

Lebanon

December 2022

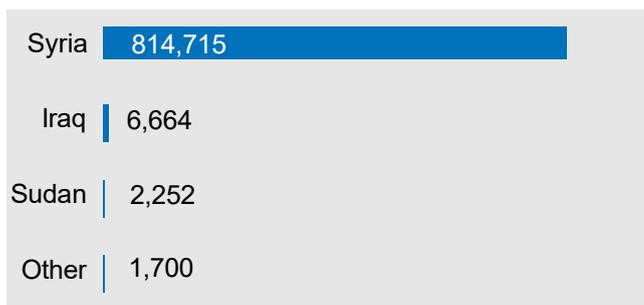
Lebanon remains the country hosting the **largest number of refugees per capita**, with the Government estimation of **1.5 M Syrian refugees** + some 12,159 refugees of other nationalities.

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)

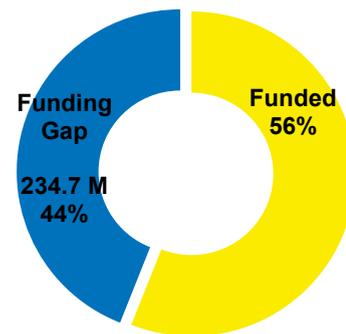


* Registration figures as of December 2022.

** 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 29 December 2022)

UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

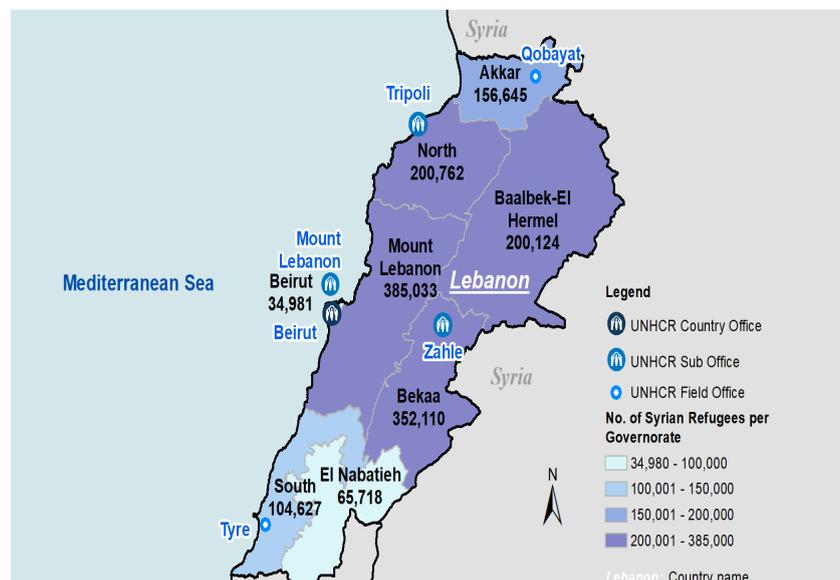
559 National Staff

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 31 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 PM findings, refugees increasingly 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, an overwhelming majority struggled to pay rent, half of all refugees reported decreasing livelihoods, and more than a third reported suffering from reduced access to healthcare including unaffordability of essential medicines.
- 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 Community Development Centres (CDCs) and 6 Social Development Centers (SDCs) across the country, UNHCR supports persons of diverse backgrounds 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.
- In 2022, UNHCR recorded 256,000 participations in CDC activities such as psychosocial support, awareness sessions, life skills, vocational skills training and other learning activities, including basic literacy and numeracy, and computer skills. In total, 67% of the participants were female and 28% were youth.
- UNHCR currently engages 548 general and specialized Refugee Outreach Volunteers (OVs) from the refugee and host communities, of whom 60% are females, who provide real-time insights into community protection risks and priorities that inform UNHCR and partner programmes.
- In 2022, OVs reached 636,109 refugees through 25,969 awareness-raising and information sessions and 12,899 home visits. They also referred 34,737 persons with specific needs to UNHCR and partners, of whom 48% were women and girls and 36% were children.
- As of October 2022, OVs have been actively engaged in the cholera prevention and response activities through awareness raising, information sharing and case referrals for urgent follow-up. As of end of December 2022, OVs conducted 2,700 awareness and information-sharing sessions, reaching 38,359 persons (47% women and girls).
- UNHCR is strengthening the capacity of OVs to better support their communities in dealing with adversity, especially given Lebanon's increasingly challenging socio-economic situation and the limited reach and capacity of specialized services. UNHCR, through its partner Save the Children, has trained 43 OVs to provide non-specialized community-based psychosocial support in their communities.

Education

- 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. 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.

- Registration for the school year 2022-2023 in public second shift schools officially ended on December 10. Schools continued registering refugee children in formal education on an ad-hoc basis. Many second-shift schools began teaching between 17 and 20 October.
- UNHCR continued its Community-Based retention support programmes. In 2022, UNHCR partners conducted 8,021 community mobilization campaigns to promote school enrolment, reaching 85,771 individuals. In addition, 4,458 students participated homework support groups, and 2,022 students in targeted retention support groups, including exam preparation.
- UNHCR's Refugee Education Community Liaisons referred more than 3,500 refugee children to UNICEF and its partners for follow-up, support, and to prevent drop-outs during the scholastic year.
- UNHCR partners referred more than 11,000 refugee out-of-school children to be enrolled in the School Bridging Programme planned for the 2022-23 scholastic year.
- By the end of 2022, 2,411 out-of-school children and 232 youth attended Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN) programs implemented by UNHCR's partners, and 311 out-of-learning youth participated in 18 certified vocational trainings.
- UNHCR continued to support 83 students, 27 Male and 56 Female, to access and enroll in the Lebanese Public University (LU) through the DAFI scholarship programme. In total, 29 new students were selected to join the program starting October 2022 and 28 graduated with an undergraduate degree.
- In 2022, 26 refugee students departed under Complementary Pathways opportunities with the Bourse Elysee to France, the JISR/JICA to Japan, and the WUSC/SRP to Canada.
- Alongside the Universities Association of Lebanon (UAOLB) and in collaboration with the Directorate General at the Ministry of Education, UNESCO, and the Connected Learning in Crisis Consortium (CLCC), UNHCR organized a 5-day workshop in November on instructional design for e-Learning and building the capacities of 50 faculty members from different higher education institutions in Lebanon.

