LEBANON CRISIS RESPONSE PLAN 2017-2020

PART II: OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLANS - Protection

PROTECTION SECTOR

SECTOR OUTCOMES

Outcome #1 $77.5 m
Persons Displaced from Syria have their basic rights (incl. access to territory, legal stay, civil documentation) respected and specific protection needs fulfilled.

Indicators
- Percentage of persons with legal stay.
- Percentage of persons referred provided with services.
- Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Noufous level.
- Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Foreign Registry level.
- Number of persons benefiting from resettlement or other humanitarian pathways.
- Percentage of households who have moved accommodation in the last 6 months due to eviction.

Outcome #2 $26.5 m
Support and actively engage community members in creating a safe protection environment.

Indicators
- Percentage of persons reporting that information received has helped them accessing services.
- Percentage of persons reporting that they feel involved in the assessment, design, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and activities.

Outcome #3 $30.5 m
Reduce SGBV risks and improve access to quality services.

Indicators
- Percentage of women (20-24) married before 18.
- Percentage of women and girls age 15-49 who state that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife.

Outcome #4 $39.6 m
Provide boys and girls at risk and survivors of violence, exploitation and abuse with access to an improved and equitable prevention and response.

Indicators
- Percentage of children 2-14 years who experience violent disciplinary practices.
- Percentage of children aged 5-17 yrs who engage in child labour.
- Percentage of children (boys and girls) who reported an improvement in their psychosocial wellbeing as measured through the SDQ.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COHORT</th>
<th>PEOPLE IN NEED</th>
<th>PEOPLE TARGETED</th>
<th>52% Female</th>
<th>48% Male</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lebanese</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>336,000</td>
<td>174,720</td>
<td>161,280</td>
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<tr>
<td>Displaced Syrians</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>780,000</td>
<td>720,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palestinian Refugees from Syria</td>
<td>28,800</td>
<td>28,800</td>
<td>14,976</td>
<td>13,824</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>10,400</td>
<td>9,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GENDER MARKER
2a

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PEOPLE IN NEED
3,208,800

PEOPLE TARGETED
1,884,800

REQUIREMENTS (US$)
2019 174.1 million
2020 TBD

PARTNERS
79
Situational Analysis and Context

This situational analysis was drawn from a combination of qualitative and quantitative data collection process through the course of 2018. Special efforts were made to account for feedback from Syrian, Palestinian and vulnerable Lebanese women, girls, boys and men related to their exposure to threats, protection vulnerabilities and coping capacities.

Overall protection environment

Access to territory and registration

Under the border regulations introduced by the Government of Lebanon (GoL) in 2015, admission for Syrian nationals is provided under clearly identified visa categories including, among others, sponsorship, tourism, business and transit, provided that supporting documentation and other requirements are met. Syrians fleeing persecution, conflict and violence in Syria must fall within the exceptional humanitarian criteria1 developed by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) to enter Lebanon. However, since its implementation in 2015, and as of September 2018, only 62 persons have been granted access to territory based on these humanitarian admission grounds. Since 2014, admission for Palestinian refugees from Syria is limited to the visa categories of embassy appointments, transit to a third country and an exceptional pre-approved entry supported by a sponsor in Lebanon, each requiring pre-approval. The introduction of more restrictive border measures in January 2015 led persons from Syria to take critical risks (smuggling, mountain pathways, landmines etc.) to enter Lebanon irregularly. The Government of Lebanon has consistently affirmed its commitment to the principle of non-refoulement, which is essential so that no person is returned, expelled or extradited to the frontiers of territories where his/her life or freedom would be threatened or where he/she would be in danger of being subjected to torture.

The registration of displaced Syrians by UNHCR was suspended by the Government of Lebanon in 2015. Since then, displaced Syrians who approach UNHCR for registration, are counselled on the Government’s suspension and their needs are assessed in view of assisting the most vulnerable. As a result of the suspension, the exact number of displaced Syrians in Lebanon is unknown, hampering the planning for and facilitation of, durable solutions outside of Lebanon. International partners have highlighted that the resumption of registrations by UNHCR would also generate updated statistics and facilitate solutions in the form of resettlement to third countries and the safe, dignified, non-coercive returns of refugees when conditions permit.2 Displaced Syrians who are not registered with UNHCR face serious difficulties in being considered for resettlement to third countries, as only a few resettlement countries will consider unregistered persons. Thus, to better manage needs and responses, and prepare for durable solutions, UNHCR is advocating with the Government of Lebanon for the resumption of registration.

Legal Residency

In March 2017, the Government of Lebanon, building on its earlier commitment during the London Conference in February 2016,3 issued a circular of the General Directorate of the General Security Office (GSO) to announce the waiver of residency renewal and overtime fees (US$200 per year per person aged 15 years and above, which many refugees were unable to pay) for certain categories of refugees.2 This waiver is applicable to Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR prior to 1 January 2015, and for those who renewed their legal residency through UNHCR-registration pathways. Refugees who renewed their legal residency based on non-refugee related reasons such as tourism, sponsorship, property ownership, or tenancy in 2015 or 20164 are not eligible. Based on estimates, potentially 312,000 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR (61.5 per cent of the registered population5) may be eligible for this residency fee waiver.

The percentage of displaced Syrians aged 156 years and above without valid legal residency remains at 73 per cent,6 in line with the previous year (74 per cent). Of the 27 per cent who managed to obtain legal residency, 57 per cent renewed based on the UNHCR certificate while 43 per cent registered through sponsorship. Twenty per cent of these individuals live in non-UNHCR registered households. North Lebanon is hosting the highest percentage of displaced Syrians without legal stay, followed by Bekaa. In Bekaa, women and adolescents (including those turning 15 years of age) are regularizing their residency using the UNHCR certificate and therefore can benefit from the March 2017 waiver, while previously

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1. Persons falling within the category of humanitarian exceptions include: (i) unaccompanied and separated children (under 16 years of age) whose parents and legal guardians are confirmed to be displaced in Lebanon; (ii) persons with disabilities dependent on family and relatives confirmed to be displaced in Lebanon; (iii) persons in need of life-saving medical treatment not usually available in Syria, or not available in a timely manner; and (iv) individuals pursuing resettlement or transitioning through Lebanon to a third country, with proof of onward travel outside Lebanon.

2. Before March 2017, there were two primary avenues for Syrian nationals to obtain residency since 2015: reliance on UNHCR registration certificate or sponsorship by a Lebanese citizen. Since June 2016, those notarized must pledge to not seek employment, previous required for residency renewal based on the UNHCR certificate, and subsequently replaced by a pledge to abide by Lebanese laws, which is signed free of charge at General Security Office centres during the renewal process. The requirement for a housing commitment was replaced by a housing attestation free of charge issued by Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon, Protection – January – August 2016 Dashboard, https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/51721.

3. In line with the GSO’s practice, and under the February/March 2017 fee waiver, displaced persons who have previously obtained their residency through sponsorship are unable to renew their residency permits free of charge on the basis of their UNHCR registration certificate. However, the waiver makes it clear that their family members should benefit from the waiver, and that others registered with UNHCR who have not previously renewed on sponsorship should be eligible for the free waiver. Displaced Syrians who do not fall under the February/March 2017 waiver must continue to pay $200 for each person 15 years of age and above to renew their residency permit. Additional costs related to the residency permit process amount to approximately $30, including transportation costs to reach the local GSO. These costs, applicable to all displaced Syrians wanting to renew residency, are difficult for them to meet, due to their poor economic situation.

4. Of those registered with UNHCR and aged 15 and above (507,521 persons), 29 per cent had legal residency. Of these, 29 per cent, 61.5 per cent benefited from the waiver. Similarly, it is estimated that 61.5 per cent of the 71 per cent registered with UNHCR with no legal residency could also benefit from the waiver.

5. The overall population of displaced persons from Syria is estimated at 1.5 million.
men typically renewed based on sponsorship so are ineligible to benefit from the fee waiver.\textsuperscript{6} South Lebanon has the highest level of legal residency nationally as the South is hosting less displaced Syrians than other regions which could lead to less pressure on the GSO. The 18 per cent of Syrian households, in which all members held a valid residency permit, continued on a downward trend in 2018, from 19 per cent in 2017 and 21 per cent in 2016.

There are multiple reasons for the low level of legal residency numbers of persons displaced from Syria. In particular, they continue to report facing difficulties\textsuperscript{6} submitting applications for legal residency renewal at GSO offices, because these offices have limited capacity to process large numbers of requests and limited practice in implementing the March 2017 fee waiver. Limited capacity to produce statistic on number of persons benefiting from the fee waiver. This means that many who should benefit from it, are either rejected or asked to submit additional documentation to the ones required based on the circular. Other displaced Syrians report being requested to renew their legal residency through a sponsor as they are perceived by the GSO to be working. Consultations with groups at risk such as child spouses, street and working children, survivors of torture and woman at risk highlighted significant obstacles due to the strict application of circulars by the GSO, poor treatment by authorities, as well as unclear and lengthy procedures. They also faced difficulties to find sponsors.\textsuperscript{6}

At the same time, the procedure and eligibility for 73\% of displaced Syrians aged 15 and above are without valid residency permit.

obtaining legal residency seems to be not well understood by displaced Syrians and in addition there are different practices between GSO offices, which makes it difficult to comply with announced circular requirements. The Government of Lebanon has committed to ensuring, with assistance of international partners, that all eligible displaced Syrians can renew their residency free of charge, by further upscaling the capacity of the GSO to process a higher number of applications and by applying the waiver to all.\textsuperscript{6} UNHCR has provided financial and technical support to GSO offices to address these obstacles; however, substantive challenges remain, making it difficult for displaced Syrians to seek renewal of their residency permits.

To complement the 2017 waiver, the GSO issued a new circular in April 2018 facilitating the process of obtaining legal residency for Syrian minors who turned 15 years of age in Lebanon and are below 18 years of age. For these children, it is no longer necessary to provide a Syrian national ID or passport to obtain legal residency. Rather, it is sufficient for an eligible adolescent to present a Syrian individual civil extract that is less than two years old. This is welcomed, because these children were unable to obtain these ID documents from Syria due to their exile in Lebanon, and the civil extract is easier to obtain (noting that many of them do not have a valid civil extract as they left Syria more than two years ago). Despite this positive development, some displaced youth continue to face difficulties as they either are unable to obtain civil extracts or due to the varying practices in applying the regulation issued by the GSO.

More than 50,000 Syrian refugee children registered with UNHCR in Lebanon turned 15 in 2018 and lack a national ID or passport. The new GSO decision will provide alternatives to overcome the lack of legal residency and reduce associated protection risks (risk of being arrested, vulnerability to exploitation, access to services, etc.). It is estimated that in the next two years, an additional 75,000 Syrian refugee children without a national ID or passport will turn 15 years of age.

In a positive new development, in late 2017, renewals of temporary residency permits were allowed for Palestinian refugee children from Syria without a passport or national identity card, who had turned 15 years of age in Lebanon and possessed an individual status record issued in the last two years. However, these new procedures were not well communicated to the public by Lebanese authorities, with application procedures varying across the country, impacting the free of charge residency permit renewal process by Palestinian refugees from Syria. According to UNRWA, during the first six months of 2018, more than 40 per cent of Palestinian refugees from Syria did not hold valid residency documents. The main reasons were: i) previously asked to pay fees; ii) irregular entrance and; iii) lack of response from the GSO. From July 2017, Palestinian refugees from Syria continued to be granted free residency permits for six months (renewable multiple times). However, according to the conditions of the July 2017 memorandum, only Palestinian refugees from Syria, who entered Lebanon regularly before September 2016, are entitled to apply for the residency renewal.

(6) Costs remained the main reason for lack of legal residency (76 per cent) (this decreased from 88 per cent in 2017), followed by “I am registered with UNHCR but GSO asked me to obtain a Lebanese sponsor” (27 per cent) and “I entered through unofficial border crossing and GSO refused to allow me to regularize” (6 per cent).
The lack of legal residency can have vast consequences, and direct implications to protection risks on family members, including vulnerability to exploitation. Thirty-one per cent of displaced Syrians who obtained legal status were male, while 24 per cent were women. While freedom of movement restrictions impact men, women and children, men are more likely to face arrest and detention at checkpoints hampering family access to livelihoods. This can lead to the heightened risk of family reliance on children for income generation as they are less likely to be stopped at checkpoints, that can have irremediable consequences on children not enrolled in school. This has also led to men being prioritized for legal residency over other household members, including women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons. Adults comprise 28 per cent of those who obtained legal residency, with those 15-18 years of age accounting for only 16 per cent.

The lack of residency also increases associated protection and SGBV risks for both boys and girls and women and men, as they are more likely to engage in high-risk income-generating activities or fall prey to human traffickers and as women often go alone to collect humanitarian aid, because men are more at risk of being arrested at checkpoint. Moreover, trying to obtain legal residency based on sponsorship or tenancy creates additional challenges for displaced Syrians, including difficulties in identifying sponsors and inability to pay the informal ‘fees’ often requested by potential sponsors. Sponsorship may also create a power differential increasing the risk of exploitation and abuse, especially for women, boys and girls, and female heads of household. For example, female-headed households in the South and Mt. Lebanon reported their lack of legal residency was due to an unclear sponsorship process and qualification criteria, together with high costs. They viewed the sponsorship system as amounting to “slavery” with employers, forcing them to work for long hours or without being paid their salaries (which were already very low). Lack of legal status also impacts the acquisition of civil status documentation, hampering parents’ ability to register the birth of their child, as they are unable to cross checkpoints to reach the third step of the birth registration process, the Personal Status Department (PSD) offices. Legal status is also required by at least one parent to register a marriage indirectly impacting access to both marriages and birth registrations.

