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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Lebanon: Population Movement

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRLB007	Glide n° CE-2019-000063-LBN
Date of issue: 25 June 2019	Expected timeframe: 4 months Expected end date: 31 October 2019
Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Yellow	
DREF allocated: CHF 301,088	
Total number of people affected: 20,000 people (4,000 households)	Number of people to be assisted: 2,805 people (561 households)
Host National Society: Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) - 300 volunteers, 20 staff, 14 DM centers	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) and Lebanese Red Cross (LRC)	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government line ministries (Social Affairs, Education etc.), Lebanese Internal Security Forces and the Civil Defence, UN Agencies particularly UNHCR)	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

The Higher Defence Council announced in mid-April that informal settlements built by Syrian refugees with material other than timber and plastic sheeting must be dismantled before June 9, 2019. Following the announcement, a decision was taken by the Aarsal Municipality in cooperation with the Lebanese Armed forces (LAF) to enforce the announcement made by the Higher Defence Council. Aarsal is a remote town in the Bekaa Valley in Northern Lebanon, that has embraced and welcomed the largest number of Syrian refugees regardless of the negative effects the displacement has had on all the aspects of the town. This decision by the Higher Defence Council will have an impact on around 4,000 households who live in informal tent settlements (ITS) built with material other than timber and plastic in Aarsal (Rose¹, 2019).

The planned demolitions started June 9, 2019 and involve around 4,000 Syrian households and see as many as 15,000 children face homelessness, severely impacting their mental and physical wellbeing. The alternatives for these households are still unclear (Reuters 2019²).

The conflict in Syria has aggravated the pre-existing development constraints in Lebanon, and the current need for humanitarian assistance is continuously increasing. Lebanon is the second major host of Syrian refugees in its region. The Syrian refugee population in Lebanon remains the largest concentration of refugees per capita. As of May 2019,

¹ Rose, S. (2019, June 05). 15,000 Syrian children face homelessness in Lebanon, NGOs warn. Retrieved from <https://www.thenational.ae/world/mena/15-000-syrian-children-face-homelessness-in-lebanon-ngos-warn-1.870902>

² Planned Lebanon demolitions put 15,000 Syrian children at risk of... (2019, June 04). Retrieved from <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-syria-security-lebanon/planned-lebanon-demolitions-put-15000-syrian-children-at-risk-of-homelessness-ngos-idUSKCN1T51P8>

Lebanon hosts 935,454 registered Syrian refugees (UNHCR 2019)³, and 452,669 registered Palestinian refugees (UNRWA 2015), on top of the 4 million Lebanese citizens.