Health

- The degradation of the economic situation in Lebanon has negatively impacted refugees' 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 such as vaccinations, maternal care, 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 December 2022, a total of 102,153 consultations were provided to refugees and vulnerable Lebanese through facilities receiving support from UNHCR and its implementing partners.

COVID-19 in Lebanon and UNHCR Response

- 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 December 2022, a total of 93,272 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 6 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 (RDT), medical supplies, and cholera beds. In November 2022, 1000 RDTs were delivered to the Ministry of Public Health epidemiology Surveillance Unit.
- UNHCR supported the Ministry of Public Health with the implementation of the National Oral Cholera Vaccination campaign which targeted the high risk areas in the Bekaa, Baalbeck North and Akkar through partners. In total 736,284 doses were administered by end of December 2022.

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 655 community support projects have been implemented by UNHCR in Lebanon as of the end of December 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.
- As part of the Cholera response, UNHCR provided comprehensive assistance in 36 Collective Shelters with rehabilitation and where needed flush chlorination. Furthermore, residents received 842 hygiene kits as a preventive measure.

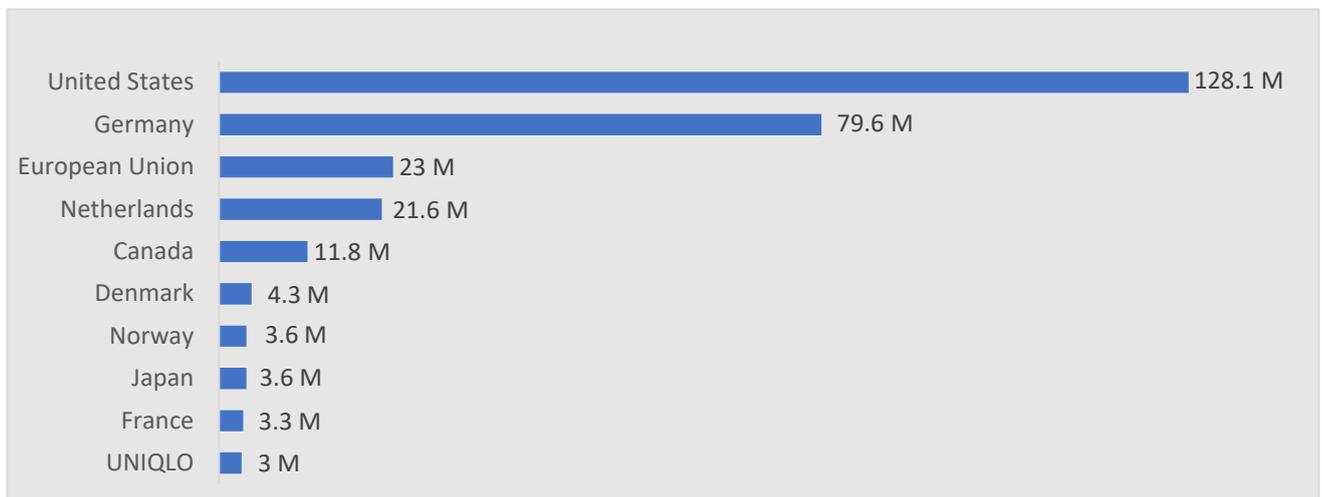
Basic Needs

- 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 2023, UNHCR is targeting 119,000 vulnerable Syrian households and 2,666 refugee households of other nationalities for MCAP assistance.
- During the Winter season, UNHCR provides additional cash assistance to vulnerable families. Between November 2022 and February 2023, UNHCR aims to support 288,800 refugee families, 284,600 Syrians and 4,200 of other nationalities, with winter cash assistance. To further support refugees living in harsh climatic conditions, UNHCR supported approximately 10,000 families with Core Relief Items such as blankets, mattresses, and solar lamps, 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 29 December 2022)



Earmarked contributions for the operation amount to some **US \$ 299.6 million**

Austria | Belgium | Italy | Luxembourg | The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives | Monaco | Private donors | Qatar Charity | Qatar | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | CERF

OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Private donors Germany 23.9 million | **United States of America** 14 million | **Private donors Australia** 11.4 million | **Private donors USA** 7.5 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 3.9 million | **Denmark** 3.6 million | **Sweden** 2.6 million | **Finland** 2.3 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Sweden 99.3 million | **Norway** 72.5 million | **Private donors Spain** 72.1 million | **Private donors Japan** 59.1 million | **United Kingdom** 40.1 million | **Netherlands** 37.2 million | **Denmark** 35.6 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 34.4 million | **Private donors USA** 29.9 million | **Germany** 24.4 million | **Japan** 21.7 million | **Private donors Italy** 19.2 million | **France** 18.5 million | **Switzerland** 18.4 million | **Private donors Canada** 13.6 million | **Private donors Sweden** 13.3 million | **Belgium** 11.9 million | **Ireland** 11.8 million | **Italy** 10 million

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