This dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. Social Stability in Lebanon are working to:

- Strengthen municipalities, national and local institutions’ ability to alleviate resource pressure (Outcome 1);
- Strengthen municipal and local community capacity to foster dialogue and address sources of tensions and conflicts (Outcome 2);
- Enhance LCRP capacities on tension monitoring and conflict sensitivity (Outcome 3).

### Key Achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievements</th>
<th>Reached / Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># local participatory planning processes conducted</td>
<td>28 / 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># municipalities &amp; union of municipalities benefitting from capacity building support</td>
<td>110 / 212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># municipal and community support projects implemented to address priority needs identified following participatory processes</td>
<td>349 / 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD invested in municipal and community support projects</td>
<td>$ 15.4 m / $ 66.2 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># new local and municipal dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives</td>
<td>25 / 135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># youth-led initiatives implemented</td>
<td>67 / 251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># youth engaged in social stability initiatives</td>
<td>18,318 / 35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># municipalities reporting on social stability to MOIM central security cell</td>
<td>620 / 600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Analysis

#### Municipalities with newly established dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives (in 2019)

- North & Akkar: 4
- Bekaa & Baalbek El Hermel: 12
- BML: 1
- South & Nabatiye: 8

#### Municipal & Community Support Projects implemented (in 2019)

- North & Akkar: 116
- Bekaa & Baalbek El Hermel: 64
- BML: 68
- South & Nabatiye: 85

#### Number of youth-led initiatives (in 2019)

- North & Akkar: 3
- Bekaa & Baalbek El Hermel: 52
- BML: 4
- South & Nabatiye: 7

### Progress against targets

- 2019 Funding Status in USD as of 31 December 2019
  - Required: 125 m
  - Carried Over from 2018: 25% (32m)
  - Received in 2019: 29% (37 m)

### Targeted Population groups

- 251 Communities in need
  - Reached: 242
  - Targeted: 251

### Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>SYR</th>
<th>LEB</th>
<th>SYR</th>
<th>LEB</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OUTCOME 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>% of people reporting positive impact of municipalities on their lives*</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of people living in vulnerable areas reporting competition for municipal and social services and utilities as source of tension*</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of people living in vulnerable areas who feel that they can voice concern with authorities in case of dissatisfaction*</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUTCOME 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of people living in vulnerable areas able to identify conflict resolution mechanisms/actors in their community they would turn to*</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of people displaying propensity for violence*</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUTCOME 3</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Proportion of LCRP partners informed on stability risks and trends and able to integrate conflict sensitivity in their programming**</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of LCRP sectors taking steps to include social stability considerations in their work***</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*: UNDP & ARK, Regular Perceptions Survey on Social Tensions  
**: Conflict Sensitivity Mainstreaming Survey  
***: LCRP 2019 Planning Process
**ANALYSIS OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SECTOR AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL**

In 2019, around 631 businesses, i.e. Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), cooperatives and social enterprises, received cash and in-kind grants and technology transfers (out of a target of 3,670). The economic slowdown and financial situation made it difficult to create new job opportunities, thus meeting the targets. To respond to this situation, livelihoods partners have focused on supporting businesses with potential to survive the crisis to ensure their sustainability. To improve the employability and self-resilience of displaced individuals and host community members, particularly women, 30,836 individuals participated in soft skills and technical trainings exceeding the targets for 2019. Female participation in technical trainings was around 9,517 compared to male which was around 7,853. Much emphasis is given to promote women’s roles and resilience in their communities. As the economic crisis is deepening, the livelihoods sector had to re-prioritize trainings in order to ensure that trainings are responsive to market demands. Nevertheless, through the efforts of the Ministry of Economy and Trade, the livelihoods sector has managed to update the National Business Development Service Map for partners to use to avoid duplication of services.

