Due to the multifaceted crisis in Lebanon, mainly the worsening socio-economic situation and the increased cases of COVID-19, higher rates of the child protection needs and concerns have been reported by partners during 2021. Moreover, and as the financial and psychological state of individual households across all population groups continue to deteriorate, new child protection trends have been identified by child protection field actors, such as children's involvement in fuel selling on the streets, increase in domestic/disciplinary violence against children and more children were involved in child labor and street-connected children as a result of their increased vulnerability.

In response, child protection actors have increased their capacity to identify, report and respond to cases of child protection violations through various services. In 2021, more than 13,000 children (65% boys and 35% girls) were supported with multi-layered child protection case management services, which represents a 23% increase compared to previous year. The highest increase of cases was reported in Beirut, where number of cases have almost doubled in 2021. In addition, over 36,300 boys, girls and their caregivers have received Focused PSS, exceeding the annual target of 25,000 beneficiaries by 145% (around 26,000 children and 10,000 caregivers). Finally, around 50,000 children and more than 22,000 caregivers have been engaged in community-based CP activities aiming to promote their wellbeing.

Moreover, and according to Child Protection sector partners reporting, through the monthly Real Time Monitoring (RTM) survey, Child Labor (52% of the responses) was the most prevalent child protection risk throughout 2021, followed by Violent Discipline (19%) as well as Street-Connected Children (18%). This has mainly been explained by financial hardship and economic distress as well as the increased needs for Education and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS) for children.

**Case Management**

Case management services received by children: comparison between January and December of 2020 and 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nabatieh</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>1381</td>
<td>1543</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baalbek</td>
<td>1321</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bekaa</td>
<td>1324</td>
<td>1523</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akkar</td>
<td>1320</td>
<td>1320</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>2099</td>
<td>2414</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Lebanon</td>
<td>3240</td>
<td>3240</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>1023</td>
<td>1023</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A Case Management file is opened based on either one of the above risks, and a child may be reported here with one or multiple risk criteria, regardless of the child’s vulnerability; i.e. a child may be vulnerable but living in a caring environment with no risks at all.

**Managed cases per Risk Criteria**

- **2021**
  - Sex. Abuse
  - Exploitation
  - Em. Abuse
  - Neglect
  - Ph. Abuse
  - WFCL

- **2020**
  - Sex. Abuse
  - Exploitation
  - Em. Abuse
  - Neglect
  - Ph. Abuse
  - WFCL

**The Top 3 criteria for providing case management services to children were Emotional Abuse, Neglect, & Worst Forms of Child Labour.**

In 2021, Exploitation, as a risk criteria for case management, has registered the highest increase (+42%), compared to 2020, followed by Neglect (+35%) and Emotional abuse (+33%), while WFCL has increased by 25%.

The majority of case management services were provided to boys (as in 2020).

**Source:** LCRP Activity Info CP reporting

**13,099** is the total number of boys and girls, who have received case management services in 2021. Compared to 2020, this represents an increase of 23%.
CP Hotline tracking

In 2021, there were a total of **10,206 calls**, received on the Hotlines operated by two CPWG Partners across the country*, including a total of **2,296 CP-related calls**, i.e. an average of **191 CP-related calls per month**.

- **2,296 calls on CP cases**
  - 44% are related to children between the ages of 6 and 14.
  - 56% are related to Syrian children.

- **1,659 calls on cases of Abuse**
  - 49% are related to Physical Abuse.
  - 51% are related to Children under 6 and over 14.

The average number of children referred to **Case Management Services** through the Hotlines is **153 children per month**.

**Child Protection Referrals (as per RIMS)**

- **3,390** is the total number of referrals to CP in 2021 (up from 1,499 in the first half of the year).

- **137%** increase of referrals in 2021, compared to 2020 (1,516 referrals).

While **49%** of total referrals in 2021 have been made within the **CP Sector**, referrals from the **Education Sector** have registered a significant increase, going from **10%** in 2020 to **30%** in 2021.

**Protection** and **GBV** Sectors account respectively for **10%** and **6%** of referrals in 2021.

The share of referrals to **Case Management services** has decreased between 2020-2021: **78% to 68%**

While the share of referrals to **Psyco-Social Services** has increased between 2020-2021: **18% to 29%**

* Source: Himaya and TdH-Italia Hotlines.

* Note: Himaya operates Hotlines across the country, whereas TdH-Italia covers only Mount Lebanon and Baalbek.
In general, all Child Protection services were highly accessible throughout 2021, except for the months of January and February. And among the CP services most affected by accessibility issues, were Community-based CP activities, followed by Focused psycho-social support services, as stated by CP Partner organizations.

**NOTE:**
In 2021, a total of 833 respondents from 57 Organizations with varying participation levels across Governorates, have contributed on a monthly basis to the CPWG’s real-time monitoring (RTM) survey.

**New Requests for Services per Quarter in 2021**
per Population Cohort and per type of Service (calculated as an average per Organization)

377 new requests for services were received, per NGO per month, in 2021.

Health services, Food/NFI & COVID support are the Top 3 Services being requested by households.
Most respondents have reported **Child Labour** (52% of all responses), **Violent Discipline** (19%), as well as **Street and Working Children** (18%) to be the Top 3 CP concerns throughout the year. And this, accompanied and/or as a result of the financial hardship and economic distress, as well higher needs in education and MHPSS.

Abbreviations used in the document:

- **CBPSS**: Community-based psychosocial support
- **CL**: Child Labour
- **CM**: Child Marriage
- **CPWG**: Child Protection Working Group
- **F/NFI**: Food and Non-Food Items
- **FPSS**: Focused psychosocial support
- **GBV**: Gender-based Violence
- **GoL**: Government of Lebanon
- **MHPSS**: Mental Health psychosocial support
- **RC**: Residential Care
- **RIMS**: Referral Information Management System
- **RTM**: Real-time Monitoring
- **SA**: Social Assistance
- **SAWC**: Street and Working Children
- **SUBT**: Use of Substances
- **UASC**: Unaccompanied and Separated Children
- **VD**: Violent Discipline
- **WFCL**: Worst Forms of Child Labour

We thank the following I/NGO’s for their participation to the CP Real-time Monitoring surveys:
Abaad, ACTED, AFEL, Akkar Network for Development (AND), Al Najdeh, Al-Midan, Al-Mobader, Amel Association, Arc-en-Ciel (AeC), ARCPA, Borderless NGO, Caritas Lebanon, Concern WWF, Dorcas/Tabitha, DRC, Expertise France, Faizcenter, Himaya, Himaya Daeem Ataa (HDA), Human Development Center (HDC), IHS, Intersos, IRC, KAFA, LebRelief, LOST, LU, Makhzoumi Foundation, MoSA SDC, Mouvement Social, Naba’a, NISCVT-Beit Atafl Al Somoud, NRC, NRDC, Orphan Welfare Society (OWS), PWHO, Rahma for special needs, Right to Play, RMF, Sama for Development, Sanabel Al Janoub, Save the Children (SCI), Sawa Group, Shahid, SIF, SWSL, Tahaddi, TdH-Italy, TdH-L, TSS, URDA, WCH, WWL, YNCA.

As observed by CPWG Partners in 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Labour</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence against children</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAWC</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBV</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UASC</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children at risk of child marriage</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance use</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>