Protection (including SGBV and Child Protection)
2020 Mid-Year Dashboard

This dashboard summarizes progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Protection sector in Lebanon aims to achieve the following results:

OUTCOME 1: Ensure that persons displaced from Syria have their basic rights (incl. access to territory, legal stay, civil documentation) respected and specific protection needs fulfilled.
OUTCOME 2: Support and actively engage community members in creating a safe protection environment.
OUTCOME 3: Reduce SGBV risks and improve access to quality services.
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.

$16.2 M / $ 30.5 M

Gap: 65.1 M
Carried over: 21.5 M
Available/ Required: Protection $60.6 M / $104 M
CP $312.2 M / $ 396 M
SGBV $51.6 M / $ 30.5 M

1 Programmes are funded by a combination of flexible/earmarked funds and funds specifically earmarked to the sector.

### Funding Status

### Population Reached

#### as at 30 June 2020

**3.2 m people in need**

**1,884,800 Targeted**

**614,338 Services provided to people in need**

#### 2 Figures are for the whole sector, which includes Protection, SGBV and Child Protection.

### Analysis: Individual Evictions

Evictions and eviction threats are a critical risk affecting refugees and other vulnerable populations in Lebanon. Syrian refugee families and other populations in a vulnerable situation have been increasingly unable to pay their rent since the deepening of the economic and financial crisis in the fourth quarter of 2019, exposing them to heightened eviction risks. This situation has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures Lebanon has had to take to prevent and contain the spread of the virus.

The trend in the first half of 2020 for household level or individual evictions indicates a significant increase in the number of households at risk of eviction due to their inability to pay rent. This has been reported across all population groups in the country, including Palestinian refugees, Lebanese nationals, refugees from other nationalities, and migrants; however, quantitative data currently available pertains to Syrian refugees and are only reflective of the persons who approached UNHCR to seek support in relation to eviction. Eviction cases among all groups remain greatly underreported.

Individual evictions, especially when related to inability to pay the rent in a context of severe economic crisis, are extremely difficult to address. The Protection sector is working closely with the Shelter, Livelihoods and Social Stability sectors to strengthen linkages for a more sustainable and holistic approach to this issue.

### Progress against targets

#### Key Achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reached / Target</th>
<th># of individuals who benefitted from legal counseling, assistance and representation regarding legal stay</th>
<th>13,895 / 40,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of individuals who benefitted from counseling, legal assistance and legal representation regarding civil registration including birth and marriage registration</td>
<td>25,356 / 100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of individuals trained, supported, and engaged in community-based mechanisms</td>
<td>6,867 / 5,201</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of individuals with specific needs receiving individual counseling, case management and psychosocial support</td>
<td>7,070 / 17,370</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of women, girls, men and boys at risk and survivors accessing SGBV prevention and response services in safe spaces</td>
<td>17,104 / 140,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td># of women, girls, men and boys sensitized on SGBV</td>
<td>28,847 / 286,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of boys and girls accessing focused psychosocial support and/or assisted through CP case management services</td>
<td>8,612 / 30,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of caregivers accessing child protection prevention (caregivers’ programmes)</td>
<td>5,824 / 26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of boys and girls engaged in community-based child protection activities</td>
<td>11,413 / 65,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Outcomes

**OUTCOME 1:**
- **% of persons with legal stay**
  - SYR: 26%
  - LEB: N/A
  - PRS: N/A
  - PRL: N/A
  - **Target:** 40%

**OUTCOME 1:**
- **% of children born in Lebanon whose birth is registered at the Foreigners Level**
  - SYR: 36%
  - LEB: N/A
  - PRS: N/A
  - PRL: 48%
  - **Target:** 50%

**OUTCOME 3:**
- **% of women aged 20-24 who are married before 18**
  - SYR: 61%
  - LEB: 36%
  - PRS: 30%
  - PRL: 40%
  - **Target:** 40%

**OUTCOME 4:**
- **% of children aged 2-14 who experience violent disciplinary practices**
  - SYR: N/A
  - LEB: N/A
  - PRS: N/A
  - PRL: N/A
  - **Target:** 45%

**OUTCOME 5:**
- **% of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labour**
  - SYR: 7%
  - LEB: 6%
  - PRS: 4%
  - PRL: 4%
  - **Target:** 4.5%

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The trend in the first half of 2020 for household level or individual evictions indicates a significant increase in the number of households at risk of eviction due to their inability to pay rent. This has been reported across all population groups in the country, including Palestinian refugees, Lebanese nationals, refugees from other nationalities, and migrants; however, quantitative data currently available pertains to Syrian refugees and are only reflective of the persons who approached UNHCR to seek support in relation to eviction. Eviction cases among all groups remain greatly underreported.

