Monitoring of the Effects of the Economic Deterioration on Refugee Households

WAVE III – October 2020
Iraqi and other nationalities

Preliminary Results

Supported by:

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

WFP

Inter-Agency Coordination
Lebanon
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 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.

• Identify areas where households are most severely impacted by the economic crisis.

• This assessment is conducted on a quarterly basis and wave 3 covers July, August and September.
A nationally representative sample was extracted from the UNHCR database in Lebanon using a simple random sampling approach.

Two nationally representative samples were extracted: (1) Syrian refugees, and (2) Non-Syrian refugees.

Data collected through the call center via Phone survey.

To accounting for non-response rate, 1,000 Syrian and 1,000 non-Syrian cases were sampled.

NB: Please note that while comparison is usually made to VARON/VASYR, methodologies completely differ and as such comparisons should be approached with caution and not interpreted to the dot.

High non-response rate for non-Syrians (close to 65%). Therefore results might not be representative of the non-Syrian population and therefore should be treated with caution.

353 interviews completed.
DEMOGRAPHICS
Average household size

3.4
(Wave I: 3.7, Wave II: 3.4)
DEMOGRAPHICS

MAIN PROBLEMS FACED REPORTED BY FAMILIES

- Increased prices: 57%
- Not enough money to cover needs: 41%
- Employment/loss of jobs: 39%
- Not enough money to cover food needs: 24%
- Unable to cover health costs: 23%
- Other: 22%
- Increased prices for food items: 15%
- Lack of assistance: 12%
- Not enough money to cover other non-food needs: 11%
- Increased rent: 11%
- Bad shelter conditions: 7%
- Food unavailability: 6%
- Shortage of medicine: 6%
- Children out of school: 6%
- Community violence or disputes: 4%
- Restricted freedom of movement due to lack of legal residency: 2%
- Increased transportation costs: 2%
- Increased prices for other non-food items: 1%
- Shortage of fuel: 1%
- Physical Harassment: 0%

- Economic (cost, income, availability of basic items)
- Access to services (health, assistance, mobility)
- Protection environment (restrictions, tensions)
- Living environment (shelter)
Occupancy type

77% Rental
14% Work for rent
7% Hosted for free
1% Owned
1% Assisted

Average rent vs Amount paid
(per month, LBP)

Wave I
Rent: 415,000
Paid: 394,000

Wave II
Rent: 478,000
Paid: 461,000

Wave III
Rent: 556,000
Paid: 598,000
18%
Of HH reported change in rent
(out of those renting)

Change in rent direction
(out of those renting)

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<tr>
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<td>90%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>82%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>7%</td>
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Planning to leave Lebanon: 22%

Changed accommodation:
- Wave I (between Oct 2019 and Feb 2020): 10%
- Wave II (between March 2019 and May 2020): 15%
- Wave III (in the past 3 months): 22%

Main reasons for moving:
- Rent is too expensive (Wave 2: 35%)
- Eviction due to inability to pay rent (Wave 2: 29%)
- Return to country of origin (Wave 1: 2%, Wave 2: 1%)
- Leave to third country (Wave 1: 31%, Wave 2: 16%)
LIVELIHOODS & DEBT
**D E B T**

**Share of households in debt**
- Wave I: 69%
- Wave II: 76%
- Wave III: 71%

**Share of households with newly incurred debt (in LBP)**
- Wave I: 61%
- Wave II: 71%
- Wave III: 61%

**Increase in total debt (in LBP)**
- Wave I: 1,459,488 LBP
- Wave II: 1,036,885 LBP
- Wave III: 1,066,610 LBP

- Wave I: 863,210 LBP
- Wave II: 780,730 LBP
- Wave III: 846,133 LBP

- Increase from Wave I to Wave II: 1,864,684 LBP
- Increase from Wave II to Wave III: 2,077,153 LBP
**LIVELIHOODS & DEBT**

**LIVELIHOODS**

Households who have no working members (above 15)

