporting 'daily' or 'regular' interactions in social circles decreased by eight per cent from January 2018 to August 2019. Importantly, women (10%) are less likely than men (17%) to interact socially on a daily or regular basis with a member of another nationality. This decrease in interactions appears to be affecting all cohorts of displaced populations and, more broadly, the hardening of attitudes is confirmed by interviews with displaced Syrians themselves, many of whom, especially women, feel isolated or scapegoated.[xlix,l,li]

It is vital, too, to underline ongoing anxieties of the host community, particularly youth. More than 500,000 youth in Lebanon are estimated to be 'at risk', most of whom live in already vulnerable areas where livelihoods opportunities are limited. This is having an impact on mental health, with over 50 per cent of Lebanese children and adolescents suffering from anxiety and around 13 per cent of whom have suffered from depression, with 56 per cent and 17 per cent respectively amongst displaced Syrians.[19,lii] This issue exists across demographic groups and contributes to social instability in Lebanon, as it leads to rising healthcare demands and costs, loss of economic productivity, and experimentation with negative coping behaviours that affect community stability.[liii] Recent studies also highlight this erosion of the social fabric in the most affected communities, where different demographic groups feel somewhat powerless to enact change in their communities, and are increasingly displaying competitive and adversarial attitudes in interpersonal relations – such as young Lebanese women in deprived areas such as Bekaa.[liv] While in some cases anxieties are focused on cultural differences such as different gender roles between communities, tensions also revolve around the general divide between Lebanese and non-Lebanese, even when members of both communities share similar cultural and religious identities.[lv] Indeed, partners have also reported emerging intra-Syrian disputes and contestations over controls of market spaces, particularly in Baalbek-Hermel.

Another pressing challenge is the need to address the security concerns of residents, particularly of women from both communities.[lvi] A marked increase in the number of adhoc searches and detentions has been noted in the first half of 2019. Lack of legal residency remains the most common reason for the arrest and detention of persons

(19) Measured in various ratings or indices: Screen for Child Anxiety Related Disorders (SCARED), Children's Depression Inventory (CDI), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); Child / Adolescent PTSD Reaction Index.

69% of displaced Syrian children between 6 and 14 years were **attending school** in 2019



displaced from Syria, with most being released within 24 to 48 hours. Persons displaced from Syria, in particular those without legal residency, including children, face increasing risk of arrest and deportation since the Higher Defence Council decisions in April 2019. Alongside the feeling of increased isolation and growing tensions, is also the fact that displaced Syrians are now less likely to turn to local authorities for help. In August 2019, just four per cent of displaced Syrians reported that they would turn to local authorities for help, compared with 19.3 per cent in January 2018. Instead, displaced Syrians, including children, will tend more to self-censor their engagement with both Lebanese host communities and local authorities. At the same time, the number of measures affecting Syrians, including curfews, evictions, confiscation of IDs, and instances of additional service charges, have increased, and in most cases lack a legal basis.[lvii] 89 per cent of Lebanese believe that some measures on foreigners' movements help to keep their areas safe.[lviii] As the first responders, many municipal leaders prefer to introduce municipal police forces as a more effective way to address a perceived increase in security incidents, mediate disputes, and often request support to do so.[lix] Displaced Syrians and Lebanese host community members are living increasingly parallel, but separate lives within the same localities. In the short term, this may result in greater senses of safety and security, and indeed lower rates of violent incidents. However, in the long-run, this trend poses a threat to trust building as negative misconceptions of the other community can proliferate if not countered by regular positive interactions. Furthermore, this situation reduces the self-reliance and resilience of displaced communities, exacerbating vulnerabilities that in turn compound the burden this places on host communities and the country as a whole.

Struggling to Survive

Within the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), in April 2019,[20] 42,931 Lebanese households (237,936 people) were identified as living in extreme poverty and the most vulnerable are eligible for food assistance through e-vouchers.[21] The poor Lebanese households, as registered with NPTP, mainly live in the North (41%),[22] Bekaa (29%),[23] and Mount Lebanon (16%). Reported needs for vulnerable Lebanese include basic elements such as food, health, rent, and specific needs such as rehabilitation support and equipment to persons with disabilities and older persons. Around 14 per cent of these households have members with disabilities. A baseline study conducted in 2015[lx] showed that 10 per cent of the Lebanese population was vulnerable to food insecurity. These tended to be households headed by widowed, divorced or separated individuals.[lxi] To cope with emerging shortfalls, 56 per cent of the households reported employing food related coping strategies, of which five per cent were heavily reliant on severe food coping strategies. Over 50 per cent of households incurred debts mainly to purchase food and acquire agricultural inputs. In general, 49 per cent of Lebanese households interviewed reported worrying about not having enough food and some 38 per cent reported eating fewer kinds of food groups, while others reported being unable to access healthy and nutritious food.[lxii]

The socio-economic situation for Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (PRL) is precarious with two thirds living under the poverty line.[24] Compared to PRL households, extreme poverty levels among Palestinian refugees from Syria are three times higher.[lxiii] A total of 94.5 per cent of Palestinian refugees from Syria reported to be food insecure, out of which 63.2 per cent reported to be severely food insecure.[lxiv] According to UNRWA's post-distribution monitoring exercise conducted in April 2019, the overwhelming majority (92%) of Palestinian refugees from Syria rely heavily on assistance provided by UNRWA as a main source of income. Palestinian refugees from Syria are also heavily indebted as their access to formal employment is limited. Palestinian refugees are relying on negative food-related coping strategies, such as relying on less preferred and less expensive food of lower quality, reducing the number of meals and limiting the portion size of meals.[lxv] UNRWA's cash-based food assistance programme is supporting close to 27,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria on a monthly basis.

(20) Based on 60 vulnerability indicators, including but not limited to: shelter and sanitation conditions, assets, and demographics. The poverty benchmark was set at $5.7/person/day (extreme poverty line) and $8.6/person/day (upper poverty line).
(21) 71,820 extremely poor individuals currently benefit from the food e-voucher programme.
(22) With 23.8% in Akkar and 17.8% in the North governorates.
(23) With 9.7 per cent in the Bekaa and 19.2% in Baalbek-Hermel governorates.
(24) The poverty calculation in this report is based on the national poverty line calculated in 2004, while accounting for the inflation rate of 2015: $6/capita/day for the upper (poverty line) and $2.50 for the lower border (extreme or absolute poverty line). Data for computing poverty indicators is not available through the recent CAS/PCBS/LPDC Census exercise, and there is a need to supplement the census with exercises to fill the data gaps through sample surveys.

Over half **(54%)** of displaced Syrians perceive **relations** between Syrians and Lebanese as **positive** in 2019

5 is the average **household size** of Syrian refugees in Lebanon

The level of displaced Syrians spending less than $2.9 a day has increased from 51 per cent in 2018 to 55 per cent in 2019. There are indications that displaced Syrians are becoming more economically vulnerable, with 73 per cent spending less than $3.8 a day in 2019, compared to 68 per cent in 2018.[25,lxvi] Consequently, 80 per cent of displaced Syrian children live in a household where their access to basic human needs are limited. There has been a five per cent (or $6) decline in expenditures which indicates a decline in Syrian refugees' access to resources.[26,27,lxvii] At the governorate level, the highest concentration of economically vulnerable displaced Syrians families is found in Baalbek-El Hermel (78%), followed by Bekaa (72%) and Akkar (71%). The number of families falling under the extreme poverty line of $2.90 increased in 2019, especially in the North,[28] South,[29] and Mount Lebanon.[30] Beirut is the only governorate with a decrease in the percentage of families falling under the extreme poverty line.[31] Compared to 2018, displaced Syrian families are spending more on food in 2019 out of their total expenditures, with the highest expenditures in the North and Akkar. The poorest families, female-headed households and those living in non-residential shelters are the worst affected.[lxviii] Given limited access to the labour market, the two main sources of income for displaced Syrians remain informal credit[32] and debt (64%) and food assistance (30%).[lxix] Nearly 93 per cent of families are living in debt, which is higher than $600 for 55 per cent of them. The main reasons for borrowing remain the same throughout the years, with food (75%), rent (51%), and health care (34%) at the forefront of reasons. More people are borrowing to buy medicine[33] and repay debts.[34] More male-headed households are borrowing to buy food and to pay rent, while more female-headed households are borrowing to pay for health care and buy medicine. Friends in Lebanon are still the main source of borrowing in 2019 (84%), followed by shops (47%) leaving individuals particularly vulnerable to harassment and exploitation. Lastly, 63 per cent of displaced Syrians in Lebanon are food secure to some degree.[lxx]

Economic vulnerability and increased debt accumulation continues to force 55 per cent of the displaced population to reside in inadequate shelter conditions.[35] One third of households (32%) continue to live in overcrowded shelters (34% in 2018), which is defined as having less than 4.5m^2 per person. Overcrowding is more common in non-permanent (46%) and non-residential (42%) shelters than in residential shelters (26%). Furthermore, unfavourable shelter conditions put women, girls and boys at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, due to lack of privacy linked to the used shelter materials, overcrowdedness, or lack of separation of sleeping space. This is particularly problematic in informal settlements.[36,lxxi]

Agriculture field in Bekaa.
Photo credit: UNDP, Rana Sweidan, 07/5/2019

Recent estimates suggest that the Syrian labour force in Lebanon constitutes an estimated 332,000 people, of whom about 69 per cent are employed (63% of women and 70% of men).[lxxii] However, those working typically work about 27 hours per week on average for all of their jobs, spread over three days of the week, suggesting high rates of underemployment.[37] Furthermore, the labour force participation rate of Syrian women is very low at about 11.5 per cent, as compared to 77 per cent for men, due in part to culturally defined roles related to access to the job market. Overall, 59 per cent of households have at least one working member in charge of providing for their entire family.

(25) As per VASyR 2019, female-headed households are economically more vulnerable than male-headed ones: 79% of female-headed households are poor (i.e. under MEB), compared to 72% of their male-headed counterparts.
(26) Average monthly expenditure per capita decreased from $111 in 2018 to $105 in 2019.
(27) VASyR 2019.
(28) As per VASyR: 47% in 2019, compared to 40% in 2018.
(29) As per VASyR: 46% in 2019, compared to 36% in 2018.
(30) As per VASyR: 43% in 2019, compared to 33% in 2018.
(31) As per VASyR: 23% in 2019, compared to 34% in 2018.
(32) Informal credit, including from shops, friends and relatives.
(33) As per VASyR: 33% in 2019, compared to 23% in 2018.
(34) As per VASyR: 6% in 2019, compared to 3% in 2018.
(35) This is based on direct observations by VASyR 2018 enumerators when visiting the shelter and could be one or multiple of the following: structure in dangerous condition, quality of shelter much below shelter standard, overcrowding (<4.5sqm per person).
(36) There are 297,722 individuals living in informal settlements (IAMP 66, August 2019).
(37) Livelihoods data from VASyR 2019 shows that displaced Syrians are primarily engaged in temporary work (70%) and that the average monthly earning is below $200 for an average of 14 days of work per household, less than half of the minimum survival needs (SMEB) for a household of five.

51% of respondents cite **competition over jobs** as a key source of **tension**

13% of displaced Syrian children between 3 and 5 years were **attending school** in 2018

The situation remains critical for female-headed households, 54 per cent of which do not have a working member, compared to 39 per cent of male-headed households, contributing toward further reliance on negative coping strategies. When looking at the situation of refugee youth, Beirut has the highest employment-to-population ratio at 40 per cent (youth aged 15 and over), in stark contrast to Baalbek-Hermel and Bekaa, where the employment-to-population rate is just over 15 per cent. Displaced Syrians who have found work congregate primarily in sectors that have traditionally used Syrian labour,[38] such as construction (21%) and agriculture (17%).[lxxiii]

56.2 per cent of Palestinian refugees are economically inactive, this is largely due to the low participation of women (11.9 per cent) compared to that of men (59 per cent). The labour force participation rate is at 43.8 per cent with 8.5 per cent unemployed. The unemployment rate is therefore comparable to the Lebanese rate at eight per cent at the start of the Syria crisis, however the large percentage of economically inactive is cause for concern. For Palestinian refugees from Syria the unemployment is significantly higher, with two thirds of those in the labour force being unemployed. The challenges facing young people are even higher: Unemployment among Palestinian refugees aged 20 – 24 years is at 32.2 per cent for males and 48.8 per cent for females. Similar to the displaced Syrians, employment is mostly informal in nature with 93.5 per cent not in possession of a work permit.[lxxiv]

Families living in extreme poverty tend to have similar characteristics that contribute to increased risk of vulnerability. These families are more likely to have a larger-sized family, more dependent members and members with disability or chronic illnesses. For parents, it can impact their capacities to provide adequate care and protection for their children and increases psychosocial distress, domestic violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of girls and boys.[39] They are more often moderately and severely food insecure. Women are more food insecure at 34 per cent compared with 27 per cent for men. Households headed by women are more affected compared to those headed by men, with 63 per cent of them reporting expenditures under the extreme poverty level compared with 53 per cent of men. The income of female-headed families is eight per cent lower than the income of their male counterparts, and women are more likely to have lower levels of education. Increase of debt, coupled with less access to legal residency[40] and other civil documentation restricting mobility and access to jobs, have created barriers to sustainable improvements. Gender norms and risks of gender-based violence further restrict mobility. Female-headed households are also more often living in non-permanent and non-residential shelters than male-headed households. The vulnerability of these families is compounded by the limited capacity of municipalities to provide basic services to host and displaced populations and manage intercommunal relations. Needs continue to exceed what service providers can cover, including the provision of rehabilitation services, mental health care, and assistive devices for persons with difficulties.

The families who can no longer afford to pay rent are moving into informal settlements which, in turn, increases the demand and the number of locations requiring support.[lxxv] The majority of the population live in residential buildings where many vulnerable households live in poor urban settlements, a high proportion being affected by intermittent and poor water and wastewater services, which has consequences for Lebanon's environmental health, economic well-being and stability.[41] Half of displaced Syrian households were living in shelter that were either below humanitarian standards or in danger of collapse. There is a higher percentage of displaced Syrians living in non-permanent structures with 25 per cent in Akkar, 48 per cent in the Bekaa and 50 per cent in Baalbek-Hermel. Mount Lebanon had the highest rate of households living in substandard conditions (46%), followed by Bekaa. The southern districts however, had the highest rates of households living in dangerous conditions. The Palestinian camps and gatherings across the country where 45 per cent of Palestinian refugees from Syria live are overcrowded. These camps are affected by substandard infrastructure, sanitation and housing. The absence of rule of law

(38) Persons displaced from Syria face additional challenges accessing the formal labour market. Even though they are allowed access to the agriculture, construction and environment sectors, this is limited in practice due to onerous legal and administrative frameworks.

(39) In general, there remain substantial gaps related to the national Child Protection system, regarding legislation and policies and inconsistent implementation across the country, further hampering vulnerable children having access to protection and safety.

(40) These areas struggle with the lowest rates of individuals above 15 years old holding legal residency, with 13% in Akkar, 14% in Baalbek-Hermel (except for Arsal at 51%), and 18% in the Bekaa.

(41) A national exercise in 2015 correlating poverty data and UNHCR registration data identified 251 cadastres as particularly vulnerable – home to 87% of displaced Syrians and Palestinian refugees, and 67% of deprived Lebanese. See: https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/45715.

53% of displaced Syrians are **children** (below 18 years old)

$1,115 is the average **debt** per displaced Syrian household (an increase of $200 since 2017)

contributes to an environment characterized by insecurity of all camp habitants, including displaced Syrians and poor Lebanese. This has resulted in limited access to safety and justice for survivors of gender based violence and children at risk of violence exploitation and abuse.[42] The majority of shelters in Palestinian camps are unplanned, at risk of collapse and with unhygienic conditions due to leaks and inappropriate construction materials.[lxxvi] While there is no representative data on the shelter conditions of poor Lebanese, illustrative snapshots from neighbourhood profiles[43] of vulnerable urban areas show that the difficulties in accessing secure, adequate and affordable housing are shared by Lebanese and non-Lebanese low income groups. Significant proportions of Lebanese in deprived urban pockets live in buildings with structural[44] or exterior[45] conditions that are in substandard or critical condition, with precarious communal space standards. Whilst lower than among Syrian households, overcrowding[46] is also a prevalent feature.[lxxvii] The suspension of activities of the Government's Public Housing Corporation[47] in February 2018, which provided housing loans to some lower-income Lebanese, has likely exacerbated the supply-demand mismatch.

For displaced Syrian families, mitigating the deterioration of physical conditions of non-permanent structures within informal settlements can become unmanageable when faced with harsh weather conditions, particularly for female-headed families, older persons, or persons with other specific needs. This situation has become exacerbated by the recent Higher Defence Council decision on dismantlement of unauthorised hard structures. Female-headed households reported difficulties in weatherproofing their shelters mostly due to lack of technical skills given the differences in gender roles. Having to rely on external support to install the material can also lead to other risks, including exploitation for women and girls. The improper use of shelter material can increase the chances of households having to purchase materials multiple times during the year, constituting an additional financial burden that may lead to decreased spending on other basic needs such as food and healthcare. Access to shelter materials is also restricted by the cost of travel and protection concerns related to mobility, such as crossing checkpoints. Funding for immediate emergency shelter assistance is declining, a trend that presents challenges for informal settlements in particular. This heightens protection, health and malnutrition risks linked to the privacy and dignity for families living in informal settlements, as well as to safety and security in the face of climatic events and fire. In addition, those not included for short-term shelter and water assistance are likely to require longer-term interventions, partly due to the inevitable deterioration of temporary shelter materials.

Syrian refugee walks through the snow at the informal settlement, Bekaa -Doures. Photo Credit: UNHCR, Diego Ibarra Sanchez, 17/01/2019.

The most vulnerable displaced Syrian and Palestinian populations also face seasonal shocks. During winter, when average temperatures range from 10°C to -5°C at high altitudes, families are exposed to the cold and associated risks which create seasonal needs and related costs. The most vulnerable live in poor quality and unprotected shelters[48] and need weatherproofing kits, plastic sheeting, stoves and additional fuel for heating, winter clothes and blankets, as well as food to reach the required minimum caloric intake. The cost of covering these additional needs ranges between $70 to $150 per month.[lxxviii] Winter assistance programmes represent

(42) Support of children in contact with the law and cases of children at heightened risk through the judicial and non-judicial pathways and case management remains insufficient and leaves already very vulnerable children without the protection they need and are entitled to. There is a lack of appropriate alternative care for unaccompanied and separated children, street connected children, children in detention and all other children in need of such support.
(43) UN-Habitat and UNICEF Lebanon (2018), Tabbaneh Neighbourhood Profile 2018, Beirut. UN-Habitat and UNICEF Lebanon (2018), El-Qobbeh Neighbourhood Profile 2018, Beirut. Evidence is drawn from other neighbourhood profile datasets not yet published.
(44) Structural supporting elements, beams or columns.
(45) Exterior walls, roofs, windows, balconies or other fixed architectural features.
(46) Overcrowding describes three or more persons sleeping in the same room. This definition is not currently consistent with that used in VASyR. The definition is adopted from UNICEF's 2016 Household Baseline Survey.
(47) The Public Corporation for Housing is a state agency, funded by the Government of Lebanon, to provide subsidized low interest housing loans through a central bank financing mechanism to low and middle-income Lebanese citizens, accessed through commercial banks. The majority of loans are made to homebuyers, although loans are also made for renovations and other works.
(48) Around 80% of poor households live in substandard conditions as per the Interagency 2015, Households Profiling Questionnaire Data, and confirmed by the VASyR in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

18% of displaced Syrians households are **headed** by **women**

Accommodation **change** of displaced Syrians households is mainly **due** to **inability** to pay **rent**

a critical seasonal support for households with limited economic means. Financial and in-kind assistance provided help families address the additional winter-related expenditures and mitigate exposure to cold hazards.

The ability of displaced Syrians to survive and ensure their safety becomes increasingly challenging when faced with additional shocks or emergencies. Six per cent of displaced Syrians have been evicted at some point during their time in Lebanon, and two per cent of households more than once.[lxxix] The vast majority of individual evictions are carried out by landlords (95%), mainly because of the inability of displaced Syrians to pay rent.[lxxx] The first half of 2019 has also been marked with a notable increase of collective evictions by local authorities and host communities linked to environmental considerations, mostly related to the Litani river.[lxxxi] The percentage of Syrian households living under an eviction notice increased to 3.7 per cent,[lxxxii] from 2.7 per cent in 2018, while more than 6,500 individuals remained at risk of collective eviction as at 30 June 2019.[lxxxiii] Evictions further exacerbate a multitude of protection risks, including homelessness, secondary displacement, exploitative housing arrangements, child trafficking, school drop-out, and child labour. This is particularly concerning for the most vulnerable, such as persons with specific needs, female heads of household and children. Women with young children or children with disabilities face additional difficulties to pay rent, as they are unable to leave the house to generate income. Working female heads of household report that their salaries barely covered their rent fees, exposing them to an increased risk of eviction. A number of women also reported having been repeatedly evicted within a short period of time or having to change their home over the past year following a protection incident or threat against them or their children. Women reported hearing of incidents of sexual and gender-based violence in which landlords requested sexual favours in exchange for rent, while others noted refusing to engage in survival sex.[lxxxiv] Against a backdrop of issues relating to social stability in municipalities and Lebanese host communities, it is increasingly challenging for evictees to be accepted in potential areas of relocation and, following several collective evictions in 2019, it has been difficult to identify alternative locations.

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is one of the main protection concerns affecting both host and displaced populations. Since 2015, an average of 90 per cent of sexual and gender-based violence incidents reported to specialized service providers involved women and girls, indicating that they continue to be disproportionately affected, with grave consequences to health, security, psychosocial and socio-economic well-being. Men and boys are also affected, with male survivors constituting almost eight per cent of all cases reported (one third of which are under 18 years of age). As of August 2019, 14 per cent of reported sexual and gender-based violence incidents involved children and one per cent of reported incidents affected persons with disabilities. Identifying survivors of gender based violence may be particularly challenging, considering its intimate home-based nature, survivors are still striving with inherited social norms, victim-blaming culture, mobility restriction and economic dependency therefore overlooked by service providers. Data collected through the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS),[49] partner assessments, focus group discussions and protection monitoring highlights that displacement increases the risk of sexual and gender-based violence, with 97 per cent of reported incidents having occurred after arriving in Lebanon. Married girls including child mothers, adolescent girls, unaccompanied and separated boys and girls, women and girls with disabilities, older women, and female heads of household and socially marginalized groups continue to be the most at risk. The most commonly reported types of violence involve physical violence (36%), mainly within the family or home, sexual violence including rape and sexual assault (16%), emotional violence, as well as forced and child marriage. Child marriage is a deeply rooted form of sexual and gender-based violence that affects both host and displaced communities. These practices were pre-existing in Syria and among Palestinian communities prior to the displacement crisis. However, there are indications that the prevalence of child marriage among displaced Syrians has risen due to the crisis, and that the marriage of girls continues to be used by their families as a harmful

(49) The data and analysis presented refers to reported cases, as well as protection concerns raised during focus group discussions and activities with the community. In Lebanon, 11 organizations are using the GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS). These eleven SGBV service providers contributed to the statistical trends which are based on data collected from January to August 2019. The GBVIMS captures information on incidents reported in the course of seeking services and allows to safely collect, store and analyse data related to SGBV. Since only information on reported incidents is recorded, and shared with the informed consent of survivors, it does not represent a comprehensive overview of SGBV incidents in Lebanon.

28% of displaced Syrian girls aged between 15 and 19 are **married**

67% of displaced Syrians households do **not** have a single member with **legal residency**

coping mechanism in an attempt to protect them and/ or alleviate financial burden.[50] Girls continue to be at much higher risk of being subjected to child marriage than boys,[51] to reduce household expenditures or to care for older persons or medical cases.[lxxxv] Violence in the private sphere remains a major protection concern and particularly affects women and children.[52,lxxxvi] However, SGBV remains underreported for fear of reprisals, social stigma and mistrust of the official response systems. Women and girls remain unsafe at home,[53] while economic vulnerability and a change in gender roles has increased interpersonal tensions and domestic violence. Vulnerable Lebanese are also affected, with an average of one in two persons reporting knowing someone who has been subjected to domestic violence.[lxxxvii] However, recent positive legal developments[54] and women's economic empowerment enhanced protection against sexual and gender-based violence. [lxxxviii]

Girls preparing for an event about women's rights in Palestinian camp Burj Barajneh, Beirut. Photo Credit: OCHA, Sebastian Brandt , 04/12/2019.

8.9 per cent of Palestinian refugee young women aged 20 to 24 were married before their 18th birthday.[lxxxix] Overall data suggests a gradual increase in median age at marriage, now at 27.3 years for men and 21 years for women who married during the last five years.[xc] However, eighty-two per cent of Palestinian refugee children from Lebanon under the age of 15 experience violent forms of discipline at home. Specialized service providers for mental health and those responding to incidents of GBV and child protection are scarce for all people living in Lebanon. In addition, safety concerns and stigma as well as the lack of confidentiality within the Palestinian camps can hinder access to existing services. Accessing services outside the camps is challenging due to limited awareness, mobility restrictions, and the general strain on available services in the country.

Access to Services

There has been an increased in demand for primary health care amongst displaced Syrians. In 2019, 63 percent of displaced Syrians, compared to 54 percent in 2018, reported requiring primary health care.[xci] Of those, 90 per cent reported being able to access the required care. This is a slight increase from 2018, where 87 per cent of households could access required care. Primary healthcare[55] is available to all Lebanese and non-Lebanese, through a variety of healthcare facilities. These include 229 primary healthcare centres (PHCs) within the Ministry of Public Health's (MoPH) network, and 1,011 other PHC facilities. Subsidized healthcare is available to displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese at around 113 PHC facilities[56] distributed across the country, which aims to reduce additional expenditure for displaced Syrians with high economic vulnerability levels.

Approximately 25 Mobile Medical Units (MMUs), operated by partners, provide free consultations and medication and often refer patients back to PHCs for services not available through MMUs.[57] These also mitigate access constraints to healthcare because of a lack of and/ or expensive transportation and freedom of movement restrictions particularly for those without legal residency. Informal medical services are also available to displaced populations through a number of practices run by Syrian doctors or midwives in informal settlements. The latter exacerbates health and protection risks since uncertified midwives are unable to provide new-borns with birth notifications, thus reducing their chance to officially

(50) VASyR 2019 indicates that 28% of girls aged 15-19 are married. For further information on child marriage, please see UNICEF 2019, A Study on Drivers for Child Marriage.
(51) VASyR 2019 indicates that 14% of Syrian girls aged between 14 and 17 years are married, compared to 1% of boys. Overall, 7% of children between 14 and 17 years old are married.
(52) Moreover, many of the above-mentioned issues come from the increased prevalence of harmful practices. These harmful practices such as child labour, child marriage, violent discipline, and intimate partner violence are conditioned by social norms and social influence within both the displaced Syrians and the host communities. These norms are strongly related to how member of communities and the media discourse perceives childhood (skills, capabilities, child development stages, and time frame), gender roles and expectations for boys/men and girls/women, and how these harmful behaviors are perceived by peers, leaders and neighborhood. UNICEF (2019), Research on Drivers of Child marriage, Child labor, Intimate Partner Violence, and Violence against Children.
(53) Women and girls continue to feel unsafe in their homes, with 76% of incidents taking place at the survivor's and perpetrator's house, according to data collected in the GBVIMS.
(54) Such as the repeal by the Parliament of Lebanon in August 2017 of Article 522 of the Penal Code which allowed rapists to avoid prosecution if they married their victims.
(55) Primary healthcare includes services such as: vaccination, medication for acute and chronic conditions, non-communicable diseases care, sexual and reproductive healthcare, malnutrition screening and management, mental healthcare, dental care, basic laboratory and diagnostics, as well as health promotion.
(56) Based on ActivityInfo, September 2017 data.
(57) From a sustainability perspective, MMU are not within the MoPH response strategy

20% of displaced Syrians **changed** accommodation in the **last year**

97% of children born in Lebanon had a **birth notification** issued by the **doctor/midwife**

register the birth. Primary healthcare is also available to Palestinian refugees, primarily through the 27 UNRWA health clinics which offer services free of charge.

WHO Rep Dr Iman Shankiti giving child vaccine drops at an informal settlement, Bekaa-Yammouneh. Photo Credit: WHO, Ali Zneit, 12/12/2019

Access to hospital care for displaced Syrians, whether registered or unregistered, is through a network of 40 public and private hospitals across Lebanon and demand remained roughly the same as in the previous year. Subsidized care is limited to obstetric and life-threatening conditions and currently covers 75 per cent of hospitalization fees. Coverage not only increased to 90 per cent for severely vulnerable households in 2019, but also for patients with acute burns and psychiatric conditions, as well as infants in need of neonatal and paediatric intensive care. Some 19 per cent of displaced Syrian households in need of hospital care in 2019 were unable to attain it, compared to 23 per cent in 2018.[xcii] Respondents also noted the lack of awareness about healthcare provision/services, and an inability to cover medical costs. Many Palestinian refugees from Syria and from Lebanon face challenges in accessing healthcare, since 99 per cent of the population has no health insurance coverage and relies solely on UNRWA services. Despite different barriers (legal residency, movement restrictions, limited resources), access to UNRWA hospitalization services is high.[xciii]

While great strides have been made in the overall vaccination coverage, considered to be high in Lebanon, the expanded programme on immunization survey, together with localized field assessments, point to lower coverage in certain districts.[58] In addition, a measles outbreak was declared by MoPH on 15 March 2018 and continues in 2019 with 2,023 confirmed cases by September 2019. With 81 per cent of the cases affecting vulnerable Lebanese (19% displaced Syrians), the situation reflects a vaccination coverage gap for the country and children from all nationalities. More outreach activities are required to target Lebanese and non-Lebanese children out of school. Indeed, 39 per cent of interviewed households reported having paid for additional costs while being vaccinated.[59,xciv] Access challenges to vaccinations voiced by displaced Syrians are consultation costs[60] followed by transportation costs to the facility. Poor knowledge about available services seem to play a role in low vaccination coverage as only 59 per cent of households were aware that vaccination for children under 12 years is free at the MoPH's PHCs. Nevertheless, barriers to access healthcare remain including physical access, such as referrals, lack of documentation, cost, social stigma and risk of irregular ID confiscation. Sexual and reproductive health education and services remain critical.

The Water sector in Lebanon is undermined by a lack of financial and human resources. The 2010 National Water Sector Strategy has not achieved its regulatory, legislative and management targets hampering the effectiveness of service delivery and responsibility lies primarily with users to pay for and sustainably utilize available water services. As a result, unions of municipalities continue to invest in and manage water and wastewater systems. The lack of comprehensive quantifiable data on water and wastewater service deficiencies, as well as environmental health impact data, makes it hard to prioritize and target with the limited available funds. Water production is deficient at every stage of the value chain from protection and treatment to transmission storage and distribution. For example, 70 per cent of Lebanon's natural water sources are bacteriologically contaminated (up to 90% in urban areas).[xcv] Wastewater treatment and disposal is poor, with many existing wastewater treatment plants dormant due to lack of connection to sewer networks, in addition to the lack of

(58) The WHO Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) Cluster Survey shows that, at a national level, completed vaccination (three doses at least) for polio is 90.1%, DTP 87.3%, Hib 88.7% and Hepatitis B 89.9%. More specifically, a polio coverage of less than 85% is reported in the districts of Jbeil, Metn, Akkar, Minieh-Dennieh, Bcharreh and Jezzine.
(59) This survey was conducted in 2018 among persons of concern living in Lebanon, to monitor their access to and utilization of available healthcare services.
(60) If the vaccination is administered at a PHC, it is offered free of cost. However, if a doctor is examining the child, a consultation fee could be charged. An MoPH memo exist to regulate consultation costs.

11% of displaced Syrian families mention **cost** as **barrier** to access **hospital** services

89% of Lebanese and displaced Syrians rated their **neighborhoods** as **safe** during 2019

water establishment capacity to maintain and operate wastewater systems. The demographic pressure brought on by the displacement from Syria has further impacted the demand for water and wastewater services, adding additional strain to an already deficient system. A holistic and sustainable approach to project implementation is required, along with governance and infrastructural investment, as well as legislation governing both private and business water consumption.

With regard to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), already in 2014 it was estimated that the additional population pressure had led to an increase of 15 per cent of solid waste, 14 per cent of wastewater and 12 per cent in water demand aggravating an already fragile situation. 64 per cent of the population in Lebanon does not have access to safely managed drinking water services. Water quality is severely compromised, with over half of all water supply networks past their useful life, unchecked urban sprawl, unsafe solid waste management, thousands of informal settlements, and only 3 per cent of wastewater treated for bacteriological contamination prior to discharge into the ground or waterbodies. In 2017, it was estimated that only 45 per cent of informal settlements, representing 69 per cent of people living in ISs, are benefitting from desludging services compounding the contamination of water sources and soil. Adding to the complexity of this situation is the proliferation of illegal private boreholes which lead to unaccounted-for-water losses from decrepit systems and intermittent power supply, and quantities which eventually reach the population are substandard and unreliable. In these living conditions, poor hygiene practices, particularly in relation to handling food and water, aggravate the risk of disease, as evidenced in food and water borne diseases accounting for up to 60 per cent of notifiable communicable diseases. Women and girls report protection risks in accessing water and sanitation services at night. Furthermore, governance of Lebanon's water sector is undermined by lack of resources, both financial and human, delaying the water sector reform that would enable Water Authorities to fulfil their mandated role and to realize sustainable solutions for water and wastewater service provision.

To cope with unreliability of services and poor coverage, many people have resorted to unsustainable coping mechanisms, such as an estimated 55,000-60,000 unlicensed wells that have been dug over the past few decades, according to ground water assessment in 2014.[xcvi] In urban areas, nearly 40 per cent of untreated wastewater is disposed of through makeshift, unregulated cesspits or perforated tanks, while piped sewage is predominately disposed of in waterbodies. The use of latrines by displaced Syrians has risen to 94 per cent, while use of improved drinking water sources has stayed stable at 88 per cent.[xcvii] However, only 8 per cent of the wastewater is treated before being discharge into the environment.[xcviii] At the same time, displaced Syrians living in informal settlements, both tented and (peri) urban, as well as vulnerable Lebanese people, have become dependent on relatively expensive bottled water, water trucking and desludging services.[xcix,61] More critically, 60 per cent of the 297,722 people residing in informal settlements rely on trucked water provided by the private sector and often from unknown sources, while the rest meet needs from mostly unsafe wells or illegal network tapping.[62] On average, 9 displaced Syrians share a latrine in informal settlements but only 35 per cent of these latrines are equipped with septic or holding tanks.[c] The ongoing presence of displaced Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria in Palestinian camps and gatherings has drastically increased the stress on the water supply and wastewater systems.[63,ci] Although several functioning water sources exist in the Palestinian camps, the quantity of water provided is insufficient to meet the daily domestic requirements and, in some, is not potable due to high salinity, forcing residents to purchase water from private water suppliers within or near the camps. Wells are progressively drying up as seawater intrusion increases in coastal aquifers.[64] In Palestinian gatherings, access to water networks has improved during the past years, but both quality and continuity of water supply remain a challenge whilst 64

(61) Sixty per cent of individuals rely on trucked water provided by NGOs and 8 per cent purchase trucked water directly as a first source. Furthermore, only 23 per cent of all individuals, residing in 11 per cent of all informal settlements, benefit from safe on-site boreholes, wells, springs or networks. To be considered 'safe' requires that water meets the minimum drinking water standards of the water sector. <1cfu/100mL FC, <5 NTU Turbidity, <45mg/L Nitrate. (WAP) 2018).

(62) Fifty-three per cent of individuals rely on trucked water provided by NGOs and 10% purchase trucked water directly as a first source. Furthermore, only 7% of all individuals, residing in 10% of all informal settlements, benefit from safe on-site boreholes, wells, springs or networks. To be considered 'safe' requires that water meets the minimum drinking water standards of the water sector: <1cfu/100mL FC, <5 NTU Turbidity, <45mg/L Nitrate (WASH Assessment Platform (WAP) baseline, 2017). There are 291,163 individuals living in informal settlements (IAMP 55, September 2018).

(63) Eight per cent of the total population of Palestinian refugee camps and gatherings are Palestinian refugees from Syria, and 13% are Syrian.

(64) UNRWA has had to increase the pumping hours of the water wells inside camps, and as a consequence some wells having dried up in Beddawi and Burj Shemali. Salinity has increased in Naher El Bared and Beirut camps, for instance, the R.O. system in Mar Elias camp is no longer providing the designed quantity and quality of water.

22% of displaced Syrian children between 15 and 17 years were **attending school** in 2018

40% of Syrian refugee households were **living** in either shelter conditions **below** humanitarian standards or in danger of **collapse**

per cent of households are still reliant on bottled water.[65]

Due to a lack of access to safe sanitation and means for personal and menstrual health hygiene, women and adolescent girls face risks to health, protection and dignity, especially when living in informal settlements or substandard shelters. The inability to solve sanitation issues can also increase pressure on the environment and risk of disease outbreak. Increasing access to appropriate hygiene items remains important but more critical is elevating the knowledge on appropriate hygiene practices, particularly around menstrual hygiene management.[66,cii]

The adoption of Law 80/2018 on Integrated Waste Management Systems has clarified roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and laid the foundation for the approval of the Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) Road Map on August 27, 2019 by the Council of Ministers (CoM). The Road Map identifies the infrastructure gaps and needs of the sector. Despite these significant changes at the policy level, structural issues remain as waste accumulation exceeds the national capacity to address it. Indeed, Lebanon continues to lack sufficient solid waste management facilities which has resulted in the continuation of dumping in open sites throughout the country. Estimates indicate that there are nearly 900 open dumpsites.[ciii] Lack of adequate solid waste management is an issue faced by both host and displaced communities. The level of satisfaction with environmental services, specifically, has steadily declined, with only 18.6% of the public rating the quality of such services as 'excellent' or 'good' in August 2019 compared to 31.4% in January 2018.[civ] Beyond the risks to people's health and the environment, there is a risk that this dissatisfaction with the services turns into violent demonstrations and inter-communal tensions as witnessed in 2019.

The critical need of the electricity sector is recognized through the adoption of the GoL Policy Paper for the Electricity Sector in June 2010, which outlines policies, investments and reforms aimed at ultimately improving service delivery and reducing the fiscal burden. The Policy Paper also identifies a deficit in installed generating capacity, reaching only 61 per cent of the instantaneous peak demand in summer. A study undertaken by the Ministry of Energy and Water and UNDP in 2016, estimated the required increase in the production capacity in electricity as a result of the Syrian crisis at 486MW.[cv] This is equivalent to five hours of electricity supply per day, and is incurring losses to the Government of Lebanon and the Lebanese citizens estimated at around $333 million per year. The study also showed that more than 45 per cent of displaced Syrian households are illegally connected to the national grid, thus leading to the Government incurring uncovered costs. Insufficient electricity supply forces Lebanese, as well as displaced Syrians, to further rely on private and environmentally unfriendly generators, which is expensive and further increases their economic vulnerability. According to the VASyR 2019, 93 per cent of displaced Syrians report having access to electricity, and whereas 81 per cent report paying their bills, only 31 per cent of these bills are collected by EdL staff.

The exacerbated situation of electricity access and quality has negatively impacted the provision of multiple services. The strain is notable in education, particularly for Syrian students in second shifts. It is also felt near hospitals as a result of additional care required. Furthermore, the increased use of water pumps and bad power quality affecting wastewater treatment has negatively impacting health and the environment. Furthermore, Lebanese businesses face increased costs, production disruptions, and reduction of profitability, causing major impediments to the business environment and loss of economic opportunities. The lack of electricity also results in darker roads, contributing to security-related issues and increased traffic accidents.[cvi]

The protracted nature of the Syria crisis has overstretched the capacity of the education system to address critical education needs in Lebanon. The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) has responded by opening access to formal education for all vulnerable children every school year since the onset of the Syria crisis. According to MEHE, the premises of over one third of public schools are in bad condition and need major rehabilitation. Public schools, due to accommodating large number of students and operating as one or double shifts, are depreciating quicker than normal. For the 2019 – 2020 school year, around 360 out of 1260 public schools are operating second shifts. As of October 2019, the total

(65) Twenty-five per cent of households use tap water for drinking and 64% of households periodically purchase potable water according to the results of a household survey carried out by UNDP in Palestinian gatherings in 2017.
(66) In all domains, women report that they abstain from showering and bathing during the first days of menstruation. Some even refrain from showering and bathing for the entire period. The recommendation is to conduct an awareness campaign that demystifies what menstruation is and debunks myths surrounding the period.

38% of displaced Syrians **participate** in the **working force**

50% of Lebanese and displaced Syrians **agreed** that international **aid/assistance** goes to the people who **most deserve it** in 2019

number of Lebanese children in public and subsidized schools is almost 425,000, with some 285,000 in public schools and 140,000 in subsidized schools.[cvii] There were about 210,000 non-Lebanese in public schools (Kindergarten-Secondary) during the 2018-19 school year. [cviii] There are also 65 functioning UNRWA schools which cater to the educational needs of around 33,000 Palestinian children, noting that Lebanese public schools also register Palestinian children where no UNRWA schools are available.[cix] Additionally, there are around 68,000 non-Lebanese enrolled in private and semi-private schools (Kindergarten-Secondary). [cx] In parallel, 44 per cent of compulsory school aged children including other population cohorts beyond children displaced from Syria and Palestinian refugee children from Lebanon (6 to 14-year-old) are out of formal education (Grade 1 to 9), and 36 per cent of them are out of any type of learning – all of whom are at an increased risk of exploitation, physical or sexual violence and discrimination, given the critical years of education they have missed and protection challenges they face during displacement.[cxi] Sector qualitative data and detailed profiling for out of school children is still lacking.[cxii] The majority of them live in remote areas, making reintegration into formal education a challenge due to higher transportation costs that can lead to low attendance. There is limited support for transportation with only 67,358 children in second shift receiving assistance in 2019-2020 school year.[cxiii] The lowest enrolment rates of children aged 6-14 are found in Bekaa and Baalbek-Hermel, with a drop of four per cent and six per cent respectively since 2018. It is also important to ensure that students obtain their educational documentation[67] from formal basic, secondary, or vocational education they have attended and/or are attending in Lebanon. This will facilitate obtaining equivalent educational documents and resuming their education upon safe return to Syria.

Youth are also provided with few opportunities to complete their education; they are often forced to drop out of school and work to provide for their families.[cxiv] Enrolment in post-basic education remains low, with only around 8 per cent of secondary-school age non-Lebanese youth enrolled in public schools and another 8 per cent are enrolled in private secondary, technical and vocational education schools.[cxv]

(67) Documentation for formal education can be obtained from public schools, validated at the regional or central Ministry of Education and Higher Education offices, and subsequently recognized/attested by the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Socioeconomic issues, namely the need to work and limited prospect of employability, together with insufficient funding, have also negatively impacted the attainment of secondary education, which falls outside of compulsory education and thus receives less attention.[cxvi] Demand-side barriers, including the mismatch of skills and market-needs, and family priorities have driven many displaced Syrian adolescent girls into child marriage and prevented them from continuing their education.

Chiah First Public Mixed School,
Photo Credit: UNDP, Rana Sweidan, 2/10/2018

Many young men work to support their families at the expense of continued education. Finally, the pathways to access formal education for post-primary aged youth are limited as eligibility for formal education is dependent on not having dropped out for more than two years.[68]

Working girls and boys, particularly those involved in the worst forms of child labour, are among the most vulnerable leaving them further behind.[69] Poverty is known to incentivize the entry of children into the labour market at an age they would normally be attending school, reducing demand for education.[cxvii] The negative perceptions of parents and children regarding the value of education in relation to income-earning potential also contribute to low demand and perceived limited value of education.

(68) Children can be referred to the Accelerated Learning Programme to ensure a bridged to primary school formal education.
(69) Child labour is a main protection concern for unaccompanied and street-connected children which can lead to physical and emotional violence, exploitation and risks of trafficking, impacting their protection, development and well-being in the short and the long term.

22% of displaced Syrian families mention **cost** as **barrier** to access **primary** health care

only 7% of displaced Syrian **women** in working age **have access to work**

Finally, household-level education-related expenditures (including transportation, uniforms, and learning materials) and the potential opportunity cost of sacrificed income, are major deterrents to education access.

Children with specific needs continue to face considerable barriers accessing educational opportunities. These include prevailing social norms and attitudes towards disability, a lack of budgetary allocations supporting inclusion in the public education system, limited teacher capacity, limited access to education spaces and tailored programmes, a lack of effective teaching strategies to provide appropriate instruction, and limited access to schools with adequate facilities.

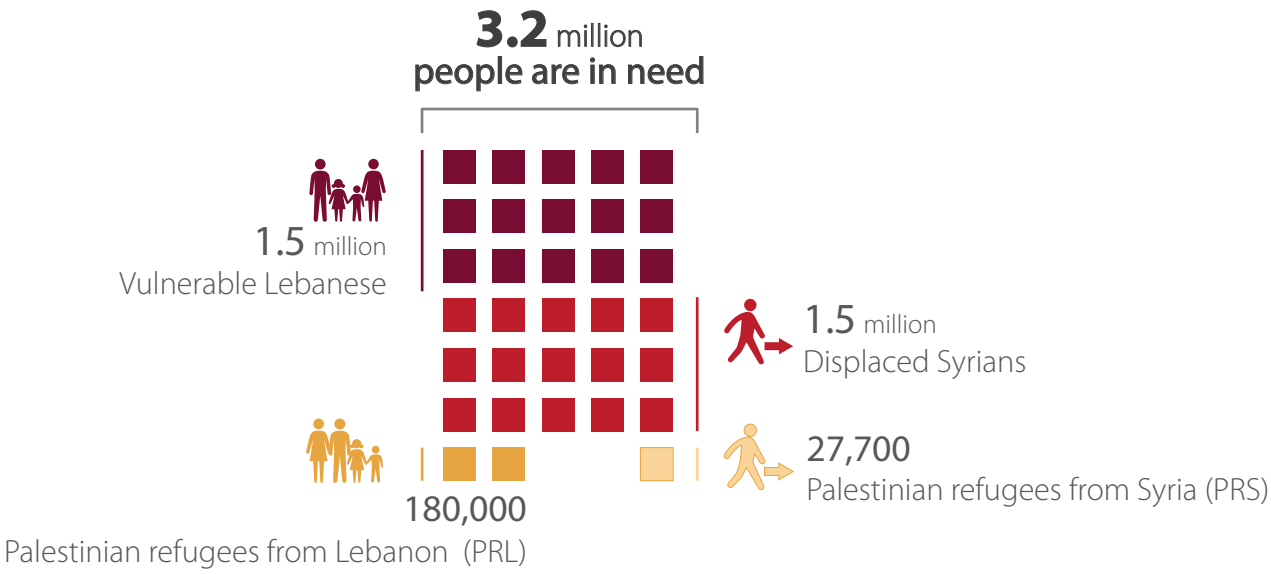
Public institutions face financial, civic, operational and resource constraints that limit their ability to respond during an emergency. The High Relief Commission (HRC), although mandated to serve Lebanese communities in emergency situations, is unable to cover all humanitarian needs. Other government institutions, such as the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the NPTP, as well as local NGOs, have relief programmes; yet, these are insufficient to cover needs.

The worsening situation in Lebanon, particularly related to the socioeconomic conditions and the informal increase of the local currency exchange rate, will likely have a severe impact on vulnerable groups Lebanese, and displaced Syrians pushing more households under the poverty line. This will require an in depth assessment to ensure access to basic services for all affected groups in coordination with other ongoing efforts.

Lighting up the Baalbek monument for the World Patient Safety Day, Baalbek.
Photo Credit: WHO, Hala Habib, 17/09/2019

POPULATION IN NEED AND TARGETED

PEOPLE IN NEED



Note: PRL, PRS figures pertain to the 12 camps and 56 gatherings as covered by the recent CAS/PCS/LPDC census.

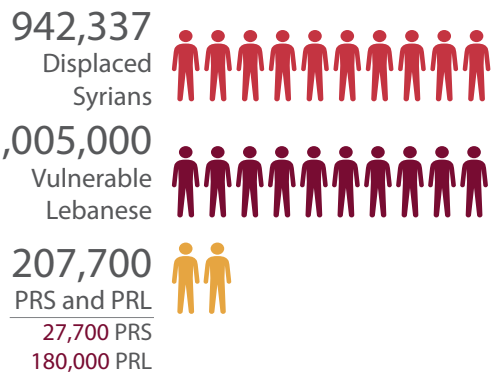
PEOPLE TARGETED

2.3 million

people are targeted for protection and direct assistance

2.16 million

people are targeted for service delivery, economic recovery and social stability



Note: PRL, PRS figures pertain to the 12 camps and 56 gatherings as covered by the recent CAS/PCS/LPDC census.

APPEALING PARTNERS BY SECTOR

Total of **112** appealing UN and NGO partners

RESPONSE STRATEGY

Strategic objectives

As in the previous years, the Government of Lebanon (GoL) and national and international partners work together to deliver integrated and mutually reinforcing humanitarian and stabilization interventions.

The LCRP promotes the strategic priorities identified by the GoL and partners, with interventions aligned to national policies and strategies, responding to evolving needs, and seeking to complement and build on other international assistance in the country.

The response plan focuses on humanitarian assistance to vulnerable communities, including persons displaced from Syria, vulnerable Lebanese and Palestinians, but it also strongly seeks to expand investments, partnerships and delivery models for stabilization as a transition towards longer-term development strategies.

1 Ensure protection of vulnerable populations

2 Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations

3 Support service provision through national systems

4 Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability

1 Ensure protection of vulnerable populations

Recognizing that the imperative of protecting people lies at the heart of humanitarian action, this response objective aims to strengthen protection services and interventions for displaced persons from Syria and other vulnerable populations, empower individuals and mainstream protection across all sectoral interventions. It promotes protection of, and access to, affected people in accordance with relevant principles and instruments of international refugee and human rights law ratified by Lebanon.

- Ensure that persons displaced from Syria have access to legal status in accordance with Lebanese laws and regulations, while anticipating their return in safety and dignity as the preferred durable solution,[70] and while abiding by the principle of non-refoulement;[71]
- Continue granting access to Lebanon for exceptional humanitarian cases through the approval of the Minister of Social Affairs, while upholding the principle of non-refoulement;
- Continue to provide durable solutions such as resettlement and other admissions to third countries;
- Continue facilitating access to civil documentation, including birth, death and marriage registration, for persons displaced from Syria as per Lebanese laws, regulations and policies;
- Ensure tailored provision of protection and other services for persons with specific needs, such as persons with disabilities and older persons as well as for women and children;
- Build the capacity of Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian communities to identify protection concerns, provide feedback on programmatic interventions, and contribute to the referral of cases to specialized service providers; and
- Support the GoL to enforce laws to prevent and address child abuse, sexual and economic exploitation, and the worst forms of child labour.

(70) The position of the Government of Lebanon is that any form of local integration is unconstitutional and, therefore, not an option. The Government considers that the only durable solution being available for displaced Syrians in Lebanon is their safe return to Syria, in accordance with applicable norms of international law and taking into full consideration the vital interests of Lebanon as a host country. Resettlement to third countries is seen as an alternative durable solution.

(71) In any refugee situation, the ultimate goal for the United Nations is the realization of durable solutions to the plight of refugees. While local integration is not an option for displaced Syrians in Lebanon, the dignity and well-being of displaced Syrians must be preserved until they can attain durable solutions outside of Lebanon.

2 Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations

This response objective aims to address the immediate needs of the vulnerable populations (displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinian refugees from Syria and Palestinian refugees from Lebanon), prioritizing the most vulnerable through temporary solutions, with the aim to mitigate the rapid deterioration of social and economic conditions which exacerbate protection risks.

- Provide direct and targeted assistance to the most vulnerable populations to ensure their protection and meet their survival needs, including needs caused by displacement, while ensuring complementarity across sectors;
- Reduce exposure to hunger, homelessness, health complications and disease outbreaks, violence, abuse and exploitation as well as the worst effects of poverty, including resorting to negative coping mechanisms, with practices such as child labour, begging and early marriage;
- Continue immediate and temporary service delivery in informal settlements, collective shelters, sub-standard dwellings and gatherings; and
- Continue to respond to emergency humanitarian needs as they arise through immediate and temporary interventions.

3 Support service provision through national systems[72]

This response objective aims to strengthen national and local capacities to meet the increasingly overwhelming service-related needs and seeks to reinforce confidence in the equitable access to and quality of public services for vulnerable populations. It aims to establish or upgrade basic public service infrastructure, strengthening service delivery in the most vulnerable communities affected by the crisis through the support of the Ministry of Social Affairs' (MoSA) network of Social Development Centres as a key gateway.

- Ensure that all children, including children displaced from Syria, can access, learn and be retained in a quality learning environment (formal and non-formal[73]), widening the absorption capacity of education premises (rehabilitation, expansion and construction), in addition to strengthening the education system to be able to cater for all children;
- Ensure support to strengthening social safety nets;
- Ensure that the most vulnerable Lebanese and displaced populations can access disease prevention interventions and affordable healthcare, with a focus on accessibility and quality of services and controlling disease outbreaks;
- Protect the most vulnerable, especially children and women, older persons and persons with disabilities, and other minority groups at risk of violence (including abuse, exploitation and neglect), through:
  - increased outreach and responsiveness of community and institutional systems;
  - referrals and a full package of services, including appropriate support to survivors through a robust and coordinated national system; and
  - Extending safe water, sanitation, hygiene and energy for the most vulnerable Lebanese and persons displaced from Syria by reinforcing existing infrastructure.
- Scale up service delivery mechanisms that are cost-efficient, yet responsive to needs and offer clear benefits to all vulnerable communities; and
- Strengthen government ownership of investments made by supporting national planning and implementation, monitoring and management processes.

4 Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability

This response objective aims to strengthen productive sectors in expanding economic and livelihood opportunities, benefiting local development and the most vulnerable communities. It aims to invest in mitigating the environmental impact of the Syrian crisis, ensuring that actions are taken to maintain long-term sustainability of the natural eco-system and avoid its further degradation. Furthermore, it will invest in national and local capacities to promote dialogue that mitigates tensions and conflicts at municipal and local levels, with a particular focus on youth and adolescents.

- Promote job creation and support businesses to generate income for local economies in poor areas benefiting all vulnerable communities, in accordance with Lebanese laws and regulations,[74] and the outcomes of the Brussels conferences;
- Enhance the productive capacities of local micro- and small-to-medium enterprises (MSME) and cooperatives through improving local economic infrastructure and supporting their capability to respond to market demands;

(72) "National systems" is inclusive of national government and local institutions, NGOs/civil society and the private sector.
(73) Non-formal education is conceived as a means to bridge the gap with formal education.
(74) As per MoL annual decisions related to businesses, occupations and crafts, and jobs that must be limited to Lebanese only.

- Promote sustainable agriculture production by supporting vulnerable food producers and communities and improve agricultural livelihood activities;
- Reduce the impact of the crisis on Lebanon's environment, with a particular focus on integrated solid waste management, water and wastewater management, use of renewable energy sources and energy-efficient products, protection of air quality, conservation of land use and ecosystems by strengthening good management of natural resources and sustainable investments abiding by environmental regulations;
- Support government institutions and government partners to implement necessary economic, labour, social welfare, disaster risk management and environmental protection reforms;
- Address social and economic risks faced by Lebanese, displaced Syrians and Palestinian adolescents and youth with a particular focus on empowering young women and girls, including through TVET and decent work opportunities;[75]
- Prevent social tensions from further rising within stressed communities by strengthening the capacities of government, local systems and mechanisms, and individuals to address critical needs and promote intra- and inter-community dialogue, with full respect of the Lebanese laws and regulations; and
- Strengthen national emergency preparedness and response capacity.

Planning assumptions

The planning assumptions for the LCRP 2019 were developed through a participatory process with representatives from government institutions, UN agencies, and international and national NGOs. In addition to the below key assumptions, each sector strategy has incorporated an analysis of planning assumptions, risks and mitigating measures in their respective theories of change.

Context:

- It is assumed that, pending a political solution in Syria, the crisis will continue. While important obstacles to large-scale returns in safety and dignity remain, some spontaneous returns of displaced Syrians from Lebanon to Syria are taking place, particularly since 2017. Group returns are also facilitated by the Directorate General of General Security since early 2018. Nevertheless, the number of Syrians in Lebanon is expected to remain relatively stable in 2019. The number of sustainable returns to Syria will substantially increase if obstacles to voluntary, safe and dignified returns are removed and the UN can begin to facilitate voluntary repatriation.
- Inter-community tensions and public pressure for returns are likely to increase if sufficient support is not provided to Lebanon to mitigate the impact of the crisis and reverse the economic crisis and rising unemployment.

Despite ongoing efforts, the majority of displaced populations continue to live below the poverty line and the pressure on Lebanese institutions to accommodate these increased needs, with many needing to be upgraded prior to the crisis, continues. A sense of fatigue is growing among the communities, as are concerns over increase in the use of negative coping mechanisms, impeding access to services and ability to cover basic needs.

Vulnerable households will increasingly shift to living in non-residential and non-permanent structures as living in residential, urban settings becomes unaffordable due to continued wide-spread poverty.

The crisis in Syria continues to have a negative impact on the sustainable development of Lebanon and the pressures felt by public system without:

- An improved relationship and trust between service providers and customers to increase cost recovery and result in better water service provision.
- Additional resources, analysis of barriers and cost structures for the education sector in order to absorb an increased number of children and youth in formal education.
- More standardized service provision across primary healthcare providers to increase quality of services across all regions

At the end of 2015, the crisis had cost the Lebanese economy an estimated $18.15 billion due to the economic slowdown, loss in trade and fiscal revenues as well as additional pressure on public services.[76,cxviii]

- Unemployment levels and informal labour are on the rise, especially in some of the country's poorest localities and is having a disproportionate effect on young people. Without further investment in the strengthening of public systems and economic opportunities the situation will continue to deteriorate.
- Increased access to sustainable livelihoods, including through provision of work permits, will decrease the need for cash and food assistance. Having a work permit will be taken into consideration when identifying the most vulnerable in need of assistance.

In accordance with the principle of international solidarity and accountability,[cxix] the response will be developed based on priorities, needs, and capacities, and partners will continuously seek feedback from the populations that they serve and address concerns about

(75) As per MoL annual decisions related to businesses, occupations and crafts, and jobs that must be limited to Lebanese only..

(76) The cumulative cost to Lebanon since the start of the conflict, in terms of lowering the GDP growth rate, is $18.15 billion through 2015, and the fiscal impact, in terms of lower revenues, is estimated at $4.2 billion during 2012-2015.

the response raised by the affected populations.

Governance: The LCRP underscores its national leadership by the Government of Lebanon through the Ministry of Social Affairs and reaffirms the international community's commitment to support and reinforce the response capacity of national/local institutions and national/local humanitarian actors.

- The response strategy allows for linkages and complementarity with longer-term development plans, enabling a shift towards more sustainable delivery of support and services.
- Partnerships with development actors and civil society actors are in place to allow for complementary approaches to the response, within a whole-of-society approach.
- The coordination framework is sufficient to allow integrated approaches that avoid overlap and ensure adequate coverage and prioritization.
- Support to public institutions builds sustainable capacities, and strengthens service delivery.

Population planning figures: The LCRP addresses the very diverse needs of four target groups: 1.5 million vulnerable Lebanese (49.7% are female; 50.3% male; 31.15% children); 1.5 million displaced Syrians (51.6% female; 48.4% male; 54.1% children); 27,700 Palestinian refugees from Syria (49.58% female; 50.42% male; 42.11% children) and 180,000 Palestinian refugees (49.58% female; 50.42% male; 34.78% children) from Lebanon living in 12 camps and 156 gatherings.

Funding trends: The calls for responsibility-sharing continue throughout the four-year plan that ask for investment in Lebanon and support to the population that Lebanon hosts. At the same time, increasing advocacy with donor countries will focus on putting in place mechanisms that provide persons displaced from Syria with humanitarian access to third countries, as well as mechanisms for economic development.

The international community should also bring essential support to Lebanon through other funding streams, including development assistance and other funding mechanisms, as it is assumed that the level of funding to the LCRP may not be sustained throughout the duration of the four-year plan.

Predictable, balanced and multi-year funding is required to implement more sustainable solutions.

Alignment with other planning frameworks

The LCRP is aligned with the following key processes and frameworks:

- As the second edition of the LCRP, **the 2017-2020 framework response is the successor of the 2015-2016 LCRP**. Within the four-year framework, this plan seeks to expand the stabilization and development focus and facilitate the transition of crisis response to national structures and systems, while maintaining a robust and integrated humanitarian and stabilization response to the protracted crisis. This medium-term strategic planning framework aims to address national objectives and priorities to respond to the impact of the Syrian crisis in Lebanon, and has been developed and implemented in collaboration with the Government of Lebanon, the UN, national and international NGOs, and donors. Yearly appeals, including multi-year programmes, are developed based on an annual review of needs.
- The 2017-2020 LCRP is the Lebanon chapter of the **Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2018-2019 (3RP)** led by UNHCR and UNDP. The 3RP is a regional plan that sets out the response to the humanitarian, protection and assistance needs of refugees from Syria and other impacted persons, communities and institutions in the five countries hosting displaced Syrians, i.e. Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt. As a nationally-owned chapter of the 3RP, the LCRP is tailored to respond to the specific needs of Lebanon and vulnerable populations within this ongoing regional crisis. It ensures that humanitarian and stabilization interventions are mutually reinforcing to deliver value, and emphasizes support to Lebanon's national capacities, including its aid and assistance management efforts.
- The LCRP incorporates priority measures articulated in the **GoL's 2013 Roadmap of Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Conflict**[cxx] and its updated projects, and furthers its three objectives: (i) to restore and expand economic and livelihood opportunities for vulnerable groups; (ii) to restore and build resilience in equitable access to and quality of sustainable public services; and (iii) to strengthen social stability. Programmes implemented directly by line ministries are represented in the LCRP's results matrix. All LCRP projects investing in Lebanon's capacities are linked to needs articulated in the Roadmap, particularly the first two tracks. Furthermore, the LCRP is fully aligned with the priority outcomes of **international donor conferences in London** (February 2016) **and Brussels** (April 2017 and April 2018).
- The shorter-term funding appealed for through the LCRP is complemented by the **Concessional Financing Facility** (CFF) currently benefitting Lebanon and Jordan. This facility is focused on providing concessional financing to middle income countries most affected by

the presence of large numbers of refugees. With an initial focus on the Syrian crisis as it impacts Jordan and Lebanon, and with a primary focus on infrastructure, the CFF has been adapted to address the impacts of current and future refugee crises on a global scale. So far, $ 330 million has been approved with an additional $ 295 million pledged to the Concessional Financing Facility for Lebanon.

- The LCRP specifically focuses on the impact of the Syrian crisis in Lebanon and is complemented by a number of multi-lateral and bi-lateral cooperation agreements such as the **EU-Lebanon Partnership Priorities and Compact 2016-2020**,[cxxi] the **World Bank Country Partnership Framework for Lebanon**[cxxii] and, most notably, the **United Nations Strategic Framework** (see point 6 below).
- The LCRP is fully aligned with and complementary to the 2017-2020 **United Nations Strategic Framework (UNSF)**,[cxxiii] the UN's cooperation framework with Lebanon, which provides the overall vision for UN-wide engagement in-country implemented through the country programmes of its specific UN agencies, funds and programmes. The UNSF articulates the UN's support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the following priorities: (i) all people in Lebanon have peace and security; (ii) Lebanon enjoys domestic stability and practices effective governance; and (iii) Lebanon reduces poverty and promotes sustainable development while addressing immediate needs in a human rights/gender sensitive manner. The UNSF reaffirms humanitarian principles in relation to the impact of the Syrian crisis, including the needs of 1.5 million displaced Syrians, and acknowledges the continued requirement for a Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) that supports vulnerable populations affected by the crisis while also strengthening the resilience of local institutions and the host community to manage the current situation. UN support for the 2017-2020 LCRP is outlined in the UNSF.
- The LCRP aligns with GoL's strategies and contains interventions developed as part of the regional **No Lost Generation strategy (NLG)**, specifically through support to the RACE II Strategy, and other sectoral investments in protection, psychosocial support and skill development for children, adolescents and youth, such as the Ministry of Social Affairs' National Plan to Safeguard Children and Women in Lebanon (MoSA NP) and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education National Child Protection Policy. The LCRP Education and Protection sectors contain the GoL-endorsed budget for RACE II and the MoSA NP implementation, captured through UN agencies, donors and participating NGOs, and the funding appeals by MEHE and MoSA, with a view to moving to full government implementation.
- The LCRP is coherent with the **Dead Sea Resilience Agenda**[cxxiv] endorsed at the Resilience Development Forum held in Jordan in November 2015, which brought together representatives of governments of countries affected by the Syrian crisis, UN, international and national NGOs, the donor community and the private sector to discuss key guiding principles and elements of a medium-term regional response.
- The LCRP strives to implement the commitments made by more than 30 of the largest humanitarian partners through the **Grand Bargain**[cxxv] at the **World Humanitarian Summit in 2016**. Ten key commitments were made to: ensure greater transparency; more support and funding tools for local and national responders; increase the use and coordination of cash-based programming; reduce duplication and management costs with periodic functional reviews; improve joint and impartial needs assessments; include people receiving aid in making the decisions which affect their lives; increase collaborative humanitarian multi-year planning and funding; reduce the earmarking of donor contributions; harmonize and simplify reporting requirements; and enhance engagement between humanitarian and development actors.
- Many LCRP projects also integrate the principles of the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**,[cxxvi] a set of globally-agreed goals to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- The LCRP strives to ensure the commitments in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, and the recommendations contained in the **Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework**[cxxvii] annexed to the Declaration.
- The Ministry of Social Affairs has taken the lead in initiating the process of developing a **National Social Protection Framework**, with the aim to develop an actionable and comprehensive framework for social protection that stimulates social cohesion, human development, and inclusive growth, within the context of Lebanon. LCRP partners will support this process

Integrated response management[77]

(77) This structure is subject to possible future amendments following the change of government in Lebanon.

