

Annual Results Report

2024

Lebanon

Acknowledgements

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Note:

The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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- 4.1 - Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2024, Lebanon went through a significant security deterioration, with severe impact on all vulnerable communities, as well as on infrastructure and the economy. This was combined with continuous weak governance through interim arrangements, as Lebanese political parties failed to agree deliberated on the election of a president. While the hostilities in Lebanese border areas started at the beginning of the conflict in Gaza in October 2023, throughout 2024, daily exchange of fire escalated between Israel and the armed groups, moving further northward into Lebanon.

Mid-September 2024 saw a dramatic escalation in hostilities, with sustained and heavy airstrikes in the South, Bekaa, Baalbeck as well as the densely populated urban areas of southern Beirut. These resulted in close to 900,000 individuals displaced internally at the height of the crisis, with some 190,000 staying in collective shelters, mostly schools. Most of the internally displaced individuals originated from five districts, namely Sour, El Nabatieh, Bent Jbeil, Baabda and Baalbek. Among them, were also refugees, with UNHCR individually identifying some 110,000 internally displaced. All out the hostilities refugees could not access emergency shelter solutions, such as collective shelters manned by the authorities. Due to various administrative restrictions on movement and resettlement in the country, the proportion of Syrians refugees moving out of affected areas was also smaller as compared to Lebanese. Given the adverse conditions, some individuals crossed to Syria, with UNHCR office Syria estimating their number at 360,000 Syrians and 200,000 Lebanese, even if most of those who were not refugees known to UNHCR in Lebanon.

December 2024 was marked by two important developments, on one hand the implementation of a ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah which came into effect on 27 November and on the other, the fall of Assad's regime in the neighboring Syria. The former was accompanied by massive returns of Lebanese IDPs to their places of previous residence and rapid decommissioning of collective shelters. Due to the destruction of infrastructure and residential buildings, returnees were gradually settling back in areas as the Israeli forces withdrew. Others remained in displacement. The events in Syria brought hope for return but were also accompanied with new arrivals of Syrian minority groups, who either fled preemptively or experienced violence, some, due to their association with the fallen regime.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

Persons of concern enjoy a safe protection environment, with access to fundamental rights, fair procedures and specialized support services

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20.00%	18.40%

In 2024, a critical protection issue continued to be the limited ability of refugees to exercise their basic rights, including the right to freedom of movement, due to their inability to obtain legal residency documents and the various restrictions imposed by security forces and municipalities, including movement and residency restrictions as well as raids.

UNHCR continued to advocate on behalf of individuals at risk of refoulement, particularly those seeking admission to Lebanon at border crossing points and those detained by the General Security Office. In 2024, UNHCR assessed at least 1,500 individual cases and intervened on behalf of more than 1,000 Syrians at risk of refoulement. As a result, some 400 Syrian individuals were released from immigration detention – 2.5 times more than in 2023. Despite UNHCR’s continued presence in immigration detention facilities and ongoing advocacy with authorities on behalf of those with international protection needs, UNHCR still recorded a relatively high incidence of refoulement from Lebanon to Syria. In some cases, individuals were not transferred to the Syrian authorities but were instead left in no-man’s land.

Registration appointments continued to be provided mainly through the National Call Center. While 19.54% of the total individuals who requested appointments have been registered as asylum seekers, additional 51.71% are already recorded with UNHCR and have access to UNHCR and partner services. The remaining are already in pipeline and have appointment requests and emergency cases are being fast tracked.

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

In the context of a deteriorating socio-economic situation, further deterioration of affected populations' well-being is mitigated through equitable access to quality basic services

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	45.00%	47.00%
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	82.00%	78.50%

UNHCR supported highly vulnerable populations through life-saving interventions. UNHCR’s multipurpose cash assistance remained the key lifeline, with some form of cash assistance reaching 64.4 per cent of the refugee population. A total of 167,277 vulnerable refugee households received monthly multipurpose cash assistance, including the response to the emergency during increased hostilities. 96,532 of the most

vulnerable refugees and IDPs received core relief item assistance in response to winter shocks and new displacement.

UNHCR supported 40,053 refugees and Lebanese with primary health services and provided secondary health care to 44,796 refugees with critical medical conditions and war injuries. The decrease compared to the previous year in the indicator proportion of refugees and asylum-seekers with access to health services can be linked to the reduced funding for health in 2024, leading to stricter eligibility criteria for referral health care services and an increase in the patient share with a negative impact on the affordability of healthcare. The security situation also impacted access to health services both at primary and secondary healthcare levels as multiple facilities sustained damages.

UNHCR expanded shelter interventions in the context of hostilities with a focus on people with health and protection risks and critical socio-economic and shelter vulnerability. It also expanded to respond to new displacement during an emergency. Life-saving shelter interventions assisted 288,699 individuals, including 110,736 Lebanese and 177,963 refugees living in tents in informal settlements, populations at risk of eviction and newly displaced Lebanese and refugees, 33,000 living in collective shelters and other dwellings in precarious conditions. Improvement in shelter conditions compared to 2023 was achieved through upgrading substandard shelters in vulnerable neighborhoods.

While UNHCR Lebanon responded with increasing emergency assistance over the year in response to the increasing shocks affecting both forcibly displaced and Syrian refugees alike, the poverty rate remained extremely high among refugees- 87% of Syrians fell below the national poverty line. For Lebanese the economic crisis has eroded overall welfare with the latest poverty estimates published by the WB and UNHCR in 2024 report, "Lebanon Poverty and Equity Assessment 2024" showing that between 2012 and 2022, the share of individuals in Lebanon living under the LHS poverty line in the five covered governorates more than tripled from 12 percent to 44 percent.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

Affected populations are meaningfully involved in decisions that affect their lives, and engaged in finding local solutions and reducing social tensions

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	39.40%	40.70%
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	64.09%	65.18%
3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	29.00%	29.00%
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	85.00%	83.23%

In line with the Accountability to Affected People framework, UNHCR maintains a diverse architecture of platforms for refugees to interface with UNHCR and contribute to decisions that affect their lives. These include (1) one-way communication (help.unhcr.org/Lebanon, videos, WhatsApp/SMS), (2) dedicated complaint, feedback, and response mechanisms (CFRM) (hotline, digital & physical message, face-to-face, satisfaction surveys and monitoring toolkits), (3) community engagement (refugee volunteers & groups), and (4) structured exchange (Participatory Assessments & monitoring). Across platforms, refugees can contribute views during structured dialogue and participate in regular and program-specific monitoring; obtain information on rights and available services; request assistance and receive counselling or referral;

and file complaints and feedback. Together, these platforms offer diverse modalities to facilitate engagement, while ensuring overlap of functions to maximize accessibility across Age, Gender and Diversity.

Diverse Complaint Feedback and Response Mechanisms – including phone (National Call Center and Field Helplines), digital message (HELP Online Contact Form); physical message (complaint boxes), face-to-face exchange (info desks at Community Centers, frontliners)—are complemented by community engagement via refugee volunteers/groups. Together, feedback from these channels and findings from participatory dialogue inform the response. In 2024, close to 600,000 calls were accommodated by UNHCR's National Call Center, over 75,000 emails processed, and 426 volunteers were consulted for information campaigns. The HELP Lebanon website received over 2.3 million views with top visits to the (i.) landing/welcome page, (ii.) Emergency page (iii.) Online Contact Form. Nearly 550 refugee Outreach Volunteers supported their community and shared feedback. In 2024, 1 in 19 refugees was engaged in at least one stage of the programme management cycle and 1440 refugees participated in over 189 community groups - including within collective shelters - the majority being women and girls. UNHCR held a rapid participatory assessment with internally displaced persons in the South, including 61 per cent women/girls and 20 per cent older persons. During the emergency, partners provided basic protection services and funded community initiatives in 285 collective shelters. Moreover, community centers provided space for refugees and host community to interact through protection and empowerment activities. In 2024, 102,956 participants benefited from community centre activities, of whom 23,608 were Lebanese and 65 per cent were first-time visitors. Among the Lebanese, 90 per cent were reached during the emergency including through activities conducted within collective shelters as part of the centers' mobile approach.