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For more information contact the Protection Sector Coordinator, Elsa Bouquet <ibouquet@unhcr.org>, the SGBV Task Force Coordinator, Nyaya Park <cpark@unhcr.org>, or the Child Protection Working Group Coordinator, Jackline Atwi <jatwi@unicef.org>.
During the first half of 2020, 46,048 individuals benefited from legal aid related to civil documentation (25,356), legal residency (13,895) or housing, land and property related issues (6,797). Through accessing legal counselling, assistance and representation, these individuals gained knowledge about their rights and how to access them. They were able to obtain essential documentation such as birth, marriage, divorce and death registration, that are critical for their future both in their country of asylum and in case of return. These activities also facilitated support for refugees to regularize their stay or to receive legal support to foster security of tenure, including in case of eviction threats. Only 37% of individuals receiving support to renew their legal stay were women, a group that remains more difficult to mobilize on legal stay.

While most of the activities conducted by local and national institutions (including General Security Office - GSO, the courts and the Nofous) were on hold during the lockdown period from March to June 2020, partners strived to ensure that individuals could still benefit from counseling and other support using remote modalities. Urgent cases were also identified and assisted as needed in line with the guidance developed through the sector. The number of individuals reached during the reporting period is still limited in comparison to the sector targets (respectively 25% for legal assistance for civil documentation, 35% for legal assistance for legal residency and 19% for legal assistance for housing, land and property related issues), mainly due to the lockdown.

Despite challenges related to their identification and service delivery during the lockdown and other mobility constraints, 7,068 persons with specific needs benefited from tailored activities during the reporting period (41% of the target), including individual services through case management and psychosocial support. This helped beneficiaries to overcome compounded challenges and protection risks that they face, to connect them to the needed services and to enhance their general well-being. A total of 2,910 persons with disabilities (24% of the target; 46% were women and 29% Lebanese) and 1,835 older persons (20% of the target) also accessed specialized services, including rehabilitation services, physiotherapy and provision of assistive devices critical to one’s capacities to fully integrate in the community. Despite the challenges presented by the current situation, this represents an increase in the number of older people supported in comparison with 2019 first semester where only 6% of the target was reached. Older people are a group difficult to access but who receives more particular attention since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Enhancing mechanisms to foster community engagement in the response remained a priority of the sector. A total of 126,211 persons (54% of the target) benefitted form information sessions, including through remote modalities since March 2020. Individuals received vital information to access services, to share feedback on programs and on their needs and they also received critical information on COVID-19 including precautionary measures and access to health care. While only 12,674 accessed community centers (11% of the target), mostly before the lockdown, 8,227 new persons (56% women) were trained, supported and monitored to engage in community-based mechanisms (158% of the target). Sector partners scaled up efforts to activate community-based mechanisms to prevent and respond to COVID-19 issues, including through circulation of targeted messages, and to enhance the community support in a situation of extremely limited access to the population. A total of 9,042 children (56% boys and 44% girls) at risk of or exposed to violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect benefitted from individual case management (4,091 children) and Focused Psychosocial Support (FPSS) activities (4,521 children). These activities are complementary and ensure that children supported with individual interventions are also engaged in group activities with the aim of fostering their integration while re-establishing routine and sense of normalcy.

It is worth noting that during the reporting period, group activities were more challenging to sustain. While sector guidance and tools were drafted to support remote services delivery, only 22% of the Focused Psychosocial Support (FPSS) targets were achieved as opposed to 60% achievement against target reached during the same period in 2019. On the other hand, to align with the lockdown and the increased risks and vulnerabilities for children, the sector was able to reach 40% of the total case management targets through a mix of remote or face to face modalities. Fifty percent of children supported were children engaged in labour (e.g. children working in agriculture, in a street situation, repair and mechanic shops) and of those about half were cases of children engaged in worst forms of child labour. About 37% of children supported were victims of violent discipline.