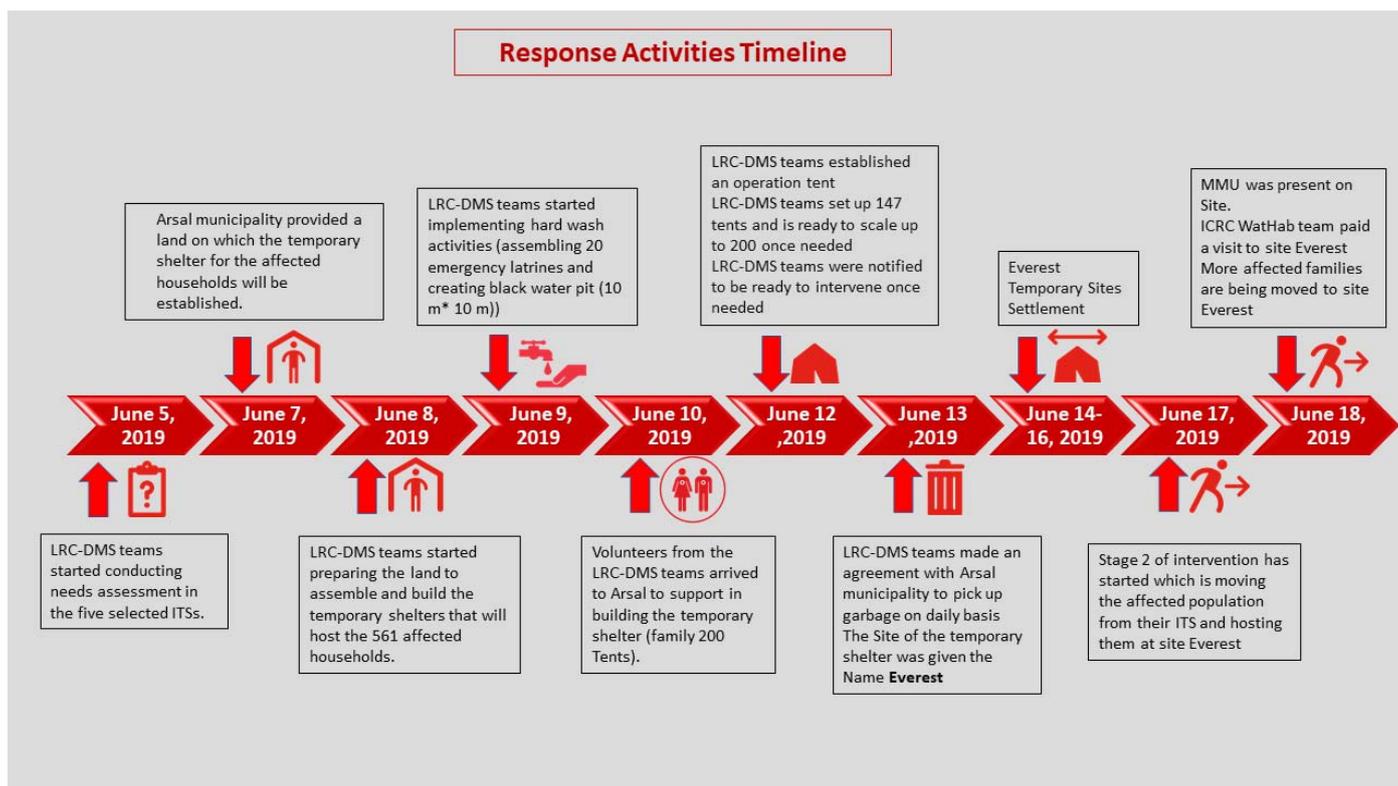
Eight years into the crisis, the Syrian refugees in Lebanon are facing more difficulties in meeting their basic survival needs, in part due to the decline of international support. This support included providing food and non-food items, WASH, Cash, Health, Shelter and Winterization services to people in need. According to the Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VaSYR) 2017, **58% of households are living in extreme poverty**, while **76% of total refugee households are living below the poverty line** and thus spending less than \$4 per day. According to the VaSYR 2017, released by the UN Refugee Agency, the reasons aforementioned have resulted in some people to incorporate negative coping strategies in order to provide for their families. With such living conditions and Lebanon's weak infrastructure and public services, the chances of Syrian and Lebanese communities meeting their social, economic, and medical needs continue to diminish.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society:

In response to the decision made by the LAF to dismantle all ITSs that are built with material other than timber and plastic sheeting (Rose, 2019), the LRC in coordination with UNHCR, ICRC, and the Arsal Municipality decided to support five ITSs (561 households of a total of around 4,000 affected households).

Since the onset of the decision made by the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), the following activities have been undertaken by the Lebanese Red Cross, through the LRC volunteers and staff.



Under this DREF operation, the LRC has established tented temporary shelter, and is expected to support 561 households in total, divided into 3 consecutive rotations (200+200+161) (the temporary shelter has enough capacity to withstand the volume of a maximum of 200 tents, thus several rotations are required). The LRC temporary shelter welcomes the households who decide to dismantle their semi-permanent shelter. Each rotation capacity accommodates 200 families in the temporary shelter with the provision of their basic needs for 5 days, which is the time needed for the refugees to dismantle their settlements, clean the debris, and rebuild according to required standards using the shelter kits provided by LRC. LRC will also support in these demolition/cleaning/construction

³ <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria/location/71>

phases by providing daily workers and through their volunteers and staff. LRC will also establish or repair emergency latrines as needed for the re-established settlements.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in Lebanon

Throughout 2019, LRC in addition to its main auxiliary role to provide services to the most vulnerable people in the country, is focusing on operationalizing its new strategy developed for 2019-2023.

LRC receives support from 17 PNSs working in MENA Region and coordinates its activities with PRCS/L and ICRC.

The LRC jointly with IFRC and ICRC have regular coordination meeting to ensure information sharing and to keep the Movement partners updated and informed about the situation and on the LRC operations. Coordination meetings between LRC, IFRC and ICRC are taking place regularly.

ICRC will support LRC intervention by providing shelter kits for the affected population to be able to rebuild their tents. Moreover, ICRC will support the LRC to cover the cleaning cost of the debris resulting from the demolition of the semi-permanent ITSs.

German Red Cross will support LRC for the provision of food items including hot meals and food baskets.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

Even though the primary responsibility for notifying refugees about the Higher Defence Council decision rests with the authorities, the LAF, MoIM, MoSA and the local authorities in Aarsal, and over the past weeks through various meetings and means, have sought to ensure that the community is aware and has increased information sharing based on feedback.