The WB and UNHCR 2024 report, "Lebanon Poverty and Equity Assessment 2024" show this rise in poverty was also accompanied by a rise in informal employment with latest data showing an increasing trend for Lebanese from 40% working in the informal sector in 2018/19 data and 60% in 2022/23 while non-Lebanese informal employment remained steady at 94% and 95% across the two periods. Further, the same report highlights a rising trend of unemployment over the period for non-Lebanese, reaching 19% in 2022/23 compared to nationals which remained steady at 11%. For Lebanese, the extended crisis has resulted in a brain drain phenomenon as disillusioned professionals leave to seek better opportunities abroad. Syrians fall under laws governing foreign labor in Lebanon, necessitating a work permit to be legally employed; attainment of a work permit remains challenging due to fees, legal residency requirements and need for valid identification documents. Certain sectors remain open only for Lebanese nationals. Syrian refugees are de facto limited to work in a few sectors including agriculture, sanitation, and construction sectors and most struggle to find work. Given the high relative poverty and unemployment rates for Syrians compared to Lebanese and the rising tensions between Syrians and Lebanese communities' needs will persist for the medium-term for both Lebanese and Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

Persons of concern have access to a durable solution and are able to make free and informed decisions that ensure their safety and dignity

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	10,130	11,772
4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	8,985	6,246
4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,274	1,075

In 2024, Lebanon remained the second-largest country in the region in terms of resettlement needs. Following the escalation of hostilities in the country towards the end of 2024, processing modalities were largely adapted to allow for remote interviewing and mission hosting. During the reporting year, over 53,000 refugees were pre-screened, cases containing 7,718 refugees were submitted for resettlement

consideration with different countries and a total of 6,246 refugees were resettled from Lebanon to 15 different countries. The number of resettlement departures represented 35.5 per cent of total resettlement departures from the MENA region. Notably, 39 per cent of the departures in 2024 took place in quarter four of the year during the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, reassuring resettlement partners with the robust system in place enabling departures despite the highly challenging operational context. These departures provided permanent solutions for the 6,246 refugees, who had been identified among the most vulnerable due to their heightened protection risks and resettlement needs, including medical needs. Moreover, the departures constituted a tangible expression of third-country responsibility sharing towards the Lebanese authorities. They also contributed to the alleviation of the strain on Lebanon's health and educational systems, resulting in indirect protection dividends for refugees and asylum-seekers who continued to be hosted by Lebanon.

In line with its strategy, UNHCR supported refugees' access to complementary pathways, including through family reunification, labor opportunities, educational pathways and other legal migration solutions available to refugees. Such opportunities provided additional solutions for forcibly displaced people and resulted in the departure of around 1,075 refugees from Lebanon. This required coordination with different complementary pathways partners to identify processing challenges in identification, access to programs, documentation and departure arrangements.

UNHCR's legal aid initiative, implemented in partnership with Frontiers Right and Intersos, has played a key role in addressing statelessness in Lebanon. Through this project, approximately 1,500 stateless individuals have obtained civil and identification documents or received essential legal information relevant to their cases. Additionally, UNHCR has facilitated research and dialogue, enhancing key stakeholders' understanding of the legal complexities surrounding statelessness.

In 2024, UNHCR and its partners continued to provide critical support through accompaniment visits to the General Security Office (GSO), assisting more than 3,500 refugees. Despite a challenging operational context, UNHCR and its partners have provided legal aid to over 58,000 refugees, addressing critical issues such as civil documentation, legal residency, protection from refoulement, redress for exploitation, harassment, and abuse, as well as evictions, family law, and labor rights. Notably, around 15 per cent of refugees who successfully renewed their residency using UNHCR certificates received direct assistance from UNHCR or its partners.

Throughout 2024, a steady but modest increase was observed of Syrian refugees voluntarily returning to Syria through self-organized means. Since the fall of the former government in Syria on 8 December 2024 over 65,000 Syrians have crossed from Lebanon back to Syria, many of which have been pendular movements. Given the change in circumstances, UNHCR will be upscaling its support to facilitate voluntary returns of Syrian refugees to Syria in 2025.

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

The results of the UNHCR protection monitoring activities indicate that the socio-economic situation of refugees in Lebanon remained challenging with no prospects for improvement. The overwhelming majority of refugee households experienced severe hardships, regarding buying food and paying rent, access to health care services and medicine continued to be reported as another priority need, all caused by poverty, loss of employment and limited livelihoods in Lebanon. Due to the worsening socio-economic conditions, persons with specific needs are increasingly struggling to meet their basic needs, resulting in increased complexity of cases, often characterized by overlapping vulnerabilities.

The socio-economic crisis and resulting effects have been further exacerbated by the escalation of hostilities during the year and especially during Q4 which led to large-scale displacement (including of the UNHCR and Partner NGOs workforce) and severely impacted service delivery, triggering shift in priorities towards emergency response, diverting Partner human resources to emergency-related needs and response to the needs of displaced populations, affecting achievements in regular refugee programme. Due to severe insecurity, refugees faced movement challenges, and many activities had to move to remote or hybrid modalities. Many service points, safe spaces, hospitals and primary health care centers were damaged or inaccessible, affecting service delivery. Over 600 schools were used as shelters to support internally displaced persons, delaying the start of the school year. The restrictions for displaced Syrian

refugees in majority of collective sites where IDPs were sheltered increased competition for services and rising tensions with the host community.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

In 2024, UNHCR Lebanon continued to work with the pool of 26 partners selected in 2022 for the implementation of the 2023-2025 multi-year strategy, selected one new partner and expanded partnerships to enable effective emergency response. UNHCR and its partners also continued to provide capacity support and oversight of smaller local NGOs to ensure the long-term sustainability of interventions. NGO and commercial partners both received capacity support in humanitarian principles and prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

Through UNHCR's partnership with the World Bank on joint data analysis, the first cross-population Poverty and Equity Assessment Report was published in 2024, utilizing data collected collaboratively with the World Bank. This marked a significant milestone in the inclusion of refugees in World Bank poverty assessments in Lebanon. Additionally, UNHCR contributed to the World Bank's unpublished Economic and Social Impact Assessment on hosting refugees in Lebanon, further strengthening the evidence base for refugee-related policymaking.

In 2024, UNHCR led the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) alongside UNDP and OCHA on behalf of the UN, with the Ministry of Social Affairs on behalf of the Government of Lebanon, coordinating the efforts of 151 partners at national and sub-national levels to provide individuals, household, community, and institutional level support. Despite an increasingly constrained funding environment, \$1.32 billion was made available for interventions under the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) in 2024 (49 per cent of the \$2.72 billion appeal), underlining the enduring importance of a coordinated humanitarian-stabilization response framework to ensure an efficient response in the face of the ongoing, multifaceted crisis in Lebanon and the emergence of new shocks. The substantial increase in the support provided to Lebanese under the LRP was largely sustained across sectors in 2024. UNHCR continued to support the government-led response to the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, with extensive engagement with governors as well as local communities, while supporting cross-sectoral coordination on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team. UNHCR also contributed to the design and planning of the Flash Appeal, which was launched by the UN and the Government of Lebanon for the period of October to December 2024 to mobilize \$425.7 million for civilians affected by the escalating conflict and humanitarian crisis in Lebanon. The Flash Appeal is fully complementary to and supportive of the LRP, which remains the primary planning framework in the country supporting an integrated humanitarian and stabilization response, co-led with the Government.

