

**Syria Crisis Bi-Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report  
Lebanon**

**Date: 22 February 2013**

***Reporting Period: 9 – 22 February 2013***

**LEBANON**

**Highlights**

- The 93 per cent shortfall in funding for WASH is limiting the coverage and scale-up of interventions. Without further funding, WASH targets for the provision of access to safe and adequate water and sanitation cannot be met.
- As part of a major scale up effort, UNICEF has initiated 24 new partnerships with local and international NGOs, covering the areas of health, education, WASH, and child protection.
- Following the success of the recently-concluded vaccination campaign, the Ministry of Public Health has officially requested UNICEF to extend the campaign nationwide to reach the remaining 16 provinces.
- UNICEF has commenced direct distribution of winter supplies to 1,450 beneficiaries in two tented settlements in the Bekaa.

**Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs**

<b>Registered Refugee Population</b> <i>(Estimates calculated based on initial figures from UNHCR Portal on 20 Feb 2013)</i>			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>Total Affected Population</b>	190,954	91,658	99,296
<b>Children Affected (Under 18)</b>	99,296	49,648	49,648
<b>Children 0-4 Years</b>	38,191	19,095	19,095
<b>Children 5-11 Years</b>	38,191	19,095	19,095
<b>Children 12-17 Years</b>	22,914	11,457	11,457
<b>18 – 59 Years</b>	84,020	38,191	45,829
<b>60+ Years</b>	7,638	3,819	3,819

\* An additional 104,546 Syrians have been in contact with UNHCR to be registered, bringing the total number of Syrians to 295,500.

A total of 190,954 refugees are currently registered with UNHCR, of which more than fifty per cent are children. An additional 104,546 Syrians have been in contact with UNHCR to be registered, bringing the total to 295,500. Given the unabated flow of refugees into Lebanon, it is accepted that the forecast of 300,000 refugees by June 2013 will be reached in the coming days. Indeed, the real number of refugees in the country is believed already to be substantially higher, since many refugees choose not to register. It must be emphasized that the impact of the crisis extends far beyond the registered refugee caseload. Some estimates place the number of Syrians in the country at 900,000, including the unregistered and migrant workers who are remaining in Lebanon and being joined by their families. Moreover, the impact of hosting is now manifesting itself among impoverished Lebanese communities who have reached the limits of their capacity to provide support.

As such, UNICEF is providing assistance to the wider population affected by the crisis, including host communities, Lebanese communities displaced by cross-border conflict, Lebanese returnees, Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS), and the Syrian migrant workers who have brought their families to tented settlements in Lebanon instead of returning home for the off-season. This effort must now continue and expand substantially (see below).

It is currently very difficult to evaluate the number of PRS in Lebanon, largely due to the fluidity of the cross-border movements to and from Syria. It is estimated that between 22,000 and 26,000 have arrived due to the crisis, with approximately 200 new arrivals each day.

**Programme response**

**WASH:** The 93 per cent shortfall in funding for WASH is limiting the coverage and scale-up of interventions. UNICEF has identified a number of potential implementing partners that would allow for a further scale-up in WASH coverage, which has remained relatively slow to date due to the wide

dispersal of the displaced population. However, without further funding, even the existing WASH targets for the provision of access to safe and adequate water and sanitation cannot be met.

**Child Protection:** Through UNICEF-supported community centres in Aarsal and Berqayel, 150 women and girls benefitted from awareness-raising sessions, counselling for SGBV survivors, referrals to specialist services for SGBV survivors, and the distribution of dignity kits. Additional centres will open in Wadi Khaled and Bar Elias in early March 2013. In the past two weeks, UNICEF partners have provided:

- Recreational activities for 200 girls and boys between the age of 5 and 14 in Taanayel and Wadi Khaled.
- Assistance for more than twenty children with disabilities to receive medical and psychosocial support.
- Psychosocial activities and recreational activities for 820 children in Douris, Baalbek, Addous, and Wavel Palestinian refugee camp.

**Education:** The enrolment of Syrian students in public schools is on-going through UNICEF partner Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre. An additional 1,875 students have been enrolled since the last report, bringing the total to 15,738 students to date, representing 44 per cent of UNICEF's target of 35,530 school-aged children in learning programmes. In total, there are an estimated 124,000 school-aged Syrian refugees. Enrolment of Syrian students in public schools will continue as long as there is space in hosting schools. However, public schools are nearing saturation point, and other options must now be considered, including a move to double shifts.

To scale up the on-going Back-to-School initiative, UNICEF is in the process of confirming seven new agreements with partners for the implementation of remedial classes, accelerated learning programmes, curriculum development, and recreational activities including psycho-social support. The associated new agreements will target 231 schools identified in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE). These partnerships are expected to reach an additional 16,000 Syrian and Lebanese children in urgent need of education and psychosocial support.