In order to adapt the response for COVID-19, the sector developed specific tools to support partners to deliver through remote modality (using internet and phone devices) and organized a series of workshops and coaching sessions during the first half of 2020, which benefited a total of 1,161 frontline workers actively engaged in trainings and coaching programs for rolling out the COVID-19 adapted tools and for standardizing approach and technical interventions.

Due to COVID-19 measures, group activities for awareness raising and community-based child protection prevention activities have been delayed. However, these newly adapted tools enabled 11,413 children to benefit from remote Psychosocial Support services (PSS) (50% boys and 50% girls). A total of 5,824 caregivers also benefitted from parenting support (86% women and 14% men) through phone calls, WhatsApp and Skype. Although some progress was made, sector targets at level of prevention activities have been heavily affected and reaching only 17% of the total reached (101,723) during the same period of 2019.

Challenges in reaching total targets remains an issue as the sector has reached only 19% of its targets. Child Protection partners continue to collaborate with other sectors to facilitate safe identification and referrals, namely with Health, Education and Livelihood sectors. Together with EDU partners, the CP sector has mainstreamed PSS activities in remote learning activities with the aim of addressing children’s well-being while enhancing learning and deemed as an important intervention to safely identify and refer children and their caregivers in situation of distress. During the reporting period, 39,944 caregivers (60% women and 40% men) and 18,404 children (50% boys and 50% girls) benefited from COVID-19 sensitization sessions about general hygiene, social distancing and health-related information. This information was delivered both in person and remotely, including through hotlines, and proved to be essential to mitigate risks and empower people with relevant information that enable them to know where to go for specific services.

The SGBV sector ensured timely life-saving services by producing a guidance note on remote case management at the onset of the COVID-19 and re-prioritizing communication support for women and girls to increase their access to remote services.
For more information contact the Protection Sector Coordinator, Elsa Bousquet <bousquet@unhcr.org>, the SGBV Task Force Coordinator, Haenju Park <parkh@unhcr.org>, or the Child Protection Working Group Coordinator, Jackline Atwi <jatwi@unicef.org>

Transitional safe shelters were introduced in order to ensure safety for newly identified SGBV survivors in the COVID-19 situation, without risking COVID-19 infection within existing safe shelters. A total of 17,104 women, girls, men and boys at risk and survivors (13,399 Syrians, 3,511 Lebanese and 194 Palestine refugees, including 48 persons with disabilities) accessed SGBV prevention and response services. By the mid-year point, 87% of women and girls who participated in the evaluation responded that they felt empowered after the SGBV actors’ interventions.

A total of 216 institutional actors (58 men), including from the Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Lebanese Red Cross, and Lebanese University/Faculty of Public Health, were trained on SGBV core concept and safe disclosure and referrals to build the capacities of public and local institutions in addressing SGBV. Following the training, 73% of participants clearly demonstrated increased knowledge of SGBV. A total of 14 local institutions and Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) Social Development Centers (SDCs) were also supported to provide quality services through support for infrastructure, staff, equipment, material, operational and structural needs. The Sector also produced key guidance notes covering remote case management, resumption of in-person activities and safe and ethical data sharing and disseminated them for all SGBV partners under LCRP in order to maintain a systemized approach to SGBV during COVID-19. Partners used these guidance notes to adapt their interventions in order to reach the populations in COVID-19. The sector also created SGBV key messages including updated hotline information that were shared with all primary health centres across the country and other relevant sectors in the form of leaflets to include them in any planned in-kind distribution packages.

A total of 28,847 women, girls, men, and boys were sensitized on SGBV issues, including prevention and response mechanisms, stress management and mental health during COVID-19, SGBV referral pathways and other relevant SGBV issues. In order to address SGBV issues more effectively and to reach out to marginalized people, 5,442 men and boys and 71 persons with disabilities were included in these sensitization activities. These were conducted through in person before COVID-19 and using online modalities. SGBV partners also provided trainings for 136 community members, with 86% of participants demonstrating increased knowing and attitudes towards SGBV after these interventions.