Immigration-related offences remain the most common reason for the arrest and detention of persons displaced from Syria, with the majority normally being released within 24 to 48 hours. This results in the issuance of departure orders that, to date, have not being enforced, in line with the Government of Lebanon’s commitment to the principle of non-refoulement. Persons displaced from Syria without legal residency are not resorting to the justice system because of fear of arrest, and are reportedly less likely to approach authorities to report and seek redress when they are victims of crimes, exploitation and abuse.

The Government of Lebanon committed, during the Brussels Conference in April 2017, to implement and gradually expand the waiver to cover other categories of registered refugees. This has not been implemented yet, but the international community continues to emphasize the need to do so, for example in the context of the 2018 Brussels II Conference.

Sexual and gender-based violence

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) remains one of the main protection concerns affecting both host and refugee populations. Since 2015, an average of 90 per cent of sexual and gender-based violence incidents reported to specialized service providers involved women and girls, indicating that they continue to be disproportionately affected, with grave consequences to health, security, psychosocial and socio-economic well-being. Men and boys are also affected, with male survivors constituting almost ten per cent of all cases reported (one third of which are under 18 years of age). As of August 2018, 19 per cent of reported sexual and gender-based violence incidents occurred in Lebanon and one per cent of reported incidents affected persons with disabilities.

90% of SGBV individuals reported to specialized service providers has involved women and girls.

Data source: Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS), 2014-2018

17% of the rape cases were reported by male survivors.

Data collected through the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS), agency assessments, focus group discussions and protection monitoring highlights that displacement increases the risk of sexual and gender-based violence, with 96 per cent of reported incidents occurring in Lebanon. Married girls including child mothers, adolescent girls, unaccompanied and separated boys and girls, 

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(7) Twenty-five per cent of persons with a disability and 31.4 per cent of older persons could renew their residency.

(8) This 15-18 age group is one of the categories with the lowest rate of legal residency renewal due to the cumbersome administrative procedures required in submitting documents that were difficult to obtain. However, since April 2018, the procedure has been alleviated making the procedure more accessible to children turning 15 years.

women and girls with disabilities, older women, female heads of household and socially marginalized groups continue to be the most at risk. The most commonly reported types of violence, including physical violence (38 per cent), mainly within the family or home, sexual violence including rape and sexual assault (16 per cent), emotional violence, as well as forced and child marriage. Despite recent positive steps, such as the repeal by the Parliament of Lebanon of Article 522 of the Penal Code which allowed rapists to avoid prosecution if they married their victims, only limited protection against sexual and gender-based violence is guaranteed in the application of the national legal framework. Moreover, family law, including marriage, is governed in Lebanon by personal status codes,10 established in line with the various confessions which permit marriage before the age of 18.

% Married girls between the ages of 15-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Married Girls 15-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>29%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


Child protection

Concerns relating to child protection continue to rise as a result of the deterioration of socio-economic conditions. In a humanitarian context, children are among the most vulnerable, in particular unaccompanied children for lacking the primary circle of family support and protection, as well as adolescents and youth, especially young females. Among the main child protection concerns are the high incidents of violence against children at household level and schools, high numbers of non-registered births, child labour and marriage, and those in contact with justice system. Children directly affected by armed violence also remains a critical issue.

At policy and governance level, major achievements were made in 2018, including the launch of the “Roadmap to Strengthen Child Protection Practices in Healthcare Institutions”,11 the launch and roll-out of the “Policy for the Protection of Students in the School Environment”,12 and an overall stronger engagement of the relevant Security and Justice actors on child protection including justice for children. However, to complement these initiatives, substantial multi-sectoral efforts still need to be invested for their proper roll-out and implementation.

The current justice system does not guarantee the rights of children in contact with the law. While significant legislative and institutional progress has been made to advance and fulfil children's rights in Lebanon, further efforts are still needed to ensure that relevant legislations and policies such as Law 422/2002, Decree 8987/2012, Law 293/2014, and the National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, are in line with international principles and standards, and that adequate measures are in place to ensure full compliance.

Children in conflict with the law and those at risk (including child victims and witnesses) are of concern from a child protection perspective, as access, quality and timeliness of an adequate response to their individual cases is questionable. Children involved in formal justice proceedings are often subjected to harmful and discriminatory practices, because child-friendly and gender-sensitive justice is almost non-existent in Lebanon. The pre-sentencing stage often involves arbitrary detention and/or lengthy instances of pre-trial detention of children, sometimes with adults, while detention of children at the sentencing stage remains a common practice. Diversion, as a pre-sentencing disposition, helps children in conflict with the law avoid the harmful and complicated judicial proceedings and provides a solution in dealing with the potential harm children may face due to their involvement in judicial proceedings. However, this practice is not provided for under existing laws in Lebanon. Alternatives to detention in the form of non-custodial measures are provided for under Law 422/2002, but only as a sentencing disposition and often preceded by pre-trial detention. As such, the current practices and limitations of the justice system expose children to double victimization and further exacerbate the harm associated with their involvement in justice proceedings.

Civil documentation

The lack of registration of other civil status events in Lebanon, certifying marriage, divorce or death, can have implications on legal guardianship over children and inheritance rights, including in Syria upon return.

Marriage/Divorce registration is often not completed, due to costly fees, lack of documentation awareness of procedures in some circumstances. Limited legal remedies are available for women and girls in such cases, since without official documentation of the marriage, annulment of the marriage or divorce or contesting the custody and support of children becomes impossible. This is particularly problematic in cases of child or forced marriage, an increasing harmful practice as described later in which the minor spouse may be especially vulnerable to mistreatment and abuse, and in mixed marriages between a Lebanese and a displaced person.

[10] Lebanon’s most challenging issue remains the personal status code which is bound to article 9 of the constitution and therefore under the authority of the different religious courts. This leads to discrimination between Lebanese women from different religions and impacts on many aspects of their legal, social and economic life. Work towards amending the nationality law has seen some progress. The NCLW is preparing a revised draft of its previous law proposal submitted in 2010. Under the current law Lebanese women cannot pass on their nationality to their children, or husbands if they marry a foreign national. (11) This roadmap is expected to provide a framework for health professionals managing cases of child abuse, while at the same time working to prevent neglect and violence of children through the primary healthcare channels available to the Ministry. (12) The policy introduced a clear, unified and specific mechanism to address cases of violence identified within school settings and set roles and responsibilities on child protection prevention and response.

(13) Preceding a non-custodial sentence with detention nullifies any positive impact sought by such non-custodial measures.
from Syria, as a Lebanese mother does not have the right to pass on the Lebanese nationality to her child. The lack of marriage registration also has an impact on parents’ capacity to register births, as birth registration is intrinsically linked to marriage registration.

Birth registration remains a major challenge for many children born in Lebanon to a non-Lebanese father, particularly those born to a Syrian father. From the beginning of the crisis in 2011 to September 2018, 167,000 Syrian children were added to the files of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR. Approximately only 21 per cent of children between 0-5 years of age have had their birth registered with the Foreigners’ Registry, which still represents an improvement of four percentage points over last year.\(^\text{xv}\) Almost 2,900 newborns of Palestinian refugees from Syria were recorded by UNRWA in Lebanon since 2011.\(^\text{xxi}\) Main challenges experienced by displaced persons from Syria in birth registrations include: a lack of awareness of the multi-step birth registration procedures (which are costly and cumbersome); the one year deadline to register a child up to the Nofous level;\(^\text{14}\) lack of documentation\(^\text{15}\) (including proof of marriage to obtain a birth certificate); the inability to approach civil registry offices due to limited freedom of movement or high transport costs; inconsistent implementation of procedures for registering the birth of children born with the help of uncertified midwives\(^\text{16}\) who are not allowed to issue birth notifications; and the retention of the birth notification by hospitals due to the inability to pay hospital fees for the delivery.

Birth registration document for displaced Syrian children born in Lebanon

An important step toward addressing these obstacles was taken when the Personal Status Department announced a simplification to birth and marriage registration procedures in September 2017 (also applicable to Palestinian refugees from Syria), in which valid legal residency for both parents would no longer be required to register births, and only one spouse (instead of two) would require valid legal residency or entry card to register their marriage.\(^\text{17}\) In addition, in March 2018, a memorandum was issued by the Personal Status Department allowing for birth registrations of displaced Syrian children and Palestinian refugee children from Syria born in Lebanon between 1 January 2011 and 8 February 2018, through administrative procedures.\(^\text{xvi,18}\) Despite this positive policy change, displaced Syrian and PRS children born after 8 February 2018, as well as all other children born in Lebanon, continue to be subject to the one-year deadline for the registration of their birth.

Palestinian refugees from Lebanon and the vulnerable Lebanese community may also face challenges in registering births because they lack awareness of procedures or necessary documents. The March 2018 memorandum on late birth registration is not applicable to Palestinian refugee children from Lebanon and Lebanese children, so these children continue to be subject to the normal birth registration procedures, including a one-year deadline for registration after which, court procedures would be required to finalize birth registration. If the birth is not registered, a Lebanese father may not be able to pass his nationality to the child, resulting in a risk of statelessness for the child.

The lack of birth certificate jeopardizes children’s right to an identity under international law and could create heightened risks of statelessness. Stateless persons would, as a result, have serious limitations with regard to exercising their rights to legal identity, access to justice, higher education degrees, freedom of movement, healthcare, and ability to work in the formal labour market. In addition, lack of registration could restrict children’s access to services now and in the future, and reduce the chances of those who are displaced to access to durable solutions. Certain groups, including child spouses and those lacking legal proof of marriage, were observed to be the least likely to have marriage and birth certificates.\(^\text{xviii}\)

Death registration for Syrians deceased in Lebanon remains very low, overall negatively impacting family members wishing to access inheritance rights for example. The main reasons reported by displaced Syrians are lack of awareness on the importance of registering deaths in Lebanon and procedures, complexity and cost associated with late death registrations.

Access to services

Barriers to access essential services remain a key protection concern for all population groups, and particularly impact the most at risk and vulnerable individuals. Difficulties in securing legal residency or civil documents constitute one of the major access barriers to services as they lead to restrictions in mobility and inability to meet strict documentation requirements. Other critical barriers encompass the lack of specialized and non-specialized services, high-costs as well as

\(^{14}\) Births that are not registered at the Nofous level within one year require costly and time-consuming civil court procedures to finalize birth registration.

\(^{15}\) There was a change - proof of marriage required to obtain a birth certificate.

\(^{16}\) Uncertified midwives are not allowed to issue birth notifications.

\(^{17}\) Legal residency will not be required in case of marriage between a Syrian man and a Lebanese woman.

\(^{18}\) The 2018 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) showed limited improvement (of four per cent compared to 2017) in the birth registration rate of Syrian children, given that data collection took place within a short timeframe following the issuance of the waiver.
disruption of services due to humanitarian funding gaps, an issue that affects particularly sexual and gender-based violence survivors and children with multiple vulnerabilities (such as children with complex mental health and/or physical disabilities). Accessibility to vital services, such as safe shelter for all sexual and gender-based violence survivors, is also restricted due to lack of resources and strict eligibility criteria, with the majority of residential shelters preventing access to high-risk persons such as boy survivors and survivors with mental health conditions. Major gaps also continue to exist in timely preventive and response measures for children that are adequate and equitable, including strengthened coverage of best interest determination processes for displaced children.

Specialized services are particularly inaccessible and limited for Palestinian refugee children due to cost and poor availability of such services in Palestinian camps, resulting in further marginalization from society and exposure to protection risks. It is worth highlighting that other populations residing in the camps suffer from similar limitations. The reduction in UNRWA’s funding and possible impact on essential education, health and protection services could further exacerbate exposure to protection risks for Palestinian refugee children from Lebanon and Syria.

Moreover, formal family-based care options are unavailable, or services tailored to individual children’s needs, and the most vulnerable in urgent/immediate need of emergency shelter, are left behind due to the absence of appropriate care in temporary shelters. Residential care is the only form of alternative care available in Lebanon, and is exclusively reserved for Lebanese children. Lebanon has witnessed an increase of approximately nine per cent over the past five years in the number of children in residential care. This has been coupled with an increase in the number of residential care institutions that were contracted by the Ministry of Social Affairs. Some 30,000 boys and girls are living in public or private facilities (including boarding schools), often because this is perceived as the sole means to bypass generic socio-economic vulnerabilities and access education, health or other services. The majority of these children are in fact economically vulnerable Lebanese children who have both parents and no immediate protection concerns.

