INTERSOS Lebanon - 2021 Multi Sector Needs Assessment

# **Overview**

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

Now in its tenth year, Lebanon remains at the forefront of one of the worst humanitarian crises of our time and hosts one of the highest number of displaced per capita in the world[[1]](#footnote-1). As of November 2020, the Government of Lebanon estimates that the country hosts 1.5 million Syrians who have fled the conflict in Syria, including 879,598 registered as refugees with UNHCR (LCRP-2021 Update). Lebanon’s economic situation continues to collapse since October 2019, marking the worst inflation rate with 157.9% in the first quarter of 2021. Since then, the Lebanese pound lost 90% of its value, with an exchange rate to the US dollar increasing from 10,000 Lebanese pounds (LBP) to 23,000 LBP in August 2021[[2]](#footnote-2). Furthermore, the devaluation and shortages of fuel, food and medicine have greatly reduced living standards.[[3]](#footnote-3) The collapse of the Lebanese economy coupled with the financial crisis and the Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in over 88% of the Syrian refugee population living below the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB).[[4]](#footnote-4) Poverty levels amongst communities are sharply on the rise (according to the LCRP of 2021, approximately 23% of Lebanese have been plunged into extreme poverty and approximately 91% of displaced Syrians are living on less than $3.8 a day) and have crippled people’s ability to cope, forcing them to resort to negative coping mechanisms. Further aggravation of the financial and protection vulnerability occurred during the first half of 2021, as Lebanon was still in the level 4 of C-19 community transmission, with a daily increase in infection cases.

As such, with the ever-increasing needs present in the country, severely affecting both host and refugee communities, INTERSOS intends to conduct a multi-sector needs assessment (MSNA) to obtain comprehensive evidence of the needs and humanitarian conditions of refugee and host communities residing in all the 8 Governorates in Lebanon (Beirut, Mount Lebanon, North, Akkar, Baalbek-el Hermel, Bekaa, Nabatieh and South), from proper planning of relevant and timely assistance in all INTERSOS’ areas of implementation for 2022. Based on INTERSOS’ strategy for 2021-2022, the priority sectors that will be the focus of its interventions are: Protection, Shelter and Basic Assistance. As INTERSOS aims at further championing a multi-sectoral and integrated approach in its programming in Lebanon, the MSNA will be focusing on the 3 priority sectors only.

### 1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSESSMENT

The specific objectives of the proposed MSNA are as follows:

1. To provide a detailed overview and analysis of the severity of current humanitarian needs and gaps of crisis affected population (by sector and across sectors);
2. To understand the humanitarian conditions (i.e. living standard gaps, use of coping mechanisms and the severity of humanitarian needs) in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the deepening of the financial crisis in Lebanon;
3. To inform INTERSOS’ humanitarian response for 2022 planning, through the provision of comprehensive, multi-sectoral household data.

**1.3 RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

The research questions below were formulated for the definition of the scope of this MSNA:

* What is the severity of the humanitarian needs across INTERSOS’ core sectors - Protection, Shelter and Basic Assistance, as defined in the 2021 Country Strategic Plan.
* How do findings differ according to geographic area, population groups (Lebanese, Migrants, and marginalised groups such as LGBTIQ+), and vulnerability profiles (Age, Gender, Disability) of households?

## More specifically, the key areas of enquiry in this MSNA will be:

1. Demographics of the targeted geographical areas, disaggregated by age, gender, disability, diversity and nationality (AGDDN)
2. Availability of and access to basic services in the targeted geographical areas, for each group - disaggregated by AGDDN
3. Impact of the socio-economic crisis at household and individual level, for each group (including disaggregation AGDDN), with a focus on livelihoods and coping strategies linked to Food Security.
4. Protection risks in the targeted geographical areas, for each group (disaggregated by AGDDN), and mitigation measures already in place (if any) taken at community/individual level.
5. Provision of specialised services in the targeted geographical locations for each group (AGDDN) and gaps.

**1.4 INTENDED USE AND IMPACT**

This MSNA is intended to inform INTERSOS humanitarian response for 2022, in order to ensure that strategic response planning and prioritisation of interventions are based on the needs identified for each targeted group in the geographical areas assessed.

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# **2. Methodology**

The 2021 MSNA is a nationwide, household-level assessment composed of primary and secondary data collection methods. Primary data collection will consist of a household-level survey conducted across the 8 governorates and in 26 districts. The surveys are planned to be conducted in-person through key informant interviews. However, INTERSOS takes into account access restrictions that may arise as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and political-security developments that would limit the access to certain areas. In ushc event, a hybrid methodology will be adopted through remote data collection for the areas that are not accessible. Moreover, a desk review of secondary data will be conducted prior to the data collection, in order to support the design of the data collection tools and data analysis.