Delivery of fuel to heat classrooms is continuing. To date, 48 schools in the Bekaa, and 13 in the North have received fuel from UNICEF, with deliveries underway to a further 36 schools in the South and Beirut. Overall, 23,820 Syrian and Lebanese students have benefitted from the provision of fuel for heating to date.

200 health educators from MEHE are being trained this week on data collection and monitoring. These child-level monitoring tools have been developed in partnership with Balamand University and approved by MEHE to track Syrian children's performance in the 200 Lebanese public schools with the highest proportion of Syrian students.

**Health:** Compilation of figures from the now-completed vaccination campaign is still underway. To date, the following has been confirmed<sup>1</sup>:

- 186,526 children aged 9 months to 18 years vaccinated against measles
- 111,451 children up to 18 years receiving Vitamin A supplementation
- 46,621 children up to age 5 receiving polio vaccinations

The success of the vaccination campaign, coupled with more than twenty cases of measles identified in 8 Qadas, has resulted in a request from the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) for UNICEF to extend immunization support to cover the remaining 16 provinces, thereby shifting to a national campaign. UNICEF has signed an agreement with Save the Children to support the provision of health services through two primary health centres (PHC) and MoPH-accredited health clinics in Bar Elias and Qob Elias in the Bekaa. Neither of these locations is currently supported by other NGOs, despite a high concentration of Syrian refugees. With a focus on mother and child health, the clinics will provide training and capacity building for PHC staff, as well as covering the costs of:

- consultation fees for every visit to the OB/GYN and paediatrics for all beneficiaries
- routine diagnostic tests required for confirming pregnancy and antenatal care
- other essential diagnostic tests required by an OB/GYN or a paediatrician

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<sup>1</sup> Results include 35,783 Syrian refugee children for measles, 22,941 for Vitamin A and 14, 036 for polio.

The clinics will provide health care services for Syrian refugees (regardless of their registration status with UNHCR), Palestinians returning from Syria, Lebanese returnees and the Lebanese host community.

**Nutrition:** The report of the Interagency Nutrition Assessment of Syrian refugees in Lebanon (released last week) found that the nutritional status of Syrian families is currently acceptable, with the prevalence of global acute malnutrition among women aged 15 to 49 years, and children 6 to 59 months, at less than 5 per cent. However the report notes that this situation could change rapidly, due to the presence of aggravating factors including winter, increasing numbers of new arrivals, and a high disease burden. Accordingly, UNICEF is finalizing a new partnership agreement with the International Orthodox Christian Charity (IOCC) focusing on prevention of malnutrition. The project will establish a nutrition monitoring and surveillance system, and also ensure access to micronutrient supplementation, in order to protect the wellbeing and nutritional status of children up to age 5 and pregnant and lactating women affected by the Syrian crisis.

**Supply and Logistics**

UNICEF has commenced direct distribution of winterization supplies to two informal settlements in the Bekaa, in areas not yet reached by other humanitarian organizations. To date, 695 children have received winter clothing kits and 755 people have been provided with blankets. Direct distribution will be extended to a further six settlement in the coming weeks. Under phase one and two of UNICEF’s winterization, the following have been delivered to partners for distribution:

- 15,414 blankets
- Winter clothing vouchers for 15,390 children
- Winter clothing kits for 16,595 children
- Baby kits for 4,542 children
- 6,865 family hygiene kits, benefiting 34,325 people
- 2,000 adult hygiene kits, for 4,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria
- Fuel for heating 33 child friendly spaces, benefitting approximately 1,700 children across the Bekaa Valley

**Regional**

**Funding**

Funding Status		Child Protection	Education	Health & Nutrition	WASH	NFIs	Safety & Security	Ops. Mgmt	*Being Allocated	Total
In millions of US Dollars										
Syria	Required	8.82	20.05	15.88	22.50		1.19			68.44
	Funded	2.41	3.00	0.50	7.34		0.59			13.84
Jordan	Required	11.19	17.76	3.69	24.35					57.00
	Funded	0.37	0.08	0.37	3.80			0.00		4.61
Lebanon	Required	7.77	13.83	1.06	10.81	1.72				35.19
	Funded	3.61	8.81	0.00	2.62	0.22		0.00		15.27
Iraq	Required	1.45	2.41	1.45	9.30			5.40		20.00
	Funded	0.33	0.00	0.00	1.97			0.00	0.00	2.30
Turkey	Required	6.00	6.50							12.50
	Funded	0.31	0.00							0.31
Egypt	Required	0.26	0.35	0.09						0.70
	Funded									0.00
MENA RO	Required									2.00
	Funded							2.74		2.74
Total	Required	35.49	60.90	22.17	66.96	1.72	1.19	5.40		195.83
	Funded	7.02	11.89	0.87	15.73	0.22	0.59	0.00	2.74	39.07
	Gap	28.47	49.01	21.30	51.23	1.50	0.60	5.40		156.76

Next Situation Report: **8 March 2013.**

**For further information, please contact:**

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