- 50%
- 65%
- 32%

Persons above 15 on average per household

- 2.6 Wave I
- 2.5 Wave II

**Members working on average among HH with working members**

- 1.3 Wave I
- 0.5 Wave II
- 1.5 Wave III

Children under 15 who are working

- 2% Wave I
- 4% Wave II
LIVELIHOODS & DEBT

LOSS/GAIN OF JOBS in the past three months

Reported at least one HH member (above 15) lost a job

Wave I: 44%
Wave II: 50%
Wave III: 29%

Reported at least one HH member (above 15) gain a job

Wave I: 14%
Wave II: 11%
Wave III: 14%
COPING STRATEGIES

FOOD

- Relied on less expensive or less preferred food (Wave 3: 4.9 days per week)
  - Wave I: 85%
  - Wave II: 86%
  - Wave III: 87%

- Borrowed food or relied on help of friends/relatives (Wave 3: 1.2 days per week)
  - Wave I: 40%
  - Wave II: 45%
  - Wave III: 39%

- Reduced number of meals consumed per day (Wave 3: 4.5 days per week)
  - Wave I: 75%
  - Wave II: 83%
  - Wave III: 83%

- Reduced portion size of consumed meals (Wave 3: 4.1 days per week)
  - Wave I: 71%
  - Wave II: 74%
  - Wave III: 74%

- Restricted consumption of adults family members (Wave 3: 1.3 days per week)
  - Wave I: 29%
  - Wave II: 29%
  - Wave III: 26%
**COPING STRATEGIES**

**LIVELIHOOD**

- **Reduced expenses on health related costs in the past month**: Wave I 60%, Wave II 61%, Wave III 45%
- **Reduced expenditure on legal documentation in the past month**: Wave I 19%, Wave II 14%, Wave III 0%
- **Sold assets in the past month**: Wave I 26%, Wave II 22%, Wave III 26%
- **Sold productive assets in the past month**: Wave I 0%, Wave II 3%, Wave III 6%
- **Withdrew children from school in the past month**: Wave I 20%, Wave II 16%, Wave III 0%
- **Engaged children in income generating activities in the past three months**: Wave I 2%, Wave II 4%, Wave III 1%
- **Bought food on credit or debt in the past month**: Wave I 62%, Wave II 52%, Wave III 0%
- **Household member left Lebanon in the past three months**: Wave I 4%, Wave II 3%, Wave III 1%
- **Marriage of under 18 in the past three months**: Wave I 0%, Wave II 1%, Wave III 1%
HEALTH
**Primary Heath Care**

- % HH Requiring Primary health care:
  - Wave I: 64%
  - Wave 2: 52%
  - Wave 3: 65%

- % Able to Access (from those requiring):
  - Wave I: 47%
  - Wave 2: 52%
  - Wave 3: 45%

**Secondary Heath Care**

- % HH Requiring Secondary health care:
  - Wave I: 27%
  - Wave 2: 20%
  - Wave 3: 22%

- % Able to Access (from those requiring):
  - Wave I: 51%
  - Wave 2: 50%
  - Wave 3: 43%
HEALTH

REASONS FOR NO ACCESS

Primary Health Care

- Cost of drugs/treatments/test: 62% (Wave I), 57% (Wave II), 70% (Wave III)
- Doctor fees: 28% (Wave I), 33% (Wave II), 26% (Wave III)
- Transportation: 5% (Wave I), 2% (Wave II), 1% (Wave III)
- Other: 10% (Wave I), 8% (Wave II), 4% (Wave III)

Secondary Health Care

- Cost of treatment: 78% (Wave I), 90% (Wave II), 91% (Wave III)
- Could not secure deposit: 15% (Wave I), 8% (Wave II), 7% (Wave III)
- Other: 7% (Wave I), 2% (Wave II), 2% (Wave III)
62% Reported that their family has enough gloves and/or masks

18% Received a hygiene kit from a charity or organization

97% Found the contents to be relevant to their needs