Governance mechanism

The 2017-2020 LCRP will continue to ensure that the coordination structure aligns with both the humanitarian and stabilization dimensions of the response, under the overall leadership of the Minister of Social Affairs and the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator:[78]

LCRP sectors are coordinated through the Inter-Sector Working Group led by MoSA, a mechanism that reports to the leadership body of the LCRP and includes LCRP sector leads from line ministries, as well as sector coordinators, and key response partners as per the terms of reference of the Inter-Sector Working Group. In accordance with their specialized mandates, UNHCR and UNDP act as co-chairs. This mechanism reports to the LCRP Steering Committee co-chaired by the Minister of Social Affairs and the UN Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator and includes Government ministries as well as members of the Inter-Ministerial Committees and key response partners from the UN, donors and NGOs.

Sector Steering Committees are supported by working groups from the involved national and international partners that contribute to the technical and operational coordination of sector-specific issues including monitoring of progress and sharing of information, experiences and challenges. Sector working groups will report to the Sector Steering Committees, and will not duplicate the functions of the latter. Relevant terms of reference were revised in 2016 to reflect these roles, responsibilities and reporting lines (see the TORs in Annex 5).

Aid coordination: Efforts are ongoing to improve aid management under the leadership of MoSA in order to assist in coordinating GoL/donor/UN/World Bank priorities, and in tracking funding against those priorities.

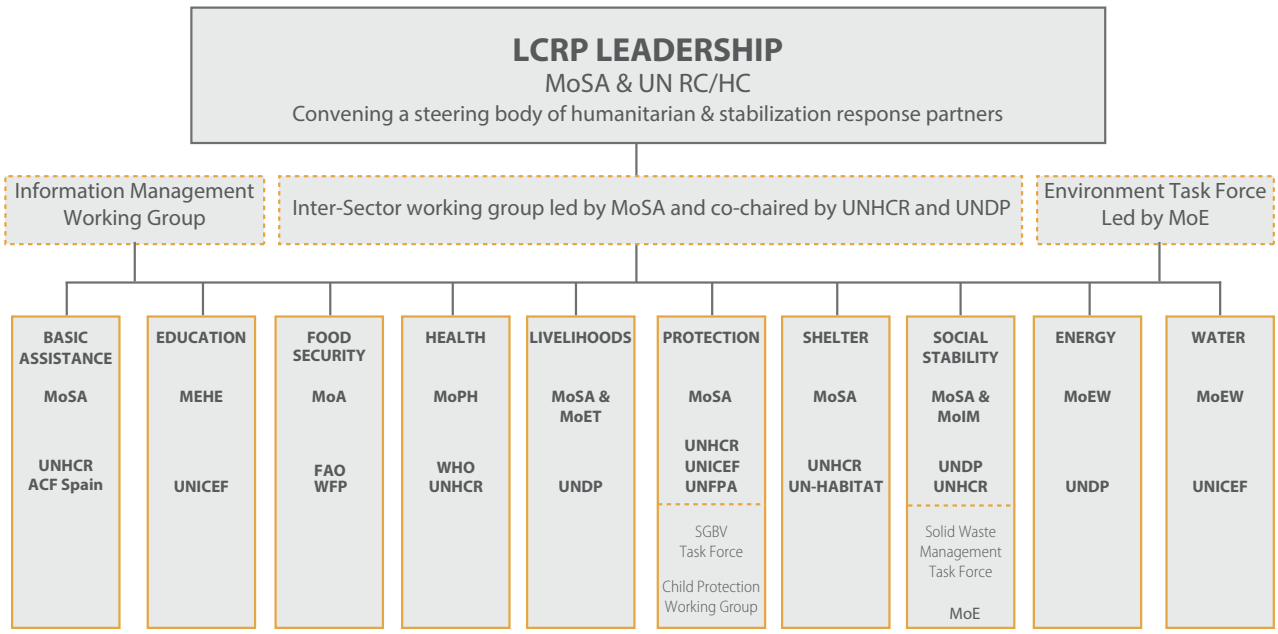
Implementation framework

Authority & Accountability: The GoL's Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced is the highest national authority for international partners supporting the crisis response inside Lebanese territory, including through the LCRP, in accordance with Lebanese laws and regulations as well as applicable international law.

Oversight: The Ministry of Social Affairs is mandated by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced to lead and oversee the Government's response to the crisis in Lebanon. The LCRP Steering Committee is co-chaired by the Minister of Social Affairs and the United Nations Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, and includes participation of members of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced and other public institutions, humanitarian and stabilization partners across the UN, national and international NGOs, and donors.

Planning and Coordination: LCRP activities are coordinated, under the direct guidance of MoSA, with line ministries through sector steering committees and sector working groups, with the support of sector-coordinating UN agencies, donors, the World Bank and NGO partners – also engaging Lebanon's civil society and private sector where necessary. LCRP progress and strategies will be steered by the Government of Lebanon through MoSA in collaboration with the UN, as represented by the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, and will be supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) with the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced and the lead UN agencies for refugee and stabilization responses (UNHCR and UNDP respectively).

The current structure and management of LCRP sectors is organized at the national level as below, with similar structures operating in five operational areas of Lebanon:



(78) The UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator is accountable for oversight of humanitarian and development responses in countries through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) for coordination of humanitarian action and the Delivering-As-One initiative of the UN Secretary-General. Under these principles, lead agencies for specific sectors in Lebanon are accountable for representing the interest of their sectors at every level of response management.

Financing the LCRP

The financing of the LCRP presents an opportunity to strengthen aid architecture and harmonization in Lebanon. Humanitarian and development needs set out in the LCRP will continue to be funded on an appeal basis, both bilaterally through a variety of donor mechanisms and trust funds, as well as pooled funds such as the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) managed by the World Bank, the UN-managed Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) and the Lebanon Recovery Fund (LRF) chaired by GoL.

Cost-sharing opportunities will be explored with the Government, along with public-private partnerships, to support government implementation of Roadmap projects.[cxxviii] The introduction of an overall Lebanon Financial Aid Tracking System, building on existing systems, will also enable better planning of investment coordination between GoL and its international partners to ensure a predictable level of support to communities. Further efforts will focus on broadening the diversity of funding, including through donors from the MENA region, members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, and other partners.

Principles for LCRP

Planning

The LCRP Steering Committee guides the allocation of unearmarked funding and other resources among the sectors following participatory consultations with the relevant stakeholders, and in a timely manner.

In line with LCRP Steering Committee guidance, sector steering committees ensure alignment of unearmarked funding 1 to key priorities and underfunded needs of the LCRP.

For unearmarked funding, sectors present their recommendations to the MoSA and UN lead partners, which would coordinate with the relevant donors on the allocation of funding, working through funding instruments such as the Lebanon Recovery Fund.

Appealing partners commit to use earmarked funding in coordination with sector steering committees and in adherence to agreed LCRP sector outcomes and outputs. The LCRP partners review progress on agreed objectives and impact through regular and ad hoc meetings of sector steering committees and the LCRP Steering Committee.

Planning of programmes should be coordinated through sectors, in close collaboration with line ministries under MoSA's leadership, through a bottom-up field-based approach that takes into consideration the national priorities and needs identified by each line ministry and in line with the Lebanese laws, rules and regulations.

(1) Unearmarked funding, in this context, refers to a contribution or commitment for which the donor does not require the funds to be used for a specific project, sector and/or organization (Financial Tracking System definition).

Implementation and coordination

Sector steering committees provide relevant information and facilitate operation of partners for successful implementation of projects in the field, under the direct leadership of and in coordination with MoSA's LCRP team throughout Lebanon. To ensure efficiency and avoid duplication, the LCRP coordination structure remains the only system through which partners coordinate efforts to respond to the Syrian crisis in Lebanon.

Information sharing and tracking

Appealing partners are responsible for reporting fully and in a timely manner on funding and other resources received, through agreed coordination and reporting mechanisms that are systematic and transparent to the Government of Lebanon's Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced, through MoSA and the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator.

Funding and other resources received and/or committed should be reported to the LCRP Steering Committee led by MoSA and the UN Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator.

LCRP implementing partners are responsible for reporting on a regular basis, through agreed systems, to the relevant sector steering committee on the progress/achievements of the activities that they are implementing.

Sector steering committees report on progress and achievements to the LCRP Steering Committee. The format, content and frequency of reports will be decided at the start of the implementation period.

Communicating the LCRP

The LCRP will be supported by an integrated multi-agency communication strategy, led by the Government (MoSA). Communication priorities will include: (i) maintaining international momentum in support of Lebanon's stability and finding durable solutions to the crisis; (ii) fostering an international sense of accountability for Lebanon's vulnerable populations; (iii) strengthening government leadership of Lebanon's assistance frameworks; (iv) fostering inter-communal understanding and acceptance; and (v) joint messaging on key achievements and critical needs.

Principles of partnership and accountability

As a basis for addressing its key priorities, strengthening partnership and enhancing the overall effectiveness of the LCRP, several core principles and commitments have been agreed between GoL and its international partners in order to:

- Enhance the effectiveness, operationalization and transparency of the LCRP, and the predictability of funding, by complementing its guiding principles.
- Ensure predictable, multi-year funding that enables actors to reach intended impact.
- Provide guidance, applicable to all LCRP partners, for a timely, effective and coordinated response, by clarifying requirements with respect to key functions and processes: information sharing and tracking, planning and implementation.
- Ensure synergies between national planning and partner responses, by aligning LCRP efforts with national strategies and agreed plans, and by enabling line ministries to play a stronger role in leadership and coordination at the national and local levels under the guidance of MoSA, while benefiting from the support of the UN, donors and NGOs.
- Enhance the localization of the response with national actors involved in the design and coordination with adequate efforts to build Lebanon's capacity and systems for future crisis prevention and response.[79,cxxix]
- Ensure accountability to affected populations. LCRP partners will continue to ensure that the response engages affected populations and local authorities in local programme design, under the guidance and coordination of MoSA and relevant UN coordinating agencies. This includes, where possible, regular visits aimed at obtaining feedback from vulnerable communities on needs, targets and effectiveness of LCRP interventions. Plans in 2017-2020 will facilitate access of affected populations to communication processes in which they are able to ask questions, provide feedback and contribute to discussions about current and longer-term strategies.
- Enhance the multi-sectoral approach of the LCRP based on a comprehensive and a common understanding of risks, taking into account threats, vulnerabilities and coping capacities at the individual, community and institution level, in support of the Sustainable Development Goal Agenda of leaving no one behind.

Cross-cutting issues

The following six cross-cutting issues are mainstreamed across sectors under the LCRP, as they have been designated as key priorities by all partners.

Better understanding vulnerability and risk to strengthen multi-sectoral approaches

The term "most vulnerable" is currently defined within the sectors, mainly using socio-economic, geographic or categorical concepts of vulnerability. These concepts have informed sectors in targeting their response. Understanding vulnerability by focusing on risks will facilitate a more multi-disciplinary and integrated approach that incorporates different perspectives and promotes involvement of a wide-range of actors. It will allow for a tailoring of interventions to the specific context. Circumstances and factors at the individual, community and institutional level can increase a person's vulnerability and/or reduce their capacity to cope with a particular situation. The LCRP will move towards a multi-dimensional understanding of vulnerability – considering internal risk factors, likelihood to experience harm, capacity to recover and adapt to new situations, ability to resist and insurance against new shocks - to better harmonize the response. Programming decisions and targeting of displaced populations will be informed through a comprehensive analysis of risk, considering vulnerability in relation to threats and coping capacities.

Sectors will build on the thematic conversations developed since 2018 to further strengthen the alignment of targeting approaches, systematise referral mechanisms and co-design mechanisms for redress when persons are left behind as particular types of assistance shift in scope and scale.

Protection

The protracted nature of displacement in Lebanon has impacted different segments of the population differently, due to their particular vulnerabilities, coping capacities and susceptibility to threats. The LCRP is committed to a protection-centered response.

(79) Within the Regional Refugee and Resilience Response Plan (3RP), principles for a localized response are as follows: (a) local actors influence the design of the response by feeding in the needs, priorities and social dynamics of populations affected by the Syrian crisis; (b) coordination mechanisms are led by government actors where possible, and all local actors are able to participate in and contribute to coordination processes at national and sub-national levels; (c) partnerships between international and local organizations/institutions ensure equity and joint responsibility, as well as visibility for local actors within the 3RP response; (d) initiatives jointly undertaken by international and local organizations include a strong element of capacity development in order to build local capacity and systems for future crisis prevention and response in the region; and (e) the maximum amount of direct, quality funding as possible is channeled to national and local actors in order to allow them to respond to the needs of crisis-affected populations while simultaneously investing in their own institutional capacities.

All assistance promotes meaningful access, safety, dignity and basic rights of affected people. Protection is mainstreamed through the response, at the national and field levels. Through a common understanding of the protective environment, sectors ensure due consideration, and responses which take into account the respective needs and multi-dimensional vulnerabilities of individuals they serve, allowing for more integrated approaches to service provision. These efforts will be guided by a joint-protection analysis highlighting threats, vulnerabilities and coping capacities, which will be shared across sectors to inform targeting and tailor common multi-sector approaches. Protection mainstreaming through the inter-sector will continue to be strengthened, with an increased focus on feedback and complaints mechanisms as well as monitoring and evaluation.

Gender and gender-based violence

Achieving gender equality and eliminating gender-based violence (GBV) is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.[80,cxxx] Mainstreaming gender efficiently requires assessing the implications of any planned action for women, girls, men and boys, as well as making their concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all spheres.[81]

Furthermore, recognizing that GBV represents a particular challenge in humanitarian contexts and that preventing and responding to GBV constitutes a collective accountability, the LCRP ensures risk mitigation across all sectors of intervention.[cxxxi]

Youth

The 2017-2020 LCRP prioritizes mainstreaming youth programming as a clear and harmonized component within its different relevant sector plans. The main goal of the youth component is to foster economically, personally and socially active and resilient youth in order to increase education, entrepreneurship, TVET, empowerment, participation, and civic engagement of this cross-cohort.[82]

Partners continue to expand their focus on youth programming across all sectors to provide this vulnerable and marginalized group with a holistic and harmonized package of services. These initiatives aim to motivate the youth to positively influence their peers and communities. As such, youth programming has been expanded under the Livelihoods sector through job creation in accordance with the Ministry of Labour decisions and the Lebanese labour law, increased market-based skills training and employability, apprenticeships, income generation opportunities, and innovation and entrepreneurship programmes. The Education sector tackles youth challenges through increasing their access to formal education, vocational training and regulated non-formal education programmes. The Social Stability sector has defined a clear output for the active role of youth in stabilizing and building resilience in their communities and among their peers. Finally, the Protection sector has further detailed the focus on youth at risk of engagement in risky behaviours, ensures provision of psycho-social support, and addresses gender-based violence, building community referral and response mechanisms for at-risk girls and boys.

Environment

The environment remains a priority and a key area for mainstreaming within the LCRP. Under the LCRP 2017-2020, the Ministry of Environment (MoE) leads an Environment Task Force (cf. the TORs in Annex 6) in close coordination with the Government, MoSA and the Inter-Sector Working Group with the aim of addressing priority environmental impacts and mainstreaming environmental considerations into activities and projects.

In order to do this, MoE will adopt a two-level approach:

i. Ensure the mainstreaming of environmental safeguards in emergency relief and stabilization activities and ensure that the institutional capacities of MoE are enabled to continue the assessment and monitoring of the environmental impacts of the Syrian conflict and the provision of relevant technical guidance for environmental interventions; and

ii. Cooperate with all concerned LCRP sectors in the identification and implementation of environmental interventions, with a specific focus on priority sectors (Social Stability, Food Security, Water, Energy) and aim for a further roll-out to additional sectors as appropriate.

Conflict sensitivity

Given the complex social fabric of Lebanon and the political impact of the Syrian conflict on the domestic scene, the response in Lebanon's most vulnerable localities both shapes conflict dynamics and is shaped by them. This must be taken into account in all interventions through a conflict-sensitive approach that includes 'do-no-harm' principles. This approach is generally defined as organizations: (a) understanding the context in which they operate, particularly the conflict dynamics, drivers of tensions and local capacities for stability; (b) understanding the interaction between the context and their intervention; and (c) acting on this understanding in order to minimize negative impacts of interventions and maximize positive impacts on conflict. The response as a whole will ensure that this approach is mainstreamed across the sectors in a coordinated effort to support the continued resilience of Lebanon through the crisis under the leadership of MoSA and MoIM.

(80) Sustainable Development Goal 5 states: "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls".
(81) See for the full definition of gender mainstreaming: Economic and Social Council), *Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system*, ECOSOC Agreed Conclusions 1997/2, in: A/52/3, p. 28.
(82) As per MoL annual decisions related to businesses, occupations and crafts, and jobs that must be limited to Lebanese only.

Conflict sensitivity is fully incorporated into the LCRP: each sector strategy analyzes its potential adverse effects on local conflict dynamics and how to maximize its contribution to social stability, which in turn guides partners' respective programmes. In addition, regular information on tension trends and risks are provided to partners as well as research and evaluations on the impact of different types of LCRP programming on the level of tensions. These analyses are complemented by regular trainings and guidance on conflict-sensitivity and 'do-no-harm' approaches, which are provided both to front-line workers and programme management staff to ensure that they are able to adjust their programmes accordingly.

Urban areas

Hosting one out of five displaced Syrians and already strained by high levels of deprivation, inadequate access to basic services, housing and social stability challenges, poor urban areas have been particularly impacted by the Syrian crisis.

By expanding multi-sectoral needs analysis, such as the already ongoing Neighbourhood Profiles, partners will expand their coverage into urban areas based on a multi-dimensional vulnerability approach to provide immediate assistance and sustainable solutions in partnership with the local authorities.

WHO staff Edwina Zoghbi talking with Syrian refugee children, Bekaa.
Photo Credit: WHO, Gonzalo Bell, 31/07/2019

RESPONSE MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Reinforced and objective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is critical to improving effectiveness and accountability. All sector logframes are technically reviewed on a yearly basis in consultation with sector working groups and stakeholders. Revisions have been made based on sector strategies to strengthen results chains of change, indicators and measurement methodologies at sector level. In parallel, an inter-sector M&E framework for 2017-2020 provides a multi-year framework for measuring progress against the LCRP's expected impacts, ensuring transparency and facilitating strategic and programmatic adjustments. Six impact statements aligned with the four strategic objectives of LCRP are as follows:

Strategic objective 1: Ensure protection of vulnerable populations

- Impact 1: Displaced persons from Syria and vulnerable populations live in a safe, protective environment

Strategic objective 2: Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations

- Impact 2: Immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable populations are met

Strategic objective 3: Support service provision through national systems

- Impact 3: Vulnerable populations have equitable access to basic services (health, education, water, energy, solid waste, shelter and social protection) through national (public and private) system

Strategic objective 4: Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability

- Impact 4: Mitigated deterioration in the economic condition of vulnerable populations
- Impact 5: Social stability is strengthened in Lebanon
- Impact 6: Mitigated environmental impact of the Syrian crisis, to avoid further degradation of the natural eco-system and ensure its long-term sustainability

The inter-sector M&E framework provides clarity on impact measurement and the causal linkages from sector outcomes to impact. These causal relationships are further detailed in each sector strategy and can guide subsequent independent evaluations of the overall response by partners.

In 2018, the response M&E system has been strengthened further, as follows:

- A list of research questions at inter-sector and sector levels have been identified to better shape data collection and prioritize learning needs across the response. These research questions will feed into the upcoming mid-term review of the LCRP as well as the final evaluation of the response;
- New qualitative indicators have been incorporated in sector logframes to capture the response's accountability to affected populations. Reporting on these indicators began in 2019 and helped assess the level of engagement of beneficiaries in the response;
- A monitoring framework of the commitments made by the international community and the Government of Lebanon at the Brussels 2 conference, organized in April 2018 has been developed and incorporated into the LCRP M&E system for greater accountability. Progress will be reported to the LCRP Steering Committee on a yearly basis; and
- Finally, a mid-term review of the response was designed and conducted in the first quarter of 2019 to: 1) take stock of progress since January 2017; 2) review the existing response coordination model, and; 3) identify possible evolutions of existing frameworks beyond 2020. The findings of the mid-term review will support decision-making and strategic planning in 2020.

Coordination and management: M&E is coordinated and managed at all three levels of the LCRP institutional and coordination architecture:

- At the sector level, individual appealing/implementing partners will be responsible for reporting updates on progress and resources allocated/used against sector strategies and corresponding results frameworks, using ActivityInfo. These will be provided to the Sector Steering Committees, which will be responsible for reviewing and preparing periodic monitoring and progress reports (see below).
- At the inter-sector level, the Inter-Sector working group is responsible for monitoring progress against LCRP's impact statements, across the LCRP against sector outcomes and outputs. It reports to the LCRP Steering Committee.
- The LCRP Steering Committee will periodically review progress on LCRP implementation to inform its discussions and decisions on overall strategy and implementation issues.

Tracking and information management system: At *sector output and outcome level*, the 2017-2020 Lebanon Crisis Response Plan continues to be monitored through ActivityInfo, which reports against a standard set of indicators agreed by sectors and helps inform progress against sector logframes.

At *impact level,* macro-level data related to each strategic objective will be collected to inform progress. The LCRP M&E system links to ActivityInfo as well as a number of national surveys using mixed methods. In addition, a series of qualitative enquiry processes, including case studies, will be conducted to further explore causal relationships from sector outcomes to impact statements.

At the same time, LCRP's knowledge management function will be strengthened to better reflect on and disseminate lessons learned across sectors, key findings from surveys and policy recommendations. Similarily, GoL/MoSA and international partners will examine options for strengthening the existing tools and system to make them more accessible, improving compatibility with existing government aid coordination mechanisms, and expanding analytical and reporting functionality.

Financial tracking and reporting: Funds for LCRP programmes will be received and programmed in three ways: 1) bilaterally through government ministries and institutions; 2) through UN/NGO response partners; and 3) through pooled funding arrangements.

MoSA, supported by the UN Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator and in collaboration with members of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced, will report on funds received for the LCRP as part of its quarterly and annual reporting, based on consolidated information captured in existing financial tracking systems. All humanitarian contributions to the LCRP through government and response partners will be captured through the financial tracking system managed by OCHA. While Lebanon's aid coordination platform is being strengthened, the LCRP financial tracking will feed into an overall Lebanon Aid Tracking System currently being developed by MoSA and the Ministry of Finance with the support of the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator's Office, to improve management of multi-lateral and bilateral funding received in Lebanon or funding committed.

Monitoring and evaluation products: A series of M&E activities and events will take place during the LCRP programming cycle. The LCRP M&E calendar includes several M&E products that will be developed and disseminated during 2017-2020, including, but not limited to, quarterly sectoral dashboards, bi-yearly inter-sectoral dashboards, thematic dashboards (in-focus), reviews and an external evaluation.

Review: Every year, mid-year and final reports on the LCRP appeal will be presented by MoSA, supported by the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, under the auspices of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced. As part of this process, the scope of the LCRP will be reviewed to ensure that the response continues to match evolving needs and the increasing level of development support outside the LCRP (if available). The Government of Lebanon and its partners will review the progress of the LCRP in a process supported by the inter-sector mechanism and coordinated under the leadership of MoSA and the UN Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator, with support from the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Displaced, UNDP, UNHCR, and other key response partners. The mid-year consultation will set the direction for the second half of year and inform the next annual appeal.

Results Framework

Strategic Objective 1: Ensure protection of vulnerable populations

Impact 1: Displaced persons from Syria and vulnerable populations live in a safe protective enviroment

Impact Indicator	Sector	Sector outcomes contributing to impact
1.1 Percentage of displaced persons at protection risk.	Protection	1: Displaced persons from Syria and individuals at risk live in a safe protective environment.
1.2 Percentage of displaced persons from Syria and vulnerable populations receiving protection services and assistance.	Protection	2: Communities are empowered in creating a safe protection environment.
	Protection	3: SGBV risks are reduced, and access to quality services is improved.
	Protection	4: All boys and girls are protected against neglect, violence, abuse and exploitation (including prevention and response).
	Livelihoods	2: Improve workforce employability.
	Livelihoods	3: Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation.
	Food Security & Agriculture	4: Promote and stabilize food security through support/ capacity building and strengthening of national public institutions and their decentralised services.
	Education	2: Enhanced quality of education services and learning environment to ensure grade-appropriate learning outcomes for children and youth.

Strategic Objective 2: Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations

Impact 2: Immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable populations are met

Impact Indicator	Sector	Sector outcomes contributing to impact
2.1 Percentage of vulnerable population whose immediate basic humanitarian needs are met	Basic Assistance	1: Strengthen the ability of vulnerable households, including female-headed, to meet their basic survival needs
	Basic Assistance	2: Strengthen the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic survival needs
2.2 Percentage reduction of the population who is severely economically vulnerable	Shelter	1: Strengthen the ability of vulnerable displaced populations in temporary shelters to live in adequate conditions
	Food security & Agriculture	1: Improve food availability using in-kind food assistance modality and sustainable food/ agricultural value chain .
	Food security & Agriculture	2: Improve food access through cash -based food assistance and support to sustainable agricultural livelihoods.
	Water	1: More vulnerable people in Lebanon are using safely managed drinking water and sanitation services whilst reducing health and environmental risks and improving water quality by increasing the proportion of wastewater that is safely treated.

Strategic Objective 3: Support service provision through national system

Impact 3: Vulnerable populations have equitable access to basic services through national systems

Impact Indicator	Sector	Sector outcomes contributing to impact
3.1. Percentage of population with access to quality public and private services	Food Security & Agriculture	2: Improve food access through cash -based food assistance and support to sustainable agricultural livelihoods.
	Food Security & Agriculture	3: Improve food utilization through food safety and nutrition practices including the promotion of consumption of diversified and quality food.
	Food Security & Agriculture	4: Promote and stabilize food security through support/ capacity building and strengthening of national public institutions and their decentralised services.
	Basic Assistance	3: Support the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP).
	Health	1: Improve access to comprehensive primary healthcare (PHC).
	Health	2: Improve access to hospital (incl. ER care) and Advanced Referral Care (advanced diagnostic laboratory & radiology care).
	Health	3: Improve outbreak control & infectious diseases control.
	Health	4: Improve adolescent and youth health.
	Water	1: More vulnerable people in Lebanon are using safely managed drinking water and sanitation services whilst reducing health and environmental risks and improving water quality by increasing the proportion of wastewater that is safely treated.
	Energy	1: Increase energy production through implementation of renewable energy sources.
	Energy	2: Reduce energy demand due to implementation of energy efficient initiatives.
	Energy	3: Improve access to electricity through rehabilitation and reinforcement works on the transmission and distribution networks.
	Energy	4: Enhance capacity of MoEW to plan, budget and oversee energy sector initiatives.
	Education	1: Enhanced access to, and demand from, children youth, and their caregivers, for equitable formal or regulated non-formal education.
	Education	2: Enhanced quality of education services and learning environment to ensure grade-appropriate learning outcomes for children and youth
	Education	3: Enhanced governance and managerial capacities of RACE 2 implenting institutions to plan, budget, deliver, monitor and evaluate education services
	Livelihoods	1: Stimulate local economic development and market systems to create income-generating opportunities and employment

Shelter	3: Enhance the contribution of national institutions and organizations to the housing situation in Lebanon
Livelihoods	1: Stimulate local economic growth and market systems to foster income generating opportunities and employment.
Social Stability	1: Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure

Strategic Objective 4: Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability

Impact 4: Mitigated deterioration in the economic condition of vulnerable populations

Impact Indicator	Sector	Sector outcomes contributing to impact
4.1 Percentage of the population living below the poverty line	Food Security & Agriculture	1: Improve food availability using in-kind food assistance modality and sustainable food/ agricultural value chain.
4.2 Percentage of the active population who has access to decent employment opportunities	Food Security & Agriculture	2: Improve food access through cash -based food assistance and support to sustainable agricultural livelihoods.
	Livelihoods	1: Stimulate local economic development and market systems to create income generating opportunities and employment.
	Livelihoods	2: Improve workforce employability.
	Livelihoods	3: Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation.
	Education	2: Enhanced quality of education services and learning environment to ensure grade-appropriate learning outcomes for children and youth.
	Shelter	2: Contribute to multi-sectoral upgrading of disadvantaged areas for enhanced stability.

Impact 5: Social stability is strengthened in Lebanon

Impact Indicator	Sector	Sector outcomes contributing to impact
5.1. Percentage of municipalities enforcing restrictions	Social Stability	1: Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure.
5.2. Percentage decrease in population living in vulnerable areas reporting tensions in their community	Social Stability	2: Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts.
5.3. Percentage increase of population living in vulnerable areas reporting sense of solidarity in their community	Social Stability	3: Enhance LCRP capacities on early warning and conflict sensitivity.
	Shelter	2: Contribute to multi-sectoral upgrading of disadvantaged areas for enhanced stability.

Impact 6: Mitigated environmental impact of the Syrian crisis, to avoid further degradation of the natural eco-system and ensure its long-term sustainability

Impact Indicator	Sector	Sector outcomes contributing to impact
6.1. Percentage increase in emissions of particulate matter (PM) reduced	Food Security & Agriculture	1: Improve food availability using in-kind food assistance modality and sustainable food/ agricultural value chain.
6.2 Level of adoption of Environmental Marker	Food Security & Agriculture	Promote and stabilize food security through support/ capacity building and strengthening of national public institutions and their decentralised services.
	Water	1: More vulnerable people in Lebanon are using safely managed drinking water and sanitation services whilst reducing health and environmental risks and improving water quality by increasing the proportion of wastewater that is safely treated.
	Social Stability	1: Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure.
	Energy	4: Enhance capacity of MoEW to plan, budget and oversee energy sector initiatives.

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Norma storm leaves damages across the tents of Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in the Nahri Camp, West Bekaa. Credit: UNRWA, Rabie Akel, 10/01/2019

PART II

OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLANS

BASIC ASSISTANCE
EDUCATION
ENERGY
FOOD SECURITY & AGRICULTURE
HEALTH
LIVELIHOODS
PROTECTION
SHELTER
SOCIAL STABILITY
WATER

BASIC ASSISTANCE
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED
1,530,936

PEOPLE TARGETED
1,082,811

REQUIREMENTS(US$)
2020 495.6 million

PARTNERS
36

GENDER MARKER
2a

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $293.9 m

Strengthen the ability of vulnerable Households, including female-headed, to meet their basic survival needs.

Indicators

Percentage of population that is severly vulnerable.

Percentage of assisted severely economically vulnerable households report being able to meet their basic survival needs.

Percentage of households identified as severely vulnerable and have specific needs receiving assistance.

Percentage of assisted households reporting that they know how to access humanitarian assistance.

Outcome #2 — $201 m

Strengthen the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic survival needs.

Indicators

Percentage of newly displaced households who are provided basic assistance.

Percentage of assisted households affected by seasonal shocks who are able to meet their additional basic survival needs.

Outcome #3 — $0.8 m

Support the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP).

Indicators

Increased knowledge on vulnerability assessments and targeting among NPTP social workers.

National Social Safety Net Strategy endorsed.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	Female	Male
Lebanese	227,546	227,546	113,090	114,370
Displaced Syrians	1,095,000	825,000	424,050	400,950
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,349	13,351
Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon	180,690	2,565	1,272	1,293

Overall sector strategy

The Basic Assistance sector stems from an understanding that vulnerability evolves over time from an initial shock, as a result of being displaced or adjusting to a major event or natural disaster and protracted multidimensional deprivation that results in persistent and prolonged poverty.[i]

The sector aims to prevent socio-economically vulnerable households from falling deeper into poverty and resorting to negative coping mechanisms through the provision of targeted in-kind assistance and large-scale cash assistance programmes to improve access to basic goods and services available in markets and therefore, meet basic survival needs.

Persons displaced from Syria (both displaced Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria) and vulnerable Lebanese are the primary persons of concern for sector partners, with a focus on female headed households, the elderly, persons with special difficulties and marginalized groups who are at increased risk. Assistance is provided by the Government, the UN, and NGO partners.

Throughout the year, regular assistance is maintained for the poorest population groups to ensure their survival needs[1] are met in a manner that allows choice and promotes dignity. At certain times of the year, when the expenditure of households increases, particularly during winter and at the start of the school year, support is increased to compensate for potential additional costs.

In the context of Lebanon, an upper middle-income country with a vibrant banking sector, using cash as a modality to assist vulnerable households has proven to be successful. The financial sector infrastructure in the country helps large-scale implementation. Furthermore, recipients have expressed their preference, during community consultations, for the cash modality over in-kind assistance.[2]

This assistance is planned and implemented, taking into consideration other complementary interventions and services available within different sectors and responding to other types of needs and vulnerabilities. Strengthening linkages and supporting referral processes of individual cases in and out of the Basic Assistance sector will be prioritized. This activity will be coordinated under the umbrella of the inter-sector and in collaboration with relevant sectors.

The 2020 sector strategy will seek to address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable in a holistic and complementary manner. Special attention will be made to address the emerging needs considering the current ongoing economic crisis affecting Lebanon that led to civil unrest as of October 2019.

Cash based support to economically vulnerable families

Cash is chosen as the preferred modality for assistance, as it empowers and promotes the dignity of choice for recipients, stimulates local markets, and achieved economies of scale (compared to in-kind modalities). Furthermore, this assistance modality boosts the depleting purchasing power of households in need on a year-long and seasonal basis, as well as during emergencies and unexpected shocks / events.

Many cash assistance programmes were implemented under the Basic Assistance sector since 2016, yet they can be broken down into two main categories: (1) large scale cash assistance programmes, and (2) niche / tailored programmes.

The first category includes multi-purpose cash assistance, winter cash assistance, and child-focused cash programmes that are based on socio-economic vulnerability criteria, combined with categorical variables (like age sensitive measures) and an overall protection lens. These programmes are meant to be implemented at scale by covering an optimal number of households in need.

The multi-purpose cash assistance programme, which is the largest type of yearlong assistance under the Basic Assistance sector (and second after food e-vouchers programme of the Food Security sector) is based on a standard package of $175 per family per month. The package is calculated using a survival minimum expenditure model, developed in 2014, that estimates different levels of monthly expenditures on essential items such as food, shelter, water, hygiene items, and access to services.

The cash package aims to bridge the gap between what households receive in the form of food assistance ($27 per person per month) and the amount assumed to be generated from work or received through remittances ($125) to reach a survival expenditure level of $435 per family per month.

This type of assistance is complementary to the food assistance programme implemented under the Food Security sector. The poorest households identified should be supported with both assistance programmes in order to have the greatest impact. Moreover, households enrolled have a better food consumption score, less outstanding debts, and rely less on negative coping mechanisms.[3]

During winter (from November to March), sector partners provide support through a variety of activities and transfer modalities, including cash-based interventions, vouchers[4] and in-kind distributions,[5] as appropriate to

(1) Access and provision of female sanitary items is managed through cash and in-kind modalities by the Water sector.
(2) When cash was introduced as a modality for assistance in 2014.
(3) Lebanon: Inter-Agency - Basic Assistance - Trends in UNHCR Cash-Based Interventions: A Comprehensive Meta-Analysis Executive Brief – August, 2019: https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/70791.
(4) Fuel vouchers for heating.
(5) Where cash-based interventions are not possible due to a lack of ATM or due to differing needs identified at high altitudes in-kind distributions will take place.

population groups.[6]

Monetized assistance during winter range between $75 and $147 (per family per month) and aim at mitigating additional costs on vulnerable households. Hardship is exacerbated as average temperatures range from 10oC to -5oC at high altitudes, where exposure to cold increases.

Families eligible for this type of support are the most vulnerable households who usually live in poor quality and unprotected shelters, are in dire need of weatherproofing kits, plastic sheeting, stoves and additional fuel for heating, winter clothes and blankets, as well as food to reach the required minimum caloric intake.

The packages used are estimated to cover additional needs at times when casual labour opportunities tend to decrease and, therefore, income generated by households with working members is reduced. Winter cash assistance is implemented while ensuring a blanket coverage of assistance for all the poor[7] since exposure to cold and weather-related hazards is considered a shock with devastating effects on already vulnerable people. Moreover, this assistance tier represents an integral part of the Basic Assistance sector's response as many families who are not benefiting from regular interventions (multi-purpose cash assistance, food assistance, or both) receive this critical one-off assistance.

Based on assessments from previous winter campaigns, most households benefiting from assistance report that, in addition to meeting heating needs, the money is usually spent on food, winter clothing, shelter repairs, debt repayment and health expenses.

It is worth noting that addressing seasonal needs requires a multi-sectoral approach to assistance provision. A gap in shelter weatherproofing or food assistance is compensated by monetized winter assistance, however the impact of the programme may be diluted if families prioritize critical unmet needs first.

To address the specific needs of children, a social assistance programme (using an unconditional cash transfer) called "Min Ila" was piloted in two governorates (Akkar and Mount Lebanon) during the 2016/2017 academic year, targeting non-Lebanese children aged 5 to 15 years enrolled in second shift schools. It was subsequently scaled up to reach 50,000 children in three governorates for the 2017/2018 school year.

Unusual for a social assistance programme in a humanitarian context, a rigorous impact evaluation of the programme demonstrated that children in programme areas attended school about 20 days more per school year than those in the control group.[8]

Children benefited from increased health and education spending, skipped significantly less meals, and became more optimistic. In addition, administrative enrolment data showed an important increase in enrolment (100 percent for children aged 12 and above) in the governorates where the cash programme was introduced. Beneficiaries also described their improved ability to keep children in school and the reduced need to send them to work.

Due to decreases in available funds, the Min Ila programme has had to be reduced significantly for 2019 and beyond. Based on lessons learned, UNICEF will relaunch the programme to become increasingly integrated with additional services and targeted at more vulnerable children.

The second category of regular assistance provided through unconditional / unrestricted cash modalities, identified as niche programmes are much smaller in scale, and are based on an integrated multi-dimensional understanding of vulnerability. Shock responsiveness programmes are good examples, where eligible households are economically vulnerable, with inherited protection vulnerabilities, and have undergone a major life changer / shock (such as a loss of the breadwinning member of the family, a trauma affecting the head of the household, etc.). These integrated programmes are implemented with a social protection lens and include a strong case management component; yet, they have a shorter assistance duration.

By the end of 2020, the need to further scale up the different tiers of regular assistance is critical. Maintaining the same level of assistance has not been enough as economic vulnerability levels of displaced Syrians have continued to increase in 2019.

Moreover, assistance to vulnerable Lebanese through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) is essential to ensure that families can meet basic needs, as well as mitigate the consequences of economic shocks. Specific funding streams should be allocated to assist families who have been identified as extremely poor and in dire need for support.

The Basic Assistance sector plans will look to explore linkages between sector interventions to increase the impact of cash programmes. This will be particularly important when direct assistance is constrained or when households are taken off due to limitations in funding. The aim will be to better understand how reliance on direct cash assistance can be decreased by encouraging a more multi-sector approach to assistance.

(6) Households living under the minimum expenditure basket/poverty line ($3.84/capita/day) require attention, whereas those living under the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket /extreme poverty line ($435/month for a household of five) require immediate action.
(7) Poor households are all those living below the minimum expenditure levels of $571/month; this includes both the highly and the severely vulnerable population groups. Both groups comprise nearly 70 percent of the total displaced Syrian population.
(8) The evaluation was finalized in 2018 but was not published yet.

Targeting and monitoring: key programmatic prerequisites

Refined targeting, monitoring, evaluation and programmatic research are essential to the implementation of a comprehensive and efficient cash assistance programme. The Basic Assistance sector relies on targeting to prioritize allocation of resources and identify those most in need, as needs far exceed available resources.

Targeting: data driven approaches

The Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, an annual survey of vulnerability indicators, has supported the development of a data driven targeting approach or "the desk formula" which is in the determination of eligibility for multiple cash assistance programmes.

This "desk formula", based on Proxy Means Testing (PMT) can predict expenditure per capita, and therefore assign an economic vulnerability score to displaced Syrian families based on variables observed in the UNHCR database. These variables include, but are not limited to, data on arrival date, household size and characteristics, gender of the head of the household, dependency ratio, presence of members with disabilities, and specific needs.

The scoring feature allows the ranking and identification of households to be prioritized for assistance. This is done without having to rely on large-scale data collected through home visits, which is expensive and time consuming.

The targeting system is continuously refined, and the formula's coefficients are re-estimated annually. This recalibration exercise serves to test the validity and robustness of the model from which the formula is derived, to make use of the most up-to-date information and improve the quality of data, while attempting to minimize technical errors.

In 2019, a data-driven corrective layer was introduced to further minimize technical errors. This involved the collection of additional data from households who might be subject to exclusion error which is then used to reassess their eligibility for assistance.

The formula was refined to be more protection-sensitive during the third and fourth recalibration exercise in 2018 and 2019 as part of the sector's commitment to mainstream protection into Basic Assistance programming.

During the recalibration, results showed a convergence between socio-economic and protection vulnerabilities. Most families displaying certain protection related vulnerabilities, such as older persons, persons with disabilities or chronic medical conditions, single parents, and children at risk were identified amongst the most economically vulnerable through the formula and were, therefore, eligible for assistance.

Different actors and specialized agencies working under the umbrella of the sector adopt similar targeting approaches. For example, the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), with support from the World Bank, developed a proxy means testing approach to target poor Lebanese. Rather, UNRWA, responsible for Palestinian refugees, relies on a set of economic based data, such as living conditions, expenditures and demographics.[9]

Monitoring: tracking output and outcomes

Monitoring and evaluation is key to understanding how cash-based assistance programmes should continue to evolve and adapt to better protect displaced persons from increased vulnerability. These activities are critical to determine to which extent assisted families were able to access markets and meet their basic needs, as well as tracking the effects of the intervention on their overall wellbeing.

The sector currently relies on a range of tools focusing on post distribution and outcome monitoring for the respective cash-based interventions (regular and seasonal). These tools were standardized, harmonized and adopted by different actors implementing multi-purpose cash programmes.

The post-distribution monitoring tool is used to assess challenges beneficiaries may encounter after inclusion into the programme, and to monitor potential risks linked to assistance. The tool monitors access of households to distributions sites, satisfaction levels, use of money received, and effects of cash on their living conditions.

The outcome monitoring tool is used to examine and track trends in key areas and outcomes. This tool tracks the ability of households to meet basic needs as a result of the assistance provided, and covers areas such as debt, food consumption and quality, wellbeing, and coping mechanisms.

Based on existing evidence generated by Basic Assistance sector partners,[10] cash assistance has demonstrated its potential to improve gender relations and reduce the risk of exposure to gender-based violence. Moreover, financial assistance alleviates pressures experienced by households due to lack of income in a context where self-reliance opportunities remain limited.[ii] Information generated from different rounds of data collection with women, specifically pinpointed that women often pick up the cash cards and play important roles in decisions about household expenditures.[11]

Moreover, existing literature on impact monitoring showed that displaced Syrian households who receive multi-purpose cash have an increased spending power of 21 percent compared to non-recipients with similar vulnerability profiles. It also highlighted that household members have an improved sense of security and improved relationship with their surrounding host

(9) The Socio-economic Assessment of Palestine Refugees from Syria in Lebanon provided a profile of this population, covering the following eight thematic areas: 1) Demographics; 2) Education; 3) Food Security; 4) Health; 5) Poverty; 6) Access to work; 7) Shelter; and 8) Water, hygiene and sanitation. Since then, no recent assessments were made.
(10) Information gathered through regular post-distribution monitoring.
(11) In 2018 and 2019, and due to the enhancement of the targeting tools, 48 percent of households benefiting from multi-purpose cash assistance were female-headed households a significant increase from 33 percent in 2017.

community, as they feel economically empowered.[iii] In addition, cash assistance reduced the degree to which families rely on debt to meet their needs. Assisted families on average, have less overall debt than non-assisted families and are less likely to take new debts. Also, expenditure data has shown that benefiting families use a small portion of their monthly cash grants to pay back some debts.

Increasing attention is being focused on further developing the evaluation components of ongoing programmes. Integral to this work, the sector will be tracking the impact of cash assistance beyond the individual / family level, towards communities and markets, as well as exploring how these programmes can contribute to better protection outcomes by reducing economic vulnerability.

Looking beyond 2020: Exploring social protection and safety net approaches

A national roadmap on social protection is currently being developed by the Ministry of Social Affairs outlining key institutional and consultative steps to be undertaken in order to move Lebanon towards the development of a national social protection system.[12]

A key initial step in this roadmap is the completion of the social safety net assessment undertaken by UNICEF and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Affairs, to examine how existing social assistance programmes can be improved. The Basic Assistance sector looks at direct cash transfers and targeting mechanisms as potential contributions to the humanitarian safety net approach.

Since 2015, the Basic Assistance sector has incorporated the National Poverty Targeting Programme' criteria into its planning cycle. Whenever designing and planning an intervention targeting vulnerable Lebanese, most sector partners engage with NPTP to identify eligible households for assistance and interventions.

Support to the National Poverty Targeting Programme will be maintained and further enhanced. Close collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs and key development actors is essential to harmonize approaches, including on prioritization of assistance, targeting, implementation, delivery mechanisms, monitoring and a longer-term strategy for sharing responsibilities.

The role of the Social Development Centres (SDCs) and the regional National Poverty Targeting Programme offices is essential at the field level for coordination, implementation and planning for seasonal, regular and contingency assistance.

In addition, the Basic Assistance sector will explore opportunities to create linkages with other interventions to strengthen other safety net programming for vulnerable Lebanese.

(12) UNICEF is leading the support to implementation of this initiative.

LCRP sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

Linkages with the LCRP strategic objectives: contributions of the Basic Assistance sector:

The Basic Assistance sector aims at enabling displaced families to better protect themselves by reducing risks associated with being economically vulnerable.

The interventions of the Basic Assistance sector contribute to two strategic objectives of the LCRP as follows:

Strategic Objective 2: Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations

The sector contributes to this objective by supporting vulnerable populations to meet their basic needs. Regular and seasonal cash-based interventions represent a primary source of income for the most vulnerable households, most of them displaced Syrians, used mostly to cover food, rent, and health expenditures. More than 73 percent of households receiving multi-purpose cash assistance report improved ability to meet basic needs.[13]

A decrease in the level of assistance would increase their risk of becoming more vulnerable, given that recipient households are currently living with limited economic means to access basic goods and services critical to their survival.

Even though resources available for programming did not drastically change between 2018 and 2019, an increase in the economic vulnerability levels of displaced Syrians was witnessed due to a shrinking protection space characterized by limited access to employment and increased restrictive measures compounded by an overall worsening of social and economic conditions which have impacted the entire country.

It is worth noting that the ongoing deterioration of social and economic conditions in Lebanon is a major risk for planned sector interventions and programmes. There are growing concerns in Lebanon that the fluctuation of the value of the local currency could translate into an immediate degradation in purchasing power which could contribute to a decrease in the ability of individuals and families to meet their basic needs, even those who are being assisted through the sector. To mitigate this risk, the sector may have to revisit the benchmarks of expenditure baskets and transfer mechanisms currently in place, which might necessitate additional resources.

Strategic Objective 3: Support service provision through national systems

To strengthen service delivery and access of vulnerable groups, service provision will be supported through national systems. The Basic Assistance sector has established a partnership with the National Poverty Targeting Programme to transfer technical knowledge on assistance modalities and systems through existing

(13) UNHCR's Outcome Monitoring, 2019.

sector partners through capacity-building and training. In addition, sector partners are engaging with the NPTP in broader discussions on social protection systems and frameworks.

In the medium to long term, failing to strengthen the NPTP will represent a missed opportunity to link with the national safety net.

Sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

Outcome 1 – Strengthen the ability of vulnerable households, including female-headed, to meet their basic survival needs

Output 1.1 – The most economically vulnerable households benefit from unconditional, unrestricted cash assistance grants

Activities under this output include household-level socio-economic vulnerability profiling and monitoring; distribution of unconditional, unrestricted multi-purpose cash transfers; research and increased learning opportunities on multi-purpose cash programming, as well as updating the targeting desk formula.

Additional activities based on the sector's Protection Risk Assessment (PRA) to enhance quality, accountability and the effectiveness of partner interventions will include; (a) the sector revision of protocols to strengthen community participation and consultation; (b) thematic training for partner staff (communications with communities, safe identification of protection risks and referrals); (c) development of minimum standards for protection mainstreaming and accountability; and (d) capturing measurability of accountability and protection mainstreaming actions through qualitative indicators within the sector logframe.

Outcome 2 – Strengthen the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic survival needs

Output 2.1 – Population affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies benefits from cash grants

Cash grants and vouchers will be distributed to: (1) households affected by seasonal hazards, and (2) households affected by emergencies in alignment with the Inter-Agency contingency plan. The sector will conduct assessments, monitoring and an impact evaluation of seasonal needs and interventions.

Output 2.2 – Population affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies benefits from in-kind assistance

Sector partners will distribute core relief items where cash modalities are not possible, and support households in need of specific core relief items in cases of emergencies.

Outcome 3 – Support the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP)

Output 3.1 – NPTP has enhanced capacity to provide social assistance

Activities under this output will include institutional support to the NPTP through capacity-building of staff and social workers.

Output 3.2 – National Social Protection Framework Developed

Sector partners engage with MoSA to support development of a national framework for social protection, as well as to assess, enhance and support existing safety net and assistance transfer mechanisms.

Identification of sector needs and targets at individual and geographical levels

Using a prioritization approach, targeted assistance for regular cash will focus on severely socio-economically vulnerable / extreme poor households[14], while linking the interventions to other sector-specific activities to ensure complementarity and effectiveness.[15]

Specific targeting of seasonal assistance is based on socio-economic vulnerability and exposure to seasonal hardship and shocks.[16] Sector partners will maintain the necessary resources to allow for timely responses to unforeseen circumstances.

Basic Assistance sector partners' geographical coverage is complementary to other sectors interventions (mainly food assistance – on regular basis, and shelter support during winter) and proportional to the concentration of needs and vulnerabilities, to make the best use of available resources in a conflict sensitive manner.

Displaced Syrians

Economic vulnerability is measured by a household's expenditure level. The minimum expenditure basket (MEB) is $571 per household per month and the survival minimum expenditure basket (SMEB) is $435 per household per month and serve as thresholds to estimate and identify the proportion of the population in poverty.

The percentage of severely socio-economically vulnerable Syrian households is estimated by the annual Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon. Accordingly, 73 percent[17] of the displaced Syrian population is estimated to live below the poverty line, and therefore defined as a population in need, whereas the most vulnerable— 55 percent, are living in extreme poverty and are defined as the targeted population (prioritized). The Government of Lebanon estimate of a total of 1.5 million displaced Syrians in the country is used as a base to calculate the targets for

(14) Except for Palestine refugee households – blanket coverage applies
(15) The target for multi-purpose cash assistance in 2020 is: All displaced Syrian households living in extreme poverty (55 percent of displaced Syrians, as per VASyR 2019), calculated based on the Government of Lebanon's estimation of 1.5 million displaced Syrians in the country plus all Palestine refugees from Syria and most vulnerable Lebanese identified by the National Poverty Targeting Programme (42,935 households).
(16) The target for seasonal (winter) cash assistance in 2019 is: All displaced Syrian households living below the poverty line (73 percent of displaced Syrians, as per VASyR 2019), calculated based on the Government of Lebanon's estimation of 1.5 million displaced Syrians in the country plus all Palestine refugees from Syria plus the most vulnerable Lebanese identified by the National Poverty Targeting Programme (42,935 households).
(17) VASyR 2019

regular and seasonal assistance.

198,000 vulnerable displaced Syrian households are estimated to be living in dire need of support and therefore accounting for the total population in need, from which 147,000 are severely economic vulnerable and prioritized for regular cash assistance.

As of mid-2019, 58,000 vulnerable households are receiving multi-purpose cash assistance on a regular basis (compared to 62,000 households end 2018). This group will continue to be prioritized in line with the targeting approach.

The entire population in need group (198,000 households) is eligible for winter assistance and therefore to be targeted during the 2019/2020 campaign. During the previous winter assistance cycles, 187,000 households were identified for the 2018/2019 campaign.

Vulnerable Lebanese

Identifying households to be supported by the NPTP is based on self-referrals and receives applications from Lebanese citizens who consider themselves poor. The limitation of this approach is that outreach of the NPTP remains limited and as a result, a higher number of vulnerable Lebanese living in extreme poverty and in need of assistance remain unknown.

Available data prior to the start of the Syrian crisis indicates that between 27 and 28.5[iv] percent of Lebanese were poor; however, no more recent data is available. Extremely poor Lebanese households are estimated to be around 10 percent of the country's population[v] as per the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) in 2015,[18] noting that the actual number of households enrolled in the programme is lower.

The National Poverty Targeting Programme launched a recertification exercise at the end of 2016 and throughout 2017 with the objective of refining and update the existing database of beneficiaries. The recertification was based on household visits and data collected including 60 vulnerability indicators around shelter and sanitation conditions, assets, and demographics. The benchmark for determining poverty was set at $5.7 per capita per day (extreme poverty line) and $8.6 per capita per day (upper poverty line).[19]

The outcome of this exercise was that out of the nearly 106,000 beneficiaries enrolled, 42,935 households were identified as living in extreme poverty and therefore eligible for support. Eligible households receive health and education subsidies. Those identified as the most vulnerable (bottom of the rank) receive food assistance through e-vouchers.[20]

Between 2016 and 2017, Basic Assistance sector partners targeted around 27,800 vulnerable Lebanese households with cash-based interventions.[21] In 2018, an additional 650 households were also reached with multi-purpose cash programmes. It is worth noting that these 650 households do not benefit from the food assistance programme which reaches 10,000 households. In 2019, only 560 households were targeted with regular cash assistance due to funding limitations.

The entire number of households identified by NPTP is prioritized for regular and seasonal assistance by the Basic Assistance sector partners.

Palestinian refugees from Syria

27,700 Palestinian refugees from Syria, equivalent to 8,450 households, are registered with UNRWA based on the latest headcount in 2019. Their living conditions were assessed in 2015/2016.

However, similar to displaced Syrian households, Palestinian refugees from Syria are experiencing rapidly deteriorating socio-economic conditions, exacerbating their pre-existing vulnerability levels.

Currently, 100 percent of the Palestinian refugees from Syria are targeted with basic assistance (on regular and seasonal basis) based on their high socio-economic vulnerability level. As of June 2019, around 8,600 Palestinian refugee families from Syria were targeted and reached with cash assistance on a regular basis, including in winter (December 2018). This population will be further supported in 2020.

Mainstreaming of accountability to affected populations, protection, conflict sensitivity, age and gender, youth, persons with specific needs and environment

Accountability to affected persons

Since 2018, the sector has taken additional efforts to mainstream accountability into ongoing cash-based programmes. Specific focus has been placed on communications with affected communities, especially regarding trying to set a balance between transparent communication on targeting approaches and changes in eligibility, and the need for confidentiality.

In 2019, specifically during the retargeting period, the sector focused on engaging affected men and women, in the design and content of communication material, suggested terminology and phrases to be placed in Q&As, SMSs and other communication materials to be used, as well as on other preferred dissemination methods (beyond SMS). The consultations also covered feedback from community members on the design,

(18) NPTP is the National Social Safety Net programme emanating from the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and partially funded by the World Bank. NPTP has two operational units, under MoSA and under the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (PCM).

(19) Poverty lines estimations used for targeting by the NPTP are based on a poverty study published in 2016; see: Central Administration of Statistics (CAS), World Bank (25 May 2016), *Snapshot of Poverty and Labour Market Outcomes in Lebanon based on Household Budget Survey 2011/2012*.

(20) Around 15,000 households currently benefit from the food e-voucher programme (out of 42,935 households in need).

(21) A total of 26,000 Lebanese households was targeted during the 2016/2017 winter with a one-off winter cash payment ($40/eligible child/household). In addition, other partners have targeted 1,800 households with multi-purpose cash transfers over a period of six months.

content and method of dissemination of communication material.

In addition, agencies implementing cash programmes continued to use short messaging services (SMS) to inform households about inclusion and discontinuation decisions affecting them, as well as to notify them when assistance was uploaded. Furthermore, households who were discontinued from the cash assistance programme can contact existing information gateways, such as the interagency call centre or specific agencies' hotlines, to inquire about such decisions and receive information on assistance. It is worth noting that additional investments are put through the call centre to increase its capacity during the retargeting period.

Protection mainstreaming workshops in 2019, and the results of the sectoral Protection Risk Assessment (PRA) highlighted the need to strengthen complaint and feedback mechanisms through the sector, including for sexual exploitation and abuse. This comprise creating a more inclusive, responsive and informative mechanism, as well as addressing some key concerns identified.

To complement the existing targeting approach, efforts are currently underway to upgrade the existing grievance reporting mechanism (GRM) for the regular multi-purpose cash assistance programme that was piloted in 2018. This mechanism opens a window for households whose profiles continue to be missed by the data-driven eligibility formula, to submit an appeal. This mechanism is a critical opportunity for households whose situations might have changed and/or who would like to have a review of their eligibility. While the establishment of this mechanism has been positive, the sector recognises its limitations, specifically when it comes to funding limitations that constrain the ability to roll out the mechanism on a larger scale.

In response to the different challenges identified through the protection risk analysis, in 2020 the sector with support from the Protection sector will aim to;

- Review the current method used for responding to cases that submit a claim on the GRM as it recognises the need to improve the extent of feedback provided.
- Offer capacity building support to complaint and feedback staff to accurately classify and report on complaints.
- Information materials and sessions should be adapted to reach the most vulnerable and provided to raise awareness on the GRM and other complaint and feedback mechanisms including how and where to access, complaint-handling process and expectations on response. Frontline workers will be targeted.
- Promote the inter-agency minimum standards on complaints and feedback – which, if needed, can be adapted to the basic assistance sector - and where possible, training to roll out this guidance will be held.
- The sector will focus on maximising the use of non-identifying data captured through the GRM and other channels (hotlines, Post Distribution Monitoring PDMs) to produce collective sector-level analysis of key trends to inform and adapt programs and to further complement findings from the Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, participatory assessments, and other sector assessments conducted. The sector will try to ensure data is disaggregated by age and gender.
- The sector would like to capitalize on existing Inter-Agency efforts to strengthen a referral pathway that could potentially identify more eligible profiles with specific vulnerabilities to enable them to receive more regular support through the Basic Assistance sector.

Protection and gender mainstreaming

In 2019, the Basic Assistance sector made efforts to better mainstream protection inclusive of gender, age and disability, into sector interventions. As a first step, the sector conducted a protection risk analysis with basic assistance sector members in all regional field offices, to identify challenges communities and individuals face with regards to four elements - meaningful access, safety, dignity and do no harm, accountability, and participation – and to design activities which respond to

Total sector needs and targets 2020

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescent (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	227,546	227,546	113,090	114,370	70,881	37,181	
Displaced Syrians	1,095,000	825,000	424,050	400,950	443,025	159,225	
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,349	13,351	11,171	4,770	
Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon	180,690	2,565	1,272	1,293	892	392	
GRAND TOTAL	**1,530,936**	**1,083,000**	**553,000**	**530,000**	**526,000**	**202,000**	

those risks. Through this exercise, four main areas which need strengthening emerged; cross-sector referrals, inclusive and response complaints and feedback systems (addressed in accountability above), and inclusion of persons with disability.

Cash assistance may contribute to decreases in the use of harmful coping mechanisms, including those specific to women, children and other persons with specific needs, when complemented with case management services and support schemes. Nevertheless, recognizing that cash is not the only solution, and as other types of vulnerabilities can be identified, sector partners will refer individual cases to specialized agencies in case management for closer follow-up. The sector recognises however, that improvements must be made to meet this commitment.

The sector activities consider women and men's ability to safely access cash assistance and mitigate the risks of exploitation and fraud at cash points. The sector also tries to limit and decrease as much as possible negative coping mechanisms specific to women and girls, such as early marriage and sexual exploitation, as well as pressure to work for boys.

Conflict sensitivity

The implementation of humanitarian cash-based interventions at scale creates an aggregate demand and stimulates an economic multiplier effect, as cash assistance received is subsequently spent in local Lebanese shops. This has contributed to the mitigation of the negative perceptions surrounding struggling communities of vulnerable Lebanese and displaced Syrians.[vi]

Exogenous resources such as additional cash injections are meant to alleviate social tensions by empowering the most vulnerable with better access local markets and in meeting their basic needs. Further monitoring and analysis on how cash is spent is currently being carried out, in coordination with the relevant stakeholders within the sector, to trace the social effect of cash assistance.

The fact that not all eligible households ultimately receive assistance due to resource limitations, may increase tensions between recipients and non-recipients. However, the Basic Assistance sector operationalizes cash assistance using geographical quotas. These regional quotas are proportional to the concentration of displaced households and vulnerabilities respectively. The main aim of such an approach, considering the limited resources, is to mainstream conflict sensitivity into the targeting and thus reduce any push or pull factors.

Environment

In Lebanon, fuel vouchers and assistance (both monetized and in-kind) aim to support households in meeting domestic energy needs, while at the same time address other concerns such as reducing deforestation and environmental degradation around informal settlements, alleviating associated conflict with host communities over the use of natural resources, and decreasing indoor air pollution through the introduction of good quality stoves and high-quality thermal clothing.

Furthermore, monetization of assistance reduces transaction costs and energy consumption related to in-kind distribution, transport, storage and distribution

Endnotes

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vi. International Rescue Committee (August 2014), *Emergency Economies: The Impact of Cash Assistance in Lebanon; CaLP, IRC (April 2014), Impact evaluation of Cross- Sector Cash Assistance*; WFP (June 2014), *Economic Impact of Food E-vouchers on the Local Economy.*

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Strengthen the ability of vulnerable HHs, including female-headed, to meet their basic survival needs

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of population that is severly vulnerbale	Economic vulnerability population can meet their basic survival needs/spend above the minimum survival expenditure basket.	Economic vulnerability measured based on declared expenditure through a representative sample. i.e. if total expenditure is below the survival minimum expenditure basket then household is severly economically vulnerable. **Assessments** Syrians: VASYR Lebanese : Existing offical poverty figures Palestinians: UNRWA vulnerability assessment Indicative figues taken from VASYR; actual impact is measured through Outcome Monitoring	Percentage of HH	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
10%	N/A	N/A	10%	53%	N/A	N/A	50%	89%	N/A	N/A	89%	65%	N/A	N/A	65%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of assisted severely economically vulnerable households report being able to meet their basic survival needs	Numerator: number of assisted reporting ability to meet their basic survival needs Denominator: number of total assisted who have been sampled	Impact studies and PDMs for all population cohorts. Rational behind Targets: Basic Assistance Sector contributes to 40% of the SMEB value through the $175 cash grant. Food contributes to 31% of SMEB. Currently 98% of cash recepients also receive food.	Percentage	Quarterly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	90%	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	N/A	N/A	90%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of households identified as severely vulnerable and have specific needs receiving assistance	Numerator: number of assisted SV households with specific need Denominator: number of total assisted SV households	This outcome indicator aims at tracking the overlapp of economic and protection vulnerabilities. In the 2018 DF, households with certain protection profiles were identified as SV, a major breakthrough compared to previous years. It is critical to track the percentage of these household who were prioritized for regular assistance. MOV: the sector tracks this indicator through cross checking assisted cases on RAIS vs the total list of eligible households	Percentage of HH	Quarterly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
N/A	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
Baseline	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 4	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of assisted households reporting that they know how to access humanitarian assistance.	Numerator: number of assisted SV households with postive answer Denominator: number of total assisted SV households	This outcome indicator aims at understanding if households have enough information on how to access humanitarian assistance provided. MOV: specific question to be added to the MPC PDM	Percentage of HH	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
N/A	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
Baseline	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Outcome 2: Strengthen the ability of populations affected by seasonal hazards and emergencies to secure additional basic survival needs

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage newly displaced households who are provided basic assistance	Numerator: number of newly displaced households assisted Denominator: number of households newly displaced	RNA, field offices to estimate newly displaced. ActivityInfo, RAIS, Emergency response for assistance.	Percentage	Ad-hoc

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of assisted households affected by seasonal shocks who are able to meet their additional basic survival needs	Numerator: Number of households receiving seasonal and emergency assistance who were able to meet their additional needs denominator: # population found to be seasonally vulnerable and assisted	PDM, outcome monitoring	Percentage	seasonaly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	90%	N/A	N/A	100%	90%	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%

Outcome 3: Support the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP)

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Increased knowledge on vulnerability assessments and targeting among NPTP social workers	Trained social workers demonstrate increased knowledge	NPTP / pre-post assessments	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
National Social Safety Net Strategy ednorsed	Strategy outlining the long-term vision of the social safety net system	MoSA / NPTP	Strategy	One Off

Institutions

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Syrian Refugees in Deir El Ahmar, Bekaa.
Photo Credit: UNDP, Rana Sweidan, 12/01/2019

EDUCATION
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED

1,185,023

PEOPLE TARGETED

467,828

REQUIREMENTS(US$)

2020 350.5 million

PARTNERS

59

GENDER MARKER

1

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $325.12 m

Enhance access to, and demand from, children youth, and their caregivers, for equitable formal or regulated non-formal education.