Following coordination meetings, on one hand with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM), and on the other hand with the UNHCR, it has been agreed that the LRC will be supporting five ITSs. Other ITSs have been delegated between other local actors (Service Civil International, Lebanese Organisation for Studies and Training, International Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, Action Against Hunger, Medair)

Pursuant to the decision made by the Lebanese Armed Forces, the inter-agency partners shall continue to coordinate closely with MoSA in responding to the dismantlement of hard structures.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

It was estimated by the UNHCR and MOSA that close to 4,000 households residing in Aarsal ITSs are at risk of evacuation. These 4,000 families will require temporary shelter assistance and provision of their basic needs until they are able to settle safely back in their re-built settlements, The LRC in coordination with other actors agreed to support five ITSs (561 households of the around 4,000 households). The LRC will respond to the needs of the 561 households in providing them with shelter, food, WASH, and medical attention. The needs are detailed by sector below.

SHELTER: Since the decision has been made to demolish the semi-permanent shelters used by the Syria nrefugees in ITSs in Aarsal area, LRC has agreed to support 561 households of the 4,000 households who are at risk of evacuation. As the major component following to the demolishing, the displaced people would require temporary shelters to reside in until the demolishing is completed and they are allowed to go back to the original sites using new emergency-type shelters. LRC has the capacity to support 200 households at a time in the temporary shelter. More details on the needs and planned response supported by this DREF allocation are detailed in the plan of action below.

LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS: With affected communities already living in dire conditions, the further disruption exacerbates the needs and coping mechanisms. This includes a need for food assistance, to limit negative coping mechanisms, until their disrupted life is back to normal. LRC, with the support of German Red Cross, will provide the displaced families with hot meals and food parcels to cover their needs even if required after moving to their re-constructed settlements. As such, this sector will be financially supported outside of this DREF operation.

HEALTH: Considering the already challenging circumstances, compounded by the loss of shelter, harsh weather conditions which are expected to worsen in the coming weeks and months and well as the high percentage of children and women in those location would result in an increased need for support in this. Based on the needs, LRC will provide medical services, such as medical consultations and correct health education. Available medicine will also be distributed with the provision of clinical health care services through deployed mobile clinic. LRC EMS teams will be on standby for any transport service required. Health support will be covered through LRC ongoing programmes.

WASH: The current sanitation facilities are few and far between, and the situation is further worsened with the forced move and destruction of existing semi-permanent structures. Communities are also reliant on current water services that require regular payments, which, with the loss of belongings and shelter, as well as the approaching hot weather conditions, further erodes current fragile coping mechanisms. As the households remain in the temporary shelters, LRC will provide usable and drinkable water through trucking, latrines (10 for males and 10 for females), garbage bins, and site improvements. Awareness session and hygiene promotion sessions will be delivered to the households after they return to their original ITSs. The LRC will also provide emergency latrines to families re-establishing their emergency-type shelter. This sector will be supported by this DREF allocation, and is outlined in further detail below.

Targeting

In coordination with other actors, LRC will assist Syrian refugees residing in five ITSs in Arsal, consisting of 561 affected households, who are at risk of evacuation due to a government decision that requires Syrian refugees to have a certain criterion for their shelter in line with the Government's guidelines (informal settlements that were built by Syrian refugees with material other than timber and plastic sheeting).

These 561 families have been selected to be supported by LRC since LRC had previous programs with them in coordination between Arsal Municipality, ICRC, and UNHCR. The remaining families from the 4,000 have been delegated to other actors as mentioned above.

Scenario planning

The LRC is planning to implement the following activities in two different sites:

Site 1: Temporary Shelter:

- 1- Building temporary shelter made of 200 tents and installing WASH facilities (20 latrines, black water pit, water tanks and stands) to accommodate the affected families till the re-construction phase of their original ITSs is re-constructed;
- 2- Supporting in arranging transport for the households from the semi-permanent ITS to the temporary shelter and back along with their belongings and items when required;
- 3- Distributing ready meals and drinking water to the affected households;

Site 2: Original ITSs:

- 1- Briefing the households regarding the criteria required to build their new ITS;
- 2- Providing the households with tools to dismantle their semi-permanent ITS and assemble their tents;
- 3- Providing full/partial emergency latrines to be established along the reconstructed ITSs;
- 4- Providing the affected households with food parcels;

Reiterating the rotation process if needed.

Operation Risk Assessment

There is an urgency for the LRC and other involved actors to act immediately in assisting and providing the targeted households with temporary shelters and basic needs to avoid unwanted impact in terms of huge damages and losses, in case of delay. Otherwise, the LAF will demolish the ITSs that are built with material other than timber and plastic sheeting.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The objective of this operation is to provide emergency shelter, NFIs, food, and WASH assistance to 561 vulnerable households in Arsal who are at risk of evacuation and directly affected by the Lebanese Armed Forces' decision to demolish their current shelters.

