

SYRIAN REFUGEES IN LEBANON:

DRC's Emergency Response

Issue: Dec. 2012

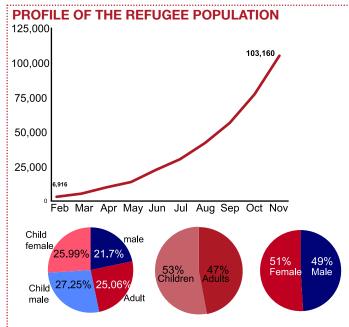


DRC LEBANON BACKGROUND

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is a humanitarian, non-governmental, non-profit organization working in Lebanon since 2004. In May 2011, DRC responded to a call from UNHCR, when the Syrian crisis started and the first Syrian refugees came into Lebanon. DRC believes that no refugee must be in want of help to find protection and durable solutions and hence the emergency response aims to provide immediate relief and protection to displaced refugees, including their vulnerable hosts, in an impartial, inclusive and neutral manner, adhering to the Code of Conduct of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

DRC's emergency strategy focuses on three main geographical areas as shown in the map and four core sectors of intervention i.e. provision of Food and Non-food Items (NFI), Shelter, Protection and Livelihoods.

In addition to working in North Lebanon and the Bekaa, DRC started implementation of activities with its partner SHEILD in South Lebanon in the month of November. The work has focused on the areas in the four districts of Tyre, Nabatieh, Bint Jbeil and Marjayoun.

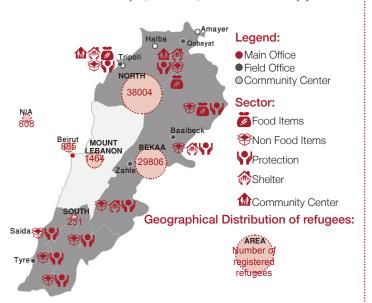


In addition to Syrians, it is estimated that there are more than 1,000 Syrian, Palestinian and Lebanese families who fled the war, but are ineligible for registration. There are also some Syrian families who refuse to register with UNHCR due to fear of political or religious persecution. Consequently they do not receive any assistance from UNHCR.

AREAS OF OPERATION

North Lebanon: Tripoli, Akkar Bekaa: North, Central and West Beka'a

South of Lebanon: Tyre, Nabatieh, Bint Jbeil and Marjayoun



WHAT WE DO

Winterisation and Distribution of Food and NFIs

Since October 2012, DRC has started assisting the Syrian conflict affected populations with items for keeping warm and safe through the winter months in Lebanon, with support from UNHCR, ECHO, WFP and DANIDA. The winter items include blankets, fuel vouchers, and heating stoves which will be distributed in December. Given below is an overview of some items distributed until November 2012.

Emergency Assistance by DRC	cy Assistance by DRC Quantity (as of Nov. 30 2012)		
Food Parcels	28,439		
Food Vouchers	135,337		
Blankets	58,248		
Mattresses	12,122		
Personal Hygiene Kits	58,032		
Baby Kits and Diapers	29,055		

In the coming months, DRC will be assisting more than 100,000 conflict affected people from Syria and some of the vulnerable host families to be prepared for the winters.





Protection

Since the arrival of Syrian families in Lebanon in 2011, DRC's outreach workers in the North and Bekaa have observed that most refugees have health problems; physical disabilities; out-of school children, mental health issues, and some have also faced torture or violence. In the South, the newly established operations are primarily engaged in conducting assessment of needs of the displaced persons, helping them to register with UNHCR for receiving further assistance and also providing assistance for persons with specific needs.

DRC Protection assistance since January 2012	North	Bekaa	South	
Medical cases	185	144		
Separated children	12	83		
Pregnant women	44	82		
Disability	115	93		
Psychosocial needs	113	153		
Chronic disease	48	52		
GBV	04	30	4	
Women at risk	91	53		
Child at risk	36	28		

DRC has supported 1,455 protection related cases in the North, Bekaa and South Lebanon.



Livelihoods

Several refugees are living in poor conditions with barely any employment. A few are working in reconstruction, farming or small trade. The absence of circulation permits has also made it more difficult to find regular employment.

Livelihood support from DRC	Beneficiaries
Vocational trainings at community centers on sewing, hairdressing, aesthetics	About 96 beneficiaries per month
Households supported with cash for rented accommodation	217 households

DRC has implemented 21 projects for community development including improving public gardens, fish markets, local clubs, dispensaries, computer centers, etc. resulting in better socio-economic opportunities for both refugees and the displaced populations



Shelter

DRC assessments show that only about 20% of those assessed reported finding immediate accommodation in tents or public structures. About 50% or more end up renting accommodation paying rents ranging from \$75 up to \$400. With the lack of work opportunities, it has become extremely difficult to sustain such accommodation

Kind of Shelter Support	Quantity	No. of Beneficiaries
Collective shelters - rehabilitated schools or abandoned buildings	15	119
Shelter boxes - individual housing units to accommodate a single family	70	46*

^{*} Some shelters are yet un-occupied to serve as contingency shelters in case of a large influx

Shelter boxes cost an average of \$2,800 per unit. By end of 2012, DRC plans to provide accommodation for at least 160 families in shelter boxes.



STAFF ON MISSION

North Lebanon (office bases at Qubayat and Tripoli): 67 (including 27 outreach workers and field assistants and one expat)

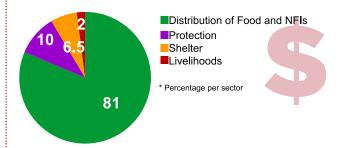
The Bekaa (office bases at Zahle and Baalbak): 55 (including 20 outreach workers and field assistants, and one expat)

South Lebanon: 3

Country Office at Beirut: 27 (6 expats)

CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Approximately 30 million USD



DRC PARTNERS WITH

Government of Lebanon and Local authorities: High Relief Committee, the Ministry of Social Affairs, and Municipal Offices

UN Agencies: UNHCR, WFP, UNRWA, UNICEF, UNFPA Local Partners: SHEILD, Association Najdeh, Tadamon

DONORS













Working for the Protection of Refugees and Internally Displaced Populations

Danish Refugee Council
5th Floor, ARESCO Palace Center
Justinian Street, Qintari
Hamra, Beirut

Tel / fax: 00961 1 736987 00961 1 738289

E-mail: drc.lebanon@drclebanon.dk

Website: www.drc.dk