

Lebanon

October 2022

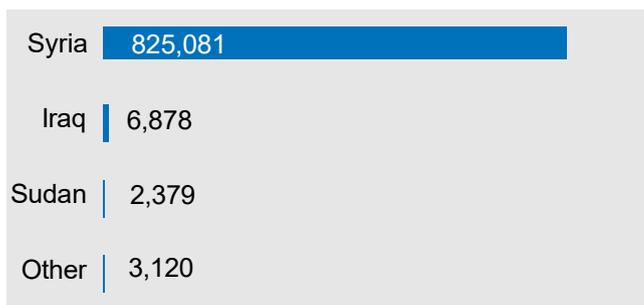
Lebanon remains the country hosting the **largest number of refugees per capita**, with the Government estimation of **1.5 M Syrian refugees** + some 12,377 refugees of other nationalities.

The socio-economic downturn coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic and Beirut blast have all contributed to **nine out of ten Syrian refugees living in extreme poverty**.

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)

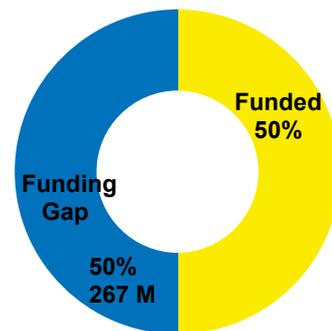


* Registration figures as of September 2022

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

USD 534.3 M

requested for the Lebanon operation in 2022



FUNDING (As of 22 November 2022)

UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

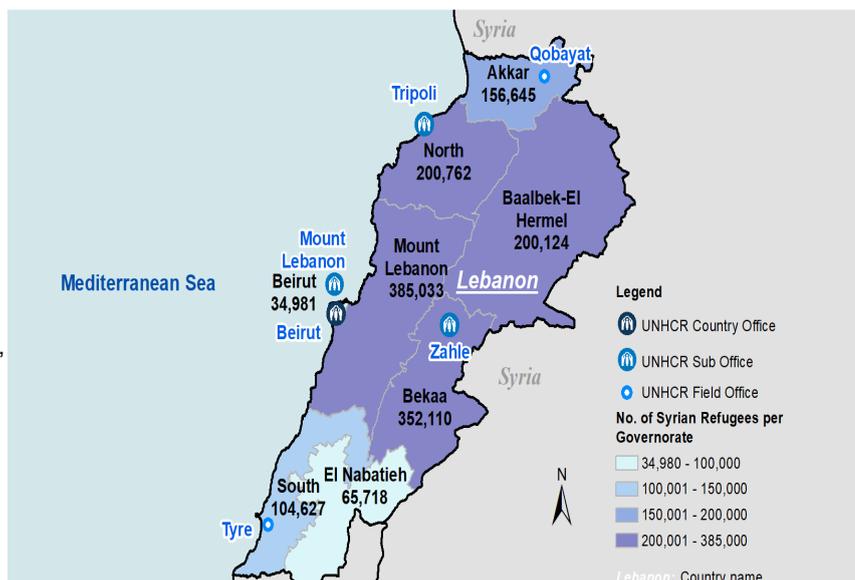
559 National Staff

94 International Staff

Offices:

1 Country Office in Beirut

5 Sub and Field Offices in Beirut, Qobayat, Tripoli, Tyre and Zahle



Working with Partners

- Under the 2022 Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), UNHCR co-leads a multi-stakeholder, multi-faceted nexus response in conjunction with the Government of Lebanon (GoL) and UNDP, with contributions from a wide range of entities including local and international NGOs, civil society organizations, donors and academic institutions.
- Under the LCRP, UNHCR co-leads the Protection, Basic Assistance, Health, Shelter, and Social Stability sectors with the government and UN/INGO/NGO counterparts, ensuring the inclusion of refugees in the strategy, design and programming of various partners.
- Through the LCRP, UNHCR and partners seek to respond to the ongoing impact of the Syria crisis on Lebanon, including ensuring protection and providing immediate assistance to vulnerable people, supporting service provision through national systems, and reinforcing Lebanon’s economic, social, and environmental stability.
- Since 2015, Lebanon has received over USD 9 billion in support for displaced Syrians, vulnerable Lebanese, and Palestine refugees under the LCRP. In 2022, the Government of Lebanon and its national and international partners appealed for USD 3.2 billion.
- In the extension of UNHCR’s sector co-leadership and programmes in the protection and shelter response to the Beirut port explosions, UNHCR is also a member of the Housing and the Social Cohesion, Inclusion and Gender sectors in the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF).
- In line with the Global Compact on Refugees and its “whole of society” approach, UNHCR is engaging with a network of 24 local civil society actors on displacement-related issues. The network has been active in countering misinformation around refugees in Lebanon by presenting facts, conducting research, hosting roundtables, and drafting policy briefs. The network members include NGOs, academia, think tanks, and faith-based organizations – some of which made pledges during the Global Refugee Forum in December 2019.
- In 2022, UNHCR has partnership agreements with 27 partners, of which 15 are international, 9 are national and three are UN agencies.