Indicators

Number of students (age 3-18) enrolled in formal education.

Outcome #2 — $21 m

Enhance quality of education services and learning environment to ensure grade-appropriate learning outcomes for children and youth.

Indicators

Completion rates by education cycle (% of children and youth of the corresponding graduation age who have completed a cycle/passage rate by end of basic cycle).

Retention rates by cycle (% of students who were at school the last scholastic year who remain at school the next scholastic year).

Transition rates by cycle (% of students at the last grade of one cycle the last scholastic year who are at the first grade of the next cycle the next scholastic year).

Number of students in public schools successful in grade 3 and grade 6 learning assessment tests.

Percentage of children and youth attending regulated NFE who transitioned to formal education.

Outcome #3 — $4.34 m

Enhance governance and managerial capacities of RACE 2 implementing institutions to plan, budget, deliver, monitor and evaluate education services.

Indicators

CERD Annual Statistics yearbook is published by 01 August every year for the last academic year inclusive of all refugee education data.

Annual RACE 2 operational and financial plan and report available.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	51% Female	49% Male
Lebanese	451,323	240,000	122,400	117,600
Displaced Syrians	687,661	214,000	109,140	104,860
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	9,753	5,901	3,010	2,891
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	36,286	7,927	4,043	3,884

Overall sector strategy

The protracted nature of the Syria crisis, which entered its ninth year in March 2019, has overstretched the capacity of the public education system in Lebanon. To address the critical education needs of thousands of school age, vulnerable Lebanese and displaced Syrian children in Lebanon, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) has drawn up the Reaching All Children with Education Plans (RACE I: 2014-2016 and RACE II: 2017-2021).[i]

The overarching goal of the current Education sector strategy, i.e. RACE II, is that "the Lebanese national education system is able to provide equitable access to quality education opportunities for all children and youth." The Education sector, led by MEHE, collaborates towards this goal through three main, but equally important, areas of intervention:

1. ACCESS to education opportunities: By enhancing access to, and demand from children, youth, and their caregivers, equitable formal or regulated non-formal education;
2. QUALITY of education services: By enhancing quality of education services and learning environments to ensure grade-appropriate learning outcomes for children and youth; and
3. GOVERNANCE of education systems: By enhancing governance and managerial capacities of RACE II implementing institutions to plan, budget, deliver, monitor, and evaluate education services.

To achieve this, the Education sector aims to drive measurable changes on three key levels:

At the child and community level: Sector partners will continue to reach out to the most marginalized and vulnerable populations – Lebanese and displaced Syrians alike. Communities will be supported to change their behaviours from negative coping strategies (a consequence of poverty) towards sustained, positive, and informed decisions that engage with education services and institutions. This increase in demand for education will be accompanied by comprehensive subsidies by education services providers to offset the opportunity costs of poorer children enrolling in education opportunities. This includes the opening of an additional shift in public schools to accommodate additional students as well as the subsidies (both in formal and non-formal education) towards enrolment fees, transportation, textbooks, and learning supplies. In addition, partners will support the improvement of learning spaces – both public schools and non-formal education (NFE) centres – by supporting the winterization of premises, rehabilitation of built spaces, and accessibility modifications, to name a few. The assumptions assembled around these set of interventions, holds that sustained behaviour change interventions and comprehensive subsidies to offset opportunity costs will increase the demand for, and access to, formal and non-formal education. This would support the overall goal of reducing the numbers of children either out of school or out of learning.

At the service delivery level: Institutional stakeholders will coordinate to improve the quality of instruction and learning environments – both in public schools and NFE learning centres. These interventions are predicated on policies/reforms organized at the institutional level – through MEHE

- This includes the roll-out of the child protection policy inside public schools (iteratively across all schools in Lebanon), the training of public-school teachers on child-centred pedagogy (including modules in differentiated instruction, inclusion, gender, teaching with technology, etc.), and the opening of pilot inclusive schools to mainstream children with disabilities into public schools. This also includes the deployment of psychosocial support and health staff; and regular/formal monitoring of teaching practices in all second shift schools. These interventions combined, will contribute to improve the teaching and learning environment for students enrolled in public school – with the assumption that such interventions will improve attendance, reduce drop-out, and improve real learning outcomes for children.
- For those children who are out of formal education, MEHE has designed – in collaboration with key technical partners – the Non-Formal Pathway as a means for out-of-school children to transition into formal education. This is an important initiative because it includes the standardization of non-formal education content (mirroring the Lebanese curriculum) for all age group, from 3 to 18 years of age. The corresponding programmes that have been deployed in communities are community-based Early Childhood Education (ECE), Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN), and the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP). MEHE has also introduced standard operating procedures to maintain minimum standards for the operationalization of these programmes. Going forward, much value would be added by also agreeing on minimum standards on child protection, accessibility, and learning measurement for non-formal programmes. It is assumed that standardizing the quality of non-formal programmes with a clear transition pathway – will support out-of-school children to learn sufficiently well to be eligible for entry into formal education.

At the institutional level: MEHE will continuously invest in strengthening existing systems (i.e., data collection, deployment of trained teaching corps and MEHE staff, developing teacher performance and monitoring standards for formal education, and administering the public-school system). In addition, MEHE will invest in the design of evidence-based and data driven child-friendly policies, the measurement of learning achievements beyond grade-to-grade transition and

public examinations, developing durable partnerships, designing a solid contingency plan, and creating a platform to coordinate the delivery of education programming. The combination of these system-level interventions – is assumed to support a systematic shift towards a more child-centred, policy-driven, and empowered governance structure of MEHE and its public school system. An accessible and well-governed public education system will directly impact the learning and education of children enrolled in Lebanese public schools.

By achieving the three main objectives of the Education sector, stakeholder interventions will contribute to ensuring the protection of vulnerable populations, supporting service provision through national systems, and supporting the reinforcement of Lebanon's economic, social, and environmental stability. To achieve these objectives, the sector strategy functions from the premise that if Lebanon has a strengthened education system for more inclusive gender-equitable access to quality education and learning, and if it can provide better employability, personal empowerment and skill sets to its people, then all children, especially the most vulnerable will have the opportunity to learn. A better response will be achieved through complementarity among sectors, and the best way to ensure that all school-aged children are reached with learning and are retained in education programmes is through ensuring the well-being of the child through a more integrated and inclusive approach to the programming and the response. The education strategy has been developed based on the assumption that other sectors will be working under these same general guiding principles and will have the same willingness to cooperate for the best interests of children and youth.

The sector acknowledges that children with disabilities continue to face considerable barriers accessing education opportunities, including prevailing social norms and attitudes towards disability, a lack of budgetary allocations supporting inclusion to the public education system, limited teacher capacity, a lack of effective teaching strategies to provide appropriate instruction, and limited access to schools with adequate facilities. In this respect, the sector strategy ensures that education fosters inclusion, human rights awareness and conflict resolution, and empowers girls and women by increasing their chances of employment, staying healthy, and participating fully in society.

The education plan for Palestinian refugee children is led by UNRWA and focuses on enrolment support for formal basic education, inclusive education, and psychosocial support. In particular, UNRWA continues to engage with partners to expand educational and learning support services for children to provide them with targeted support including psychosocial support, learning support, vocational training opportunities, and referrals to alternative education pathways. During 2019-2020, UNRWA continues to support the inclusion/integration of Palestinian refugee students from Syria with Palestinian refugees from Lebanon.

LCRP impact, sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

As of July 2019, more than one million children and youth in Lebanon aged 3-18 years, from all nationalities, were enrolled in formal education, in either public, private or subsidized schools and institutions, more than 722,000 of whom in the compulsory school age group (6-14 years).[ii]

Priority response areas for 2020 will continue to build on the existing education programme and work towards improving access, addressing retention barriers, improving quality, equity and inclusiveness, and strengthening national capacities and systems through achieving the three overarching objectives.

Outcome 1: Improved Demand and Access to Education Opportunities

The first outcome that the sector strategy addresses is enhancing access to, and demand for, equitable formal education or regulated non-formal education for children, youth, and their caregivers in Lebanon.

During the 2018-2019 school year, implementation results of RACE II were significant, including through enhancing the ability of the education system in Lebanon to host a large number of students.

Working children, particularly those engaged in the worst forms of child labour, are among the most vulnerable that are left behind. Children and families in these areas face several educational challenges that require systemic interventions to improve absorption capacity, to accommodate for refugees' demands, and to overcome economic barriers and language difficulties. The risk of child marriage, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and other negative coping mechanism remains high. Young men work to support their families at the expense of continued education.

The protracted situation and the economic situation have not only adversely affected displaced populations, but all of the most vulnerable, regardless of nationality. The number of Lebanese children between 6-14 dropping out of school to engage in child labour in order to support their families economically, continues to increase. In addition, a number of students have had to move from private to public schools for economic reasons as well. In secondary education, which is not compulsory nor free, the most vulnerable Lebanese are at a high risk of dropping out from school for not being able to pay their registration fees and education-related costs such as textbooks. An increasing number of Lebanese children in public schools will force schools to prioritize in the first shift, thus pushing more displaced Syrian children into already saturated second shift schools.

Given the alarming percentages of out-of-school children, especially among displaced communities, the sector has a joint responsibility to design more innovative programmes and initiatives that aim to address the unmet educational needs of children who

are out of school – the hardest to reach.

In order for demand-generation to be more effective, there needs to be a supply side that is adequate enough to ensure that absorption and retention are possible. There is a risk that schools have limited capacity and that funding for non-formal education remains lower than needed. In order to ensure that the demand is met, the sector strategy focuses on different levels of objectives, including improving physical access and environment, improving quality of education and learning, and ensuring that systems are adequately strengthened to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable and to build for a sustainability that goes beyond the crisis at hand.

However, there is still a scope to increase enrolment, strengthen demand, and improve infrastructure in the Education sector. To achieve improved access to education opportunities, the sector response plan focuses on two outputs.

Output 1.1 – Children, youth, and their caregivers, are provided with the necessary support to increase their demand for formal education or regulated non-formal education

Moving from the premise that lack of access to information and knowledge as well as the availability of programmes are not the only barriers to education, and that the current increased level of poverty and unemployment rate are pushing more children into a work situation and out of education, the sector strategy will look into more creative alternative methods to increase demand on non-formal education and regulated systems.

Such methods will include more integrated and effective outreach approaches, relying on the assumption that other sectors will also be focusing on the same level of outreach. Outreach will also aim to increase the engagement of parents in education, in order to change their thinking towards education and send their children to formal or non-formal education. The sector aims to work closely with the Child Protection Working Group and Health sector, as well as with different youth programmes, to ensure that those in need are reached through outreach and referral.

The sector will continue to provide basic assistance and transportation but will also focus on exploring different modalities. Various transportation modalities that have been used will be revisited, to ensure that they contribute to the retention of children in schools. One of the main issues that the sector will focus on is on better support for dropouts, which has been insufficiently addressed so far. Close coordination with the Basic Assistance and Livelihoods sectors will be necessary to ensure that the needs and ways forward are identified for the best interest of the children.

To encourage children to stay in schools or learning spaces, and for parents to send their children and keep them there, new incentives will be explored. For this to happen, the sector will focus on strengthening its work on parent engagement. It will also maintain a proper coordination mechanism within the sector, as well as joint quarterly sector meetings at the field level where proper engagement is done with other relevant sectors such as Livelihoods, Health, Child Protection, and Water.

Partners will continue to engage in the provision of recreational activities for boys and girls and the distribution of recreational kits to mitigate the psychosocial impact of violence and displacement, foster inclusion and human rights awareness, and maintain and improve the well-being of children.

Output 1.2 – Children and youth have improved access to appropriately equipped public schools and learning centres especially in underserved areas

According to MEHE, more than one third of the country's public schools are in bad condition and in need of major rehabilitation. In addition, 42 percent of MEHE public school premises are rented, and some rentals are located in residential buildings and not school buildings.

Rehabilitation and construction of schools, thus, will remain a priority, particularly in underserved areas and areas with a high concentration of displaced Syrians. MEHE will adopt a comprehensive approach to school rehabilitation, building on best practices and lessons learned through interventions led by various donors, the Government and partners to increase educational access, with a particular focus on girls and children with special needs. Selected schools will be equipped with gender-sensitive latrines and other facilities such as arts, music, sports, sciences and information technology laboratories, based on MEHE's standards.

In addition, the sector strategy focuses on adding physical improvements to non-formal education structures to ensure a safer learning environment that complies with international child protection standards, including proper accessibility and equipment for children with special needs. The sector will seek the support of the Child Protection Working Group as well as the Water sector to ensure appropriate standards of water safety and hygiene in both schools and learning spaces.

Outcome 2 – Improved Quality of Education Services

The second outcome of the sector strategy addresses enhancing the quality of education services and learning environments to ensure grade-appropriate learning outcomes for children and youth. It focuses on delivering quality education services and learning environments throughout the continuum of formal and non-formal schooling pathways, to ensure meaningful and grade-appropriate learning for children and youth. In the RACE II, MEHE has been able to improve access to, and quality of, and a range of complementary educational services, including non-formal education.

In spite of all the effort put into improving the quality of education services and learning environment, there remain several challenges that delay the full achievement of the outcome. However, the sector will continue to aim for improved results through providing professional development to education personnel as well as through

ensuring a child friendly environment in schools and learning centres.

Output 2.1 – Teachers, education personnel, and educators have enhanced capacities to provide learner-centred pedagogy in public schools or learning spaces

The key role of teachers and educators, the importance of school governance, and the potential of community engagement in learning, are prioritized. The Center for Educational Research and Development (CERD) and the General Directorate of Education (GDE) at MEHE/ Direction d'Orientation Pédagogique et Scolaire (DOPS) will continue to lead the design and roll-out of the many interventions under this Outcome. The RACE Project Management Unit (PMU) will ensure that standards set by these institutions are followed as relevant.

Additional effort is required to improve the quality of both formal and non-formal education in 2020. Despite several learning packages and system support policies and plans that have been developed throughout the last few years, more training is required for teachers and educators to roll out these policies and implement learner-centred approaches.

All categories of personnel in the Education sector will be provided with support to enhance their capacities:

- Teachers (tenured and contracted teachers working in Lebanese public schools, including in second shift);
- Education personnel (school directors and supervisors working in Lebanese public schools); and
- Education personnel recruited to provide NFE content in learning spaces.

For education personnel, training packages are being developed to support the development of management and financial competencies required for the implementation of School Improvement Plans (SIPs). The aim is to strengthen the educational role of school directors. Educators in learning spaces will be advised on the minimum criteria for competencies required by a non-formal education educator for regulated programmes, in partnership with CERD and PMU. CERD will also assist in improving the quality of non-formal education by training educators on regulated non-formal education packages.

To measure the quality of teaching and learning, MEHE/ GDE will be in charge of monitoring visits to second-shift schools through DOPS counsellors, to support, coach and guide teaching staff and ensure that they adhere to national performance standards.

The capacity of the Palestinian teaching workforce will also be enhanced through in-service trainings and trainings on Individual Education (IE) and Individual Education Plans (IEP) to be delivered to newly appointed education staff, thereby strengthening the identification and response process to student's needs. Training on psychosocial support will continue to be delivered with a view to enhance the cohesion between Palestine students from Syria and Palestine students from Lebanon and to improve retention.

Output 2.2 – Teachers and education personnel at the school level and educators in learning spaces are capacitated to contribute to inclusive, safe, healthy, and protective environments

Accountability and governance at the school level requires support from school personnel in the administration of schools and the involvement of communities in the education of their children. Activities with school directors, teachers and parents will focus on greater engagement, meaningful classroom instruction, and inclusive leadership in schools, in order to be more child friendly.

The sector will focus on school improvement plans to provide inclusive, safe, healthy and protective environments (in both second shift schools and regulated NFE learning spaces). The following interventions will be supervised by PMU:

A minimum of two health checks per year will be guaranteed for each student enrolled in second shift schools. Health counsellors will follow students' medical files and monitor the quality of health checks performed by school doctors. The health counsellors will continue to follow up and conduct hygiene awareness sessions and observations to improve the health of students;

In line with the Child Protection Policy developed by MEHE, GDE/DOPS Central has rolled out to teachers, education personnel and psychosocial support counsellors, national protocols for the identification and referral of any student impacted by violence at school, at home, or in their community. During the school year 2019/2020, MEHE – in collaboration with UNICEF – is developing an Operational Framework for the policy outlining the main actions and activities for MEHE to undertake to ensure that schools are safe and protective of children. A hotline and email address are available at MEHE for reporting cases of violence. The Child Protection Unit at MEHE/GDE is receiving and processing these cases in accordance with the referral process.

- School personnel and NFE educators will be trained to ensure active involvement in the appropriate referral of children and youth with specific needs (whether physical or cognitive)
- The sector will work with the Child Protection Working Group on ensuring minimum protection safeguards are available in NFE classrooms, and on the needed referral and follow-up with caregivers.
- The sector will work with the Health sector to ensure that children in NFE spaces are enjoying access to proper health care and follow-up.

Students identified as at risk of dropping-out will continue to be assisted with retention support activities under the supervision of PMU, such as homework or language support programmes. Remedial support is also provided during summer vacations. Homework support programmes are implemented either inside the school or in community centres/tents and are implemented through eligible NGO partners.

Links between schools and displaced communities are strengthened through Education Community Liaisons

(ECLs) and Community Liaison Volunteers, who will continue to provide personalized follow-up to displaced Syrian students and assist communities in addressing or finding solutions for issues such as bullying, violence, or discrimination, that often lead to children dropping out. These liaisons will follow up on absenteeism and identify and prevent cases of violence both inside and outside of school and in the community, while promoting tolerance and peaceful coexistence. UNRWA's School Counsellors will work alongside the school administration, children, caregivers, student parliaments and parent/teacher associations to create an enabling environment for children where they are safe and protected; they will serve as frontline focal persons for all psychosocial support and protection matters in schools.

The sector will continue to work towards providing inclusive education in public schools through the 30 pilot "Inclusive Schools". The objective of this programme is to operationalize and test a model of inclusive education in Lebanon and scale-up and inform inclusive education policy development. The sector will continue with the training and sensitization of teachers and school principals and through the continuous use of the inclusion kits which consist of games and activities directed at developing different cognitive and psychomotor skills of the child.

Palestinian refugee students will continue to benefit from learning support through summer learning activities organized during the summer vacations. UNRWA will continue also to support students with disabilities to access special education through subsidies to cover respective tuition fees, where mainstream schooling appears not to be the best development option for them. The Agency's efforts to respond to children's special needs are complemented through the referral to therapeutic consultations where required.

As part of the strategy, there will be capacity strengthening to ensure that all sector partners have the same level of knowledge concerning child protection (identification and referral); gender-based violence; inclusion, basic water, sanitation and hygiene, in order to ensure that children's well-being is met in all NFE centres and activities to the highest standards. Partners, especially at the field level, will also benefit from additional support in contingency planning and preparedness on scenarios that have not been previously accounted for in contingency plans.

Output 2.3 – Children in public schools and learning spaces have enhanced capabilities and life skills through additional operational subjects and extra-curricular activities

Non-Lebanese children in public schools and learning spaces will benefit from additional support to develop their technical and life skills. Education and learning for these children will include recreational activities, as well as operational/practical subjects that will help develop their life skills and non-academic skills, based on their preferences and on market needs, especially for the youth. This will build on ongoing efforts also by partners on life skills, socio-emotional skills, and recreational activities.

Outcome 3 – Strengthened Capacity of the Education System

The third sector outcome addresses interventions that enhance governance and managerial capacities of RACE II implementing partners to plan, budget, and monitor the delivery of public education services.

There have been several key successes under this outcome during this past year. For example, the Child Protection in Schools Policy, launched by MEHE in 2018 – continues to be iteratively rolled out across hundreds of public schools across Lebanon. Institutionally, a central Child Protection Hotline was established directly with schools and school communities and is currently being used to support the safe and confidential reporting of instances of protection violations to MEHE.

Another key systems success was the continued roll-out of MEHE's Inclusive Schools Pilot in 30 public schools, in partnership with the United Nations. A "rolling lessons-learned" exercise from each of these public schools is systematically feeding back into MEHE's strategic vision about the future of Lebanese schools mainstreaming children with special needs into all public school premises. Several learning initiatives were also undertaken by MEHE in partnership with the UN and other governments. These significant achievements strides are moving MEHE towards the initial broad designs for an inclusive education policy for Lebanon. However, considerable challenges exist in the recruitment of qualified paraprofessionals, particularly in remote areas. The accessibility of schools is another barrier, as not all schools are adjusted for motor disability. Many of the schools are currently at full capacity, with no space available for additional children, which makes the scale-up to more schools a priority.

Also, the Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN) programme and the Secondary Accelerated Learning Programme (SALP) are still under design. Education sector partners will support MEHE in improving the quality of NFE delivery by jointly agreeing on minimum standards for protection services, psychosocial support services, and life skills education in the content of all the regulated NFE programmes. In the meantime, MEHE successfully launched its NFE national policy in 2019.

To strengthen these already important initiatives into the public education system, more efforts must be directed toward collecting and analysing national education data, improving the quality of teaching, and developing curricula. One of the major sector gaps is timely national education data that can be meaningful and used for programming or policy interventions.

The sector lacks a proper contingency plan to respond to potential emergency scenarios that might affect Lebanon, including financial crises and civil unrest, which might disrupt schools and NFE activities, thus affecting

the quality of learning for the children.

Despite these challenges, MEHE is progressing on policy formation and implementation to properly address barriers and strengthen education delivery. It has indicated that the following main areas will form its strategic plan under Outcome 3:

Output 3.1 – CERD is capacitated to administer an effective education management information system

CERD – as the statistical and research institution – will lead the design, training, and roll-out of a national education management information system that will enable the timely and accurate collection and analysis of education-related data. For enrolment data on displaced Syrians, PMU will ensure data credibility, within the same timelines for second shift public schools as well as regulated non-formal education progress. CERD will ensure the timely analysis and dissemination of disaggregated education data with partners to identify gaps and inform programmatic decision-making.

Output 3.2 – Revised curricula for schools and non-formal education programmes are developed and endorsed to improve quality learning, life skills, and employability for children and youth

The curriculum revision process, led by a National Higher Committee and conducted by CERD, will be guided by the conceptualization of a learner-centred pedagogy, and will include key competencies that cover the cognitive, individual, instrumental, and social dimensions of learning. The revised curriculum will address life skills, personal empowerment, employability, and social cohesion (such as analytical thinking, problem solving, creativity, teamwork, tolerance, respect for diversity, etc.). CERD envisions a consultative revision process, and will be soliciting inputs from technical experts, education partners, teachers, and parents through an e-platform. Upon approval from the National Higher Committee, the curriculum will be piloted in selected schools. The feedback from the pilot process will be incorporated into the final curriculum before national textbooks are designed.

The sector will aim to have minimum quality criteria in place in NFE classrooms in terms of ensuring children's well-being, with an inclusive environment respectful of the protection of children, delivering the same level of quality learning to all children in NFE.

Output 3.3 – Appropriate policy frameworks are endorsed and implemented to regulate education programmes and services, strengthen school management, and professionalize teaching services

To better support the various systems interventions planned under RACE II, the following frameworks, standards and strategies in development for operationalization will be further supported:

- Policy framework for special needs education. A national study, led by the MoSA and supported by MEHE, is currently assessing existing national safety nets and social discourse surrounding children with specific needs. The study will assess the extent to which rights (legal, welfare, and social) are afforded to children and youth in Lebanon with cognitive, physical or sensory difficulties. The study aims to serve as a reference for relevant ministries and to support them in better addressing existing policy gaps.
- Based on the lessons learned from the inclusive education pilot programme and consultations with organizations, parents, schools and relevant ministries, MEHE will develop an inclusive education policy to ensure access for every learner to quality education in safe inclusive settings. MEHE's Education in Emergencies Committee will, in collaboration with the PMU, also define standards for the physical learning spaces proposed for implementation of regulated NFE programmes. This will be linked to the further roll-out of its Child Protection Policy, launched in 2018, aiming to increase the credibility of public schools as protective, inclusive spaces for child-centred learning, able to prevent violence and provide a safe learning environment to all children. Upon endorsement, such spaces will be formally referred to as "learning spaces." Likewise, minimum professional standards will be proposed for any educator personnel recruited for the implementation of NFE programmes in learning spaces.
- Risk screening of public schools, vocational schools, and teaching training centres under the National School Safety Plan (NSSP), including roll-out of Disaster Risk Management (DRM). The Disaster risk management (DRM) concepts and disaster risk reduction (DRR) principles, developed under the National School Safety Programme (NSSP), are in need of updating and integration into the curriculum. Future planned steps include refinement of the qualitative risk assessment and categorization of school buildings into different structural categories. The feasibility of the different retro-fitting options for each structural type will then be assessed. The results will further strengthen the evidence-based approach of a DRR policy for school construction and rehabilitation. Finally, a scaled-up awareness campaign to cover all public schools on DRM concepts and DRR principles is needed.

Output 3.4 – PMU, in collaboration with CERD and GDE, is capacitated to lead RACE II with MEHE departments and relevant education stakeholders

PMU will continue to coordinate RACE II with several entities, including UN agencies, donors, the NGO sub-committee, and academic institutions, in addition to the high-level engagement at the RACE Executive Committee (REC) and the Education sector. PMU will ensure inter-departmental coordination within MEHE, so that RACE II implementation is guided by coherent decisions from the relevant MEHE institutions.

As the main institutional implementers of RACE II, PMU, GDE and CERD all require capacity support in the areas of project administration, procurement, monitoring, and financial management. Existing technical capacities and staffing structures will be assessed by an external consulting firm to better understand current

functionality compared to projected needs. A detailed technical assistance plan will be drawn up, proposing solutions for current capacity issues. Implementation of this plan will occur iteratively over the five years of RACE II implementation, with standards and performance milestones set for planning, human resource management, financial frameworks, and procurement processes. Assurance functions will be built-in in the form of external and (eventually) internal audits.

Mainstreaming of accountability to affected populations, protection, conflict sensitivity, age and gender, youth, persons with specific needs, and environment

Accountability to affected populations

Information-sharing and clear communication channels between affected communities and service providers are a priority for the Education sector. It is most important for the sector to ensure that people receiving support are heard and are taking part in identifying their needs, that they are aware of all information related to the services being provided to them and the referral pathways that are available, and that they have effective feedback channels as well as complaints and response mechanisms. In order to have more effective accountability to affected populations, the sector will work closely with other sectors to identify collective barriers and opportunities, to ensure an integrated approach with the affected communities to address these. The sector worked with the Child Protection Working Group to ensure that child protection cases in schools are reported and followed up, through a clear system based on the Child Protection Policy. More work will be done this year to make sure that children and youth in learning spaces have child protection safeguards and feedback/complaint mechanisms that are similar to those available in formal education.

Protection

Education provides children with safe learning spaces, brings normalcy to their lives, provides psychosocial support, and helps identify children who are at risk or are victims of violence, abuse, or exploitation. Violence, abuse and exploitation negatively affect children's educational achievements and consequently their short- and long-term well-being and ability to achieve their full potential. To ensure complementarity, the Education and Protection sectors work together strongly and meet on a regular basis. Activities where the sectors collaborate include psychosocial support and teacher training on child protection and joint information initiatives to ensure children – including adolescent boys and girls – have access to formal and non-formal education, and community-based psychosocial support and educative activities that support children and youth deal with immediate shocks (e.g. community-wide demolitions and evictions) and develop resilience. Psychosocial support and school counsellors will play a key role in ensuring the continuum of services for children, from detection and evaluation to referral.

Conflict sensitivity

Education is a concern for all parents and can, therefore, bring communities closer together. Stronger interaction between host and displaced communities is encouraged, with a focus on the academic well-being of children. This provides a key opportunity to positively engage community members and pave the way to mitigating social tensions and enhancing conflict sensitivity between displaced Syrians and host communities. Education builds bridges between children and parents from different groups and can have a strong mitigating impact on potential conflicts and sources of tension. Peace Education Initiatives and messages on Prevention of Violence and Extremism (PVE) will therefore play a stronger role in the sector in the coming years, particularly in building capacity to address differences/tensions between children and youth from different backgrounds in the same school, in order to strengthen social cohesion inside the classroom, school premises, and beyond. Trainings on conflict transformation, mediation skills, citizenship, civic participation and intercultural dialogue will also be implemented to promote social cohesion among Lebanese youth, and between Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth.

Gender

Gender parity is achieved in education at primary level, while at secondary level there is a gender parity index of 1.1, with 51 percent male. However, disparities at the district level and socio-economic status are more pronounced. The number of girls and boys not enrolling in school, or dropping out, is similar; however, it is triggered by different reasons. An alarming number of girls are subjected to exposed to child marriage[1]. Adolescent girls face gender-based violence. On the other hand, some of the most vulnerable boys and youth are being recruited as workers. Gender parity in outreach to children seeks to provide both girls and boys with equal opportunities for enrolment in public schools.

Moreover, initiatives are planned by education partners to enhance the gender sensitivity of the overall school environment, including training teachers on SGBV, human rights, and safe referral mechanisms, promoting gender diversity among teachers and school administrative staff, developing and advocating for policies that promote gender equality, revising the curriculum and textbooks, and conducting training and awareness sessions for community workers, parents, and school principals on gender equality.

The Education sector is also looking into strengthening collaboration with other sectors, to jointly achieve goals on SGBV risk reduction, including training on child protection for school staff; training on safe identification

(1) Ministry of Social Affairs, UNICEF (2016), Baseline Survey.

Total sector needs and targets 2019

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Females	No. of Males	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescents (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	451,323	229,100					
Displaced Syrians	705,000	254,243					
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	14,041	5,901					
Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon	62,512	7,927					
GRAND TOTAL	1,232,883	497,171					

and referrals for child survivors; advocacy on child marriage; protection interventions (safety monitoring of routes/transportation options to/from schools); WASH and shelter interventions (safe school/latrine rehabilitation and maintenance; and distribution of hygiene kits/menstrual hygiene management materials to adolescent girl students).

Youth

More targeted outreach for youth is required, to refer those who are out-of-learning to appropriate opportunities, and to raise awareness on the value of education for the future of young girls and boys. Therefore, programmes are needed to support school-readiness, retention, and transition to higher grades – specifically for youth. This includes language support programmes offered at secondary schools to ensure retention in education. Youth-led initiatives and engaging youth in educational and meaningful activities will not only empower them, but also increase social stability. So far, most programmes for youth have focused on access to formal secondary education and life skills education. In 2020, stronger focus will be placed on enrolling adolescents and youth in Technical Vocational Education (TVE), including short technical courses implemented in MEHE TVE schools under guidance of DGTVE, on non-formal education, and on remedial support.

Persons with disabilities

As indicated in the strategy above, the Education sector will continue to work towards improved inclusivity and non-discrimination, with a focus on improved physical accessibility as well as inclusive programming, curricula and professional development of teachers, staff and educators on inclusive education models. The sector has included inclusion as a main component in all the outcomes and outputs of the strategy.

Environment

Environmental education is part of the hygiene-promotion curriculum and will be implemented through teacher training and the provision of teacher tools.

Endnotes

i. Available at http://racepmulebanon.com/index.php/features-mainmenu-47/race2-article.

ii. CERD, 2019.

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Enhance access to, and demand from, children youth, and their caregivers, for equitable formal or regulated non-formal education

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of students (age 3 to 18) enrolled in formal education	Covering costs for public school 1st shift/school rent / counselors/provision of transportation for vulnerable boys/girls	SIMS/MEHE Second Shift database (Compiler), MEHE	Child	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestnian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestnian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
			230,000				214,000				4,853				6,597

Outcome 2: Enhance quality of education services and learning environment to ensure grade-appropriate learning outcomes for children and youth

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Completion rates by cycle	Percentage of children and youth of the corresponding graduation age who have completed a cycle/ passage rate by end of basic cyclcle	CERD/ MEHE registration database/SIMS. MEHE	Children	3 years

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestnian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestnian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
Cycle 1 96% Cycle 2 87% Cycle 3 78%			>96% >87% >78%	Cycle 1 68% Cycle 2 51% Cycle 3 52%			>68% >51% >52%								

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Retention rates by cycle	Percentage of students who were at school the last scholastic year who remain at school the next scholastic year	CERD/ MEHE registration database/SIMS. MEHE	Children	3 years

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestnian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestnian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
99%			99%	Cycle 1 99% Cycle 2 94% Cycle 3 93%			99% 94% 93%								

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Transition rates by cycle	Percentage of students at the last grade of one cycle the last scholastic year who are at the first grade of the next cycle the next scholastic year	CERD/ MEHE registration database/SIMS, MEHE	Children	3 years

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestnian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestnian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
Cycle 1 - 2 100%			100%	Cycle 1 - 2 96%			96%								
Cycle 2 - 3 94%			94%	Cycle 2 - 3 82%			82%								
Cycle 3 - Secondary 91%			91%	Cycle 3 - Secondary 82%			82%								

Indicator 4	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of students in public schools successful in grade 3 and grade 6 learning assessment tests		CERD/ MEHE registration database/SIMS. MEHE	Children	

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestnian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestnian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020

Indicator 5	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of children and youth attending regulated NFE who transitioned to formal education	Transition rates from NFE to Formal Education	Cross check of CLM with MEHE registration database/SIMS. Education Partners and MEHE	Children	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestnian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestnian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
				ALP 35%			ALP 65%								

Outcome 3: Enhance governance and managerial capacities of RACE II implementing institutions to plan, budget, deliver, monitor and evaluate education services

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
CERD Annual Statistics yearbook is published by 01 August every year for the last academic year inclusive of all refugee education data				

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Annual RACE II operational and financial plan and report available	RACE II operational and financial plan	Operational and financial plan and report MEHE		Yearly

Palestinian refugee students from Syria at Media School in Tripoli.
Photo Credit: UNRWA, Maysoun Mustafa, 03/08/2019.

ENERGY
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED

2,035,461

PEOPLE TARGETED

678,487

REQUIREMENTS(US$)

2020 99.2 million

PARTNERS

10

GENDER MARKER

2a

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $39.1 m

Increase energy production through implementation of renewable energy sources.

Indicators

Amount of MWh produces through new renewable energy sources.

Outcome #2 — $7.5 m

Reduce energy demand due to implementation of energy efficient initiatives.

Indicators

Reduction resulting from installed capacity through energy efficient measures in MWh.

Outcome #3 — $51.6 m

Improve access to electricity through Rehabilitation and Reinforcement works on the Transmission and Distribution networks.

Indicators

Number of people benefiting from rehabilitation and reinforcement works on the transmission and Distribution networks.

Outcome #4 — $1 m

Enhance capacity of MoEW to plan, budget and oversee energy sector initiatives.

Indicators

Number of new energy initiatives and projects resulting from capacity development and support to MoEW.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	51% Female	49% Male
Lebanese	1,219,094	406,365	207,246	199,119
Displaced Syrians	816,367	272,122	138,782	133,340

Overall sector strategy

The theory of change for the Energy sector towards the sector's overall objectives are as follows:

If:

- The Energy sector increases the capacity of electricity generation through the installation of renewable energy systems (Outcome 1) or decreases the demand for electricity through the provision of energy efficient products (Outcome 2); and
- Support of the rehabilitation or reinforcement of the electricity network is realized (Outcome 3); and
- Enhances the capacity of implementing partners, such as the Ministry of Electricity and Water and other actors occurs (Outcome 4);

Then: The sector can partially and locally reduce the supply/demand gap exacerbated by the displaced population and increase the network's capacity to deliver non-fluctuated/intermittent electricity access to the most vulnerable in an environmentally friendly manner, reducing the reliance on diesel generators and air pollution caused by it.

The overarching objective of the Energy sector in Lebanon is to improve access to electricity at agreed minimum standards to households affected by the Syria crisis, and across sectors providing vital services. It aspires to provide electrical services to Lebanese host communities and persons displaced from Syria equitably, with consideration to its potential negative impact on the environment and limiting the financial impact on the Lebanese Government and consumers.

The overall objective of the Energy sector is: "By the end of 2020, all vulnerable populations in Lebanon will have improved and equitable, sustainable access to electricity services."

By enhancing electricity services and capacity at the national and local level in a sustainable manner, the Energy sector contributes to the LCRP`s third objective of supporting service provision through national systems, and the fourth objective of reinforcing Lebanon`s economic, social, and environmental stability.

Before the outbreak of the Syria crisis, the Ministry of Energy and Water had been improving Lebanon's electricity infrastructure, guided by the Policy Paper for the Electricity Sector (Ministry of Energy and Water, 2010), which was updated in 2019[i], and the other national action plans for renewable energy[ii] and energy efficiency[iii]. The strategy for the Energy sector is built on these national strategies, while also considering various vulnerability assessments to understand and identify where the most urgent and critical needs exist.

While the Ministry of Energy and Water continues to implement its Policy Paper for the Energy Sector, a number of short and medium-term projects will be selected and accelerated in order to directly target the impact of the Syria crisis on the sector. The proposed interventions can be summarized as follows:

- Capital investment in decentralized energy generation capacity (Outcome 1), energy efficiency measures (Outcome 2) and associated transmission and distribution networks (Outcome 3) to partially meet the additional demand created by the displaced Syrians while also supporting vulnerable communities and public institutions by improving access, availability and affordability of electricity, and;
- Supporting the implementation of the government's development plans for the Energy sector through increased institutional capacity and technical assistance (Outcome 4).

All vital services in Lebanon depend on the provision of electricity. Therefore, by improving the overstretched condition of the Energy sector, the sector's interventions can also contribute to achieving outcomes identified by the other sectors. The identified cross-sector contributions are as follows:

Education (out-of-school children): To host persons displaced from Syria, many public schools are now providing second shifts, which strain the operational capacity of the schools. The implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures are a cost-effective way to reduce the electricity bills at schools. The Education sector and the Energy sector, under the guidance of MEHE will implement Renewable Energy projects mainly distribution of Solar PV systems and installation of energy efficient (LED Lighting) projects in public schools. The installation of solar PV in schools can generate monetary savings throughout its lifespan (c.a. 20 years) and the financial savings from reducing electricity bills can be re-directed to core education activities such as school enrolment.

Local economic development: Even though the proposed activities in the Energy sector's response plan essentially target the public sector, the technical capacity in this sector, together with the increasing private investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency (including green building) projects stimulated by the green finance mechanisms (such as the EBRD GEFF and the EU/EIB/AFD LEEREFF), could provide cross-cutting opportunities for job creation. In fact, a UNDP study has shown that investment in solar PV systems creates various local "direct" and "indirect" jobs in Lebanon[iv]. Direct jobs include construction work, the design of the solar PV system, and other business activities such as financing, admission, legal services, consultation and planning. In addition, along the solar PV value chain, the demand for wiring, cabling, legal services etc. creates indirect jobs in the respective economic sectors. It is estimated that each US$1 million investment for 1 MW of solar PV installation creates at least 11 direct jobs (Full-Time Employment equivalent, FTE) and 20-25 indirect ones, amounting to 30-45 FTE jobs along the value chain. This indicates that further acceleration of investment in the installation of solar PV will expand job-demand/requirements in the sector.

Environment and tension mitigation: Renewable energy sources, use of energy-efficient products, and connections to the grid are the best examples on how the sector would help in reducing the impact of the Syria crisis on air quality in Lebanon through reducing the use of diesel generators. Solar street lighting around public spaces (e.g. municipal roads) will enhance security within the communities and contribute to the protection of vulnerable populations and increased social stability between host communities and displaced Syrians. Installation of solar street lighting or replacement with LED lighting would be considered for this purpose. To improve the quality of electricity supply at the municipality-level, the installation of transformers could be an effective intervention. The Ministry of Energy and Water has been undertaking the reinforcement of the distribution network, operated and maintained by Electricité du Liban (EDL), by prioritizing the sites based on both local needs and technical assessments. In 2020, the sector will work with the Social Stability sector to explore ways to mitigate the impact of potential tensions caused by the perceived impact of the Syria crisis on the use of already limited electricity resources.

LCRP impact, sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

Outcome 1 - Increase energy production

This outcome seeks to increase the capacity of electricity supply to reduce the expanded gaps due to the presence of displaced populations through the installation of distributed renewable energy systems in vulnerable host communities and public institutions that are under severe financial pressure to meet the increase in demand brought about by the Syria crisis. As demonstrated in the sector's achievements, the installation of renewable energy systems has sustainable and long-lasting direct impacts on vulnerable communities and public institutions through monetary savings. Also, given its positive net-present-value, the renewable energy project can also catalyze private finance, multiplying the impact of the grant support.

For community-scale support, the initiative: "Village 24 Initiative", developed by UNDP-CEDRO with the European Union fund, based on the experience of the first community-led solar photovoltaic systems in Kabrikha, could be of great potential[v]. Although it is still at pilot stage (as of October 2019), this community-scale hybrid microgrid (utility, diesel generator, renewable energy) can provide clean and affordable electricity to multiple households by utilizing the digitization of net-metering scheme while also promoting community cooperation. A community-scale solar photovoltaic system can lower the investment cost (economies of scale), potentially enabling the communities to tap into private finances such as soft-loans, microfinancing as well as crowdfunding.

Output 1.1- Renewable energy systems implemented

Given these comparative advantages of renewable energy projects, Lebanon's current market and legal situation and completed technical studies, the installation of the following cost-effective renewable energy systems can be considered as sustainable measures that would remain as renewable energy sources for the country beyond the current crisis:

- Solar Water Heaters (SWH): Solar water heaters are a highly cost-effective way (good turnover) to reduce electricity consumption from heating water. While most Lebanese households still use electricity to heat water and pay expensive bills, the capacity of local manufacturing and deployment of solar water heaters is already well-established
- Solar off-grid lighting
- Solar pumping for public wells
- Distributed renewable energy power generation: The Energy sector strongly recommends the installation of renewable energy systems, such as solar photovoltaic systems, biomass energy and ground source heat pumps to serve communities and public institutions. As Lebanon has numerous renewable energy resources including affluent solar irradiation, wind and biomass but it currently generates most of the electricity from imported oil with massive deficit, the promotion of renewable energy has multi-fold benefits such as cash fluidity/circulation within the community, multiplier effects on the national economy and job creation as described above.

Outcome 2 - Reduce energy demand due to implementation of energy efficient initiatives

While Outcome 1 targets the upstream/supply side of electricity provision, Outcome 2 targets the downstream, demand-management side of the sector. Through the activities under this Outcome, energy efficiency measures will be deployed with the aim of reducing energy consumption in Lebanese communities, shelters for displaced Syrians, schools, healthcare centres, hospitals and social development centres. In these locations, electricity is primarily used for heating, domestic-water heating, lighting, and cooking (mainly in residential facilities).

Output 2.1 - Energy efficient products provided to households and public institutions

Based on the type of shelter/facility and the same population assumptions as in Outcome 1, the following energy efficiency activities can be considered:

- Light-emitting diode (LED) lighting and solar cookers in households
- LED lighting and lighting control in public schools
- Energy audits in hospitals and implementation of measures
- Walk-in energy audits in primary and secondary

health centers, social development centers and implementation of measures

- Energy saving measure in the Agriculture sector – Variable Speed Drives (VSD) for Water Pumps

Outcome 3 - Improve access to electricity through rehabilitation and reinforcement works on the transmission and distribution networks

This outcome is divided into two Outputs, one related to work on the transmission network, and the other to the distribution network, as described hereafter.

Output 3.1 - Transmission network reinforced through the installation of high and medium voltage transformers

The transmission network serves to transmit the energy produced by the generation sites to the distribution networks through Overhead Transmission Lines (OHTL), High Voltage Substations (SS), and Underground High Voltage Cables (UGC). Substations of the transmission network reduce the high voltage from power plants to medium voltage. The crisis has had a direct impact on the transmission sector, because it has led to overloading the high voltage substations and transmission lines. This is forcing many large consumers, like hospitals and industries, to rely on private generators – not only because of power shedding, but also because of the significant drop in voltage due to additional loads carried substations. Therefore, the transmission network can be upgraded or completely reconstructed, depending on the available space as part of the LCRP interventions in close coordination with MoEW and EDL.

Output 3.2 - Distribution network reinforced through the installation of medium and low voltage transformers

Overloading of the distribution network due to increased demand especially in localities hosting large numbers of displaced Syrians causes a decline in the quality of electricity supply to households and increases the risk of fire and damage in overburdened transformers. Thus, the reinforcement of the distribution network is one of the key interventions aiming to increase the capacity to deliver quality electricity to additional end-users, especially to the most vulnerable people and communities. If this proposed work on the distribution network is implemented, Lebanese host communities and displaced Syrians would feel an improvement in the quality of the electric current supplied and an increase in the number of hours electricity is available, decreasing their reliance on private generators and thereby electricity cost. The intervention would also include the prevention of illegal connections to the grids as a means to reduce technical losses through the distribution system and appropriately recover the cost of electricity generation.

Outcome 4 - Ministry of Energy and Water staff specialized in different areas of the Energy sector provided

The Energy Sector Policy Paper is being implemented by a group of specialized experts and consultants under the employment of the Ministry, who have become overburdened in responding to the impact of the Syria crisis. Therefore, to implement and manage the activities proposed in this strategy, a dedicated team of experts and consultants is required to provide necessary support, due diligence, and supervision. The international community is requested to provide immediate support to ensure sufficient institutional capacity to oversee implementation and completion of the above-mentioned projects and the short-term improvement interventions in electricity supply.

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual/HH, community and institutional/physical environment level;[1]

For displaced Syrians, their needs depend on their type of settlement:

- Informal settlements (non-permanent shelters): Are typically located in agricultural areas. They require comprehensive assistance in basic services, especially electricity, to provide them with basic household lighting, cooking appliances, and hot water for bathing and other uses. Provision of street lighting in informal settlements is also a major benefit to the security of displaced Syrians, as well as Lebanese host communities, and reduces social tensions between both populations. However, it should be noted that the policy of the Government of Lebanon is that no permanent infrastructure should be installed in informal settlements.
- Host communities (residential and non-residential): Typically found in densely-populated urban centres, particularly in already impoverished neighbourhoods and in informally developed urban areas, where access to essential electricity is insufficient. Lebanese and displaced Syrians living in substandard shelters require improved electricity services, ensuring sufficient access for all.

As for the Palestinian refugees from Lebanon and Palestinian refugees from Syria living in camps in Lebanon, the Ministry of Energy and Education and Electricité du Liban have pending claims with UNRWA extending from 2003 until 2018, which is currently further extended. These claims are currently being handled by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As such, the Ministry of Energy and Water is in no position to take into account the demand of these populations within the LCRP. If solutions are reached within the 2018 and 2020 period, the Energy sector strategy under the LCRP will be revisited accordingly.

(1) This can include Governorates, Districts, Cadasters, villages etc.

The sector's response targets the needs of the most vulnerable first, using the following criteria to prioritize activities and projects:

- Focus on geographical areas with the highest concentration of affected people and with no/poor access to sufficient quantity, quality, and continuity of services related to electricity;
- Implement pre-planned priority projects that are part of the Government of Lebanon's strategies and masterplans, which ensure vital service provision to the most vulnerable communities in a sustainable manner;
- Focus on the highest risks of environmental degradation in areas with the highest concentrations of displaced Syrians, impacting natural resources;
- Focus on areas presenting security challenges and social stability issues;
- Focus on vulnerable groups, households, and individuals (i.e. female/child-headed households, elderly or disabled persons and minors, children in schools or hospitals) for specific assistance, and;
- Focus on public institutions providing vital services to displaced Syrians and vulnerable host communities affected by their presence.

Total sector needs and targets: 2020

At the individual level, the sector has identified the following needs at the individual level:

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male
Lebanese	1,219,094	406,365	-	-
Displaced Syrians	816,367	272,122	-	-
Palestinian Refugees from Syria		-	-	-
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon		-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	**2,035,461**	**678,487**		

Through activities under Outcome 1 and Outcome 3, the sector expects to target 406,365 vulnerable Lebanese (199,119 male and 207,246 female) and 272,122 displaced Syrians (133,340 male and 138,782 female), with benefitting from increased energy production. Palestinian refugees are expected to be targeted in 2020.

At the institutional level. The sector will target:

Type of Institutions	Total	Targeted
Municipalities	251	All municipalities hosting refugees
Hospitals/healthcare institutions (PHC, etc)	608	29 Governmental hospitals, 218 PHC, 128 SHC, 233 SDC
Public Schools	343	343
Central Ministries	1	MoEW
Electricite du Liban	1	1
Water Establishments	4	4

Mainstreaming of accountability to affected populations, protection, conflict sensitivity, age and gender, youth, persons with specific needs and environment

Conflict sensitivity: Electricity generation through renewable energy, provision of energy-efficient products, off-grid solar photovoltaic streetlights, and reinforcement of the transmission and distribution networks are all activities that improve the quality and quantity of electricity supply, thus reducing social tensions between Lebanese host communities and displaced Syrians.

People with specific needs: Special attention would be given to prioritize service provision to persons with a disability, families with young children, and elderly persons.

Environment: Renewable energy sources, use of energy-efficient products, and connections to the grid are the best examples on how the sector would help in reducing the impact of the Syria crisis on air quality in Lebanon through reducing the use of diesel generators.

Endnotes

i. MoEW (2019), Update Policy Paper for the Electricity Sector.
ii. MoEW and the Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (2016), The National Renewable Energy Action Plan for the Republic of Lebanon 2016-2020.
iii. MoEW and Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (2016), The Second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for the Republic of Lebanon 2016-2020.
iv. UNDP (2018), Prioritization and Assessment of Value Chains within the Renewable Energy Sector in Lebanon.
v. UNDP (2018), Sustainable Energy for Lebanese Villages and Communities: The Village 24 Initiative.

Children playing in Tripoli old souks.
Photo Credit: UNDP, Rana Sweidan, 19/06/2019.

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Increase energy production through implementation of renewable energy sources

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Amount of MWh produced through new renewable energy sources		Project reports from partners in Activity info.	MWh	monthly

MWh/year

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
	1,741		116,300

Outcome 2: Reduce energy demand due to implementation of energy efficient initiatives

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Reduction resulting from installed capacity through energy efficient measures in MWh		Project reports from partners in Activity info	MWh	monthly

MWh/year

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
			30,000

Outcome 3: Improve access to electricity through Rehabilitation and Reinforcement works on the Transmission and Distribution networks

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of people benefiting from rehabilitation and reinforcement works on the transmission and Distribution networks		Partners report in activity info	Individuals	Monthly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
	13,969		263,912		6,286		107,828								

Outcome 4: Enhance capacity of MoEW to plan, budget and oversee energy sector initiatives

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of new energy initiatives resulting from capacity development and support to MoEW	Number of projects identified and implemented by the recruited staff at MoEW	Activity Info and/or direct reporting to LCEC/MoEW	Number of projects	Yearly

Projects

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
	1		66

FOOD SECURITY & AGRICULTURE
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED
1,575,700

PEOPLE TARGETED
1,102,791

REQUIREMENTS(US$)
2020 510.5 million

PARTNERS
41

GENDER MARKER
2a

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $40.5 m

Improve food availability using in-kind food assistance modality and sustainable food/ agricultural value chain.

Indicators
- Percentage of targeted households with borderline or acceptable food consumption score based on the food groups consumed over a recall period of 7 days.
- Number of farmers with increased production, access to market, reduced produce waste and losses, and those benefitting as a result of Trans-boundary animal and plant disease control and prevention.
- Number of farmers applying climate - smart practices, measures for conserving natural resources in collaboration with other relevant actors.

Outcome #2 — $447.5 m

Improve food access through cash-based food assistance and support to sustainable agricultural livelihoods.

Indicators
- Percentage of targeted households with borderline or acceptable food consumption score.
- Number of households with increased agriculture livelihood.

Outcome #3 — $15 m

Improve food utilization through food safety and nutrition practices including the promotion of consumption of diversified and quality food.

Indicators
- Percentage of women with a minimum dietary diversity score based on the Household Diet Diversity Scale (HDDS.
- Percentage of beneficiaries supported who improved their food safety, quality and dietary diversity practices.

Outcome #4 — $7.5 m

Promote and stabilize food security through support/ capacity building and strengthening of national public institutions and their decentralised services.

Indicators
- Number of national and decentralized institutions with improved capacities in food security, agriculture and social protection.
- Number of national and decentralized institutions staff with improved capacity to provide better delivery of services.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	Female	Male
Lebanese	336,000	238,091	119,046	119,046
Displaced Syrians	1,095,000	825,000	420,750	404,250
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,404	13,296
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	117,000	12,000	6,000	6,000

Overall sector strategy

The theory of change underpinning the Food Security and Agriculture Sector strategy is built on the following result chain:

- If the sector contributes to the improvement of food availability, access, utilization and stabilization of vulnerable populations and supports food value chains and agricultural livelihoods, while working simultaneously with governmental institutions to strengthen their capacity, then the food insecurity of vulnerable groups will be reduced and the agriculture sector's resilience to the impacts of the Syria crisis will be improved, which will at the same time, strengthen the functionality and resilience of the national food system.
- If in-kind food assistance is provided to the most vulnerable and support to sustainable, climate-smart agricultural production is ensured, food availability will improve, together with the production and productivity of food value chains, for the benefit of vulnerable households and communities.
- If innovation-driven cash-based food assistance and opportunities to access agricultural jobs and incomes is provided to the most vulnerable while their skills are enhanced, then food access, alongside agricultural livelihoods, will improve.
- If the production and consumption of more diversified and nutritious food improves, together with the strengthening of capacities related to food safety, then the nutritional well-being of vulnerable communities is strengthened and vulnerability to food insecurity is reduced.
- If the capacity of government institutions at national and local levels is strengthened through technical assistance and capacity building on climate smart agriculture, food security and social protection, then the stabilisation of national and local food security and social safety nets will be promoted.

The Food Security and Agriculture sector has **two main overarching objectives**: i) reducing food insecurity by 2020 and ii) improving the resilience of the agricultural sector to the impact of the Syria crisis.

Achieving these objectives addresses the two main challenges that the sector has been facing regarding the impacts of the Syria crisis. The first challenge is to reduce the food insecurity levels of vulnerable communities and households and ensure their continuous physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. A quarter of displaced Syrian households still have poor food consumption, and 30 percent severely or moderately food insecure. 55 percent of displaced Syrians remain extremely economically vulnerable and incapable of covering expenses[1] through employment; their two main sources of income being WFP assistance and informal debt from friends and shops. More households than in 2018 (73 percent in 2019) live below the poverty line and only 54 percent of them have working members. 10 percent of the Lebanese population was vulnerable to food insecurity, according to 2015 estimates.[i] 95 percent of surveyed Palestine refugees from Syria were generally food insecure, of which 65 percent were severely food insecure.[ii/2]

The second challenge, closely linked to the first one, relates to the impact of the Syria crisis on the Lebanese food system/agricultural sector and how to support the government in enhancing agricultural production, productivity and profitability, as well as agricultural livelihoods.[3] Agricultural livelihoods remain predominant for vulnerable Lebanese and displaced persons from Syria alike: many of Lebanon's poorest families depend on agriculture as their primary source of both income and employment. The underdevelopment of food/agricultural value chains also negatively affects the agricultural sector. Challenges for the agriculture sector and food production are likely to be exacerbated by the impact of climate change on natural resources, intensified water scarcity, loss of pasture lands, and shifts in production zones.[iii] Analysis suggests that higher temperatures and more variable rainfall patterns will likely decrease agricultural productivity,[iv] which could then negatively impact food security outcomes.

The sector strategy adopts a dual track approach in response to the above-mentioned challenges in a humanitarian-stabilization continuum, articulated as follows:

The sector's strategic approach to the first challenge - food insecurity of vulnerable communities and households - will be to sustain the level of humanitarian assistance to ensure availability and access to food for the most vulnerable through the provision of in-kind or cash-based food assistance, as recommended by the mid-term review of the LCRP.

The protracted nature of the crisis, the increased socio-economic vulnerability of displaced Syrians, the impact of the country's current economic instability on vulnerable Lebanese, and Palestinian refugees' reliance on negative food-related coping strategies[v] make it imperative for the sector to continue providing life-saving food assistance to the most vulnerable populations to reduce their food insecurity by 2020. The provision of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable populations is a "sine qua non" for sector interventions as well an enabler of stability in the country. By providing assistance to those families and eliminating the uncertainty of where the next meal will come from, sector activities instil a sense of hope and allow families to focus on their day-to-day

(1) Namely their Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)

(2) The UNRWA-AUB socio-economic survey conducted in June 2015 showed that Palestinian refugees from Syria are increasingly relying on negative food-related coping strategies. The study, still considered valid by UNRWA, revealed that food insecure households tended to reduce consumption of foods such as meat, chicken, vegetables, fruit, milk and dairy. UNRWA, through its cash-based food assistance programme, sought to address these critical gaps by supporting some 27,700 Palestinians monthly. Currently, UNRWA is planning to conduct a PRS Socio-economic survey to be informed about the current situation of PRS including the multidimensional poverty prevalence leading the way towards better approach to provide services.

(3) See LCRP integrated situation analysis chapter

life.

In-kind food assistance through food parcels, food vouchers, school meals and community kitchens improve the availability of food to individuals and communities in a predictable and safe way. Cash-based food assistance, which represents the bulk of sector food assistance, improves refugee families' access to food in an innovative way through the provision of cash redeemable at contracted shops and ATM. Cash transfers allow the most vulnerable households to acquire food items in a dignified manner. This is possible as they allow them to prioritize their purchases according to their needs, greater purchasing power, giving them the option to buy fresher and healthier food items. They also help prevent negative coping strategies, such as sending children to work and earn an income. A large percentage of assisted households currently have acceptable food consumption, which is mainly due to cash-based assistance.[vi]

The economic crisis and political unrest unfolding in Lebanon in the fall of 2019, if continuing into 2020, may affect the food assistance modalities adopted to reach the most vulnerable population. The strategy will therefore remain supple to accommodate changes in assistance modalities in response to the risks raising: from a devaluation of the currency, increase in food prices and/or, limited functioning of the banking and financial sectors.

The second challenge – how to enhance agricultural production, productivity and profitability and agricultural livelihoods – is also structural in nature. The answer is to focus the response on stabilization, with longer-term activities that provide livelihoods support to vulnerable Lebanese and displaced Syrians, with a special focus on women, children and youth. Finding sustainable solutions to improve agricultural livelihoods requires increasing financial resources for the agricultural sector to be invested in primary food production, food transformation and food utilization. The sector adopts a **"food system"** approach[4] that, in a comprehensive and inclusive framework, encompasses food production, transformation and consumption functions covering land preparation, inputs, planting and harvesting under food production; transport, storage, handling, processing, wholesaling and retailing under food transformation; and purchasing, consumption and utilization under food consumption. Improving the performance of food systems can improve access to food and spur smallholder productivity and income. The food system approach to stabilization intends to guide partners to intervene at different intersections of the food system be it in food production, food transformation or food consumption, **identify synergies** among partners, and facilitate the coordination needed to achieve them:[vii]

Food production: Investments need to support Lebanese smallholder farmers to increase production capacities and food availability, boost productivity and incomes and ultimately expand employment opportunities for both displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese.

Given the **impact of the Syria crisis on the environment** and the increasing climate risks faced by the Lebanese agricultural sector, the Food Security and Agriculture sector will support investments into climate smart agricultural production[5] and the rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure and assets, such as small-scale irrigation canals, ponds, roads linking farms and existing markets, as well as sustainable management of land and water resources to improve soil and water conservation and water use efficiency. Forestry projects remain relevant as well because they support government efforts in reforestation and sustainable forest management and provide stable environmental conditions on which sustainable food production depends.[6]

Furthermore, the rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure strengthens agricultural production and mitigate climate risks and shocks, fosters temporary/seasonal job creation in compliance with Lebanese laws and regulations, and contributes to long-term livelihood and environmental benefits.[7]

Investments in the agricultural sector need to be accompanied by building skills and competencies that target youth, individual farmers, producers' associations and displaced Syrians alike, in particular women, according to Lebanese laws and regulations. Training on food production (Integrated Crop and Pest Management (IPM), good agricultural practices (GAP) and conservation technologies) and on other functions of the food system remain crucial to equip vulnerable farmers and youth with much needed skills that can open the door to new employment opportunities and profitable farm businesses, including skills that refugees might need to re-build their livelihoods once they return to Syria.

The implementation of assets building projects and/or provision of training will ensure that work arrangements and norms are mindful of women and men's needs and constraints, and that the content and delivery of education and training sessions are tailored to the particular needs of women and men, by providing, for example, participating women with childcare options.

When possible, the sector will encourage organising joint training for both displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese as evidence from other contexts show that joint training are a means of reducing social tensions and that decreasing interactions is usually negative.[viii]

(4) Food systems are networks of relationships that encompass the functions and activities involved in producing, processing, marketing, consuming and disposing of goods from agriculture, forestry or fisheries. Performing food systems deliver sufficient, safe and nutrition food to consumers ; however food systems do not always function in a way that meet the needs of the vulnerable section of the society

(5) Through assessments of resilient crops and plants and provision of seasonally appropriate agricultural inputs.

(6) Lebanon is among the countries where FAO is supporting the Forest and Landscape Restoration mechanism aiming at seeking a balance between restoring ecosystem services (soil, water conservation) and the productive functions of agriculture lands that provide food, energy and other products for sustainable livelihoods. This is done through restoration of areas vulnerable to climate change and enhancing communities' adaptation to the negative impact of climate change.

(7) The assets and infrastructure rehabilitated or built are handed over to the municipalities, which own or co-own the assets.

Food transformation: Investments in agricultural value chains development lend themselves very well to interventions along a humanitarian stabilisation continuum for the value they add in the production, transformation, and marketing of Lebanese agricultural products. Therefore, the sector strategy will focus on improving the value chains. It will be done by promoting quality, adopting innovative approaches, establishing postharvest management practices to reduce food waste and losses[8], and enhancing agro-food processing, packaging and marketing. To this end sector partners will work to improve the capacities of key actors, such as cooperatives, in particular those whose members are women, and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to make value chains in agriculture and food production more competitive and profitable. The sector will also encourage and promote market linkages through public-private partnerships for improved ability to generate sustainable growth and employment and enhance the competitiveness of Lebanese agricultural products. The sector will continue to promote seasonal and casual agricultural job opportunities in support of Lebanese private agriculture investment, in consideration of demand by local agricultural businesses and cooperatives and, in the case of displaced refugees, as temporary agricultural workers for MSMEs and cooperatives, in accordance with Lebanese laws and regulations.

Food consumption: Promoting and protecting nutritional well-being in a protracted emergency requires targeted interventions especially in favour of female-headed households, of which only 24 percent consumes 6.5 or more food groups per day (such as dairy products, meat, fish, eggs, and vegetables).[ix] Micronutrients intake, in particular iron, remains problematic.[x] Food safety remains a major issue, which affects the ability among consumers to eat safe and nutritious food, along with competitiveness among exporters.[xi9] Efficient functioning of the food safety sector is vital for Lebanese agriculture exporters' ability to market in countries where stringent food safety practices, including rigorous residue traceability standards, are in place.[xii]

The sector will continue to advocate for the improvement of communities and households' access to nutritious food through micro-gardening, school-gardens, fresh food vouchers, and nutritional education/awareness along with food preservation, particularly targeted at women, which would promote dietary diversity as well as increase nutritional intake.

A strategy for stabilization also sets the stage for transitioning towards enhancement of national and local service delivery in 2020, which is one of the LCRP impact statements. Close collaboration with and support to Lebanese public services and institutions (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Energy and Water and the Ministry of Environment) is critical to consolidate LCRP gains, as recommended by the midterm review of the LCRP, and will continue towards achieving the overarching objective of the Food Security and Agriculture sector. Across the strategy, national institutions are supported in their efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the services they provide and to increase the number of vulnerable host communities having access to basic services through national systems. **Key priorities of the sector remain the support to strengthen capacities in food security/ agriculture and social safety nets.**

To this end, the sector strategy will continue to be implemented in line with the Ministry of Agriculture's Strategy 2015-2019, whose main tenets remain valid,[10] and will focus in particular on: building capacities of farmers, promoting agricultural livelihoods, and strengthening the capacities of national and local agricultural institutions such as the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI), the Green Plan, technical agricultural schools, decentralised agricultural centres and agricultural cooperatives, etc.[xiii] Extension systems will be reinforced to deliver to small-scale producers simplified farm business concepts and climate-smart agriculture information on sustainable management of natural resources and agroecosystems. Furthermore, the sector will continue to provide support to the Social Development Centres (SDC) and the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) under the Ministry of Social Affairs through technical assistance programmes and to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education through School Meals programmes, with the goal to further **complement national social safety nets** and social protection programmes.