Sustainable responses, in line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), involve designing approaches, building partnerships, and leveraging financing to reinforce national systems for including refugees. Additionally, these responses aim to optimize opportunities for refugees to contribute to the socioeconomic development of their host country and, when conditions allow for voluntary return, their country of origin. In Lebanon 5 projects have been approved under the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF) including projects focused on emergency response, health resilience, and roads and employment. These projects total some 10% of overall GCFF capitalization or 92.55 million with total project financing of 525 million. Efforts going forward to sustain evidence generation with the development partners is critical to inform both voluntary returns to Syria and continued inclusion in Lebanon.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

Accurate PoC data is actively used to ensure equal and transparent access to protection and service provision and registration for Syrians is allowed to resume, allowing for individual documentation and enhanced protection

Protection-sensitive border management is enhanced and procedural safeguards are respected in all cases of deportation

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	41.00%	43.00%	50.00%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20.00%	22.00%	18.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		Actual (2024)
Population Type		
01.1.1 Number of people registered on an individual basis		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		14,956
01.2.1 Number of people supported to obtain civil status, identity or legal status documentation		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		43,801
Stateless Persons		1,504

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Since the onset of the Syrian crisis, UNHCR has supported both General Security Office (GSO) and the Personal Status Department on residency permits and civil documentation. In 2024, significant progress was made in access to civil documentation, with birth registration among Syrian refugee children in Lebanon increasing to 50 per cent, up from 41 per cent in 2023. This improvement is largely the result of UNHCR's dedicated advocacy with the various national stakeholders, such as the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of the Interior and Municipalities, as well as the provision of technical support and collaboration with the Personal Status Department at the national and governorate levels.

Despite a challenging operational context, UNHCR and its partners provided legal aid to over 58,000 refugees, addressing critical issues such as civil documentation, legal residency, protection from refoulement, redress for exploitation, harassment, and abuse, as well as evictions, family law, and labor rights. Notably, around 15 per cent of refugees who successfully renewed their residency using UNHCR certificates received direct assistance from UNHCR or its partners.

Still, despite significant efforts by UNHCR to facilitate the renewal of legal residency by refugees, including advocacy with GSO, free legal aid programmes, accompaniment visits to the GSO centres, and technical assistance, the percentage of refugees holding valid legal residency slightly decreased from 20 per cent in 2023 to 18% in 2024. One of the main factors contributing to this development was the escalation of conflict in September 2024, which caused massive secondary displacement of some 110,000 refugees and led to the temporary closure of several GSO centres, limiting opportunities for refugees to renew their legal residency.

Throughout 2024, access to asylum has continued to be restricted due to the lack of a comprehensive domestic refugee policy and legal framework. As a result, Syrians who arrived in Lebanon after 2015 are required to meet entry criteria designed for regular migration, which do not consider the specific needs and vulnerabilities of individuals in need of international protection.

Due to the restrictive entry regime and non-readmission policy for refugees who left Lebanon, many Syrians resorted to irregular entry, facing heightened protection risks, including deprivation of liberty and pushbacks by the Lebanese Armed Forces at the border. The lack of durable solutions in Lebanon has forced some refugees to attempt onward movements to other countries by embarking on boats to destinations such as Cyprus, Italy and Libya. UNHCR recorded at least 30 such onward movements in 2024, many of which were either unsuccessful or subject to pushbacks.

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

Asylum seekers can access effective (and cost free) RSD procedures

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	564.00	660.00	650.00

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
02.1.1 UNHCR has provided capacity development support to strengthen the national status determination system(s), in accordance with international standards	
Stateless Persons	No
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	No

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In the absence of a relevant national legal framework, UNHCR continued efforts to promote strategic use of Refugee Status Determination (RSD) to increase protection dividends for the population of concern. A mixed migration pattern, with most asylum-seekers arriving in Lebanon as migrant workers and seeking asylum due to changes of circumstances in their country of origin and/or deterioration of their socio-economic condition in Lebanon, continued to impact the prioritization of cases for RSD. Throughout the year, Sudan, Ethiopia and Egypt remained the top countries of origin in the RSD procedure. The RSD unit monitored registration trends and regularly conducted reviews of the processing modalities to ensure efficiency, integrity, adaptability and quality of RSD procedures while capacitating its workforce to remain

agile and flexible.

In 2024, UNHCR completed a total of 627 RSD interviews at first instance and appeal levels. A total of 20 cases were held in detention, including in-person, during the height of the conflict. The RSD Unit issued 791 decisions at first instance and at appeal levels. The number of decisions is in correlation with the number of interviews conducted. Due to reduced interview and review capacity, coupled with closure of reception centres and some staff being moved to critical activities to support the emergency response in the last quarter of 2024, the processing time between registration and first instance asylum decision rose from 635 days in 2023 to 650 days in 2024. The RSD unit was able to maintain productivity through capacity development initiatives, which enhanced the team's ability to process complex cases. Efficiency was gained by scheduling to the extent possible the cases with a presumption of eligibility and protection needs. In 2024, the RSD unit received 165 cases from the Resettlement unit to provide guidance and refer to the MENA Regional Bureau if needed (150 cases in 2023). Another 12 of these complex cases were directed to regular RSD procedures (5 in 2023).

Business continuity was maintained despite a deteriorating security situation by timely reverting to remote processing modalities as foreseen in its contingency plans. The RSD staff were deployed in supporting field offices during the emergency in the areas of counselling, displacement tracking and other tasks while the unit continued moving towards the achievement of yearly targets.

Similarly to 2023, in 2024, the RSD Unit received many reopening cases requests, 241 cases (compared to 204 cases in 2023). In 2024, the RSD unit processed more reopening cases, considering the protection dividends for individuals who fulfilled the criteria for reopening. Sudanese applicants constitute most newly lodged reopening applications. During the reporting period, 232 reopening requests were reviewed, and 131 reopening decisions were issued.

Counselling took place to 87 individuals receiving a final rejection decision on IOM's Assisted Voluntary Repatriation Programme, in addition to other 26 individuals referred by IOM regarding the status of their UNHCR files. The RSD Unit facilitated a briefing for IOM caseworkers on its protection mandate and case processing procedures. Since January 2024, the RSD Unit has been supporting the operation in the field of Integrity, facilitating refresher and training, and providing guidance on cases.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

The risks of GBV are reduced, all GBV survivors have access to timely, safe and quality services and prevention and risk mitigation interventions continue

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	58.00%	70.00%	50.00%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	98.00%	90.00%	88.79%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
04.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from specialized GBV programmes	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	26,869
Host Community	3,043

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The economic crisis and armed conflict in Lebanon continue to exacerbate the root causes of gender-based violence (GBV), driven by cultural norms and power imbalances. The second half of 2024 saw a serious escalation of the armed conflict, which led to large-scale displacement (including of the social workforce) and severely impacted service delivery.

The 2024 UNHCR co-led Safety Audit identified Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Family Violence as the most pervasive GBV types, worsened by economic hardship and displacement, as confirmed by the GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS). Common forms include psychological, physical, and economic violence, with marital rape often remaining legally unaddressed.

Refugees and IDPs faced heightened IPV risks due to overcrowding, substandard living conditions, and economic dependency. Sexual violence—rape, assault, and harassment—remained prevalent in public spaces, workplaces, displacement sites, and transportation hubs. Adolescent girls and women with disabilities are at greater risk of exploitation, especially when isolated at home. Deepening poverty and economic collapse are increasing the risks of child and forced marriage, which remain entrenched in harmful cultural norms. Technology-facilitated GBV, including online harassment, stalking, and digital blackmail, is on the rise.

Overall, 30,000 refugees, IDPs and host community members benefitted from UNHCR's GBV response and prevention programs in 2024.

Prevention focused on both individual and community interventions to address discriminatory social norms. Awareness sessions covered IPV, child marriage and men's engagement. UNHCR's partner-implemented GBV prevention programs reached 23,300 individuals, contributing to 39 per cent of the total sub-sector achievement (63 per cent for Syrians).