Main Activities

Protection

- UNHCR coordinates the protection response for refugees in Lebanon with the Government, UN agencies, and local and international partners, including activities related to registration of refugees, legal aid, civil documentation as well as psychosocial support, child protection and prevention of and response to gender-based violence (GBV). UNHCR also identifies and refers refugees for resettlement to third countries.
- UNHCR conducts Protection Monitoring (PM) with partners on an ongoing basis to analyse trends in the protection environment and risks facing refugees across Lebanon. According to the 2022 third-quarter PM findings, refugees struggle to meet their basic needs in the face of Lebanon’s deepening crises.
- The PM findings demonstrate that nearly all refugees faced difficulties feeding their households (94%), a record high rate of 86% struggled to pay rent, half of all refugees reported decreasing livelihoods, a record high rate of 41% could not afford essential medicine, and over a third of 35% reported suffering from reduced access to healthcare.

- In line with UNHCR's Global Campaign to End Statelessness by 2024, UNHCR supports the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, General Directorate of Personal Status, to facilitate the birth registration and other vital events of refugees and Lebanese; UNHCR provides legal aid and services to stateless persons to acquire or confirm their 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.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- As part of accountability to affected people, UNHCR ensures that women, men, girls and boys of diverse backgrounds are regularly consulted and are engaged in decision-making. To achieve this, UNHCR, together with partners, has established community structures that provide organized and systematic engagement with communities such as participatory assessments, community centers and outreach volunteer networks.
- Through 25 Community Centers, including 19 CDCs and 6 Social Development Centers (SDCs) across the country, UNHCR supports persons of diverse backgrounds, nationalities, genders, and age groups to access updated information, learn new skills, build social networks, and enhance their psychosocial well-being. CDCs also provide case management and psychosocial support services.
- By 31 October 2022, UNHCR recorded 206,210 instances of participation in CDC activities such as psychosocial support, vocational skills training and other learning activities, including basic literacy and numeracy. In total, 71% of the participants were female and 40% were youth.
- UNHCR currently engages 548 general and specialized Refugee Outreach Volunteers (OVs) from the refugee and host communities, of whom 60% are females. OVs provide real-time insights into community protection risks and priorities that inform UNHCR and partner programmes.
- By 21 October 2022, OVs reached 572,564 refugees through 22,608 awareness-raising and information sessions and 11,001 household visits. They also referred 22,608 persons with specific needs to UNHCR and partners, of whom 48% were women and girls and 37% were children.
- As of mid-October 2022, and in line with the confirmation of the first case of Cholera in Lebanon, OVs have been actively engaged in Cholera prevention and response activities through awareness raising, sharing information on available services, and referring cases for urgent follow-up.

Education

- Registration for the second shift in the 2022-2023 school year started on 5 October and was extended to 14 November. Teaching in many second-shift schools began between 17 and 20 October.
- UNHCR continued its Community-Based retention support programmes. So far, in 2022, 3,935 students participated in community-based homework support, and 1,443 students in more targeted retention support, including exam preparation.
- UNHCR's Refugee Education Community Liaisons referred more than 4,000 absent students to UNICEF and its partners for follow-up, support, and to prevent drop-outs.
- By the end of October, over 2,364 out-of-school children and 214 youth attended Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN) programs implemented by UNHCR's partners, and 257 out-of-learning youth participated in 17 certified vocational trainings.
- With regards to higher education, UNHCR continued to support 83 students to access and

enroll in the Lebanese Public University through the DAFI scholarships programme. Among the current students, 29 are expected to graduate. Twenty-nine new students were selected to join the program starting October 2022 at the Lebanese International University.

- UNHCR collaborated with UNICEF, WFP, and USAID/Qitabi to support the Ministry of Education in implementing a six-week inclusive Summer School. Over 98,000 students (27% Syrian) were enrolled in the program in 455 schools, of which 435 were primary, and 20 were secondary schools. The Summer School aimed to mitigate learning losses and provide support to catch up for vulnerable children in a fun, safe, and inclusive learning environment. UNHCR supported through the provision of recreational activities, including sports and art, targeting over 45,000 children (36% Syrian) in 185 schools.