Other factors preventing persons exposed to violence (especially sexual and gender-based violence survivors) from seeking help in a timely manner, include fear of stigma and retaliation, widespread acceptance of violence, religious beliefs, and lack of trust that they will be adequately supported. Moreover, a continued increase has been noted in sexual and gender-based violence survivors declining referrals to specific services, such as safe accommodation, protection services and legal assistance, with only 17 per cent of respondents in a 2017 Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Survey (KAPs) study, stating that a woman would report a case of gender-based violence to a formal authority. Barriers to access legal remedies remain generally critical for all survivors of violence, with only 10 per cent of persons displaced from Syria indicating a willingness to notify the authorities if they are victims of assault or harassment, compared to 27 per cent of Lebanese. This affects displaced persons’ access to justice, basic rights and services, and sense of safety. In the case of Palestinian refugees from Syria, 68 per cent felt concerned about the safety of their family, 57 per cent of these individuals reported feeling insecure due to their physical and social environment, and 61 per cent reported fear of deportation causing some to limit movement.

Provision of sufficient quality psychosocial services remains essential to identify and address barriers to access services. Psychosocial activities continue to be the main entry point for disclosing sexual and gender-based violence incidents, while child protection actors have been highly engaged in prevention activities through psychosocial support for both children affected by conflict and caregivers, by detecting and responding to at risk children through individual case management.

Mine contamination and physical safety

Lebanese and displaced communities are impacted by the presence of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) in the Baalbek-Hermel, Bekaa and South governorates, and other as Akkar, Batroun, Bcharre, and Jbeil districts. With population increases due to the Syria crisis and competition over limited resources, contamination continues to hinder development programmes. With a large number of displaced Syrians residing or working in informal settlements and other areas in proximity to minefields, unexploded ordnances, improvised explosive devices and residual contamination pose an immediate threat to physical safety. More than 600 mine victims were reported since 2006, affecting children and adults equally, with seven cases having been reported in 2016, 28 cases in 2017 and 20 cases to date in 2018. A survey conducted in 2018 found that there was knowledge about the danger of mines among those surveyed, including Syrian families moving between Syria and Lebanon, but an alarming lack of compliance with safety messages.

Protection risks at community-level

Precarious economic situation and social tensions

Negative sentiments between host communities and refugees, competition over jobs and services, deteriorating economic and living conditions as well as

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(19) This percentage excludes children in need of protection and children with disabilities.
(21) Contamination is a barrier for population and economic development. Mine action is not just about demining. It is also about people and societies, and how they are affected by landmine and explosive remnants of war contamination. The objective of mine action is to prevent and reduce the risk from landmine and ERW contamination to a level where people can live safely, in which economic, social and health development can occur free from the constraints imposed by landmine and explosive remnants of war contamination. This is also why mine risk education is needed: it keeps the population safer from arms-related risks by changing their behaviour and, thus, contributes to a wider goal of building resilience and socio-economic development.
as arbitrary measures in some municipalities (curfews, evictions, arrest and detention), coupled with difficulties obtaining legal residency, and restricted access to livelihoods, have undermined the protection of persons displaced from Syria. In addition, this has resulted in limited interaction among communities, perceptions of discrimination and tension, often amounting to violence, including against children.xxiv

The high unemployment rate among both displaced Syrians and Lebanese citizens drives tensions,xxv resulting in calls in some municipalities to close shops owned by Syrians and a general increase in negative sentiments against displaced persons. The presence of large numbers of Palestinian refugees from Syria, but also displaced Syrians and persons of other nationalities, in Palestinian camps deepens their already precarious conditions, placing additional pressures on limited resources, infrastructure and services. In addition, a dynamic of movement from an urban setting and accommodation type to informal settlements as well as decreasing interactions impacts the service structure. Negative trends in community dynamics also place strains on social stability, leading to increased social tensions.

The aggravation of the economic situation is reflected in the estimated 37 per cent of vulnerable Lebanese; 71 per cent of displaced Syrians and 65 per cent of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon who are living below the poverty line.xxvii,xxvii Extreme poverty is three times higher for Palestinian refugees from Syria than for Palestinian refugees from Lebanon.xxvii UNRWA provides financial support to more than 61,000 Palestinian refugees living below the poverty line. Further reductions to UNRWA’s protection, educational and healthcare services in Lebanon due to drastic funding cuts could exacerbate tensions in already volatile refugee camps and impact the overall protection context.

**Evictions**

Six per cent of displaced Syrians have been evicted at some point during their time in Lebanon.xxiv While the number of refugees affected by large-scale, collective evictions is lower in 2018 than during the second half of 2017, individual evictions remain highly prevalent, mainly because of inability to afford rent payments. Displaced persons reported that the constant threat of eviction has increased their sense of insecurity and lack of safety.xxx, xxx At the same time, displaced Syrians living in informal settlements raised concerns about raids to their shelters by the authorities, leading men and boys to find temporary residence elsewhere. These evictions raise the following protection risks, including: risk of homelessness, secondary displacement, exploitative housing arrangements, risk of trafficking, school dropouts, and child labour. This is particularly concerning for the most vulnerable, such as persons with specific needs, female heads of household and children. Women with young children or children with disabilities reported facing additional difficulties to pay rent as they are unable to leave the house to generate income. Female heads of household who work reported that their salaries barely covered their rent fees, exposing them to an increased risk of eviction. A number of women also reported having been repeatedly evicted within a short period of time or having to change their home over the past year following a protection incident/threat against them or their children. Women reported hearing incidents of sexual and gender-based violence in which landlords requested sexual favours in exchange for rent, while others noted refusing to engage in survival sex.xxxi

Against the backdrop of issues relating to social stability in municipalities and Lebanese host communities, it is increasingly challenging for evictees to be accepted in potential areas of relocation. When arbitrary and not in line with the rule of law, municipal measures affecting displaced Syrians, such as increased curfews, taxes, fines and business closures, are hampering the ability of displaced persons to enjoy their basic rights (freedom of movement, livelihoods, etc.). Increased needs for legal services related to housing, land and property have also been observed, particularly among the displaced community in Bekaa and North Lebanon.

**Harassment, exploitation and abuse**

Besides protection risks associated with evictions, women and children are increasingly reporting a general fear of harassment, exploitation and abuse associated with greater dependency on sponsors, landlords and aid providers.xxxi Consultations indicate continued psychological distress, frustration and isolation within their community. Another form of exploitation increasingly reported by women and children is cyber-violence and online exploitation, with rising concerns about photo misappropriation, blackmailing and obscene content.xxt Women and children have heightened responsibilities to secure income and other basic needs, as they are less likely to be stopped at checkpoints, resulting in their exposure to risks of exploitation and harassment from employers and landlords. Women and girls also report specific protection risks in accessing water and sanitation services at night.

**Violence at school**

Other reported manifestations of violence include bullying of children resulting from social tensions, as well as increased substance and drug abuse. Violence in schools, physical, psychological or sexual, remains a reality for children in Lebanon. A 2016 study indicated that 45.6 per cent of students between 10 and 18 years of age have experienced violence.xxv Challenges also persist with levels of school enrolment with an average of 55 per cent of non-Lebanese children aged 3-18 (close to 200,000),xxiv identifying violence, bullying and child labour

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(22) Thirty-seven focus group discussions were conducted with women and girls covering Akkar, Tripoli, Bekaa, Beirut, Mount Lebanon and the South in 2018.
(23) Fifty-four per cent of the schools in the study were public. UN Secretary-General annual reports on children in armed conflict (2006-2017) paragraph on Lebanon.
as key reasons for school drop-out among Palestinian refugee children from Syria. Out-of-school children are also at further risk of child protection concerns such as child labour and marriage.

At the community level, the overall awareness and grass-roots mobilization for children’s rights and protection remain sporadic, temporary, issue-based and mostly NGO-led. This demonstrates the need for large-scale and diversified approaches to ensure community participation and engagement in those social and behavioural changes that can foster a protective environment for all children in Lebanon.

**Violence and harmful practices within the family**

**Domestic violence**

Violence in the private sphere remains a major protection concern and particularly affects women and children. Intimate partner violence continues to be pervasive among all nationalities and constitutes the majority of reported sexual and gender-based violence cases, with 70 per cent of reported incidents perpetrated by family members among displaced Syrians, and 80 per cent among Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon. Women and girls remain unsafe at home, while economic vulnerability and a change in gender roles has increased interpersonal tensions and domestic violence. Vulnerable Lebanese are also affected, with an average of one in two persons reporting knowing someone who has been subjected to domestic violence.

Moreover, socio-economic vulnerabilities are likely to increase the use of violence against children within the family which represents the most widespread form of violence experienced by children in Lebanon. A total of 82 per cent of Palestinian refugees from Lebanon, 77 per cent of Palestinian refugees from Syria, 65 per cent of displaced Syrians and 57 per cent of Palestinian refugees aged 1-14 years have been subjected to at least one form of psychological or physical punishment by household members during the past month. Reports revealed the severe impact of domestic violence against children, especially of the early childhood age group (0-5 years). Boys and girls with disabilities are also at a higher risk of violence, abuse, exploitation neglect and exclusion, both within the home and in the wider community.

**Harmful coping mechanisms**

The combination of lack of legal residency and limited self-support opportunities, compounded by depletion of resources, including savings and assets, contributes to a greater risk for families and their children of falling into multi-dimensional poverty. This has led to households resorting to harmful or negative coping strategies, including begging, protracted debt, engagement of children in (the worst forms of) child labour, child marriage and withdrawing children from school.

**Child marriage** is a deeply rooted form of sexual and gender-based violence that affects both host and displaced communities. It was already reported as a cultural practice within some groups of the Lebanese community prior to the arrival of displaced Syrians, and was a persisting harmful practice in Syria and among Palestinian refugees before the crisis. However, there are indications that the prevalence of child marriage among the younger generation of displaced women from Syria is rising due to the crisis and that the marriage of displaced girls is increasingly being used by their families as a harmful coping mechanism in an attempt to protect them and/or to alleviate financial burden. The 2018 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) found that 29 per cent of Syrian girls and young women between 15 and 19 are currently married. A previous study in the Bekaa region had shown that in some vulnerable areas of the region, over 47 per cent of surveyed displaced Syrian women between 20 and 24 years were married before the age of 18. The same study also reported an early pregnancy rate among 15 to 17-year-old married girls of more than 61 per cent, another worrying trend with severe implications on the protection and health of adolescent girls. The situation of the host community is also concerning, with four per cent of Lebanese women between the ages of 15 to 19 currently married, compared to 2.6 per cent in 2009, while 13 per cent of female Palestinian refugees from Syria of the same age group and four per cent of female Palestinian refugees from Lebanon are married. Adolescent girls are one of the most at-risk groups among the affected population, since child marriage, in addition to violating the fundamental rights of girls to health, education and opportunity, exposes them to increased difficulties in obtaining civil documentation (including marriage and birth registration) and legal residency, and enhances their exposure to vulnerability, violence and exploitation.

**Child labour** remains among the most prevalent child protection violations faced by children who are often forced into worst forms of labour such as street work, sexual exploitation and working in hazardous and exploitative conditions including work in agriculture, construction and mechanics or in association with non-state armed groups. Lack of legal status, formal and informal barriers to livelihood opportunities and

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(25) UNRWA’s enrolment campaign, July - September 2017.
(26) Women and girls continue to feel unsafe in their homes with 77 per cent of incidents taking place at the survivor’s or perpetrator’s house, according to data collected in the GBVIMS.
(27) It is estimated that around 1.4 million children (0-18 years) in Lebanon are considered children in need and living in poverty. This estimate includes 32 per cent of Lebanese children (467,000) and all refugee children (804,000 Syrians, 105,000 Palestinian refugees from Lebanon, and 12,215 Palestinian refugees from Syria). Data combined from UNICEF 2016 Baseline Survey, VASyR 2018 and LCRP 2017-2020 population data.
(28) A study on UNICEF-IRC parenting programme highlighted that because of “economic hardship and difficulties of adaptation, caregivers are unable to meet children’s basic survival needs and are adopting various hardship adaptation strategies, some potentially harmful.” See: Oxford University, Centre for evidence-based intervention (May 2017), Improving parenting and mental health outcomes of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. A mixed methods study.
(29) Average household debt increased by 10 per cent from $919 in 2017 to $1,016 in 2018. Among those below the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB), debt increased by 3 per cent, compared to 13 per cent for those above the SMEB.
(30) While 32 per cent of displaced Syrian women aged 20-49 years were married before their 18th birthday, this increases to 41 per cent among the younger generation (aged 20-24 years).
(31) Based on focus group discussions and participatory assessments that were conducted with girls and caregivers in 2018.
other protection risks such as eviction\textsuperscript{32} are reported as key trigger for child labour. According to the UNICEF 2016 Baseline Survey, around six per cent of children, boys and girls are engaged in child labour. The data average, however, masks high concentration in some geographical areas – such as the informal settlements which have as many as 50 to 80 per cent of children working. A recent study on the situation of working children in the informal settlements of the Bekaa and Baalbek-Hermel areas showed that around 72 per cent of the surveyed children were engaged in agriculture, the majority (63 per cent) in the age bracket of 13-18 years, more than half being adolescent girls for whom child labour can lead to additional gender related-risks. Only 18 per cent of children surveyed were enrolled in some form of learning.\textsuperscript{33} In regards the exploitation of children for armed violence or conflict, UN reports and empirical evidence from programmes continue to point to ongoing recruitment towards the conflict in Syria but also to the involvement of children in acts of armed violence in Lebanon.\textsuperscript{34} Besides depriving the child from enjoying their basic human rights, child labour also poses a long term and detrimental impact on children’s emotional, physical and psychological development.