Despite the increasing economic challenges in 2019, livelihoods partners were able to impact the lives of around 57,753 women and men and succeeded in providing short term employment opportunities to 17,433 beneficiaries through public works projects, benefiting indirectly more than 70,000 beneficiaries. Furthermore, around 15,481,000 USD was invested in labor-intensive efforts that have not only provided 12,000 temporary job opportunities for the most vulnerable but also addressed the priorities of local municipalities and brought tangible results to the local host communities. Yet, the unpredictability of the 2019 socio-economic situation has caused higher levels of stress and increasing tensions between host communities and displaced communities, particularly over the competition for low-wage jobs and the higher cost of living.

In 2019, 36 value chains were valorized or upgraded in order to generate wealth and create jobs. Agro-industry value-chains are generally considered to be amongst the promising economic sectors for the country, which the livelihoods sector continuously aims at boosting. To this end, in 2019, in close collaboration with the food security sector, the livelihoods sector developed a national online mapping system of value-chains interventions which will ultimately strengthen coordination and information sharing among cross-sectorial partners operating at national and field level.

**KEY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SECTOR TO LCRP OUTCOME**

Under the Lebanon Crisis Plan, the livelihoods sector aims at strengthening productive sectors in expanding economic and livelihoods opportunity to the most vulnerable communities.

2019 has been a year which required the livelihoods sector to respond to increasing vulnerabilities while pursuing efforts to generate new employment opportunities, both short and medium term. Livelihoods have throughout the year created/maintained, 4,203 jobs out of a target of 5,777. These jobs have been created or maintained through the support to MSMEs, who have been able to hire and/or maintain employees. In addition, livelihoods partners have reported that around 2,174, out of a target of 2,899, Lebanese MSMEs and cooperative have improved performance and expand market access after six months of support. MSMEs are still perceived as key economic engine for economic growth and job creation in Lebanon and the livelihoods partners continue their efforts to support their capacities to respond to market demands and generate income for local economies in poor areas.

To improve workforce employability of vulnerable women and men, livelihoods partners provide career guidance and work-based learning, and technical skills trainings to match the demand of the labour market. In 2019, around 1,522 vulnerable men and women have been placed into jobs and around 284 women and men have used the skills gained to initiate home-based income generation, out of which 50 percent are women.

In 2019, Lebanon ranked 143 out of 190 economies on the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Index whereas in 2017 Lebanon ranked 126. This development indicates the need of focusing on regulations that support the development of SME-friendly employment, legal, regulatory and taxation frameworks to enhance business activity and stimulate economic growth. In 2019, there were no improvement in business regulations.

**CHALLENGES**

The economic downturn has exacerbated pre-existing fragility, increasing poverty and social tensions between different communities and deepening the Lebanon’s socio-economic disparities. The crisis is causing businesses to close and people to lose their jobs and working conditions to deteriorate, adding to the challenges of the livelihoods sector. The unpredictability of the situation increases the concerns around growing vulnerabilities, which is why the livelihoods sector will regularly monitor business closure and working conditions.

The crisis also led to disruption in services due to roadblocks, the financial restrictions and devaluation of the Lebanese pound prevented partners from accessing finance and provide cash-services to beneficiaries. Particularly beneficiary’s mobility and access to soft-skill and technical trainings, and labour intensive work were limited. Livelihoods partners experienced delays or suspension of their operations and were therefore not able to meet their targets. Livelihoods partners had to request no cost extensions by the donors and adapt new administrative measures to cope.

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1 Includes individuals benefiting from marked based skills trainings, internships, on-the-job trainings, apprenticeships programmes, and coaching and career guidance.
2 Tension Monitoring System, ARC Perception Survey Wave VII findings January 2020
As of 2019, the livelihoods sector remained the second least funded sector under the LCRP with only $93m available for programming, of which $26.95m was a carry-over from 2018. With only 42% funding available in 2019 for livelihoods interventions, partners have not been able to scale-up investments required to boost the demand side of the job market or offer short-term employment opportunities for the most vulnerable. In addition, MSMEs continue to be hampered by a range of factors including access to start-up or expansion capital and inadequate labour market information or skill gaps, as well as challenging procedures for setting up a business. Another significant and recurrent barrier within the livelihoods sector is the unavailability of multi-year funding opportunities. The short-term nature of funding mechanisms does not support longer-term livelihoods efforts aimed at reducing vulnerabilities and building resilience. Neither does it adequately support long-term and structural challenges experienced by Lebanese MSMEs, cooperatives and small-scale farmers, as investments in value chains development and market linkages require sound and long-term funding.