The main challenges faced by partners to implementing the sector strategy were related to the COVID-19 situation, accelerated deterioration of the economic situation and additional mobility challenges due to civil unrest and roadblocks. The COVID-19 outbreak has made it difficult for partners to deliver protection services because most require in person interventions, group activities and field visits. These challenges were quickly and partially addressed through the collective sector-level identification of alternative operational modalities, such as remote needs assessment, provision of emergency cash through alternative financial services providers, remote counselling and case management etc. Group activities were replaced as much as possible by individual and on-line sessions to ensure continuity of services, although the number of beneficiaries was thus reduced.

However, internet connectivity challenges continued, especially in remote areas and in informal settlements. Electricity cuts increased during the second quarter of 2020 which created a barrier for the continuity of the activities. Some partners have adapted to the situation by using savings incurred on transportation budget lines (due to the restricted movement) to ensure that individuals have internet access. Delays are another challenge pre-empted by the Child Protection Sector, especially for group activities that continue to be slow and less effective due to limitation in remote delivery at level of resources such as mobile and electronic devices, internet accessibility, electricity among others as well as the limited number of participants in remote sessions such as telephone conference which end up jeopardizing the achievements as per original plans. While noting that violence against children has increased during confinement globally, reporting and timely identification and referrals of cases remains low and detection of cases continues to be a challenge to the sector. This is reflected through the case management data gathered during the same reporting period of 2019 which reflects that violence against children as a vulnerability criteria for opening a case was 40% higher than in cases managed during the first semester of 2020.

The economic crisis also has a severe impact on all communities and on individuals’ ability to benefit from services due to the costs associated, for instance to issue legal documentation or renew legal stay. Individuals are also more likely to prioritize the search for income or assistance over their participation in protection-related activities, including case management, PSS sessions and legal aid for residency renew. The sector is actively looking at all ways to increase the assistance provided to the different community groups and their access to income generating activities through emergency and protection cash modalities and in coordination with other sectors, including Basic Assistance, Livelihoods and Food Security.

There is also a need for more dedicated SGBV resources, including sufficient staffing and funding, to meet the needs during the reporting period. As of June 2020, more than 66% of the SGBV case management agencies reported that the recommended caseworker-to-survivor ratio of was not met (as defined by the Inter-Agency GBV case management guidelines). Furthermore, the increased risk of SGBV at home and within communities during COVID-19 exacerbated these challenges.

Despite the sectors’ prompt adaption to remote working modalities, most SGBV programs had to be either put on hold or be scaled down in line with the country’s COVID-19 prevention measures, while case management and response activities had to focus more on urgent and high-risk cases. This led to a lower number of persons of concern reached by the sector. These challenges are expected to continue in the second half of 2020, while the sector put efforts to adopt e-based remote modalities as much as possible.
For the second semester of 2020, it is expected that significant challenges will still be posed by restrictions and precautionary measures related to COVID-19, by the economic crisis and by roadblocks and civil unrest. The focus will be put on the identification and referrals of the persons most at risk, across all population groups, to foster their access to critical services. The sector will also enhance the coordination with other sectors as a priority in order to ensure the mainstreaming of protection across the programs and to address jointly critical gaps as they arise. The Protection sector will keep developing innovative ideas to ensure provision of services to vulnerable persons, including children, adolescent girls and women, persons with disabilities, older persons and those marginalized from the community who are often difficult to reach. Priorities will be given to initiatives aiming at preventing and addressing eviction and other critical risks related to the economic and financial turmoil. The protection sector will also scale up efforts to support individuals’ access to civil documentation and legal residency renewal, despite the challenges mentioned above and the limited capacities of the national institutions in front of the accumulated backlog during the lockdown period.

The Protection sector will also keep supporting inter-sectoral efforts to ensure that the IA service mapping is inclusive, accurate, updated by all sectors in a timely manner so that staff across sectors know where to refer vulnerable individuals in need of assistance. It will also provide guidance to other sectors so that referrals are made in line with inter-agency minimum standards, using available tools and that they are regularly monitored to ensure follow-up and provision of services.

As a next step following the development of COVID-19 guidance and tools, the focus of the second semester will be to follow up on partners’ implementation, reviewing the introduced tools and their relevance, identify potential gaps and challenges faced in order to adapt and guide partners accordingly.