\textbf{Vulnerable persons}

Persons with specific needs (PwSNs) and their caregivers faced several challenges, in addition to the protection risks faced by the population at large. Persons with specific needs include older persons (60 years and above), children and adults suffering from trauma and/or other complex mental health conditions, marginalized persons, survivors of torture, stateless persons and persons with disabilities. These individuals constitute the most vulnerable population groups among both the displaced and the Lebanese host community, as they are more likely to face violence, coercion, deprivation, abuse or neglect, due to their isolation, their inability to access information or their limited access to specialized services because of reduced mobility and high cost of transportation when services are available. These individuals, as well their caregivers, continue to face challenges in accessing their basic rights and services including information, legal services (birth registration, legal residency, etc.), education, healthcare, livelihood, WASH and shelter.\textsuperscript{\textasteriskcentered 34}

Based on findings from the 2018 VASyR\textsuperscript{35}, it is estimated that approximately 12 per cent of displaced Syrian households include persons with physical or intellectual disabilities. The National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) assessments of 41,372 Lebanese households (227,564 persons) indicate that nine per cent have a physical or intellectual disability.\textsuperscript{\textasteriskcentered xlviii} During consultations with persons with disabilities, they reported facing limited access to services and information across Lebanon and reported gaps in healthcare services and inaccessibility to services, such as schools and community centres. They also reported, that the humanitarian response was not investing enough in their skills and sometimes excluded them from programmes and activities.\textsuperscript{\textasteriskcentered xlix}

\begin{figure}[ht]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{Persons_with_physical_or_mental_disabilities.png}
\caption{Persons with physical or mental disabilities}
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\textbf{Persons with physical or mental disabilities} & \textbf{12\% of displaced Syrian households} & \textbf{9\% of Lebanese households} \\
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\end{tabular}
\end{table}

In Lebanon, one in ten Palestinian households contain at least one family member with a disability. Five per cent of Palestinian refugees from Syria between 15-24 years of age, have a disability. Around 32 per cent of Palestinian refugee children from Syria and 30 per cent of Palestinian refugee children from Lebanon with a disability are not enrolled in schools and are possibly being excluded from the educational system.\textsuperscript{\textasteriskcentered \textsuperscript{\textasteriskcentered lxxi} In addition to addressing the needs of those with visible physical disabilities, including those wounded by the war, recent assessments have highlighted less visible physical disabilities (e.g. children with cerebral palsy, polio, congenital malformation, and hearing or visual impairments), along with persons with intellectual disabilities. Among these, persons with intellectual disabilities who are at risk of abuse, gender-based violence and exploitation, remain a priority. Women, girls and boys with disabilities are among the most vulnerable to neglect, abuse, and exploitation. Needs continue to exceed the rehabilitation services, assistive devices and mental health and psychosocial care that service providers are able to address.\textsuperscript{\textasteriskcentered lxxx}

\textbf{Durable solutions}

The Partnership Paper following the 2018 Brussels II Conference reiterated that the main durable solution for displaced Syrians in Lebanon is their safe, dignified and non-coercive return to their country of origin, in accordance with international law and the principle of non-refoulement.\textsuperscript{1} During 2017, more than 11,000 displaced Syrians returned spontaneously to Syria. Since April 2018, group return movements have also started to be organized by the GSO on a regular basis. Between January and October 2018, some 4,400 individuals returned spontaneously on their own to Syria according to data available to UNHCR, and another 7,000 Syrians have returned in group movements facilitated by the GSO. In addition, the GSO reported a higher number of returns by Syrians who benefited from exit stamps and...
measures published by the GSO in July, waiving exit fees and re-entry bans for certain categories. The pace of future return movements will depend on the gradual removal of obstacles to return within their country of origin and the sustainability of returns currently taking place. Although the return to Syria for Palestinian refugees from Syria cannot be considered a durable solution, they have the right to return to their habitual residence in Syria, taking into consideration safety, dignity and voluntariness. In 2017, several initiatives were launched by the Palestinian Embassy and other Lebanese actors supporting the return of Palestinian refugees from Syria, but have yet to materialize. However, some self-organized spontaneous returns of Palestinian refugees from Syria have taken place without assistance (more than 1,000 from 2017 until mid-2018).³⁵

Pending the possibility for all displaced Syrians in Lebanon to voluntarily repatriate in safety and dignity, resettlement to third countries remains the main solution available to them, together with humanitarian and other admission programmes. Since the beginning of the conflict, and as at December 2018, more than 74,600 displaced Syrians had been submitted by UNHCR for consideration for resettlement and other humanitarian admission programmes to 27 countries. However, and despite the commitments expressed at the 2018 Brussels II Conference, the quotas allocated to Lebanon in 2018 amounted to 8,400 places, from the approximately 25,000 places available in 2016. Approximately 52,000 Syrians have departed Lebanon for resettlement by December 2018.

Overall Sector Strategy

The overall protection strategy in Lebanon is aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights, well-being and dignity of individuals concerned in accordance with national and international law, regardless of age, gender, social, ethnic, national, religious or other background. Using a rights-based approach, this strategy is designed to ensure that: a) persons displaced from Syria have their basic rights respected, including protection against non-refoulement and access to safety, legal residency, justice, civil status documentation and security of tenure; b) displaced populations and host community are involved in addressing the challenges they face in accordance with Lebanese laws; c) national institutions are supported to enhance access to protection and services, especially for the most vulnerable women, girls, boys and men; d) potential for resettlement to a third country and other complementary pathways (such as scholarships or labour mobility) is realized; e) vulnerabilities, risks and consequences of sexual and gender-based violence are reduced and access to quality services is improved; f) vulnerable girls and boys are protected from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect through equitable access to quality child protection services, and; g) persons with specific needs, including older persons, persons with disabilities, socially marginalized groups and others at risk have access to specialized services.

The Protection sector will place emphasis on enhancing accessibility, quality and responsiveness of protection services, to address the impact of the crisis on the protection and vulnerabilities of persons displaced from Syria, as well as vulnerable Lebanese and host community. This approach is aimed at improving the lives of persons who face the most difficulties and will, in turn, contribute positively to social stability and feelings of security.

Strengthening national protection, child protection and SGBV systems and the overall protection environment

In coordination with the Government of Lebanon, as per the LCRP 2017-2020 strategy, protection activities will strengthen existing national systems through adherence to protection mainstreaming minimum standards and fostering a favourable protection environment where rights of boys, girls, men and women are respected and fulfilled. All activities will be aligned with national plans, such as the National Social Development Strategy, National Ten-Year Strategy for Women in Lebanon, the new Ministry of Social Affairs Strategic Plan on Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence, and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education’s child protection policy in school, with the coordination and support of the relevant national committees, to ensure greater sustainability. The Protection sector will also work with key line ministries to maintain a protective environment for those displaced from Syria together with national institutions and other sectors to ensure a multi-sectoral response strategy for addressing child marriage and exploitation including child labour, as well as the needs of persons with disabilities.

The Protection sector will work closely with Ministry of Social Affairs on protection interventions for all displaced individuals, concerning access to territory,³⁵ justice, civil status documentation (especially for children born in Lebanon and early married adolescent girls), and legal residency.

The renewal and regularization of legal residency for displaced Syrians, following the issuance of the March 2017 residency fee waiver, is a key priority for the Protection sector. The Lebanon partnership paper³III will serve as strategic orientation in terms of advocacy, strengthening capacity, services provisions and analysis. First, advocacy will aim towards ensuring that the implementation of the 2017 waiver is consistent and evenly applied across regions, and towards expanding the application of the waiver to all categories of refugees. Technical support will continue to be provided to strengthen the capacities of relevant governmental offices that are processing legal residency applications, and emphasis will be placed on providing information and outreach to persons of concern on the criteria and procedures for obtaining legal residency. To complement

³III This will include those with extreme vulnerabilities and those requiring support for entry to Lebanon as part of Ministry of Social Affairs humanitarian exceptions scheme.
PART II: OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLANS - Protection

these activities, the provision of legal assistance will be at the core of the response to support and facilitate access to legal residency. Finally, analysis of the ability of persons of concern to obtain legal residency, as well as possible barriers, will be carried out regularly by the Protection sector for advocacy or to guide legal activities.

In addition, ongoing emphasis will be placed on ensuring access to legal services for displaced persons and vulnerable Lebanese including stateless persons, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, persons with disabilities for finding appropriate solutions to cases of abuse and exploitation, and supporting completion of civil registration processes. The Protection sector, in close coordination with Ministry of Social Affairs, will work with specialized legal actors in 2019 to address identified access bottlenecks to legal protection and expand capacities to provide age and gender sensitive legal services to all sexual and gender-based violence survivors in need. The Ministry of Social Affairs will also lead the development of bylaws and the constitution of a special fund for gender-based violence survivors in accordance with law 293 on the Protection of Women and Family Members from Domestic Violence ratified in 2014 and with the support of the sector. With regard to civil documentation, particular focus will be placed on disseminating information about the late birth registration waiver and in advocating to expand to other nationalities including Lebanese children. To support the implementation of these measures, support will be provided to the Personal Status Department to increase capacity to register civil events through the provision of equipment and staffing. Furthermore, legal partners will continue to deliver comprehensive activities to raise awareness and provide support to parents in birth registrations, provision of general information and legal assistance in documenting all civil events that occurred while living in Lebanon (such as birth, death, marriage and divorce registration).

The Protection sector will assist, to the extent possible, through current programming, all persons displaced from Syria who have decided to return to Syria based on an individual, free and well-informed decision making, by providing them with gender-sensitive information and/or assisting them in obtaining key documents (such as birth, marriage, divorce or death certificates, or school records) to re-establish themselves and access basic services such as hospitals and schools in their country of origin. Vaccinations will also be provided to children before departure.

In order to uphold the general rule of law, the Protection sector will continue to track collective evictions, including at the municipal level, and will work together with national authorities and partners to prevent evictions. In some instances, and as a last resort, the Protection sector will assist in finding alternative solutions with authorities, taking into account aggravated risks for persons with specific needs (including persons with disabilities and older persons), vulnerable women and children, to ensure that affected persons are relocated in a safe and dignified manner as per the inter-agency guidance note on evictions.iii By strengthening the coordination mechanism at the field level, the Protection sector will ensure an early warning system to better respond to protection risks associated with displacement. In addition, individual cases facing eviction due to their incapacity to pay rent will be monitored and assisted as possible on a case-by-case basis. As recalled in the Lebanon partnership paper, the Government of Lebanon and international partners will work closely to preserve a dignified stay for the persons displaced from Syria.iv To reinforce social stability, efforts will focus on promoting preventive measures together with monitoring restrictive measures issued at the municipal level.

Sustained and focused institutional support will continue to be provided to line ministriesv and their representatives at national and local levels through social development centres in close coordination with Ministry of Social Affairs at the central level. This will be in line with concerted intra-sectoral efforts among Protection, Child Protection and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence sectors and through protection mainstreaming. The Ministry of Social Affairs and local service providers will carry out psychological, medical, legal, safe accommodation, life skills and social empowerment interventions for sexual and gender-based violence survivors, at risk children, vulnerable women and other persons at risk. Institutional capacity building and overall support will be provided to social development centres, and when relevant, to municipalities to deliver quality child, adolescent-friendly, gender-sensitive and survivor-centered services and provide accessible and inclusive safe spaces for persons at risk, including persons with disabilities, older persons, socially marginalized groups, youth, women, boys and girls, and all SGBV survivors. Institutional support will also continue to be provided to the GSO on residency renewals, the Personal Status Department related to civil status documentation, in particular birth registration for the prevention of statelessness. At the level of access to justice for affected populations and treatment in accordance with human rights standards, efforts will continue to be invested with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, Internal Security Forces, municipal police, and bar associations.

Investment and support will continue in the next two years towards the strengthening of the political commitments made at the Brussels II Conference in April 2018, including accountability and national capacity of social, justice, education and health sectors in Lebanon, legislation, plan and budget to prevent and respond at national scale to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. Institutions will be further strengthened to implement and operationalize strategies, policies and road maps through continuous capacity-building and support to social workers, legal service providers, law enforcement

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iii Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM), including municipal police, GSO, Internal Security Forces and Personal Status Department, Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and Ministry of Labour (MoL).

iv Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM), including municipal police, GSO, Internal Security Forces and Personal Status Department, Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and Ministry of Labour (MoL).

v Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM), including municipal police, GSO, Internal Security Forces and Personal Status Department, Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and Ministry of Labour (MoL).

vi Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM), including municipal police, GSO, Internal Security Forces and Personal Status Department, Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and Ministry of Labour (MoL).

(36) Legal actors will continue to inform parents about the one-year deadline for children born after 8 February 2018. 

(37) Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM), including municipal police, GSO, Internal Security Forces and Personal Status Department, Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and Ministry of Labour (MoL).
officials, municipal police, healthcare workers. Support will also be provided to Ministry of Education and Higher Education for the operationalization of the 2018 “Policy for the Protection of Students in the School Environment” through capacity building of education personnel.

