

Lebanon

July 2021

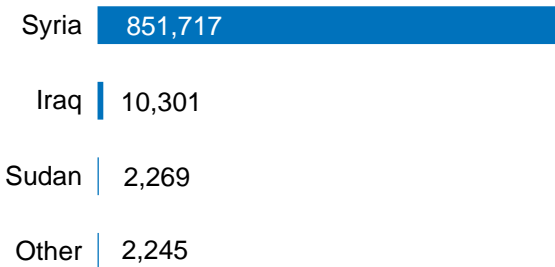
Lebanon remains the country hosting the **largest number of refugees per capita**, with the Government estimation of **1.5 M Syrian refugees** + some 15,800 refugees of other nationalities.

Economic & Financial crisis with COVID-19 pandemic and Beirut blast have led to extreme poverty among refugees with **88% of the Syrian refugees** living **below the extreme poverty line.**¹

% of Syrian refugees holding valid legal residency has further decreased, hampering their access to **basic services, civil documentation** and increasing the **risk of deportation.**

POPULATION OF CONCERN

(registered refugees)

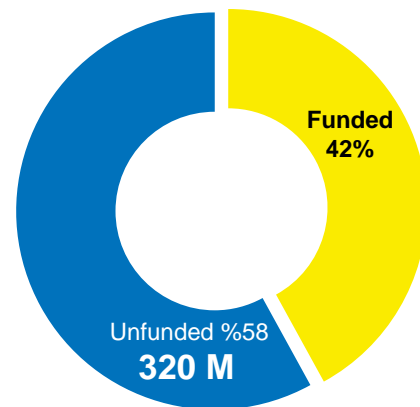


* Registration figures as of 30 May 2021

** UNHCR registration of Syrian refugees in Lebanon has been suspended since May 2015 through a decision by the Government of Lebanon

USD 553.7 M

requested for the Lebanon operation in 2021



FUNDING (AS OF 27 JULY 2021)

UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

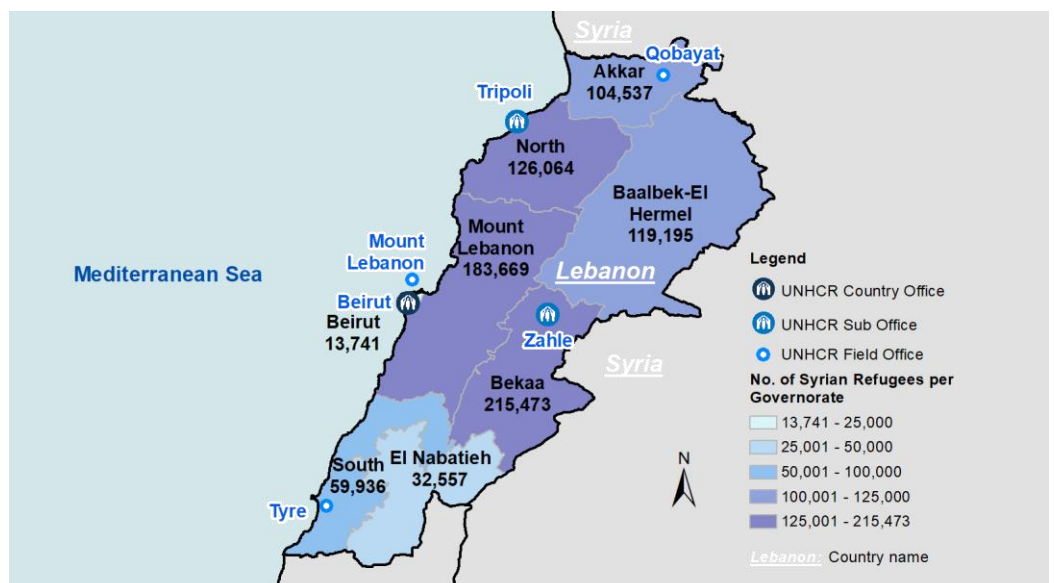
520 National Staff
96 International Staff

Offices:

1 Country Office in Beirut

2 Sub-offices:
Tripoli & Zahle

2 Field Offices:
Tyre & Mount Lebanon



¹ Based on the VASyR 2020

Working with Partners

- Through the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) – developed by the Lebanese Government and humanitarian and development partners – UNHCR coordinates the implementation of the LCRP jointly with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and UNDP, maintaining leadership on the refugee component in line with the Refugee Coordination Model. UNHCR co-leads the Protection, Basic Needs, Health, Shelter, and Social Stability sectors and provides support to other sectors, including Education and WASH, ensuring that refugees are central to planning, strategy design and prioritization.
- UNHCR is engaged in the National COVID-19 Response to support the prevention, containment, and treatment of cases. In the extension of UNHCR's sector co-leadership and programmes in the protection and shelter response to the Beirut port explosions, UNHCR also co-leads the Housing and the Social Cohesion, Inclusion and Gender sectors in the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF).
- In 2021, UNHCR has partnership agreements with 27 partners, of which 11 are international, 13 national and 3 UN agencies.