UNHCR's GBV response reached 97 per cent of survivors known to UNHCR with psychosocial support including case management and access to specialized services. Some 10,150 survivors and persons at risk of GBV, including diverse SOGIESC, had timely access to quality free-of-charge response services. Safe shelter was provided to survivors requiring this service.

560 UNHCR, partner and government staff as well as community volunteers were trained on GBV including through the coaching program for caseworkers. 88 per cent demonstrated increased knowledge and skills. Topics included, amongst others, prevention and PSS curricula (Girl Shine and Women Rise), GBViE, case management for child survivors and supervision techniques.

GBV coordination continued under UNHCR's leadership including an upscaled coordination response during the escalation of hostilities Emergency Response. Priority activities were identified in a consultative process with around 50 partners to adequately respond to the increasing risks of GBV and the need for cross-sectoral GBV risk mitigation measures. Under the GBV sector coordination, an interagency safety audit was rolled out with the participation of over 26 GBV actors across the country. Through co-funding of UNHCR and UNFPA, this risk assessment presents the first comprehensive assessment in Lebanon identifying GBV risks across population groups using a strong Age, Gender and Diversity approach. The assessment tools and Focus Group Discussion questionnaires were developed along with an inclusion tool supported by UNHCR HQ. In response to the emergency response, UNHCR led the drafting of emergency-specific guidance documents and supported GBV Case Management tools to enhance access to hard-to-reach areas through remote facilitation where relevant. Under UNHCR's leadership, the sector has well defined key priority activities, a robust response framework and identified key priority activities included in the sector contingency plan. At the sectoral level, UNHCR also presented GBV risks at various cross-sectoral and high-level coordination forums, including at the Inter Sector Coordination Group as well as the Humanitarian Country Team.

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Children are protected from abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	80.00%	89.00%	68.84%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20.00%	80.00%	8.15%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	94.00%	95.00%	83%

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2024)
05.1.1 Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	51,040

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The socio-economic crisis and its consequences continue to negatively impact children and families. The Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) 2024 shows a slight reduction in child labor from 7 per cent to 6.8 per cent, particularly affecting boys aged 12 to 17 (likely underreported). In 2024, 18.6 per cent of girls aged 15 to 19 were married – an improvement from 25 per cent in 2023. Rates of violent discipline also improved slightly from 61 per cent to 55.5 per cent. Data collection for the VASyR took place prior to the escalation in September 2024, which significantly affected children and families. Child protection actors reported stark increases in distress due to bombardment in children and adults, resulting in reported increases in violence in the home.

In 2024, UNHCR supported 51,540 children and caregivers with child protection services, increasing the expected reach, particularly due to increased awareness raising as well as the provision of psychosocial support (PSS) and play during the war. Over 42,800 children and caregivers were reached with prevention activities as well as focused individual and group psychosocial support. This constitutes 28 per cent of the total Lebanon Response Plan sector achievement (all populations, 60 per cent for Syrians) and more than doubled UNHCR's achievements from 2023. UNHCR also worked with 100 Child Protection Outreach Volunteers who play a vital role in awareness raising, safe identification and referral, running recreational activities and supporting children with disabilities and unaccompanied children.

Due to gaps in the national system, the child protection sub-sector supports case management, in line with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA) endorsed national child protection case management standard operating procedures. UNHCR's partners conducted almost 9,500 Best Interests Assessments, and over 4,400 children at medium or high risk received case management, representing 56 per cent of the sub-sectors achievement for refugee children. 71 Best interests Determinations were also initiated. Preliminary findings of the child feedback survey found that 94 per cent of children and caregivers noticed an improvement of their situation after receiving case management services and 95 per cent of respondents were overall satisfied with the case management.

690 UNHCR, partner and government staff, as well as community volunteers, were trained on child protection-related topics including through the annual coaching program for caseworkers as well as dedicated trainings on core Child Protection in Emergencies, core Child Protection concepts, worst forms of child labor, alternative care, psychosocial support and self-harm.

UNHCR continued to be an active member of the Child Protection Working Group (within the Lebanon Response Plan LRP co-led by UNICEF and MOSA). With the Alternative Care Taskforce, UNHCR

supported setting up an emergency alternative care and family reunification referral pathway, with UNHCR-supported partner UPEL taking the lead in reunifying children or finding alternative care options. As part of the UNHCR-UNICEF workplan, the two agencies assessed the inclusiveness of the child protection system and identified areas for system strengthening and advocacy; however, planned actions had to be postponed due to the war.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

Barrier to accessing legal remedies and documentation are reduced

PWSN exposure to protection risks is mitigated and their needs addressed

Risks associated with detention are reduced through improved detention conditions and enhanced access to legal aid

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
06.1.1 Number of people who received legal assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	58,398
Stateless Persons	1,213

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR and partners undertook 6,058 detention monitoring visits to various penitentiary institutions. These visits have ensured effective access to legal aid and dignified standards of treatment for at least 3,200 detained individuals. The assistance encompassed free legal counselling and representation, as well as the provision of essential medicine, psychosocial support, core relief items (CRIs) and food kits. Additionally, UNHCR has contributed to improving detention conditions in penitentiary institutions by providing cleaning, hygiene, and stationery kits to 234 facilities of the Internal Security Forces (ISF). The UNHCR activities have ensured a consistent provision of legal aid, CRIs and psychosocial support for detained refugees despite a rise in the incarcerated population and overcrowding caused inter alia by the displacement of the population following the escalation of the conflict in September 2024. These activities have played an important role in addressing the needs of vulnerable individuals and contributed to an overall safe environment for refugees and stateless persons detained in the ISF facilities.

UNHCR calculated the indicator for the number of individuals arrested or detained in relation to immigration control or legal status by aggregating referrals received from the General Security Office (GSO) and the number of individuals held in ISF facilities on immigration-related charges that were accessed by UNHCR's implementing partners.

The number of individuals arrested by ISF for lacking legal status and subsequently transferred to GSO for deportation has decreased by 16 per cent in 2024. This decline may be attributed to the intensified airstrikes and hostilities across Lebanon in late 2024, which limited the ISF's arrest capacity.

Persons with specific needs continued to be disproportionately impacted by the socio-economic crisis and corollary effects of war. UNHCR supported vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, older refugees, and women at risk, many of whom faced income loss, escalating vulnerabilities, and heightened protection risks. UNHCR provided non-cash assistance, such as counseling, psychosocial support, specialized services (including rehabilitation and assistive devices) and case management, benefiting over 26,350 individuals, which aimed to improve refugees' psychological and emotional wellbeing and enhance their capacities to cope with life hardship. As part of the emergency response, UNHCR procured additional assistive devices including wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, medical beds as well as 40,000 adult diapers.

UNHCR supported over 8,700 households with protection cash and 28,850 households with emergency cash. Emergency cash was provided to support refugees, Lebanese IDPs and a small number of stateless individuals from Lebanon. According to post-distribution and outcome monitoring of the protection cash assistance 86 per cent of recipients reported increased ability to meet basic needs through protection cash. Some 90 per cent reported reduced feelings of stress and improved living conditions. Moreover, 87 per cent reported that protection cash assistance reduced tension between family members, 95 per cent confirmed feeling more physically secure and 96% more financially secure during assistance period.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Persons of concern are actively engaged in identifying, preventing, mitigating and addressing protection issues and have access to positive community practices, well-being and dignity

Persons of concern are included in national services and feel safer in their host communities

Persons of concern of different backgrounds, are meaningfully engaged in decisions that affect their lives, have access to timely information and their feedback informs programmes, activities and advocacy

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
7.1 Extent participation of displaced and stateless people across programme phases is supported.			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Extensive	Extensive	Extensive
Stateless Persons	Limited	Limited	Limited
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	96.00%	100.00%	94.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	64.73%	65.00%	72.64%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	175
Stateless Persons	0
07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback & response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	824,089
07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services	
IDPs	24,002
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	662,252

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR issued Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) guidance for staff, including minimum standards for complaints, feedback, and response. Partners and Outreach Volunteers (OVs) raised community awareness on available diverse feedback and response mechanisms and ways to access Interactive Voice Response assistance by phone, including by providing hands-on support. UNHCR also supported meaningful participation of affected communities. In 2024, UNHCR engaged 75,896 refugees, stateless persons, and internally displaced persons throughout all programme phases, the majority women and girls. In specific, 545 OVs conducted 19,094 awareness/info sessions, delivered psychosocial support (PSS) to 7,580 persons (70 per cent women), identified 34,672 persons at heightened risk (49 per cent females) and submitted 1,586 community concern reports. In addition, 31 community centers mobilized 1,580,440 refugees/IDPs, especially women, to enhance their living situation.