The sector, through WFP interventions, will support the NPTP, the first national safety net in the country, and the Ministry of Social Affairs to strengthen the provision of social assistance in response to poverty in refugee-hosting communities and in order to help mitigate tensions between the refugees and host communities. WFP will continue and scale up the provision of food assistance to the most vulnerable Lebanese through the NPTP Food e-card that uses WFP's electronic food voucher.[11] WFP supports the NPTP Food e-card through: (i) appeals for donor support to fund the monetary value of the food assistance; (ii) delivery of the food assistance using WFP's e-card delivery system and network of locally contracted shops nationwide; and, (iii) technical support to Ministry of Social Affairs and SDC on enhancing the implementation and monitoring of the NPTP Food e-card.

(8) It seems that there are no comprehensive figure available to show the magnitude of food wastage at the national scale. In 2016 academic research showed that Lebanese households throw away at least 250 grams of still consumable food each week, equivalent to about US$6 per month (Journal of Food Security (2016), "*Preliminary Insights on Household Food Wastage in Lebanon*," in http://pubs.sciepub.com/jfs/4/6/2/)

(9) In terms of food safety, the institution of the farm-to-fork principle will be essential towards ensuring that local agricultural products can be safely consumed and marketed, both at home and abroad. ESCWA, (2016), *Strategic Review of Food and Nutrition Security in Lebanon*,

(10) The Strategy has identified different courses of action in line with 10 main strategic themes of: 1) promoting food safety and quality of food products; 2) agricultural productivity and production; 3) animal health and production; 4) irrigation and rural infrastructure; 5) post-production/harvest and marketing measures; 6) fishing practices and fisheries; 7) forests, rangelands and medicinal plants; 8) cooperatives and mutual funds; 9) extension services, education and research, and; 10) development of the Ministry's human and institutional capacities. The Strategy was extended up to 2020 as a new agriculture strategy 2021-2025, is currently being formulated with FAO technical assistance to MoA.

(11) Beneficiaries can redeem their food assistance by purchasing food commodities at any WFP-contracted shops across Lebanon.

The sector also aims at strengthening linkages between existing social protection programmes and the agriculture sector and skills building activities using the NPTP beneficiary list for the identification of the most vulnerable farmers to participate in training and programmes that improve their livelihoods. Moreover, sector partners will contribute towards expanding social protection coverage to rural farmers in Lebanon and support the Ministry of Agriculture in developing a legal and institutional framework required for the establishment of a register for farmers.

WFP's School Meals programme, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, also supports the agriculture sector and farmers through the provision of school snacks during the school year. Snacks, including fresh fruits and milk, are locally produced and schools constitute a predictable and stable outlet for farmers' products, which contributes to enhancing their incomes.

Addressing small and medium emergencies. Lebanon is vulnerable to a number of natural shocks, such as flooding, snowstorms and storms that, in combination with the current refugee crisis, have compounded effects on vulnerable populations. For example, because of floods and snowstorms in early 2019, refugees in Aarsal and Bekaa struggled to access basic services, including food. The sector will therefore coordinate the responses from partners, in consultation with the inter sector systems in place, namely the extreme weather and emergencies tools, to provide for seasonal/one-off assistance to address temporary needs in such small and medium emergencies.[12] Given the seasonal and one-off type of interventions, they are not reflected in the target for regular in-kind assistance.

Finally, the sector strategy contributes to the achievement of LCRP impacts and overall strategic objectives by linking humanitarian and stabilization interventions as follows:

Strategic objective 1: Outcomes 2 and 4 (in section 2.1 below) will contribute to the achievement of a safe protective environment for vulnerable populations through the systems put in place by partners on **accountability to affected populations (AAP)**, grievance redress mechanisms, complaint feedback mechanisms and referrals to ensure the safe, dignified delivery of assistance and do-no-harm approach. At the same time, the sector's support to national institutions and specific interventions on child labour in agriculture will contribute to the achievement of impact 1 of the LCRP.

Strategic objective 2: The most immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable populations will be met first, by increasing food access through cash-based food assistance and promotion of agricultural livelihoods that together improve access to markets for vulnerable populations and reduce their exposure to hunger, and second, by promoting food availability through in-kind food assistance and sustainable food agricultural value chains. The Food Security and Agriculture sector and the Basic Assistance sector complement their respective work on provision of cash assistance by harmonizing the targeting process, developing common referral systems, exchanging information on household profiles and collaborating towards the harmonization of impact monitoring tools. To identify eligible households for cash-based assistance, the two sectors rank vulnerabilities to capture the most vulnerable based on the VASyR economic vulnerability. The sectors will coordinate assistance for emergency humanitarian needs during Ramadan and winterization through immediate and temporary food assistance interventions. The sectors will coordinate preparedness activities through the assessment of contingency stocks and emergency capacity in line with the central coordination and management arrangements currently in place (SOPs and Rapid Needs Assessment Geosplits).

Strategic objective 3: As mentioned above, service provision through national systems will be enhanced by improving support to national institutions' capacities to promote climate-smart agriculture and GAP, food safety and quality and support to national institutions through strengthening existing national programme for social protection, i.e. NPTP.

Strategic objective 4: Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability will be supported by mitigating the deterioration of the economic conditions of vulnerable populations through cash-based food assistance and cash injections in the local economy. The promotion of sustainable and climate-smart agricultural production will support vulnerable smallholder farmers and, together with greater access to employment opportunities in the agricultural sector, will generate income for local economies and support to agricultural livelihoods. Furthermore, the mitigation of the environmental impact of the Syria crisis will be framed along national strategies through the support to sustainable and climate-smart food production and conservation of natural resources.

The sector participation in the Environment Task Force, led by the Ministry of Environment, will help to guide partners towards mainstream environmental concerns in agriculture. The sector is supporting the Environment Task Force in applying environmental safeguards to agricultural activities by ensuring that sector partners adopt environmental markers when planning their projects.

Farmers, community groups and members of agricultural cooperatives will be targeted to ensure management of soil and water resources, application of integrated pest and crop management, and protection of agro-biodiversity, and agro-ecosystems.

As mentioned above, agriculture is the dominant livelihood source for vulnerable populations affected by the Syria crisis in rural areas; the sector will therefore

(12) During winter and Ramadan, for example, the number of Lebanese and displaced Syrians receiving in-kind food assistance increases with partners providing food parcels, hot meals, ready to eat food and so forth.

maintain close ties with the Livelihoods sector to minimize duplication and/or underreporting. Partners will appeal for funding under the sector that is representing the most relevant objective of the activity they plan to implement under the LCRP 2017-2020. The Food Security and Agriculture sector will coordinate agriculture-related activities that aim at improving agricultural livelihoods through agricultural production in order to increase employment opportunities and, therefore, income. The Livelihoods sector, on the other hand, will give prominence to employment creation and economic/business development initiatives related to the agriculture sector. The coordinators of the two sectors share information and results on agricultural value chain development, labour-intensive projects and support to agricultural cooperatives through presentations to the national sectors working groups. The establishment of a common technical working group on agricultural value chains with the objective of constituting a new platform for partners will also support better coordinated interventions by the two sectors and other key institutional partners such as the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Economy and Trade, the Ministry of Industry, LIBNOR, IDAL.

LCRP impacts, sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

The Food Security and Agriculture sector will continue its humanitarian role in providing lifesaving food assistance; in parallel, it will expand its role in contributing towards longer-term stabilization in the country, adopting a food system approach and remaining anchored in the four dimensions of food security: availability, access, utilization and stabilization.

Outcome 1 - Improve FOOD AVAILABILITY, using in-kind food assistance modality and sustainable food/ agricultural value chain

The outcome will be achieved if the following outputs are achieved. Please note bold text reflects the logframe indicators:

Output 1.1 - The most vulnerable individuals have access to In-kind food assistance - monthly, through food parcels (including food kits, ready-to-eat foods, hot meals, school feeding) and community kitchens.

Output 1.2 - Lebanese smallholder farmers have strengthened (technical and operational) capacities to adopt climate smart sustainable agriculture and conservation of natural resources. Training will include profitable farm business and agricultural inputs will be seasonally appropriate.

Output 1.3 – Smallholder farmers enabled to increase linkages and access to markets for farm produce, including promotion of food transformation and preservation, the creation and reinforcement of linkages between small-scale producers and local markets, the distribution of unsold/un-marketed quality food from producer/retailer to local markets and market-based diversification/contract farming.

Output 1.4 – Smallholder famers and households enabled to reduce food waste/food losses along the food value chain from producer to consumers, including improving post-harvest and storage management and valorisation of organic waste. In particular, increasing capacities to reduce food waste along the perishable food supply will improve affordability of food to the most vulnerable.

Output 1.5 – Smallholder farmers have access to prevention and control measures for transboundary animal diseases and plant pests (DRR), through the support to monitoring and early warning systems for animal diseases and plant pests, capacity building and interventions to control the spread of transboundary animal diseases and plant pests during emergencies.

Outcome 2 - Improve FOOD ACCESS through cash-based food assistance and support to sustainable agricultural livelihoods.

This will be achieved through the following outputs:

Output 2.1 – Vulnerable populations, including displaced Syrians, Palestinian Refugees from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese, have access to cash-based food assistance[13] **and improve their access to food.**

Output 2.2 - Local agricultural groups/ associations/ farmer field and business schools/cooperatives or groups receive financial, technical and material support and capacity building that ultimately improve agricultural livelihoods.

Output 2.3 – Lebanese smallholder farmers have access to financial and technical support and benefit from innovative credit schemes that promote private agriculture investment. They receive financial and technical support on for example land reclamation, irrigation/water management and/or agricultural inputs such as seeds, livestock and equipment. Enhanced private agriculture investment will ultimately improve incomes and agricultural livelihoods.

Output 2.4 – Youth aged 15-25 years and other age group (25 and above) have access to improved agricultural technical education and vocational training. They can receive agricultural technical training in agricultural schools, agricultural vocational skills training (internship, on job training /apprenticeship) and literacy and numeracy skills training (non-and agriculture related skills) to enhance employability in the labour market and ultimately improve agricultural livelihoods and access to food.

Output 2.5 – Vulnerable individuals have improved opportunities to access temporary and seasonal labour in agriculture and related sectors, in

(13) Sector members are encouraged to provide direct food assistance through the Common Card platform (LOUISE), which is allows for better coordination of assistance and ease of use by beneficiaries as assistance from various actors is provided through the same e-card.

exchange for cash-based food assistance to increase their access to food and to agricultural infrastructure and assets. They can participate in programmes that rehabilitate/build agricultural productive infrastructure and communal assets (agricultural roads, irrigation networks, forests, hill lakes, water reservoirs) and have more opportunities to access temporary, seasonal and casual labour in agriculture and related sectors[14], in exchange for cash-based food assistance that increases their access to food.

Output 2.6 - Vulnerable individuals have strengthened technical and operational capacities to access temporary, seasonal and casual labour, in exchange for cash-based assistance that increases their access to food. They receive training and inputs that develop their skills and competencies and have more opportunities to access temporary, seasonal and casual labour, in exchange for cash-based assistance that increases their access to food.

Outcome 3 - Improve FOOD UTILIZATION through food safety and nutrition practices including the promotion of consumption of diversified and quality food. This will be achieved through the following outputs:

Output 3.1 – Households more vulnerable to food insecurity (women-headed households and households with pregnant and lactating women and children under five) adopt optimal nutrition practices through the promotion of small-scale production of diversified nutritious food. Training, awareness and behaviour change activities, micro-gardens and promotion of food preservation/transformation technologies at the household level ultimately improve food utilisation.

Output 3.2 – Households and individuals have improved capacity on food safety and quality to improve their practices through training on good practices and promotion of policies supporting the local production of high value nutritious foods.[15]

Outcome 4 – Promote and stabilize food security through support/ capacity building and strengthening of national public institutions and their decentralised services

The outputs to achieve this outcome will include the following:

Output 4.1 – National institutions working in food security/agriculture, disaster reduction and social protection have strengthened capacities to improve service delivery for vulnerable population. Targeted national institutions receive technical assistance and strengthen their capacities in areas such as vulnerability analysis, targeting, beneficiary management, communication, monitoring and evaluation and climate smart agriculture, GAP and Standards (management of soil resources, pest management and efficient use of water resources) and food safety and quality. This will strengthen national institutions' capacities and ultimately support the provision of basic services through national services.

Output 4.2 - Regional/decentralised public institutions involved in agriculture, food security, disaster reduction and social protection have strengthened capacities to improve service delivery for vulnerable population. Targeted regional/decentralised public institutions, including extension services and SDC staff, receive equipment-material and build their capacities to provide delivery of services to vulnerable local populations.

Assumptions and risks

The key assumptions to achieve the sector's objectives are mainly contextual in nature (see LCRP chapter on situation analysis), compounded by risks related to climate change.

Continued international financial support to the sector is needed to achieve sector's objectives as sector partners' assistance is one of the two main sources of income for persons displaced from Syria and provide the only food safety net for vulnerable Lebanese. To avoid further deterioration in vulnerable populations' food security situation, additional funding is also needed to fill existing gaps in assistance.

The renewed focus on agriculture as a key productive sector, as highlighted by the McKinsey report,[xiv] and the formulation of the new strategy for the agricultural sector also are necessary conditions for sector partners to increase access to sustainable agricultural livelihoods and employment opportunities in the agricultural sector.

During 2019, an increase in the enforcement of government's restrictive measures targeting refugees' abilities to work was witnessed. However, the sector assumes that restrictions will not curtail refugees' access to casual/temporary labour and training in the sectors where they are allowed to work, including agriculture.

The Food Security and Agriculture sector strategy foresees the following major risks, which could arise during the implementation of the 2020 sector plan and undermine the scope of its interventions.

The deteriorating economic and financial situation and the risk of a full-fledged economic crisis could have an impact on the sector response at several levels. The number of vulnerable people needing assistance, both persons displaced from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese, could increase and put pressure on sector partners' financial and human resources. At the same time, a possible devaluation of the Lebanese pound would affect the expenditure baskets of the most vulnerable

(14) As in previous years, such projects will be implemented in compliance with Lebanese laws and regulations. They will therefore primarily be implemented using an indirect modality, channeling investments through local third parties, such as private sector contractors and municipalities that will be responsible for project delivery and workforce management. In addition, the sector will increase engagement of its partners with the Ministry of Labor to establish a mechanism to provide guidance and follow-up on these projects as per the legal framework.

(15) Training will also include how to budget to purchase nutritious foods with limited resources.

and the ability to provide cash assistance. An economic downturn will also likely increase the risk of social turmoil and supply constraints.

The sector partners would need then to devise mitigation strategies including adaptive programming, prioritization of resources, revising the market value of the basket under the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) and in consequence the transfer value, prepare contingency planning and consider alternative modalities for food assistance.

Another major risk for food security outcomes lies in the climate stressors that affect agricultural production such as increased temperatures, reduced rainfall and snow cover, increased incidence of drought, more frequent heat waves, fewer frost days and rising sea levels.[xv] The sector promotes partners' climate smart agricultural practices that should be able to prepare smallholder farmers to partially mitigate climate risks, in particular water scarcity, reduced productivity of land and decreased crop quality. Risk mitigation actions include the adoption through farmers' field school of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and integrated pest management to reduce agrochemical pollution, increase water use efficiency and ensure sustainable withdrawals and capacity building on sustainable natural pasture management, including innovative pasture rehabilitation and grazing management.

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual/HH, community and institutional/physical environment level;[16]

The proposed sector target population is flexible in order to take into account unexpected needs that may arise, and any supplementary needs identified by sector partners in the field.[17] In light of the current political and social turmoil and economic crisis, the strategy will remain flexible to account for partners' changing caseloads and operational capacities.

Out of nearly 1,576,000 people in need, the sector will target about 1,102,000 people prioritized as the most in need, with both humanitarian and stabilization support, to improve the four pillars of food security and agricultural livelihoods. Out of these, cash-based and in-kind assistance will target about 1,071,000 individuals from all population cohorts. The sector will target 21,678 vulnerable Lebanese smallholder farmers with support to food agriculture value chains and to agricultural livelihoods, per year.

Displaced Syrians: For planning purposes, the sector will target approximately 825,000 displaced Syrians, currently living under the SMEB. [18] Food insecure households will be identified based on the recalibration formula. Ranking variables are mostly demographic with a strong statistical correlation with the latest VASyR results on economic vulnerability, and relate to households' characteristics, including but not limited to: arrival date, household size, gender, education level, and presence of members with disabilities, and age as well as working family members. The ranking methodology is regularly updated. New inclusions will be based on the ranking in combination with an appeal mechanism to minimize formula errors.

Approximately 825,000 displaced Syrians will be targeted through food access programmes (cash-based transfers for food).[19] The Food Security and Agriculture sector will continue to advocate for cash-based interventions, given the favorable condition for such modality. However, based on partners' recommendations and interventions to promote food availability to regions and individuals with limited access to food, in-kind food assistance will continue to target 40,000 displaced Syrians.[20]

A total of 33,000 students, from both the Syrian and the Lebanese cohorts, will receive school snacks in 56 schools, while 5,000 will receive a meal as the result of six recently established school kitchens.

In terms of operational capacity, the sector benefits from a wide range of national and international organisations involved in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and agricultural livelihoods support. The number of humanitarian partners has continued to increase since 2017 given the increased strategic focus on stabilization.

At governorate-level, food insecurity is most prominent in the North (38 percent) and Mount Lebanon (33 percent). At district-level, Zgharta is facing a chronic food insecurity level of over 40 percent. In 2019 food insecurity has increased in Bcharre, El Koura and Jbeil.[xvi]

Palestinian refugees from Syria: Despite a major gap in UNRWA's funding, in 2019 UNRWA was able to provide 28,231 Palestinian refugees from Syria with cash-for-food assistance. The current number of people in need of food assistance is 27,700 and the LCRP 2020 will target about 27,700 people.

Palestinian refugees from Lebanon: It is estimated that there are about 241,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon,[21] of which 180,000 people are in need and 117,000 are living below the poverty line and therefore eligible for partners' assistance.

(16) This can include Governorates, Districts, Cadasters, villages ,etc.
(17) The sector will liaise with its partners to contribute and update the current regional contingency plans as a response preparedness to unforeseen shocks and funding shortfalls.

(18) The identification of the households eligible for direct assistance will be done by applying the ranking of vulnerability that captures households who are vulnerable according to the VASyR 2019 economic vulnerability categories.
(19) Based on the required food basket, WFP and partners provide $27 per person per month.
(20) Although the sector will target 40,000 displaced Syrians for regular in-kind assistance, it is understood that there will be variations to this target based on seasonal or one-off assistance addressing temporary needs. During winter and Ramadan, for example, the number of displaced Syrians receiving in-kind food assistance increases (with partners providing food parcels, hot meals, dates, and so forth). However, this is not reflected in the target for regular in-kind assistance.
(21) Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Committee, Central Administration of statistics, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2018). *The Population and Housing Census in Palestinian Camps and Gatherings - 2017, Key Findings Report (Population, Buildings and Housing Units)*, Beirut, Lebanon http://www.cas.gov.lb/images/PressRoom/census%20findings_2017_en.pdf (LPDC & CAS 2017

Vulnerable Lebanese: 8 percent of Lebanese were estimated to be living below the extreme poverty line and not being able to satisfy their essential food and non-food needs,[xvii] totalling approximately 336,000 people.[xviii] The post recertification caseload of the NPTP amounts to 43,000 households (229,760 people). In 2018, 10,000 households received monthly food assistance through WFP's cash-based transfers.[22] By end of 2019 and in 2020, the NPTP beneficiaries receiving the food e-card will be scaled up to reach 15,000 households, representing around 108,000 beneficiaries. To that end, WFP is currently supporting MoSA in rolling out a profiling and baseline data collection exercise with the aim of updating the information of the 5,000 households targeted for the scale up. Furthermore, WFP is also planning to mitigate the impact of the economic downturn, which became prominent in October 2019, on vulnerable Lebanese by further expanding its support to 100,000 additional NPTP beneficiaries (20,000 households).

Targeting of Lebanese farmers was initially done based on the Ministry of Agriculture 2010 census whereby vulnerable small-scale farmers represented 70.2 percent of the farming community. Subsequently, the 2015 Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment (FSLA) of Lebanese communities reported that 73 percent of farmers declared themselves in need of assistance, representing 86,700 farmers across Lebanon.[xix] The targeting of farmers at the output level is likely to shift as farmers have multiple needs that implementing partners need to address.

Sector needs and targets 2020

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescent (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	336,000	238,091	119,046	119,046	74,165		38,904
Displaced Syrians	1,095,000	825,000	420,750	404,250	443,025		159,225
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,404	13,296	11,171		4,770
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	117,000	12,000	6,000	6,000	4,174		1,834
GRAND TOTAL	**1,575,700**	**1,102,791**	**560,200**	**542,592**	**532,535**		**204,733**

Type of Institutions	Total	Targeted
Schools		62
Social Development Centers		114
Ministry of Agriculture Central and Decentralized Offices	8	8
Agriculture Centers (Ministry of Agriculture)	31	31
Ministry of Agriculture tehnical Agricultural schools	7	7
Ministry of Social Affairs NPTP	1	1
Green Plan	1	1
Regional Offices of the Green Plan	8	8
Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute	1	1
Agricultural Cooperatives General Directorate	1	1
Agricultural Cooperatives Decentralized Offices	7	7
North Water Establishment	1	1
Municipalities	36	36
Cooperatives	305	305
MSMEs	78	78

(22) The National Poverty Targeting Programme provides $27 per person per month and this level of assistance is planned for 2020.

Mainstreaming of accountability to affected populations, protection, conflict sensitivity, age and gender, youth, persons with specific needs and environment

Social stability and conflict sensitivity

Overall sector activities are designed in consideration of concerns expressed by the host community and authorities, especially those supporting the most vulnerable smallholder farmers with a direct impact on job creation for both Lebanese and displaced Syrians. Data on competition on 'lower skilled work', including manual and casual labor, is often quoted as a most frequently source of tension for 51.3 percent of respondents.[xx]

Sector partners in food assistance interventions will explain the results of the exclusion/inclusion exercise based on the recalibration of the desk formula in all regions to avoid tensions related to targeting. This will be achieved through training on Targeting and Communications with refugees, Community Reference Groups, Facebook Group Administrators and Outreach Volunteers. Partners (WFP) have enhanced the Q&A on targeting and eligibility, and introduced a Grievance Redress Mechanism, which is an alternative inclusion pathway for cash and food assistance based on a refugee-initiated process. These measures should mitigate the risk of instability potentially caused by grievances around the fairness of assistance among Syrian communities. Other partners will coordinate with WFP to meet needs and fill gaps.

To respond to the needs of the different population cohorts, it is crucial that the NPTP is strengthened and provides food assistance to vulnerable Lebanese (in addition to support provided to Lebanese farmers), which can reduce tensions related to perceived unbalanced assistance, compounded by the current economic crisis. The expansion of the support to 5,000 additional households in 2019-2020, in line with the government request for more support to host communities, aims to redress the perceived unbalanced assistance by Lebanese.

Moreover, it is likely that the choice of cash assistance programming provided to displaced Syrians positively affects Lebanese by helping to address, for example, greater competition over lower-skilled jobs, and through the injection of cash into the local economy, with displaced Syrians utilizing the cash assistance to purchase goods and services from local Lebanese businesses. Studies show the positive impact of cash not just on economic vulnerability but on alleviating social tensions.[xxi]

In 2020, the Social Stability sector will carry out further training on conflict sensitivity and do-no-harm to increase the organizational capacities of partners/actors in operationalizing and integrating this approach in the organizations' policy and programmes. While these training ensure that staff involved in the response are able to identify conflict sensitivity concerns, the Social Stability sector and the Food Security and Agriculture sector will work together in 2020 to enhance conflict sensitivity mainstreaming across Food Security and Agriculture sector's partners. The Social Stability sector, through a dedicated focal point, will support the sector in identifying gaps in conflict sensitivity, assess if all partners have integrated conflict sensitivity during the design phase of their programmes and working closely with Core Groups to ensure that these gaps are addressed. Lastly, food security and agriculture partners are also encouraged to engage the Social Stability sector on their tension mapping to examine which areas are vulnerable to conflict as this will have an impact on targeting and implementation decisions for partners.

Youth and children

The majority of working Lebanese and Syrian youth are either employees or casual workers, with half of them having completed only primary education. More than half of young displaced Syrians in the workforce are employed, of which around 45 percent work as daily and/or seasonal workers in the sectors that have traditionally used Syrian labour, such as agriculture (both men and women). The sector will target youth, aged 15 to 24, through: a) supporting the enrolment of vulnerable youth in one of the seven technical agricultural schools of the Ministry of Agriculture; b) providing youth with short-term and medium-term skills training linked to market demands and those in agricultural fields; c) providing youth workers with basic literacy and numeracy life-skills; and, d) providing technical support to agricultural technical schools. This is in line with the Ministry of Agriculture's 2015-2019 strategy, which clearly states that agricultural livelihoods should be promoted among youth and women. These interventions constitute a positive strategy to address child labour in agriculture for the age cohort 15-17.

Displaced youth will be supported in enrolling in vocational skills' training and technical schools at both the Ministries of Education and Higher Education, Agriculture and Labour to increase their vocational opportunities, building on the outcomes of a FAO project targeting rural youth aged 15-17 implemented in 2017-2018. By promoting the elaboration of innovative learning tools, these interventions will contribute to train a generation to transition towards agro-ecology and adopt alternatives to the use of hazardous pesticides.

With an increase of child labour expected, in line with previous years, the sector will continue its efforts in collecting information and contribute to referrals in collaboration with the Protection sector (Child Protection sub-sector in particular) to better understand the underlying reasons, the market dynamics and the legal frameworks. Child labour in agriculture, which has been the object of recent studies by sector partner FAO, UNICEF and ILO,[xxii] affects children's education

and is likely to harm their health, safety and mental health. It encompasses a number of hazards, including exposure to chemicals (pesticides and fertilizers) and hazardous working conditions with long hours working in the sun. The sector will continue addressing child labour in agriculture by raising awareness on the Decent Work Standards with a special focus on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) related issues in agriculture in the Ministry of Agriculture and non-governmental organizations and will organize a new round of training on child labour in agriculture for local partners under the food security, protection and livelihoods sectors at the national and regional levels. The sector will try to better identify and document the cost for families to renounce sending their children to work. The aim of this exercise is to formulate integrated programs to address the economic vulnerabilities of families through complementary actions such as cash interventions or productive cash transfers helping families to improve their food security and their livelihoods, school feeding and higher education opportunities.

In consultation with the Education sector, school feeding activities, aimed at enhancing school attendance and retention rates, addressing short-term hunger and nutritional intake and social protection of children enrolled in schools, will be reported under the Food Security and Agriculture sector. The activities will be implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE). Targeting will include displaced Syrian children as well as Lebanese enrolled in formal primary schools with double-shift systems located in the most vulnerable communities across the country. The MEHE will play a key role in facilitating liaisons with teachers and school authorities at both central and local levels. All information related to school feeding will be shared with the Education sector and the MEHE.

The Education and Food Security and Agriculture sectors will be working together to assess the type of snacks that partners working in the non-formal education sector provide to children attending their programmes. The provision of snacks is crucial at enhancing children attendance and, from a food security and nutrition perspective, it is important to know the type of food provided (ready to eat, hot meal).

Gender

As the crisis affects men and women differently, the sector will promote targeting interventions focusing on the different needs of affected populations. Assessments and monitoring surveys will collect data disaggregated by gender to the extent possible, promoting gender analysis and participation of all groups in programme design. Similarly, both groups will be involved in programme implementation and provision of support, focusing on the most vulnerable groups such as women-headed households, women of reproductive age and pregnant and lactating women. Examples of similar gender-related sector interventions would be inclusion of women-headed households as a variable in determining vulnerable households to target for assistance and targeting women farmers equally as men.

These efforts will help to mainstream gender throughout all stages of the humanitarian programming cycle. In order to integrate gender-based violence, the sector will further use the Global Food Security Cluster/ sector guidelines on Protection and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee guidelines for integrating gender-based violence interventions in humanitarian action accordingly. The agricultural livelihoods projects aim to target women and men equally as much as possible. Partners would need to continue working on improving social protection systems to foster sustainable and equitable rural development, poverty reduction, and food security, taking into consideration the specific needs of women headed households.

Protection and accountability to affected populations (AAP)

Members of the affected population often face a wide range of issues beyond those that partners in the sector are able to address alone. In this regard, the sector will work to strengthen the safe identification and referral of persons with specific service needs, and individuals at risk. To this end, the sector will take four steps: a. review and adopt the inter-agency minimum standards for referral; b. develop and detail a sector service mapping for partners in all sectors to support referrals made to services provided by the Food security and Agriculture sector or provided externally; c. provide referral training to partner staff; and, d. improve its understanding and learning from referrals by adopting the inter-agency reporting requirements, for partners to report on referrals in ActivityInfo.

The work of the persons with specific needs (PWSN) sub-committee of the Protection sector will be used to improve the understanding of access barriers and potential ways to reduce them and improve access for PWSN. Through a regional-led protection risk analysis exercise, sector partners will contribute to an improved understanding of the barriers to safe and dignified meaningful access, accountability and participation in relation to food security and agriculture interventions, and mitigation measures will be suggested to strengthen these components. A gap in inclusive programming models for persons with disabilities (PwD) may emerge, so particular attention will be given to promote best practices within the sector and explore avenues for further inclusion in 2020.

Importantly, accountability to affected populations will be reinforced over the coming year. Sector partners have different internal complaint and feedback mechanisms, including the UNHCR/WFP call center and helpdesks at distribution sites for cash assistance as well as independent agency hotlines. WFP set up a time-bound pilot Grievance Redress Mechanism representing a window of opportunity for cases that were discontinued from cash assistance to appeal. In 2019, more than 75,000 calls were captured through the call centres from families

that were discontinued from assistance as a result of the recalibration of the desk formula. In addition, given the large number of women and adolescent girls working on agricultural sites across Lebanon, the sector has a role to inform and raise awareness amongst this cohort and with employers of protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) in-country complaint mechanisms in Lebanon, how to access these mechanisms, and what response is expected. In 2020, the sector will review and promote the inter-agency minimum standards on complaint and feedback to ensure alignment and that standards are met.

Partners working on livelihoods projects are asked to report on main protection risks, incidents or patterns in relation to their activities and operations and to input referrals from WFP funded activities for both protection and non-protection referrals.

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Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Improve FOOD AVAILABILITY using in-kind food assistance modality and sustainable food/ agricultural value chain

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of targeted HH with borderline or acceptable food consumption score based on the food groups consumed over a recall period of 7 days.	The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is a composite indicator that considers diet diversity, frequency of consumption and nutrient value of the food groups consumed over a recall period of seven days. According to this score, households are classified into three categories: poor, borderline and acceptable food consumption.	FSOM	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Rersult 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
A: 63% B : 25%	N/A	N/A	A: 90% B: 10%	A:49% B: 33%	A: 66% B: N/A	N/A	A: 70% B: 25%	A: 59% B: 29%	N/A	N/A	A: 65% B: 20%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of farmers with increased production, access to market, reduced produce waste and losses, and those benefitting as a result of Trans-boundary animal and plant disease control and prevention.	Estimation of the level of production and the application of sustainable farming practices. In order to inform the level of food availability and the adoption/practices of the good farming practices: under ouput 1.2, output 1.3,output 1.4 and output 1.5 of assisted farmers . (UN, INGOs, NGOs, MOA- responsible for collecting data)	ActivityInfo	Individuals	Quarterly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Rersult 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
2,379	N/A	N/A	21,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of farmers applying climate - smart practices, measures for conserving natural resources in collaboration with other relevant actors.	The UN agencies, INGOs and NNGOs analyze the extent to which the target farmers apply good practices /measures to control and conserve the environmental resources in ensuring sustainable production and future resilience during 2020.	ActivityInfo, Sample survey	Individuals	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Rersult 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	21,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Outcome 2: Improve FOOD ACCESS through cash based food assistance and sustainable agricultural livelihoods

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of targeted HHs with borderline or acceptable Food Consumption Score	The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is a composite indicator that considers diet diversity, frequency of consumption and nutrient value of the food groups consumed over a recall period of seven days. According to this score, households are classified into three categories: poor, borderline and acceptable food consumption.	FSOM	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Rersult 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
A: 63% B : 25%	N/A	N/A	A: 90% B: 10%	A: 49% B: 33%	A: 66% B: N/A	N/A	A: 70% B: 25%	A: %59 B: %29	N/A	N/A	A: 65% B: 20%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of households with increased agricultural livelihoods disaggregated by gender - (female & male) and by cohorts.	The number of HHs with improved livelihood opportunities is calculated as resulting from activities 2.2 2.3 2.4 2.5. It also involves assessing the perception of the households/-farmers targeted to understand changes in their livelihoods.	Partners' reporting	Households	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Rersult 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
855	N/A	N/A	1,050	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Outcome 3: Improve FOOD UTILIZATION through food safety and nutrition practices including the promotion of consumption of diversified and quality food

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of women with a minimum dietary diversity score based on the Household Diet Diversity Scale (HDDS) by cohort	The dietary diversity is a qualitative measure of the level of food consumption. It reflects the level of access to a variety of foods, and is also a proxy for nutrient adequacy of the diet of individuals or households. The Household Dietary Diversity Scale (HDDS) is based on 5 out of 10 food groups to calculate the proportion of women or individuals with adequate dietary diversity.	PDM	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Rersult 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
			90%	N/A			90%								

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of beneficiaries supported who improved their food safety, quality and dietary diversity practices.	The aim is to evaluate the adoption levels of beneficiaries on improved food safety and quality measures. The IPs will conduct a sample survey to evaluate the level of the practices involving the entire food chain- production, storage, preparation/cooking including hygiene etc.: as resulting from output 3.1 and 3.2	Partners' reports, Activity Info	Individuals (male /female)	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Rersult 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
			2,408												

Outcome 4: Promote and stabilize food security through support/ capacity building and strengthening of national public institutions and their decentralised services

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of national and decentralized institutions with improved capacities in food security, agriculture and social protection.	Record the number of national institutions and their decentralized services working in the food security sector whose capacities have been strengthened in different areas of agriculture, social protection and others to improve delivery of services through capacity strenghtening activities.	Sample survey	Institutions	Yearly

Institutions

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	220

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of national and decentralized institutions staff with improved capacity to provide better delivery of services.	Record the number of national institutions and their decentralized services working in the food security sector whose capacities have been strengthened in different areas of agriculture, social protection and others to improve delivery of services through capacity strenghtening activities.	Sample survey	Staff	Yearly

Staff

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	550

Beneficiairies of WFP's school meals programme.
Photo Credit: WFP, Mazen Hodeib.

HEALTH
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED

2,739,700

PEOPLE TARGETED

1,892,700

REQUIREMENTS(US$)

2020 275.9 million

PARTNERS

46

GENDER MARKER

2a

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $111.1 m

Improve access to comprehensive primary healthcare (PHC).

Indicators

Percentage of displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS) and Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (PRL) accessing primary healthcare services.

Percentage of vaccination coverage among children under 5 residing in Lebanon.

Outcome #2 — $163.7 m

Improve access to hospital (incl. ER care) and advanced referral care (advanced diagnostic laboratory & radiology care).

Indicators

Percentage of displaced Syrians, Lebanese, PRS and PRL admitted for hospitalization per year.

Outcome #3 — $1.05 m

Improve outbreak control and infectious diseases control.

Indicators

Number of functional early warning and surveillance system (EWARS) centres.

Outcome #4 — $0.05 m

Improve Adolescent & Youth Health.

Indicators

Prevalence of behavioural risk factors and protective factors in 10 key areas among young people aged 13 to 17 years.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	Female	Male
Lebanese	1,500,000	750,000	372,750	376,969
Displaced Syrians	1,095,000	1,095,000	562,830	532,830
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,349	13,351
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	117,000	20,000	9,920	10,080

Overall sector strategy

After almost a decade of responding to the health needs of displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese and Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon, and based on lessons learned during the implementation of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) 2017-2020, the Health sector has committed to align its areas of work with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG3[1] with focus on universal health coverage.

For 2020, the Health sector theory of change states that **if**:

- Collaborative and multi-stakeholder analysis of current financing schemes are reinforced, bottlenecks of service delivery models are identified and a joint strategy for primary healthcare in the country is adopted;
- Public-private partnerships, especially in the area of community engagement are strengthened;
- Partnerships with civil society are enabled to reach vulnerable populations;
- Innovation and technology, especially to increase health service coverage and reach marginalized populations are promoted;
- And access to good-quality national data, especially gender-disaggregated data is improved;

Then displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese and Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon will have increased equitable access to quality primary and hospital care, outbreak control will be strengthened, and adolescent and youth health improved.

The LCRP has affirmed that improved access to comprehensive primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare services, improved outbreak and infectious diseases control and improved adolescent and youth health are key to providing the target population with inclusive and equitable access to quality health services through the national health system. While maintaining a direct service delivery component to cover critical needs for vulnerable people, the priority of the Health sector is to shift towards continued investments to strengthen the public health system and enhance institutional resilience to sustain service provision and quality of services. This will ultimately achieve a positive and sustainable impact on health indicators in the long term. Moreover, health programming under the LCRP will aim to be equitably provided and to achieve long term outcomes and impacts, while including the most marginalized groups.

The Health sector will continue to strengthen the health system by carrying out the inter-related health system functions of human resources, finance, governance, information, medical products, vaccines, and data technologies. Because of variations among geographical areas, populations, and facilities, the Health sector ensures that decisions are made at various government levels – national, provincial, district, or regional - to encourage greater efficient and homogenous delivery of health services. The sector will work to enhance referral mechanisms and to ensure equitable access to quality healthcare through direct service delivery, in case of life saving critical situations.

The Ministry of Public Health's Response Strategy

The Ministry of Public Health response strategy, drafted in 2015 and updated in 2016, serves as the guiding document for the LCRP Health sector.[i] Activities fall within the scope of this strategy starting from community outreach, awareness and preventive activities to curative and referral services. By 2020, the strategy aims for the progressive expansion and integration of these services in the existing national healthcare system, in an effort towards universal health coverage.

The Health sector's overarching aim is to respond to the health needs of displaced Syrians (whether registered or non-registered as refugees by UNHCR), Palestinian refugees from Syria, the most vulnerable Palestinian refugees from Lebanon, as well as the most vulnerable Lebanese host communities. It also aims to strengthen national institutions and capacities to respond while contributing to enhancing the resilience of the health system as a whole.

The Ministry of Public Health Response Strategy serves four strategic objectives:

1. Increase access to healthcare services to reach as many displaced persons and host communities as possible, prioritizing the most vulnerable

2. Strengthen healthcare institutions and enable them to withstand the pressure caused by the increased demand on services and the scarcity of resources

3. Ensure health security including a strengthened surveillance system for the control of infectious diseases and outbreaks;

4. Improve child survival rates.

Main sector priorities

Based on the current situation analysis, the Health sector has identified four main outputs for the sector strategy in 2020 and its direct contributions to the impact "vulnerable populations have equitable access to basic services through national systems". These outputs are based on the sector's analysis of the protective environment, taking into account the challenges faced by different age, gender and diversity groups in accessing health services. The health sector's approach to the delivery of equitable health services is strongly rooted in a vulnerability and rights-based approach to programming. Activities under each output of the strategy are designed to ensure that different groups have equitable access to affordable, essential and high-quality prevention, promotion, treatment, and care services. In 2020, the sector hopes to further overcome access barriers for the underserved, vulnerable and marginalized through safe, dignified and

(1) SDG3: "Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages."

accountable service provision.

In 2020, additional attention will be placed on strengthening the Health sector's commitment to mainstream protection through its interventions, to reduce barriers for affected persons in accessing health services, improve accountability, and the quality of healthcare services. Particular attention will be paid to improving the responsiveness of complaint and feedback mechanisms within the primary healthcare centres, strengthening referrals of affected persons between primary healthcare and other service providers, improving the use of data collected through referral and complaint and feedback channels to inform organisational learning, promote adaption and complement the vulnerability assessment of Syrian refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) and other surveys. Steps will also be taken to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilites through their greater participation in needs assessments, disaggregated reporting, and adapted information provision and infrastructure. In this regard, specific efforts will be made to adapt information materials and health awareness campaigns to reach working and street children to promote their access to health services.

In reference to the universal health coverage and with the objective of strengthening good governance practices within the health system and achieve improved health outcomes and document best practices for Lebanon, the Ministry of Public Health established the Health Policy Support Observatory in April 2018.[2] The Observatory has three lines of work, including: providing direct analytical and informational support to the Ministry's policy-making; establishing communities of practice whose prime focus is to facilitate interaction between key stakeholders, and organizing a National Health Forum where civil society can engage in balancing needs, resources and expectations, in an evidence-based conversation with health authorities and stakeholders. Such initiatives will not only harness the contribution of the various networks and strengthen the health system in the long run, but they will also impact the wide spectrum of healthcare activities while helping meet the objectives of the LCRP.

Strategic interventions adopted by the Health sector aim to meet short-term needs while contributing to strengthening national service delivery in 2020 and delivering more sustainable results. The Health sector follows three main fundamental conducts to achieve its vision: needs assessment, health system strengthening and direct service delivery.

The Health sector will increase its contribution in 2020 to strengthen public health knowledge and evidence-based practices. For this, the Health sector has proposed a research committee with the objectives of decreasing duplication of assessments, channelling available research resources to the gap in information and not merely to academic interest, and ensuring ethical considerations are accounted for when the assessments or research target refugees and vulnerable communities. This LCRP health research committee will: i. review planned assessments for justification and indications, methodology, ethical principles, and coordination with existing or planned assessments and ii. review proposed research relating to health amongst refugees and vulnerable population and ensure agreed criteria are met.

The Health sector will work on strengthening the national health system to better account for the needs and ensure access to services for vulnerable population. Improving the national health system from the national to the regional level will lead to an increased equitable access to quality healthcare services while ensuring a safe and inclusive environment. Strengthening the health system provides long-term benefits, and positively impacts national health indicators.

Direct service delivery will be ensured by the Health sector, to provide emergency health services for critical life-saving cases. This is mainly applicable to providing financial support to life-saving hospital care[3] for displaced Syrians and primary healthcare services for vulnerable population. Direct service delivery will lead to decreasing the rates of morbidity and mortality and will help the Government carry the burden of the high demand for healthcare.

Within the next three years, the sector will explore in detail the prospect of further optimizing the package of services offered and models of delivery, including financing mechanisms, to ensure an effective, cost-efficient and sustainable response. Special attention will be paid to health interventions for boys, girls, men and women including children under five years of age, pregnant and lactating women, adolescents including adolescent girls married before the age of 18, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, survivors of gender-based violence, persons living with HIV/AIDS, persons facing gender-based discrimination, and other vulnerable groups. To assess challenges around access to health services, girls, boys, women and men will be equally consulted. Access of such groups to information on services and primary healthcare in general will be regularly monitored through consultations, assessments and other forms of engagement, as well as through existing complaints systems.

The Health sector will work to strengthen planning and coordination by reinforcing the existing coordination mechanism, which is essential to ensuring a harmonized prioritization of services, avoiding duplication and identifying gaps in service provision. This will enable a more efficient and effective delivery of services which is particularly important when considering the protracted nature of the crisis.

(2) The Policy Support Observatory is a tripartite partnership agreement with the American University of Beirut and the World Health Organization, hosted by the Ministry of Public Health.

(3) For secondary healthcare, vulnerable uninsured Lebanese population is covered by the Ministry of Public Health acting as insurer of the last resort.

LCRP impact, sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

Health outcomes and outputs are designed to contribute to vulnerable populations having equitable access to basic services through national systems, which fall under LCRP Strategic Objective 3: "Support service provision through national systems". The contribution towards this impact will be achieved through the following outcomes and outputs:

Outcome 1 – Improve access to comprehensive primary healthcare (PHC)

Under this outcome, it is assumed there will be an increased need for primary healthcare[4] and that Health partners will continue to provide support to the Ministry of Public Health's primary healthcare network which provides equitable and affordable access to quality health services.

Output 1.1 – Financial subsidies and health promotion provided to targeted population for improved access to a comprehensive primary healthcare package

The sector aims to ensure equitable access to comprehensive[5] quality primary healthcare for displaced Syrians (whether registered or non-registered as refugees by UNHCR) as well as vulnerable Lebanese, primarily through the Ministry of Public Health network of primary healthcare centres and dispensaries (including the Ministry of Social Affairs' social development centres in instances where there is uneven geographical coverage, or where the caseload is too heavy for the network to bear).[6] Key interventions include:

Comprehensive financial support prioritized: More comprehensive financial support will be provided to displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese and Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon who are unable to access health services due to their economic conditions. Health partners are ensuring better access by reducing cost-related barriers, such as doctor's fees, additional treatment and transportation expenses through complementary programme activities. This approach will be closely monitored in 2020 to identify best practices which could be further expanded to ensure better health outcomes over the long term.

Mobile medical units used on exceptional basis: The Health sector will aim to deliver primary healthcare services through mobile medical units on exceptional basis. Activities such as vaccination campaigns, outbreak investigation and response, and the provision of primary healthcare services will be provided through mobile medical units in areas where there is no primary healthcare coverage and in case of security-related and emergency situations. This will allow for outbreaks to be contained and for the increase of access to primary healthcare services in case of a deteriorated situation, decreasing morbidity and mortality rates.

Health promotion and community outreach strengthened: The Health sector will strengthen facility-based health promotion and community outreach activities on various health topics (i.e. vaccination, pregnancy care, family planning, infant and young child feeding, communicable diseases, non-communicable diseases, mental health, etc.). Efforts will aim at increasing awareness on the availability and acceptability of services (including gender-based violence services) at the facility and the community levels through making updated information available at all times for the population in need. Information updates, including service mapping, will be available through printed comprehensive health brochures. Health partners will harmonize health messages and target women and men within communities to influence decision-making and ensure an environment that is supportive of positive health seeking behaviours. Increased awareness will also be achieved by developing and designing information packages and employing various dissemination methods, in consultation with affected communities to ensure that they are appropriate and accessible to all groups, including people with specific needs. Where possible, inter-sector linkages will be made to maximize health-education dissemination channels through education facilities and after-school accelerated learning programmes for children who work. The provision of information and education along with addressing other accessibility barriers will contribute to decreasing social stigma and increasing demand for primary healthcare. Consequently, health promotion will increase equitable access to quality primary healthcare.

Complaints and feedback mechanisms strengthened: 50 out of the 234 Ministry of Public Health primary healthcare centres have active complaints and feedback mechanisms to ensure patients can report any challenges. In addition, the Ministry's 24/7 hotline, which refugees can call for feedback and complaints, is circulated on a regular basis. The Ministry of Public Health uses all possible resources to respond to all complaints; however, additional support from the Health sector is still needed to strengthen and expand the current feedback mechanism. Supporting the complaint and feedback mechanism will improve the affected population's right to hold actors accountable, enhance public trust and therefore increase demand and access for primary healthcare services.

The target for 2020 is a total of 2,660,400 subsidized or free consultations to be provided to displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon at the primary healthcare level. This output will be measured by an indicator on the "number of subsidized or free primary healthcare consultations provided" which will be disaggregated by age and sex to

(4) Primary healthcare includes services such as: vaccination, medication for acute and chronic conditions, non-communicable diseases care, sexual and reproductive healthcare, malnutrition screening and management, mental healthcare, dental care, basic laboratory and diagnostics as well as health promotion.
(5) Comprehensive primary healthcare is inclusive of vaccination, medication for acute and chronic conditions, non-communicable disease care, sexual and reproductive health, malnutrition screening and management, mental health, dental care as well as health promotion.
(6) Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon are an exception as their access to primary healthcare is through UNRWA clinics.

allow for gender analysis of potential barriers for access to primary healthcare to be addressed.

Output 1.2 - Free of charge chronic disease medication provided at primary healthcare centre level

The political situation and austerity measures in Lebanon resulted in lower budget allocation for the procurement of medications and in delayed fund transfers from the Ministry of Finance to the Ministry of Public Health, which lead to severe shortage of chronic disease medications. In addition, contingency funds are unavailable, and it is challenging to secure funds to fill the gaps in a timely manner. The Health sector will advocate with the donors to ensure that chronic disease medication is procured and distributed to the population in need. Health partners will support the Ministry of Public Health to accurately estimate the needs based on utilization, co-morbidity data and previous stocks interruption. The provision of free of charge chronic disease medication will contribute to enhancing the quality of life for persons with chronic diseases, increase financial access to primary healthcare and decrease morbidity and mortality rates. Institutional support and health system strengthening initiatives such as training on medications and stock management remains key in improving the existent network.

The target for 2020 is 185,000 adherents to the national chronic disease medications program at the Ministry of Public Health (138,750 Lebanese and 33,300 displaced Syrians), as well as 12,950 individuals (7400 Palestinian refugees from Syria and 5550 Palestinian refugees from Lebanon) receiving chronic medication free of charge through UNRWA clinics. This output will be measured by an indicator on the "number of persons receiving chronic medication" which will be disaggregated by sex.

Output 1.3 - Free of charge acute disease medication, medical supplies and reproductive health (RH) commodities provided at primary healthcare centre level

The Health sector will support the Ministry of Public Health in the provision of free of charge acute disease medications, medical supplies and reproductive health commodities for displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese. The sector will continue to advocate for funding and will aim at aligning the list of acute disease medications with the treatment protocol. Health partners will closely coordinate to accurately estimate the needs and support in the procurement of acute disease medication as well as other medical commodities. This support will lead to increasing the availability of supplies, decreasing financial barriers and consequently ensuring greater access to primary healthcare. Furthermore, the provision of free of charge acute disease medications will lead to an enhanced preventive programming and therefore decrease the risk of complications and the need for hospital care. It is essential that the current mechanisms of national drug procurement for acute disease medication, medical supplies and reproductive health commodities (including family planning commodities and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) kits) be aligned with the existing needs of vulnerable Lebanese, displaced Syrians as well as other population groups, and avoid any duplication for parallel procurement mechanisms by health partners.

The targeting for 2020 increased to around 1.8 million displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese within the existing primary healthcare channels, as well as to 47,700 Palestinian refugees from Syria and Palestinian refugees from Lebanon through UNRWA clinics.

Output 1.4 - Free of charge routine vaccination provided for all children under five at the primary healthcare centre level and through vaccination campaigns

The sector aims to achieve 100 percent vaccination coverage of displaced Syrian children, Palestinian refugee children from Syria and Lebanon, and vulnerable Lebanese children[7], based on the national vaccination calendar. This requires the enforcement of the Ministry of Public Health's policy related to the provision of free vaccination at the primary healthcare level as well as the expansion / acceleration of routine vaccination activities with a focus on low vaccination coverage areas[8]. This will be done by increasing awareness on the availability of free vaccination services at the primary healthcare centres and by supporting the Ministry of Public Health to increase its internal monitoring, especially when the patient is being charged for vaccination. Particular vigilance is required to ensure Lebanon remains polio free, and to contain the current measles outbreak. For that a national measles campaign was initiated in 2019 and will be expanded in 2020 to ensure the interruption of the disease transmission, and to allow Lebanon to accelerate progress towards the elimination of measles. Advocacy to endorse legislation on free vaccination in the primary healthcare centres remains key to ensure a greater vaccination coverage and to prevent further outbreaks. In addition, a more systematic vaccination process needs to be developed and endorsed for official return activities. The efforts of the Health sector to ensure that free vaccination is provided for all children under five will positively impact the vaccination status of children in Lebanon, ensure vaccines for preventable diseases and consequently decrease morbidly and mortality. This output will be measured through an indicator on the "number of children under five receiving routine vaccinations" which will be disaggregated by population cohort and sex.

Output 1.5 - Primary healthcare institutions' service delivery supported

The expansion of the Ministry of Public Health's primary healthcare centres network to up to 250 centres distributed equitably across Lebanon, the enhancement of the quality of services provided and the physical structure will strengthen the capacity of the ministry to respond to the primary healthcare needs of displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese. This will

(7) It is estimated that 50 percent of vulnerable Lebanese children receive vaccination through the public health system while the remaining 50 percent receiving vaccination through private health system

(8) Results of the annual WHO Expanded Programme on Immunization coverage cluster survey

ensure greater geographical coverage and accessibility, including for people with disabilities, to quality primary healthcare services.[9] Moreover, support across most primary healthcare centres is required in terms of increasing human resources, as they are understaffed and overloaded. By providing staffing support, the Health sector will contribute to enhancing central data collection and analysis, decrease the workload at the facility level and increase the ministerial capacity to respond to increased demand. Nevertheless, the sector needs to identify and prioritize support for essential staff whose services are critical on the long run; this will allow the ministry to retain trained and qualified personnel. Health partners will continue to provide equipment to not only respond to current needs, but also to replace old and deteriorating equipment. This will allow the centres to deliver quality services and expand the current coverage which increases availability and therefore enhances access to primary healthcare services for vulnerable groups. Additionally, the Health sector will aim to build the capacity of staff through ongoing training, coaching and supervision according to identified gaps. These trainings will include modules on soft skills[10], safe identification and referral of survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and survivor-centred approaches with a focus on privacy and confidentiality. Building the capacity of healthcare providers, will lead to an enhanced quality of service provision and, therefore, to an increased trust towards the public services which will positively impact access of vulnerable groups to primary healthcare services. The Health sector will encourage an equal ratio of female/male trained staff[11]. The sector will focus on capacity building as well as monitoring key indicators for improved quality of care through increased coordination between partners and the use of common tools.

The sector will support the Ministry of Public Health to strengthen its accreditation programme[12] and internal monitoring and evaluation measures at the primary healthcare level, focusing on the compliance with the national health strategy, especially in relations to harmonized costs for services. The sector will also ensure free immunization services at all centres particularly when it comes to a unified costing system, including the provision of free vaccination.

Additionally, the Health sector will explore ways to support the expansion of the existing health information system. Electronic patient files for beneficiaries were established, along with an electronic medication monitoring system[13] in 13 primary healthcare centres. The collection of data through the centres will be further expanded and strengthened to ensure harmonized reporting through common tools and indicators. Data collected will reflect the quality of service provision, including relevance, accuracy, completeness, and timeliness for example. This will lead to more regular access to data which will help to inform future healthcare priorities. At an individual level, Health partners supported the ministry to develop a mobile application that provides a unique barcode to every screened child. The immunization registry (MERA) will help keep track of the immunization status [14] of children. This platform will continue to be expanded and its features enhanced to include a page for caregivers that provide automatic reminders on immunization appointments, information on the nearest primary healthcare centres, as well as messages on health and nutrition awareness. Monitoring the impact of the activities will be done by keeping track of the indicator: "number of facilities reporting on the Ministry of Public Health's health information system".

Risks associated with the above-mentioned outputs range from the lack of available funds to ensure the procurement of medications to non-compliance of primary healthcare centres with the instructions provided by Ministry of Public Health's including hidden costs. This may result in decreased access to preventive primary healthcare services and could increase demand for complicated secondary healthcare. Efforts from Health partners are needed to advocate for funding in order to support the strengthening of health services. Partners also need to maintain and expand support to the Ministry of Public Health in order to improve internal monitoring and evaluation measures. With time, and as the Ministry of Public Health's capacities are strengthened, the institutional support is expected to progressively decrease.

Outcome 2 – Improve access to hospital (incl. ER Care) and advanced referral care (advanced diagnostic laboratory and radiology care)

Taking into consideration the constant need for hospital care and Health partners' continuous support to secondary and tertiary care, Outcome 2 will be achieved through the following outputs:

Output 2.1 – Financial support provided to targeted population for improved access to hospital and advanced referral care

The Health sector aims to ensure access to hospital and specialized referral care for all displaced Syrians (whether registered or non-registered as refugees by UNHCR) and Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon in need of hospital care.[15] Health partners will continue to provide financial support to targeted populations through the implementation of cost-sharing mechanisms. The main activity under this output is the provision of financial support to access hospital services. This is currently

(9) The Ministry of Public Health plans on adding 50 additional primary healthcare centres to the Ministry's-primary healthcare network per year.
(10) As an example, the Clinical Management of Rape Training targeting health staff includes a module on soft skills
(11) It is observed that more female health staff attend trainings compared to male health staff – this is reflective of the general health workforce.
(12) In 2008, the Ministry of Public Health initiated work on an accreditation mechanism for primary healthcare centres aiming to include all network centres to monitor and ensure quality in primary healthcare centres. The accreditation programme is fully funded by Ministry of Public Health and implemented by the primary healthcare department
(13) PHENICs: health information system to link and unify the network of PHC centres
(14) MERA is designed to be used at the facility and the community level. Thereby, it is being used at nurseries, public schools (primary healthcare centres without an active PHENICS), dispensaries, district offices and in outreach vaccination activities. The Ministry of Public Health plans to scale-up the use of MERA to private schools, orphanages and private physician's clinics. MERA can access EPI information of each child registered within PHENICS, as such MERA presents a single platform for EPI
(15) This includes advanced diagnostics, laboratory tests and radiology (on an outpatient basis) and admission to hospital, including emergency room care.

done primarily through the UNHCR Referral Care programme which covers 75-90 percent of the hospital bill and targets displaced Syrians, and through UNRWA's hospitalization policy for Palestinian refugees from Syria and Palestinian refugees from Lebanon. Health partners also provide financial support to cover 10 to 25 percent of the patient's share and mitigate conditions which fall outside of UNHCR or UNRWA hospitalization schemes.[16] The financial support helps to decrease mortality rates and enhances the quality of life. In addition, this will contribute to enhance neonatal and maternal health by supporting hospital-based deliveries and neonatal services. Considering the high cost of hospital care services in Lebanon and the increasing economic vulnerabilities amongst displaced Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon, Health partners need financial resources to maintain current levels of financial support. Additional resources are also needed to expand the support to medical conditions which do not fall under the current schemes.

The main indicator used to measure this outcome is "percent of displaced Syrians, Lebanese, Palestinian refugees from Syria and Palestinian refugees from Lebanon admitted for hospitalization per year".

In 2020, the sector will target 110,350 displaced Syrians[17], 3,324 Palestinian refugees from Syria and 2,400 Palestinian refugees from Lebanon receiving hospital services. The targets are calculated based on a 12 percent hospitalization rate for all population cohorts.[18]

In 2019, the Health sector explored alternative health financing mechanisms, and studied the feasibility of health insurance schemes in addressing the healthcare needs of displaced Syrians in comparison with the current third-party administrator self-insured assistance. In 2020, the Health sector will plan a pilot project targeting 20,000 displaced persons (Syrian and non-Syrian), under which they will receive a package of health services comparable to the package provided under the current third-party administrator self-insured scheme. The pilot will allow the documentation of necessary evidence on health insurance schemes to provide hospital care, the cost effectiveness of alternative financing mechanisms, and feasibility of implementation in Lebanon.

Output 2.2 - Public and private hospital service delivery supported

The sector aims to support to 27 public hospitals by providing equipment to hospitals to fill shortages, replace old and deteriorated equipment and establish psychiatric wards in public hospitals in the North, South and Beqaa governorates. Interventions will also include supporting the staffing abilities of hospitals as well as building the capacity of hospital staff through trainings and follow-ups (including the management of psychiatric emergencies). The sector will encourage training of an equal ratio of female to male staff.

The risks associated with the above-mentioned outputs include decreased funding and consequences of the revised referral care standard operating procedure that imposes a higher patient share on displaced Syrians. [ii19] An additional risk is the lack of interest in the support of expensive services such as dialysis, cancer, thalassemia and others, which could decrease access and contribute to an increase in morbidity and mortality rates. Efforts from Health partners are required to mitigate the associated risks through advocacy for funding, and a strengthened coordination where the available funds equitably target the most urgent needs. An additional mitigation measure would be to increase and strengthen preventive primary care such as vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal care, family planning, early detection and non-communicable diseases programmes so that complications are prevented, and hospital care is not needed.

Outcome 3 – Improve outbreak and infectious disease control

Ensuring that Lebanon has a national surveillance for diseases in place, with emphasis on early warning alerts and response system (EWARS), is essential considering the numerous challenges which exist. The system helps to estimate the number of children dropped out from routine immunization and understand potential health risks associated with environmental degradation, such as water borne diseases, as well as impact of poor WASH conditions in informal settlements. Moreover, it allows the identification of risks associated with acute intoxication by chemicals, pesticides or bacteria (food poisoning). The health system should be reinforced in line with international health regulations requirements, especially for cross-border populations. Additionally, outbreak preparedness and response should be maintained. Outcome 3 will be achieved through the following outputs:

Output 3.1 - The National Early Warning and Response System (EWARS) expanded and reinforced

The sector will strengthen outbreak control by expanding and building the capacity of the Ministry of Public Health to use the early warning and response system (EWARS)'s. This system provides critical data in a timely manner and helps to inform monitoring, planning and decision-making in any outbreak containment and response. Between 2015 and 2019, support was provided for the development of an information technology (IT) platform (DHIS2) established in around 950 health facilities[20]. In the surveillance strategic framework and plan of action, support will focus on: the harmonization of the health reporting system, the expansion of the national early warning and response system to multidisciplinary stakeholders (such as the ministry of agriculture) and the

(16) In 2018 UNHCR, initiated expert consultations for possible health insurance schemes for refugees in country. Piloting the proposed scheme is planned for November 2019.
(17) This figure is based on the number of displaced Syrians registered by UNHCR as refugees, equivalent to 919,578 (as of end of September 2019). It is important to note however that all displaced Syrians (Government of Lebanon estimates are of 1,500,000 displaced Syrians in Lebanon), whether registered or non-registered with UNHCR as refugees, are eligible for hospital coverage according to UNHCR Standard Operating Procedures for Referral Care.
(18) The hospitalization rate does not include health interventions done on an outpatient basis such as dialysis.
(19) UNHCR reported a lower admission rate to hospital care in 2019 compared to 2018 and this is believed to be related to the new referral care SOPs.
(20) Health facilities include: primary healthcare centers, dispensaries and hospitals.

improvement of information flow within the departments of the Ministry of Public Health and between the Ministry and other concerned stakeholders.

The expansion of the national early warning and response system and its decentralization will target all primary healthcare centres within the Ministry of Public Health's network, laboratories and hospitals, as well as the epidemiologic unit at the national level. Priorities for 2020 include the reinforcement of 50 existing surveillance sites and the expansion to 100 new sites. To ensure positive outcomes, staffing and logistical support alongside IT systems, development and equipment is required. In addition, technical support missions, joint trainings for surveillance and response teams, as well as a close monitoring of accuracy, timeliness and completeness of reporting are all needed. The outcome will be measured by the "number of functional/ operational early warning and response system centres".

Output 3.2 - Availability of selected contingency supplies ensured

The sector will ensure that a one-year stock of selected contingency vaccines, emergency medications, laboratory reagents, response kits and personal protective equipment (PPE) for quick and effective response to outbreaks is available and maintained.

Output 3.3 – The National Tuberculosis and AIDS Programmes strengthened

The Health sector will continue supporting the national tuberculosis programme through: staffing, capacity building, procurement of necessary material, renovation of centres and the procurement of anti-tuberculosis drugs, ancillary medicines and other consumables. By implementing these activities, the Health sector will contribute to preventing, identifying and treating tuberculosis cases which will decrease morbidity and mortality rates. These activities will be mainly measured by the following indicator: "Number of beneficiaries receiving tuberculosis medication through the National Tuberculosis Programme".

As for the National AIDS programme, the sector aims at supporting the development of a protocol for testing which includes screening for HIV and sexually transmitted infections in key population groups, doing confirmatory testing for positive cases and starting Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) for all HIV diagnosed cases as soon as diagnosis is confirmed. This will then lead to dramatic reductions in HIV-associated morbidity and mortality[iii] and to an increase in life expectancy of patients with HIV infection. The related activities will be mainly measured using the following indicator: "Number of beneficiaries receiving Antiretroviral (ARV) medication through the National AIDS Programme".

If the support of the Health sector is not maintained under the above-mentioned outputs, the ability of the country to respond to outbreaks will be jeopardized, which could lead to increased outbreaks, vaccine preventable diseases and subsequent morbidity and mortality. Hence, the need to: i. maintain the level of support provided to the national surveillance system, ii. increase trust toward public services iii. strengthen the preventive care, and iv. increase outbreak preparedness.

Outcome 4 – Improve adolescent and youth health

Investments in adolescent and youth health, in parallel with building the capacity of local institutions, community centres and schools, is considered an added value to the community that will have lifelong positive effects on both the individuals and the local institutions. Consequently, outcome 4 will be achieved through the following outputs:

Output 4.1 – School health programme (MoPH/WHO/ MEHE) maintained

The Health sector will continue to support the Ministry of Education and Higher Education/Ministry of Public Health/WHO school health programme which will be expanded to an additional 25 public and 25 semi-private schools and 25 vocational trainings in 2020. Activities within this programme comprise of school health education, opportunities for physical education and recreation, and programmes for counselling, social support and mental health promotion. Maintaining the school health programme will lead to creating a healthier physical and emotional environment for the adolescent and youth and enhancing the education outcomes which will create a more productive community in the long run. Other activities include the provision of support for the school E-health medical records (procurement of information technology equipment and capacity building) as well as support for the healthy school environmental project. The related output indicator is the "number of new schools adhering to at least one component of the school health program".