Health

- The degradation of the economic situation in Lebanon has negatively impacted access to healthcare and medicine. UNHCR's health care interventions aim to ensure access for refugees in Lebanon to primary and secondary health care.
- UNHCR operates a large referral care programme to subsidize hospitalization fees. The assistance includes covering a major part of the cost for refugees in need of obstetric care and urgent lifesaving interventions at hospitals, through a network of 30 contracted hospitals.
- In addition, UNHCR and partners support 210 primary health care centers across the country to provide general health care services, vaccinations, care for pregnant, family planning and care for chronic non-communicable diseases. In addition, UNHCR supports the delivery of mental health services that are scarce and limited in Lebanon.
- By October 2022, a total of 80,472 consultations were provided to refugees and other vulnerable Lebanese through facilities receiving support from UNHCR and its implementing partners

COVID-19 in Lebanon and UNHCR Response to the Outbreak (as of 31 October 2022)

- In 2021, UNHCR Lebanon supported 13 hospitals with donations of advanced medical equipment, supplies, medications and Protective Personnel Equipment (PPEs). These efforts led to an increase in the capacity of the Lebanese health care system by 100 ICU beds and 586 regular beds for COVID-19 treatment. UNHCR has supported the rehabilitation of two Primary Health Care Centers (PHCs) for COVID-19 vaccination in rural areas of Bekaa and North Lebanon in addition to the provision of medical supplies and loan of medical equipments for three large vaccination sites.
- Starting 2022, UNHCR allocated one mobile vaccination team for the vaccination of children at schools. As of October 2022, a total of 41 schools received two doses of the vaccine, while the total number of students vaccinated stands at 2,606 due to this initiative. UNHCR played an active role in the national COVID-19 vaccination campaign through the administration of vaccine doses through mobile units. By October 2022, a total of 87,812 vaccine doses were administered through mobile vaccination units.

Cholera Response

- UNHCR has been a key member of the National Cholera Taskforce ever since the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health announced the Cholera outbreak in Lebanon on 6th October 2022.
- UNHCR continues to support the case management of refugees suffering from cholera through 100% coverage of hospitalization costs. UNHCR also took part in converting two of the prefabricated COVID-19 isolation units in North Lebanon to Cholera Treatment Centres (CTCs), in addition to dispatching emergency stock of medications and medical supplies to the first hospital receiving cholera patients.
- UNHCR is strengthening the national surveillance capacity, by supporting the Lebanese Ministry Epidemiological Surveillance Unit (ESU) with Rapid Response Teams (RRT) for testing and case identification. Further to strengthen the capacity of the healthcare system to respond to the cholera

outbreak, UNHCR planned for the procurement of essential items including rapid diagnostic tests, medical supplies, and cholera beds.

Institutional and Community Support

- UNHCR provides institutional support to strengthen 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 continues to focus on supporting service delivery and enhancing the capacities of public officials to respond to the current crisis.

UNHCR continues to implement activities geared towards peacebuilding and social stability. Since the onset of the Syria crisis in 2011, more than 654 community support projects have been implemented by UNHCR in Lebanon as of the end of August 2022. Given the rapid decline in services, UNHCR targeted additional support to key municipal services, including implementing solid waste management and public infrastructure projects in 2022.

Shelter, Water, and Sanitation

- UNHCR aims to ensure the protection of vulnerable populations and contribute to social stability by mitigating the deteriorating shelter and economic conditions and improving access to physically adequate shelter while ensuring the security of tenure. Focus is given to lifesaving interventions addressing the shelter needs in informal settlements and disadvantaged urban/peri-urban areas.
- In informal settlements, refugees receive fire mitigation kits and shelter kits to reinforce or rebuild their shelters following emergencies (flooding, evictions, or fire incidents) and to help them withstand extreme weather conditions. Also, the most critical settlements are prioritized for site improvement works, allowing enhanced preparedness against floods and fire incidents.
- In urban/peri-urban areas, UNHCR applies an integrated area-based approach to respond to acute shelter needs in collective shelters and substandard shelter units located in identified poor neighborhoods. Targeted refugees receive an integrated shelter/WASH response, including shelter rehabilitation and rehabilitation of common areas which allows vulnerable refugees to live in adequate shelters/buildings and benefit from secure tenure through free occupancy for one year.
- In response to the increased rental prices, debts, and high risk of eviction, UNHCR continues to focus on Cash for Rent assistance, targeting general and specific protection referral cases allowing the targeted families to adjust to the deteriorating economic situations and benefit from enhanced tenure security in shelters with an adequate standard.