As part of the strategic vision to systematize functions and referrals across AAP platforms and to address inefficiencies with case processing linked to the email-based complaint/feedback platform (), the operation transitioned to the Lebanon Online Contact Form embedded in the HELP Lebanon site. Through this new platform, refugees without email addresses can write to UNHCR. The operation also introduced automation of its National Call Center functions, facilitating instant voice-recorded answers to common queries while prioritizing human resources for protection counselling and referrals to services and assistance for high-risk cases.

In 2024, Protection Monitoring played a critical role in assessing evolving risks for Syrian refugees and internally displaced persons, informing UNHCR programming and advocacy. UNHCR undertook 13,760 surveys with refugees to better understand protection concerns, socioeconomic conditions, legal barriers, and access to services. The PM strengthened referrals, assisting 800+ high-risk cases and interviewing 331 key informants. UNHCR field offices reached 16,000 households while the displacement tracking has ensured the assessment of needs of 100,000+ Syrian refugees. Additionally, various context-specific assessments were conducted to understand the impact of the ceasefire on displaced populations (2,600 HHs), analyze the situation of refugees remaining in conflict-affected areas in South and Bekaa (600+ HHs) and various protection risks in the North (2,000+ households). At the Inter-Agency level, protection monitoring with internally displaced persons brought together key partners to harmonize data collection and analysis of needs of internally displaced persons. In 2024, UNHCR implemented 59 Community Support Projects across Lebanon, benefitting 55 cadasters through initiatives in renewable energy, public infrastructure rehabilitation, waste management, and other essential sectors. Projects improved access to basic services for both Lebanese and refugee communities. Despite a significantly deteriorated security situation caused by escalating hostilities between Israel and Lebanon, which heightened communal tensions and disrupted program implementation, UNHCR adapted its approach. During the last quarter of 2024, projects were repurposed to provide critical support to municipalities and public institutions. This shift enabled these entities to respond more effectively to the crisis, ensuring the continued delivery of essential services to vulnerable populations in a highly challenging operational environment.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

Current levels of well-being of PoCs maintained through supporting PoCs to meet their basic needs

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	75.00%	62.00%	64.40%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	95%	97%	99.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
08.1.1 Number of people who received cash assistance	
Host Community	126,507
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	789,718
08.2.1 Number of people who received non-food items	
Host Community	235,623
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	176,517

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR contributed to address the basic needs of up to 167,277 vulnerable refugee households through the provision of monthly multipurpose cash assistance. The Multipurpose Cash Assistance Programme (MCAP) was expanded to respond to increased vulnerability generated by the conflict in the south of Lebanon. This UNHCR assistance was undertaken through the joint UNHCR-WFP cash programme.

As a result of funding constraints at the beginning of the year, changes and shifts in coverage were made. WFP discontinued assistance in May 2024 assistance to approximately 35,000 families receiving Food E-Cards. WFP and UNHCR reorganized internal funding and were able to reprioritize to sustain Cash for Basic Needs (both food and non-food). As a result, from May 2024, 20,100 families who were previously receiving joint cash assistance received starting May 2024 the full amount from a single agency: 7,240 families received assistance exclusively from UNHCR (MCAP Combo), and 12,860 families received assistance exclusively from WFP. The assistance amounts remained unchanged.

In September 2024, the country suffered from an escalation of hostilities to the whole country, which created a need to conduct emergency interventions such as MCAP. UNHCR and WFP temporarily expanded their cash assistance programmes for refugee families to include more vulnerable families. UNHCR temporarily expanded its cash assistance to 348,000 additional refugees between October and December 2024. In response to the escalation of hostilities and increased needs and vulnerabilities for refugees, MCAP was expanded in October 2024 for the remainder of the year, with UNHCR including support to an additional 348,000 refugees. Assistance was prioritized for families facing specific protection risks, and some of those assessed to live below the poverty line but not yet assisted in the 2024 regular cash cycle due to funding limitations.

As a result of the security situation in the country, changes were made in the financial service provider mechanism and UNHCR introduced cash assistance delivery through a Money transfer agency cash-out points for selected beneficiaries who were unable to collect their red cards. These refugees were able to

redeem their cash assistance at any operational OMT branch in Lebanon, rather than using their Red Cards.

As part of the measures to support refugees during the war, all refugee families, including those previously receiving restricted food assistance through WFP, were given the option to redeem their assistance in cash to cover any basic needs. This approach aimed to enhance safe and meaningful access to assistance, particularly for refugees who may have been displaced.

In November 2024, the transfer value provided by UNHCR and WFP has increased to \$45 for non-food per household (previously \$40), and \$20 per person for food (previously \$15), capped at 5 individuals per family for Syrian and 3 for Refugees of other nationalities. This brings the maximum transfer value to \$145 per family and per month (previously \$115). This increase reflected the instability of the economy, inflation and increased prices in Lebanon.

WFP also provided Food eCard beneficiaries with an additional top-up value of \$45 per household per month from November 2024 through January 2025.

To cover the remaining gap and immediate needs of refugees facing seasonal shocks and an increase of hostilities, UNHCR distributed core relief items to 37,422 refugee households. In addition, core relief items distribution to 59,110 Lebanese households were also provided as part of the UNHCR emergency response. Despite the needs, UNHCR could not implement any seasonal winter cash assistance program, to support vulnerable refugees facing increased needs and expenditures and reduced income opportunities during the winter period, due to funding limitations like last year.

UNHCR's multi-purpose cash assistance endline post distribution and outcome monitoring (PDOM) indicate that 63 per cent of assisted families could meet half or more of their basic needs compared to 38 per cent at the baseline. The PDOM results showed that 68 per cent of recipients reported that their households had improved living conditions moderately or significantly and 60 per cent reported moderate or significant reduction in financial stress. Despite receiving and acknowledging the importance of assistance, about 78 per cent of assisted households were still showing expenditure below the minimum survival expenditure basket. Moreover, 87 per cent of assisted refugees had turned to negative coping strategies, including 8 per cent having resorted to emergency coping strategies, such as further debt and child labour. Nevertheless, the feedback on the impact of monthly cash assistance from focus group discussions showed that refugees strongly appreciate the assistance provided by UNHCR, which is preventing further deterioration in their economic conditions, despite being too low to allow meeting all their basic needs and reducing indebtedness. Furthermore, refugees expressed their concerns about not receiving winter cash assistance and the importance of such a type of assistance to cope with severe winter conditions, especially for families residing in informal settlements.

9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

PoCs have enhanced well-being and protected space through improved access to dignified living conditions

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	68%	79.00%	71%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	86%	90.00%	96%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
09.1.1 Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	177,963
Host Community	110,736

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

2024 has been a particularly challenging year for Lebanon, marked by a deteriorating security situation and escalating armed conflict, leading to a large-scale displacement of 1.2 million people, and compounding Lebanon's longstanding Syrian refugee situation, placing immense pressure on the shelter response efforts.