The Protection sector will continue to provide technical support to legal and law enforcement actors to better respond to the specific needs of sexual and gender-based violence survivors and children in contact with the law, to improve the implementation of the relevant provisions of Lebanese laws and ensure a coordinated response with other service providers. Building on previous coordinated initiatives, the Protection sector has developed a technical support work plan to support various sectors in mainstreaming protection, child protection and sexual gender-based-violence concepts as per international standards, and this includes non-protection partners, LCRP sectors and Ministry of Social Affairs social workers and relevant sectors.

Continued support will be provided towards the establishment of a national inter-sectoral referral system for child protection and gender-based violence, to standardize practices and referral pathways within relevant ministries (Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Health) following the issuance of national SOPs on case management alongside with the gradual roll-out of the new Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS). This will lead to more effective resolutions and a higher level of positive outcomes for children and families’ survivors of violence, abuse and exploitation.

Continued efforts will ensure that programming and advocacy remain evidence-based. This includes systematic monitoring of the protection context through cross-analysis of monthly protection monitoring and tension reports; analysis of Protection Sector Referral Tracking System; dedicated mechanisms to document and track identified child rights violations, the Child Protection Information Management System and through the collection and analysis of sexual and gender-based violence incidents via the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System. The resulting data and analysis of trends will consistently be used to inform and adapt programming to support the provision of timely responses to protection challenges, quality case management, effective targeting of resources, as well as prioritization of services and need based assistance.

Community-based interventions

The 2017-2020 LCRP strategy recognizes the importance of host and displaced communities in effectively identifying and referring protection needs, including child protection and sexual and gender-based violence needs, to receive an adequate response. It also considers the community’s capacities, views and priorities, which can contribute to and inform planning processes. This will be achieved through: ensuring on-going dialogue with displaced populations and host communities with different age, gender and backgrounds, strengthening
complaints and feedback systems, building the rights-holders capacity to pass on information, safely identifying and referring protection needs to appropriate partners and/or to governmental (i.e. Social Affairs’ social development centres) protection services division, or to psychosocial and other mental health activities support) or municipal structures, as well as engaging communities in implementing solutions, including in prevention activities that also aim at social and behavioural change processes, linked to child protection, sexual and gender-based violence, and persons with specific needs. The approach also envisages greater engagement with various stakeholders within the community, including informal networks, within a “whole of society” approach, to further promote protection.

The Ministry of Social Affairs’ Social Development Centres and NGO-run Community Development Centres, including municipalities will be further strengthened and connected to the national social protection system in order to effectively serve as spaces where persons displaced from Syria or from other countries, and the Lebanese community, especially those having specific needs, can come together to participate in learning activities, acquire new skills, receive relevant information on tailor-made services and engage in community groups. In these structures and with the support of social workers, participants will discuss issues of common concern and identify possible solutions, thus, rebuilding social and community networks while combating social isolation and enhancing resilience. Among others, recreational activities, protection services, and psychosocial and individual counselling support sessions will be delivered by partners in these centres. These centres will also serve as information hubs on existing services and provide awareness sessions to communities, including targeted groups. Moreover, through the centres persons with specific needs at risk are identified for referral to specialized services. To mitigate child protection risks and further deterioration of the situation of vulnerable families, it is important to link child protection programming to existing and new national social protection systems and schemes.

To address the root causes of various protection, child protection and sexual gender-based-violence risks, and prevent gender inequality, the Protection sector will actively engage with boys and girls, caregivers, all relevant community members and key stakeholders (municipalities, religious leaders, shawish, other community focal points, community committees, outreach volunteers, employers, and SDC social workers) to contribute to a strong and sustainable protective environment. The sector will seek to engage them throughout the programme cycle, including by consulting with the different groups on their views, capacities, priorities and suggested solutions, to feed into programmes and activities. In close coordination with service providers, community-based protection structures, including outreach volunteers and committees as well as gatekeepers, the community will be further capacitated to safely identify and refer persons with protection concerns, including children. In coordination with other sectors, efforts will be made to ensure that community groups (i.e. women, youth, older persons, and persons with disabilities), and especially those linked with local institutions, are inclusive and complementary in their approaches.39

This approach also promotes non-violent approaches to manage relationships within the family and the community, enhancing positive parenting skills and building resilience to manage the stressful consequences linked to the protracted nature of displacement. This includes enhanced engagement of men and boys on gender issues and specifically against violence against women and children, including through active outreach to gatekeepers, male peer educators, and caregivers etc. This will allow the sector to capitalize on community allies to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment and challenge harmful social norms and practices. Both the Lebanese host community and displaced communities will be engaged to promote social and behavioural changes that reduce negative coping mechanisms and mitigate critical child protection and sexual and gender-based violence risks, such as child labour, child marriage, intimate partner violence, the use of violent discipline and sexual exploitation. Behavioural change requires shifting social norms and addressing other underlying factors contributing to the protection from violations. Assessments and evaluations suggest it will be important to increasingly involve men and boys in becoming agents of social change within their own communities to mitigate and prevent risks and vulnerabilities from escalating into child protection and gender-based violence violations. It will also be important to apply a more holistic approach and include the wider family and community including key duty bearers and influences in prevention and awareness raising interventions. Targeted community based initiatives will be supported to further engage and empower communities in identifying their own Child Protection/Gender-based violence issues and solutions, along with mapping and relying on their own “champions” and role models within their society. This also includes building on adolescent and youth attitudes and skills, through various activities including life skills sessions on gender equality and prevention of early marriage, among others.

The Protection sector will expand on activities for persons with physical and intellectual disabilities, older persons, and socially marginalized groups, including those discriminated against based on their gender. Persons with specific needs, as well as their caregivers, will also be consulted and involved in responding to their identified needs and concerns to inform better programming. This approach will complement the existing support provided by public institutions tasked with law enforcement, justice and social services, and will better equip the community to resort to them when needed, resulting in strengthened protection for boys, women and children, including through active outreach to gatekeepers, male peer educators, and caregivers etc. This will allow the sector to capitalize on community allies to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment and challenge harmful social norms and practices. Both the Lebanese host community and displaced communities will be engaged to promote social and behavioural changes that reduce negative coping mechanisms and mitigate critical child protection and sexual and gender-based violence risks, such as child labour, child marriage, intimate partner violence, the use of violent discipline and sexual exploitation. Behavioural change requires shifting social norms and addressing other underlying factors contributing to the protection from violations. Assessments and evaluations suggest it will be important to increasingly involve men and boys in becoming agents of social change within their own communities to mitigate and prevent risks and vulnerabilities from escalating into child protection and gender-based violence violations. It will also be important to apply a more holistic approach and include the wider family and community including key duty bearers and influences in prevention and awareness raising interventions. Targeted community based initiatives will be supported to further engage and empower communities in identifying their own Child Protection/Gender-based violence issues and solutions, along with mapping and relying on their own “champions” and role models within their society. This also includes building on adolescent and youth attitudes and skills, through various activities including life skills sessions on gender equality and prevention of early marriage, among others.

39 Community-based child protection activities, community-based psychosocial support and associated activities will continue to be delivered to promote positive change within community.
girls, men and women and those with specific needs. Through these community groups, vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinians, and displaced persons from Syria and other countries will be able to provide feedback and insight into protection priorities, risks and assistance gaps. They will also help develop solutions to prevent and address risks such as child labour, child marriage, domestic violence and social exclusion. Active community members will be trained to assist in identifying and referring persons with specific needs to service providers to address their specific protection needs. In an aim to increase community engagement in the programme cycle, communities will also be trained on monitoring and evaluating protection and other interventions. The Protection sector will ensure that women, youth and persons with disabilities, especially those at risk, are included in all interventions.

The Protection sector will also ensure that two-way communication channels, including effective dissemination, outreach and complaints, are in place and functioning. Ensuring that critical and accurate information reaches all women, girls, boys, men, including those with specific needs, displaced and Lebanese is key. Efforts will be placed to ensure that information is appropriate and accessible to all groups in the population. As part of strengthening accountability, the Protection sector will ensure that complaints mechanisms also inform programmes and activities. Feedback will be provided through channels such as outreach and social media, including WhatsApp communication trees. Moreover, partners will continue conducting awareness-raising and information sessions for community members on: rights and available services; including protection referrals, child protection and sexual and gender-based violence services; civil documentation; residency; education, and healthcare. Messaging on content, design and delivery will be developed in consultation with affected persons such as Community Reference Groups (CRGs), as part of increasing community engagement.

**Protecting the most vulnerable**

The Protection sector has considered vulnerable groups and individuals, persons with specific needs throughout the sector strategy as those persons who have specific vulnerabilities as a result of age, gender, diversity, ethnicity, and sexual orientation which exacerbate their exposure to contextualized-threats and have reduced coping capacities. Whilst vulnerability is temporal and should be understood on a case by case basis, the Protection sector, based on an analysis of data found within the participatory assessment, VASyR and Protection Monitoring reports, considers the following groups at particular risks: older persons (60 years above), children and adults suffering from complex mental health conditions including trauma, stateless persons, survivors of torture, marginalized groups and persons with disabilities (PwDs). As such, the Protection sector will make efforts to address the needs of these groups through protection programming in 2019, and will work closely with non-protection sectors to mainstream the specific needs of these groups and ensure the safe identification and referral of persons with specific needs. Sector activities will continue to focus on both prevention and response through direct delivery of protection services by relevant public institutions (mainly through social development centres, diverse services and skilled staff) through its on-going protection work across non-protection sectors and other actors to address the needs of the most vulnerable.

Through protection monitoring activities or through the safe identification and referrals from community groups, individuals with specific needs will receive assistance to mitigate their protection risks. Such interventions may include individual and group counselling, case management, psychosocial support, health and legal support services, specialized support for complex psychosocial and mental health difficulties as well as physical disabilities, and emergency support with respect to shelter and financial assistance for the most vulnerable. In 2019, emphasis will be put on how to better provide mental health assistance to persons in need by liaising closely with the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) task force to enhance referral pathway to specialized services. For persons with specific needs, a number of challenges aggravate their marginalization in society, including limited access to and availability of specialized rehabilitation services. Access and availability will be enhanced through direct support for public institutions complemented by national and international civil society partners.

Provision of cash assistance to respond to specific protection concerns will be harmonized at the Protection sector level. Cash assistance is one modality of response, among complementary interventions such as psychological support, legal assistance or finding an alternative shelter. Therefore, through case management, a holistic approach is recommended when providing protection cash assistance to ensure that those concerned receive all services to address their particular protection situation. Cash assistance may be provided either to prevent or to address a specific protection incident or to respond to a chronic harmful situation. The tailored cash assistance programmes provided by Protection partners are complementary to the multi-purpose cash assistance and allow for inclusions throughout the year to ensure that the most vulnerable persons who face or are at risk of facing a serious protection situation, including due to their inability to meet their basic needs, receive the necessary financial support.

Referrals and activities for the prevention and protection from sexual abuse and exploitation (PSEA) will continued to be strengthened, as part of increased accountability and through the Inter-Agency referral mechanism introduced in 2017. This will support timely and effective management of individual needs through the provision, where necessary, of specialized services complementing, community-based interventions
referred above. In this dynamic, the Protection sector will focus on enhancing capacities of frontline workers across all sectors (including involved NGOs, associations and social development centres/Ministry of Social Affairs field staff) to safely identify and refer survivors of sexual and gender-based violence to response services and integrate gender-based violence risk mitigation activities into their existing services.40

The Protection sector promotes a complementary approach by reinforcing capacities of the national system, ensuring accessibility to quality services, supporting Lebanese community and displaced communities to contribute to protective practices, and improving the knowledge base to inform sexual and gender-based violence programming and advocacy. Local structures benefit from continuous support to provide psychosocial, medical and legal services to sexual and gender-based violence survivors and others at risk throughout Lebanon, including social development centres, health centres (providing life-saving medical care), health facilities and women centres in Palestinian camps. In parallel, the Protection sector has established complementary mobile interventions targeting hard-to-reach areas and populations with limited mobility, such as women and adolescent girls, persons with disabilities and older persons. To ensure sustainability, the Protection sector will strengthen national civil society actors, notably for the legal sector where legal aid services require national NGO and civil society involvement.

Access to quality and survivor-centred41 services will continue to be improved for all those at risk or who have survived violence, and in particular for sexual and gender-based violence survivors and girls and boys at risk in safe spaces (social development centres, community centres, local NGO centres, emergency safe houses, healthcare facilities, collective sites and other privately-owned facilities). The focus will be on preventive activities for those at risk of child marriage, domestic violence and sex trafficking. There is also a strong need for the development and implementation of a national framework on alternative care for children at risk and deprived of parental care. To ensure quality of services, a full package of age- and gender-sensitive holistic care services is offered to survivors and individuals at risk through both mobile services and centre-based activities. In the past year, 85 per cent of women and girls who accessed safe spaces reported feeling empowered.42 Demonstrating the need to maintain service provision through safe spaces as well as to continue to provide quality multi-sectoral services that include counselling; referrals or direct provision of healthcare; psychosocial and mental health services, including recreational activities and emotional support groups; legal services to access justice; and the provision of material, financial assistance, and shelter support. This includes the dissemination of relevant information on available services, such as sexual and reproductive health and mental health services. As a result, there is a need to build on the existing capacity, so that minimum standards are met and further efforts are made to ensure availability and access to shelter for all those in need, regardless of nationality, age or gender. Moreover, services for survivors with specific needs, including persons with disabilities and socially marginalized individuals, will be scaled up through targeted initiatives.