Main Activities

Protection

- UNHCR coordinates the response for all refugees in Lebanon with the Government, UN agencies, and local and international partners, including activities related to: registration; protection/border monitoring and advocacy; legal aid; civil documentation; psychosocial support; child protection; prevention, risk mitigation, and response to gender-based violence (GBV); and resettlement to third countries which is pursued by almost 10% of refugee populations with acute vulnerabilities/protection needs.
- UNHCR continually updates the data of Syrian refugees who registered with UNHCR before the Government's instruction in 2015 to suspend registration and registers and determines the claims of asylum-seekers of other nationalities.
- In line with UNHCR's Global Campaign to end statelessness by 2024, UNHCR supports the Directorate General of Personal Status to facilitate the birth registration and other vital events of refugees and Lebanese; provides legal aid and services to stateless acquire or confirm the Lebanese nationality; provides technical support to the Working Group on Statelessness; and works closely with UNICEF, in the context of the joint Global Coalition on Every Child's Right to a Nationality, to promote joint advocacy initiatives to prevent and reduce childhood statelessness.

Education

- UNHCR continues to support education for refugees through partners, addressing adaptations to e-learning modalities, consolidating retention through community-based engagements, identifying and referring adolescents who lack basic learning to a certified basic literacy and numeracy programme, and supporting skills-building through Youth Education Programme (YEP). For higher education, UNHCR supports students through the DAFI

scholarships programme. Currently, UNHCR Lebanon supports 87 DAFI scholars to access their university courses online.

Health

- UNHCR implements a substantial health care programme to ensure refugees in Lebanon have access to primary and secondary health care, including the coverage of a large part of the lifesaving cost and emergency interventions at hospitals. In 2021, UNHCR will continue to subsidize refugee access to primary health care consultations and laboratory tests, as well as access to life-saving hospital care where needs are estimated at 100,000 referrals per year.

Institutional and Community Support

- UNHCR provides institutional support to strengthen the central and local authorities' capacity to respond to the needs of refugees and Lebanese communities hosting large numbers of refugees. The support to public institutions continue to focus on supporting service delivery and enhancing the capacities of public officials to respond to the crisis.
- UNHCR continues to implement activities geared towards peacebuilding and social stability. Since the onset of the Syria crisis in 2011, more than 533 community support projects have been implemented by UNHCR in Lebanon. Given the rapid decline in services, UNHCR is providing targeted additional support to key municipal services, including implementing solid waste management and public infrastructure projects in 2021.

Shelter, Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR applies an integrated, area-based approach to respond to refugees' acute shelter needs in informal settlements, collective shelters, and substandard shelter units. Poor urban neighborhoods and rural areas in need of support are identified and receive targeted assistance through an integrated shelter/WASH response including rehabilitation, cash for rent assistance, site improvement, and winterization assistance. Refugees receive shelter kits to reinforce or rebuild their shelters following flooding, evictions, or fire incidents and withstand extreme weather conditions. Shelter rehabilitation and collective site improvements allow vulnerable refugees to live in upgraded shelters and benefit from secure tenure through free occupancy for one year.
- Refugees living in informal settlements benefit from desludging services to prevent public health risks, access to safe water through quality-monitored water trucking or connection to water sources, and sensitization on hygiene practices adapted to the displacement conditions.
- Cash for rent assistance targets general and specific protection referral cases facilitating enhanced tenure security inadequate shelters, offsetting the risk of eviction and allowing the targeted HHs to adjust to deteriorating economic situations and overcome shocks.

Basic Needs

- UNHCR assists vulnerable displaced and refugee families to cover their most basic needs through the distribution of cash assistance as well as in-kind assistance. Since 2013 UNHCR has provided a Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance programme (MCAP) through ATM cards. Apart from strengthening the capacity of the benefitting families to cover basic needs such as rent, food and medicines, and reduce their vulnerability to exploitation and harmful coping strategies, UNHCR's MCAP has enabled refugees to contribute to the local economy by purchasing

directly from local markets and shops. In 2021, UNHCR has assisted 171,000 severely vulnerable Syrian refugee families and 2,000 refugee families of other nationalities.

- UNHCR provides additional cash assistance during the winter season to support the vulnerable families during the harsh winter months and in view of the unprecedented economic and financial crisis. During the 2020-2021 winter season, UNHCR provided winter cash assistance to almost 200,000 vulnerable refugee families with more than 870,000 individuals and 8,700 vulnerable Lebanese families with some 31,600 individuals.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR, through community centres and outreach volunteers (OVs), supports refugees and Lebanese in receiving updated information about UNHCR services, acquires skills through trainings and awareness sessions, and access to specialized case management and psychosocial support services. Self-help kiosks are being set up at the community centres to enable refugees to update key basic data. In 2021, 387 community groups were supported by UNHCR. UNHCR has also engaged 518 general and specialized OVs from the refugee and host communities to help those in need.