In this context, the UNHCR-led Shelter Sector supported around 340,000 beneficiaries, 74 per cent of whom were Syrian refugees. However, with only 25 per cent of the requested funds received, the sector prioritized assistance to marginalized families in hazardous shelters and internally displaced persons (IDPs) affected by hostilities. The focus remained on those facing heightened health and protection risks, particularly the most socio-economically vulnerable.

Overall, in 2024, UNHCR assisted 288,699 individuals, including 110,736 Lebanese and 177,963 refugees. UNHCR's life-saving interventions targeted refugees in informal tented settlements (ITS) and in impoverished urban areas. A participatory approach ensured the inclusion of women, men, girls, and boys in decision-making. These communities faced deteriorating conditions, recurring emergencies, and severe weather exposure. Assistance extended beyond the Lebanon Response Plan to IDPs who fled to temporary collective sites and shelters in safer areas, aiming to enhance safety, dignity, and community well-being.

Given the limited partner engagement in addressing ITS risks, UNHCR developed a cohesive strategy to mitigate Harsh winter conditions and related health risks in overcrowded tents, Flood risks impacting hygiene, and Fire hazards. UNHCR provided essential support to 143,000 refugees, distributing weatherproofing kits, improving drainage systems at 98 sites sheltering 16,550 refugees, and conducting fire safety campaigns benefiting 73,000 refugees. Emergency standby capacity also enabled the reconstruction of shelters for 4,100 refugees affected by storms, floods, fires, and evictions.

Beyond ITS, the Shelter Sector addressed the housing needs of refugees facing shelter degradation, tenure insecurity, and rent pressure, which often forced them into precarious living conditions. UNHCR contributed to 31 per cent of the sector's achievements in urban areas, tackling issues such as insalubrious housing, and rising evictions. Key interventions included upgrading shelters for 4,700 refugees, improving communal areas in 16 collective shelters, and implementing cash-for-rent assistance for 7,140 referred vulnerable refugees.

In response to the IDP crisis, UNHCR improved conditions in 259 collective sites hosting approximately 33,000 individuals—primarily Lebanese IDPs—through repairs, weatherproofing, partition installations, and light WASH interventions, to enhance access to essential services while ensuring privacy, protection, and dignity. Additionally, UNHCR provided Cash for Shelter to around 90,000 Lebanese IDPs and Syrian refugees unable to return home, covering urgent shelter needs, minor repairs, and utility costs (e.g., water, electricity) while residing in host accommodations or rental housing.

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

Persons of concern have sustained access to healthcare

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	89.00%	90.00%	80.00%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	90.00%	95.00%	98.00%%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
10.1.1 Number of individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care services	
Host Community	18,438
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	89,007
10.2.1 Number of consultations in UNHCR supported mental health and psychosocial support services	
Host Community	43,969
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	97,152

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Despite the challenging situation for the Health Sector in Lebanon, UNHCR through its partners managed to provide 62,719 subsidized consultations to 40,053 refugees and host communities from four supported Primary Healthcare centres. The services also included routine vaccinations, diagnostic tests for acute and chronic conditions as well as antenatal and prenatal check-ups. This support ensured access to Primary Healthcare (PHC) services for vulnerable groups residing in remote areas.

Amidst the escalation of the hostilities, demand for mental health needs had increased. In 2024, UNHCR provided 50,932 mental health services to 9,837 individuals (refugees and host community) under the clinical level mental health services. Among them, 6,237 received care through two specialized mental health clinics and 3,600 received mental health consultations from eight PHCs. UNHCR also provides Psychosocial Support sessions for refugees and host communities under case management support which are reflected under the PwSN and CBP sections. Activities from the three different levels are combined under one core output indicator for mental health services (10.2.1).

Noting the pivotal role community mobilization has in behavioral change, UNHCR deployed 63 trained community health volunteers to educate and raise awareness on important health topics and reached a total of 70,457 individuals. In addition, 10 health staff were engaged to attend to refugees who reached out asking support for the issues related to health info and access to services.

As the main humanitarian agency covering hospitalization services for refugees, UNHCR ensured coverage of 44,796 lifesaving conditions including war injuries (total of 237) in the contracted hospitals. The decrease from 2023 (60,353) is mainly due to the change in Referral Health Centre Standard Operating Procedures implemented in June 2024. Out of the total, 62.4 per cent were for pregnancy and childbirth with a 31 per cent C-section rate. Some 79 per cent of admissions were for women and 18.6 per cent for children under 5 years.

UNHCR took a lead role in supporting the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) in the preemptive Oral Cholera Vaccination (OCV) campaign that aimed at preventing the resurgence of cholera in high-risk regions and administered 264,777 doses through Partners to avoid a cholera outbreak amid the war. UNHCR also donated 12,000 doses of Oral Rehydration Solution to equip rural PHC facilities with capacities to treat acute watery diarrhoea.

In response to the escalated war, UNHCR rapidly mobilized its resources to support the healthcare needs of vulnerable populations and healthcare systems. UNHCR expanded its hospital network from 33 to 44 hospitals in hard-to-reach and high-risk areas to facilitate access of war-injured refugees to critical hospital care covering 100 per cent of hospitalization bills.

UNHCR also expanded the capacity of partners implementing PHC and mental health projects to address the urgent needs of internally displaced populations and eventually for returnees by increasing the target set for support in the health facility or deploying primary satellite units to collective shelters.

To support the health system that was severely affected by the war, UNHCR provided MoPH with 60 trauma kits that were crucial for effective war injury treatment. Those were distributed by MoPH to 35 hospitals receiving war-injured patients. Responding to the request of MoPH, UNHCR procured 10 ambulances to support patient transportation to the hospitals particularly to those with specialized trauma care services.

11. Outcome Area: Education

Gaps in education are bridged, resulting in improved human capital and transferable skills

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	6%	6%	6%%
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	48%	50%	51%%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming	
Host Community	4,871
Stateless Persons	110
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	18,355

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Education in Lebanon continued to be severely impacted by multiple shocks and conflict. Following some improvements in the 2023-2024 school year in the removal of barriers, enrollment and teaching days (reflected in the outcome indicators), the start of the 2024-2025 school year was significantly delayed. Due to the war many schools were turned into shelters or damaged. Moreover, the government introduced documentation requirements, leading to around 43,000 refugee children not being able to access the second shift, which only started in January 2025.

UNHCR deployed over 370 refugee Education Community Liaison (ECL) volunteers in afternoon schools to

mitigate issues related to bullying and to create safe learning environments and identify child protection issues. ECLs referred 910 children to child protection services, over 2,600 to education services and facilitated community-based education activities. Monitoring showed that ECLs earned a high level of trust and appreciation among children, parents, school administrators, and Ministry of Education and Higher Education regional officers. During the war, ECLs continued to serve their community (even while displaced themselves) through the provision of Community Based Education with a focus on psycho-social support.

Community-based homework support and retention programs assisted 15,570 children at risk of dropping out, building academic and life skills. School-based retention support for Grade 9 and Grade 12 students took place in collaboration with second-shift teachers. Additionally, over 5,450 out-of-school children benefitted from community-based and structured basic literacy and numeracy programs, while 1,410 students were supported with specialized education services. The satisfaction survey reflected that parent observed a significant improvement in their children's motivation, academic performance, and behavior.

900 out-of-learning refugees and host youth attended 44 competency-based Vocational Trainings and a preparatory bridging program to Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET). UNHCR fostered strategic collaboration with key governmental entities, UN agencies, and private sector experts. These partnerships played a pivotal role in ensuring an 88 per cent internship and job placement rate for graduates. Learners used their skills in the emergency response, including through repairs in collective sites.