Feedback from partners has revealed that, while the complexity of cases has increased (involving, e.g., persons with disabilities, older persons, female survivors of domestic violence, suicide survivors), the availability of specialized professionals throughout the country remains limited. Interventions require support from multiple sectors (medical, social and legal) through a holistic and coordinated approach. To respond to the immediate risks facing survivors of violence, including survivors of intimate partner violence, the Protection sector will continue to support survivor-centered legal services, 24/7 hotlines, safe shelters and other emergency accommodation arrangements, and will ultimately seek durable solutions for them, in particular through resettlement to a third country. Survivor-centered medical services, such as clinical management of rape services and forensic services, will continue to be made increasingly available in various health facilities, as will legal expertise to support access to justice under the Personal Status Law and the Law to Protect Women and all Members of the Family from Family Violence (Law 293/2014). Rehabilitation and reintegration, where safe and with consent of survivors, will remain priorities alongside resettlement. Access to self-reliance opportunities, socio-economic empowerment activities and education (including technical and vocational education and training) remains a key priority to ensure sustainable and long-term assistance to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, their families, and others at risk.

Emphasis will be placed on delivering a holistic multi-sectoral child protection prevention and response package prioritizing high-risk children and child survivors of violence exploitation and abuse. This includes ensuring timely and quality case management, continuum of care and access to specialized services (legal, medical, mental health and psychosocial support, safe accommodation, and family and caregiver support). The provision of psychosocial support and other group interventions will remain a focus for the most vulnerable children. Coupled with services provided by other sectors (Livelihoods, Education, Basic Assistance), psychosocial support thus becomes more of a ‘complementary’ intervention, which ensures peer support, to case management and other programmes, rather than a ‘stand-alone’ intervention. Within the Education sector, the roll-out process of the child protection policy was launched, and includes capacity-building of second shift public school counsellors and DOPS coaches, and sensitization of school directors, supervisors and other relevant staff in 20 pilot schools. To better support the psychosocial wellbeing of children in public schools, psychosocial

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40 In line with the roll-out of the IASC Gender-Based Violence Guidelines.
41 A survivor-centred approach to violence against women seeks to empower the survivor by prioritizing her rights, needs and wishes. It means ensuring that survivors have access to appropriate, accessible and good quality services.
support programmes are being integrated to contribute to building their resilience.

**Strengthen coordination on thematic key protection issues**

The Protection sector will reinforce internal coordination between Sexual and Gender-based Violence, Child Protection and legal actors as well as inter-sector coordination, especially with the Basic Assistance, Livelihoods and Education sectors to better address: i) child marriage, ii) lack of civil documentation (in particular birth registrations), iii) child labour, and iv) the needs of persons with disabilities.

**Child marriage**: The sectors will work jointly to cover in a holistic manner the prevention, mitigation and response aspects of child marriage to better address the root causes and contributing factors of child marriage as well as consequences for married girls. Specific guidance on child marriage will also be reviewed to maximize legal support as needed, referral to the legal actors. Whilst Sexual and Gender-Based Violence task force partners efforts made to sensitize communities on child marriage contributed to a shift in knowledge, protection partners will now increase their focus on community mobilization to change practices and behaviours that reinforce gender inequality and the perpetuation of child marriage. In addition, referrals with the Basic Assistance and Livelihoods sectors will be enhanced to tackle the socio-economic conditions that appear to be one of the main triggers for child marriage.

**Civil documentation/legal residency**: The Protection sector will put its strength to mainstream across sectors the information line for new late birth registration procedure, marriage, divorce and death registration developed by the Protection sector; reinforce the referral pathways among the legal partners, child protection and sexual and gender-based violence actors and other sectors; the legal actors will train targeted sectors partners to raise awareness on civil documentation and legal residency. The Protection sector will launch a joint initiative across three sectors to expand birth registration and legal residency coverage awareness campaign which will be mapping existing challenges. Finally, to evaluate the impact of sectors in increasing civil event registrations, the Protection sector will compile partners’ post-campaign awareness monitoring.

**Child labour**: A multi-sectoral and holistic approach will be developed to address child labour, specifically the worst forms of child labour, and ensure that children and families are supported with adequate programming that is tailored to their needs, such as flexible education and learning opportunities, including vocational training and life skills opportunities. Families of children engaged in child labour will be prioritized to benefit from services such as legal assistance for obtaining civil documentation, basic assistance and livelihood opportunities, as well cash assistance to replace the income of the child. Child protection actors, through case management, will be able to identify specific needs, particularly of children engaged in “hidden work” (such as girls engaged in household chores), and refer them to appropriate services provided by relevant sectors. Moreover, relevant sectors will work together to raise advocacy with the government at the level of law enforcement and labour inspection. Advocacy will also be carried out with other sectors to improve the identification and referral of children engaged in labour and their families to the Child Protection sector, as well as the prioritization of these groups to access services that are designed and implemented in an inclusive and equitable manner.

**Persons with disabilities**: The Protection sector will work on a guidance note to promote the prioritization of inclusive actions, to articulate obstacles and barriers faced by persons with disabilities to access services, and to harmonize the definition of various disability situations. Special attention will be placed on ensuring the systematic disaggregation of data to better capture protection risks, needs and the impact of programming on persons with disabilities. Finally, the Protection sector will continue to identify and address barriers to promote more inclusive programming, including communication challenges and outreach.

**LCRP impact, sector outcomes, outputs and indicators**

The Protection sector has defined four outcomes, which primarily contribute to the LCRP’s Impact 1, “Displaced persons from Syria and vulnerable populations live in a safe protective environment.” In addition to its contribution towards Impact 1, the Protection sector will ensure that protection is mainstreamed across the response by contributing to Impact 2, “Immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable populations are met.” For 2017-2020, the Protection sector aims to achieve the following outcomes:

**Outcome 1 – Persons displaced from Syria have their basic rights (including access to territory, legal stay, civil documentation) respected and specific protection needs fulfilled**

The Government of Lebanon continues to be committed and engaged in safeguarding the overall protection environment in the country, with the continuous support of the international community, to ensure that immediate protection needs of persons displaced from Syria are addressed.

In 2019, the Protection sector will continue to work with relevant line ministries and partners to preserve a dignified stay for displaced persons and reinforce social stability; ensure inclusive and consistent application of the criteria and procedures for legal residency and civil status documentation for persons displaced from Syria; advocate for increasing resettlement opportunities and create complementary pathways, and; continue providing targeted support services to persons with specific needs.
The Protection sector will target 150,000 persons displaced from Syria, including Palestinian refugees from Syria, for the provision of legal assistance for legal stay or civil documentation (including registration of birth, marriage, death, and divorce). To ensure that specific protection needs are fulfilled, the sector is targeting 50,000 persons with specific needs, including older and persons with disabilities, to benefit, through case management, from the provision of services, such as individual counselling, psychosocial support, healthcare, legal support to access justice, shelter material, and cash-based assistance. In addition, the 12,000 cases of most vulnerable persons displaced from Syria and those with serious protection concerns will be submitted to resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes.

The vulnerability of displaced persons from Syria living near landmine contamination has created an urgent need to provide mine risk education sessions to raise awareness and promote safe behaviour practices to prevent accidents or deaths. Continued support through the LCRP will play a crucial role in delivering risk education to raise awareness within the Lebanese community and among displaced persons from Syria, and conduct clearance activities to remove and destroy cluster munitions from prioritized areas, thus increasing the physical safety of the most vulnerable communities. In contaminated areas, clearance activities support and promote socio-economic development. Continued support will also enable the sustained deployment of an experienced and qualified clearance capacity, addressing the urgent protection needs throughout contaminated areas.

Assumptions to contribute further to a more favourable protection environment depend on the Government of Lebanon, with the assistance of its international partners, to continue to provide legal residency free of charge to all displaced Syrians eligible under the March 2017 waiver and to consider expanding the residency fee waiver to cover categories of displaced currently not covered. It will also be key to ensure that displaced children born in Lebanon receive appropriate documentation and are not at heightened risk of statelessness and that the number of persons with civil documentation increases. This also depends on whether public institutions will continue to be supported, including infrastructural rehabilitation of institutions (i.e. supply of furniture and/or equipment to social development centres as per needs assessment) as well as local actors (i.e. relevant social development centers and Ministry of Social Affairs central and field staff). Such support should be provided to the authorities to strengthen protection-sensitive responses for the displaced population, and to increase access to justice as well as respect for the rule of law. In coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs, civil society actors will also receive targeted training on legal aid, safe identification, and case management to strengthen capacity in responding to the needs of vulnerable Lebanese and displaced persons from Syria. To ensure that individual protection vulnerabilities are addressed, relevant national institutions or case management agencies will continue with safe identification and referral to adequate assistance and that the regulatory framework pertaining to displaced persons is predictable and evenly applied. Finally, it is assumed that international partners will commit to continue their efforts to increase resettlement opportunities and to create complementary pathways.

There are risks which might hinder the ability of the Protection sector to achieve its outcomes, including: 1) insufficient commitment of the Government of Lebanon and line ministries; 2) insufficient commitment of international partners to increase resettlement opportunities or complementary pathways; 3) reduction of funding which will impact the support to the Government of Lebanon in increasing the number of persons with civil documentation, and ; 4) dignified stay for the refugees will continue to deteriorate due to the lack of rule of law. To mitigate these risks, the Protection sector will continue to work closely with the government to monitor the impact of the response, to identify possible bottlenecks, and address them at different levels of authority. In addition, studies and research reports will provide adequate monitoring and analysis on protection issues further informing and guiding partner interventions in the sector.

**Outcome 2 – Community members are actively engaged in creating a safe protection environment**

The involvement of community members is of crucial importance in identifying the protection risks they face and in contributing to solutions, when appropriate. Through this outcome, persons displaced from Syria, Palestinian refugees from Lebanon and vulnerable host communities will be increasingly engaged in awareness-raising sessions on, among others, available services in their community, life skills, parenting and non-violent resolution of conflicts, and safe referral of survivors of violence to specialized service providers. Particular attention will be paid to persons with disabilities, older persons and/or their caregivers, and socially marginalized groups. To maintain a safe protection environment at the level of the community, it is expected that the willingness of community members from persons displaced from Syria, Palestinian refugees from Lebanon and vulnerable host communities is continued, and that national institutions and international partners continue to actively engage community members in creating a safe protective environment and take into account their voices. To maximize the use of community-dialogue mechanisms and community groups, close coordination and dialogue will take place between them.

**Outcome 3 – SGBV risks are reduced and access to quality services is improved**

The risk of sexual and gender-based violence will be reduced and access to quality services improved with the continuous commitment and engagement of the Government of Lebanon to prioritize sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response, with the willingness and ability of persons at risk and survivors (especially women and girls) to seek help and access...
services, with the capacity of organizations to deliver quality services maintained. In 2019, sexual and gender-based violence actors will actively engage 300,000 community members in helping to address sexual and gender-based violence through awareness-raising and community-based initiatives. The sexual and gender-based violence-actors will target 140,000 women, men, boys and girls from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese at risk or survivors of sexual and gender-based violence to benefit from safe, survivor-centred and multi-sectoral SGBV response services. At level of implementation individual counselling; referrals or direct provision of healthcare, psychosocial and mental health services, legal services, and shelter support; information on available services, including sexual and reproductive health, positive coping strategies, hygiene promotion and women’s rights; skills development and recreational activities; and emotional support groups. In addition, sexual and gender-based violence results are more likely to be achieved through a cross-sectoral approach where SGBV concerns are integrated and addressed through other sectors. All these services will continue to be provided by local and international organizations, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, the government and line ministries, more specifically the Ministry of Social Affairs.

The following assumptions are made to ensure that risks of gender-based violence are reduced and that survivors of sexual and gender-based violence have access to quality services. Service delivery is assumed to continue through continuous coordination with Ministry of Social Affairs, national/international organizations and UN agencies. In addition, laws, policies, strategies and political commitment are assumed to be strengthened; gender-based-violence services for women and girls more accessible and tailored to meet the needs of the different vulnerabilities; and women, girls and other persons at risk have increased capacity to protect themselves.

Several risks might, however, prevent the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence task force from achieving expected results, despite its efforts. These mainly concern: a) if access to communities is limited and survivors are not able to approach service providers in a safe and confidential manner, b) the lack of resources and adequate funding, c) increased tensions, d) lack of an integrated and holistic approach, and e) reduced support from the government. To address these risks, sector partners and government agencies will still be able to operate in a politically fluctuating environment. In addition, continuous investments through institutionalization of capacity-building programmes, including for law enforcement officers, will remain a key approach to system strengthening over the 2019-2020 period. Support to Ministry of Social Affairs’ social development centres, local organizations and community-based protection structures will be provided along with capacity building for 5,000 service providers and frontline workers to enhance national systems, prioritizing specialized governmental protection sector service providers to ensure sustainability of results and follow-up.

At the level of monitoring, reporting on ActivityInfo will remain key. Data collected by actors will be supported by the Gender Based Violence Information Management System to enhance monitoring and accountability and to ensure better outcomes for women and girls.