Displaced Syrians are becoming more economically vulnerable with the proportion of them spending less than $US 2.90/per day increasing from 51 per cent to 55 per cent in 2019. At the same time, the Lebanese host communities are also struggling as the economic crisis is compounding existing vulnerabilities. This development also fuels the perceptions of competition in the job market which continues to be the most commonly cited cause for rising tensions between host and refugee communities, as well as between Lebanese communities. This is evident in the ARK Perception Surveys on Social Tensions throughout Lebanon Wave VII, which shows that access to jobs remain the primary source of tension for both Lebanese and Syrians (60%), followed by electricity (19%), medical (8%) and shelter (5%).

To address these challenges, the key priority of the livelihoods sector in 2020 is to foster local economic growth in the most vulnerable areas through labour intensive projects that can support short-term employment and address the needs of affected municipalities. Through the efforts of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Labour, the livelihoods sector will work towards the endorsement of the Employment Intensive Projects in Lebanon Guidelines to guide partners on how to mainstream and implement decent work conditions in labour intensive interventions. The sector will work towards creating stronger linkages with ministries and other stakeholders involved in ensuring decent work conditions, as the crisis might increase informal work and exploitation.

In addition, the sector will resume supporting MSMEs and value chains development to foster job creation by expanding and improving the productivity and quality of businesses to ensure self-sufficiency. Yet, the impact of the crisis on an already challenging economic situation increases the urgency of allocating multi-year funding and resources to support the development of strategic value chains that can foster job creation, especially in agricultural, agro-food and waste recycling value chains. In this context, strengthening collaboration as well as partnerships and mutual learning will be pursued in 2020 through the technical working group on agriculture value chains, in close collaboration with the food security sector.

Improving employability remains a priority as well, however, the livelihoods sector will focus on adapting skills training to market demands. Lebanon would benefit from a national labour market assessment as such assessment would guide partners on industries that have potential for growth and where there are skills gaps. Resources should be allocated to produce such assessment by the livelihoods sector.

The downturn is particularly affecting people with specific need such as female-led household, disabled and elderly. The livelihoods sector is coordinating closely with the protection sector to address inequalities and/or protection risks through the upcoming inter-agency referral system in order to ensure timely and relevant livelihoods support to the most vulnerable groups while ensuring the security.

Rural Delights is a hub that supports over 40 women-led cooperatives in rural areas across Lebanon in promoting women’s economic leadership, challenging stereotypes, and providing economic opportunities for as many women as possible.

“So many of us benefit from this van: some women prepare the raw materials, others prepare the food, and local women and youth participate in the events taking place in their hometowns,” says May Traboulsi, the Chairperson of Rural Delights

To enhance the capacity of these cooperatives’ access to the market, UNDP provided Rural Delights with a refrigerated food van, as well as a training on using social media platforms to promote their products, with support from the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
The van, which is at the disposal of eligible cooperatives free of charge for the first year, plays a significant role in enhancing access of Women Cooperatives to new markets; by preserving the quality of the food and easing the transportation process, cooperatives are more likely and able to participate in events and exhibitions across the country. Incorporating the van, in turn, foresees a 20% increase in the cooperatives' general income – specifically at least a 20% increase per exhibition or event. Additionally, it’s eye-catching display attracts more visitors while reducing the cost of renting transportation vehicles, tables, chairs, and kitchen equipment.

By participating in events across the country, the cooperatives are now able to build a wider network to improve their reach and long-term revenue stream.

“We created a fresh new concept of street food that is healthy, tasty, and traditional,” May proudly states.