Output 4.2 - Access to healthcare information to the most vulnerable adolescent and youth increased

Marginalized adolescent and youth will be targeted to ensure healthcare information reach out of school, street and working children, young people and adolescents through a gender-sensitive approach. Information will include the adoption of awareness material and outreach methods, the strengthening of referrals of at-risk children to case management agencies and the promotion of other agencies to refer to healthcare providers and the improvement of the reach of vaccinations through tailored vaccination campaigns, mental health and sexual and reproductive health activities. The activities will be measured using the following output indicator: "number of outreach activities / awareness sessions conducted for adolescent and youth on healthcare".

While turnover may be a risk factor associated with the above-mentioned output 4.1, identifying and building the capacity of essential staff remains key to sustain the available services at different levels. The lack of data on out of school children, youth and adolescents is a risk for the programming of output 4.1. Social stigma is another risk to engage adolescents on mental, sexual and

reproductive health issues. A participatory community engaging approach and close coordination with the protection and child protection sectors are needed to increase evidence-based programming and to mitigate the above-mentioned risks. In addition, greater coordination is needed with these sectors to adapt health awareness, information materials and campaign outreach methods to reach working and street children.

In line with the assumptions, associated risks and mitigation measures mentioned at every outcome level, needs prioritization remains vital to ensure a timely response to any funding gap. While the sector will aim to ensure that all activities under the strategy are covered, priority will be given to increasing equitable and inclusive access of vulnerable population to life saving primary and secondary healthcare and to strengthening outbreak prevention and control. In line with LCRP Steering Committee guidance, the Health sector Steering Committee will ensure the alignment of unearmarked funds with key priorities and the underfunded needs of the LCRP. In addition, supplementary research is ongoing[21] for increased evidence-based programming and decision making. This is particularly applicable in the case of developing cost-effective strategies for the provision of subsidized packages of care that are harmonized and complemented to strengthen the national health system.

Assumptions and risks

In addition to the ones associated with every outcome, assumptions and risks are classified into three main levels: funding, equity and data.

It is assumed that the global community continues to support the Health sector and that support to health system strengthening is increased. There is a risk that weakened global financing for health and the current Lebanese austerity plan may delay or impede health programming.

It is safe to assume that the Health sector remains determined to equitably expand access to health services and information. There is the risk, however, that the focus is on health access and quality for the broad majority, with insufficient attention to equity. Pressures to support health systems without a strong equity focus could exacerbate inequities in both the supply and demand side of accessibility. A key role will be to draw attention to those "left behind" and most marginalized groups, and to review systems and policies not only to achieve better averages, but to become more inclusive and equitable.

Administrative data systems should be able to track access and health outcomes and point to health system gaps. There is a real risk that the available data does not sufficiently disaggregate, preventing the development of measures to reach and support those left behind. Data may not be available, especially on quality, or may not be sufficiently or systematically used, with limited accountability for results. Supporting the strengthening of health data systems, including staffing and technical support at the national and local level, is required. This comprises support for more disaggregation of data – including information on people with specific needs.

(21) The European Union launched a third party monitoring that will inter alia analyse current programming.

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual/HH, community and institutional/physical environment level

The Health sector calculates the number of displaced Syrians in need based on economic vulnerability, whereby data from the 2019 vulnerability assessment of Syrian refugees in Lebanon[iv] indicates that 73 percent of displaced Syrians are living below the poverty line compared to 68 percent in 2018. As such, the number of displaced Syrians in need and targeted by the sector is 1,095,000.

All 27,700 Palestinian refugees from Syria are considered in need and targeted by the Health sector. The number of Palestinian refugees from Lebanon considered in need is based on economic vulnerability data indicating that 65 percent of Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (equal to 117,000) are living below the poverty line. Although 117,000 Palestinian refugees from Lebanon are considered in need, 20,000 are targeted under the LCRP, with the remaining eligible for support through UNRWA.

The Health sector targets 50 percent of the population in need which is equivalent to 750,000 individuals for general health services (vaccination, medication, etc.).

It is important to note that there is a wide array of health services provided by actors outside of the LCRP who, therefore, do not report against the LCRP targets. Solid coordination, consolidation, and exchange of health information is to be strengthened under the LCRP 2020.

Mainstreaming of accountability to affected populations, protection, conflict sensitivity, age and gender, youth, persons with specific needs and environment

Conflict sensitivity

The Health sector strategy recognizes that the pressure on healthcare institutions caused by the increased demand for services is a potential source of conflict. In addition, the differences in out-of-pocket expenses for primary healthcare between vulnerable Lebanese and displaced Syrians remains a source of tension. To address this, efforts are geared towards strengthening the Ministry of Public Health nationally and regionally,

Sector needs and targets 2020

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescent (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	1,500,000	750,000	372,750	376,969	233,625	122,550	
Displaced Syrians	1,095,000	1,095,000	562,830	532,170	588,015	211,335	
Palestine Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,349	13,351	11,171	4,770	
Palestine Refugees in Lebanon	117,000	20,000	9,920	10,080	6,956	3,056	
GRAND TOTAL	2,739,700	1,893,000	960,000	933,000	840,000	342,000	

Type of Institutions	Total	Targeted
MEHE/ Schools	1232	1275
MoPH	1	1
MoPH/ PHC	234	234
MoPH/ SHC, THC, Hospitals	128	40
MoSA/ SDCs	233	10

as well as the primary healthcare system overall and the Ministry of Social Affairs' social development centres, to deal with the increased burden on the system and to ensure continued access for vulnerable Lebanese.

Protection, gender-based violence, gender, youth and accountability for affected populations

In 2020, the Health sector will continue efforts to strengthen the mainstreaming of core protection principles: 'meaningful access without discrimination', 'safety, dignity and do-no-harm', 'accountability' and 'participation and empowerment' within the sector's strategy.

In 2019, the health sector conducted a Protection Risk Analysis in each regional field office to identify protection risks and barriers faced by different age, gender and diversity groups in accessing quality and accountable healthcare. Mitigation measures to address these barriers have been designed and will be implemented by the sector in 2020. To fulfil these commitments the Health sector will work closely with the Protection sector including the Child Protection and sexual and gender-based violence sub-working groups and other cross-cutting mainstreaming focal points over the course of 2020.

Referrals

The health sector will review and adapt the Inter-Agency minimum standard for referrals and train healthcare staff to ensure they are aware of these steps and what they are accountable for. The health sector will work on the establishment of a reporting system for partners to report and track referrals conducted by other service providers and will make sure to update the health service mapping as well as to share other sectors service mapping with healthcare providers.

Addressing barriers due to legal status and civil status documentation

The health sector will support advocacy efforts by the protection sector on legal status. This is with the aim of reducing risks associated with the lack of legal residency for men and women when accessing health services. In particular, advocacy efforts will be made to ensure that secondary healthcare facilities do not confiscate identification documents, which can place displaced Syrians at increased harm due to the risk of arrest, detention and deportation and restricts overall movement to and from services. In the same way, the health sector recognises stateless persons and undocumented refugees have an inherent right to access health services, and therefore access to primary and secondary healthcare services will be permitted for those with and without civil status documentation or identification papers.

Gender-based violence

The health sector will work closely with the sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) sub-working groups to build capacity on how to provide clinical care for survivors of sexual abuse (CCSAS) and other forms of SGBV at primary and secondary healthcare levels on the identification, referral and management of SGBV cases. This will require regularly updated and known-referral pathways between SGBV and health service providers, including having focal points in hospitals followed by an SGBV case worker.

Gender

Acceptability barriers will also be tackled, including social stigma, mainly gynaecologic health seeking behaviours for adolescent girls. The sector will aim for a female gynaecologist to be available in each health facility.

Pregnant women often cannot pay for their deliveries, which can lead to their babies being retained in incubators and not returned to the mother until the bill is paid. In addition, pregnant women are not fast-tracked for delivery appointments at hospitals. This is a barrier to safe and dignified delivery. Mothers are often unfamiliar with the system and call for appointments late. This means there are often no available delivery spaces, and the mother gives birth at home with an uncertified midwife, which puts her at risk if there are birth complications. This also means the newborn does not have a birth notification and therefore, the birth cannot be registered at the personal status department.

Youth and at-risk children

The 2017-2020 Health sector strategy aims to contribute to improvements in youth health (14-25 years), recognizing that the population in the 20-24 age brackets has a considerable higher percentage of women.[v] The sector will target youth by promoting healthy practices through outreach activities from primary healthcare centres. Alcohol or tobacco use, lack of physical activity, unprotected sex and/or exposure to violence can jeopardize youth health and result in long-term implications. The 2016 Global Health School Surveys reported high rates of substance use (tobacco and alcohol) and mental health conditions (bullying and suicide ideation) among youth.[vi] The sector will also target youth through public schools and community centres adhering to the School Health Programme. Knowledge and access of street and working children and adolescent girls and boys to healthcare will be increased through targeted awareness sessions and inclusive health programming notably through out-of-school vaccination campaigns.

Persons with disability

Many of the Ministry of Public Health's primary healthcare centres and dispensaries are not currently accessible to persons with physical disabilities. This is gradually being addressed by the accreditation process. Moreover, in several healthcare centres, financial support/subsidies to cover the cost of laboratory and diagnostics tests is provided to people with disabilities. Specialized NGOs also provide physical therapy to people with disabilities in addition to rehabilitative support, prosthetic and orthotic devices, hearing aids and eye glasses.

Environment

Lack of safe water, poor wastewater management, solid and medical waste management, hygiene and living conditions and unsafe food, all influence the incidence and spread of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Lebanon has been struggling with a national waste management crisis since 2015. This is dealt with by the multidisciplinary national committee for waste management in coordination mostly with the WASH sector. The Health sector strategy focuses on providing technical advice to the WASH sector, supporting the Ministry of Public Health in managing medical waste and strengthening disease surveillance systems to contribute to improved outbreak control and to the shelter sector in what is related to health concerns in light of bad shelter conditions and ongoing hard structure dismantlement. The Health sector commits to adhere to the environmental markers procedure when implementing activities that might have any negative environmental risks.

Endnotes

i. Lebanon, Ministry of Public Health (2016)-*Health Response Strategy*: http://www.moph.gov.lb/en/Pages/9/3447/health-response-strategy.

ii. UNHCR (2018), Referral Care SOPs.

iii. CDC (2017), Benefits and Risks of Antiretroviral Therapy.

iv. UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP (2019), VASyR 2019.

v. UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP (2016), *VASyR 2016*.

vi. Lebanon, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Public Health, CDC, WHO (2016), *Lebanon 2016 Global School-based Student Health Survey (GSHS)*.

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Improve access to comprehensive primary healthcare (PHC)

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS) and Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL) accessing primary healthcare services.	Number of displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS) and Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL) accessing primary healthcare services out of those who report needing primary healthcare services	Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) UNHCR Health Access and Utilization Survey (HAUS) Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) Health Information System (HIS) UNRWA Assessments UNRWA Health Information System	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
			100%				100%				100%				100%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of vaccination coverage among children under 5 residing in Lebanon		MoPH/WHO Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) Cluster survey	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
			100%				100%				100%				100%

Outcome 2: Improve access to hospital (incl. ER care) and advanced referral care (advanced diagnostic laboratory & radiology care)

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of displaced Syrians, Lebanese, PRS and PRL admitted for hospitalization per year	Number of displaced Syrians, Lebanese, PRS and PRL admitted for hospitalization per year over total population	Measurements/tools: MoPH Hospital data, UNHCR Annual Referral Care Report, UNRWA Hospitalisation data Responsibility: MoPH, UNHCR, UNRWA	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
12%	N/A	N/A	N/A	7%	9%	12%	12%	12%	12%	12%	12%	12%	1%	12%	12%

Outcome 3: Improve outbreak and infectious diseases control

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of functional EWARS centers	Functional EWARS centers are those that report through the EWARS system Baseline: 50 Target 2020: 1,000 cumulative	MoV: - MoPH periodical bulletins and alerts on website - MoPH list of EWARS functional centers every 6 months Responsibility: MoPH, WHO	Functional EWARS centers	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020

Institutions			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
50	656		1,000

Outcome 4: Improve adolescent & youth health

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Prevalence of behavioural risk factors and protective factors in 10 key areas among young people aged 13 to 17 years.	The 10 key areas are: Alcohol use, Dietary behaviours, Drug use, Hygiene, Mental health, Physical activity, Protective factors, Sexual behaviours, Tobacco use and Violence and unintentional injury.	WHO Global school-based student health survey (GSHS) to be issued in 2021	Percent	Every 5 years

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020

Institutions			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
78%	94%		

WHO staff Edwina Zoghbi talking with Syrian refugees in Bekaa -
Photo Credit: WHO, Gonzalo Bell, 31/07/2019.

LIVELIHOODS
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED

202,359

PEOPLE TARGETED

92,035

REQUIREMENTS(US$)

2020 275 million

PARTNERS

60

GENDER MARKER

2a

CONTACTS

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $250.5 m

Stimulate local economic development and market systems to foster income generating opportunities and employment.

Indicators

Total number of decent jobs created/maintained (30 % created and 70% maintained).

Number of targeted Lebanese MSMEs and cooperatives that report increased performance and expanded market access as a result of programme activities.

Outcome #2 — $17.5 m

Improve workforce employability.

Indicators

Number of job seekers placed into jobs (at least 50% women).

Number of targeted vulnerable persons engaged in home-based income generation (at least 50% women).

Outcome #3 — $7 m

Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation.

Indicators

Number of policies, regulations and strategies amended and/or proposed approved by the Government.

Increase in ranking of Doing Business (World Bank).

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	51% Female	49% Male
Lebanese	114,525	50,951	25,985	24,966
Displaced Syrians	77,987	36,538	18,634	17,904
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	2,953	1,364	696	668
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	6,896	3,183	1,623	1,560

Overall sector strategy

The overall objective of the Livelihoods sector strategy is to move from alleviating the socio-economic shock of the Syria crisis on the most vulnerable groups, especially youth and women, towards more longer-term recovery and stabilization, by improving their access to income and employment. The sector aims to do so by supporting the creation and preservation of 3,535 long term jobs (70 percent of which will be maintained and 30 percent created) and 15,000 short-term employment opportunities in 2020, whilst ensuring the respect of decent work conditions. In order to achieve this, multi-year funding is needed to facilitate the transition from humanitarian aid into recovery and stabilization. These investments would also be linked to the overall macro-economic drivers of the economic and employment situation in the country, such as CEDRE, World Bank investments, USAID programmes and others.

The theory of change underpinning the overall Livelihoods sector strategy is:

- If the sector focuses on bolstering market demand, contributing to the creation of new jobs and income-generating opportunities (particularly for youth, women, persons with disabilities, and the most socio-economically vulnerable);
- while working simultaneously with governmental institutions to enable the environment for job creation, reduce the gender gap in the economy[1] and enforce decent working conditions;
- then the livelihoods of vulnerable groups will be improved, contributing to alleviating a key source of tensions between Lebanese host communities and displaced Syrians.

To achieve this objective, livelihoods partners are encouraged to a) use a geographical and/or thematic approach to value chains, and b) explore area-based initiatives that aim to develop specific sectors with substantial growth potential, while simultaneously ensuring an integrated multi-dimensional approach.

The strategy focuses on translating national macro-level strategies and studies[2] into actionable policies and plans at micro and field level. This will be done with the support of the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Ministry of Economy and Trade (MoET) and by identifying the best sectors for interventions and investments at the local level in nano, micro and small enterprises as well as additional market analysis needed to re-address the response. Moreover, cooperatives will be encouraged to focus on inter-sectorial coordination within value chains, stimulate and scale up quantity and quality of local productions to replace imports, while also exploring international markets, hence contributing to economic development. These improvements would allow partners to have a more market-driven approach when addressing the creation and maintenance of jobs for both women and men in the Lebanese labour force at large and for displaced Syrians, Palestinian refugees, and other nationalities in the productive sectors, in accordance with the Government of Lebanon's regulations.

The Livelihoods sector strategy aims to link all livelihoods interventions, such as vocational training, financial and business development support and labour-intensive activities to the development of value chains and to complement area-based approach initiatives. Concurrently, targeted interventions in vulnerable and high-tension areas, while ensuring dialogue alongside consultations around livelihoods programming, will also contribute functionally in reducing economic disparity and social tensions between different community groups.

LCRP impact, sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

The sector's theory of change primarily contributes to LCRP Strategic Objective 4 ("Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability") by supporting SMEs development, job creation and income generating opportunities, workforce employability and the creation of an enabling environment, as means to transition vulnerable individuals towards self-reliance, which in turn is expected to enhance the country's stability and resilience to social and economic shocks. By improving municipal infrastructure through labour-intensive work, the sector supports economic development through longer-term benefits.[3] Labour-intensive activities also contribute to Strategic Objective 2 ("Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable population"), providing access to income/cash to the most vulnerable and supporting them to meet their basic needs. Furthermore, the strategy contributes indirectly to Strategic Objective 3 ("Support service provision through national systems") by supporting municipalities in infrastructure rehabilitation and vulnerable populations in accessing basic needs,[4] as well as enhancing the capacity of governmental institutions, such as MoSA's social development centres (SDCs) to provide services. Finally, it serves Strategic Objective 1 ("Ensure protection of vulnerable population") by providing awareness-raising sessions, promoting advocacy, encouraging policy development, and putting in place mechanisms to ensure accountability.[5]

The sector's interventions will support and align with the Government's national strategies and frameworks, in particular the Government of Lebanon Stabilization Roadmap, the upcoming Inter-Ministerial Livelihoods

(1) Lebanon ranked 138th out of 145 according to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2015 and Labor Force Participation sub-index. Despite high literacy rates among women, their economic participation remains low.
(2) Such as the McKinsey, CIP, CEDRE and the World Bank Growth Model Recommendations among others.
(3) The sector contributes to higher yields and incomes, for example by developing irrigation canals.
(4) This includes schools' rehabilitation, hospitals and others.
(5) Examples are the complaint and feedback mechanisms that several organizations established at field level.

Plan, the strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs,[6] the Ministry of Economy and Trade's Lebanon SME Strategy,[i] the Ministry of Agriculture' 2015-2019 Roadmap,[7,ii] and the Ministry of Labour's Decent Work Country Programme 2017-2020[iii] and the National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour In Lebanon by 2016.[iv] The sector will also support the Ministry of Industry's Vision as well as the Council for Development and Reconstruction. All interventions will be in line with the applicable legal frameworks on labour and employment, and with the Government policy paper on Syrian displacement to Lebanon. Of particular relevance for the Livelihoods sector is the economic opportunities and jobs component of the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Vision for Stabilization and Development that the Lebanese Government presented during the Economic Conference for Development through Reforms with the Private sector (CEDRE) in Brussels in 2018. In this vision, The Government of Lebanon has emphasized the need to: "(i) meet the need of an expanded population and economy; (ii) generate meaningful employment opportunities for a large and growing youth population and for displaced persons; and (iii) stimulate long-term and sustainable economic growth."[v]

Interventions in the Livelihoods sector will remain rooted in the 'Making Markets Work for the Poor' (M4P) approach, which promotes the sustainability of economic gains and was the underlying basis of most activities of the sector in the past few years. Vulnerable groups face several market constraints in their capacity as employees, employers or consumers, including lack of information, skills, or quality products and services. M4P aims to change the way market systems work so they become more effective and sustainable for the vulnerable Lebanese to improve their livelihoods, and benefit displaced Syrians as well, within the legal framework. The M4P approach is founded on enhancing the capacity of local service providers,[8] as well as MSMEs, to increase employment opportunities and ensure inclusive and sustainable economic development. It also embeds the "do-no-harm" principle in limiting interventions that might distort markets, such as interventions providing support and new opportunities to a group of beneficiaries at the expense of another already established one.[9] This will also contribute to mitigating social tensions, as job competition is the most cited source of tensions,[vi] hence promoting the overall stabilization of social relations in most vulnerable communities and beyond.

By remaining focused on the demand side of the labour market, the Livelihoods sector will support the private sector in creating and maintaining jobs by providing technical and financial support to MSMEs and cooperatives into identified value chains and/or contributing to complement area-based interventions. While recognizing that sustained job creation can only be achieved by the private sector,[10] the Livelihoods strategy is built on the premise that businesses need support to boost their development and their employment generation capacity, especially in the most vulnerable areas. The Livelihoods sector organized a roundtable on "How to build linkages with the Private Sector within the scope of the LCRP" in 2018 to take stock of partners' engagement with the business community in Lebanon. Livelihoods partners also developed "Recommended Parameters on Outreach, Identification and Selection of Beneficiaries", which provide recommendations to partners on how to identify, select and engage with businesses that present growth potential. In 2020, the sector will promote discussions around knowledge transfer surrounding the various mechanisms of formalization, while maintaining open dialogue and engagement with private sector institutions using a gender equitable approach, particularly in the field. Lastly, support to labour-intensive initiatives will also be potentiated to increase income opportunities for extremely vulnerable people, in response to the protests which started in October 2019.

With regard to the general enabling, gender sensitive and policy environment related to job creation, the sector remains committed to ensuring that it creates decent work opportunities.[11,vii] Recent findings on the work conditions of displaced Syrians and the increase of child labour are a testament to increasing protection concerns in an already largely informal economy.[viii] The sector will promote the development of recommendations on decent work conditions to guide partners on how to mainstream and implement decent work conditions across all interventions. This will include gender-relevant conditions, such as ensuring equal pay for women and preventing and responding to sexual harassment in the workplace. Moreover, special efforts will be made within the decent work conditions guidance to account for the particular and unique risks that women and children face in the work sphere, especially in the informal sectors where they predominantly work, such as agriculture (38 percent), occasional work (ten percent) and cleaning (four percent).[12] In addition to mainstreaming decent work aspects in its interventions, the sector will require close collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and its national and regional employment offices (NEOs). The Ministry, as the key administrative authority in the field of labour, responsible for employment conditions, labour relations, and for shaping employment policy, will be supported in developing and implementing labour policies within Lebanese laws. This will notably require

(6) It includes the national social protection policy, the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) and the Lebanon Host Communities Support Programme (LHSP).
(7) The Ministry of Agriculture Roadmap has been extended, and is therefore still valid.
(8) The performance and capacities of local implementers could be reinforced through tailored capacity-building activities developed in a way to fulfil internationally-recognized criteria such as the Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) and the Minimum Economic Recovery Standards (MERS). For instance, besides TVET provision, local NGOs should be enabled to implement their programmes effectively and take decisions with a market-oriented approach in synergy with public and private sector stakeholders. This effort would feed into the localization agenda of the Grand Bargain – which multiple donors have committed to – and could ensure institutional sustainability in the long run.
(9) For more information on the M4P approach, see: http://beamexchange.org/en/.
(10) Therefore, the increasing need to create a policy-friendly environment for businesses development.
(11) Decent work has been defined by the International Labour Organization and endorsed by the international community as 'productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity.'
(12) VASyR 2018.

support to labour inspection capacity and system[13] so as to ensure enforcement of labour regulations.

Moreover, policy advice will be provided to various ministries to tackle legal and factual barriers to private sector development and increase coordination and collaboration between government, private sector and donors. While legislative reforms are expected to happen following CEDRE commitments, there are many technical issues to address and follow up that the sector could contribute to, such as the challenges in the TVET system which is being addressed through the Torino process[14] which was recently launched in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE). In addition to that, the sector will continue to collect data to evaluate impact of SMEs support, building on the work started by the Employment Task Force.[15] Furthermore, along with the objective to support vulnerable Lebanese in starting new businesses the sector will further explore areas related to access to capital and inclusive loans. The increased opportunity for multi-stakeholder dialogue on economic opportunities and jobs, and the existence of the sector Steering Committee[16] is also helping to build stronger ties between the sector and various ministries involved in Livelihoods at national level,[17] and with the chamber of industry, commerce and agriculture, local economic development agencies as well as with the private sector, to engage in constructive policy discussion on the current regulatory environment and the development of a national Livelihoods plan.

Risks

The Livelihoods sector has analysed risks which could arise during the implementation of its 2020 sector response plan and which would undermine the quality and accountability of its interventions. The sector plans to address these risks through mitigation measures and collective efforts. Key risks and mitigating measures are detailed here:

(Risk 1) With the purpose of formalizing foreign labour in Lebanon, the Ministry of Labour (MoL) requires all foreign labourers, including seasonal workers, to have work permits.[18] The enforcement mechanisms are not yet completed, especially for seasonal workers, which keeps certain workers at risk. Further efforts will be made to strengthen MoL's capacity in facilitating work permits procedures and reduce market informality, to ensure that safeguards of labours are in place and decent work conditions are applied and respected.

(Risk 2) There is a lack of multi-year funding to increase investment in market demand and generate long-term employment opportunities.[19] To mitigate this risk, the sector will divide the response of long-term activities into phases. Furthermore, limited timeframe funds will be used to cover the top priority needs as well as sections of the targeted value chains, based on assessed needs and prioritization of interventions. Lastly, advocacy with donors will be encouraged to request multi-year funding.

(Risk 3) The expected CEDRE funds are not available, due to Government's delays in implementing reforms to create an enabling environment for job creation. Efforts will be made to support the Government in its human resources development capacity and modernize the system while advocating for more active involvement of ministries.

(Risk 4) Employers lack the adequate knowledge and awareness needed to respect basic working rights of adults and adolescents, including knowledge of child labour laws and decent working conditions and regulations for safe working standards. In turn, there is also a risk that employees lack knowledge of their basic working rights, which may lead to continued poor conditions and hindered improvement of employee practices with harmful consequences. The Livelihoods sector will work to improve employers' technical knowledge and practices of basic working rights, including of child labour laws, upholding minimum safety standards for adults and adolescents while in the workplace. There will be specific focus on women at work to promote adequate accountability mechanisms and ensure that these are integrated into the decent work conditions guidance.[20]

(Risk 5) There is a risk that financial and technical support provided to MSMEs and cooperatives does not lead to job creation. Indeed, given the mandate of the majority of livelihoods implementing actors, many organizations support nano and small enterprises enabling them to survive in the local market rather than expand and create new jobs. This results in a very low job creation rate. Actions to overcome this include: a) shifting support towards small and medium enterprises that have growth

(13) An example could be improving communications around livelihoods interventions, in particular job creation, to positively impact negative perceptions around job competition and aid bias, thus mitigating two key sources of tension.
(14) The Torino process is an evidence-based approach to the analysis of Vocational Education and Training (VET), based on country ownership and participation of stakeholders from the public and private sector. It is focused on biennial monitoring of policy progress, through review of VET policies in countries, updating and expanding the pool of evidence and information on factors influencing demand for VET in the country, providing a robust base for the design, implementation and assessment of reform policies in VET, and finally raising the capacity of partner countries to set policy goals and adequate monitoring process to monitor the progress towards their achievement of goals.
(15) The Employment Task Force has been established in 2019 by the Beirut/Mount Lebanon Working Group to enhance the quality and rate of employment in the field and identify main challenges/way forward on job creation/maintenance and working conditions.
(16) The Steering Committee is composed by different stakeholders, such as representatives of UN agencies and ministries.
(17) The representation of the three different ministries in the Working Group and Core Group at national level is helping to build better understanding and contribute to easier planning.
(18) In June 2019, MoL launched the "Action Plan Against Illegal Foreign Employment on the Lebanese Territory", a plan that includes 13 measures to combat unauthorized labour, with particular emphasis on Syrian refugees. Consequently, the MoL has begun a crackdown on foreign labourers who do not possess work permits, inspecting businesses, issuing fines and warnings, and closing down shops. The Action Plan emphasizes the application of already existing policies, binding each foreign labourer to a valid work permit.
(19) This is particularly true for value chain interventions that require development funds.
(20) Moreover, the GoL is working towards the enforcement of labour rights. That was initiated in 2017 by MoL and, as part of the recent 2019 Plan, there has been an awareness raising campaign on labour rights, mainly protected by the issuance of work permits. In addition, the MoL inspection department will also work towards ensuring labour rights through inspection visits to businesses.

and job creation potential;[21] b) link small companies with bigger enterprises on the supply side; c) diversify supply and identify new economic sectors that have growth potential; and d) assist a few small enterprises with proven potential, allowing for longer incubation and business coaching phases.[22]

(Risk 6) The lack of adequate coordination regarding job creation initiatives in vulnerable areas risks exacerbating inter- or intra-community tension, as service delivery locations or types of services offered to benefit one village or community over another could result in perceived discrimination or favouritism.

The Livelihoods sector, working in close coordination with the Social Stability and Protection sectors, will ensure a conflict-sensitive, coordinated and complementary approach, encouraging implementing agencies to keep abreast of conflict analysis and coordinate at the local level with organizations before entering an area. The analysis of tensions mapped by the Social Stability sector, in combination with the mapping of vulnerable cadastres, will support prioritization of municipalities. Moreover, Livelihoods partners are encouraged to ensure a conflict-sensitive approach throughout the programme cycle. This includes continuously analysing project risks on the context and contextual risks which may affect the project, making necessary adjustments accordingly, and mitigating harm to host communities and displaced persons from Syria. The Livelihoods sector will also work with the Social Stability sector to provide tools for implementing the 'do-no-harm' framework which partners should adapt to their contexts to not only reduce tensions between communities, but also prevent the risk of perceived aid bias from growing. All initiatives under the Livelihoods sector will be implemented in alignment with the Government's laws and policies regarding employment and job creation.

(Risk 7) Beneficiaries may experience exploitation and abuse as a result of their participation in livelihoods interventions, and there is a risk that vulnerable individuals in need of specific services are not correctly identified and referred by Livelihoods partners. The Livelihoods sector will work towards establishing guidance for sector partners with minimum standards for having confidential and anonymous complaints and redress mechanisms in place, and for activating appropriate channels on the protection against sexual abuse and exploitation to support vulnerable individuals in having safe access to their work place. The sector may also explore establishing links with legal service providers and counselling for beneficiaries participating in work-based-learning opportunities. Moreover, with the support of other sectors, the Livelihoods sector will continue to strengthen identification and referral capacities amongst livelihoods partners' staff.

(Risk 8) Gender barriers reduce equal participation of women in livelihoods interventions. Key gender barriers include unpaid domestic care work for women, patriarchal norms which prioritize men as breadwinners, gender discrimination, and strict social and legal norms affecting women's behaviour and their expectations about economic empowerment. In response to this, the Livelihoods sector requires gender equitable participation of beneficiaries in livelihoods programmes, and encourages all livelihoods partners to include access to child care services for women and men in their programmes.

Sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

The Livelihoods sector framework is structured around three outcomes reflecting priorities in terms of employment/income generating opportunities, workforce employability and institutional support.

In line with the LCRP impact statements, the Livelihoods sector will provide a critical contribution to Lebanon's stability by **expanding economic opportunities benefiting local economies and the most vulnerable communities and individuals** in line with government's rules and regulations. Overall, the sector will also contribute in achieving decent work and economic growth (Sustainable Development Goal number 8), while working towards ending poverty (SDG 1) and ensuring gender equality (SDG 5).[ix] The impact of sector interventions will be measured according to the number of jobs created or maintained as a result of partners' interventions. All activities of the sector are grouped under three main outcomes which are aimed at fostering the creation of employment/income-generating opportunities and at improving workforce capability to find jobs employability as well as enhancing policy development/institutional support.

Outcome 1 – Stimulate local economic growth and market systems to foster income-generating opportunities and employment

Under the first outcome, the work of the sector will be structured into three outputs, all aimed at stimulating local economic growth and market systems to encourage the creation and maintenance of short and longer-term employment opportunities to protect vulnerable individuals, particularly youth and women, against risks and shocks.

Output 1.1 – MSMEs strengthened to enable growth and decent job creation

Interventions aim to directly support 3,000 Lebanese nano, micro, small and medium enterprises, start-ups and cooperatives, which in turn will contribute to create/

(21) This should be done ensuring that small and medium enterprises that have growth potential are targeted, while guaranteeing that job creation does not destroy jobs within the competition at local level.

(22) At their inception phase, small enterprises need substantial technical and financial support to start their operations along with proper coaching and follow-up. It may be unrealistic to envision for nascent MSMEs creation of employment in interventions of one or two years (or even three). Business sustainability and profit-making require time, prototyping, investments, mistakes and constant tests in the market – even in normal conditions for entrepreneurs who are not vulnerable. It is highly advisable to align expectations to the realities of the market and the Lebanese economy. This could translate in fewer targeted MSMEs and beneficiaries in the short-run, but higher possibilities of success in the long-run.

maintain 2,235 jobs in 2020.

This will be achieved by fostering local economic growth in the most vulnerable areas, where Lebanese private sector actors need support to develop new commercial linkages with both traders and consumers, expand productivity, and improve quality and foster job creation and innovation through technology transfer and capacity building. Considering the high share of micro and small enterprises that operate in survival mode, MSME support would need to ensure that both financial and non-financial support mechanisms, such as access to inclusive loan products coupled with business development services, are accessible to these types of Lebanese entrepreneurs and not only for enterprises that have a strong potential even without support.[x] To promote sustainability and trigger systemic change, the Livelihoods sector will work more directly with the financial sector (especially microfinance institutions, incubators and venture capital funds) to identify and pilot innovative financial models which Lebanese MSMEs (not only high-level start-ups that are able to access existing accelerators, but also vulnerable micro-enterprises bearing more risks) might ultimately benefit from. Moreover, partners are encouraged to work on quality assurance and identify a fixed standard that allows to increase sales both locally and regionally. To boost market demand, it is key to minimize import and, in order to do so, prices of local products must be lower and quality improved.

Output 1.2 – Competitive integrated value chains strengthened and upgraded

The target is to create/maintain 1,300 jobs in 2020, by strengthening and upgrading 16 local and four national value chains. This output will be measured by the number of integrated value chain interventions completed at local and national level, taking into consideration the core function of specific value chains (supply/demand, product quality, production technique), but also rules, regulations and support functions (skills and capacity, information, research and development). Based on the identified priority sectors, the following value chains and economic sectors would be the most promising[23] in terms of job creation: Agriculture, Industry, Tourism, Knowledge economy, Financial service, and Diaspora. Moreover, partners are encouraged to tailor their programming to optimize resources and complement ongoing interventions in identified value chains using the Interactive Value Chains Dashboard.[24]

Finally, to strengthen coordination with the Food Security sector on agriculture and agro-industry value chains, the Livelihoods sector organized an ad hoc technical working group in 2018 and the two sectors have now established formal Technical Working Groups on Agricultural Value Chains to discuss main challenges identified, share lessons learnt and invite experts to support partners in the implementation work.

Output 1.3 – Job creation in vulnerable areas fostered through labour-intensive investments in productive public infrastructure and environmental assets

Five hundred interventions are to take place within the 251 vulnerable cadastres with the aim of creating 15,000 short-term opportunities, 50 percent of which should benefit displaced Syrians and Palestinian refugees.[25] In total, 67,500 beneficiaries will benefit (both direct and indirect) from labour-intensive interventions.[26] Interventions will include small to medium-scale infrastructure upgrades in municipalities and villages (road rehabilitation, cleaning services), in the agricultural sector (irrigation canals, agricultural roads, rainwater harvesting), and environmental work and disaster risk reduction (solid waste sorting initiation projects, forestation, reforestation, cleaning of drainage, canals and rivers for flood prevention, construction of structures such as contour walls, checking of dams, and plantation of green areas in order to reduce flood risks). Such projects will be implemented in compliance with Lebanese laws and regulations and will primarily be used as an indirect modality, channelling investments through local third parties, such as private sector contractors, NGOs and municipalities who will be responsible for project delivery and workforce management.[27]

In addition, the sector will work on increasing engagement with the Ministry of Labour to establish a mechanism to provide guidance and follow up on these projects as per the legal framework. Labour-intensive interventions will provide temporary opportunities to the most vulnerable, including women and person with disabilities, reduce tensions by addressing local municipal priorities[28] and delivering tangible benefits to local host communities, and stimulate economic activities by rehabilitating productive assets (such as roads, irrigation canals, water catchments and land reclamation). Furthermore, using local resource-based technologies, such as infrastructure investments, have the potential to generate considerable indirect and induced job creation. Although the sector prioritizes a labour-intensive approach in public works, labour-intensive interventions involving investments in non-public works can also be considered as part of the Livelihoods sector. Finally, to ensure women's participation in labour-intensive programmes, implementing agencies are encouraged to design their projects taking into consideration women's needs and priorities and adjusting work spaces to meet these needs.[29] The work of the sector related to infrastructure

(23) McKinsey report 2019.

(24) The Livelihoods sector has developed an Interactive Value Chains Activities Dashboard that tracks all activities that have been carried out under different Value Chains. Value Chains interventions have been identified in different sectors such as agriculture, agro-industry, manufacturing, construction and others. Link to the Interactive Dashboard: https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiY2RiZDg2ZjktNDE3ZS00N2E0LWFjM2MtYjY1YzA5NGJjMWE4IiwidCI6ImIzZTVkYjVlLTI5NDQtNDgzNy05OWY1LTc0ODhhY2U1NDMxOSIsImMiOjh9

(25) As for support to businesses, these beneficiaries will need to be integrated in the tracking system of the sector and cross-referenced with other forms of humanitarian assistance so as to optimize complementarity and efficiency.

(26) a) Guidelines on Labour Intensive, ILO. Direct beneficiaries are working for at least 40 worker days-which may consist of several shorter placements. b) The total number of beneficiaries is the number of persons benefiting from direct job creation X 4.5 size of the household

(27) Procurement needs to make sure that it does not fee into political or sectarian clientelistic structures that empower/disempower certain groups.

(28) Notably the ones identified through the Map of Risks and Resources Process conducted by MoSA and UNDP in all 251 vulnerable cadastres over the past four years.

(29) An example would be to create child-friendly spaces where women can leave their children during working hours.

upgrading will be closely coordinated with the Shelter, Water and Energy sectors through proactive information sharing on planned interventions, and efforts will be made in all sectors to track the impact of investments in infrastructure rehabilitation and construction on job creation/retention.

Outcome 2 – Improve workforce employability

Under the second outcome, the sector will focus on increasing supply capacities bridging the gap in the labour market through two main outputs aimed at expanding beneficiaries' skills needed in the Lebanese labour market through marketable and soft skills training as well as career guidance, job matching and work-based learning opportunities. The aim will be to prepare 2,000 people to find a job (of whom at least 50 percent women) and to engage another 2,000 people in home-based activities (of whom also at least 50 percent women). Home-based activities for displaced Syrians are in the three sectors, as per MoL policies.

Output 2.1 – Vulnerable people have strengthened and appropriate technical skills to match the needs of the job market

On the supply-side of the labour market, Lebanon is facing an important skills gap: despite high levels of tertiary education, Lebanese companies occasionally struggle to find the skilled labours they need.[xi] This mismatch is partly caused by the fact that educational programmes are insufficiently responding to the needs of the labour market.[xii] To address this issue, the Livelihoods sector will target 10,000 people in 2020, with short-term, accelerated courses aimed at quickly addressing gaps of the labour market and increasing employability of the most vulnerable (for example, by referring illiterates who are typically not able to join the formal system to Basic Literacy and Numeracy courses). This will be done in conjunction with supporting the capacity of the formal technical and vocational education and training (TVET) system and schools in collaboration with Education sector partners,[30] as well as line ministries (MoL, MEHE, MoSA, MoA). In particular, Livelihoods partners will complement these efforts by addressing gaps in the market demand not covered by existing education programmes.

Marketable skills training sessions will be integrated with soft skills training sessions (team working, clientelism orientation, etc.) as well as protection sessions (labour laws, rights, decent work conditions, etc.) to increase awareness and beneficiaries' chances to be retained in the labour market. The sector is working with the TVET Directorate of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and with the Ministry of Labour to support ongoing efforts on reforming vocational education in Lebanon through the Higher Council of TVET at the MEHE in partnership with MoL and MoSA.[31] Investing in existing public vocational training centres must be prioritized to support governmental institutions in improving the system (curricula, equipment, infrastructure) but also to ensure sustainability. In alignment with the do-no-harm principle, Livelihoods sector partners must provide training based on market demands and on topics in which beneficiaries have legal work opportunities for Syrians and non-Lebanese.[32] Beneficiaries will be periodically tracked and monitored, and their acquired skills will be adequately profiled. Furthermore, vocational training will be linked to work-based learning opportunities that enable them to be competitive in the labour market upon completion.

Output 2.2 – Career guidance, awareness raising sessions, job matching and work-based learning opportunities offered to job seekers[33]

The sector will target 11,000 beneficiaries in 2020. Partners are encouraged to link market-based skills training as well as work-based learning opportunities to support MSMEs that have been targeted through the value chains and/or area-based approach, contributing to complement other partners' interventions.

Lessons learnt from several years of experience in providing market-based skills training[34] highlighted the need to implement, as much as possible, integrated programmes. These include strong soft skills[35] support as well as work-based learning opportunities under a dual system to transition to the labour market, or at least employment services in the form of career guidance and job-matching. These programmes will prioritize targeting new entrants to the labour market, such as youth, but also women (including GBV survivors and female heads of households), whose ability to generate income will be crucial to lift themselves and their families out of poverty. Moreover, shared learning experiences, particularly for youth, could contribute to reducing tensions and improving relations between displaced Syrians and host communities. In particular, for displaced Syrians, such programmes will prioritize skills relevant to sectors in which they are allowed to work in Lebanon, namely agriculture, construction and environment/cleaning. This will be done alongside skills leading to home-based opportunities (within the sectors specified by MoL for displaced Syrians) with a conflict-sensitive approach ensuring that competition with host community is not exacerbated through such programmes. To harmonize the content and modalities of non-formal skills training, the Livelihoods sector has developed recommendations and guidelines to guide partners in the implementation

(30) In partnership with the Prime Minister's Office, relevant ministries (MEHE, MoL, MoA, MoSA), the National Vocational Training Centre (NVTC), key NGOs and the private sector, UNICEF and ILO finalized the "National Strategic Framework on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Lebanon" which identifies the strategic directions for the improvement of TVET systems, including enhancing managerial and educational capabilities and linkages with labour demand marker requirements. See: https://www.ilo.org/beirut/publications/WCMS_633487/lang--en/index.htm.

(31) Notably, UNICEF and ILO have established a joint initiative "Support of Technical and Vocational Education in Lebanon and enhancing enrolment in it". The sector will establish a platform bringing together the different ministries, agencies and partners working on short-term skills training to standardize their interventions, increase linkages with the private sector and market needs, and provide guidance to partners.

(32) Vocational training for displaced Syrians must be in the three specified sectors, as per MoL policy. Any other type of training – not linked to income generation – does not fall under the Livelihoods sector but under other sectors (such as Education and/or Protection) and must be appealed for and reported on under those sectors.

(33) Within the GoL regulations.

(34) See the report of the Livelihoods Sector Lessons Learnt Workshop on Market Based Skills Training, June 2016.

(35) Such as teambuilding, self-confidence, and communication skills.

of such training and ensure they are market-orientated.[36] It is also recommended that partners prioritize work-based learning opportunities in registered businesses to ensure traceability of decent work conditions.

Outcome 3 – Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation

Under the third outcome, the sector will strengthen policy development and the enabling environment for job creation through two complementary outputs.

Output 3.1 – GoL enabled to approve decrees/ regulations/awareness-raising material on decent work conditions developed and or/approved

This output will be addressed by working with the Ministry of Labour, both at the policy and enforcement levels, with a particular focus on eliminating the worst forms of child labour, implementing the 2017-2020 Decent Work Country Programme,[37] and increasing labour inspection capacity. In addition, the Livelihoods sector will work with Lebanese-owned enterprises and cooperatives to improve decent work conditions (and support the formalization of businesses which should also contribute to this objective), while engaging in advocacy and awareness-raising activities focusing on minimum labour standards and regulations. Overall, seven decent work regulations and awareness-raising/ advocacy events and/or research material on labour regulations will be developed: three will focus on decent work (out of which at least one will be approved by GoL), and four on advocacy events/awareness-raising and/ or research material on labour laws, regulations and minimum standards.

Output 3.2 – Policies, strategies and plans supporting job creation, MSMEs and livelihoods developed to improve the business eco-system

The sector will bolster policy and strategy level development and institutional level support in order to improve the enabling environment for job creation. Overall, the sector aims at developing six policies, strategies and plans amended, formulated and/or proposed to the Government. The Ministry of Economy and Trade and its network of local Chambers of Commerce will be supported in the implementation of the Lebanon SME Strategy, and the Ministry of Industry will be supported in the development of industrial zones, paving the way for longer term development. This also includes conducting the necessary assessments and studies to address key data gaps in the sector, while promoting the harmonization of efforts. In doing so, the sector will make sure that it uses and builds the capacity of national systems, such as the Central Administration of Statistics, to enable them to conduct regular major surveys (such as labour force surveys) and avoid a fragmentation of assessments.

(36) The sector has developed National Recommendations on Financial Incentives for Vocational Training with the collaboration of MoSA and MoET, as well as Guidelines for Work-Based Learning that have been discussed with relevant ministries (MoSA, MoL and others).
(37) Signed between ILO, MoL, ALI and CGTL on 2 May 2018.

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual, household, institutional and geographical level

The Livelihoods sector aims to facilitate access to employment and income for vulnerable groups. The sector's population in need is, therefore, all those falling under the poverty line of US$3.84 per person per day, and particularly those living in extreme poverty (below US$2.40 per person per day). The Livelihoods sector has developed "Recommended Parameters on Outreach, Identification and selection of Beneficiaries." This document looks at the various livelihoods services/ interventions, and provides recommendations for each of them on the best modalities and criteria to be used to identify potential beneficiaries. The sector assumes that at least one member in each poor household is in need of livelihoods assistance to raise the household over the poverty line. Job creation activities are expected to result in increased employment opportunities for vulnerable individuals who are close to accessing the labour market. For individuals dependent on direct humanitarian assistance, the sector aims to provide support through labour-intensive programmes, as well as empowerment activities such as a combination of market-based and life skills, with work-based learning initiatives that enable them to be competitive on the labour market. These activities can be integrated with psychosocial support and protection sessions, particularly when beneficiaries are highly vulnerable individuals that present post trauma and/or high levels of distress.

While the sector aims at adopting a value chains and/or area-based approach, this will need to be complemented by specific programmes prioritizing the most vulnerable such as female-headed households, households with persons with specific needs, and other severely vulnerable groups such as survivors of gender-based violence, persons with disabilities, but also families at risk of or engaging in child labour. National systems will be crucial in this regard, such as the (updated) NPTP database, as well as the livelihoods referral mechanism, and local information provided by SDCs, municipalities or local associations. In order to maximize its impact on stabilization and protection, the sector will prioritize youth (to keep them engaged in their communities and prevent marginalization) and women (who are marginalized and as such, more affected by poverty and unemployment, and for whom additional income is crucial, notably to counteract child labour). Moreover, coordination with the Basic Assistance sector will be strengthened to try to make data and information recorded in the RAIS database available to Livelihoods partners.[38]

The sector will use available data on poverty, tensions and deprivation as a basis for area-based targeting, and then analyse the situation in this area to identify

(38) Such information includes the socio and economic vulnerability of displaced Syrian households and the support they already received from other sectors.

which institution/private sector, entity/value chain to target. As per the value chains approach, the sector will use available data stored on the Interactive Value Chains Interventions Dashboard to identify ongoing interventions and advice implementing partners on how to complement activities. The national employment regional offices should play a critical role in matching vulnerable individuals with opportunities generated by these programmes, and will be supported through the third outcome of the sector strategy.

The mapping of the most vulnerable cadastres provides a good basis to identify areas where displaced populations are concentrated alongside vulnerable Lebanese. Both the poverty dimension and the host/displaced ratio are relevant for livelihoods interventions. Taking into account the specificities of rural and urban poverty in Lebanon, partners will need to focus both on acute rural poverty that might have been exacerbated by a sudden increase of the population, and on poor urban areas where the proportion of displaced might not be as significant but the total concentration of poor is most likely to lead to instability. Partners also have to take into consideration recent changes in the socio-economic demographic of the Lebanese population and the unemployment and poverty rate in the Lebanese host communities. Due to the October 2019 movement, unemployment and poverty rates are expected to increase exponentially. The sector will work with Child Protection partners to identify areas with higher prevalence of child labour, which should also be prioritized by livelihoods programming. Finally, the state of intergroup stability is another important lens for geographic targeting as perceived job competition remains a widely cited source of tension. The Livelihoods sector will direct partners towards working in high tension areas, based on the Social Stability sector's analysis and mapping of tensions, where in line with the do-no-harm principle.

It should be highlighted that the Livelihoods sector is suffering from severe data gaps, particularly regarding Lebanese, which hamper its targeting and require partners to go through local assessments to inform programming. Other data gaps for the sector include detailed local market assessments to identify intervention types, and a national labour market assessment. Finally, other challenges for the sector generally revolve around selection criteria for SMEs, access to finance, skill/know-how, access to markets, infrastructure, legal framework, as well as illegal competition.

Mainstreaming of accountability to affected populations, protection, conflict sensitivity, age and gender, youth, persons with specific needs and environment

The Livelihoods sector primarily contributes to social stability by alleviating competition for jobs as a source of tension between groups.[39] However, every livelihoods intervention needs to be carefully crafted to be conflict-sensitive and to ensure do-no-harm. Livelihoods programmes will particularly aim at filling gaps in the labour market while strictly following Lebanese labour laws, with an eye to avoid strengthening local clientelist networks or fuelling competition and tensions between groups. This will require partners to undertake careful situation and market analysis before developing programmes, ensure that selection criteria are fair and transparent and that MoL policies are complied with.

Total sector needs and targets 2020

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescent (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	114,525	50,951					
Displaced Syrians	77,987	36,538					
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	2,953	1,364					
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	6,896	3,183					
GRAND TOTAL	**202,360**	**92,035**					

Type of Institutions	Total	Targeted
Municipalities	Over 1,000	500
Central Ministries		6 Ministries (MoSA, MoET, MoL, MoInd, MoAg, MEHE)
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises		3,000

(39) ARK/UNDP perception surveys on social tension confirm that competition over jobs remains one of the most cited drivers of tensions between host and refugee communities.

Social stability data and analysis will be used to guide livelihoods programming in order to reduce tensions in areas where job competition over low skilled jobs is already prevalent, with particular focus on critical periods when seasonal labour is limited and/or at times of economic slowdown nationally. Youth at-risk will be prioritized, to ensure that livelihoods programmes are complementary to youth community engagement initiatives, and to mitigate risks of unmet expectations and frustration in the face of lacking livelihoods opportunities. Similarly, livelihoods programmes in highly vulnerable urban areas will need to be implemented in close cooperation to alleviate the multiple sources of pressure in these areas.

The Livelihoods sector takes a protection mainstreaming approach to address protection issues inclusive of gender, youth and persons with specific needs, through identification of risks to meaningful access, accountability and participation and taking steps to mitigate these. In this way, one of the key components, the Livelihoods sector will work on is improving decent work conditions for affected populations while ensuring that guidance is age and gender sensitive. This will also mean raising awareness on child labour amongst employers, and raising awareness of employees' rights and how to safeguard those. In this vein, specific focus will be paid to developing a harmonized complaint and feedback mechanism, inclusive of persons with disabilities, youth and women. Moreover, the sector will review and promote among its partners the use of the inter-agency minimum standards on complaints and feedback, drafted in 2019.

Youth and women remain specific priority target groups across all activities of the sector, taking into consideration their particular vulnerability and their higher unemployment rates. While the sector has successfully ensured that youth and women are the primary groups benefitting from skills training, further emphasis is needed to increase their access to income/employment, notably through specific business start-up and development schemes, and work-based learning programmes. The sector will therefore carefully review the type of job creation investments that it promotes, to ensure that these benefit both youth and women. For women, a particular focus will be made on providing targeted support to female-headed households and survivors of gender-based violence. This will mean emphasizing activities compatible with childcare, either through providing child-friendly spaces in livelihoods centres, working on home-based income generation and developing the mobile outreach of beneficiaries. Efforts will be made by livelihoods actors to use gender transformative approaches when feasible, and to engage women in non-traditional sectors.

For persons with specific needs, the sector will adopt a twin-track approach. First, partners will identify key economic sectors in which people with disabilities could work, based on previous market assessments and lessons learned. Specialized livelihoods programmes tailored to their needs will be developed and expanded to ensure their meaningful access to the labour market (notably through specialized training, and equipment and devices allowing their full integration in the workforce). Such programmes currently exist but are very limited and will need to be scaled up by involving specialized agencies in the work of the sector. In parallel, the specific needs of persons with disabilities will also be integrated as part of the work of partners promoting decent work. Finally, households with a member with specific needs will be prioritized in targeting, reflecting their higher dependency ratio and care-taking duties, through the existing vulnerability assessments.[40]

To this end, and to ensure that protection is mainstreamed across livelihoods programmes, the Protection sector has conducted sessions for Livelihoods partners at field-level to familiarize

them with safe identification and referral. Moreover, the sector will encourage further training to improve data collection processes on persons with specific needs.[41] In return, Livelihoods partners would need to tailor their interventions ensuring that those are inclusive and secure access to everyone, particularly to vulnerable people. Specific attention will continue to be paid to improving the meaningful access of vulnerable groups to livelihoods support through the Livelihoods sector's referral mechanism[42] but also building on this, additional efforts will aim to strengthen referrals to other services.

The Livelihoods sector will continue to support environmental protection through the implementation of labour-intensive interventions, such as reforestation projects, soil conservation activities (e.g. restoration of terraces), water conservation (e.g. shallow ponds for conserving soil moisture, re-building of stone weirs), and litter cleaning campaigns (along waterways and roadsides). These cross-sectoral activities are aimed at preserving and maintaining the economic viability of rural and municipal livelihoods, while fostering job creation. To ensure that livelihoods activities do not affect negatively the environment, the Environment Task Force at the Ministry of Environment (MoE) has developed an "environmental marker" for the LCRP to ensure that environmental safeguards are applied to the LCRP's activities.[43,xiii]

(40) Partners can receive support from MoSA given its mandate.
(41) Such as the training provided on the Washington Group questions.
(42) The Livelihoods sector is monitoring the roll-out of the Referral System, and joint meetings have been conducted to identify challenges and improve the system.
(43) The MoE Task Force Guide has been distributed amongst Livelihoods practitioners, and presentations have been made during the National and Field Livelihoods Working Groups to support partners to familiarize with the new procedures. The Guide is also available online on the MoE website.

Endnotes

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xii. GIZ (2016), *Employment and Labour Market Analysis (ELMA)*.

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Construction of a retaining wall in a small farm.
Photo Credit: FAO, Ralph Azar, 2019.

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Stimulate local economic growth and market systems to foster income generating opportunities and employment

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Total number of jobs created / maintained	New jobs created in supported Lebanese nano, MSMEs - Businesses and cooperatives who have hired new employees since the support was provided. Jobs maintained in supported Lebanese MSMEs - For nano and micro-businesses, it can be considered that any support provided helps the nano and micro-business to maintain the jobs in this business = the #employees of the micro-businesses they support as well as self-employed individuals (for micro-finance support). For SMEs this should be asked as part of the follow up underlined above.	Project reports from partners based on follow up individually (by phone or through visit) with all supported businesses after the support (grant, training) has been provided , 3 to 6 months after the support to the business ended.	Jobs	Quarterly

Jobs

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
494			2,235

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A			1,851	N/A			328	N/A			40	N/A			17

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of supported Lebanese MSMEs and cooperatives that report increased performance and expanded market access (new clients, contracts, market access) as a result of programme activities	Supported Lebanese MSMEs and cooperatives who report increasing profitability / production / expanded market access (new contracts, clients, market) 6 months after receiving support	Project reports from partners based on follow up monitoring to supported Lebanese MSMEs, activity info	MSMEs & cooperatives	Bi-yearly

Lebanese Businesses

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A			2,370

Outcome 2: Improve workforce employability

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of job seekers placed into jobs (at least 50% women)	Job seekers placed into jobs (at least 50% women)	partners report in activity info	Individuals	Monthly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	1,400	N/A	N/A	N/A	500	N/A	N/A	N/A	30	N/A	N/A	N/A	70

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of targeted vulnerable persons engaged in home-based income generation (at least 50% women)	Individuals using the skills gained in trainings for activities at home	partners report in activity info	Individuals	Monthly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A			1,400	N/A			500	N/A			30	N/A			70

Outcome 3: Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of policies, regulations and strategies amended and/or proposed approved by the Government	Decree, regulation, policy and strategy in place to support livelihoods, job creation, MSMEs or business eco-system	Official Gazettes & Official document from GoL and partners report	Decrees, policies, strategies, plans	Quarterly

Baseline	Result 2018	Baseline	Result 2019	Baseline	Target 2020
7		N/A		N/A	13 policies / regulations / strategies / advocacy/awareness raising materials (including 3 related to decent work, 4 to awareness raising/advocacy, and 6 related to the enabling environment)

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Increase in ranking of Doing Business (World Bank)	Doing Business provides objective measures of business regulations (and their enforcement) and enables investors and entrepreneurs to assess the quality of a country's business environment	World Bank Doing business ranking	Score / ranking	Annually

Baseline	Result 2018	Baseline	Result 2019	Baseline	Target 2020
rank 126		N/A		N/A	Gradual increase in ranking to pre-crisis level (120th)

Two children looking out a window, Tripoli.
Photo Credit: OCHA, Sebastian Brandt, 18/12/2019.

PROTECTION
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED
3,207,700

PEOPLE TARGETED
1,883,700

REQUIREMENTS(US$)
2020 174.1 million

PARTNERS
71

GENDER MARKER
2a

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $77.5 m

Displaced persons from Syria and individuals at risk live in a safe protective environment.

Indicators
Percentage of persons with legal stay.
Percentage of persons referred provided with services.
Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Noufos level.
Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Foreign Registry level.
Number of persons benefitting from resettlement or other humanitarian pathways.
Percentage of households who have moved accomodation in the last 6 months due to eviction.

Outcome #2 — $26.5 m

Communities are empowered in creating a safe protection environment.

Indicators
Percentage of persons reporting that information received on accessing services was useful
Percentage of persons involved in any stage of the program cycle (the assessment, design, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and activities.)

Outcome #3 — $30.5 m

SGBV risks are reduced, and access to quality services is improved.

Indicators
Percentage of women (20-24) married before 18.
Percentage of women and girls age 15-49 who state that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife.

Outcome #4 — $39.6 m

All boys and girls are protected against neglect, violence, abuse and exploitation (including prevention and response).

Indicators
Percentage of children 2-14 years who experience violent disciplinary practices.
Percentage of children aged 5-17 yrs engaged in child labor.
Percentage of children (boys and girls) who reported an improvement in their psychosocial wellbeing as measured through the SDQ.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	52% Female	48% Male
Lebanese	1,500,000	336,000	174,720	161,280
Displaced Syrians	1,500,000	1,500,000	780,000	720,000
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,404	13,296
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	180,000	20,000	10,400	9,600

Overall sector strategy

The overarching objective of the Protection sector in Lebanon is that **persons displaced from Syria and other individuals in a vulnerable situation have their rights respected and that they live in safety and dignity.**

To meet this objective, the sector strategy aims to ensure that:

a. persons displaced from Syria have their basic rights respected, including protection against refoulement and access to legal residency;

b. displaced and host communities are empowered to play a leading role in the identification, prevention of and response to protection concerns;

c. national institutions are supported so that displaced persons and other individuals in vulnerable situation have enhanced access to protection and essential services;

d. persons with compelling protection risks or heightened vulnerabilities have access to durable solutions;

e. risks of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are reduced and survivors supported;

f. children are protected from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect; and

g. persons with specific needs have equal access to both general and specialized services.

The sector will implement interventions using a people-centred and rights-based approach targeting the institutional, community and individual levels.

Cornerstone activities for the Protection sector are to ensure that displaced persons have access to **registration and legal stay**, and that mechanisms are in place to guarantee **non-refoulement**. In addition, access to **civil documentation** remains a critical priority to ensure that displaced children and adults are recognized as persons before the law, that they can subsequently enjoy their essential rights, including freedom of movement, and that they have access to services. The sector will work closely with the **Ministry of Social Affairs** (MoSA) at central and local level on protection interventions for displaced Syrians, concerning access to territory,[1] legal residency, access to justice, civil status documentation,[2] and evictions. The sector will also engage with other line ministries, including MoIM, MEHE, MoPH, MoJ and MoL, and non-governmental agencies to **strengthen national systems on child protection** and protection against **sexual gender-based violence (SGBV)**, including legislative and national policies which assist in maintaining a protective environment for women, girls, boys and men affected by the Syria crisis. The sector will support a multi-sectoral strategy at national level for addressing **violence against children, child marriage, child labour**, and for addressing the **needs of persons with disabilities**.

The Government of Lebanon and international partners highlighted, in the Lebanon Partnership Paper, the importance of supporting and upholding the **rule of law** to preserve a dignified stay for persons displaced from Syria.[3] The success of the strategy to ensure better protection for individuals and families has been set on **correlated assumptions** which includes the Government of Lebanon, with continuous support of the international community, strengthening the overall protection environment in the country by ensuring access to territory to persons in need of international protection and upholding the non-refoulement principle, as well as enabling eligible refugees to obtain legal residency and facilitating access to civil documentation. This also encompasses ongoing engagement to improve and enforce the legal framework for better protection of women, girls, boys and men against SGBV and child protection risks. Moreover, the achievement of the protection strategy objective depends on outreach to displaced persons remaining possible and services continuing to be delivered, in close coordination with local and international organizations and with relevant ministries (in particular MoSA).

The sector will foster meaningful **engagement with both displaced and host communities across sex, age, nationality, disability and socio-economic status** throughout the programme cycle. It will make use of local influencers including community groups and networks, civil society, local leaders and key gatekeepers to achieve this engagement. The sector strategy will prioritize the following interventions:

- **Displaced and host communities' empowerment to enhance resilience, inclusion and participation** in spite of a challenging protection environment and to reduce social isolation (including through awareness raising, information dissemination and consultations for better programming[4]);
- **Challenge harmful social norms and practices and promote positive norms and behavioural change** towards protective practices, gender equality, including women empowerment and positive masculinity fostering, disability inclusion, and stronger child participation (through for instance positive parenting sessions encouraging role models and positive alternatives, and psychosocial support activities for adolescents girls addressing child marriage[5]);
- **Strengthen accountability of local institutions and gatekeepers vis-à-vis affected people,** by promoting an open dialogue with communities on protection risks and needs and encouraging feedback on interventions and possible solutions.

(1) This will include those with extreme vulnerabilities and those requiring support for entry to Lebanon as part of the Ministry of Social Affairs' humanitarian exceptions scheme.
(2) The interest of the Government of Lebanon to facilitate the registration of civil events for displaced persons creates substantial opportunities to enhance the sector's achievements in this regard.
(3) Brussels II Conference (24-25 April 2018), *Supporting the future of Syria and the region - Lebanon Partnership Paper*, para. 46, https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/34145/lebanon-partnership-paper.pdf [further "Lebanon Partnership Paper"].
(4) Further information on activities is to be found in the section "Community-based interventions".
(5) Ibid.

It is assumed that displaced and other vulnerable persons will have the capacity and the willingness to engage in community-based protection initiatives, despite increasingly challenging living conditions and their repercussions at individual level.

To ensure that all individuals are equally protected, the sector will prioritize activities that aim to **enhance the direct delivery of quality and inclusive protection services to persons with specific needs** (PwSN),[6] including case management for children at risk and SGBV survivors, equal access to services (mainstream and specialized rehabilitation) for persons with disabilities and mental health issues, as well as protection and emergency cash modalities. A comprehensive understanding of the **threats, vulnerabilities and coping capacities of affected populations**, including **persons with specific needs**, will continue to shape the Protection sector's response to those most at risk. Through targeted support, this will enable PwSN to access services and enjoy their rights on the same level as others. This approach will be complemented by efforts to **expand meaningful access for these persons to the services of other sectors** through a strong commitment to mainstreaming protection and promoting **gender-sensitive and inclusive services** across the response.

Reaching the objectives of the Protection sector requires a complementary set of sector interventions that reduce the protection risks associated with an individual or family becoming more vulnerable, while enhancing their capacity to cope with shocks. To support this, the sector will actively promote **protection mainstreaming** by identifying risks and incorporating mitigation measures into sector strategies to maximize the protective nature of humanitarian assistance and basic service delivery. The sector will also prioritize the strengthening of **safe identification and referral systems** between services across sectors to ensure that displaced persons and other individuals at risks have access to and can benefit from the needed services in a timely manner. Finally, protection mainstreaming efforts will focus on **strengthening accountability to persons of concern** with specific attention to setting minimum standards on complaints and feedback, including on sensitive issues such as **sexual exploitation and abuse**.

In order to ensure an impactful and sustainable strategy, the sector strategy considers the following priorities:

Strengthening national systems for the protection of women, men, girls and boys

The Protection sector will prioritize activities that help to maintain the protection of displaced persons from Syria and support the development of a national system where the rights of women, girls, boys and men of all abilities are respected and fulfilled and where emerging protection needs are swiftly addressed.

Reversing the downward trend of 78 per cent of displaced Syrians without residency is of primary importance to the sector. The Lebanon Partnership Paper[7] will continue to provide strategic direction to the sector to **foster legal stay**. The paper outlines the need to enhanced advocacy to ensure that the 2017 residency fee waiver is consistently and evenly applied across the General Directorate of the General Security offices (GSO) in all regions. It points to expanding the application of the waiver to all displaced persons, to ensure free-of-charge access to legal residency, independent of registration status or means of entry. To address obstacles that refugees faced in applying for legal residency as a result of limited capacity of GSO and uneven application of the waiver, the sector will continue to provide financial and technical support to strengthen the GSO's capacities. The sector will increase efforts to provide information and outreach to all persons of concern on the criteria and procedures for obtaining legal residency, as well as legal counselling and assistance. Finally, analysis of the ability of persons of concern to obtain legal residency, as well as of the evolution of legal, policy and practical barriers, will be carried out regularly by the sector to inform evidence-based advocacy and to guide legal activities.