Proposed Strategy

The LRC will assist the households by ensuring their transportation and their belongings from the semi-permanent ITS to the temporary shelter, providing them with the basic needs. As for the dismantlement of the semi-permanent ITS, LRC will pay for daily workers to help the households to remove the debris resulting from the dismantlement. Moreover, and once the dismantlement is completed, the LRC volunteers will distribute the shelter kits to the households needed

for the assembly of their ITS as per the required criteria and provide partial/full latrines. Lastly, the LRC will ensure the transportation of the families and their belongings back to their original ITS once ready.

It is worth noting that this process will be completed over a minimum of three rounds assuming that every 200 households will be moved to the temporary shelter and return after five days. The LRC has 300 volunteers ready to be deployed in rotation of 30 volunteers per shift. All the 300 volunteers will be insured as part of this DREF operation. LRC will provide volunteers with the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) and visibility from its own stocks.

Through this DREF, the LRC is seeking support for reimbursement for the costs incurred in the above-mentioned intervention.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)

Monitoring will form an integral part of the operation and will help ensure that it is consistent with the changing situation on the ground. In collaboration with the IFRC and Lebanese RC operation team, the LRC will ensure the monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the activities. At the end of the operation, a lessons-learned workshop to document good practices and lessons learned to inform future responses will also be organized, in collaboration with LRC.

Security

To reduce the risk of RCRC personnel against crime or violence, active risk mitigation measures will be adopted. This includes situation monitoring and implementation of minimum-security standards. All RCRC personnel actively involved in the operations must have completed the BSAT (Basic Safer Access Training provided by LRC) Contingency plans must be in place to manage the emergencies sufficiently.

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF 24,851)

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform																
	Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected								National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected.								
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP040	Ensure that volunteers are insured	x	x	x	x												
P&B Output Code	Outcome S3.2: The programmatic reach of the National Societies and the IFRC is expanded.																
	Output S3.2.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved								Work in planning and reporting to ensure effective accountability internally and externally								
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP058	Work on reporting, accountability to communities, community engagement and accountability								x	x	x	x	x				
AP058	DREF review and lessons learned workshop										x	x	x				

Budget

The required budget for this DREF operation is 301,088 CHF as detailed in attached budget.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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- **IFRC Geneva: Programme and Operations focal point:** Tiffany Loh, Senior officer, Operations coordination, email: tiffany.loh@ifrc.org;

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For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting)

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace

DREF OPERATION

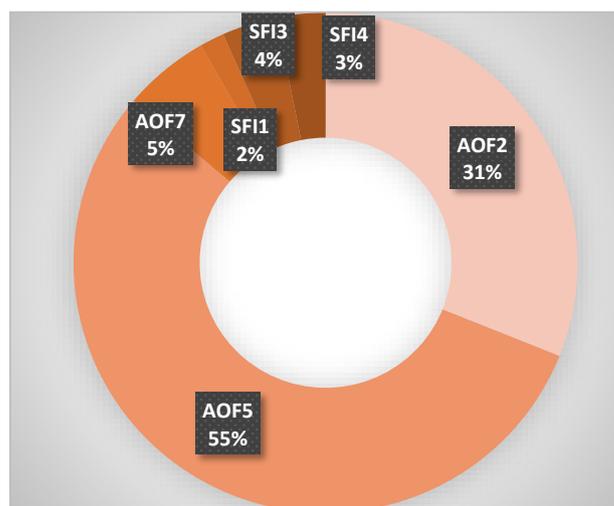
Lebanon ARSAL Population Movement

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Shelter - Relief	72,000
Clothing & Textiles	4,500
Food	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	149,880
Other Supplies & Services	6,000
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	232,380
Transport & Vehicles Costs	15,610
Logistics, Transport & Storage	15,610
Volunteers	15,888
Personnel	24,722
Workshops & Training	10,000
Workshops & Training	10,000
Information & Public Relations	0
Other General Expenses	0
General Expenditure	0
DIRECT COSTS	282,712
INDIRECT COSTS	18,376
TOTAL BUDGET	301,088

Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF1 Disaster Risk Reduction	
AOF2 Shelter	93,601
AOF3 Livelihoods and Basic Needs	
AOF4 Health	
AOF5 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	166,012
AOF6 Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
AOF7 Migration	16,625
SFI1 Strengthen National Societies	4,793
SFI2 Effective International Disaster Management	
SFI3 Influence others as leading strategic partners	10,650
SFI4 Ensure a strong IFRC	9,408
TOTAL	301,088





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Lebanon-Population Movement Disaster Relief Emergency Funds



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

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