Lebanon serves as a pilot country for the initiative to achieve a 15 per cent enrolment of refugees in higher education (HE) by 2030. Refugee enrolment remained at 6 per cent. UNHCR has maintained close collaboration with different stakeholders to expand HE access for refugees across the five 15by30 pillars, including National enrolment, third country pathways, TVET, and connected learning. Through the DAFI scholarship program, 81 students attended university, with seven graduating in 2024. As part of the scholarship program, DAFI students engaged in peer-to-peer support and volunteer activities to give back to the community. UNHCR's annual national Higher Education mapping showed that 2,190 youth were enrolled in tertiary education programs.

14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

Through a coordinated approach, all stakeholders advocate for the principles of voluntary return in safety and dignity to be upheld and are prepared to provide adequate support as needed

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR convened and led two meetings of the Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG) with key stakeholders within the UN, NGO and donor community, providing updates on Syrian refugees verified by UNHCR as having undertaken voluntary, self-organized return to Syria as well as some 470 Syrian refugees who voluntarily returned to Syria through the General Security Office (GSO)-facilitated return process. In addition, a special Technical Working Group meeting was convened with donor representatives to discuss potential material assistance to be provided for voluntary return, should the protection environment in Syria improve. The DSWG forum and its partners continue to be key stakeholders to advocate for the principles of voluntary return in safety and dignity, including advocating with the Government of Lebanon as needed.

Among the 11,772 Syrian refugees verified by UNHCR as having voluntarily returned to Syria in 2024, 79 per cent (9,315) were in possession of legally recognized identity documents or credentials, including national Syrian passports or identity documents.

The fall of the Assad regime in Syria on 8 December 2024 marks a turning point towards a positive opportunity for change in Syria, including the potential for sustainable and voluntary return of Syrian refugees. UNHCR released an update to its Position on Voluntary Return to the Syrian Arab Republic on 16 December, and although UNHCR is not currently promoting large-scale, organized returns, it will advocate with host Governments to facilitate “go-and-see” visits and to support Syrian refugees who fully informed, voluntarily choose to return to Syria.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Opportunities for resettlement are increased to match resettlement needs for vulnerable persons of concern, particularly those presenting protection needs.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	8,625	7,800	7,718

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2024)
15.1.1 Country issues machine-readable travel documents	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	No

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR submitted 7,718 individuals for resettlement to over 10 different countries. Women and girls at risk of gender-based violence, LGBTIQ+ persons and children at risk of child abuse and/or exploitation comprised the target populations which benefited from resettlement during the year. UNHCR also submitted refugees for resettlement due to their legal and physical protection needs as well as those who had experienced torture and severe forms of violence, and refugees with acute medical needs. Submissions were made based on quotas allocated to Lebanon by resettlement countries in 2024 and represented more than 29 per cent of the total submissions from the MENA region. In addition to allocated quota submissions, the Lebanon operation submitted 170 individuals to Canada, Finland, France, New Zealand and Norway under global unallocated quotas, including refugees with emergency resettlement needs and 19 individuals submitted to Canada's Human Rights Defenders programme.

UNHCR's robust identification and case processing mechanisms facilitated timely decision-making by resettlement countries and demonstrated the capacity of the Lebanon operation to deliver quality results within tight deadlines. The protection needs of Syrians and refugees of other nationalities were mitigated and/or addressed by resettlement departures. The average processing time from resettlement submission to departure under normal priority was below the baseline as Australia, Canada, and the USA cleared their backlog of refugees who had been waiting since 2020 or earlier. This was a positive outcome, as long-awaited solutions were finally provided for refugees who had been in the resettlement pipeline for a long time. This was achieved through advocacy and close cooperation with all partners; refugees, resettlement countries, IOM, Lebanese Government and different UNHCR functional units, mainly legal, protection and health to support refugees in getting documentation, updated reports and facilitate their exit clearance process.

Targets were met for all the countries except for France and Belgium due to a hold on these programmes at the request of the countries themselves. UNHCR had prepared these submissions pending the resumption of processing by the concerned countries.

Other Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Baseline	Target(2024)	Actual(2024)
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol			
None	Not yet aligned	Not yet aligned	Not yet aligned
3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness			
None	Not yet aligned	Not yet aligned	Not yet aligned

Other Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Actual (2024)
03.1.1 UNHCR has engaged in legislative and judicial processes to strengthen laws and policies for the protection of refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless people and/or the reduction and prevention of statelessness	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes
16.1.1. Government Social protection system is inclusive of forcibly displaced and stateless people	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Not at all
Stateless Persons	Not at all

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2024, UNHCR supported over 250 LGBTIQ+ persons with GBV services, including psychosocial support (PSS) and case management. UNHCR trained 27 staff on working with forcibly displaced LGBTIQ+ persons, covering topics such as diversity, bias, and inclusive communication. A local NGO SIDC trained three UNHCR partners on engaging with persons of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC).

UNHCR supported 1,450 persons with disabilities, including case management and specialized services. UNHCR also supported 1,400 children with disabilities to access education through assistive devices or specialized services. Around 38,700 households with at least one family member with a disability received cash, including for protection. UNHCR worked closely with Organizations of persons with disabilities, including Sesobel and the Father Andeweg Institute for the Deaf, to enhance access to services and promote inclusion, including through rehabilitation and solarization. Protection Sector, UNHCR and Humanity and Inclusion conducted a disability inclusion training guided by the Lebanese Union for People with Disabilities (LUPDO). It included a cross-sectoral disability inclusion checklist, ensuring disability disaggregation in response indicators and improving cross-sectoral analysis. The gender-based violence (GBV) sub-sector conducted an assessment with input from persons with disabilities, leading to more detailed data on GBV risks and improved programming tools.

In 2024, 79,150/102,956 persons (66 per cent females) approached community centres, with 8,458 (84 per cent females) receiving skills trainings. Centers mobilized 1,440 persons (76 per cent females) into community groups and, during the emergency, supported 158 community focal points to enhance their living situation in collective shelters. 545 OVs reached 334,103 persons (61 per cent female), identified 34,672 persons at heightened risk (49 per cent females), delivered focused PSS to 7,580 refugees (70 per cent women, 5 per cent older persons) and shared 1,586 reports on community concerns. UNHCR collected community feedback from different AAP channels, including a rapid PA with IDPs.

Section 3: Resources

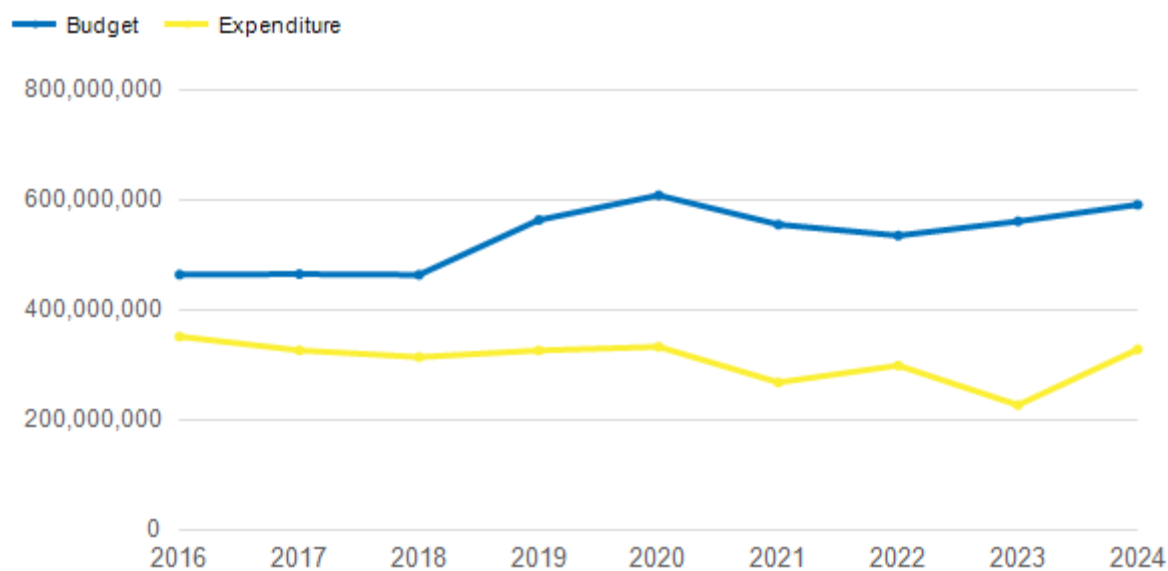
3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