The sector will continue engaging with Government to promote **protection-sensitive border management**, in line with the Lebanese legal framework and international law, to ensure **Lebanon's non-refoulement obligations** and to secure procedural safeguards in case of deportations, including the determination of the best interests of the child and respect for the principle of family unity. Furthermore, and in accordance with the Lebanon Partnership Paper,[8] the sector will continue advocating for the **resumption of UNHCR registration of Syrian refuges** which would contribute to generating updated statistics. This would also help facilitate **solutions** in the form of resettlement to third countries and the safe, dignified, non-coercive returns of refugees, when conditions permit. The sector will consistently engage with relevant authorities and foster strategic communication on refugee issues to the general public on maintaining a safe protection environment.

The Protection sector will enhance efforts and foster continuous improvement in access to **civil documentation, including birth, marriage, divorce and death registration** for both persons displaced from Syria and vulnerable host populations. More specifically, emphasis will be on raising awareness and disseminating harmonized information to ensure beneficiaries are able to seek assistance or obtain registration by themselves.[9] In addition to the legal support provided to individuals, equipment and staffing will be provided to the Personal Status Department to increase their capacity to register

(6) Persons with specific needs are individuals whose exposure to contextualized threats is exacerbated and/or whose ability to cope is reduced due to their age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, or another characteristic.

(7) *Lebanon Partnership Paper* (April 2018), para. 42.

(8) *Lebanon Partnership Paper* (April 2018), para. 44 and 47.

(9) This will include communication with and through communities and social media about the importance of registering civil events, on the steps and cost of the process, as well as on the late birth registration waiver which allows the birth registration of children for whom the one-year deadline to finalize the administrative process had been passed. Legal actors will continue to inform parents about the one-year deadline for children born after 8 February 2019. Partners will continue to provide tailored counselling and legal assistance, including by accompanying families through administrative and court procedures related to the civil documentation process. These processes are often hard to navigate without support, due to barriers such as movement restrictions, missing documents or inability to cover fees.

civil events. Tailored capacity-building activities will be rolled out with Mukhtars and other local authorities to improve access to and quality of services provided to beneficiaries when seeking civil documentation. The sector will also continue engaging with religious leaders.[10] Finally, the sector will also advocate to expand the late birth registration waiver to other nationalities, including Lebanese children, and to ensure that fees related to the civil documentation process are harmonized and minimized across regions.

All activities aimed at strengthening the **protection of children and the prevention of and response to SGBV** will be aligned – to ensure greater sustainability – with national plans.[11] The Ministry of Social Affairs, supported by the sector, will also lead on the development of bylaws and the establishment of a special fund to support survivors of domestic violence, in terms of emergency assistance, basic assistance for survivors while providing them with appropriate care.[12] Support will continue to be provided to MoSA, to deliver on its protection mandate and to contribute to the strengthening of the legal and policy framework related to protection, the provision of quality services for women and children who are at risk or survivors of violence in accordance with the National GBV SOPs, as well as social behavioural change.

The sector will also support MoSA and the Higher Council for Childhood (HCC) to finalize the inter-ministerial costed action plan to prevent and respond to child marriage in Lebanon. Other line ministries, such as the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) and the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) will also be supported to operationalize and effectively enforce commitments made in 2018 through the Policy for the Protection of Students in the School Environment and policy recommendations on Strengthening Child Protection Practices in Healthcare Institutions. This will include support to MoPH to finalize the Clinical Management Care of Rape (CMR) strategy that aims at institutionalizing CMR within health facilities in Lebanon. As for children in contact with the law, whether alleged offenders, victims and witnesses, or children at risk, efforts are being invested to strengthen the existing justice system, facilitate the access of vulnerable children to justice, and ensure that justice proceedings are appropriate for them. Finally, continued support will be provided towards the implementation of a national inter-sectoral referral system for child protection and gender-based violence, to standardize practices and referral pathways within relevant ministries[13] and the National Council for Lebanese Women, following the issuance of national Child Protection[14] and SGBV SOPs on case management. This will take place alongside with the gradual roll-out of the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS), with the aim to further improve a coherent and coordinated case management response and systematic recording of information to support oversight and management of caseloads. The sector will continue to invest in on-going training on child protection for case management and relevant government staff to provide quality case management services in a safe and consistent manner, in line with minimum standards.[15] In light of this, the ongoing support of a strong child protection and SGBV prevention and response system at national and local levels is essential for protection of both displaced persons and vulnerable Lebanese through funding of case management, as well as ongoing capacity building and advocacy efforts.

The Protection sector contributes to ensuring a **dignified and safe stay** for displaced persons by supporting access to justice and to decent livelihood opportunities. Achievements in this area will be influenced by the socio-economic situation of Lebanon and the sector's ability to monitor and mitigate tensions with the host community while promoting access to decent living condition for displaced persons. Notwithstanding, efforts will continue to be invested with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, Internal Security Forces, municipal police, judges and bar associations through regular interaction and capacity-building activities both at central and field level to increase access to justice for affected populations and to ensure equitable treatment in accordance with human rights standards. The sector will support the Ministry of Justice and relevant institutions, to develop a broader range of free legal aid services for the most disadvantaged and it will also continue reaching out to persons in detention to provide them with the necessary support, including legal aid.

The Protection sector will continue to track collective evictions, including at the municipal level, and will work with local authorities and partners to prevent forced and unlawful evictions. It will also strengthen coordination with the Shelter sector to address issues related to security of tenure. In some instances, and as a last resort, the Protection sector will assist in finding alternative solutions in coordination with national authorities including MoSA, to ensure that affected persons are relocated in a safe and dignified manner as per the inter-agency guidance note on evictions.[16] Those who experience aggravated risks due to having to changed their shelter arrangements will be prioritized, such as persons with specific needs (including persons with disabilities and older persons), and women and children at risk. By strengthening the coordination mechanism

(10) This is to further address challenges related to the registration of marriages including the unlawful registration of marriage by uncertified sheikhs and to ensure the consistency of practices.

(11) Such as the *National Social Development Strategy, National Ten-Year Strategy for Women in Lebanon*, the new Ministry of Social Affairs' *Strategic Plan on Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence*, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education's *Policy for the Protection of Students in the School Environment*, the *National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon*, the Ministry of Public Health's policy recommendations on *Strengthening Child Protection Practices in Healthcare Institutions*, and the *National Social Behavioural Change and Communication Plan (Qudwa)*.

(12) In accordance with Law 293 on the Protection of Women and Family Members from Domestic Violence ratified in 2014.

(13) Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, Ministry of Justice, and Ministry of Public Health.

(14) *National Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Protection of Juveniles in Lebanon* (2015).

(15) *Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPMS)* (2019) and *Inter-Agency Guidelines for Case Management and Child Protection* (2014). Each case worker can handle a maximum of 25 active cases at one given time. The period needed to resolve medium and high risk cases varies and need to be taken into account.

(16) *Protection Sector Guidance on the Response to Evictions in Lebanon* (2018), https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/69399.

and preventively engaging with local actors at the field level, the Protection sector will ensure an early warning system to better respond to protection risks associated with displacement in relation to eviction and other causes such as fire incidents and weather-related emergencies.

To reinforce **social stability**, in particular given the deterioration of relations at community level and given the portrayal of persons displaced from Syria in certain media, efforts will focus on promoting preventive actions, such as proactively reinforcing ongoing dialogues with local authorities and promoting positive interactions between communities. At the same time, **restrictive measures** issued at the municipal level will be monitored, including curfews, discriminatory taxes or fees, confiscation of identity documents, restrictions of mobility, and other barriers to access services. The sector will strengthen its engagement with Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and with local authorities with the aim that measures implemented are non-discriminatory, in accordance with the law and respectful of people's rights and dignity.

The Protection sector will also strengthen coordination with the Livelihoods sector to advocate for the development of a legal framework and policies that take into consideration the needs for persons displaced to **access safe livelihood opportunities**, in order to reduce their vulnerability to exploitation and dependency on humanitarian aid, but that also support their productive engagement and contribution to the local economy. The Protection sector will also engage with the Livelihoods sector on continuous advocacy to ensure that the working status of refugees does not affect their ability to renew their residency based on UNHCR certificate. Both sectors will also work together to promote gender diversity and inclusion of persons with specific needs in livelihood services.

The vulnerability of displaced persons from Syria and Lebanese communities living near areas contaminated with landmines requires the provision of tailored **mine risk education** sessions to raise awareness and promote safe behaviour practices to prevent accidents or deaths, particularly among children and persons with specific needs. Continued support through the LCRP will play a crucial role to conduct mine clearance activities[17] in order to remove and destroy cluster munitions from prioritized areas, thus increasing the physical safety of the most vulnerable communities.

Enabling persons displaced from Syria to make free and informed decision on **durable solutions** and to access them when available is essential to ensure their protection and to increase sustainability. In that respect, "the Government of Lebanon and its international partners reiterated that the main durable solution for Syrian refugees in Lebanon is their safe, dignified and non-coercive return to their country of origin, in accordance with international law and the principle of non-refoulement."[18] The Protection sector will provide basic counselling and support to displaced persons who have decided to return to Syria based on an individual, free and well-informed decision. And this with a view to helping these individuals re-establish themselves and access basic services upon return.[19] At the same time, the referral and identification of displaced Syrians persons with compelling protection needs to resettlement or other humanitarian admission programmes will be strengthened, while at the same time advocating for increased opportunities in line with the Lebanon Partnership Paper[20] as they remain limited.

Continued efforts will be made to systematically review the changes in protection trends and risks, with the aim to underpin the adaptation of programming and advocacy and to better respond to the needs of the displaced population. This includes **systematic monitoring of the protection context** through cross-analysis of monthly protection monitoring and tension reports; analysis of the Protection sector tracking systems;[21] and dedicated mechanisms to document and track identified child rights violations and sexual and gender-based violence incidents.[22] The sector will play an important role in promoting a common understanding of the protective environment across all sectors, so that all sectors ensure due consideration to the needs and multi-dimensional vulnerabilities of individuals and communities, allowing for more integrated approaches to service provision and improved advocacy. The Protection sector will also strengthen coordination with the Social Stability sector to ensure collaboration and timely exchange of tension monitoring and other relevant analysis in order to maximize complementarity between programmes, particularly in all areas necessitating the **prevention of conflict and mitigation of social stability issues**, in order not to negatively affect the protection environment for displaced persons.

Community-based interventions

The Protection sector acknowledges communities' capacities, views and priorities, which shall contribute to and inform programme and planning processes. Access of humanitarian actors to communities and vice-versa, as well as communities' ability and willingness to freely meet, discuss, develop and implement activities are key conditions for successful community-based interventions.

Given that the lack of information about applicable procedures continues to be a major reason for displaced persons not being able to access services, the Protection sector will **foster the empowerment of affected persons** by enhancing awareness-raising efforts and

(17) Clearance activities support and promote socio-economic development in contaminated areas and it will also enable the sustained deployment of an experienced and qualified clearance capacity.

(18) *Lebanon Partnership Paper* (April 2018), para. 41.
(19) Assistance could include, for example, providing individuals who wish to return with age and gender-sensitive information, and assisting them in obtaining key documents (such as birth, marriage, divorce or death certificates, or school/medical records). Capacity-building to GSO at field level will be enhanced to foster a protection-centred approach on return, with a specific focus on vulnerable groups.
(20) *Lebanon Partnership Paper* (April 2018), para. 47.
(21) For referrals, collective evictions and restrictive measures at municipal level
(22) Child Protection Information Management System and Gender-Based Violence Information Management System.

the dissemination of accessible, clear and updated information on critical topics[23] in coordination with other sectors. The sector will seek to engage all relevant community members and key stakeholders throughout the all stages of the programme cycle, and it will promote an **inclusive approach**, particularly towards persons with disabilities, older persons, socially marginalized groups, and those discriminated against based on their gender.[24] Guidance to other sectors and actors will be provided on effective outreach and mobilization with this population. This will be reinforced through the harmonization of community engagement approaches across sectors, including the development of inter-agency standards for community-based interventions. In this regard, the Protection sector will enhance the capacity of communities and local influencers to support the identification and referral of adults and children with protection concerns, and the inclusion of the most marginalized groups.[25] Efforts will also be made to ensure that community groups, and especially those linked with local institutions, are inclusive and complementary in their approaches.[26]

The Ministry of Social Affairs' social development centres and NGO-run community development centres will be further strengthened and connected to the national social protection system to effectively serve as spaces where displaced and host communities receive relevant information, access social services, and discuss issues of common concern and identify possible solutions, thus rebuilding social fabric in affected communities while combating social isolation and enhancing resilience. Opportunities within these existing structures will be explored to further collaborate on social stability issues, identification and referrals of persons with specific needs and response to emergency situations. The Protection sector will also work closely with the Social Stability sector to map and coordinate community dialogue and established community-based protection mechanisms in order to avoid duplication and promote synergies and complementarity. This will contribute to remedying the loss of social cohesion with Syrian and Lebanese communities living increasingly separate lives.

The Protection sector will foster meaningful engagement of communities in **social and behavioural change** which will contribute to a protective environment for vulnerable groups, such as children and persons with disabilities. Targeted community-based initiatives will be supported to further engage and empower communities, including adolescents and youth, to identify their own child protection/gender-based violence issues and solutions, and to find their own "champions" and role models. The Sector will also aim to stimulate a substantive dialogue within communities around the main drivers leading to harmful traditional practices and violence such as child labour, child marriage, intimate partner violence, the use of violent discipline, and sexual exploitation. It will continue to promote non-violent approaches to manage relationships within the family and the community, enhancing positive parenting skills and building resilience to deal with the stressful consequences linked to the protracted nature of displacement. This will allow the sector to capitalize on community allies, including men and boys, to challenges harmful social norms and promote behavioural change and gender equality.

As part of **enhancing accountability to affected population**, the Protection sector will continuously stimulate dialogues with the communities to encourage early, relevant and reliable trends identification and analysis of the most critical protection issues and to promote contextualized, effective and sustainable solutions. The sector will also engage with local stakeholders and decision-makers around identified protection concerns,[27] hence fostering transparency and accountability of local institutions and service providers. Additionally, it will promote minimum standards for feedback and complaints mechanisms across sectors. Effort will be made to ensure that these mechanisms are appropriate and accessible to groups with specific needs, including persons with disability, older persons, female head of household and children. In addition to programmatic feedback mechanisms[28] that will be promoted across all programmes to inform design and delivery of services, special attention will be made to enhance the prevention of and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). Building on country-wide ethics workshops with partners conducted in 2019, the sector will engage with the PSEA Task Force with an aim to ensure that community members are aware of their rights, that they report incidents and are protected against sexual exploitation and abuse by both international and local institutions.

Protecting those in the most vulnerable situation

To ensure that the different needs of the individuals at risk are met, the Protection sector will strengthen the **safe identification and referral** of persons with specific needs, children at risk of or exposed to abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation and SGBV survivors, through the capacity-building of frontline workers across sectors. In parallel, further efforts will be made to ensure adequate outreach, such as mobile services, to improve access to services for those who are less visible and/or face heightened mobility challenges.[29] The Protection sector will also strengthen its engagement with critical

(23) Such as regulatory framework on residency, available services, civil documentation, explosive device ordnance risk reduction, employment, education and health.
(24) Persons with specific needs, as well as their caregivers (where relevant), will also be consulted to inform better programming and be involved in responding to their identified needs and concerns, as they face additional difficulties.
(25) This will be done by combining centre-based and mobile outreach activities, as well as community-based interventions and social mobilization. And this will require sustained capacity-building of frontliners and gatekeepers on how to understand, outreach and proactively include the most marginalized groups; and a stronger tracking of inclusion in services.
(26) Community-based child protection activities, community-based psychosocial support and associated activities will continue to be delivered to promote positive change within communities.
(27) For instance. municipalities in relation to treatment of displaced persons regarding residency, mobility, labour or environment, or municipal police in relation to treatment of vulnerable groups such as street-connected children or children engaged in child labour.
(28) Such as client satisfaction surveys and focus group discussions.
(29) Including persons with disabilities, older women, single women, married girls and those involved in domestic labour, persons with mental health issues.

sectors[30] to enhance the safe identification of persons facing protection risks such as eviction, arrest and/or deportation due to lack of documentation, and their referral to protection services by all services providers. The Protection sector will support inter-sectoral efforts to ensure that service mappings are inclusive, accurate, updated and that they are widely circulated in a timely manner so that staff across sectors know where to refer vulnerable individuals in need of assistance. It will also provide guidance to other sectors so that referrals are made in line with inter-agency minimum standards, using available tools and that they are regularly monitored to ensure follow-up and provision of services. More specifically, the Protection sector will support inter-sectoral efforts for collected data to be disaggregated by age, gender, and disability in order to better monitor and continuously enhance the provision of services to persons with specific needs.

The sector will also promote **access to both general and specialized services for persons with specific needs** across sectors, including to decrease burden, enhance socioeconomic productivity, and nurture wellbeing and livelihoods. Specific tailored activities will encompass in particular individual and group counselling, , provision of rehabilitation aids and services, case management, psychosocial support, health care and legal aid services, specialized rehabilitation support for complex psychosocial and mental health difficulties as well as physical disabilities, and emergency support with respect to shelter and financial assistance. In 2020, emphasis will be put on further enhancing access to mental health assistance for those who need it, by liaising closely with the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Task Force. In parallel, the Protection sector will strengthen advocacy for all services provided by protection and other actors to be inclusive and fully accessible for persons with specific needs.

Protection and emergency cash assistance are critical interventions to respond to specific protection risks. These modalities that complement multi-purpose cash assistance will be further harmonized by the Protection sector at national and field level. They will continue being provided under strict criteria[31], either to prevent or to address a specific protection incident or to respond to a chronic harmful situation, as part of a holistic approach. In order to achieve the overall goal of reducing specific vulnerabilities to exploitation and protection risks, the Protection sector will continue working closely with the Basic Assistance sector.[32]

To address the specific risks that **sexual and gender-based violence** represents for the affected population, in particular for women, girls, and persons with specific needs, especially those with disabilities, the Protection sector seeks to ensuring access to quality services, in parallel to the on-going reinforcement of the national system capacities. In addition to, support for local structures[33] providing quality, free, anonymous and survivor-centred[34] services, the Protection sector will increasingly work through complementary interventions, including mobile services, targeting hard-to-reach areas and populations with limited mobility.

There is a demonstrated need to maintain safe spaces to empower women and girls, as well as to continue providing quality multi-sectoral services such as counselling; referrals or direct provision of healthcare; psychosocial and mental health services (including recreational activities and emotional support groups); legal services to access justice; and material, financial assistance, and emergency shelter support. Relevant information on available services, such as sexual and reproductive health and mental health services, will be disseminated. There is also a need to build on the existing capacity of service providers, so that minimum standards are met, and safe shelter is available and accessible for all those in need, regardless of nationality, age, sex, disability, or mental health capacity. Feedback from partners has revealed that, while the complexity of cases has increased (involving, e.g., persons with disabilities, older persons, female survivors of domestic violence, suicide survivors), the availability of specialized professionals throughout the country remains limited. Services for survivors with compounded specific needs, including persons with disabilities, mental health concerns, and socially marginalized individuals, will be scaled up through targeted initiatives.

To respond to the immediate risks faced by survivors of violence, including intimate partner violence, the Protection sector will continue to support survivor-centred legal services, 24/7 hotlines, emergency safe shelters and other emergency accommodation arrangements. In close coordination with the Health sector, survivor-centred medical services, such as gender-sensitive clinical management of rape (CMR) services and forensic services, will continue to be made increasingly available in various health facilities through continued training for health professionals including on the confidentiality statement for SGBV survivors, the establishment of a tracking system to monitor expiry and availability of PEP kits, as well as legal expertise to support access to justice. Access to self-reliance opportunities, socio-economic empowerment activities and education (including technical and vocational education and training) remains a key priority, and an area of coordination with the Livelihoods sector, to foster

(30) Particular support will be provided to the Shelter, Health (including Mental Health), Education, Water and Basic Assistance sectors that offer essential services to affected persons and to community groups.

(31) The *Protection Sector Guidance Note on the Use of Cash for Emergency Protection Responses* defines these criteria as: *emergency or serve protection risks*, where *cash addresses or mitigates serious or severe harm* and when *the one-time assistance does not lead to dependency* and there is *no duplication or conflict with other available services* (p.2) .

(32) This will ensure that the emergency (ECA), protection (PCAP) and multi-purpose cash programmes (MCAP) are complementary and accessible for vulnerable children and their families, SGBV survivors, persons with disabilities, older persons and other persons facing protection risks. Both sectors will collaborate on the adjustment of the targeting desk formula to ensure that multi-purpose cash assistance provided is protection-centred and that protection-related trends and other relevant information on the family profile are captured. The Protection sector will also support the provision of case management for identified vulnerable persons benefiting from cash transfers

(33) Especially social development centres, community centres, local NGO centres, emergency safe houses, healthcare facilities, collective sites and other privately-owned facilities.

(34) A survivor-centred approach to violence against women seeks to empower the survivor by prioritizing her rights, needs and wishes. It means ensuring that survivors have access to appropriate, accessible and good quality services.

sustainable and long-term assistance to person at risk and survivors of SGBV with their families. Rehabilitation and reintegration, where safe and with consent of survivors, will remain priorities alongside resettlement to a third country when necessary and possible.

Prevention of and response to identified child protection concerns to mitigate risks and resolve protection issues and enable girls and boys to grow up in a safe and protected environment and to develop to their full potential. Emphasis will be placed on delivering a holistic multi-sectoral child protection prevention and response package prioritizing children at medium and high risk of or subject to abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation.[35] The response package will encompass timely identification of children at risk and quality case management, provided through the national system and by humanitarian actors in line with global guidance and minimum standards, as well as the National SOPs for the Protection of Juveniles in Lebanon (2015). Through this, children and their families will receive detailed information regarding access to specialized referral services, while engaging girls and boys in decisions and action plans which affect their lives.

Specialized services include legal aid, medical care, mental health and psychosocial support, family tracing and reunification, alternative care, family and caregiver support, and/or cash transfers, depending on the identified needs. While case management will remain the core focus for the protection of the most vulnerable children, it will be complemented by psychosocial support to children and families, and other group interventions coupled with general services provided by other sectors (Livelihoods, Education, Basic Assistance). The ultimate objective is to ensure a continuum of care and to find sustainable solutions for children, provided by qualified case management staff in line with the best interests of the child. This will require sufficient and adequately trained case management staffing and in line with global minimum standards.[36]

Collaboration will continue between the Protection and Education sectors given the importance of preventing children and adolescents from dropping out of school and of curbing violence inside and outside schools. For this purpose, school referral pathways between the two sectors will be strengthened[37] along with continuous support to the psychosocial well-being of children in public schools with the aim of building their resilience. Quality and safe education for all children will be secured by strengthening existing complaints, response and feedback mechanisms and by setting up child-friendly reporting channels. Specific considerations need to be made for children who are out of learning, including due to child labour, which could include interventions designed to target these children with basic literacy courses fitting their schedules and at a pace which is manageable for them. Finally, the collaboration with the Health, Livelihoods and Education sectors will be reinforced to reach out-of-school, working and street connected children with improved access to health care and vaccinations. Information will also be provided to children and their parents/caregivers to improve health care-seeking behaviours and promote birth registration, marriage registration as well as legal residency.

In 2019, the Protection sector identified **four thematic issues that were particularly critical and required an integrated approach from child protection, SGBV and legal protection actors: civil documentation/legal stay, worst forms of child labour, child marriage, and the inclusion of persons with disabilities**. Building on 2019 efforts to develop this integrated response, each subsector commits to prioritize: (a) the integration of a standard set of questions in all assessment forms to systematically capture these risks during all protection interviews, (b) the roll-out of joint key prevention messages on the four topics through individual counselling and group activities; (c) capacity-building and coaching activities to ensure that front-liners are armed with updated information and referral pathways on these risks; and (d) implementing inclusive awareness-raising sessions on these risks. A collective effort between the Protection and Basic Assistance sectors will also be made to exchange information and reduce the increasing negative trend of families withdrawing their children from school for economic reasons and resorting to child marriage or the worst forms of child labour.

Furthermore, on the worst forms of child labour, the sector will continue to engage closely with the Livelihoods and the Food Security sectors to support the National Steering Committee for the operationalization of the National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, including in agriculture. To address the increasing risks of exploitation in an environment where access to safe and dignified income-generating activities is challenging, strong collaboration between the three sectors will also be pursued to identify, mitigate and combat risks of violence, exploitation and abuse in the workplace.[38] Advocacy and engagement with employers will aim at either removing children from labour (whenever an alternative is available) or at least negotiate safer and less exploitative forms of labour (for children at working age).

(35) This could include, but is not limited to, children out-of-school or out-of-learning opportunities, children with disabilities, children engaged in the worst forms of child labour, married girls, street-connected children, unaccompanied and separated children, children in contact with the law, children facing domestic violence, children with mental health issues, children facing unresolved custody issues, as well as children in need of alternative care. Together with their parents, they will be targeted extensively through outreach to facilitate access to school for the most vulnerable and secure their retention through support provided by case management.

(36) Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPMS), 2019 and Inter-Agency Guidelines for Case Management and Child Protection. Each case worker can handle a maximum of 25 active cases at one given time. The period needed to resolve medium and high risk cases varies and need to be taken into account.

(37) Children at risk identified by education partners, community liaisons and outreach volunteers during their outreach and community-based activities, will be referred to child protection or SGBV partners for case management, with special emphasis on urgent and life-threatening cases.

(38) This will encompass initiatives such as: the identification of and referral to livelihood opportunities of caregivers of children facing protection concerns (mainly of children engaged in the worst forms of child labour) and youth; prioritizing self-reliance and socio-economic empowerment for vulnerable people; and generating knowledge for better programming and advocacy against child labour, in particular in the agriculture sector. This will also address the risk of increased dependency to humanitarian aid and sustain the response provided to acute protection cases through cash.

Increased coordination between the Livelihoods sector and Child Protection Working Group is also key to ensure access to technical and vocational training and education for vulnerable youth at risk.

LCRP impact, sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

The Protection sector's ultimate objective is that persons displaced from Syria and individuals at risk in Lebanon live in a safe protective environment, and it is therefore contributing primarily to LCRP's Impact 1 (Displaced persons from Syria and vulnerable populations live in safe protective environment). In order to achieve this impact, the Protection sector will strive to ensure that displaced persons and individuals at risk can access their basic rights, from access to the territory and legal stay, to the right to civil documentation, registration and durable solutions (Outcome 1), that communities are empowered to contribute to the creation of this safe environment (Outcome 2), and that major risks that affect specifically the most vulnerable are being addressed, namely the widespread risk of sexual and gender-based violence (Outcome 3), and the risk of violence, neglect, abuse and exploitation against children (Outcome 4). Through achieving these four outcomes, the Protection sector will also contribute to Impact 2 (Immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable populations are met) and to Impact 5 (Social stability is strengthened in Lebanon).

Outcome 1 – Displaced persons from Syria and individuals at risk live in a safe protective environment

In order to achieve this outcome, in 2020, the Protection sector will continue to work with relevant line ministries and partners to preserve a dignified stay for displaced persons, to ensure protection of all individuals at risk and to reinforce social stability through ensuring that:

- Access to territory is supported and cross-border movement is monitored, so that persons in need of international protection are identified and referred as appropriate, follow-up is provided in a timely manner and non-refoulement principle is being upheld (Output 1.1).
- Legal services (counselling, assistance, and representation) to persons of concern are delivered (Output 1.2), so that they are able to obtain legal residency and to secure documentation certifying civil events having taken place in Lebanon, and are aware of their housing, land and property rights and work permit requirements. The Protection sector will target 175,000 persons displaced from Syria, including Palestinian refugees from Syria, for the provision of legal assistance for legal stay, civil documentation (including registration of birth, marriage, death, and divorce) and housing, land and property rights. Coordination with the Health, Shelter and Livelihoods sectors will be strengthened.
- An identification, verification and assessment process is carried out (Output 1.3) through registration activities that include an assessment of specific needs. It is assumed that, if cases are identified, verified and assessed, and if they are referred as needed, and appropriate services are delivered, this will then contribute to the protection of the rights of displaced Syrians.
- Targeted support services to persons with specific needs are provided (Output 1.4). In this regard, the sector is targeting 53,231 persons with specific needs (including older persons and persons with disabilities), to benefit, through case management, from the provision of services, such as individual counselling, psychosocial support, health care, provision of rehabilitation aids and services, legal support to access justice, shelter materials, and cash-based assistance. This will be done in close collaboration with the Basic Assistance, Education, Food Security, Health, Shelter and Water sectors. If targeted support services are provided to persons with specific needs, and if general services are inclusive and accessible to persons with specific needs as well, this then contributes to the protection of displaced persons' rights.
- Persons of concern with compelling protection needs are resettled or considered for other humanitarian admission programmes (Output 1.5). A total of 12,000 of the most vulnerable persons displaced from Syria and those with serious protection concerns will be submitted for consideration of resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes, with the objective to fulfill their protection needs.
- Mine risk awareness is enhanced, and areas are cleared and released (Output 1.6), through mine risk education activities targeting persons and communities at risk and mine clearance activities.
- National and local institutions are strengthened to ensure protection-sensitive policies and practices (Output 1.7), through training and capacity-building of ISF, LAF, GSO and other stakeholders, and through advocacy on protection-sensitive policies and practices to promote the respect of the rights of displaced persons.

Outcome 2 – Communities are empowered to create a safe and protective environment

The involvement of community members is of crucial importance in identifying the protection risks they face and in contributing to solutions, when appropriate. To contribute to this outcome, the Protection sector will foster the engagement of communities throughout the programme cycle (Output 2.1) through strengthening effective feedback and complaints mechanisms, and through establishing an effective outreach volunteer networks and community networks to ensure inclusive participation. It will also support the implementation of community-led protection initiatives (Output 2.2), in collaboration with other sectors such as Energy, Shelter, Social Stability and Water. Particular attention will be paid to persons with disabilities, older persons and/or their caregivers, and socially marginalized groups.

Outcome 3 – SGBV risks are reduced and access to

quality services is improved

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) remains one of the main protection concerns affecting both refugee and host populations, with a predominant impact on women and girls. It requires specific attention to meaningfully foster a safe and protective environment for all persons affected by the Syria crisis. Sexual and gender-based violence results are more likely to be achieved through a cross-sectoral approach where SGBV concerns are integrated and addressed in cooperation with other sectors. To ensure that SGBV risks are reduced and that access to quality services is improved, the Protection sector will work at three levels:

- At system level, so that capacities of national systems and actors to address SGBV are strengthened (Output 3.1). The sector will provide support to local organizations and MoSA social development centres in order to strengthen capacities to prevent and respond to SGBV, as well as to capacity building of institutional actors. It will also provide technical and financial support in the development of national strategies and plans.
- At community level, so that community engagement in the protection against SGBV is ensured (Output 3.3), due to the active engagement of 300,000 community members helping to address sexual and gender-based violence through awareness-raising and community-based initiatives, in coordination with the Education and Water sectors (hygiene promotion activities).
- At individual level, so that access is ensured for individuals at risk and survivors to quality prevention and response services (Output 3.2). SGBV actors will target 140,000 women, men, boys and girls from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese at risk or survivors of sexual and gender-based violence to benefit from safe, survivor-centred and multi-sectoral SGBV response services, encompassing individual counselling; referrals or direct provision of health care, psychosocial support and mental health services, legal services, and shelter support; information on available services, including sexual and reproductive health care, positive coping strategies, hygiene promotion and women's rights; skills development and recreational activities; and emotional support groups.

All these services will continue to be provided by local and international organizations, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, the Government and line ministries, more specifically the Ministry of Social Affairs. At the level of monitoring, reporting on ActivityInfo will remain crucial. Data collected by actors will be complemented by data in the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBV-IMS), to enhance monitoring and accountability and to ensure better outcomes for women and girls.

Outcome 4 – All boys and girls are protected against neglect, violence, abuse and exploitation, including through an equitable system for prevention and response

Children are among the most vulnerable in a humanitarian context. They represent more than half of the displaced population in Lebanon, and specific efforts are therefore required to ensure that children affected by the Syria crisis live in a safe and protective environment. To reach this objective, the Protection sector will take action at three levels:

- At system level, so that policies, national plans and guidelines to support planning, operations, budgeting and advocacy for national child protection systems are developed and implemented (Output 4.1). The sector will promote the development of policies, procedures, training manuals, guidance to support the implementation of child protection prevention and response programmes and to strengthen application of existing laws and strategies.
- At community level, so that vulnerable boys and girls, caregivers/influencers and communities are empowered and engaged to promote practices that protect them (Output 4.3). In this regard, the sector will aim to target around 80,000 children through community-based child protection activities. Around 25,000 caregivers will be engaged in positive parenting programmes, and around 100 communities will benefit from community-led initiatives that aim at engaging communities and key stakeholders in addressing the main identified child protection issues.
- At individual level, so that holistic, integrated and inclusive child protection services in line with minimum standards are offered to boys and girls at risk of or exposed to neglect, and survivors of violence, abuse and exploitation (Output 4.2). Around 15,000 children at higher risk will be supported through focused psychosocial support activities (FPSS), as well as around 7,000 children through individual case management.

In partnership with the GoL, the Protection sector will continue to support strengthening national, regional and local community systems protecting the children most at risk of violence, exploitation, abuse or neglect. A holistic approach for engaging different stakeholders and partnerships will continue to be applied, mainly through civil society organizations (both national and international) and UN agencies, accompanied by stronger engagement with the Government and line ministries, in particular the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Justice (MoJ), but also 'informal' and community-based structures, local authorities, and social development centres. Increased coordination with be supported with other sectors, including Basic Assistance, Food Security, Health, Livelihoods, Shelter and Water.

There is a risk that the deteriorating economic situation in Lebanon, coupled with rising anti-refugees sentiments expressed in the public debate, could have an adverse impact on social stability and on the protection of displaced persons, leading to increase in restrictive measures such as arrest and deportation. Additional risks to the success of the Protection sector strategy encompass the lack of necessary funding to cover the sector's needs, insufficient commitment by the

Government of Lebanon and line ministries as well as de-prioritization of engagement by communities, because of daily life struggles and increased restrictions in refugees' mobility. Moreover, the responsibility of the protection of children is divided among different ministries and institutes and there is no overarching body accountable for the protection of children. Therefore, the risk remains that child protection and SGBV are not being sufficiently prioritized and that the necessary human and financial resources are unavailable.

To mitigate these risks, the Protection sector will continue to work closely with the Government to monitor the impact of the response and to identify emerging threats to address them at different levels of authority. In particular, advocacy will continue on establishing procedural safeguards in the context of deportations and on respect of the rule of law. In addition, studies and research reports will provide adequate monitoring and analysis on protection issues, including child protection risks and SGBV, further informing and guiding partner interventions in the sector. It is expected that the sector will be able to continue operating in a fluid environment, scale up when necessary, and collectively develop innovative approaches for addressing any emergency outbreaks, including through outreach and mobile services. In addition, continuous investments will be placed towards systems strengthening and capacity-building of local actors and community networks. At the current level of funding, and noting its predicted reduction, more focus will be invested in prevention activities and in more integrated programming financed through multi-year funding for easing planning and programme prioritization.

Total sector needs and targets 2020

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescent (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	1,500,000	336,000					
Displaced Syrians	1,500,000	1,500,000					
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700					
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	180,000	20,000					
GRAND TOTAL	**3,207,700**	**1,883,700**					

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual, institutional and geographical levels

Services and activities supported by protection partners and institutions, at individual and community levels, will benefit persons displaced from Syria and other individuals in vulnerable situations. Direct protection interventions will focus on persons with immediate legal or physical protection needs; women, men, girls and boys, as well as persons with disabilities and older persons at risk of violence, abuse and exploitation. Individuals in need will have access to information on where to get help, or will be referred to support services as needed, through awareness-raising sessions, protection monitoring visits, reception facilities, hotlines, and outreach and capacity-building activities.

National and local institutions will be targeted for support (i.e. renovation/rehabilitation, supply of furniture and equipment) and capacity-building initiatives/programmes, namely government institutions that manage the border, or are responsible for civil documentation (e.g. birth, marriage, divorce, death) or legal residency permits, such as GSO, Internal Security Forces, Lebanese Armed Forces and the Personal Status Department, local civil society actors, and the Ministry of Social Affairs.

The Protection sector will work closely with the Ministries of Social Affairs, Interior and Municipalities, Justice, Education and Higher Education, Public Health, and Labour, as well as with selected social development centres. Health facilities that will receive capacity-building and training on clinical management of rape will be selected in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and the Clinical Management of Rape working group.

Mainstreaming of conflict sensitivity, gender, persons with disabilities, youth and environment

Through a protection mainstreaming approach, the Protection Sector will incorporate protection principles – meaningful access, safety, dignity and do-no-harm, accountability and participation – in the assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of its response plan. By adopting this approach, the Protection sector will ensure the mainstreaming of conflict sensitivity, gender, youth, persons with disabilities and environment in its interventions. The Protection sector will also continue to provide technical support at the inter-sector level to pursue protection mainstreaming actions, and to other sectors to strengthen the systematic identification of protection risks and mitigation measures within their sectoral interventions.

Conflict sensitivity

The 'do-no-harm' principle is a core tenet of protection programming. Partners base activities on a thorough analysis of the protective environment, including threats, coping capacities and vulnerabilities of the communities in which they work. Identified pre-existing individual and community-level coping strategies are built upon, and efforts are taken to avoid undermining positive coping capacities within the community and to avoid causing unintended harm. This is one of the fundamental principles underpinning a community-based protection approach. At the same time, opportunities will be sought to contribute positively to social stability, while complying fully with humanitarian principles. Protection partners will undertake, and programming will be closely informed by, appropriate tensions monitoring and conflict sensitivity analysis through close coordination with the Social Stability sector.

Gender

Protection risks which pose barriers to equitable access for women, girls, men and boys – including LGBTI persons – to protection programming will be identified and addressed, through enhanced analysis of risks within the Protection sector. This is required to ensure that programming remains gender-sensitive, does not reinforce existing stereotypes, and that it considers the different risks, perspectives, barriers and opportunities these groups face. Existing gender norms, including entrenched masculinity models, will be more systematically assessed and consistently addressed to ensure that the sector tackles gender dynamics that are the root causes of some of the most complex protection issues, such as child marriage. The sector will promote the inclusion of gender aspects in all protection mainstreaming activities, building on the existence of the pool of certified protection mainstreaming trainers in the operation.

Efforts will be made to ensure gender and age-specific perspectives are reflected through separate consultations with all demographic groups as part of the methodology used to conduct assessments, along with monitoring visits and structured consultations with the community. The sector will continue promoting sex, age and disability disaggregated data for collection through all protection, child protection and sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response activities.

The roll-out of the 2015 IASC Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action was initiated in 2017 across seven key sectors of the LCRP, to support them in the implementation of effective risk mitigation measures in their programming. Specific action plans have been developed and the capacity strengthened for safe identification and referrals of sexual and gender-based violence survivors by partners, including governmental institutions, as well as communities. The Protection sector will coordinate with the relevant technical sectors to enhance ownership and implementation of work plans.

Persons with disabilities

As indicated in the strategy above, the Protection sector will continue to enhance inclusivity and non-discrimination of programmes and ensure that all barriers – environmental, attitudinal (linked to capacities of service providers), institutional and communication barriers – are removed through capacity-building and programme adjustment, with emphasis on the value and importance of community based rehabilitation services particularly in the identification of, and provision of services to the hard-to-reach. Persons with disabilities and their caregivers will be consulted, including through participatory assessments, and their contributions will be reflected in programme design, implementation and monitoring. Social workers and other specialized service providers will be capacitated to ensure that barriers to mainstream services are addressed, and already existing specialized services are identified, strengthened and included in referral pathways. The sector will also actively promote the use of contextually appropriate and verifiable data collection tools in both the Protection and other sectors as well as through inter-sectoral tools. This will allow for greater identification, better understanding of barriers to services, and disaggregated data leading to humanitarian activities being equitable for all. Close coordination with other sectors will be fostered to promote the accessibility of all services across sectors to persons with disabilities.

Youth

Protection activities and programmes will be adapted following consultations to ensure that the distinctive needs, concerns and expectations of youth, including those with disabilities, are considered, and their active participation in tailored community-based interventions is promoted. Where possible, programmes will include youth in community groups. Child protection and sexual and gender-based violence programmes will ensure

that high-risk adolescent girls and boys and youth are engaged in activities to prevent and respond to such risks and protection concerns. As described in the above strategy, the Protection sector will engage with other sectors, such as Education, Livelihoods and Health, to promote the inclusion of youth in their activities, including through targeted outreach for youth who do not benefit from public health services because they are out of school.

Environment

Given the implication of environment-related issues on protection risks, including in terms of the threat of collective evictions and community tensions, the Protection sector will increasingly coordinate with the Water sector and the Solid Waste Management Task Force on environment-related issues, to enhance communications and the inclusion of protection criteria in the prioritization of the sites to be supported. The sector will also engage on the dissemination of environment and hygiene related messages to communities and on the inclusion of environmental considerations in activities related to social behaviour.

Two boys with their school bags, Tripoli.
Photo Credit: OCHA, Sebastian Brandt, 18/12/2019.

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Displaced persons from Syria and individuals at risk live in a safe protective environment.

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of persons with legal stay	The percentage of persons who have legal residency out of the general displaced Syrian population.	VASyR	Percentage of persons	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	26%	27%	N/A	45%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of persons referred provided with services	Percentage of persons referred, provided with services under the categories of the Inter-Agency Referral Database, e.g: , Legal, Persons with Specific Needs, etc.), and whose cases were successfully closed.	Inter-Agency Tracking System, ActivityInfo	Percentage of referrals	Bi-Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	28%	N/A	50%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Noufos level	The percentage of children (5-0 years old) born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the level of the Nofous.	VASyR	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	36%	40%	N/A	50%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 4	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Foreign Registry level	The percentage of children (5-0 years old) born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at both the level of the Foreigners' Registry (Personal Status Department)"	VASyR	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17%	21%	N/A	50%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 5	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of persons benefitting from resettlement or other humanitarian pathways	Number of persons who have benefitted from resettlement or other humanitarian admission programmes procedures who have departed.	proGres	Persons	Quarterly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7,771	5,331	N/A	12,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 6	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of households who have moved accomodation in the last 6 months due to eviction.		VASyR	Percentage	Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Outcome 2: Communities are empowered in creating a safe protection environment

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of persons reporting that information received on accessing services was accurate, relevant, clear and useful.	TBD This percentage is likely to be measured every six months, for example through monitoring and evaluating of activities or through incorporation in assessments such as VASyR and KAP.	Tracking of projects and initiatives; Focus group discussions; Random sampling; Follow-up calls; Participatory self-evaluation (new methodology); VASyR 2019 (?)	Percentage	Bi-Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of persons involved in any stage of the program cycle (the assessment, design, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and activities.)	TBD This percentage is likely to be measured every six months, for example through monitoring and evaluating of activities or through incorporation in assessments such as VASyR and KAP.	Tracking of projects and initiatives; Focus group discussions; Random sampling; Follow-up calls; Participatory self-evaluation (new methodology); VASyR 2019	Percentage	Bi-Yearly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Outcome 3: Reduce SGBV risks and improve access to quality services

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of women (20-24) married before 18	Standard MICS indicator on Child Marriage targeting women 20-24 of age married before age 18. The indicator will be measured every two years. By 2018, a reduction of 12% of the baseline in targeted communities is expected. By 2020, a reduction of 20% in targeted communities is expected.	MICS 2018 ,2020	Percentage	Every 2 years

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
6			4.8	41			32.8	25			20	12			9.6

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of women and girls age 15-49 who state that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife	Standard MICS indicator used to assess the attitudes of women age 15-49 towards wife beating by asking the respondents whether husbands are justified to hit or beat their wives in a variety of situations, including (i) goes out without telling him, (ii) neglects the children, (iii) argues with him, (iv) refuses sex with him, and (v) burns the food. The purpose of these questions are to capture the social justification of violence (in contexts where women have a lower status in society) as a disciplinary action when a woman does not comply with certain expected gender roles. By 2018, a reduction of 12% of the baseline in targeted communities is expected. By 2020, a reduction of 20% in targeted communities is expected.	MICS 2018 & 2020	Percentage	Every 2 years

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
5.9			4.7	10			8	5			4	11			8.8

Outcome 4: All boys and girls are protected against neglect, violence, abuse and exploitation (including prevention and response)

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of children 2-14 years who experience violent disciplinary practices	UNICEF Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey Indicator 8.3 Numerator = Number of children age 2-14 years who experienced psychological aggression or physical punishment during the last one month Denominator = Total number of children age 1-14 years	MICS 2018 & 2020	Percentage of children	Bi-annualy

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
57%				65%			45%	77%			45%	82%			45%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of children aged 5-17 yrs engaged in child labour	UNICEF Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey Indicator 8.2 Numerator = Number of children age 5-17 years who are involved in child labour Denominator = Total number of children age 5-17 years	MICS 2018 & 2020	Percentage of children	Bi-annualy

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
6%				7%			4.5%	4%			3.5%	5%			4.5%

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of children (boys and girls) who reported an improvement in their psychosocial wellbeing as measured through the SDQ	children (who are enrolled in PSS programmes) who report and increase in their wellbeing based on SDQ carried out in PSS activities	SDQ administered in PSS programmes	Percentage of children	Semi-annual

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
45%			80%	45%			80%	45%			80%	45%			80%

Young Syrian refugees attend lessons in an informal school.
Photo Credit: UNHCR, Diego Ibarra Sanchez, 23/05/2019.

SHELTER
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED

1,398,700

PEOPLE TARGETED

666,352

REQUIREMENTS(US$)

2020 155.6 million

PARTNERS

27

GENDER MARKER

2

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $68.4 m

Reduce immediate protection-related shelter needs of most vulnerable households.

Indicators

Percentage of most vulnerable households whose shelters in informal settlements or in substandard residential and non-residential buildings have improved privacy, safety and security.

Outcome #2 — $85.2 m

Contribute to multi-sectoral upgrading of disadvantaged areas for enhanced stability.

Indicators

Percentage of households living in disadvantaged areas benefitting from shelter upgrades to minimum standards.

Percentage of households living in disadvantaged areas benefitting from shelter upgrades to mainstream standards.

Percentage of 251 most vulnerable localities (cadastral level) containing a multi-sectorally assessed or profiled area.

Outcome #3 — $2 m

Enhance the contribution of national institutions and organizations to the housing situation in Lebanon.

Indicators

Percentage of institutions and organisations participating in the Shelter sector response that are Lebanese.

Number of Lebanese institutions and organisations with improved ability to contribute to housing policy discussions through exposure to new housing-related evidence.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	51% Female	49% Male
Lebanese	336,000	77,280	39,413	37,867
Displaced Syrians	855,000	553,072	282,067	271,005
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	18,000	9,180	8,820
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	180,000	18,000	9,180	8,820

Overall sector strategy

The overarching aim of the Shelter sector is to ensure the protection of vulnerable populations; to contribute to social stability through mitigating the decline of shelter and economic conditions; and to improve access of vulnerable households, for both displaced and host communities, to physically adequate and safe shelters with security of tenure.

This is accomplished through the provision of protection-focused shelter assistance that addresses shelter inadequacies in terms of the privacy, security and safety of vulnerable households.[1] This will be achieved through two complementary routes: first, by responding to the needs of individual households; and second, by responding, in coordination with other sectors, to the needs of identified geographic areas deemed highly vulnerable.[2] In such areas, interventions should benefit both host community and displaced populations, promoting social stability and peaceful coexistence.

In order to define an impactful and sustainable strategy, the Shelter sector strategy takes into account the following:

- The population suffering from shelter inadequacies remains large and includes economically vulnerable Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian refugees in all parts of the country.
- The proportion of displaced Syrians living in shelter types that are in general, the least adequate (non-permanent structures in informal settlements) has been increasing year on year since 2017. Continued government restrictions on the durability of permitted shelter materials in informal settlements necessitate regularly repeated interventions.
- Some substandard buildings, particularly those in the non-residential category but also those in the residential category that are structurally unsound, offer such inadequate living conditions that the cost of upgrading them to minimum standards is unfeasibly high in the context of the LCRP. The percent of shelters that are in dangerous conditions is increasing, reaching 12 percent in 2019 up from six percent in 2018 (VASyR, 2019).
- The impact on vulnerability of shelter assistance is optimized when enhanced security of tenure is leveraged from landlords on behalf of beneficiaries in return for shelter works that improve the shelter's physical quality.
- The multi-dimensional vulnerabilities of those in need of shelter assistance means that coordination of shelter activities with those of other sectors and cross-sectoral prioritization within a holistic area-based framework, has potential to achieve more sustainable impact relative to single-sector approaches.
- For efficiency and stabilization reasons, it is imperative that the Shelter sector continues to scale up linkages with national and subnational organizations and institutions[3] in the shelter response for host and displaced communities. Further, as current shortages of adequate, affordable shelter accessible to vulnerable households is influenced by longstanding challenges in the Lebanese housing market, capacitation of Lebanese entities should also contribute to fostering an enabling environment for addressing structural housing problems, such as through sensitization and information generation and dissemination.

The Shelter sector objectives can be achieved:

- If immediate shelter assistance is provided to households in **acute shelter need**, whether in response to referrals or to climate, fire, eviction or regulatory environment shocks, which is dependent on partner capacity being maintained, including in terms of emergency contingency stocks, through adequate funding. In these circumstances, the protection risk to these households will be reduced and their right to adequate housing supported.
- If shelter partners succeed in producing multi-sectoral assessments of vulnerable geographical areas to inform their own needs-based **shelter assistance programming in complex, mixed nationality urban settings**, and if other sectoral partners are willing to use these assessments as common targeting guides to implement complementary interventions in coordination with shelter. Importantly, it is essential that municipalities and other service providers are engaged in the process so that multi-dimensional risks facing vulnerable urban households can be mitigated holistically and therefore more sustainably, social stability is strengthened, and the capacities of municipal and other state entities to implement their mandates is enhanced, contributing to a transitional exit strategy towards local service delivery / stabilization.
- If Lebanese state and non-state organizations and institutions are better sensitized to the nature and scale of the shelter and housing challenges in the country through access to an improved, robust body of knowledge featuring programming and policy-orientated research, and if more such entities have access to and take up training on the Shelter sector response. This is likely to foster a **shelter and housing response that is increasingly assumed by local entities**, as well as an enabling environment for evidence-led discussions on housing. Beyond the sphere of control or influence of the sector, the latter outcome may impact on the conceptualization of any future housing policy and associated institutional infrastructure.

Principles

The Shelter sector will continue to apply the following principles in the implementation of its strategy to maximize impact, complementarity and avoid

(1) The Shelter sector prioritizes female-headed households, households affected by at least one person with special needs, especially physical disabilities which often includes elderly, and households from marginalized groups. These are the groups most impacted by negative changes to shelter arrangements in comparison to other groups.
(2) Vulnerability in this sense is viewed from a multi-sectoral understanding of needs that variably includes shelter, protection, WaSH, health and social stability indicators.
(3) National NGOs as well as public, private and academic sector entities.

duplication, within the framework of the LCRP and according to established standards.[4]

Inclusion

The sector shall primarily target the shelter needs of the displaced population while ensuring the inclusion of the different age, gender and diversity groups.

Targeted and tailored assistance: This is understood through harmonized assessments that determine eligibility and take into account the specific shelter needs of the vulnerable, with specific regard to female-headed households and people with specific needs (particularly those with physical disabilities which often includes elderly) and other marginalized groups.

Complementary targeting from other sectors that may increase the sustainability of shelter assistance and reduce the impact of, for example, a household coming off cash assistance, will be integrated, specifically with the Basic Assistance and Livelihoods sectors.

Coordination: Assistance shall engage and be coordinated primarily with local authorities, communities and landlords. Further, understanding the holistic needs of affected communities requires inter-sectoral collaboration. Shelter assistance will be coordinated between partners within the sector and with activities of other sectors for improved impact and complementarity of interventions where applicable.

Special attention is given to inter-sectoral coordination of activities within the following thematic areas:

Identifying vulnerability and complementary targeting: linkages to Basic Assistance, Social Stability and Protection.

- *Household vulnerability:* In addition to physical shelter condition vulnerability, the Shelter sector utilizes protection and socio-economic vulnerability filters at the level of households to ensure targeting of those in most need. The identification of the most vulnerable households is achieved through technical assessments, formulated in collaboration with the Protection sector, that incorporate selected sector-defined protection vulnerabilities. Similarly, the socioeconomic vulnerability score (Desk Formula) developed by the Basic Assistance sector is incorporated into the shelter vulnerability scoring.
- *Area vulnerability:* In the context of the cadastre-level national geographical targeting guide mapping vulnerable localities across Lebanon[i], there is scope for continuing to target sub-cadastral areas where place-based, multi-sectoral responses are particularly appropriate. Areas of high population density, especially urban settings, with vulnerabilities across multiple sectors stand to benefit from integrated, area-based interventions including in terms of inter-community cohesion. These will continue to be prioritized by the sector.

(4) Standards are set through technical guidelines on selected shelter activities drafted by Temporary Technical Committees (TTC).

Social Assistance and Services: Linkages with Water, Energy, Social Stability and Livelihoods. The Shelter sector aims to collaborate with the above sectors on coordinated activities in disadvantaged areas integrated within an area-based framework. Regular meetings at field level foster efficient joint coordination and programming. The sector will pursue the following:

- Coordinated efforts to upgrade the condition not only of shelter, but also of water and sanitation, in poor areas with overburdened basic services, particularly those exacerbated by an influx of displaced households leading to inter-community tensions.
- Advocating with landlords for the instalment of legal electrical connections to the national grid. The sector also promotes the installation of proper electrical connections within shelters. As part of the sector's residential shelter upgrading activity, including its upgrading of common building areas activity, the sector assists in improving the wiring to enhance the safety of the connection and to mitigate shelter safety risks including that of fire.
- By addressing shelter needs through an area-based approach, the sector can contribute to the mitigation of tensions between displaced host communities, particularly for those living in dense urban settings. This is because competition for access to resources, from basic services, housing and jobs to humanitarian aid, is a key source of tension. Improvement in access to services for all can contribute to mitigating inter-community tensions.
- A coordinated response on household health and sanitation issues can contribute to minimizing the impact on Lebanon's environment whilst simultaneously contributing to social stability.
- Shelter activities are also an opportunity to generate income in areas with high unemployment. The sector will actively inform the Livelihoods sector of urban areas where livelihoods have emerged as a crucial need as identified through area-based approaches to assessments and interventions. To maximize the impact of the sectors' respective interventions, the possibility of providing trainees/beneficiaries of Livelihoods sector activities with employment opportunities through shelter contractors, will be explored.

Strengthening Referral Pathways: For the Shelter sector to achieve its strategic outcomes for 'protection of vulnerable populations', clear referral mechanisms to and from other sectors[5] are important. The main areas of coordination will continue to be on the following:

- Referral pathways between Shelter and Protection sectors, in particular for cases of forced/security-based evictions, and for people with specific needs, including older persons at risk and persons with disabilities. These and other protection-sensitive cases will continue to be referred. The Protection sector will continue ensuring that Shelter frontliners are trained on safe identification

(5) Particularly Protection, Basic Assistance and Water

and referral of protection cases. This includes for people with specific needs, gender-based violence victims and child protection cases, including awareness of hub-specific service mapping.

- Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights will be mainstreamed throughout Shelter sector interventions, with sensitization methods already undertaken by some partners in the course of providing regular shelter assistance to be adopted more widely. Whilst advice from the Protection sector will be sought where needed in relation to housing, land and property rights to foster security of tenure, Shelter partners will be encouraged- and receive training on, how to conduct information and awareness sessions on housing land and property rights in the course of their jobs.
- Site improvements in informal settlements and mitigation of flooding risks through separate, but coordinated, activities. The Shelter sector will take into account ongoing assessments of Water sector needs in informal settlements in order to coordinate its assistance and to accordingly prioritize its informal settlement-related activities e.g. weatherproofing, site improvement and fire risk mitigation.
- The upgrading of common areas within buildings, a Shelter sector activity involving repairing and improving the infrastructure at building level and within its plot boundary e.g. water and sewage pipes, stairwells, lockable doors/gates. The Shelter sector will refer buildings that are not connected to public water/sewage networks to the Water sector.

Contextual changes from 2019 to 2020

Continued shrinkage of Shelter funding, a tightening regulatory environment for displaced persons with direct shelter implications, the marginal increase in the proportion of displaced Syrians in informal settlements - the least adequate shelter type - over 2019 to 2020 from 19 percent to 20 percent (VASyR, 2019), and increasingly substandard or dangerous shelter conditions overall, but particularly outside of informal settlements where funding shortfalls are most felt, are in direct tension with the growing need for stabilization approaches.

Whilst these contextual changes and shelter-specific trends are significant, they do not warrant a shift in direction at sector strategy level. However, the main sector objective is informed by the following points:

- Shelter funding has fallen since 2016 in absolute terms; as a percent of the sector appeal.[6] The consequent gap in assistance has been borne largely outside of informal settlements, mainly by households in substandard buildings in urban settings.
- Average shelter standards for displaced Syrians between 2018 and 2019 have continued falling in line with the 2017-2018 trend[7]. Simultaneously, there has been an increase in the proportion of displaced Syrian households living under threat of eviction in almost all governorates.
- In 2019, there was a dramatic increase in emergency response needs in informal settlements following particularly harsh climate events of Winter 2018/2019, major fire events and a Government decision in Spring 2019 to enforce dismantlement of illegal hard structures in informal settlements in certain areas.[8,9]

Main Sector Objectives

The sector's main aim is to improve shelter-related living conditions for those most in need. The sector shall primarily target the needs of the shelter-vulnerable population while ensuring the inclusion of different age, gender and diversity groups, including female-headed households and households including people with specific needs, with particular attention to those with physical disabilities.

In pursuit of this objective, the sector recognizes the pivotal role shelter programming can play in:

- Alleviating **protection concerns** linked to privacy, safety and security as well as mitigating health risks, both physical and psychological;
- Mitigating **social tensions** as an impact of visible and tangible area-based interventions that benefit and are viewed positively by co-locating host and non-host communities and/or local authorities;
- **Capacitating Lebanese institutions and organizations** to respond to the shelter and housing needs of the vulnerable from both short and longer term perspectives.

The three main objectives of the Shelter sector strategy are:

Objective 1 - To deliver humanitarian assistance to ensure the protection of the most vulnerable households.

Shelter offers more than just physical protection; it also affects the psycho-social state and overall wellbeing of households. Of displaced Syrians, 31 percent (VASyR, 2019) reside in non-residential buildings and informal settlements, where often hazardous conditions[10] can only be mitigated temporarily. Safeguarding the health, privacy, safety, security and dignity of these most

(6) From 38 percent in 2016 to 25 percent in 2018, and stands at 14 percent as at Q3 2019. Shelter funding has also fallen as a proportion of all LCRP funding (from 5 percent in 2016 to 2.9 percent in 2018 and 2.5 percent as at Q3 2019).

(7) The decrease in average shelter conditions amongst displaced Syrians is evident through the increase in percent of displaced Syrians living in informal settlements (accommodating 20 percent of displaced Syrian households in 2019, up from 19 percent in 2018, whilst rents in that shelter type have risen for the past two years); and the increasing proportion of all shelter types that are in dangerous condition (12 percent of households live now live in dangerous conditions, up from six percent in 2018) [VASYR, 2019]).

(8) 2,600 hard structures in informal settlements in Aarsal were dismantled and another 400 in the North. Government attention on hard structures in informal settlements in Mount Lebanon have not as yet translated into dismantlement.

(9) The dismantlement response necessitated the deployment of contingency stocks which would typically be expected to cover the emergency response in winter 2019/2020. Resilience to near-term emergencies in the peak 2019-2020 emergency seasons is thus currently compromised, with urgent efforts underway to fill gaps in Q4 2019.

(10) In addition to poor physical shelter standards, displaced Syrians in informal settlements and in non-residential shelters are much more likely to live below the SMEB (73 percent and 62 percent, respectively [VASyR, 2019]) than those in residential shelters (49 percent). Further, a disproportionate share of households in informal settlements are female-headed (26 percent, compared to 18 percent and 16 percent in non-residential and residential shelters, respectively) (VASyR, 2019).

vulnerable households implies the need for regular shelter assistance. Insufficient shelter assistance is likely to incur knock-on effects onto other sectors, increasing the burden particularly on Protection and Health.[11] The Shelter sector utilizes several modalities in responding to shelter needs in informal settlements and non-residential structures. These include the provision of shelter material through in-kind assistance, vouchers or labour assistance coupled with the sharing of technical guidance and manuals on recommended practices in shelter maintenance. The sector takes into consideration people with specific needs as well as women- and girls-at-risk through tailored shelter assistance.[12]

For female-headed households, women-at-risk and other marginalized groups who are particularly susceptible to exploitation by landlords, direct cash assistance does not reliably ensure access to adequate shelter. These groups are more likely to benefit from interventions involving a combined package of physical upgrading with tenure security enhancement. In parallel with upgrading works, pertaining generally to residential buildings, shelter agencies will sign lease agreements with landlords on behalf of beneficiaries that enhance security of tenure after shelter improvements have been executed. Close collaboration with the Protection sector is necessary to appropriately prioritize case management for the abovementioned marginalized groups. In parallel, shelter partners will be trained to safely identify and refer persons with specific needs to protection actors or other relevant service providers.

Objective 2 - To support sustainable living conditions through contributing to multi-sectoral approaches in disadvantaged areas.[13]

At individual or household level, shelter vulnerability is part of a constellation of interplaying vulnerabilities, with particular interdependencies with the Protection, Health and Water sectors. This places importance on intersectoral coordination to mitigate risks that arise from living in inadequate shelters.

In defined areas containing many households, there is value in considering how shelter vulnerabilities are affected by features common to that area, like demographic pressure on basic services, housing stock quality, housing market prices and intercommunity tensions. Multi-sectoral understandings of areas can be used to programme for sectorally integrated interventions within an area-based framework, with partners maximizing impact through efficient geographical coordination. This information can also form evidence bases not only for humanitarian interventions but also for longer-term planning.

There is an especially strong need for sectoral and geographical coordination in vulnerable, dense, urban areas where target beneficiary visibility can be poor; communities are mixed and inter-community tensions may exist; basic services and social services are shared; and there is a need to build the capacities of existing urban systems and associated institutions with mandates over the area. Area-based coordination mechanisms can provide a useful framework for improved coordination between the humanitarian community and national institutions and organizations in ways that contribute to stabilization. Interventions that improve living conditions for all cohorts in a given area can also mitigate inter-community social tensions.

In 2020, the sector will continue efforts to include more stabilization-oriented interventions alongside relief-related ones. This will be continued through promoting and implementing shelter upgrading within multi-sectoral area-based frameworks that augment the stock of low-income housing in coordination with other sectors, mainly Protection, Water and Social Stability. Emerging technical guidelines on the Area-based Approach, formulated in 2019 with input from the aforementioned sectors, will clarify principles and best practice to support this work. In complement to this, the sector will collaborate more closely in 2020 with the WASH sector on analysis of data, profiling and engagement of local actors outside of informal settlements in urban areas.

In 2020, sector partners will continue with multi-sector assessments of vulnerable areas (e.g. neighbourhoods, adjacent areas of Palestinian camps, villages) that serve as a basis for spatially coordinating interventions that include shelter upgrading.

Through desk and field research into the achievements and experiences of shelter partners under the LCRP, the sector will explore the potential for a residential upgrading activity that would improve shelters to physical standards higher than the minimum standard currently within reach of Shelter sector partners and detailed in sector technical guidelines. Such a higher-level upgrading standard, which may be termed a 'mainstream standard' as the result is likely to resemble that found in the typical lower range of the formal local housing market, has yet to be defined operationally. The goal would be to contribute to delivery of shelter units and residential areas, working with and through national systems, that are part of an increasingly sustainable national housing stock, supporting the stabilization aims of the LCRP.

Objective 3 - To strengthen the ability of national institutions and organizations to contribute to improving the shelter and housing situation in Lebanon.

Localizing a humanitarian response is a process of recognizing, respecting and strengthening the capacity of national institutions and organizations to address the needs of affected populations. In light of the above, and as the response enters the final year of the 2017-2020 LCRP,

(11) For instance, the sealing of shelters (weatherproofing) can enhance the effectiveness of the winter support activities of the Basic Assistance sector, such as cash for fuel or provision of stoves.
(12) Such assistance includes partitioning of internal spaces for enhanced privacy, and improvement of accessibility and circulation within and around shelters.
(13) The identification of such areas will be based on integrating the findings of existing tools to provide valuable secondary data such as: neighbourhood profiling (UN-Habitat), Maps of Risks and Resources (Ministry of Social Affairs/UNDP) and social tension mapping (Social Stability sector) with the consideration of the vulnerable localities framework agreed by the Government of Lebanon and the UN.

the Shelter sector will in 2020 build on its cumulative efforts to promote shelter assistance provision through national systems by coordinating and collaborating with Lebanese institutions and organizations on conducting assessments and undertaking interventions.

