OBJECTIVES

• Monitoring changes at the household level over time in key areas in the context of the deteriorating economic situation in Lebanon. The focus will be on the following areas:
  • Livelihoods: Loss of jobs, salary cuts, job retention and new job opportunities.
  • Economic vulnerability: household debt
  • Living conditions: rental costs, mobility, eviction and eviction threats
  • Access to health services: demand and access to primary healthcare and hospitalization
  • Food and Livelihood Coping Strategies: Rates of key negative food and non-food related coping strategies
  • COVID-19: Access to services, levels of awareness and access to the PPEs and hygiene items

• Inform UNHCR/WFP and LCRP partner advocacy in order to: (A) maintain or improve funding for affected refugees; an (B) advocate against the reallocation of funds away from refugee centred programming.

• For the initial wave, identify those socio-economic areas most impacted that could be further investigated through VARON 2020 (currently planned for the end of March/April).
To achieve this, we will use a nationally representative simple random sampling approach, extracted from the UNHCR database in Lebanon.

Two nationally representative samples will be extracted: (1) Syrian refugees, and (2) Non-Syrian refugees. Each sample is estimated at 500 (total 1,000) refugee households.

Data collected through the call center via Phone survey. Additional outreach through UNHCR partners to increase response rate primarily using Whatsapp.

Accounting for non-response rate, sampled: 1,000 Syrian; 1,000 non-Syrian

NB: Please note that while comparison is made to VARON/VASYR, methodologies completely differ and as such comparisons should be approached with caution and not interpreted to the dot. Preference is not to focus on magnitude of differences but rather just to better understand what challenges and difference might be arising and to be further confirmed by VARON 2020.

RESULT:

- High non-response rate (55%)
- 454 surveys completed
DEMOGRAPHICS
DEMOGRAPHICS

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE:

3.4

(Wave 1: 3.7
VARON 2019: 3.1)
1. Economic (cost, income, availability of basic items)
2. Access to services (health, assistance, mobility)
3. Protection environment (restrictions, tensions)
4. Living environment (shelter)
Households Renting Accommodation

75%

(VARON 2019: 74%)

Average rent (per month)

VARON
Wave 1
Wave 2
475,500
415,000
478,000

83% paying in LBP
5% paying in USD
12% paying in LBP and USD

18% were paying in LBP prior to the three months preceding the interview

18% were paying in USD prior to the three months preceding the interview

Average paid (last renting period)

Wave 1
Wave 2
394,000
461,000
Households Reporting Changes in Rent in the previous 3 months

- 90% No Change
- 6% Increase
- 4% Decrease
Due to change in rental currency
Lack of work opportunities
End of housing agreement
Living conditions
Rent is too expensive
Eviction due to inability to pay rent
Due to change in rental currency
Other reasons

Planning to change shelter next three months

15% (wave 1: 22%)

Rent is too expensive 35%
Eviction due to inability to pay rent 29%
Living conditions 12%
End of housing agreement 6%
Lack of work opportunities 4%
Due to change in rental currency 4%
Other reasons

Planning to move to third country

16% (Wave 1: 31%)

Planning to return to CoO

1% (Wave 1: 2%)
LIVELIHOODS & DEBT
LIVELIHOODS & DEBT

DEBT

% of Households in debt

VARON 2019: 58%
Wave 1: 69%

76%

24%

Average total debt

LBP 2,235,000
LBP 1,605,899
LBP 1,864,684

Newly incurred debt
Past three months

71%
(wave 1: 61%)

780,730 LBP average
(wave 1: 863, 210 LBP)
LIVELIHOODS & DEBT

WORK

65% OF HOUSEHOLDS HAVE NO WORKING MEMBERS (ABOVE 15) (wave 1: 32%)

4% REPORTED ENGAGING CHILDREN IN INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES SINCE OCT 2019

0.5 MEMBERS WORKING ON AVERAGE AMONG HH WITH WORKING MEMBERS (Wave 1: 1.5)

2.5 Persons above 15 On Average per household
**LIVELIHOODS & DEBT**

**LOSS/GAIN OF JOBS SINCE in the past three months**

- **50%** Reported at least one HH member (above 15) lost a job (wave 1: 44%)
- **11%** Reported at least one HH member (above 15) gain a job (wave 1: 14%)
COPING STRATEGIES

FOOD & LIVELIHOODS
## COPING STRATEGIES

### FOOD - Frequency over the past week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>VARON 2019</th>
<th>Phone Wave 2</th>
<th>Phone Wave 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relied on less expensive or less preferred food</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9 days per week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowed food or relied on help on friends/relatives</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 days per week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced number of meals consumed per day</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8 days per week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced portion size of consumed meals</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 days per week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted consumption of adults family members</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 days per week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bought food on credit or debt in the past month: VARON 2019 35%, Phone Wave 1 27%, Phone Wave 2 45%
Reduced expenses on health related costs in the past month: VARON 2019 60%, Phone Wave 1 19%, Phone Wave 2 45%
Reduced expenditure on legal documentation in the past month: VARON 2019 19%, Phone Wave 1 14%, Phone Wave 2 26%
Sold assets in the past month: VARON 2019 26%, Phone Wave 1 17%, Phone Wave 2 22%
Sold productive assets in the past month: VARON 2019 5%, Phone Wave 1 3%, Phone Wave 2 5%
Withdrew children from school in the past three months: VARON 2019 20%, Phone Wave 1 16%
Engaged children in income generating activities in the past three months: VARON 2019 1%, Phone Wave 1 2%, Phone Wave 2 4%
Household member left Lebanon in the past three months: VARON 2019 4%, Phone Wave 1 3%
Marriage of under 18 in the past three months: VARON 2019 1%, Phone Wave 1 0%, Phone Wave 2 1%
HEALTH
**HEALTH**

**PRIMARY HEALTH CARE**

- % HH Requiring Primary health care:
  - VARON 2019 Wave 1: 40%
  - VARON 2019 Wave 2: 64%
  - VARON 2019 Wave 1: 52%

- % Able to Access (from those requiring):
  - VARON 2019 Wave 1: 89%
  - VARON 2019 Wave 2: 47%
  - VARON 2019 Wave 1: 52%

**SECONDARY HEALTH CARE**

- % HH Requiring Secondary health care:
  - VARON 2019 Wave 1: 15%
  - VARON 2019 Wave 2: 27%
  - VARON 2019 Wave 1: 20%

- % Able to Access (from those requiring):
  - VARON 2019 Wave 1: 84%
  - VARON 2019 Wave 2: 51%
  - VARON 2019 Wave 1: 50%
HEALTH

REASONS FOR NO ACCESS

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

- Cost of drugs/treatment/test: 57%
- Doctor fees: 33%
- Transportation: 8%
- Other: 2%

SECONDARY HEALTH CARE

- Cost of treatment: 90%
- Could not secure deposit: 8%
- Other: 2%
COVID19
Awareness and access to services

90%
Know the symptoms

73%
Have enough gloves/masks for their family

10%
Received NFI kit

65%
Found the contents to be relevant

99% do not have any concerns reaching out the MoH hotline