COVID-19 in Lebanon (as of 30 July 2021)

- Since the start of the pandemic, Lebanon has conducted over five million tests and confirmed over 559,000 cases of COVID-19 with 7,900 fatalities.
- The total number of individuals registered for vaccination on the Impact platform is 2,145,717 and the total number of administered vaccines is 1,927,531.
- In July, more than 7,000 COVID-19 cases have been confirmed among refugees, including 330 deaths.
- In total, 80,467 Syrian refugees have been registered on the IMPACT platform (open data e-Government platform) and over 25,000 vaccinations have been given.

UNHCR Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak in Lebanon

UNHCR is implementing the following series of measures across the country to respond to the virus outbreak:

- **Access to basic hygiene items:** A total of 24,340 sanitary kits have been distributed in refugee settings (informal settlements, non-residential and collective shelters), reaching 278,316 persons.
- **Vaccination enrolment:** outreach volunteers supported the vaccination enrolment of 8,368 refugees on the IMPACT platform.
- **Health awareness:** UNHCR conducts regular health awareness-raising sessions on transmission and prevention of COVID-19 as well as on vaccination. Key messages are also shared through SMS, WhatsApp, Communication Tree, social media platforms and websites. Moreover, 82,000 calls related to COVID-19 assistance were responded to by the joint UNHCR - WFP Call Center. Also, through individual phone calls or home visits, OVs and CHVs reached 21,963 refugees on vaccination awareness.
- **Provision of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) sets and medical Protective Personnel Equipment (PPE):** UNHCR Lebanon supported 12 hospitals and procured and delivered 99 sets of ICU equipment, 319 hospital beds, 100 stationary and 20 portable ventilators. Two vaccination sites were supported with medical supplies and a loan of medical equipment. Also, UNHCR has supported the rehabilitation of two PHCs and the provision of medical supplies.

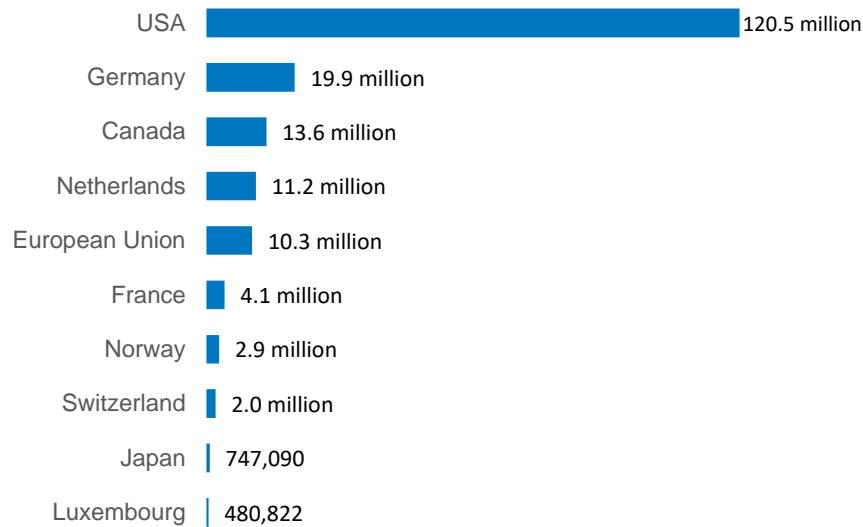
- **Treatment support:** UNHCR covers 100% of the cost for tests and treatment of refugee patients. Since the pandemic, UNHCR has covered more than 3,000 COVID-19 tests and the admission of 1,400 refugees under UNHCR's referral care program.
- **Mobile team:** UNHCR has deployed mobile vaccination teams in North, Bekaa and South refugee settings, leading to 759 vaccinations.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD (as of 27 July 2021)

Earmarked contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 234 million**.



OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

United States of America 22.1 million | Denmark 8 million | Private donors Australia 6.2 million | Finland 6 million | Sweden 5.4 million | Private donors Germany 3 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.7 million | Brazil | Estonia | Holy See | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Norway | Russian Federation | Slovenia | Spain | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions.

Norway 80 million | Sweden 66.9 million | Private donors Spain 42.6 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | Germany 26 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 21.5 million | France 20 million | Private donors Japan 17.6 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Ireland 12.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Italy 10.7 million | Private donors Sweden 10.6 million | Private donors Italy 10.4 million

External/ Donors Relations

Katariina Elisabet Stewart, Senior External Relations Officer, stewart@unhcr.org

Shadi Sheikhsaraf, External Relations Officer, sheikhsa@unhcr.org

Lebanon, Beirut

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