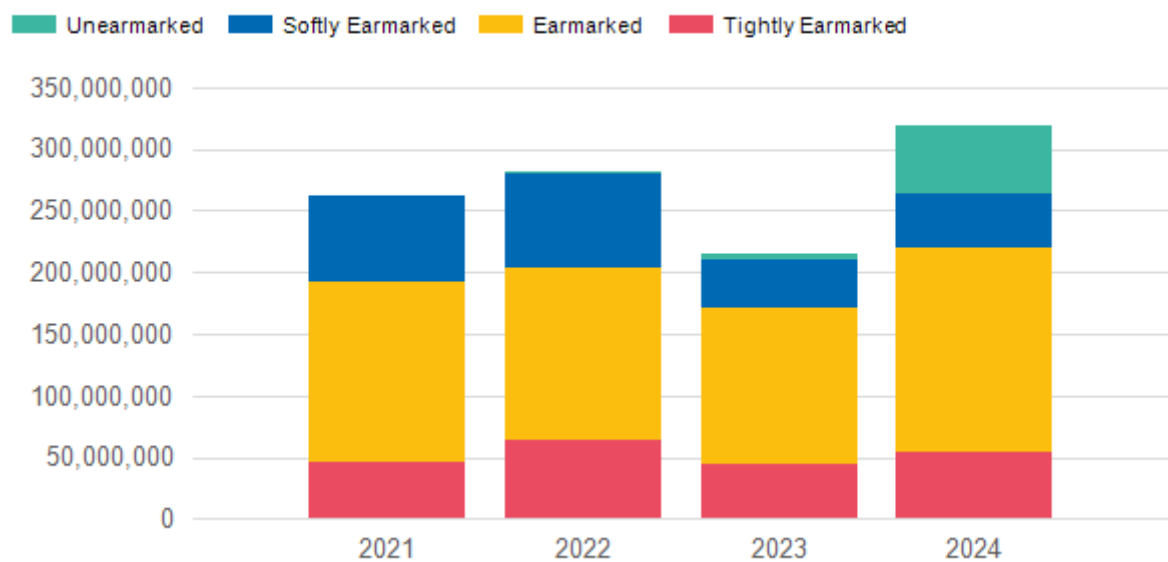
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	81,502,739	71,389,447	87.59%	70,670,275	98.99%
IA2: Assist	472,355,553	230,919,813	48.89%	227,444,408	98.49%
IA3: Empower	26,495,990	20,647,783	77.93%	19,917,539	96.46%
IA4: Solve	10,060,812	9,765,686	97.07%	9,765,686	100.00%
All Impact Areas		151,218			
Total	590,415,093	332,873,947	56.38%	327,797,907	98.48%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	12,882,611	15,895,718	123.39%	15,895,718	100.00%
OA2: Status	2,928,591	3,157,324	107.81%	3,157,324	100.00%
OA4: GBV	7,978,226	5,218,030	65.40%	4,175,491	80.02%
OA5: Children	11,084,376	4,628,013	41.75%	4,628,013	100.00%
OA6: Justice	38,209,280	33,441,236	87.52%	33,034,359	98.78%
OA7: Community	26,495,990	19,917,539	75.17%	19,917,539	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	353,534,963	149,806,975	42.37%	149,806,975	100.00%
OA9: Housing	33,267,003	26,676,512	80.19%	26,676,511	100.00%
OA10: Health	63,403,541	33,439,518	52.74%	29,958,444	89.59%
OA11: Education	10,966,607	7,095,539	64.70%	6,965,939	98.17%
OA14: Return	3,308,293	898,352	27.15%	898,352	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	6,752,519	8,867,334	131.32%	8,867,334	100.00%
EA18: Support	11,183,438	14,036,538	125.51%	14,036,538	100.00%
EA20: External	8,419,656	9,779,370	116.15%	9,779,370	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		15,949			
Total	590,415,093	332,873,947	56.38%	327,797,907	98.48%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

With the multiple shocks, crises and escalation conflict, the overarching needs of refugees and their hosting communities continued to be high in 2024. Despite increased overall funding over the year due to the escalation of hostilities in September 2024 and strong donor support to the related UNHCR flash appeal for the emergency, UNHCR was able to meet only 58 per cent of its needs of \$545 million, thus requiring rigorous re-prioritization throughout the year and in response to the impact and displacement of the Isreal-Hezbollah which heavily impacted civilians including refugees living in Lebanon. This included prioritization of core mandate interventions and operational delivery, enhanced targeting of the most vulnerable refugees with meaningful assistance, centralization and pooling of common services within UNHCR or partnership

management for efficient resource allocation with risk assessments and a review of office structure designation. With the intensification of hostilities, UNHCR prioritized life-saving assistance to newly displaced populations across the country, while striving to maintain essential services to the existing populations in need. As a result, Beirut remained the Country Office, while Mount Lebanon changed from a Sub-Office to a Field Office, reducing the number of sub-offices to two (Tripoli with Qubayat Field Unit and Zahle). Tyre remained a Field Office.

UNHCR continued efforts to diversify its funding base, with 24 different donor countries in addition to support from Private Sector funds. As per previous trends, over 81 per cent of funds provided to the operation were earmarked, including at the country and regional level. The United, States, Germany, the European Union, France and the Netherlands continued to be UNHCR Lebanon's highest support donors, accounting for 65 per cent of all funds received, while the operation increased support for multi-year projects including through KOICA. Private sector support also grew from \$5 to \$8 million.

With the year-on-year downward funding trajectory overall in response to the longstanding Syrian crisis, notwithstanding the strong emergency response support during the conflict in Lebanon, it is envisaged that funding support overall to Lebanon will continue to lower, with a likely steeper decline in 2025 and beyond. The change of regime in Syria will also have an impact on both prioritization of funds in 2025 to include assistance for those who may wish to voluntarily return to Syria, and likely also the overall support to Lebanon.

Additionally, UNHCR and other UN agencies continue providing human resource support to the Government through outsourced human resource services via a third-party administrator, administering 100 contracts and payroll services to assist in coordinating the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan.

Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Lebanon operation conducted the mandatory Strategic Moment of Reflection exercise consisting of external consultations with UN agencies, National and International NGO consortiums and UNHCR partner agencies, as well as internal Senior Management reflection on 2024 lessons learned, changes in the operational context and funding reductions to inform prioritization for 2025 and beyond.

After more than a decade of expansion, UNHCR Lebanon has entered a period of gradual re-alignment. The operation is reducing engagement and footprint, consistent with our mandate and humanitarian principles, through prioritization of core services in line with the Age Gender Diversity approach and gradually reducing engagement in other activities, with increased advocacy for support by other actors, including development partners and donors.

The process of long-term prioritization and restructuring of the operation was initiated in 2022, and subsequent steps will continue in 2025, toward prioritization of sustainable solutions with a focus on clearly mandated areas of intervention and meaningful assistance to smaller groups to result in more impact.

UNHCR will move to a leaner and more agile organizational model through adapting our own interventions into less labor-intensive and scalable alternatives without requiring immediate additional human resources.

Against a backdrop of decreasing resources, the operation will focus on revising large-scale assistance schemes (health, basic assistance) to remain as a lifeline for a narrower population of the most vulnerable and pursue opportunities to support institutions in the most strategic manner.



UNHCR
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