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 been providing Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MCAP) through ATM cards. Cash assistance strengthens the capacity of benefitting families to cover basic needs such as rent, food, and medication and reduces their vulnerability to exploitation and negative coping strategies. UNHCR's MCAP also enables refugees to contribute to the local economy by purchasing directly from local markets and shops.
- In 2022, UNHCR is targeting 144,000 severely vulnerable Syrian households and 2,400 refugee households of other nationalities for MCAP assistance. In addition, UNHCR provides Core Relief Items such as blankets, mattresses, and solar lamps. During the Winter season, UNHCR provides additional cash assistance to vulnerable families. Between October 2021 and

February 2022, 276,784 refugee families (273,684 Syrians and 3,100 of other nationalities) and 42,972 Lebanese families were supported with winter cash assistance.

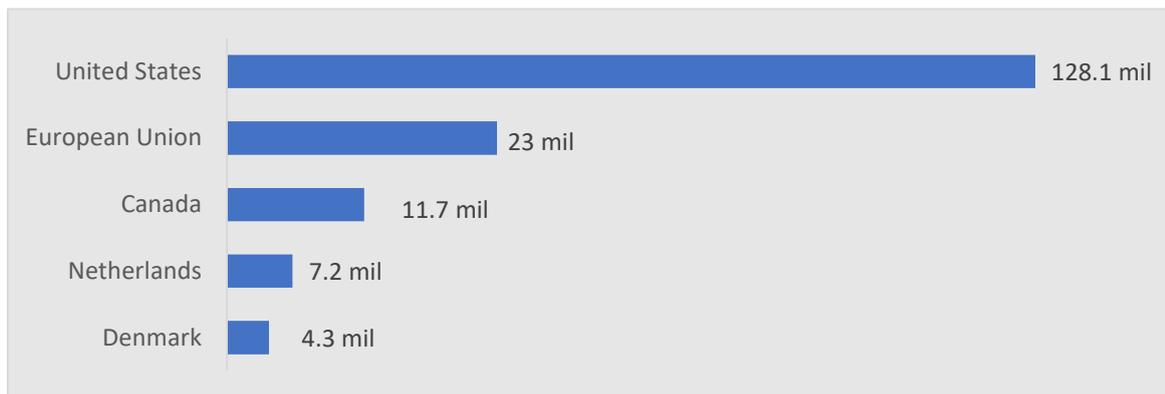
- As part of a regional UNHCR appeal in preparation for the 2022 – 2023 winter season, UNHCR Lebanon aims to assist around 1.4 million Syrian refugees (273,000 families) and 10,365 Iraqi and refugees of other nationalities (3,839 families) with winterization cash assistance for a period of up to four months. To complement the cash assistance programme and further support refugees living in harsh climatic conditions, UNHCR will support approximately 10,000 families with core relief items, through a needs-based approach.

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 22 November 2022)

Earmarked contributions for the operation amount to some **US \$ 160.4 million**



Denmark | Finland | France | Italy | Japan | Luxembourg | The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives | Monaco | Norway | Private donors | Qatar Charity | Qatar | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland

OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Germany 45.1 million | **Private donors USA** 15.5 million | **Austria** 14.8 million | **United States of America** 14 million | **Private donors Germany** 13.1 million | **Private donors Australia** 12.3 million | **France** 11.5 million | **Denmark** 11.2 million | **Australia** 4.4 million | **Switzerland** 4.3 million | **Netherlands** 4 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 3.8 million | **Private donors United Kingdom** 3.7 million | **Sweden** 2.6 million | **Private donors Italy** 2.4 million | **Japan** 2.3 million | **Finland** 2.3 million | **Spain** 2.3 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Sweden 99.3 million | **Norway** 72.5 million | **Private donors Spain** 62.4 million | **Private donors Japan** 44.8 million | **United Kingdom** 40.1 million | **Netherlands** 37.2 million | **Denmark** 35.6 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 31.4 million | **Private donors USA** 29.6 million | **Germany** 24.4 million | **Japan** 21.7 million | **France** 18.5 million | **Switzerland** 18.4 million | **Private donors Italy** 17.7 million | **Private donors Canada** 12.5 million | **Belgium** 11.9 million | **Ireland** 11.8 million | **Private donors Sweden** 11.4 million | **Italy** 10 million

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