### Case Study

Girl children, and adolescent girls in particular, are particularly at risk of gender inequality and gender-based violence (GBV) in outbreak situations. Adolescent girls often live at the crossroads of childhood and adulthood, and can be left out of services that are geared towards adults or young children. They also face increased risk of child- and forced marriage (particularly as schools close and the economic situation deteriorates) and physical and sexual abuse. Any adaptation made to existing interventions implemented by agencies from different sectors must take into consideration access and safety of adolescent girls as one of the target groups that is mostly exposed to safety- and GBV risks. In times of mobility restrictions, one necessary step to take is to consult with girls to understand their needs in the current context, how they want to be involved in planning and response and how to best share information with them.

As part of International Rescue Committee (IRC) approach to girl-centered programming, at the onset of COVID-19 outbreak in Lebanon, a rapid ICT assessment among a sample of adolescent girls enrolled in existing activities was carried out. The scope of the assessment was to identify critical gaps in their access to information that would inform programme adaptations. Findings from the assessment highlighted key limitations in terms of access to communication for the younger girls who mostly rely on borrowed phones, while married girls often share phones with their husbands. Yet, most girls could find ways to be connected with a certain frequency – although not continuously – and they gave indication of their preferred communication functions.

“Ensuring participation and equal access to resources and information for vulnerable population cannot only be seen as a recommendation in reports,” an IRC frontline worker stated reflecting on the critical role played by first responders. Through regular consultation and assessment, the IRC has progressively adapted core services to speak to the emerging needs of girls, including case management and psycho-social support supplemented by the provision of in-kind assistance (ranging from phone cards to menstrual hygiene supplies) and safe referral to specialized services with a focus on reproductive health.

Informed by the feedback of girls, one important action taken to address girls’ demands was to develop a remote PSS package. The purpose was to maintain and build trust and provide girls with support and information during lockdown and while field teams were unable to reach girls in person. The sessions cover thematic areas of trust building, social and emotional skills, safety, health and hygiene, solidarity and visioning for the future. Content also covers specific issues that may have arisen as a result of COVID-19.

“The (PSS) sessions pulled me out of the darkness of my feelings. I understand how to seek support and I am acquiring new skills. No matter how difficult it is, I can still shine”, an adolescent girl said while sharing feedback with her peers at the end of a session.
Organizations per district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 87 partners:

ABAAD, ACTED, ActionAid, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), acce (AEC), Association du Foyer de l’Enfant Libanais (AFEL), Akkarouna, Al Mithq, AMEL, Akkar Network for Development (AND), Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVIS), Basneh & Zeitounah (BZK), Beyond Association, BZRD, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, Centre Libanais des Droits Humains (CLDH), Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center (CLMC), CONCERN, Danish Red Cross, Danish Red Cross/Lebanese Red Cross (DRC/LRC), Diakonia, Dorcas, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), First Step Together Association (FISTA), Gruppo Di Volontariato Civile (GVC), Himaya Daeen Aataa (HDA), Handicap International (HI), Heartland, HelpAge, Himaya, International Medical Corps (IMC), International Alert, Intersos, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), Lebanon, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Islamic Relief (IR), International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), International Rescue Committee (IRC), International Relief and Development (IRD), KAFA, Lebanese Council to Resist Violence against Women (LECORVAW), Lebanese Red Cross (LRC), Mine Advisory Group (MAG), Mahkoum Foundation, Médecins du Monde, Mercy Corps, mosaic-MENA, Mouvement Social, Movement for Justice and Development (MSD), Naba’a, Nabad, Near East Foundation, Ninsara, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Orphan Welfare Society Saida (OWS), Oxfam, Plan International, Première Urgence - Aide Medicale Internationale (PU-AMI), RAHMA, Lebanese Democratic Women’s Gathering (RDFL), RESTART, René Mouawad Foundation (RFM), Right to Play International (RTP), SaJ, SAWA, Save the Children International (SCI), Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention for Local Development (SHEILD), Secours Islamique France (SIF), Solidarités, Tahaddi, Terre des Hommes Italy (TdH - It), Terre des Hommes Lebanon (TdH - L), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), L’Union pour la Protection de l’Enfant au Liban (UPEL), Union of Relief and Development Associations (URDA), War Child Holland (WCH), Welfare Association, World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF), World Vision International (WVI), Youth Network for Civic Activism (YNCA).

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