**Outcome 4 – Boys and girls at risk and survivors of violence, exploitation and abuse are provided with access to an improved and equitable prevention and response**

In partnership with the GoL, the CP working group will continue to support strengthening national, regional and local community systems to protect the most at-risk children from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect. For 2019, the Child Protection sub-sector will aim to target around 80,000 children through community based child protection activities, 15,000 children at higher risk through focused psychosocial support activities (FPSS) and around 7,000 children through individual case management. Around 25,000 caregivers will be engaged in positive parenting programmes and around 100 communities will benefit from community led initiatives that aim at engaging communities and their key stakeholders for addressing key child protection issues identified. At level of implementation, a holistic approach for engaging different stakeholders and partnerships will continue to be applied mainly through civil society organizations; national and international and UN agencies along with stronger engagement with the government and line ministries, namely the Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Justice (MoJ) but also the ‘informal’ and community-based structures and local governments and social development centres.

At the core of the sector’s theory of change lie several key assumptions to ensure that boys and girls will be more likely protected from harm. It is assumed that services will continue to be delivered through close coordination among local and international organizations, while liaising closely with relevant ministries, especially MoSA; laws, policies, strategies and political commitment are strengthened; protection services for children become more accessible and tailored to meet the different needs of the most vulnerable; and children, families and communities have increased capacity to protect themselves. In addition, child protection results are more likely to be achieved if a cross-sectoral approach is set in place and if child protection concerns are integrated and addressed through other sectors.

At level of monitoring, referral mechanisms will be strengthened for stronger referrals and to ensure that the most vulnerable are reached and provided with relevant cross-sectoral services in a comprehensive and integrated approach. The standardization of practices following the national SOPs on case management will be supported along with the gradual roll-out of the new Child Protection Information Management System to enhance monitoring and accountability and ensure...
better outcomes for boys and girls and survivors of violence, abuse and exploitation. To complement the ongoing quantitative monitoring results captured by ActivityInfo, the sub-sector, through its case management and psychosocial support (PSS) task forces, will be continuously engaged in monitoring results and documenting different trends especially at level of juvenile justice. Later, the sector will continue to advocate for data knowledge, assessment and research and specially under “new” initiative that are cross-sectoral such as the effect of cash on child labour, violence at school, etc.

Nevertheless, several risks might prevent the Child Protection sub-sector achieving its expected results, mainly related to; a) insufficient commitment by the Government of Lebanon and line ministries; b) the lack of an integrated and holistic approach for targeting child protection issues that require multi-sector approach, and; c) the lack of necessary funding to cover the sector’s needs.

To address some of the risks mentioned above, it is expected that the sector will be able to continue operating in a politically fluctuating environment and scale up when necessary for addressing any emergency outbreaks. In addition, continuous investments will be placed towards systems strengthening and building the capacity of local actors. At the current level of funding and noting its predictable reduction, more focus shall be invested in prevention activities and in leveraging resources through more integrated programming financed through multi-year funding for easing planning and programme prioritization.

Identification of sector needs and targets at the individual, institutional and geographical levels

Services and activities supported by protection partners and institutions, at individual and community levels, will benefit vulnerable Lebanese, persons displaced from Syria, and host communities. Direct protection interventions will focus on persons with immediate legal or physical protection needs; women, men, girls and boys, as well as persons with disabilities and older persons at risk of violence, abuse and exploitation. Through awareness-raising sessions, protection monitoring visits, reception facilities, hotlines, outreach and capacity-building activities, individuals in need have access to information on where to get help or referred to support services as needed.

Three types of institutions will be targeted for support (i.e. renovation/rehabilitation, supply of furniture and equipment) and capacity-building initiatives/programmes, namely: government institutions that manage the border or are responsible for civil documentation (e.g. birth, marriage, divorce, death) and legal residency permits, such as GSO, Internal Security Forces, Lebanese Armed Forces and the Personal Status Department, local civil society actors, and the Ministry of Social Affairs.

The Protection sector will work closely with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Interior and Municipalities, Justice, Education and Higher Education, Public Health, and Labour, and with selected social development centres. Health facilities that will receive capacity-building and training on clinical management of rape will be selected in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and the Clinical Management of Rape working group.

The situation of Lebanese returnees from Syria is difficult as most returned with few belongings, are unemployed and often reside in substandard shelters. In a recent survey, 40 per cent of returnees said they intend to eventually move back to Syria. Recording, profiling and providing adequate assistance to Lebanese returnees will remain a priority.

Mainstreaming of conflict sensitivity, gender, youth and persons with specific needs

Conflict sensitivity

Protection partners will ensure conflict sensitivity mainstreaming in their programmes to mitigate threats to social stability and increase respect for cultural diversity and non-violent communication. Partners will also invest in conflict sensitivity trainings for frontline workers, service providers, and gatekeepers (i.e.: religious leaders, community leaders, and employers) that will build both understanding and the capacity to implement conflict-sensitive programming. This will consider both positive and negative impacts of interventions, and includes risk analysis and participatory approaches.

Gender and persons with specific needs (PwSNs)

Programming will continue to be gender-sensitive to address and meet the needs of different groups equitably, i.e. women and girls, men and boys considering the different risks that they face and their different opportunities. This entails interventions for specific persons at risk, such as those socially marginalized and discriminated based on their gender, and older persons who are at heightened risk of being excluded or marginalized. Gender analyses and separate consultations with all demographic groups will be part of the methodology used to conduct assessments, along with monitoring visits and structured consultations with the community.

Sex, age and disability disaggregated data will be collected for protection, child protection and sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response activities. Training on key protection principles, including safe identification and referral of individuals at risk, will be conducted for frontline workers, including Ministry of Social Affairs social development centres social workers, as well as those who work in the Health, Shelter and
Food Security and Agriculture sectors. The roll-out of the 2015 IASC Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action was initiated in 2017 across seven key sectors of the Lebanon response, to support them in the implementation of effective risk mitigation measures in their programming. Following the development of specific action plans and capacity building of partners, including governmental institutions, health, the Ministry of Social Affairs and the community, safe identification and referrals of sexual and gender-based violence survivors, the Protection sector will coordinate with the relevant technical sectors to enhance ownership and implementation of work plans. The Protection sector will support technical sectors to ensure that sector assessments and analysis of protection risks consider gender, age and diversity considerations, risks of sexual and gender-based violence, and accessibility to services for categories at risk. Special efforts will be made to support the active participation of women in community groups.

Persons with disabilities
As indicated in the strategy above, the Protection sector will continue to enhance inclusivity and non-discrimination of programmes and ensure all barriers – physical and those linked to capacities of service providers, including civil society actors – are removed through capacity-building and programme adjustment. Persons with disabilities and caregivers will be consulted including through participatory assessments and their contributions reflected in programme design, implementation and monitoring. Social workers and other specialized service providers will be capacitated to ensure that attitudinal and communication barriers are addressed, and already existing specialized services are identified, strengthened and include in referral pathways. The Protection sector will monitor accessibility to services for persons with disabilities in community-based activities through specialized sector partners.

Youth
Through consultations, protection activities and programmes will be adapted to ensure that the distinctive needs, concerns and expectations of youth, including those with disabilities, are considered, and their active participation in tailored community-based interventions are promoted. Where possible, programmes will include youth in community groups. Child protection and sexual and gender-based violence programmes will ensure that high-risk adolescents and youth are engaged in activities to prevent and respond to risks and protection concerns.

Cross-sectoral linkages

Shelter: The Protection sector will continue supporting the Shelter sector with the prioritization of beneficiaries guided by protection criteria, and ensure referrals by protection partners of cases with protection concerns, including persons affected by evictions, children heads of households, women at risk, sexual and gender-based violence survivors, individuals at risk in their current housing, and persons with specific needs. The sectors will strengthen coordination to address issues related to security of tenure and eviction response. Protection partners will advise on lease agreements that pay due consideration to housing, land and property rights. The Protection sector will provide protection mainstreaming, including gender-mainstreaming guidance, to the Shelter sector to ensure active and meaningful participation of females and males in consultation on appropriateness of the shelter assistance (e.g. shelter kits distributed in informal settlements), and consider the needs of persons with specific needs. The Protection sector will continue to ensure that shelter front liners are trained on safe identification and referrals of protection cases. Area profiling exercises audits will mainstream protection concerns and will take into consideration child- and women-friendly communal safe spaces, including recreational spaces. Relevant information collected for protection will be shared with the Shelter sector for adequate interventions, such as rehabilitation of substandard buildings and upgrading of common building areas. In addition, community groups will be trained in fire safety and receive equipment to improve their capacity to respond to fire outbreaks.

Health: The Protection sector will continue to work closely with the Health sector to support health facilities in providing appropriate medical treatment to persons with specific needs, including clinical management of rape (CMR) for sexual and gender-based violence survivors, and strengthen the safe identification and referral of survivors of violence to adequate care and protection through the development and circulation of adapted information material and the capacity building of frontline health workers to safely identify and refer cases. Medical personnel will be trained on clinical management of rape, and all medical and non-medical personnel to guarantee the confidentiality, safety and respect of survivors receiving treatment, as well as safe identification and referrals. Coordination between the Protection and Health sectors also aims at improving knowledge of and disseminating information on referral pathways to improve access to healthcare, including sexual and reproductive health and mental health services, as well as vaccination to children. In addition, the Protection sector will work closely with the Mental Health Psychosocial Support task force to improve identification, referral and provision of qualitative service for persons in need of mental health support.

Basic Assistance: The Protection sectors will continue to work closely with the Basic Assistance sector to ensure that assistance provided is protection-centred and that protection-related trends, analysis and information on family profile are captured through the design and application of the desk formula for the multi-purpose cash assistance programme. Coordination will be ensured with the Protection sector to consider alternative pathways to include identified new cases with chronic protection issues in need of cash assistance.
to achieve the overall goal of reducing vulnerabilities to exploitation, negative coping strategies and other protection risks. The Protection and Basic Assistance sectors will work on ensuring that monitoring exercises carried out by the Basic Assistance sector take into consideration indicators related to child marriage or child labour, as well as the capacity of persons with disabilities to access basic assistance. Concerted collaboration efforts will be made between the two sectors to gather information and engage in efforts that will reduce the increasing negative trend of families withdrawing their children from school for economic reasons, and resorting to other negative coping mechanisms, such as child marriage or child labour. The two sectors will work to establish a mechanism to further facilitate safe identification and referrals of persons with protection needs (including legal assistance) by protection partners. Finally, the sectors will work to ensure complementarity of community interventions through more systematic data-sharing and joint mapping of conflict mitigation. The two sectors will work together to map and coordinate community dialogues and community-based protection mechanisms established to avoid duplication, and promote synergies among groups aiming at protection outcomes. The two sectors have established strong links to enhance the complementarity of community interventions through attending each other’s meeting. The work of protection partners with the displaced provides good entry points for social stability partners and host populations to facilitate cross-community contacts, including youth. Community-based interventions, such as protection committees, could support the social stability committees in dispute resolution and conflict mitigation. Opportunities within existing structures, such as social development centers and municipalities, will be explored to further collaborate between the two on social stability issues. The two sectors will strengthen coordination to ensure collaboration and timely exchange of tension monitoring and other relevant analysis, results of incident monitoring, and information of mutual concern to maximize complementarity between programmes, particularly in all areas necessitating the prevention of conflict and mitigation of social stability issues, in order not to negatively affect the protection environment for displaced persons. As cross-cutting issues, solid waste management and water related issues can potentially impact upon social stability and protection.

**Education:** Collaboration will continue between the Protection and Education sectors, given the importance of preventing children and adolescents from dropping out of school and curbing violence inside and outside schools. The Ministry of Education and Higher Education’s institutional capacity to promote a safe, child-friendly and protective environment in schools will be strengthened through the implementation of the child protection policy; referral mechanisms within the ministry to properly detect and refer both children at risk, including those with disabilities, and survivors of physical, psychological or sexual violence, abuse and exploitation; and the development and roll-out of a psychosocial package for school counsellors, teachers and volunteers deployed inside second shift schools who are tasked to create a protective environment through their interaction with children. Continued collaboration for school referrals will detail the education pathways available to school-aged children, encourage out-of-school children and their parents to enroll children into school, and emphasize the importance of school retention and ensuring quality of education, in particular for boys and girls who are at risk of eviction, child labour or marriage. Further advocacy with education partners will take place to ensure that programmes, such as the Basic Literacy and Numeracy programme, are modified and tailored to meet the specific needs of children engaged in child labour. Increased access to technical and vocational training and education could also be a measure to reduce risks faced by youth. Children at risk identified by education partners, education community liaisons and outreach volunteers during their outreach and community-based activities, will be referred to Child protection or sexual and gender-based violence partners for case management, with special emphasis on urgent and life-threatening cases.