International NGOs and UN agencies are encouraged to strengthen the participation of national organizations by building their capacity to take an active part in projects. The capacities of both local and international NGOs, national organizations and institutions, can be strengthened through their joint participation in shelter activities and the sharing of experiences. Building on the dedicated week-long training of local NGOs from around Lebanon on the Shelter response run by partners in late 2019, the sector aims for more national organizations to be actively engaged in the shelter response in 2020.

In collaboration with national organizations and institutions, the sector promotes knowledge generation through national studies and reports relevant to shelter and housing. This body of knowledge will be consolidated, synthesized and added to in 2020 by partners in order to contribute to a better understanding of Lebanon's housing sector with regard to both near-term shelter needs and longer term housing market supply-demand mismatches. A robust evidence base is foreseen as necessary to inform approaches to national housing policy discussions by the Government of Lebanon and development-orientated actors.

The sector will compile and maintain a list of entities with an existing or potential interest in or mandate for housing from humanitarian and development perspectives. This list will be used for active dissemination of new emerging knowledge products on the theme, recognizing the continuum of housing challenges for displaced Syrians outside informal settlements and poor Lebanese. It will include Government, the private sector, the academic sector, relevant UN agencies, NGOs and donors.

Two broad areas for ongoing discussion remain relevant:

Continue developing a housing evidence base

Descriptive data and statistics on the housing market[14] are required in order to reach a common understanding of the baseline situation. This is a prerequisite for any potential transition towards locally resonant policies, including formulating supply and demand forecasts/ projections that are geographically linked to other major policy sectors. Adding to four studies published in 2019, the sector will increasingly seek resources for responding to identified research questions compiled and maintained by the sector.

Map national housing-related institutions

The Lebanese housing sector is currently influenced directly or indirectly by a range of Government and private entities, with roles that vary across different parts of the country. A mapping by Shelter partners of institutional actors in terms of their respective mandates commenced in 2019 and will report in 2020 to offer a common starting point for:

1) Constructive debate on capacity-building needs of existing housing-relevant entities on the needs at national and local level; and

2) Assisting the Government in considering organizational/administrative enhancements/ adaptations in the future, to improve understanding of executive and administrative links between national and sub-national tiers of government.

Whilst beyond the sphere of control of the Shelter sector or LCRP, these measures aim to support the eventual development of inter-scalar policy implementation frameworks for housing that meets local needs, including to support the protection and access to basic services of all vulnerable populations.

LCRP sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

Outcomes and outputs

Outcome 1: Reduce immediate protection-related shelter needs of most vulnerable households

Links to:

LCRP Strategic Objective 1 'Ensure protection of vulnerable populations

LCRP Strategic Objective 2: 'Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations'

For the outcome to achieve its intended impact, it is assumed that assisted households will properly utilize shelter materials provided in accordance with the sector's guidance in relation to their particular need – taking into account this intervention will prioritize women, girls and people with specific needs.

Output 1.1 - Temporary shelters (informal settlements and non-residential buildings) and residential shelters (for protection/referral cases) hosting vulnerable displaced populations are maintained at liveable and safe conditions

Activities under this output include:

1) weatherproofing and repair of substandard residential and non-residential structures;

2) upgrading of substandard residential shelters to meet minimum humanitarian standards for the benefit of protection cases, female-headed households, people with specific needs and other marginalized groups;

3) weatherproofing and maintenance of make-shift shelters within informal settlements;

4) providing cash for rent for vulnerable households living in adequate shelters;

5) conducting site improvements in informal settlements; and

(14) e.g. residential property market data, rental market metrics, built stock volume and pipeline, and other aspects of supply and demand

6) providing fire risk mitigation in informal settlements and in buildings including awareness sessions, firefighting trainings and distribution of firefighting kits.

Outcome 2 - Contribute to multi-sectoral upgrading of disadvantaged areas for enhanced stability.

- Links to LCRP Strategic Objective 4: 'Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability' under both Impact 4 'Mitigated deterioration in the economic condition of vulnerable populations' and Impact 5 'Social Stability is strengthened in Lebanon'

The outcome shall be achieved by improving access to adequate shelters of minimum standard and affordable to vulnerable populations through targeting geographic areas of multisectoral vulnerability as well as through multi-sectoral assessments/profiling and upgrading of vulnerable areas.

For this outcome to achieve its intended impact, it is assumed that involved sectors will coordinate successfully towards implementing a multi-sectoral programme. It is also assumed that landlords will approve of the upgrading of their property in exchange for favourable tenure conditions benefitting the targeted population.

Output 2.1 - Access to adequate residential shelters at minimum standards, affordable for vulnerable populations, is increased as part of a multi-sectoral upgrading approach.

Activities under this output include:

1) upgrading of substandard residential shelters to minimum standards;

2) upgrading of substandard residential shelters to mainstream standards, and;

3) upgrading of common areas within substandard residential and non-residential buildings.

Output 2.2 - Areas of vulnerable populations are promoted for coordinated, multi-sectoral (including shelter) upgrading through production of multi-sectoral assessments/profiles

This will be achieved through

1) multi-sectoral assessments/profiles of areas hosting vulnerable populations.

Outcome 3 - Enhance the contribution of national institutions and organizations to the housing situation in Lebanon.

- Links to LCRP Strategic Objective 3: 'Support service provision through national systems'

In 2020, progress already made on this 'transition' outcome will be built upon, aimed at continuing to diversify the sector's focus on short-term humanitarian activities towards building the capacity of national systems to provide adequate housing for vulnerable populations on a sustainable basis.

The outcome is measured by the number of national organizations, academic entities, local authorities and Lebanese NGOs that contribute to the Shelter response. It will also be measured by the contribution of Shelter partners conducting research on the housing sector in Lebanon.

For the outcome to achieve its intended impact, it is assumed that national institutions and organizations will actively participate in capacity-building initiatives such as training sessions and workshops held by the Shelter sector. Continued interest from the Government of Lebanon in exploring steps towards establishing a national housing policy is also assumed.

Output 3.1 - National organizations and institutions are capacitated to contribute to the shelter and housing situation in Lebanon.

Activities under this output include:

1) strengthening the shelter-related capacity of local and national organizations through training, coordination and collaboration;

2) conducting and disseminating studies to better understand the housing context, and;

3) engaging the private sector, national state entities, academic and local organizations in expertise and research-sharing on the housing sector at national and field levels.

Risks

The ability to achieve the objectives above is likely to be reduced in the following scenarios:

- Further shrinkage in funding availability to the sector, which would further limit the ability of partners to assist households with shelter vulnerabilities, affecting particularly those outside informal settlements and reinforcing the established trend of increased proportions of displaced Syrians moving into informal settlement as the least sustainable and adequate shelter type.
- Difficulty in demonstrating to donors and sectors the added value of working at an area-based level in a multi-sectoral coordinated manner, which may compromise the ability of partners to secure funding.
- Further shocks stemming from the regulatory environment which may generate pressure on emergency contingency stocks, with implications for the ability to meet immediate needs.

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual/HH, institutional and geographical level

In 2019, the Shelter sector is targeting 666,352 individuals,[15] including Lebanese, Syrians and Palestinians. The total count of individuals targeted has fallen marginally by

(15) This excludes the 60,000 individuals that are budgeted for assistance in the case of security-related evictions as a contingency plan.

four percent, down from 694,480 individuals targeted in 2019. The reduction is mainly due to the four percentage point decrease over 2018-2019 in the proportion of displaced Syrians living in non-residential shelters, from 15 percent to 11 percent (VASyR, 2019).

The Shelter sector will continue targeting people with specific needs (PwSN), particularly those with physical disabilities impacting on mobility which often includes elderly, and those with specific vulnerabilities, particularly female-headed households, with tailored shelter assistance. To track progress against this aim, Shelter sector partners will provide, where possible, disaggregated data on beneficiaries.[16]

Baseline figure

The shelter needs of Syrians registered with UNHCR are identified through the Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees 2019 and extrapolated over the entire displaced Syrian population of 1.5 million. In practice, shelter agencies assist socio-economically vulnerable displaced Syrians that live in inadequate shelter conditions regardless of their registration status. The Shelter sector's scope of work, however, excludes the following:

a) Shelters located in geographical settings that are particularly unfavourable for residential uses.[17]

b) Shelters that are inadequate based on an overcrowdedness criteria only. Living in overcrowded shelters is particularly common as a cost-reduction coping mechanism to reduce rental outlay but the response[18] is beyond the sector's scope of intervention.

c) Residential and non-residential buildings assessed to be in dangerous condition, which generally implies a risk of collapse of architectural or structural elements. To be returned to habitable standards, these buildings require extensive technical evaluation and substantial investments exceeding the financial capacities of the Shelter sector. Whilst works are therefore not undertaken, partners do notify residents that their shelters have been assessed as 'dangerous' and the sector advocates for the relocation of households with local authorities and landlords.

Target Figures by Nationality

Targets by shelter type at country level are as follows:

Target figures for vulnerable Lebanese

There are 336,000 vulnerable Lebanese under the extreme poverty line.[ii] The shelter situation of the most vulnerable remains poorly understood. However, the sector will target the shelter needs of the extremely poor, guided by the assumption that the proportion of this group living in substandard conditions in residential buildings is similar to that of displaced Syrians. It is assumed then that 22.9 percent[iii] of the extremely poor Lebanese are living in substandard shelter conditions, accommodated in residential buildings.

- 77,280 individuals living in substandard physical conditions in residential buildings (2017: 77,298 individuals, 2018: 74,166; 2019: 77,280).

Target figures for displaced Syrians

- 240,000 individuals19 (16 percent of all displaced Syrians) with shelter needs living in informal settlements (2019: 246,000 individuals; 2018: 208,800 individuals).
- 237,374 individuals20 (15.8 percent of displaced Syrians) living in substandard physical conditions in residential buildings (2019: 225,300 individuals; 2018: 182,998 individuals).
- 53,198 individuals21 (six percent of displaced Syrians) living in substandard conditions in non-residential buildings (2019: 87,400 individuals; 2018 67,680 individuals).
- 22,500 individuals assisted with Cash for Rent (1.5 percent of displaced Syrians). (2019: 22,500).
- 60,000 individuals (four percent of displaced Syrians) indicating that they are threatened by security-related evictions (2019: 60,000 individuals).

Overall, there are 553,072 displaced Syrians targeted with shelter assistance (2019: 581,200).

Target figures for Palestinian refugees from Syria and Palestinian refugees from Lebanon

As for 2019, for parity, an equal number of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and Palestinian refugees from Syria are targeted for shelter assistance.[22]

18,000 of the most vulnerable Palestinian refugees from Syria in substandard shelter conditions (65 percent of the 27,700[23] Palestinian refugees from Syria giving the same absolute target as 2019 of 18,000).

18,000 of the most vulnerable Palestinian refugees in Lebanon living in substandard shelter conditions (10 percent of the 180,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon as for 2019).

Geographical

In all governorates and districts, the sector primarily

(16) Activities reported on ActivityInfo are set up to be disaggregated by nationality cohort, gender [female-headed household] and PWSN.
(17) Areas in proximity to physical danger, that are remote from services, or that are otherwise inconducive to being used for dwelling.
(18) Overcrowding does not necessarily require a response involving building upgrading but is likely to require financial assistance (e.g. unconditional cash grants).
(19) 80 percent of the 300,000 displaced Syrians in informal settlements are assumed to require shelter assistance based on unified assessments undertaken by Shelter partners. VASyR 2019 indicates that 42.4 percent of displaced Syrians in informal settlements require shelter assistance. However, the 80 percent figure is used as in 2019 because it is derived from assessments comprehensive across informal settlements unlike the sample-based VASyR, and because the response in informal settlements needs to factor in the high seasonality of shelter vulnerability and contingencies for emergency events that particularly affect this shelter type (especially climate and fire events).
(20) 22.9 percent of the 1,035,000 displaced Syrians in residential shelters are assumed to be living below physical humanitarian standards. (VASyR, 2019)
(21) 42.7 percent deemed to be below physical humanitarian standards of the 165,000 displaced Syrians in non-residential structures (VASyR, 2019)
(22) However, the percent of each cohort targeted (65 percent of Palestinian refugees from Syria, 10 percent of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon) is not a direct reflection of assumed shelter need, noting the absence of representative data similar to that available for displaced Syrians. The figures instead are a replication of those agreed with UNRWA in 2019, and it is assumed that funding assistance specific to Palestinians will augment the overall population target reached in practice.
(23) The total count of Palestinian refugees from Syria for LCRP planning purposes dropped marginally from 28,800 to 27,700 from 2019 to 2020, based on UNRWA source.

targets the shelter needs of displaced populations and, to the extent possible, those of host communities most affected by the Syria crisis.

Lebanese

In reference to economically vulnerable Lebanese, a better understanding of the spatial distribution of their shelter needs shall be pursued. This will partly depend on published and planned multi-sectoral profiling of disadvantaged areas. The potential for using shelter-related information gathered to inform targeting within the Government of Lebanon's National Poverty Targeting Programme will be explored.35

Displaced Syrians

Updated and detailed information allows the identification and location of displaced Syrians in need.[24]

Governorates of Akkar, Baalbek-Hermel and Bekaa:

46 percent[25] of all displaced Syrians (684,985 people) reside in these governorates bordering the Syrian territories.[26] The Shelter sector will target in the three governorates 312,383 displaced Syrians, split between temporary assistance to 211,652 individuals in informal settlements (2019: 218,800) and 25,347 individuals in non-residential buildings. Upgrading, rehabilitation and conditional cash for rent will support the shelter needs of 75,383 displaced Syrians.

Governorates of North, South and Nabatiye:

25 percent[27] (383,236 people) of all displaced Syrians reside in these three governorates.[28] The Shelter sector will target 101,371 displaced Syrians. The target is to cover the acute humanitarian needs of 37,525 displaced Syrians, split between emergency assistance for 22,483 individuals in informal settlements and 15,042 individuals in non-residential buildings. Upgrading, rehabilitation and conditional cash for rent will support the shelter needs of 63,847 displaced Syrians.

Governorates of Beirut and Mount Lebanon:

29 percent[29] (439,995 people) of all displaced Syrians reside in Mount Lebanon and Beirut.[30] In 2019, the Shelter sector aims to assist around 139,318 displaced Syrians. The target includes covering the acute shelter needs of 18,674 displaced Syrians living in informal settlements and substandard non-residential buildings. Upgrading, rehabilitation, and conditional cash for rent will support the shelter needs of 120,644 displaced Syrians.

Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and Palestinian refugees from Syria

Assistance to Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon will focus on Palestinian camps and particularly on their adjacent areas in light of UNRWA's ongoing work, including on shelter, inside the camps. The population is located mainly in the South (48 percent of all Palestinian refugees), with secondary concentration in Mount Lebanon (18 percent), Akkar (13 percent) and the North (10 percent).

Total sector needs and targets 2020

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescent (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	336,000	77,280					
Displaced Syrians	817,500	553,072					
Palestine Refugees from Syria	27,700	18,000					
Palestine Refugees in Lebanon	180,000	18,000					
GRAND TOTAL	1,361,200	666,352					

(24) RAIS or figures for persons registered as refugees by UNHCR extrapolated onto the results of VASyR 2019.
(25) Applying the same localization percentage of persons registered as refugees applied to the 1.5 million displaced Syrian population figure.
(26) Here, 40 percent (264,565 individuals) live in informal settlements spread in rural areas, 12 percent (78,775 individuals) live in non-residential buildings and 48 percent (319,953 individuals) of displaced Syrians reside in apartments in semi-urban and urban areas.
(27) Applying the same localization percentage of persons registered as refugees applied to the 1.5 million displaced Syrian population figure.
(28) Here, seven percent (28,103 individuals) live in informal settlements, 12 percent (47,456 individuals) live in non-residential buildings and the majority of 80 percent (319,953 individuals) live in residential buildings.
(29) Applying the same localization percentage of persons registered as refugees applied to the 1.5 million displaced Syrian population figure
(30) With few informal settlements accommodated only a small number of displaced Syrians (7,332 persons amounting to under two percent of all displaced Syrians) in Beirut/Mount Lebanon, limited attention has been afforded to vulnerable populations living in less visible but nonetheless precarious shelter conditions. Currently 407,460 individuals reside in residential buildings and 38,679 individuals in nonresidential structures.

Mainstreaming of accountability to affected populations, protection, conflict sensitivity, age and gender, youth, persons with specific needs and environment

Protection (including PWSN and Referrals)

In 2020, the Shelter sector will strengthen the mainstreaming of the core protection principles of: 'meaningful access without discrimination', 'safety, dignity and do-no-harm', 'accountability' and 'participation and empowerment' within its activities. In order to operationalize these principles the shelter sector will complete a protection risk analysis, started in 2019, to better develop ways to identify and mitigate protection risk within its interventions.

Equitable access to available shelter will be achieved through a protection mainstreaming approach incorporating the principles of meaningful access without discrimination, safety, dignity and do-no-harm, participation and empowerment and accountability within each stage of the sector's humanitarian cycle. The sector will also assist, within its capacity, the most shelter-vulnerable and socio-economically vulnerable host communities. Data will be disaggregated by age, gender and diversity in 2020.

In support of inclusive programming approaches, the sector will continue to ensure that data collected and reported against is disaggregated by aspects of gender, age and other special needs in 2020. This will support the sector, within its capacity, to provide inclusive services, and to better understand the impact of programming on the cohorts it targets. Activities will be regularly monitored and evaluated to ensure impact on different groups in accordance with sector standards and to ensure they contribute to achieving overall sector objectives.

People with specific needs shall be respected and accounted for in all relevant shelter programmes using technical guidelines that respond to the specific shelter needs of vulnerable groups, particularly: elderly and people specifically with physical disability or mobility impairments. Interventions may include improving accessibility and circulation within shelters.

As outlined in the strategy, the shelter sector will take concrete steps to improve the safe identification and referral of vulnerable individuals to needed services. In 2020, sector members will review and adopt the inter-agency minimum standard on referrals, training will be offered to sector staff in this respect, and the sector will support shelter partners in responding to the request that they report on referrals conducted through the inter-agency reporting system, in order to enhance accountability for referrals. Close coordination and capacity support from Protection and its sub-sectors will be drawn on.

Accountability

The Shelter sector promotes the active participation of men, women, girls and boys in age and gender disaggregated consultations regarding the appropriateness of shelter assistance, such as the distribution of shelter kits in informal settlements. Needs assessments and post-monitoring forms will include the collection of information on qualitative indicators on how current shelter arrangements are impacting beneficiary feelings of privacy, safety and security.

The sector will take steps to strengthen complaint and feedback mechanisms for affected populations which has been identified as an inter-sector priority area. In this respect, the sector will promote the review and adoption of the inter-agency minimum standards on complaint and feedback.[31] Reporting mechanisms will be enhanced for households/ individuals at risk of exploitation and/or abuse to be able to report complaints and grievances.

Close work will be done with the protection sector and PSEA focal points to ensure there are robust reporting mechanisms in place which are inclusive and accessible to all.

Gender

Gender dimensions are considered during the assessment of needs and in the design of shelter activities. The Shelter sector has participated in the rollout of the gender-based violence guidelines that were launched by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). It has since worked on incorporating gender based violence guidelines in its programming, giving special consideration to gender dimensions in the revision of existing technical guidelines. Mechanisms to enhance safety and privacy in shelters were applied in order to reduce the risk of gender-based violence and promote a safe living environment.36 The Shelter sector has also suggested that field staff receive training on gender-based violence issues related to shelter as well as on referral pathways for gender-based violence victims. Gender mainstreaming in shelter activities will foster a more effective response leading to safer environments for women, girls, boys and men alike.

Specific needs of women, girls, boys and men will be accounted for in the sector's guidelines on two levels: 1) ensuring spatial separation between living and sleeping spaces for privacy and the mitigation of gender-based violence risks, and 2) providing - where needed and often in female-headed households - labour assistance for the implementation of shelter interventions to ensure effectiveness of provided assistance.

Conflict sensitivity

The Shelter sector will prioritize beneficiaries who are severely or highly vulnerable through an inclusive process, encompassing Syrians, Palestinian refugees and Lebanese populations. Their identified shelter needs

(31) Engagement will be undertaken with the protection sector and PSEA focal points to help ensure there are robust reporting mechanisms in place which are inclusive and accessible to all.

are addressed taking into account their regional and local context, regardless of nationality. Shelter sector interventions have the potential to mitigate tensions between refugees and host communities by reducing frictions particularly related to security of tenure and evictions that result from the incapacity to pay rent. In addition, the rehabilitation of substandard shelter units as well as continuously conducting maintenance activities in informal settlements, increase the supply of affordable housing which in turn contributes to the stagnation of rent prices thus reducing tension between tenants and landlords. In coordination with the Social Stability sector, the Shelter sector aims to strengthen the shelter-related capacity of local authorities and national organizations to become aware of aspects of conflict sensitivity in the Shelter response and how to mitigate – practically and technically – conflicts arising from the cohabitation between Lebanese and displaced persons.

Environment

In collaboration with other sectors - namely Social Stability and Water - the Shelter sector contributes to minimizing the negative impacts on the environment through the following:

- In informal settlements, the planning and implementation of activities will take into account, within the boundaries of the sector strategy, the facilitation of proper wastewater and solid waste management systems to minimize negative effects on the water supply and land in line with endorsed sector guidelines. This will be through site improvements and maintenance as well as awareness-raising initiatives. The sector will advocate for and raise awareness of the need to minimize the burning of weatherproofing materials discarded during the refurbishment or evacuation of shelters. In residential and non-residential buildings, the sector will advocate for energy-efficient solutions, in terms of both materials and techniques, within given resource constraints. This will be at the levels of minor and major repairs.
- In its contribution to fostering government-led discussions about national housing, the sector will refer to the Energy sector for advice on opportunities for improving the energy efficiency of both existing stock through retro-fitting as well as that of new builds.

Fire risk

The risk of fire outbreak is especially high in informal settlements, where the ad-hoc planning and absence of breaks between tents can facilitate the spread of fire.[32] Fire risks are also high in substandard residential and non-residential buildings where poor quality and/or damaged doors do not provide a good barrier to the quick spread of fire from one apartment to the next.

The Shelter sector, in collaboration with the Lebanese Civil Defense (LCD) and the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC), has elaborated technical guidelines and IEC (Information, Education and Communication) material to raise awareness on fire risks. It also trains at-risk populations on how to fight fires and make good use of the fire-fighting kits that are installed in informal settlements and in substandard residential and non-residential buildings. The Shelter sector plans to inform and sensitize other sectors and authorities and to promote joint training activities.

(32) The Government decision to enforce the dismantlement of illegal hard structures in informal settlements in Spring 2019 prompted the partial or complete removal of masonry walls between makeshift structures positioned back-to-back, mainly in Aarsal. Sector partners worked with fire consultants and Government counterparts to design, pilot and install a new fire break solution acceptable to Government for these back-to-back shelters which are at particularly high fire risk.

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Reduce immediate protection-related shelter needs of most vulnerable households

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of most vulnerable households whose shelters in informal settlements or in substandard residential and non-residential buildings have improved privacy, safety and security.	Shelter assistance that addresses climate and fire risks, eviction risk and partitioning for a private, safe and secure living conditions. = HHs reached / SUM ([targeted HHs in IS] + [targeted HHs in non-residential buildings] + [targeted FHHs and PwSN HHs in residential buildings])	Activity Info-Responsibility of the Shelter Sector	Percentage of households	Quarterly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	40%	N/A	N/A	90%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Outcome 2: Contribute to multi-sectoral upgrading of disadvantaged areas for enhanced stability

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of residential households living in disadvantaged areas benefitting from shelter upgrades to minimum standards.	The upgrading of residential shelters to minimum standards in accordance with the Shelter sector guidelines in disadvantaged areas. = [total HHs reached] / SUM [total targeted HHs in substandard residential buildings in disadvantaged areas]	Activity Info-Responsibility of the Shelter Sector	Percentage of households	Monthly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of households living in disadvantaged areas benefitting from shelter upgrades to mainstream standards.	The upgrading of residential shelters to mainstream standards in accordance with the Shelter sector guidelines in disadvantaged areas. = [total HHs reached] / SUM [total targeted HHs in substandard residential buildings in disadvantaged areas]	Activity Info-Responsibility of the Shelter Sector	Percentage of households	Monthly

Lebanese				Displaced Syrians				Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)				Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)			
Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
			36%				48%				8%				8%

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of 251 most vulnerable localities (cadastral level) containing a multi-sectorally assessed or profiled area.	Localities in Lebanon listed amongst the 251 most vulnerable, with a high percentage of vulnerable populations, contain areas that are profiled in a multi-sectoral manner; or their shelter and other needs are assessed in such a manner that the main results are compatible between the assessments and profiles. = ([total number of cadastres containing assessed areas] / [total number of cadastres with a high percentage of vulnerable households in Lebanon in accordance with the 251 list])*100	Activity Info-Responsibility of the Shelter Sector	cadastre	Quarterly

Institutions/Areas

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
2%	6%	2%	36%

Outcome 3: Enhance contribution of national institutions and organizations to the housing situation in Lebanon

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of of institutions and organisations participating in the Shelter sector response that are Lebanese.	Lebanese institutions and organisations include national and sub-national state entities as well as Lebanese NGOs that are engaged in coordination, implementation and capacity building. = [number of Lebanese institutions and organizations participating in the Shelter sector] / [number of institutions and organizations participating in the Shelter sector participating in the Shelter sector]	Shelter Sector membership	Number of institutions and organisations	Quarterly

Institutions/Areas

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
			80%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of Lebanese institutions and organisations with improved ability to contribute to housing policy discussions through exposure to new housing-related evidence.	Lebanese institutions and organisations include national state entities as well as local and national NGOs. A list of Lebanese entities with an existing or potential housing-related mandate will be compiled, maintained and actively targetted for remote dissemination of shelter/housing programming and policy-relevant reports and studies. = # of Lebanese institutions and organisations identified and actively in receipt of new housing-related evidence	Membership of housing engagement platform	Number of institutions and organisations	Quarterly

Institutions/Areas

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020

Young children in an informal settlement.
Photo Credit: UNDP, Rana Sweidan, 12/01/2019.

SOCIAL STABILITY
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED
2,155,037

PEOPLE TARGETED
2,155,037

REQUIREMENTS(US$)
2020 126.05 million

PARTNERS
43

GENDER MARKER
2a

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 — $108 m

Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure.

Indicators

Percentage of of people reporting positive impact of municipalities on their lives.

Percentage of people reporting competition for Municipal & Social services and utilities as source of tension.

Percentage of people who feel that they can voice concern with authorities in case of dissatisfaction.

Percentage of waste diversion rate.

Outcome #2 — $16.05 m

Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts.

Indicators

Percentage of people able to identify conflict resolution mechanisms/actors in their community they would turn to.

Percentage of people identifying factors that could improve inter-community relationships.

Percentage of people displaying propensity for violence.

Outcome #3 — $2 m

Enhance LCRP capacities on tensions monitoring and conflict sensitivity.

Indicators

Percentage of partners reporting that they have their own mechanisms to ensure conflict sensitivity.

Number of LCRP sectors taking steps to ensure conflict sensitivity in their strategy and delivery of work plans.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	Female	Male
Lebanese	1,005,000	1,005,000	499,485	505,138
Displaced Syrians	942,337	942,337	484,361	457,976
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,349	13,351
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	180,000	180,000	89,280	90,720

Defining Social Stability:
'A state of intergroup relations at the community level, where sources of tension between groups are addressed and managed through formal institutions or systems, so as to prevent them from resulting in collective violence, human rights abuses, or further loss of opportunities for vulnerable groups.'

Overall sector strategy

The sector strategy's **theory of change** is as follows:

1. If public service delivery, such as infrastructure and solid waste management, is improved in a participatory manner, then the legitimacy of public institutions – particularly municipalities – can be strengthened and trust will built. This will alleviate pressure on resources and services which are a key point of tensions, while also strengthening social contracts between communities and the state.
2. If local communities, municipalities and national institutions have the capacities to address sources of tensions through dialogue and promote positive interactions, then connections can be strengthened, and divisions reduced which will assist in finding common solutions to grievances and will reduce propensities for violence, particularly amongst the most vulnerable.
3. If LCRP partners mainstream conflict sensitivity and do-no-harm approaches, and are provided with regular analysis on tensions, then LCRP partners can design and implement interventions that are sensitive to local contexts, minimizing harm and maintaining stability.

The overall objective of the Social Stability sector is to mitigate intercommunal tensions so that stability prevails throughout 2020 and mechanisms are in place to prevent violent conflict. The sector contributes to resilience building within the host community and displaced persons from Syria, bolsters accountable governance and builds social contracts between communities and authorities to support longer-term development. This happens by establishing and supporting local and national mechanisms to address and mitigate existing or emerging drivers of tensions.

The sector's strategy is built on the premise that other sectors' contributions to social stability need to be complemented by a dedicated set of interventions aimed at directly tackling both the causes and the manifestations of social tensions. Projects that deliver humanitarian assistance or basic services alone will not be sufficient to maintain social stability. Local institutions, host communities and displaced populations need to receive additional support to sustain the stability that has characterized relations between host and displaced communities thus far.[1] In particular, municipalities and other local service providers need to be empowered to provide services in a participatory manner that promotes real gains towards development and stabilization, while ensuring that those actors conduct their activities in a rights-based manner that does not infringe on the rights of host communities and displaced persons, nor do harm to intercommunal relations between them.

To achieve these outcomes, the sector will be guided by a conflict prevention agenda. Effective and sustainable social stability outcomes will be achieved by strengthening municipalities in particular, as well as other local entities and capacities such as social development centres, public spaces, civil society organizations, associations, libraries, clubs, volunteers, youth, women and older persons. These entities will also be leveraged upon as key gateways to reaching communities in the most affected areas. The linkages between local level authorities and key ministries – in particular the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and Governorate offices - will be strengthened. The sector will also coordinate closely with the Ministry of Environment (MoE), Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) as required.

The sector's response plan for 2020 builds on successful initiatives in supporting municipal services and delivering spaces for dialogue which have taken place between 2016 and 2019. The sector will scale up its engagement in mainstreaming social stability and conflict sensitivity with other sectors of the LCRP. It was envisioned that working on a four-year timeframe would have allowed the sector to emphasize the longer-term transformative element of its strategy, moving beyond quick impact interventions to address more structural governance issues at the local level and underlying drivers of tensions. However, many of the activities have been shorter term in nature largely due to funding modalities and thus not able to fully meet these objectives. In the last year of the strategy, the sector will aim to:

1. Improve peacebuilding dividends from activities conducted by actors in other sectors, particularly those working on service support and environmental issues;
2. Develop subnational authorities' capacities, investing in environmentally friendly and sustainable basic services;
3. Support the institutionalization of community policing;
4. Strengthen civil society capacity to build social stability;
5. Foster positive dialogue spaces for communities;
6. Work with media and academic institutions to create media spaces that are inclusive and reduce polarization; and
7. Improve objective reporting on issues related to displaced persons.

The sector will ensure that its efforts to support local authorities are coupled with communications

(1) Local institutions primarily include municipalities, social development centres, as well as governors' offices where relevant.

strategies through a common approach that convert the service and capacity-building support to achieve real, positive outcomes in terms of social stability. The sector recognizes the critical role that other sectors play in maintaining stability, and will work increasingly with other partners to ensure that the implementation of service support is accompanied by the relevant peacebuilding processes. These include multi-stakeholder consultations and dialogues to ensure that community bonds are strengthened through aid delivery. It will also seek to embed principles of conflict prevention in national systems, bolstering local impact and sustainability. This will entail, in particular, engaging with MoSA, MoIM and MoE in their work with municipalities and other local governance structures. Efforts of the Social Stability sector are thus in line with key reference governmental documents related to the crisis, including the Government of Lebanon Stabilization Roadmap, the Lebanon Statement of Intent at the 2016 London Conference and the Vision for Stabilization and Development in Lebanon of the 2019 Brussels Conference, which all emphasize the need to support municipalities as the first responders to the crisis.

Looking ahead in 2020, the sector is considering several changes as the situational context may negatively affect the state of social tensions. Given the current socio-economic crisis, dedicated attention to the growing number of vulnerable Lebanese households will be accounted for in the strategy. Recent data demonstrates that the deteriorating economic conditions are already causing increased tensions in the most vulnerable cadasters where gaps in service provision heightens pressures on services and grievances between groups. If dedicated programming does not benefit vulnerable Lebanese, in addition to displaced persons from Syria, in these areas, the likelihood of increased and more entrenched grievances is high.

These risks and assumptions are detailed below. Given the assumptions, there is a strong need for a sound mitigation of the risks through activities by the Social Stability sector partners so that tensions will be mitigated in 2020.

The sector will implement its' work under three key pillars in 2020: **The first pillar** is the work to **support service delivery at the municipality level, as well as national and local government institutions** and strengthen their capacity to maintain social stability in their respective communities through a three-pronged approach: First, it will help local governments to conduct mapping and hold dialogues to identify key changes, risks and sources of tensions at the local level, ensuring participation of different vulnerable groups categorized by age and gender as well as inclusion of persons with special needs (PwSN) and lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) community. In cases where the direct inclusion of these groups is deemed unfeasible, alternative channels for their grievances will be established to ensure their participation in an ethical, rights-based and dignified manner.

The Mechanisms for Stability and Resilience (MSR)[2] and other similar participatory processes will be implemented and actively involve community stakeholders and MoSA social development centre staff. These processes are indispensable both for identifying community priorities and for strengthening the links and building trust between municipalities, social development centres, and the people they serve. Special efforts will be made to involve women and youth in these consultations, given that they tend to be underrepresented in these institutions. To mitigate this risk, sector partners will consider making available safe spaces where communities feel safe to share their feedback and enable the potential for closed complaint and feedback mechanisms to feed into the inter-sector. At the same time, a new emphasis on men at-risk[3] will be made to address their deepening precarity.

Under this component, **social development centres will be strengthened through training and staff support to deliver important social and medical services to the local community** and develop the necessary activities and outreach services. This will empower them to play a crucial role in reducing competition for resources, absorbing local tensions and, critically, providing assistance towards vulnerable Lebanese. Supporting long-term capacity-building within these institutions is essential to ensure the sustainable impact of the Social Stability sector, as research demonstrates that residents' trust in their local authorities is a key component of social stability. Given the risk that staff working at social development centres may have biases that marginalize certain groups, a commitment to a rights-based approach to their work will be undertaken by sector partners to ensure inclusive participation and improve accountability. The sector will meet this objective by working closely with Protection sector partners on mainstreaming[4] and code of conduct commitments.

Social Stability sector partners will also **boost service delivery at the municipal level to alleviate resource pressure while building public confidence** in that local officials are able to respond to their needs, thus contributing to supporting local social contracts. This will require enhancing meaningful access to services and ensuring that the diversity of needs – including gender-related needs – is reflected in the selection of priority project interventions. In this way, the sector will directly feed into the LCRP's Impact 4 on mitigating the deterioration in the economic condition of vulnerable populations, ensuring that they have equitable access to basic services (health care, education, water, energy, solid waste management, shelter, and moving towards

(2) Mechanisms for Stability and Resilience (MSR) are a new approach aiming at increasing local stability through targeting immediate community needs resulted from the impact of Syrian crisis (pressure in service delivery, population density, lack of resources, etc.) and enhancing the partnership between local authorities and local community. The MSR also aim to strengthen municipal capacities for basic services provision through Investment Projects and to promote safe and diverse spaces through supporting local groups in the targeted communities.

(3) This group refers to men, particularly young men, who are economically and socially marginalized, less likely to have legal residency, and more vulnerable to risky or violent behaviours.

(4) Protection mainstreaming will be prioritized by the Social Stability Core Group and conducted with a focal point from the Protection sector.

social safety nets) through national (public and private) systems as well as other service providers. Given the large number of municipalities in Lebanon and their limited resources, such activities will also target the level of clusters and Unions of Municipalities as a priority to achieve economies of scale and to facilitate planning of larger interventions.

To mitigate against the risk of inter- or intra-communal tensions as a result of service delivery locations, sector partners will ensure that thorough context analyses and risk mitigation strategies are developed prior to and during implementation. Renewed emphasis will be placed on the communication of activities and around the impartiality and neutrality of humanitarian action to target population groups. Previous evaluations of stabilization programming in Lebanon underline this need for any effect on local stability to be felt by population groups and to ensure sustainability and independence of necessary humanitarian action in the future.[5,i] Research on the social media landscape in Lebanon points to the need to address the issues of the environment, returns, and crime, in particular, and the need to work much more closely in partnerships with national stakeholders in this regard.[6] Recent events have also demonstrated that domestic issues of economic mismanagement and accountability are also key discussion themes both online and offline.

Support to municipalities will be provided in the form of training and resources to local police forces. Given that they are often the first responders to community issues, it is imperative that police officers act in a way that is sensitive to the needs of all communities, regardless of age, gender, etc., while ensuring that protection principles are embedded when engaging with vulnerable groups. As part of this initiative, MoIM has undertaken extensive consultations to develop new standards and codes of conduct that have the support of mayors, civil society, community representatives and municipal police themselves. Partners will also support MoSA's collaboration with local institutions and social development centres, as they play an important role in enhancing community solidarity through the provision of social services such as childcare and activities for the elderly.

Solid Waste Management

Under the first pillar, and given the tensions related to Lebanon's solid waste, investment in the management of solid waste is critical to address the potential for instability. As such, the sector will aim to improve integrated solid waste management in Lebanon in order to reduce social tensions. The various elements of such an integrated approach are:

- **Safe disposal sites** - Widespread and uncontrolled dumping causes a range of environmental impact on air, water and land, resulting in serious public health risks for vulnerable local communities. Uncontrolled dumping leads to increased contamination of land and soil, as well as surface and groundwater pollution. The sector will focus on improving integrated solid waste management practices including cleaning, collection, storage, treatment and final disposal. Open, unsanitary and/or illegal dumpsites will be tackled either by transporting waste to environmentally sound waste management facilities or to an alternative safe site.
- **Sorting at source** – Partners will prioritize awareness raising campaigns on sorting at source based on Decree 5605,[7] to be implemented at both household level and in informal settlements. Partners will be encouraged wherever possible, to implement these activities using a participatory approach whereby communities are consulted, and needs are integrated in project activities. In addition, the sector will target both municipalities and Unions of Municipalities and will provide support at both levels: waste collection and waste treatment.
- **Waste collection** - Except for some isolated villages, the whole territory of Lebanon is currently covered with waste collection services. In this perspective, and given that waste collection is the responsibility of local authorities (municipalities or Unions of Municipalities), partners will provide support to local authorities in terms of infrastructures and collection logistics (provision of bins in specific locations, provision of collection trucks, setting up of scheduling and routing for waste collection, etc.). Clear solid waste management plans should be developed at the local level to improve the collection of solid waste including routing options, schedules, equipment needed and other aspects.
- **Municipal solid waste treatment** - Within the scope of municipal solid waste treatment, the sector is encouraging for large-scale interventions to be implemented in line with Government plans. In fact, the MoE strategy focused on the importance of the development of integrated solutions that involve Unions and consortium of Municipalities; small-scale interventions are not encouraged due to low efficiency and lack of economic scale. In this respect, and given the financial difficulties faced by municipalities, any intervention targeting treatment and/or disposal should provide a proper economic and financial analysis and demonstrate how operational and maintenance costs will be secured to ensure that sustainability is achieved.

To fulfil these objectives, it is essential that partners coordinate closely with MoE at each stage of the project cycle to ensure that interventions are in line with national plans and guidelines. This coordination will be achieved through the process outlined in Annex 1. Given that MoE is the lead ministry for the Solid Waste Management Task Force, other ministries such as MoSA and MoIM will coordinate closely with MoE on all activities.

It is vital that interventions are based on the National

(5) The 2016 Aktis Strategy report found that 'improving awareness and communication around service delivery is key to changing people's perceptions about the legitimacy of the municipality and [about] social stability'.

(6) UNDP & Build Up (April 2019), *Analyzing Refugee-Host Community Narratives on Social Media in Lebanon*, https://www.lb.undp.org/content/lebanon/en/home/library/Response_to_the_Syrian_Crisis/69992.html.

(7) Decree on sorting at source, approved by the Council of Ministers on 27 August 2019.

Solid Waste Management Strategy (once endorsed by the Government), in line with the Road Map adopted by the Government, and that they follow the MoE's approval. If the approval processes are suspended, partners will coordinate closely on all activities including sites of safe disposals, with the Ministry of Environment and municipalities. In order to ensure sustainable solutions, all partner interventions must be designed according to the SWM hierarchy and will fall under an approved Local Solid Waste Management Programme of the local authorities, a requirement under Law 80 (Article 11). In addition, partners are encouraged to consider the mapping of social tensions in order to guide them on potential areas of interventions.

Finally, partners will implement training for municipalities and Unions of Municipalities based on the training programme to enhance environmental management, which is being finalized by MoE in collaboration with MoIM. This training targets municipal police, council members and municipal staff and covers key environmental responsibilities of local authorities in Lebanon. In urban areas and in Palestinian gatherings, Social Stability partners will join efforts of other sectors to focus on specific neighbourhoods in which the highest degrees of deprivation are concentrated. This support to local level institutions will be linked with increased support to key ministries' local crisis response capacities.[8]

The second pillar of the social stability strategy focuses on strengthening local and municipal dialogue mechanisms and initiatives to mediate disputes, build trust and thus improve intercommunal relations. Field consultations identify that despite the significant investment into service provision, some media outlets remain a key and often problematic actor in terms of propagating hostile sentiment and false information regarding displaced persons and response actors. To address the tensions described above, recent assessments show that residents themselves are keen to have better communication channels, not only between citizens and municipalities,[ii] but also between communities.[iii] This willingness to reach out to others is encouraging and should be strengthened. If no initiatives to improve community relations are put in place, the potential for tensions to escalate is significant, particularly as rumours are easily spread by media channels and proliferate through social media such as Facebook, Whatsapp and Twitter. For this reason, a key element of the sector's strategy concerns training journalists and media students and engaging national, local and social media in defusing tensions through objective and balanced reporting.[9] Working with these actors – importantly, in breaking down siloes of information to understand arguments that resonate – on these issues will be vital.

Particularly focusing on localities where social tensions are high, partners with a longstanding presence in Lebanon and proven experience in conflict-prevention programming will therefore continue to support local dialogue committees.[10] These committees bring together community members, local authorities and civil society with different community members, regardless of age, gender, etc., to resolve disputes and share their concerns.[11] This will include provisions made to be inclusive of persons with specific needs (PwSN) and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) communities to ensure that their grievances are included and responded to, given that these groups face greater challenges in being accounted for in decision-making forums. In addition, staff will require further training on identifying sensitive protection cases in need of referral. Given the grievances of the host community, and the growing isolation of persons displaced from Syria, these mechanisms are an effective way of containing and – ideally – resolving tensions.

By meeting regularly and promoting dialogue, these committees foster local trust and solidarity, increase the outreach of municipalities, analyse drivers of tensions between and within local communities, identify risks of violence, discuss shared concerns, propose solutions, and alert authorities when needed. Following a significant downturn in the number of projects being implemented in 2019, a renewed focus on these mechanisms to rebuild the frequency and quality of intercommunal interactions is important. Using social media as part of local engagement and communications strategies should be considered to reach potential spoilers and engage opinion leaders. The sector should and will provide guidance to partners on these processes.

These efforts will include specific programmes targeting youth, who are particularly vulnerable to social marginalization and violence. For instance, 33 percent of those aged 18-24 characterize relations between displaced persons from Syria and host communities as 'very negative' or 'negative' – the highest proportion of any age cohort.[iv] At the same time, many show interest in dialogue. Building on their capacities for peace and positive community change, the sector will create opportunities for participation and empowerment of Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth encouraging healthy lifestyles and active engagement in their communities. By participating in sports clubs, media activities, community service initiatives and cultural programmes among others, young women and men will build important social networks and friendships while also contributing positively to their communities. Social Stability partners will also provide diverse training initiatives to enable vulnerable youth to enhance their life and leadership skills. Importantly, these trainings should demonstrate clear pathways to mental health and psychosocial support initiatives for participants if identified by MoSA and other response partners. The

(8) This specifically includes the Ministries of Social Affairs, Interior and Municipalities, and Environment, as well as the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.
(9) In 2013, 34 Lebanese media outlets (newspaper, radio and TV stations) signed the Journalist Pact for Civil Peace in Lebanon. Social stability partners are monitoring the implementation of the pact by these outlets and organizing regular sessions between them.
(10) See: Sector Glossary 2020.
(11) The 2013 Lebanon Roadmap states that 'special attention will go to the establishment of local level peace building mechanisms to mitigate tensions developed in conflict-prone areas hosting Syrian refugees.'

sector will focus on implementing youth initiatives[12] in the most vulnerable localities and areas of high tension over the next two years to harness the positive potential of youth to contribute to the development of their communities and become partners in bridging community divisions. Lebanese youth will be the primary beneficiary of activities aimed at fostering civic engagement,[13] in line with the National Youth Policy.

Finally, the third pillar of work is the sector's support to response partners' contribution to social stability as a whole to maximize their positive impact on social stability and minimize the adverse consequences of their interventions. It will achieve this through continuing to provide guidance, analysis, and monitoring of qualitative and quantitative changes in social stability dynamics and intercommunal tensions, offering tailored recommendations at key entry points within the LCRP architecture. The sector is currently upgrading its tensions-monitoring system, examining tensions through quantitative and qualitative data from both offline and online sources of information. In addition, analysis of what types of programming result in the most positive changes in terms of reducing tensions will also be conducted in 2020, while further knowledge gaps exist on the link between gender dynamics and social tensions, the impact of external factors on tensions such as regional geopolitics, and the consequences of potential under-funding of humanitarian activities on the level of tensions. Protection concerns will be accounted for through all stages of the analysis produced, from data collection, analysis, to dissemination.

In addition, the sector will scale up conflict sensitivity and do-no-harm trainings to response partners so that they are able to incorporate findings into their strategy development, design and programming. A total of 162 individuals from 68 organizations were trained in 2019, and eight organizations underwent tailored mentoring on enhancing the conflict sensitivity of their programming through dedicated follow-up sessions during several months. At the same time, most partners recommended further trainings on conflict sensitivity for 2020, as well as guidance on how to resolve conflicts and build peace amongst stakeholders, in addition to the documenting best practices. The Social Stability Core Group will respond to these priorities and design interventions to support these needs accordingly. Indeed, as the crisis protracts further, and difficult strategic decisions must be made with funding and targeting, adopting a conflict-sensitive approach will become increasingly important. The plan for 2020 is to ensure that such an approach, equipped with robust do-no-harm tools and informed by detailed tension monitoring analysis, will be implemented in full by LCRP partners. This would lay the foundation for thinking around more future programming that seeks to integrate humanitarian, development and peacebuilding goals.

(12) Youth initiatives are understood here as a set of activities (trainings, recreational/sport activities, or community campaign) implemented over time with the same group of youth to sustain their local engagement rather than isolated, one-off initiatives.
(13) See: Sector Glossary 2020

LCRP impacts, sector outcomes, outputs and indicators

The Social Stability sector strategy primarily feeds into the Strategic Objective 4 of the LCRP 2017-2020 by reinforcing Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability. Given the sector's strong focus on support to municipalities, it is also contributing directly to Strategic Objective 3 by supporting service provision through national systems, and indirectly to the first objective, by creating a favourable environment for the protection of vulnerable groups. In terms of outcomes, the sector directly contributes to Outcome 6 of the LCRP which is aimed at the mitigation of tensions and the protection of the environment. In this way, the Social Stability strategy also serves Lebanon's longer-term development goals by contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 16.[14] Through its work with target groups, the sector will also contribute to UN Security Council Resolutions 2250 (Youth, Peace & Security)[v] and 1325 (Women, Peace & Security).[vi]

The sector's overarching aim is to ensure that the impact of the crisis at the local level does not result in instability by strengthening municipalities, communities, systems, and institutions' ability to address potential sources of tensions, and prevent violent conflict within the response. The overall impact of the sector will therefore be measured by the level of tensions – both on the ground and online – and the occurrence of incidents in targeted localities, as well as the extent to which disputes have been addressed in targeted municipalities.

Outcome 1 - Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure, reduce resentment, and build peace

This contributes to the LCRP's Impact 3 (access to basic services) and Impact 5 (social stability strengthened). This Outcome represents the bulk of the appeal of the sector, given its strong focus on investments in municipal and local services.

Output 1.1 – Increased services based on participatory processes delivered at municipal level

Partners will implement community support and basic services projects (e.g. water, energy, rehabilitation of public spaces, public facilities, roads) with the municipality based on participatory processes to alleviate resource pressure.[15]

Output 1.2 – Integrated solid waste management services provided by partners to reduce social tensions

This output will address widespread concerns over solid waste management as a source of tensions. The full cycle of waste management will be taken into consideration, based on an environmental and social approach when

(14) SDG 16: "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels".
(15) Partners solely engaged in project implementation are supporting service delivery rather than social stability and should therefore do so directly under the relevant sectors.

assistance is provided to municipalities, to ensure that sustainable and feasible solutions are designed and implemented. This also means that assistance must not be limited to sorting of waste or the provision of equipment, but also has to involve the following: ensuring the availability and linkage to industries that would take the recycled material, building regional level facilities incorporating unions of municipalities, operationalizing capacity support for municipalities to run facilities, as well as raising awareness and undertaking environmental impact assessments when needed and as per the Environmental Impact Assessment Decree 8633.[vii]

Output 1.3 – National government institutions' capacity to support local crisis response strengthened

This output reflects the much-needed push towards decentralization and institution building, building on the progress achieved by central government institutions. This will mean supporting the ministries of Interior and Municipalities, Environment, Social Affairs and Education and Higher Education to support relevant institutions' responses at the local level: municipal planning and service provision (including solid waste and environmental protection), governors' offices and their units working on social stability.

Output 1.4 – Municipal police capacity to ensure community security strengthened

Key to ensuring local security is the training of municipal police forces to ensure that they have the necessary resources to perform their functions. Scaling up community policing schemes in key municipalities, in line with MoIM codes of conduct, and establishing the related management systems will not only prevent alternative security arrangements from taking hold, but also support the institutionalization of a new approach in Lebanon. Establishing accountability mechanisms while strengthening these institutions will be vital.

Outcome 2 - Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions

This contributes to Impact 5 of the LCRP (social stability strengthened).

Output 2.1 – Capacity development support provided to municipalities and local actors for dialogue and conflict prevention

This output aims at strengthening local capacities for tension prevention and supporting activities to set up local community initiatives, coordinated with the local authorities and focused on conflict prevention and dispute resolution. It will also enable national organizations to substantively contribute to local dialogue initiatives.

Output 2.2 – Youth enabled to positively engage, participate in their communities and build bridges with youth across dividing lines

This output reflects the dedicated focus of the sector on youth, both to harvest their positive contribution to social stability, but also to prevent their marginalization in the community. By engaging youth in activities which benefit the community while enhancing their skills, their communal belonging and role will be strengthened. In addition, activities aiming at building relations with youth in other communities will also be conducted. While the focus on 'youth at risk' will tend to target primarily young men, other peacebuilding initiatives will ensure meaningful participation of all gender groups. It will be important that actors working in this area have trained staff members on identification and safe referrals.

Output 2.3 – National, local, and social media engaged in defusing tensions

The sector will emphasize its media engagement given the media's influence on public perceptions of the impact of the Syria crisis. Work to promote objective reporting, counter fake news, and ensure that positive narratives are offered in the national discourse will serve to counter more hostile messaging often found in the media.

Outcome 3 - Enhance the LCRP's capacities on tensions monitoring and conflict sensitivity

This contributes to the fifth impact statement of the LCRP (social stability strengthened).

Output 3.1 – LCRP partners trained and provided with tensions monitoring analysis to enhance conflict sensitivity

This output reflects the sector's efforts to inform the response with tensions monitoring analysis as well as dedicated training to ensure conflict sensitivity and do-no-harm. The sector has enhanced its analysis capacities in 2019 by triangulating multiple qualitative and quantitative data sources, including quarterly perception surveys on social tensions and Tension Task Forces through the Social Stability Working Group and in other sectors.

In 2020, more is planned in terms of analysing the host community-displaced persons narrative on social media, in addition to further insights and analysis products to support partners in planning and targeting. This analysis will link with further trainings on conflict sensitivity and do-no-harm, to ensure that tools are provided for partners to make the best use of analysis in informing their programmes. In addition, the sector plans to conduct Protection Risk Analyses (PRAs) at the regional level to identify key regional issues that may cause harm, as another way in which a do-no-harm approach to the sector's activities can be implemented.

An emphasis will also be placed on sector partners to use the tools and the analysis themselves to conduct their own risk analyses so that their programmes are equipped with the necessary mitigation mechanisms if tensions escalate. Finally, the sector will also work to ensure a more reactive and agile response to the data on tensions that it collects, so that tensions can be alleviated early to prevent violent conflict.

Assumptions and risks

The strategy set out above has been formulated based on the following assumptions:

1. **Social relations in Lebanon are likely to deteriorate further in 2020**. This assumption has informed the core strategy which seeks to prevent violent conflict and ensure stability, while minimizing harm to community groups. The sector anticipates that there will be increasing pressure on displaced Syrians to return, alongside increasing economic frustrations.
2. While a deterioration in relations is expected, planning has been conducted on the assumption that **there will not be a large-scale intercommunal incident that fundamentally shifts relations** between host communities and displaced persons from Syria.
3. Finally, planning has also been conducted on the assumption that the space permitted by the Government of Lebanon for **LCRP partners to operate in country remains constant.**

Several key risks to partners are also salient for 2020:

1. First, there is a risk of **gaps in service provision due to the withholding of the municipal funds**. There were several incidents in 2019, due to the delayed disbursement of the independent municipal funds, resulting in temporary but nevertheless highly disruptive gaps in key services such as solid waste management. In turn, these shortfalls exacerbated pressure on services and indeed on LCRP partners.

– To mitigate this risk, close coordination and communication with MoIM is required at the national and local levels so that gaps in service provision can be avoided.

2. The second risk relates to **unrest caused by further deterioration of socio-economic conditions.** Widespread economic anxiety was palpable in 2019. If the economy deteriorates further in 2020, sector partners should anticipate further tensions towards displaced persons from Syria at all levels as well as increased intra-communal Lebanese tensions. Given that a significant proportion of the LCRP are cash interventions, a disruption to the value of the currency or a severe downturn in economic conditions could put even more pressure on the perception of competition for jobs.

– Partners should mitigate this risk by having a common approach to communication and advocacy prepared on key issues so that the protection space for displaced populations and the welfare of vulnerable Lebanese are not eroded further and stability prevails.

3. The third risk is that **intra-Lebanese relations continue to deteriorate**, which would have negative knock-on effects on perceptions of displaced populations in Lebanon. Dissatisfaction among host communities has grown in 2019, in relation to several issues, such as the environment and the economy, to the extent of widespread unrest across the country. While the protests demonstrated some solidarity with displaced populations, the sentiment earlier in 2019 resulted in some cases in increased antagonism towards displaced persons from Syria.

– Partners should mitigate this risk with an effective and fact-based communication strategy that seeks to address misconceptions of the impact of the presence of displaced persons from Syria in Lebanon.

4. **Further isolation and reduced interactions** among displaced Syrians and host communities is also a key risk. The trend that host community members and displaced persons from Syria are interacting less, and less across multiple types of site in Lebanon, was first identified in 2018 and persisted in 2019. This is a key risk for stability in the medium and long term as trust erodes.

– Partners should mitigate this risk by designing and implementing programming that seeks to encourage community interactions wherever in line with do-no-harm principles.

5. The final risk is an increase in **arbitrary local measures imposed by municipalities** on displaced persons from Syria. Harsh actions and rhetoric against displaced Syrians in some municipalities risk making it increasingly difficult for donors to provide support to those host communities, during a time of growing economic challenges for host communities and municipal authorities.

– Partners should mitigate this risk by strong advocacy at all levels around the imposition of arbitrary measures, particularly collective evictions, which outlines the threat to stability that these measures pose.

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual/HH, institutional and geographical level[16]

There are three key dimensions to targeting which are to be considered by Social Stability partners in 2020. First, social stability interventions have typically targeted institutions and communities in vulnerable areas. However, analysis has found that social tensions are only weakly correlated with vulnerability as defined in the 'Inter-Agency Vulnerability Map',[viii] which identifies the most vulnerable cadastres as measured by a composite of socio-economic, demographic and service access indicators. This means that, while in general the cadastres which are the most vulnerable are more tense, there are many areas with high tensions that are outside of the most vulnerable. In this sense, while the Inter-Agency Vulnerability Map will remain a key reference for the sector to identify cadastres where persons displaced

(16) This can include governorates, districts, cadasters, villages, etc.

from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese are concentrated, and where the ratio of displaced to host population is the highest, an additional layer of analysis that measures social tensions will be needed to ensure that high tension areas are addressed. This additional layer of analysis will be provided to partners in 2020 in the form of a detailed and frequently updated tension map, to support the targeting of the Social Stability sector, as well as the broader inter-sector response.

Second, to ensure that the sector delivers impact at scale and equivalent treatment of geographically and socially interconnected places, targeting will also increasingly apply a cluster or area-based approach. The rationale of the approach is that geographically linked areas, which share common problems and a willingness to address them jointly, should be targeted through shared projects by Social Stability partners. In fact, to develop sustainable solutions to their problems and ensure economies of scale, a cluster approach which engages surrounding municipalities is often indispensable. This is also confirmed by perceptions surveys, which demonstrate that the positive effects of intervention are in the aggregate, and that geographic targeting of assistance to the most vulnerable areas is critical to maximize the impact of social stability programming.[ix]

Third, and in line with the sector's efforts to ensure protection concerns are accounted for, Social Stability partners will ensure that efforts are made to target marginalized individuals and individuals that are at particular high risk of violence. This will mean paying attention to the representation of women and girls, persons with specific needs and LGBTI, as well as youth and men at-risk. Robust referral pathways to case management agencies or trained social workers are essential in order for this to happen in a way that does not risk causing harm. Active efforts will be undertaken, for example, by partners holding separate sessions to account for the fact that barriers for their substantive engagement may exist in existing conflict dialogue initiatives, to ensure the views of these cohorts are accounted for. This will be done through protection risk analyses, and the inclusion of questions on this topic within the annual Conflict Sensitivity and Do-No-Harm Mainstreaming Survey.

Mainstreaming of social stability, gender, age, youth, protection and environment

Conflict sensitivity: Conflict sensitivity is core to the sector strategy. Interventions will be based on a thorough understanding of the context with a combination of rigorous tensions monitoring analysis and do-no-harm tools being applied by partners throughout their programme cycles. Sector partners will provide thought and skills leadership in this area by leading the implementation of a do-no-harm approach in the response. Conflict sensitive measures – including, but not limited to substantial support to vulnerable Lebanese populations – will characterize all interventions within the sector, while partners will promote these practices with other sectors too.

Environment: The primary environmental focus of the sector will be through solid waste management activities that seek to improve environmental conditions in localities to alleviate social tensions. The sector will increasingly benefit from the engagement of the MoE's Environmental Task Force on this matter, and to mainstream environmental considerations in other programmatic areas. This is particularly the case for the capacity support provided to municipalities, which need to be able to take environmental safeguards into account when planning for service delivery. Training, guidelines and capacity support will be provided to ensure that municipalities are able to implement these safeguards themselves. Assistance should encourage conflict-sensitive approaches, and possible additional peacebuilding activities related to solid waste management, such as dialogue platforms between citizens and local authorities.

Protection and accountability: The Social Stability sector strives to ensure inclusion and meaningful participation of different groups in the forum and dialogue spaces that it establishes. Therefore, mainstreaming protection into social stability activities will be necessary for all partners, with specific attention paid to those conducting community and group-level activities with persons with specific needs and youth-at-risk. Given the nature of those activities it is necessary that, to mitigate harm, frontline staff are adequately trained to communicate and respond to individuals at risk, strong referral pathways are in place to case management agencies and service providers, and agencies have strict safeguarding policies in place – including complaint mechanisms for physical sexual exploitation and abuse. To this end, the Social Stability sector will focus on three key areas to mitigate harm next year:

Firstly, referrals, linking individuals identified to be at-risk to service providers, will be strengthened through reviewing and adopting minimum standards on referrals by sector partners, safe identification and referral trainings provided to partner staff (including child protection), and adequate service mapping across sectors to be provided to partners so that they will know how and where to refer in a timely and effective manner. A well-trained social worker should always be present during activities conducted with individuals at high risk of violence, so that concerning behaviours can be noticed and addressed.

Secondly, barriers to accessing quality social stability activities which indirectly undermine social stability and protection outcomes, will be identified and addressed through a protection risk analysis exercise or a survey with partners to identify partner capacities in ensuring meaningful access and delivering accountable and participatory projects.

Total sector needs and targets for 2020

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescent (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	1,005,000	1,005,000	499,485	505,138	313,058	164,217	
Displaced Syrians	942,337	942,337	484,361	457,976	506,035	181,871	
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	27,700	14,349	13,351	11,171	4,770	
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	180,000	180,000	89,280	90,720	62,604	27,507	
GRAND TOTAL	**2,155,037**	**2,155,000**	**1,087,000**	**1,067,000**	**893,000**	**378,000**	

Type of Institutions	Total	Targeted
Municipalities	over 1000	251 municipalities and 53 Unions
Governors office	8	8
MoEnv	1	1
MoIM	1	1
MoSA	1	1
MoSA/ SDCs	233	233
Prime Minister Office	1	1
Security forces	1	1

Thirdly, the sector will review and provide feedback on the inter-agency minimum standards checklist for complaints and feedback, and partners will be encouraged to self-assess their organizations against these standards. This includes having proper codes of conduct and safeguarding policies in place for child protection and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

Gender: It will be key to engage women in dialogue mechanisms. Partners are encouraged to mainstream gender across programmes, including incorporation in programme design (including where possible gender-disaggregated data, gender-specific outputs, and design of specific activities to meet the different needs of men, women, girls and boys), and implementation and evaluation. In addition, referrals pathways to SGBV services will be developed as part of the broader work to strengthen referrals in the sector.

Tensions can also have an important gender dimension (especially in terms of perception of safety, relationships with security forces, intercommunal contact, etc.) which needs to be part of any analysis by Social Stability partners. Gender mainstreaming is systematically integrated into partners' interventions such as participatory planning and conflict analysis, humanitarian principles and action, or human rights training for security forces. Additional information is also required to understand how gender itself (roles, norms, practices) is intersecting with and influencing the identified drivers of tensions, and accordingly adapting partners' programmes so they may maximize their gender impact. Within this, it is important to consider how the respective programmes respond to masculine identities (norms, perceptions and attitudes/ behaviours).

Age: It will be vital to ensure active participation of young men at-risk who have limited opportunities to express themselves and build social networks, particularly if they are displaced men from Syria who are less likely to be registered with UNHCR than women, and are more exposed to security controls that limit their interactions. Much of such support will be related to life skills training, as well as building links to the Livelihoods sector for referrals for job creation activities.

Persons with disabilities: Partners are encouraged to mainstream the inclusion of persons with disabilities (PWDs) across programmes, including incorporation in programme design (including where possible PWD-disaggregated data, PWD-specific outputs, and design of specific activities to meet the different needs of PWDs), and implementation and evaluation.

Annex 1: Coordination process with the Ministry of Environment

Partners will coordinate closely with MoE, through each stage of the project cycle, to ensure that interventions are in line with national plans and guidelines. This coordination will be achieved through the following process:

1. Initial formal request of support from the municipality, including intended commitment.
2. Commitment of municipality (through an official letter) towards the project based on a Municipal Council decision.
3. Commitment of the municipality (through an official letter) to sustain or cover O&M costs partner in the projects in case of the construction of a facility.
4. Strategic assessment of the municipality's (or Union's) needs. In case of developing a municipal solid waste management plan, this could be extended to a detailed assessment.
5. Consultation with MoE on the type of intervention and location through official communication (submission of official letter to MoE).
6. With support of MoE, conduct the following mapping in order to determine most appropriate intervention type, based on existing and or planned capacities/ infrastructure:
    a. municipal capacities;
    b. national plans;
    c. existing accessible facilities; and
    d. existing potential channels for recyclables (recycling companies, agriculture, etc.).

MoE would also inform, at the first stage, about potential level of environmental assessments required (IEE EIA or none).

7. Detailed assessment of the municipality's current situation. This could be done at the beginning, as part of the needs/gaps analysis while developing the municipal waste management plan.
8. Project feasibility in coordination with MoE, including financial capacity and sustainability, waste characterization, mapping of waste generation, etc.
9. Scoping in case of needed environmental assessments (based on EIA decree 8633).
10. Identification of the needed environmental and required by MoE (see EIA decree 8633)

Endnotes

i. Aktis Strategy (May 2016), *Impact Evaluation Report, Lebanon Host Communities Support Project*, https://www.daleel-madani.org/ar/file/impactevaluationreport-aktisstrategy-2016pdf.
ii. Aktis Strategy (June 2018), *Endline Report: Lebanon Host Communities Support Project (LHSP)*, https://www.lb.undp.org/content/lebanon/en/home/library/poverty/aktis.html.
iii. UNHCR (2018) *Participatory Assessment Findings*.
iv. UNDP & ARK (July 2019), *Regular Perception Surveys Throughout Lebanon: Wave VI*.
v. Available at: https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2250(2015).
vi. Available at: https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1325(2000).
vii. *Environmental Impact Assessment Decree*, MoE Decree 8633 of 2012, http://erml.moe.gov.lb/ViewLegistlations.aspx.
viii. Accessible at https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/45715.
ix. ARK (2017), *Regular Perception Surveys on Social Tensions throughout Lebanon, Wave I: Narrative Report,* at ii.