**Livelihoods:** Protection partners will assist in identifying persons with specific needs and other vulnerable persons including men, women, adolescents and youth to be referred for referral to the Livelihoods sector for support based on jointly developed referral pathways and criteria. This will enhance access to livelihood programmes for persons exposed to protection risks which could increase their chances for job opportunities. The Protection sector will continue to support the Livelihoods sector in the safe identification and referral of persons facing protection risks, including training for field staff in sexual and gender-based violence sensitivity. In addition, strong collaboration between the Protection and Livelihoods sectors will be pursued to identify, mitigate and combat risks of violence, exploitation and abuse in the workplace, through initiatives such as: a) the identification and referral to livelihood opportunities of caregivers of children facing protection concerns (mainly of children engaged in the worst forms of child labour) and youth, b) the development of an information package on child labour standards, and c) coordination of existing psychosocial activities. Furthermore, the Protection and Livelihoods
sectors will increase coordination on soft and life skills training sessions delivered to livelihoods beneficiaries. Overall, cross-sectoral linkages will be strengthened to more systematically combine the provision of technical training sessions with life skills and psychosocial services to better support vulnerable members of the host and displaced communities and reduce drop-out rates. Lastly, the Protection and Livelihoods sectors will work together to ensure that livelihoods beneficiaries who face restriction of movements due to lack of civil documentation are informed about renewal procedures for civil documentation.

**Food Security:** Given the magnitude of child labour in Lebanon, the Protection, Livelihoods and Food Security and Agriculture sectors will continue working together on: generating knowledge for better programming and advocacy against child labour in the agriculture sector; investing in capacity-building and training of trainers on child labour and occupational health and safety in the agriculture sector; and providing specific training on safe identification and referral pathways to protection service providers and line ministries. Increased collaboration between the Protection and Food Security and Agriculture sector will help to ensure safe access to women and girls to in-kind and card distributions, considering the specific risks related to distributions, and develop mitigation measures to address risks of sexual abuse and exploitation. Referrals between the Food Security and Protection sectors will continue at both field and national levels, using the inter-agency mechanism to ensure appropriate follow-up. Furthermore, building upon the momentum gained among the three sectors, concerted efforts will be made to support the National Steering Committee to operationalize the National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour addressing child labour in agriculture.

**Water:** Protection-specific concerns related to water and sanitation facilities captured through protection safety audits and assessments will be referred to the Water sector to ensure that gender- and child-sensitive water and sanitation facilities are included in programming. The Protection and Water sectors will work closely together to address the concerns of women, girls, boys and men in a participatory manner that pay to due attention to gender, age and disability. Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion messages will be mainstreamed for women, youth and community-based groups supported by the Protection sector. The Protection and Water sectors will work on mainstreaming risks related to gender-based violence into Water sector assessments, questionnaires and focus group discussions, and field staff engaged in relevant outreaching activities will be trained on risks identification and referrals. Coordination of community-based approaches, including community groups, will strengthen linkages and collaboration between both sectors to improve community awareness, engagement, and more responsible practices in relation to water, sanitation and hygiene.

**Energy:** The Protection and Energy sectors will explore ways of collaboration through community-based interventions such as installation of street lighting in areas which are deemed unsafe for women and children, and through energy-saving measures such as solar water heaters for women and solar panels to be placed on community centres.

Endnotes


iv. UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF (pending publication), Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) 2018.

v. UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF (pending publication), VASyR 2018.


xi. The data and analysis presented refers to reported cases, as well as protection concerns raised during focus group discussions and activities with the community. In Lebanon, eleven organizations are using the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS). Eight sexual and gender-based violence service providers contributed to the statistical trends which are based on data collected from January to August 2018. The GBVIMS captures information on incidents reported in the course of seeking services and allows to safely collect, store and analyse data related to sexual and gender-based violence. Since only information on reported incidents is recorded, and shared with the informed consent of survivors, it does not represent a comprehensive overview of sexual and gender-based violence incidents in Lebanon. Also, the GBVIMS captures only cases
reported by service providers operating in Lebanon; therefore, statistics cannot be interpreted as reflecting the magnitude or patterns of sexual and gender-based violence in Syria. Additionally, gender-based violence incidents, especially those having happened in Syria prior to displacement, remain underreported for several factors including socio-cultural issues.

GBVIMS covers all populations including Lebanese, displaced Syrians, Palestinian Refugees from Syria, Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon, and other nationalities.

xii. GBVIMS covers all populations including Lebanese, displaced Syrians, Palestinian Refugees from Syria, Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon, and other nationalities.

xiii. Ibid.


xvi. UNRWA (May 2018), Relief and Social Services Department data.

xvii. DGPS (2 March 2018), Memorandum 2/19 regarding Birth Registration of Syrians and Registration of Other Events at the Noufous Departments 2018.


xxi. ARK (2017), Regular Perception Surveys on Social Tensions throughout Lebanon: Wave I.

xxii. Chabaan, J. et al. (2016), Survey on the Socioeconomic Status of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon 2015. AUB and UNRWA,


xxv. UNHCR (2017-2018), Participatory Assessments.


xxvii. Ibid.

xxviii. This percentage refers to a combination of several profiles: intimate/former partner, primary caregiver, and family other than spouse of caregiver.


xxx. This percentage refers to a combination of several profiles: intimate/former partner, primary caregiver, and family other than spouse of caregiver.


xxxii. Ibid.

xxxiii. Ibid.

xxxiv. Ibid.

xxxv. This percentage refers to a combination of several profiles: intimate/former partner, primary caregiver, and family other than spouse of caregiver.


xxxviii. UNICEF/Ministry of Social Affairs (2016), Baseline Survey.

xxxix. UNICEF/Ministry of Social Affairs (2016), Baseline Survey: In households of both displaced Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Lebanon, the 3-4 years age group is the one most exposed to physically violent discipline, i.e. 67 and 61 per cent respectively.


xliii. UNFPA, AUB and SAWA (2016), The Prevalence of Early Marriage and its Key Determinants among Syrian Refugee Girls/Women


PART II: OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLANS - Protection

The data and analysis presented refers to reported cases, as well as protection concerns raised during focus group discussions and activities with the community. In Lebanon, eleven organizations are using the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS). Eight sexual and gender-based violence service providers contributed to the statistical trends which are based on data collected from January to August 2018. The GBVIMS captures information on incidents reported in the course of seeking services and allows to safely collect, store and analyse data related to sexual and gender-based violence. Since only information on reported incidents is recorded, and shared with the informed consent of survivors, it does not represent a comprehensive overview of sexual and gender-based violence incidents in Lebanon. Also, the GBVIMS covers only cases reported by service providers operating in Lebanon; therefore, statistics cannot be interpreted as reflecting the magnitude or patterns of sexual and gender-based violence in Syria. Additionally, gender-based violence incidents, especially those having happened in Syria prior to displacement, remain underreported for several factors including socio-cultural issues.

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europa.eu/media/34145/lebanon-partnership-paper.pdf.

ii. UNRWA (2018).


vi. UNRWA (2018).


xvi. UNHCR (2016-2017), Participatory Assessment.

xvii. Brussels II Conference (24-25 April 2018), Supporting the future of Syria and the region - Lebanon Partnership Paper, para. 42.


xix. UNHCR (2016-2017), Participatory Assessment.


xxi. The poverty line is defined as ‘unable to meet basic food and non-food needs’. The Minimum Expenditure Basket (poverty line) is $87 per person per month and the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (extreme poverty) is $587 per person per month.

xxii. Chabaan, J. et al. (2016), Survey on the Socioeconomic Status of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon 2015. AUB and UNRWA.


xxvi. ARK (2017), Regular Perception Surveys on Social Tensions throughout Lebanon: Wave I.

xxvii. Chabaan, J. et al. (2016), Survey on the Socioeconomic Status of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon 2015. AUB and UNRWA.


xxx. UNHCR (2017-2018), Participatory Assessments.


xxiv. GBVIMS covers all populations including Lebanese, displaced Syrians, Palestinian Refugees from Syria, Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon, and other nationalities.

xxv. Ibid.


xxix. UNRWA (May 2018), Relief and Social Services Department data.

xxx. DGPS (2 March 2018), Memorandum 2/19 regarding Birth Registration of Syrians and Registration of other Events at the Nofous Departments 2018.

xxxi. UNHCR (2017 - 2018), Participatory assessments.


xxxiv. UNHCR (2017-2018), Participatory Assessments.


xxxvi. Ibid.

xxxvii. UNHCR (2017-2018), Participatory Assessments.


xxxix. Ibid.

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cvi. UNRWA (2018).


**Outcome 1:** Persons Displaced from Syria Have their Basic Rights (incl. access to territory, legal stay, civil documentation) Respected and Specific Protection Needs Fulfilled

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator 1</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of persons with legal stay</td>
<td>VAsyR</td>
<td>Percentage of persons</td>
<td>Yearly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lebanese</th>
<th>Displaced Syrians</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline:</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result 2018</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2019</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2020</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator 2</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of persons referred with services provided with services under the categories of the Inter-Agency Referral Database, e.g., Legal, Persons with Specific Needs, etc., and whose cases were successfully closed.</td>
<td>Inter-Agency Tracking System</td>
<td>Number of referrals</td>
<td>Bi-Yearly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lebanese</th>
<th>Displaced Syrians</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline:</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result 2018</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2019</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2020</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator 3</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Nofous level</td>
<td>VAsyR</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Bi-Yearly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lebanese</th>
<th>Displaced Syrians</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline:</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result 2018</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2019</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2020</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator 4</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Foreign Registry level</td>
<td>VAsyR</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Bi-Yearly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lebanese</th>
<th>Displaced Syrians</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline:</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result 2018</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2019</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2020</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Indicator 5

**Description:** Number of persons benefitting from resettlement or other humanitarian pathways

**Means of Verification:** proGres

**Unit:** Persons

**Frequency:** Quarterly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lebanese</th>
<th>Displaced Syrians</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baseline</strong></td>
<td><strong>Result 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Target 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Target 2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaced Syrians</td>
<td>7,771</td>
<td>5,331</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Indicator 6

**Description:** Percentage of households who have moved accommodation in the last 6 months due to eviction.

**Means of Verification:** VASyR

**Unit:** Percentage

**Frequency:** Yearly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baseline</strong></td>
<td><strong>Result 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Target 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Target 2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outcome 2: Support and Actively Engage Community Members in Creating a Safe Protection Environment

#### Indicator 1

**Description:** Percentage of persons reporting that information received has helped them accessing services.

**Means of Verification:** Tracking of projects and initiatives; Focus group discussions; Random sampling; Follow-up calls; Participatory self-evaluation (new methodology); VASyR 2019 (?)

**Unit:** Percentage

**Frequency:** Bi-Yearly

| Institutions | **Baseline** | **Result 2018** | **Target 2019** | **Target 2020**|
|--------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| N/A | N/A | TBD | TBD |

#### Indicator 2

**Description:** Percentage of persons reporting that they feel involved in the assessment, design, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and activities.

**Means of Verification:** Tracking of projects and initiatives; Focus group discussions; Random sampling; Follow-up calls; Participatory self-evaluation (new methodology); VASyR 2019 (?)

**Unit:** Percentage

**Frequency:** Bi-Yearly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baseline</strong></td>
<td><strong>Result 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Target 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Target 2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outcome 3: Reduce SGBV risks and improve access to quality services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator 1</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of women (24-20) married before 18</td>
<td>Standard MICS indicator on Child Marriage targeting women 24-20 of age married before age 18. The indicator will be measured every two years. By 2018, a reduction of %12 of the baseline in targeted communities is expected. By 2020, a reduction of %20 in targeted communities is expected.</td>
<td>MICS 2020, 2018</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Result 2018</td>
<td>Target 2019</td>
<td>Target 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator 2</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of women and girls age 49-15 who state that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife</td>
<td>Standard MICS indicator used to assess the attitudes of women age 49-15 towards wife beating by asking the respondents whether husbands are justified to hit or beat their wives in a variety of situations, including (i) goes out without telling him, (ii) neglects the children, (iii) argues with him, (iv) refuses sex with him, and (v) burns the food. The purpose of these questions are to capture the social justification of violence (in contexts where women have a lower status in society) as a disciplinary action when a woman does not comply with certain expected gender roles. By 2018, a reduction of %12 of the baseline in targeted communities is expected. By 2020, a reduction of %20 in targeted communities is expected.</td>
<td>MICS 2018 &amp; 2020</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Result 2018</td>
<td>Target 2019</td>
<td>Target 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outcome 4: Provide boys and girls at risk and survivors of violence, exploitation and abuse with access to an improved and equitable prevention and response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator 1</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of children 2-14 years who experience violent disciplinary practices</td>
<td>UNICEF Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey Indicator 8.3 Numerator = Number of children age 14-2 years who experienced psychological aggression or physical punishment during the last one month Denominator = Total number of children age 14-1 years</td>
<td>MICS 2018 &amp; 2020</td>
<td>Percentage of children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lebanese</th>
<th>Displaced Syrians</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</th>
<th>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Result 2018</td>
<td>Target 2019</td>
<td>Target 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>57%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator 2</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Means of Verification</td>
<td>Unit</td>
</tr>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of children aged 5-17 yrs engaged in child labour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanese</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaced Syrian</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of children (boys and girls) who reported an improvement in their</td>
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<td>psychosocial wellbeing as measured through the SDQ</td>
<td>SDQ administered in</td>
<td>Percentage of</td>
<td>Semi-annual</td>
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<td>children</td>
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<td>Displaced Syrian</td>
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<td>Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)</td>
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<td>Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon (PRL)</td>
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<td>80%</td>
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