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions' ability to alleviate resource pressure

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of people reporting positive impact of municipalities on their lives	This indicator measures the legitimacy and effectiveness of municipal institutions through the perceptions of affected communities	Perceptions Survey	Percentage	Quarterly

Baseline Sep 2017	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
71%	Leb 81% Syr 74%	Leb 71% Syr 71%	Leb 71% Syr 71%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of people reporting competition for services and utilities as source of tension	This indicator measures how prominently 'competition for municipal and social services and utlities' feature as a source of tensions	Perceptions Survey	Percentage	Quarterly

Baseline Sep 2017	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
34%	Leb 39% Syr 24%	Leb 28% Syr 15%	Leb 28% Syr 15%

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of people who feel that they can voice concern with authorities in case of dissatisfaction	the indicator measures accountability of local authorities	Perceptions survey	Percentage	Quarterly

Baseline Sep 2017	Result 2018	Target 2019	Target 2020
59%	Leb 37% Syr 46%	Leb 50% Syr 42%	Leb 50% Syr 42%

Indicator 4	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of Waste Diversion rate		SWM TF Coordinator	Percentage	Quarterly

Baseline	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
0-10%			10-25%

Outcome 2: Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of people able to identify conflict resolution mechanisms/actors in their community they would turn to	The indicator measures whether a conflict resolution infrastructure exists at the local level through formal and informal institutions that local communities feel comfortable to turn to for dispute resolution as per the perceptions of affected communities	Perceptions Survey	Percentage	Quarterly

Baseline Sep 2017	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
89%	Leb 82% Syr 75%	Leb 95% Syr 82%	Leb 95% Syr 82%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage of people identifying factors that could improve inter-community relationships	The indicator measures the percentage of people who identify 'factors of peace' that could help to improve relationships between Syrians and Lebanese thereby evincing a mindset geared towards cooperation and dialogue	Perceptions Survey	Percentage	Quarterly

Baseline May 2017	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
54%	Leb 69% Syr 82%		40%

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
of people displaying propensity for violence	The indicators measure propensity for violence	Perceptions Survey	Percentage	Quarterly

Baseline May 2017	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
50%	Leb 78% Syr 49%	Leb 61% Syr 41%	Leb 61% Syr 41%

Outcome 3: Enhcance LCRP capacities on tensions monitoring and conflict sensitivity

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Proportion of LCRP partners reporting that they have their own mechanisms to ensure conflict sensitivity	Percentage of partners reporting reading and using conflict analysis material	Conflict Sensitivity & Do No Harm Mainstreaming Survey	Percentage	Yearly

Baseline Sep 2017	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
75%	46%	62%	62%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Number of LCRP sectors taking steps to ensure conflict sensitivity in their strategy and delivery of work plans	LCRP sectors (10 in total) that take steps/initiative to integrate social stability consideratin in their work - i.e. by including specific activities related to tensions in their strategy or in the approach (targetting, training, SoPs, M&E framework etc…).	Sectors strategies	Number of Sectors	Yearly

Baseline Sep 2017	Result 2018	Result 2019	Target 2020
1	5	4	6

Rehabilitated Health Center in Michmich, Akkar.
Photo Credit: UNDP, Rana Sweidan, 20/09/2019.

WATER
SECTOR

PEOPLE IN NEED

2,688,072

PEOPLE TARGETED

1,375,474

REQUIREMENTS(US$)

2020 212 million

PARTNERS

32

GENDER MARKER

2a

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SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1

$212 m

More vulnerable people in Lebanon are using safely managed drinking water and sanitation services whilst reducing health and environmental risks and improving water quality by increasing the proportion of wastewater that is safely treated.

Indicators

Percentage increase in proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services.

Percentage increase of boys, girls, women and men with appropriate hygiene knowledge, attitudes and practices.

Percentage increase in proportion of wastewater safely treated.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

POPULATION COHORT	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	51% Female	49% Male
Lebanese	1,500,000	689,892	351,845	338,047
Displaced Syrians	990,000	539,213	274,999	264,214
Palestinian Refugees from Syria	20,161	17,138	8,741	8,398
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	177,910	129,231	65,908	63,323

Overall sector strategy

By 2020, men, women, girls, boys and persons with specific needs living in vulnerable areas in Lebanon – irrespective of their housing conditions – should be able to access sufficient and safe potable water, as well as safe sanitation facilities and services. Moreover, water and wastewater should be managed in a way that mitigates health and economic costs of environmental degradation.

The Water sector contributes to this goal through three complementary and equally critical measures:

1. Implementing approved solutions for cost-effective servicing of Informal Settlements and non-residential buildings;
2. Investing heavily in enhancing governmental institutions' capacity to efficiently manage water resources and deliver safe, reliable, and equitable water nationwide, prioritizing especially vulnerable areas;
3. Investing heavily in wastewater management by supporting Water Establishments to take in charge the sector and funding wastewater infrastructure gaps to mitigate health and environmental risks.

To achieve this, the sector response aims to drive measurable changes on three key levels:

At the institutional and policy level, the sector will contribute by filling policy gaps, empowering the Water Establishments' capacities to sustain water and wastewater services, and enabling the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW) to launch the updated National Water Sector Strategy[1]. This strategy is a first step towards helping the Government and communities make better use of resources. The updated strategy aims to develop a stronger evidence-based measure for water investments, identified through a global and rational methodology, which helps in prioritizing concerns to be addressed. To support this initiative, the Water sector will conduct a full review of infrastructure projects that have been implemented by the sector since the beginning of the Syria crisis. This evaluation will support the elaboration of evidence-based good practices in the Water sector, and highlight gaps faced as well as recommendations for future interventions.

Secondly, the sector response will strengthen service delivery by increasing the efficiency of public systems through rehabilitation and extension of inadequate water and wastewater infrastructure, which will ultimately improve access of vulnerable populations to water and sanitation. The response will build the capacity of Water Establishments serving vulnerable populations to recover operating costs through appropriate tariff systems. Support will be provided to the Water Establishments to use energy, fuel and/or generators, more efficiently to extract ground water and minimize the cost of pumping water. The Water Establishments will also be supported to reach a higher standard through improved operation and maintenance, aiming to ensure better quantity and quality of services.

At the community level, the sector will engage to empower displaced Syrians and vulnerable host communities to change behaviours that damage their health, the environment and undermine water security. Beneficiaries will participate more actively in the identification of their wastewater needs and in planning how to solve them. The response will build trust between Lebanese communities and the Water Establishments, aiming to increase subscriptions. Finally, the sector will contribute substantively to prevent social tensions between community groups through targeted interventions, such as building dialogue and consultation processes around water interventions.

Through this response, the sector will contribute to:

- **Immediate assistance to vulnerable populations** by ensuring that all men and women, in particular the most vulnerable (such as the poor, persons with specific needs, and elderly), have equitable access to safe drinking water, basic sanitation and hygiene (SDG 1.4 and LCRP Objective 2).
- **Strengthening national systems** to deliver services that ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water and adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all. This can be achieved by building the capacities of MoEW and Water Establishments to fulfil their respective responsibilities and promoting NGO, civil society and private sector participation and partnerships. This approach will combine the efforts and resources of different actors and thus strengthen systems and better address inequities in accessing WASH services (SDG 6.1 and 6.2 and LCRP Objective 3).
- **Reinforcing Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability** by improving cost recovery for water and wastewater supply systems and generating construction related jobs, which eases economic stresses. The sector is committed to: i. ensure equitable access to services and reduce inefficiencies and losses to optimise use of water resources and ii. prevent and alleviate social tensions as well as mitigate negative environmental consequences by improving the management and treatment of wastewater and protecting water resources. By addressing water issues as a key source of tension between communities, the sector will contribute not only to Lebanon's environmental stability, but also to the stability of relations between different social groups (LCRP Objective 4).

The Water sector response plan for 2020 is:

- Guided by the updated National Water Sector Strategy that will be published by early 2020. The updated strategy provides a comprehensive road map for water, wastewater and irrigation in Lebanon, including for

(1) The updated National Water Sector Strategy of 2019 will combine Water, Irrigation and Wastewater strategies in one consolidated strategy, and will include a major part on Management and Governance. The updated strategy will maintain the main strategic principles of the water policies but will reassess the set priorities in the light of the actual context and will identify gaps to prepare priority list of National and Regional projects to be implemented in all areas of Lebanon.

infrastructure and management. It will provide the parameters for improving services at national and regional level under the Water Establishments. The updated strategy will include an analysis on the impact of climate change and the Syrian crisis on the Water sector. It will also ensure equitable attention to any population regardless of their nationality and will include a pro-poor consideration for the populations that are often left without access to officially provided water services or with inadequate service and quality.

- Aligned with Lebanon's efforts to meet obligations under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 11[2], in particular SDG 6 which ensures the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. The sector relies on three baseline assessments conducted at several levels: 1) baseline for SDG 6.1 and SDG 6.1.3 (established in 2016), 2) national KAP study which provides a baseline for measuring progress on appropriate hygiene knowledge, attitudes and practices, and 3) the ongoing national study of WASH in institutions which will provide a baseline of SDG progress for Public schools, Public Health Centres, Social Development Centres, nurseries and UNRWA clinics and schools. The SDG 6.1 and 6.2 will be updated in 2020 to evaluate progress made and provide a baseline for the next cycle.
- Built on lessons learned from pilot projects (Water Safety Plans, Cash for WASH, on-site improved sanitation in informal settlements, customer database creation and Non-Revenue Water management) to propose improved and innovative solutions to sustain access of vulnerable communities to water and wastewater services.

LCRP Impacts, Sector Outcomes, Outputs and Indicators

The sector contributes directly to three strategic objectives of the LCRP:

- Strategic Objective 2: 'Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations'
- Strategic Objective 3: 'Support service provision through national systems'
- Strategic Objective 4: 'Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability' (by prioritizing interventions that mitigate the environmental impact of the Syria crisis to avoid further degradation of the natural eco-system and ensure its long-term sustainability).

The sector response for 2020 has one overarching objective; **to provide safely managed drinking water and sanitation services to the most vulnerable while reducing health and environmental risks through improving water quality with particular attention to increasing the proportion of safely treated wastewater.**

This objective is articulated through three outputs:

Output 1.1 - Strengthen national institutions, frameworks and partnerships capacity to manage resources and services

The update of the National Strategy will identify key priorities to: strengthen national systems, policy and strategic frameworks; manage resources; and improve the quality of services provided. The sector will support the MoEW and Water Establishments in developing the reforms, studies and plans. These studies will reinforce the capacities of the public institutions, set sector priorities and ensure a common vision between the key sector institutions. For this purpose, a communication strategy has been developed to help transform the Water Establishments of Bekaa, South and North into 'customer-centric' public establishments. It is in its second year of implementation. Better communication by local authorities will positively impact the perception of their ability to alleviate pressure on water services, thereby reducing a key source of tension.

The sector will continue to support the **operating model between Water Establishments (WEs) and the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW)**. The sector will train the MoEW and WEs staff to conduct and implement studies on water safety and quality that contribute to protecting ground water and improving water quality. The sector will provide equipment to WEs and training to WEs staff to improve on all operational aspects. This would include operation and maintenance of networks, chlorination systems, renewable energy use for water production to subscription campaigns and fee collection.

Sector partners, in coordination with WEs, have developed the procedure for project implementation with WEs. This SoP aims at facilitating the coordination mechanism and implementing the activities. It standardised the process and identified the responsibility of each entity in the project management cycle from identification of the needs to the handover of activities to WEs.

The sector will support the MoEW to develop the national guideline on sanitation, which includes the best modalities and implementation process for sanitation in informal settlements, in respect of the Ministry of Environment's standards. The sector will also continue to contribute to the joint efforts between the Ministry of Energy and Water, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, and all related sectors towards the adoption of environmentally-sound measures in Informal Settlements in Lebanon. Partnerships between the sector and academic institutions will be encouraged to provide complementary services and ensure sharing of expertise.

The poor environmental situation in Lebanon, exacerbated by the impact of climate change, requires a strong mobilization from the next generation (children and youth). The sector will consider supporting MEHE to

(2) SDG 1: No poverty; SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation; and SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities.

develop climate change adaptation behaviours in the curriculum, as well as organizing environment-related events and campaigns with youth.

The sector will continue to support the human resources of the ministries and WEs either directly by seconding staff or by strengthening the capacity of existing staff.

Finally, the sector will promote participation between national and local actors to enhance WASH-service delivery in vulnerable communities by reinforcing and formalizing the roles of local NGOs and civil society organizations in the implementation of new projects. The efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of services for vulnerable populations will benefit from local actors' understanding of the right holders' context on a household level, as well as directly contribute to more support and funding tools for local and national responders as committed under the Grand Bargain.

Output 1.2 – Improve the quality, quantity and reliability of equitable water and wastewater services for the most vulnerable in host and displaced communities

This output aims to enhance the WASH services provided through the implementation of humanitarian and development projects. It has two components:

A. **Ensure humanitarian water and wastewater service delivery for those with the least access, primarily displaced Syrians in temporary locations, by implementing more localised and cost-effective solutions to reach them.**

The impact of informal settlements on the environment will be added to the criteria of prioritization of sites. In line with guidance from the Ministry of Energy and Water, the sector will implement improved on-site water and wastewater systems that will minimize the environmental impact of the most prioritized informal settlements. Investments will be considered in the frame of the updated national strategy's overall priorities.

The sector will follow an updated methodology which consists of the following elements:

- **Develop an environmental model** to prioritize improved sanitation interventions in informal settlements based on the environmental risks associated with wastewater disposal. This will account for the hydrogeological characteristics of the site, the proximity to sensitive receptors[3] and the implementation capacity (land availability, landlord and or municipal restrictions, etc.).
- **Prioritize the most vulnerable** living in informal settlements according to the findings of the environmental model and available assessments such as socio-economic, protection risks and epidemiological surveillance, in addition to the available funding for the needed intervention. The sector will also examine the possibility of using the inter-sectorial vulnerability assessments as necessary.
- **Transition informal settlements** to decrease vulnerability, through cost-effective and localized solutions for water and wastewater service provision, to reduce dependency on water trucking and desludging, based on funding availability and in line with the Ministry of Energy and Water's approved modalities and guidelines, namely:
  - For sanitation: favouring latrines at household level; regulating and improving monitoring of desludging operations; implementing innovative on-site cost-efficient and environmentally friendly treatment systems, where feasible and technically applicable, based on the evaluation and lessons learned of the ongoing pilot systems; and empowering beneficiaries and local entities to assume greater responsibility vis-à-vis the systems installed. The Water sector emphasizes the exigent role of NGOs in operating and maintaining innovative and cost-efficient solutions of wastewater treatment system in informal settlements.
  - For solid waste: contribute to the promotion of sound solid waste management practices in informal settlements when possible, with proper coordination and reporting to Social Stability sector and in accordance with Ministry of Environment strategies and laws.
  - For water: improve understanding of household water management practices to optimise support; install site-based water treatment systems for unsafe sources; provide cost-effective water supply that serve the informal settlements' population via water piped supplies when possible; optimize the use of water trucking services with guidance from an ongoing study on water trucking and desludging markets; support regulated trucking only where possible; build on the lessons learnt from a pilot "cash for WASH" project to potentially scale up cash modality whilst ensuring safety; and encourage beneficiaries and local entities to maintain safe responsible water use.
- **Ensure emergency preparedness by analysing trends**, identifying sufficient capacity in all areas to respond, and proactively intervene using accurate information on critical needs. Response partners will be encouraged to be aware of how to refer protection cases if identified during site visits.
- **Participate in the development of a Winterization Preparedness and Response Plan** at field level to optimize the inter-sector (Water and Shelter) coordination and efficiency of the response.
- **Improve the coordination mechanism and complementarity with the Social Stability sector** to ensure solid waste management challenges are being adequately addressed to mitigate social tensions. Water and Social Stability partners will ensure proper referral and response mechanism in line with their available

(3) Sensitive receptors include, but are not limited to, agricultural area, hospitals, schools, daycare facilities. These are areas where the occupants are more susceptible to the adverse effects of exposure to pollution.

resources.

- **Improve the coordination with the Protection sector** to ensure case referrals of protection issues that could be addressed by Water partners.
- **Maintain a close collaboration with the Health sector** to be able to deploy an emergency response in case of any alert related to waterborne diseases outbreaks.

The sector will rely on rigorous evaluation of the intervention in informal settlements to assess and validate the impact. Through evaluation, the sector will be able to get figures on the people in need and their access to services. This evaluation will serve as the baseline for the future sector strategy.

B. **Improve the quality, quantity and reliability of water and wastewater services delivered to vulnerable communities through national and regional systems.**

The sector will focus on the management of water resources and treatment of wastewater. The response of the Water sector under this output needs to be more developed in water irrigation management as it accounts for more than 60% of the water consumption in Lebanon.

The main priorities of the sector will be determined by the National Water Sector Strategy which intends to develop a roadmap for infrastructure investment (in addition to the management roadmap) which considers the pressure of the Syrian crisis on existing facilities.

The sector will contribute to the implementation of this infrastructure roadmap by focusing on safe water supply management and improving wastewater management by targeting the most vulnerable areas and addressing the most urgent issues.

The sector will work to protect sources for drinking water from contamination and overexploitation. This will be ensured through direct improvement of wastewater collection and treatment as well as through the rehabilitation of water networks to prevent cross-contamination and water loss. Water Safety Plans[4] will be further piloted, with the aim of improving water quality through a systematic methodology which consists of identifying and addressing the causes of pollution from the source to the households.

Water consumption in the agricultural and tourism sectors remains high compared to the domestic sector. Agricultural interventions are mainly targeted by the Food Security sector; however, it is necessary for the Water sector to consider addressing the rationalization of water demand and improvement of access to safe water. Thus, the sector will be collaborating with FAO and the Food Security sector to identify synergies and combine efforts in line with the new irrigation management strategy of MoEW.

Rainwater harvesting technologies will be explored as an alternative water source to reduce/alleviate the salinization of ground water in coastal areas and improve general water availability. The guideline for rainwater harvesting[5] validated by MoEW will serve as the main document to facilitate implementation for agriculture and domestic use, in line with Water-Energy Nexus.

Last but not least, the Water sector, in collaboration with the Shelter and Social Stability sectors, will increase its focus on urban and peri-urban WASH needs, outside the informal settlements (vulnerable people living in poorly served non-residential and residential buildings), by: i. collecting better evidence on needs, including through the Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR), Collective Sites Mapping Tool (COSIMA), neighbourhood profiling and WaSH Assessment Platform(WAP) and ii. involving local entities (particularly municipalities and Unions of municipalities, governors). In addition, criteria will be developed to address WASH needs in different shelter types, and to support and adopt an integrated spatial-based approach when addressing needs.

The sector will conduct assessments on the impact and sustainability of water and water infrastructure implemented by the international community since the beginning of the Syrian crisis. Through impact evaluation, the sector will be able to understand what works and what does not and get a glimpse of what obstacles to overcome in order to attain positive outcomes.

Output 1.3 – Hygiene awareness and responsible use of water services and environment safeguard targeting the most vulnerable in hosting and displaced communities are increased.

This output aims at enabling and empowering communities to adopt more responsible water, sanitation and hygiene practices, mitigating health and environmental impacts and rationalizing demand.

The sector response will increase the quality of its community-based behaviour change initiative, while emphasizing public health, environmental protection, and water demand management. Broadly speaking, a two-pronged approach will be used:

- **Promote personal, domestic, and environmental hygiene activities:**
  - **Provide in-kind support in cases of inaccessible hygiene materials** (with particular attention to soap and menstrual hygiene items), in complementarity with other sectors such as Shelter, to vulnerable households, particularly those affected by emergencies, displaced newcomers, or otherwise at risk, focusing on the needs of women and girls, persons with specific needs (disabled, elderly, SGBV survivors, etc.) and those living in substandard living conditions;
  - **Safe handling of solid waste and wastewater** and cleaning of common areas and sanitation facilities with support of WASH committees, Focal

(4) Water Safety Plan: is a plan to ensure the safety of drinking water through the use of a comprehensive risk assessment and risk management approach that encompasses all steps in water supply from catchment to consumer.

(5) National Guideline for rainwater harvesting systems, MoEW & UNDP, 2016

Points or Community Mobilizers;

- **Support the development of programmes delivered through other sectors in public facilities** such as schools, healthcare centres, social development centres, and other community centres and municipal gardens;
- **Train hygiene promoters** from the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, and the Ministry of Social Affairs on comprehensive hygiene, water safety or environmental safeguarding at municipal level to complement the community-based mobilization programmes already running in informal settlements and vulnerable locations.

- **Clean polluted areas and plant trees** that improve sanitation and environmental health conditions.
- **Improve awareness on water conservation** and responsible use, including:
  - **Launch awareness campaigns** on water conservation and promote sharing responsibility with the community, and supporting water establishments in initiating subscription campaigns, water metering, and consumption-based tariffing;
  - **Awareness raising of children and youth** about the value of water and water saving practices, both in schools and through extra-curricular activities.
  - **Strengthen needs identification and planning at the community level as key ways of transferring responsibility** for conserving and encouraging more responsible practices.
- **Improve awareness on actions to be undertaken at household level** to mitigate potential onsite water contamination based on the Joint Monitoring Programme[6](JMP) and Water Safety Plans (WSP) results of the pilot areas: reservoirs cleaning, etc.
- **Improve awareness on sound sanitation management at the household level:**
  - Targeted awareness raising on household wastewater management, including concerns related to open defecation and non-connection of household latrines to water courses.
  - Coordination with the Social Stability sector to promote awareness raising campaigns on solid waste management practices in Informal Settlements by the WASH Partners;
  - Launch mobilisation campaigns such as cleaning of irrigation canals to prevent flooding, riverbanks, etc.

The sector will work closely with the Communication Working Group at the Water Establishment to ensure complementary and joint messaging. The sector will feed into the updated National Water Sector Strategy by sharing good practices and experiences at field level and building on evidence-based approaches. The sector will work closely with the Social Stability sector to ensure alignment of messages to national guidelines.

(6) It should be noted that Lebanon is one of the first countries in the world, through the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP), to establish a clear baseline from which to measure progress on achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all (SDG6.1).

Assumptions and Risks

The sector strategy is based on assumptions that are necessary to enable implementation of interventions and achieve the sector outputs:

- **The update of the National Water Sector Strategy will be finalized by the end of 2019:** The strategy is expected to be available 2019 and be circulated to all water actors. This will ensure a clear framework to guide new projects and encourage fund mobilization. At the beginning of 2020, the sector will also develop an evaluation of all construction projects that have been implemented since 2013. This will contribute to the strategy and be used to identify best practices and priority projects in case of delays to finalize the strategy.
- **Commitment and accountability across the Government to ensure that improving the supply and quality of water remains a priority:** Water quality and supply is a cross-sectoral issue. The Ministry of Energy and Water depends on a shared commitment across the Government to limit practices (in both public and private sectors) that impact water quality. The sector strategy will factor in evidence-based advocacy to respective ministries to demonstrate the potential long-term cost of unsafe water and wastewater management to child survival and growth, to learning, to the economy, to social stability and the environment. It will also ground this strategy under development strategies to meet Lebanon's commitments to the SDGs.
- **Donors provide sufficient visible funding to meet LCRP commitments:** The proportion of sector funding to meet critical needs of the sector is at its lowest since the crisis began. If the underfunding continues, further prioritization will be required to ensure that the most vulnerable communities and households are addressed first (using specific criteria such as equity, socio-economic status, alignment, conflict sensitivity and multi-sectoral impact). At the same time, the sector will continue to advocate for a shared common vision for the water sector as critical to Lebanon's long-term wellbeing and stability.
- **The water demand-supply ratio remains stable:** The most likely potential imbalance of the current demand-supply ratio would result from extreme weather, as the number of people inside Lebanon has been relatively stable since 2015. Should Lebanon experience either a drought affecting water supply or a new influx affecting demand, the sector strategy would be required to respond using emergency response mechanisms in place.
- **All priority populations continue to be accessible:** Currently, sector partners can reach almost all parts

of the country. To protect against any potentially destabilizing changes that make access harder, the sector will build the knowledge of communities and provide them with the tools to manage their resources safely and more independently.

While these assumptions are pertinent to support the implementation of the sector strategy, the main risks that could hinder achievements include:

- Non-commitment to the National Water Sector Strategy by ministries, Water Establishments, sector partners and civil society. This would have an impact on the implementation of the strategy and would adversely affect donor's investment interest.
- Non-commitment to guidelines on sanitation in informal settlements by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Energy and Water, Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and Ministry of Environment. This could hinder operations and environmental protection.
- Delay in validating the environmental prioritization of informal settlements. This would increase the gap between sector partners and national institutions, and as a result, increase the pressure on the partners and hinder their ability to support the innovative interventions.
- Lack of enforced cost recovery mechanisms, lack of sense of ownership, economic challenges facing municipalities, and water establishments limited capacity to assume O&M costs. Alone or together, these significant and accumulating risks would influence the sustainability of the interventions.
- Lack of livelihood opportunities for refugees and reduced capacity to cover increasing fees, notably for water supply, wastewater management, would increase the vulnerability of refugees. Increased movement of refugees with related required humanitarian support would also increase the demand on water and thus burden the planned service.

Lessons learned from the sector response indicate a need for more collaboration between the MoEW and its institutions (WE and LRA) and between MoEW and other ministries. The sector will adopt a mitigation plan by strengthening inter-sectorial coordination and advocate to encourage inter-ministerial coordination and collaboration at an early stage. Throughout the year, the sector will keep the Water Sector Risk Analysis[7] tool up to date.

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual/HH, community and institutional/physical environment level;[8]

The total population in need across all cohorts in the Water sector has been defined as equivalent to the percentage of people that do not have access to safely managed water in Lebanon. This is based on data from the Lebanon water quality survey.[9]

In general, this may be reflective of needs since it does not account for households or areas that do not have water quality issues but might instead have wastewater management needs which are much more widespread. Nevertheless, it gives the best approximation in lieu of detailed vulnerability mapping, across the country, of the varied layers of needs and is based on internationally recognised standards of assessment.

The sector targets institutions, communities that are unserved or poorly serviced, vulnerable groups, and households as well as individuals. The sector will target 80 percent of the population groups of displaced Syrians, Palestine refugees from Syria and Palestine refugees from Lebanon, while targeting 40 percent of the most vulnerable Lebanese. This reflects the sector capacity and anticipated resourcing. The inter-agency vulnerable localities map has been a key tool for the sector to identify cadastres which have the highest concentration of Syrian refugees, deprived Lebanese and Palestinian refugees. 251 cadastres are currently targeted, pending an update of the map as new poverty data becomes available. [10]

The Ministry of Energy and Water will be targeted for institutional support in its responsibilities for policy making, national planning and water resource management, while the four water establishments and the Litani River Authority are the primary targets for improving service provision.

Prioritization by sector partners will be according to the following criteria:

- **Equity:** Prioritize vulnerable groups, households and individuals (i.e. female/child headed households, elderly or disabled persons and minors) who face particular risks or require specific assistance, and on geographical areas with the highest concentration of affected people and with no/poor access to sufficient quantity, quality and continuity of services.
- **Alignment:** Prioritize implementation of pre-planned specific projects identified as essential within the Government of Lebanon's strategies and master plans, which benefit the most vulnerable communities and would make the greatest contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals.

(7) Water sector risk analysis is the exercise that identify the risks that could be faced. It supports the sector partners in identifying the mitigation measures and minimize the impact on strategy implementation.

(8) This can include Governorates, Districts, Cadasters, villages, etc.
(9) WHO/UNICEF (2016), JMP Lebanon water quality survey (unpublished).
(10) A Rapid Poverty Assessment was undertaken by MOSA, UNDP, UNICEF and WFP. Update of the most vulnerable cadastres using a multi-derivational index is ongoing.

- **Conflict sensitivity:** Prioritize areas most at risk of resource-based conflict, where community relationships are at their most fragile. In particular, partners could use the Social Stability sector's tensions mapping to ensure that high tension cadastres are considered in targeting.
- **Multi-sectoral impact:** Prioritize addressing multi-sectoral risks to health, environment, protection (PWSN, etc), education and social stability, with a focus on environmental degradation, water-borne disease incidence rates and educational retention supporting the delivery of an increasingly integrated response with other sectors.
- **Livelihood opportunities:** Prioritize creating income generation to both vulnerable Lebanese and refugees.

Complementarity between actions: Prioritize the interventions that complete previously or on-going implemented actions by other partners.

Total sector needs and targets for 2020

Population Cohort	Total Population in Need	Targeted Population	No. of Female	No. of Male	No. of Children (0-17)	No. of Adolescent (10-17)	No. of Youth (18-24)
Lebanese	1,500,000	689,892					
Displaced Syrians	990,000	539,213					
Palestine Refugees from Syria	20,161	17,138					
Palestine Refugees in Lebanon	177,910	129,231					
GRAND TOTAL	2,688,072	1,375,474					

Mainstreaming of accountability to affected populations, protection, conflict sensitivity, age and gender, youth, persons with specific needs and environment

Conflict sensitivity and social stability: Water and wastewater are one of the major sources of tensions between communities in Lebanon[11]. The water sector aims to reduce social tension by ensuring equitable and dignified access for all vulnerable communities, whether poor Lebanese, Palestine refugees or displaced Syrians. Balanced access to services does not only mitigate the risk of resource-based conflict but also promotes a climate in which people feel their needs are met fairly and proportionately. Many sector activities contribute to building community resilience (awareness raising, training, community mobilisation, etc.) and create productive fora for discussion and problem-solving. Importantly, as evidenced through surveying, the positive impact of humanitarian interventions is maximized when coupled with dialogue processes.[12] Partners are thus encouraged to ensure that consultations processes that preferably bring differing communities together accompany their WASH interventions through the project cycle.

Conflict sensitivity is one of the leading prioritization criteria for the sector, and the Water sector will coordinate with the Social Stability sector to analyse areas of tension to find ways of addressing concerns related to water and sanitation. In addition, partners will be encouraged to conduct their own analyses and take mitigating measures to emerging conflict risks by applying the do-no-harm framework to their interventions.[13] The Social Stability sector is prepared to assist with training and mentoring on how to use this framework.

Regarding solid waste management, the Water sector will collaborate closely with the Solid Waste Task Force to ensure that all wastes produced by WASH activities are properly collected and safely disposed.

Protection: The Water sector will work to mainstream protection inclusive of persons with specific needs, accountability, gender and youth through a protection mainstreaming approach. The Water sector will work closely with the Protection sector to improve the systematic identification of protection risks and mitigation measures through the protection risk analysis[14]. This will be done through an inclusive process at the regional level and will be used to direct the sector's priority areas for the following year. Meanwhile, steps will be taken to strengthen the incorporation of

(11) A survey undertaken by Social Stability reported that 92.8% of Lebanese interviewed said "the presence of so many Syrian refugees in Lebanon today is placing too much strain on Lebanon's resources, like water and electricity". (Source ARK)
(12) Ark & UNDP, 'Regular Perceptions Survey of Social Tensions Throughout Lebanon: Wave 3', (April 2018)
(13) See, The Do No Harm Framework: A Brief Description of Seven Steps, Social Stability sector (LCRP)
(14) Protection Risk Analysis (PRA) outlines key protection risks and gaps identified through WASH interventions. Mitigation measures to prevent, remove or reduce these risks have been identified through an inclusive consultative process with organisations and sector coordinators operating in regional fields. This PRA is a living document which should reviewed yearly to ensure contextual and/or programmatic changes reflected. Prioritised mitigation measures will form the basis for the protection mainstreaming action plan.

protection principles inclusive of age, gender and disability. For example, the sector will ensure that protection, gender and disability are reflected in sector needs assessment, monitoring and evaluation tools. Through improved data collection on persons with disability, by adopting the Washington group questions, the Water sector aims to better understand and identify the WASH access needs for this group, as well as take steps to disaggregate its indicators by age, gender and disability. To further the inclusion of persons with disability the sector will work in parallel with WASH committees in informal settlements and in coordination with relevant specialised actors to adapt WASH facilities to access needs of persons with disability and older persons at risk.

In order to meet the holistic needs of the most vulnerable, concrete steps will be taken to improve the safe identification and referral of vulnerable individuals or communities to the appropriate service provider. This will require a review and adaption of the Minimum Standard on Referrals to reflect the needs of partners, introduction of common referral tracking and monitoring tools, and partner reporting to the inter-agency referral monitoring system to enhance accountability to displaced Syrians. Close coordination and capacity support from the Protection sector and its sub-sectors will be needed.

Accountability to affected populations: The Water sector will take steps to strengthen complaint and feedback mechanisms for affected populations. In this respect, the South, Bekaa and North Water Establishments will be equipped with Consolidated Call Centres operational 24/7 which will enable customers to register an issue and request a call back. Displaced Syrians living in informal settlements who do not have access to public WASH services will have access to a hotline. The awareness about the hotline will be supported by sector partners. This will allow displaced Syrians to report on grievances, request for assistance and provide feedback in relation to water and wastewater services. The sector will play a more active role in the monitoring of this system, to ensure client-responsive actions are taken, and that trends are used for analysis and learning. The sector will also promote the alignment of partner mechanisms with inter-agency minimum standards on complaint and feedback. The active participation of the community will continue to direct WASH activities through committees, outreach volunteers and community reference groups.

Gender and Youth: Gender and youth considerations are mainstreamed in the water sector response. The mainstreaming is mainly done at programming and field level. At programming level, the sector promotes the incorporation of the new global gender-based violence (GBV) guideline, by considering GBV in new assessments, incorporating GBV risk related questions in questionnaires and focus group discussions. In addition, the sector builds the capacity of staff that are engaged in outreach activities on WASH related GBV risks and referrals. At field level, the partners will also increase focus on the dignity and protection needs of women and girls through a special program, relating to hygiene promotion, including menstrual hygiene management and capacity-building, to mitigate the risks of gender-based violence where women lack access to segregated, safe toilets. For instance, there are gender-segregated toilets where there are no family latrines and washing facilities.

Partners are encouraged to continue promoting women's engagement in WASH intervention. Women are taking part in WASH committee/focal points, are community mobilizers in informal settlements and are trained on water quality monitoring, safe hygiene practices and monitoring of GBV risks. The sector ensured that sessions, training of trainers which involve youth-led initiatives in communities and informal settlements on WASH topics are conducted. Special mainstreaming of young girls' need is addressed through specific activities and provision of items. Youth play an important role in established committees in informal settlements to ensure more responsible practices.

Environment: Mainstreaming of the environmental will be ensured throughout the Water sector response. Protecting the environment, safeguarding of natural water sources and preventing environmental contamination are key considerations to be mainstreamed in WASH projects. The sector will cooperate closely with the Environment Task Force, led by the Ministry of Environment, to identify the major causes of pollution related to the Syrian crisis, maximize benefits and ensure the integration of environmental markers and considerations of the EIA and IEE in the projects. The sector highlights the importance of adopting environmentally friendly practices and promoting sorting at source and reducing, recycling and reusing at workplaces.

Sector Logframe

Outcome 1: More vulnerable people in Lebanon are using safely managed drinking water and sanitation services whilst reducing health and environmental risks and improving water quality by increasing the proportion of wastewater that is safely treated.

Indicator 1	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage increase in proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (SDG 6.1.1)		JMP 2016 and 2020	Percentage	Four years

Lebanese			Displaced Syrians			Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)			Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)		
Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020
36%	N/A	46%	36%	N/A	46%	36%	N/A	46%	36%	N/A	46%

Indicator 2	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage increase of boys, girls, women and men with appropriate hygiene knowledge, attitudes and practices		KAP survey 2017, 2020	Percentage	Three years

Lebanese			Displaced Syrians			Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)			Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)		
Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020
TBD	TBD	TD	TBD	TBD	TD	TBD	TBD	TD	TBD	TBD	TD

Indicator 3	Description	Means of Verification	Unit	Frequency
Percentage increase in proportion of wastewater safely treated (Household component to WWTPs of SDG 6.3.1)		WWTP study 2016, 2020	Percentage	Four years

Lebanese			Displaced Syrians			Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)			Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)		
Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020	Baseline	Result 2019	Target 2020
3%	N/A	10%	3%	N/A	10%	3%	N/A	10%	3%	N/A	10%

PART III

ANNEXES

BEST PRACTICES
DEVELOPING THE LCRP
COMMITMENTS OF THE LCRP RESPONSE
PLANNING FIGURES
TERMS OF REFERENCE SECTOR STEERING COMMITTEE
TERMS OF REFERENCE ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE
ACRONYMS

ANNEX 1: BEST PRACTICES

1. **Maintaining the integrated stabilization and humanitarian approach** will ensure both dimensions of the response are supporting a wider reach of vulnerable individuals and institutions, while contributing to the overall stability of the country in a fragile context.
2. **Effective coordination and clarity on roles and responsibilities** will enhance the quality of results and services for beneficiaries, yielding more efficient use of resources and improved working relationships among partners.
3. **Joint and results-based planning** will ensure joint ownership of the response and avoid reshaping priorities and duplication of activities, emphasizing results achievement rather than mere adherence to planned activities and outputs.
4. **Joint communication and resource mobilization** as a shared responsibility, will support coherent advocacy and messaging consistently delivered by LCRP partners. This will ensure efficient and adequate communication on interventions, achievements and critical needs to fill funding gaps.
5. **Capacity development and involvement of stakeholders** will ensure that a group of informed, committed and engaged stakeholders contribute to the overall sustainability of the response.
6. **Mainstreaming** of gender, environment, youth, people with specific needs and conflict sensitivity will promote inclusiveness throughout the response.
7. **Improved transparency and information-sharing** will ensure building accountability and trust among LCRP partners, and contribute to the improvement of decision-making as well as the collective efficiency and effectiveness of the response.
8. **Complementarity and convergence** will strengthen coherence and ensure the sum of partners' contributions helps to achieve the LCRP strategic results.

ANNEX 2: DEVELOPING THE LCRP

The formulation of the LCRP 2017 – 2020 officially started in August 2016 when the LCRP Steering Committee approved the guidance note for the planning process.

The articulation of the strategy and formulation of the strategic priorities for Lebanon reflects a longstanding dialogue and collaboration between the GoL and the United Nations, international and national NGOs, the international donor community, and affected populations building also on the implementation of the LCRP 2015 – 2016. At sector level, field level consultations on the strategic priorities, planning assumptions and sectoral activities were held during the development and drafting process, and will continue throughout the implementation of the response.

Following the endorsement of the LCRP Steering Committee in August 2016, a series of four multi-stakeholder workshops were held throughout the third quarter of 2016 ensure ownership of the plan by the different constituencies. These workshops reviewed progress at different milestones and provided feedback throughout the planning process. At sector level, Sector Steering Committees convened by the relevant line Ministries provided oversight and guidance to the development of sector response strategies.

A Joint Technical Task Force (JTF) was formed with the responsibility to lead, coordinate and oversee the development of elements for the LCRP 2017 – 2020 appeal document that fell outside of sector mandates. The JTF was composed of representatives from the GoL, the United Nations, the donor community and national and international NGOs. With the final sector strategies endorsed through the respective Sector Steering Committees, the JTF also played a role in ensuring the overall coherence and alignment of the sector strategies with both the stabilization and humanitarian dimensions of the crisis response plan.

The planning process was concluded with a joint communication to the relevant stakeholders of the LCRP Steering Committee by H.E. the Minister of Social Affairs Rashid Derbas and the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator Philippe Lazzarini 21 November, 2017.

ANNEX 3: COMMITMENTS OF THE LCRP RESPONSE

Equity in humanitarian action: a fair distribution of assistance and financial resources based on identified needs. Ensuring equity in access to services, resources, and protection measures demonstrates the principle of humanitarian impartiality in practice. It is also essential for increasing the participation of women, men, boys and girls, and ensuring protection mechanisms that meet their needs.

Do no harm: understanding how assistance provided during a crisis situation impacts the wellbeing and safety of beneficiaries at the point of planning and also of delivery. The "Do No Harm" framework asks humanitarian actors to consider the interplay of aid programmes on the dynamics of fragile communities – for example: Who is receiving aid and who is not? Is the delivery programme perceived locally as equitable, impartial, and just? Does it reduce or increase the risk to beneficiaries, or others connected to them? It also provides a programming tool to mitigate potential harmful consequences of aid mechanisms on communities in fragile contexts.

Peace and stability: promoting the ability of individuals, households, communities, and institutions to withstand and recover from shocks and stresses while achieving transformational change. It focuses on strengthening the capacity of communities to cope with the crisis through immediate emergency interventions, by bolstering livelihoods, housing, infrastructure, and basic services; regaining productive assets; and sustaining this recovery through a functioning and peaceful socio-economic and political environment.

Partnership: Working in partnership increases the effectiveness of humanitarian response. Effective partnership requires attention to underlying issues of power, attitudes and styles of working, as well as identifying which partner is best placed to deliver on each of the desired outcomes. The partners would respect local laws and cultures of their areas of operations. The partners in the LCRP commit to uphold the Principles of Partnership as adopted by the Global Humanitarian Platform in 2007:

- *Equality: mutual respect between partners irrespective of size and power*
- *Transparency: dialogue (on equal footing), with an emphasis on early consultations and early sharing of information*
- *Results-oriented approach: keep the response reality-based and action-oriented, based on effective capabilities and concrete operational capacities*
- *Responsibility: ethical obligation of partners to accomplish tasks responsibly, with integrity and in a relevant and appropriate way, and to prevent abuses*
- *Working differently to end need: reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems; deliver collective outcomes that transcend the humanitarian – development divide*
- *Invest in humanity: Shift from funding to financing to reduce fragmentation, diversify the resource-base and increase cost-efficiency.*
- *Complementarity: build on our comparative advantages and complement each other's contributions; build on local capacity and seek to overcome language and cultural barriers*

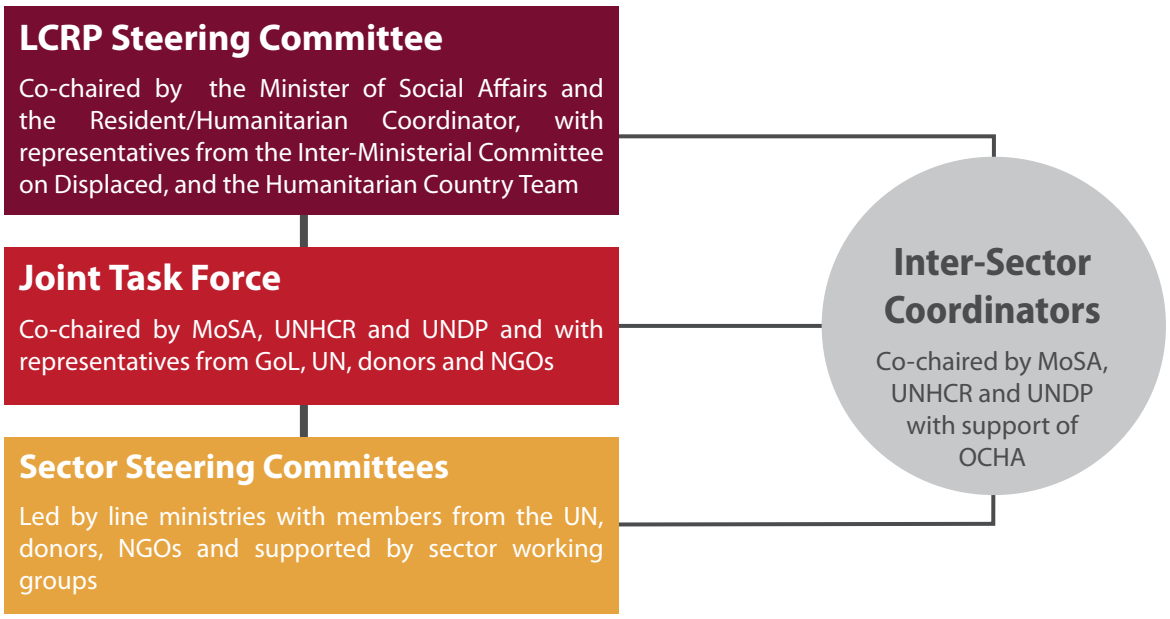
Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse: Country responses must respect and implement commitments to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse by the humanitarian community, developed under Secretary General Bulletin 2003. i.e. to develop specific strategies to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse; to incorporate standards on sexual exploitation and abuse in induction materials and training courses for personnel; to ensure that complaint mechanisms for reporting sexual exploitation and abuse are accessible and that focal points for receiving complaints understand how to discharge their duties, and ; to regularly inform personnel and communities on measures taken to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse.

ANNEX 4: PLANNING FIGURES

Category	Cohorts	Projected Population 2020						
		Total	% Female	# Female	% Male	# Male	% Children	# Children
Population cohorts	Lebanese	4,035,042	49.7%	2,005,416	50.3%	2,029,626	31.2%	1,256,916
	Displaced Syrians	1,500,000	52.0%	780,000	48.0%	720,000	53.6%	804,000
	Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	50.5%	13,989	49.5%	13,712	36.6%	10,138
	Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon	180,000	50.5%	90,900	49.5%	89,100	38.1%	68,580
	Total population living in Lebanon	**5,742,742**	**50.3%**	**2,890,304**	**49.7%**	**2,852,438**	**37.3%**	**2,139,634**
People in Need	Lebanese	1,500,000	49.7%	745,500	50.3%	754,500	31.2%	467,250
	Displaced Syrians	1,500,000	52.0%	780,000	48.0%	720,000	53.6%	804,000
	Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	50.5%	13,989	49.5%	13,712	36.6%	10,138
	Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon	180,000	50.5%	90,900	49.5%	89,100	38.1%	68,580
	Total people in need	**3,207,700**	**50.8%**	**1,630,389**	**49.2%**	**1,577,312**	**42.1%**	**1,349,968**
Total People Targeted	Lebanese	1,005,000	49.7%	499,485	50.3%	505,515	31.2%	313,058
	Displaced Syrians	1,500,000	52.0%	780,000	48.0%	720,000	53.6%	804,000
	Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	50.5%	13,989	49.5%	13,712	36.6%	10,138
	Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon	180,000	50.5%	90,900	49.5%	89,100	38.1%	68,580
	Total target	**2,712,700**	**51.0%**	**1,384,374**	**49.0%**	**1,328,327**	**44.1%**	**1,195,776**
People Targeted for Protection and Direct Assistance	Lebanese	750,000	49.7%	372,750	50.3%	377,250	31.2%	233,625
	Displaced Syrians	1,500,000	52.0%	780,000	48.0%	720,000	53.6%	804,000
	Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	50.5%	13,989	49.5%	13,712	36.6%	10,138
	Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon	20,000	50.5%	10,100	49.5%	9,900	38.1%	7,620
	Total target: protection and assistance	**2,297,700**	**51.2%**	**1,176,839**	**48.8%**	**1,120,862**	**45.9%**	**1,055,383**
People Targeted for Service Delivery, Economic Recovery and Social Stability	Lebanese	1,005,000	49.7%	499,485	50.3%	505,515	31.2%	313,058
	Displaced Syrians	942,337	52.0%	490,015	48.0%	452,322	53.6%	505,093
	Palestinian Refugees from Syria	27,700	50.5%	13,989	49.5%	13,712	36.6%	10,138
	Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon	180,000	50.5%	90,900	49.5%	89,100	38.1%	68,580
	Total target: service delivery, economic recovery and community services	**2,155,037**	**50.8%**	**1,094,389**	**49.2%**	**1,060,648**	**41.6%**	**896,868**

ANNEX 5: LCRP SECTOR STEERING COMMITTEE (SSC) TERMS OF REFERENCE

- The LCRP ensures that the coordination structures align with both the stabilization and humanitarian dimensions of the response under the overall leadership of the Minister of Social Affairs and the UN Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator.
- The LCRP response is coordinated through the Inter-Sector Response Management, led by MoSA. In accordance with their specialized mandates, UNHCR and UNDP act as co-chairs. The Inter-Sector Response Management includes LCRP sector leads from line ministries as well as sector coordinators and key response partners. This mechanism reports to the LCRP Steering Committee.
- SSCs are led by senior level representatives from line ministries, and also composed of UN agencies, donors, NGOs, and as appropriate, other concerned ministries or public institutions as well as specialized agencies. SSCs contribute with sector expertise to the MoSA Inter-Sector Response Management.
- SSCs are supported by working groups from the involved national and international partners that contribute to the technical and operational coordination of sector-specific issues including monitoring of progress, and sharing of information, experiences and challenges. Working groups report to the Sector Steering Committees.



Each SSC, under the leadership of the relevant line ministry with support from the inter-sector (MoSA/ UNHCR/ UNDP representatives), shall:

A) Planning:

- Review gap analyses and recommend on strategic direction and prioritization.
- Endorse sector strategy within the framework of the LCRP, while:
  - Accounting for inter-sectoral linkages to ensure consistency with other sector strategies.
  - Identifying the priorities for the sector response in a way that is coherent with the priorities of the relevant ministries.
  - Aligning with the relevant national standards, as well as the laws/decrees/decisions/memos of relevant ministries.
- Advice on sector response within the contingency plans of the GoL to deal with significant changes in context (e.g. changes in situation, number of refugees…).
- Ensure inclusion of key actors for the sector, respecting their mandates and program priorities, including Lebanon's civil and private sectors where necessary.

B) Implementation:

- Identify gaps, make recommendations and mobilize LCRP partners to respond to these gaps in a timely and strategic manner.
- Guide Sector Working Group to ensure coordinated delivery in the implementation of the sector response plan.
- Provide technical guidance and, as appropriate, ensure conformity with national technical standards.

C) Coordination & Communication:

- Facilitate coordination between all actors, including GoL counterparts, UN agencies, NGOs and donors through the established LCRP coordination mechanisms.
- Provide relevant information and facilitate operation of partners for successful implementation of projects.
- Endorse reports and progress reviews on sector interventions and share, as appropriate, with the wider humanitarian and/or development through the inter-sector structure.
- Review up-to-date information on partners and stakeholders through the 4W Matrix (Who, What, Where, When) and recommend actions to partners through the Sector Working Group.
- Advice on assessments and analysis required for the Sector Strategy by involving all relevant partners.

C) Budgeting:

- Steer sector-specific expenditures towards the priorities within the Sector Strategy.
- Advice on alignment of un-earmarked funding that is not specific to an agency, such as OCHA's Lebanon Humanitarian Fund, to key priorities and underfunded needs of the LCRP, in line with the LCRP steering committee guidance. For un-earmarked funding, recommend to the relevant donors on the allocation of funding.
- Review achievements within the sector response and make recommendations when needed to increase efficiencies.

D) Monitoring & Evaluation:

- Enhance an accountable and effective response by ensuring that adequate monitoring mechanisms are in place to review the outcome of the sector interventions and progress against implementation plans.
- Review periodic monitoring and progress reports based on the reporting updates received from the Sector Working Group on progress and resources allocated/used against sector strategies and corresponding results frameworks.
- Hold regular and ad hoc meetings to review progress on agreed objectives and impact.
- Report on progress/achievements to the LCRP Steering Committee through agreed upon reporting mechanisms and procedures.

Following a principle of balance of representation, the Steering Committees aims to include the following stakeholders at senior level:

a. All relevant Line Ministries
b. 2 UN agencies
c. 1 Donor
d. 1 INGO
e. 1 NNGO

Representatives under points 4 and 5 will be elected by the relevant NGO consortium.

ANNEX 6: ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE (DRAFT)

Environmental response under LCRP 2017-2020

Ensuring that environmental considerations are taken into account at the earliest possible moment of humanitarian action can make a difference – for people and the environment. To be effective, however, the environment should be systematically integrated into humanitarian programmes and operations: this is a humanitarian responsibility, not a choice. Timely planning, identifying key needs and issues, putting in place adequate means on the ground, together with cross-sectoral integration of environmental issues before and during humanitarian action can make that difference.

To ensure this responsibility, the Environment Task Force will play a key strategic role as it will provide the LCRP Inter-Sector with balanced and practical guidance and support to implement activities without compromising the natural resource base. The approach to systematically integrate environment into programming and operations under the LCRP 2017-2020 will be as follows:

- Ensure the mainstreaming of environmental considerations in all sectors under the LCRP 2017-2020
- Implement specific environmental outputs through four priority LCRP sectors with a potential to implement additional environmental activities in other sectors as needed.
- Provide effective coordination and guidance on solid waste management interventions

Mainstreaming Environment through the Environment Task Force

1.1 Mandate of the Environment Task Force

- Provide guidance on existing national environmental regulations and policies related to LCRP;
- Support system-wide accountability for the environment through developing operational standards and processes that can guide the response;
- Provide guidance for partners that want to develop projects applying for climate financing;
- Lead the provision of environmental guidelines for priority LCRP activities;
- Provide technical support and review sector chapters during the LCRP planning process to strengthen mainstreaming of the environment;
- Support LCRP partners to follow and adopt the environmental marker developed for the LCRP 2017-2020 through information sharing, process facilitation and capacity building;
- Provide guidance about the Environment Impact Assessment (EIAs) and link LCRP partners to MoE focal points for follow up;
- Assess the impact on natural ecosystems resulting from the Syrian crisis and propose remediation measures to ensure better sustainability;
- Conduct and follow up on inspections related to complaints arising from LCRP activities;
- Support the implementation of environmental activities in priority LCRP sectors (Social Stability, Food security and Agriculture, Water, Energy) and integrate environmental considerations in additional sectors as needed;
- Support sector coordinators to strengthen mainstreaming of the environment within their sector activities;
- Facilitate data sharing, exchange and knowledge management within the area of environment response;
- Collect information and provide analysis to be used for awareness raising and visibility;

1.2 Relevant Assessments

- MoE's Environmental Assessment of the Syrian Conflict (2014)
- MoE's Updated Environmental Assessment of the Syrian Conflict (2015)
- Ongoing efforts for responding to the environmental impacts of the Syrian conflict with the support of the UN agencies, specifically UNDP, UNICEF and UNHCR
- Ongoing environmental assessments for Lebanon as a whole.

1.3 In line with additional parameters

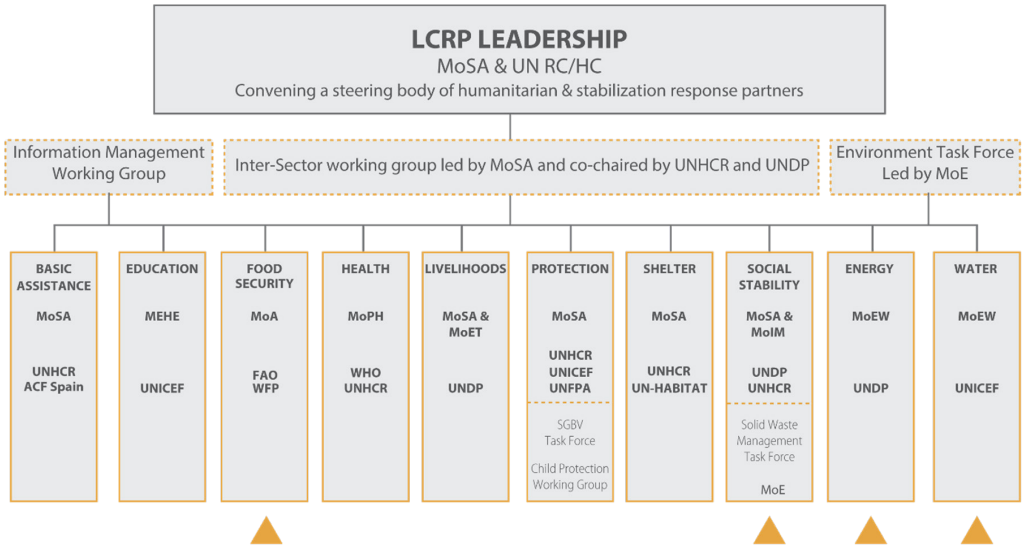
- MoE's responsibilities as a regulatory and monitoring institution and important role in setting standards and defining guidelines
- Clarification of responsibilities as per the law #80 of October 2018

1.4 Membership

Under the leadership of MoE, the Environment Task Force is comprised of:

- Members of the Inter-sector Working Group: MOSA, UNDP, UNHCR (assigned focal points)
- Sector Leads and Sector Coordinators of the following sectors: Social Stability, Food security, Energy and Water
- Other governmental institutions and UN agencies involved in planning and implementation of environmental interventions related to the LCRP's scope of work

1.5 Positioning within the LCRP Governance Structure



2. Environment Outputs at the level of LCRP sectors

During the course of 2018 and 2019, the ETF worked closely with four key sectors to strengthen the environmental response under the LCRP. Commitments are outlined below and will be revised and expanded to other sectors during the course of 2020 with practical guidance and support from the ETF.

2.1 Social Stability sector will:

- Coordinate the Solid Waste Management Task Force (SWM TF), co-led by the Ministry of the Environment and UNDP under the LCRP (see TORs below);
- Develop and implement training programmes for municipalities on environmental response to the impact of the Syrian crisis, including on the environmental marker;
- Design local environmental management plans in the "Most Vulnerable Cadastres";
- Implementation of activities to alleviate environmental pressure in urban areas such as parks, public spaces, environmentally friendly transportation, renewable energy and other options.
- Implementation of activities to alleviate environmental pressure in urban areas such as parks, public spaces, environmentally friendly transportation, renewable energy and other options

2.2 Food Security and Agriculture sector will:

- Ensure that environmental sound practices and climate smart agriculture practices are incorporated in the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) planned through LCRP interventions, including irrigation water quality measures and policies, soil and water management/conservation;
- Agricultural Practices (GAP) planned through LCRP interventions, including irrigation water quality measures and policies, soil and water management/conservation;
- Identify and implement priority land reclamation and rehabilitation of sites affected by LCRP activities (including agricultural lands affected by ITSs);

2.3 Water sector will:

- Develop and implement environmental guidelines of water and wastewater management in ISs
- Develop and implement guidelines for the reuse of wastewater and sludge in LCRP activities

2.4 Energy sector will:

- Develop and implement awareness campaigns on energy efficiency and promotion of renewable energy sources
- Identify and adopt environment and climate change measures to reduce air pollutants and GHG emissions from power plants
- Develop potential advocacy messages regarding impact of non-sustainable use of energy on pollution

3. Coordination through Solid Waste Management Task Force

3.1 Mandate of the Solid Waste Management Task Force

The Solid Waste Management Task Force falls within the Social Stability sector in the LCRP. The coordination of the Task Force is led by the Ministry of Environment, supported by UNDP as the sector coordinator.

3.2 Objectives

The objectives of the SWM coordination Task Force are (*pending approval by the Social Stability sector Steering Committee as part of the validation of the 2020 response plan*) is to:

- Coordinate on SW activities amongst the various NGOs, international and national agencies and the national partners to ensure that they are compliant with the MoE official guidelines and strategies
- Update the information on projects under implementation by the partners in the solid waste sector, to avoid unnecessary duplication, identify key priorities and liaise with local authorities.
- Share with the different partners guidelines and decisions and ensure adaptation of these guidelines in the partners projects.
- Consolidate and share relevant/public studies and other information, prepared by the different authorities.
- Support the Ministry of Environment in the development of SWM guidelines that will be considered as a platform for the planning of any SW activity through sharing field experiences and best practices.
- Gather and consolidate the SWM planned activities in the different regions in the country to the extent possible.
- Map and create an overview of all SW projects in Lebanon being completed, on-going or planned by I/NGOs
- Ensure proper reporting of SW activities by all partners on the Social Stability reporting database at Activity Info.

3.2 Membership of Solid Waste Management Task Force

The Solid Waste Management Task Force is comprised of (but is not limited to) the following members:

Government: *Lead:* MoE. *Coordinating with:* MoSA – MoIM – CDR – OMSAR

UN Agencies: *Lead:* UNDP. *Coordinating with:* UNICEF, UNIFIL, UNHCR

I/NGOs: Mercy Corps, ACF, ACTED, INTERSOS, CISP, NRC, LRC, IOM, Solidar, Solidarites International, Lost etc.

4. Workplan and Working Modalities

The ETF will coordinate with all relevant sectors in the development of a 2020 workplan. It is expected that to reach the objectives set in this document, support will be required in the form of human, financial or in-kind resources. This is based on learning from previous programming cycles in which the ETF outputs were constrained.

ANNEX 7: ACRONYMS

ALI	Association of Lebanese Industrialists
ALP	Accelerated Learning Programme
ANC	Ante-Natal Care
APP	Accountability to Affected People
ART	Anti-Retroviral therapy
AWD	Acute Watery Diarrhea
BLN	Basic Literacy and Numeracy
BTL	Back to Learning
CBECE	Community-Based Early Childhood Education
CBPSS	Community-Based Psycho-Social Support
CEDRE	Economic Conference for Development through Reforms with the Private Sector
CERD	Centre for Educational Research and Development
CFF	Concessional Financing Facility
CIP	Capital Investment Plan
CMR	Clinical Management of Rape
COSIMA	Collective Sites Mapping Tool
CPIMS	Child Protection Information Management System
CRGs	Community Reference Groups
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DOPS	Département d'Orientation Pédagogique et Scolaire'
DOTS	Directly Observed Therapy Strategy
DWC	Decent Work Conditions
ECL	Education Community Liaisons
EdL	Electricité du Liban
EPHRP	Emergency Primary Healthcare Restoration Project
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunization
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
ESP	Effective School Profile
ESU	Epidemiology Surveillance Unit
EVAC	Ending Violence Against Children
EWARS	Early Warning and Response System
FFA	Food for Assets
FFT	Food for Training
FPSC	Fundación Promoción Social de la Cultura
FPSS	Focused Psychosocial Support Activities
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GBVIMS	Gender-Based Violence Information Management System
GDE	General Directorate of Education
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoL	Government of Lebanon
GPA	Graduation out of Poverty Approach
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
GSHS	Global School-based Student Health Survey
GSO	General Security Office
HAUS	Health Access and Utilization Survey
HIS	Health Information System
HLP	Housing Land and Property
HRC	High Relief Commission
IDAL	Investment and Development Authority of Lebanon
IDDS	Individual Dietary Diversity
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IE	Individual Education
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IEP	Individual Education Plans
IMC	International Medical Corps
IS	Informal Settlements
ISWM	Integrated Solid Waste Management
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme
LARI	Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute
LBP	Lebanese Pounds
LCC	Lebanon Cash Consortium
LCEC	Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation
LCD	Lebanese Civil Defense
LHSP	Lebanon Host Communities Support Programme
LRC	Lebanese Red Cross
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEB	Minimum Expenditure Basket
MEHE	Ministry of Education and Higher Education
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MDD-W	Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women
MHGAP	Mental Health Gap Action Programme
MMUs	Mobile Medical Units
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoET	Ministry of Economy and Trade
MoEW	Ministry of Energy and Water
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants
MoL	Ministry of Labor
MoIM	Ministry of Interior and Municipalities
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transportation
MPCA	Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MSR	Mechanisms for Stability and Resilience
NAP	National AIDS Programme
NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases
NEERA	National Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Action
NEO	National Employment Offices
NFE	Non-Formal Education
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NLG	No Lost Generation
NMHP	National Mental Health Programme
NPTP	National Poverty Targeting Programme
NREAP	National Renewable Energy Action Plan for Lebanon
NSSP	National School Safety Plan
NTP	National Tuberculosis Programme
NWSS	National Water Sector Strategy
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
OM	Outcome Monitoring
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OSH	Occupational Safety and Health
OOSC	Out of School Children

PA	Participatory Assessments
PCAP	Protection Cash Programmes
PCBS	Palestinian Bureau of Statistics
PCM	Presidency of the Council of Ministers
PDM	Post-distribution Monitoring
PEP	Post-exposure Prophylaxis
PHC	Primary Health Care
PHCCs	Primary Health Care Centres
PLWs	Pregnant and Lactating Women
PMT	Proxy Means Testing
PMU	Project Management Unit
PNC	Post-Natal Care
PRCS	Palestine Red Crescent Society
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
Prep ECE	Preparatory Early Childhood Education
PRL	Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon
PRS	Palestinian Refugees from Syria
PSEA	Protection from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
PSS	Psychosocial Support
PU-AMI	Première Urgence-Aide Médicale Internationale
PVE	Prevention of Violence and Extremism
PwD	Persons with Disabilities
PwSN	People with Specific Needs
3RP	Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2018-2019
RACE	Reaching All Children with Education
RAIS	Refugee Assistance Information System
RH	Reproductive Health
SALP	Secondary Accelerated Learning Programme
SBM	School-Based Management Framework
SFP	School Feeding Programme
SDC	Social Development Centre
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIPs	School Improvement Plans
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SMEB	Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket
TB	Tuberculosis
TCF	Teacher Competency Framework
TTC	Temporary Technical Committees
TTCM	Teacher Training Curriculum Model
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East
UNSF	United Nations Strategic Framework
VASyR	Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
WAP	WASH Assessment Platform
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WBL	Work Based Learning
WFP	World Food Programme
WE	Water Establishment
YBLN	Youth Basic Literacy and Numeracy

Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2017 - 2020

2020 update

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