**2.1 TARGET POPULATIONS**

The MSNA intends to obtain information on Lebanese communities, migrants and marginalised communities (including LGBTIQ+) as the population of interest. The units of measurement will be at the household and individual levels, in order to measure the multi-sectoral vulnerabilities of these groups.

**2.2 TOOLS TO BE USED**

For the purpose of the data collection, the below tools will be used:

* A Household Survey will be used to collect data on Shelter, Economic status and living conditions, and Protection risks at household and community levels, and
* A Focus Group Discussions tool, following gender segregation, will be adopted to conduct FGDs in all the districts targeted by this MSNA.

**2.3 GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE**

The assessment will aim to cover the Lebanese, Syrians, Migrants and marginalized communities residing in the 8 governorates targeted by the MSNA. A stratified random sample will be created using the Central Administration for Statistics (CAS) data for the Lebanese population estimation and available databases of migrant communities with international Agencies. The stratification will be conducted at district level. The sample has been set-up using 95% confidence interval and 10% margin of error based on the total population of the 8 governorates. For the Syrian Population, 400 assessments will be conducted in South Lebanon, Beirut/Mount Lebanon, Bekaa and North Lebanon equally.

total, 1,300 interviews will be conducted, divided across the district according to their population size, as shown in the table below. Furthermore, a minimum of Two FGDs for Lebanese (one Male, one Female) per district will also take place within this assessment, and a total of 8 FGDs for Syrians (one Male, one Female) with a maximum of 8 participants per FGDs.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Governorates** | **Caza of residence** | **Sex** | |  | **Lebanese Sample size per Governorates (95%, 10%)** | **Lebanese Sample size per district** | **Syrian Sample size** | **Migrant Sample size** | **Total Sample size** |
| **Women (Thousands)** | **Men (Thousands)** | **Total (Thousands)** |
|
| **Beirut** | Beirut | 185 | 157 | **342** | **100** | 100 | 100 | 100 | 400 |
| **Total** | **185** | **157** | **342** |  |
| **Mount Lebanon** | Baabda | 289 | 265 | **554** | **100** | 27 |
| Matn | 261 | 250 | **511** | 25 |
| Chouf | 141 | 136 | **277** | 14 |
| Aley | 151 | 150 | **301** | 15 |
| Keserwan | 137 | 123 | **260** | 13 |
| Jbeil | 67 | 62 | **130** | 6 |
| **Total** | **1,046** | **986** | **2,033** |  |
| **North Lebanon** | Tripoli | 128 | 116 | **244** | **100** | 38 | 100 |  | 300 |
| Koura | 45 | 40 | **85** | 13 |
| Zgharta | 44 | 43 | **88** | 14 |
| Batroun | 31 | 28 | **59** | 9 |
| Bcharre | 11 | 11 | **22** | 3 |
| Minieh-Danniyeh | 71 | 70 | **141** | 22 |
| **Total** | **330** | **308** | **638** |  |
| **Akkar** | Akkar | 161 | 163 | **324** | **100** | 100 |
| **Total** | **161** | **163** | **324** |  |
| **Bekaa** | Zahleh | 89 | 88 | **177** | **100** | 60 | 100 | 300 |
| West Beqaa | 44 | 42 | **86** | 29 |
| Rachaya | 17 | 17 | **34** | 12 |
| **Total** | **151** | **147** | **298** |  |
| **Baalbek-Hermel** | Baalbek | 111 | 103 | **215** | **100** | 88 |
| Hermel | 15 | 15 | **30** | 12 |
| **Total** | **127** | **118** | **245** |  |
| **South Lebanon** | Saida | 157 | 140 | **297** | **100** | 51 | 100 | 300 |
| Tyr | 134 | 122 | **256** | 44 |
| Jezzine | 16 | 16 | **32** | 5 |
| **Total** | **307** | **278** | **584** |  |
| **Nabatieh** | Nabatieh | 92 | 88 | **180** | **100** | 47 |
| Bint Jbeil | 49 | 47 | **96** | 25 |
| Marjaayoun | 38 | 36 | **74** | 20 |
| Hasbaya | 15 | 14 | **29** | 8 |
| **Total** | **194** | **186** | **379** |  |
| **Lebanon** | | **2,499** | **2,343** | **4,842** | **800** |  | **400** | **100** | **1300** |

# **3. Assessment plan:**

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| **Activity** | **Focal points** | **Deadline** |
| Tools preparation | Program coordinator, MEAL Manager | September 2021 |
| Tools review | Program coordinator, MEAL Manager, Protection Coordinator, Shelter Manager | October 2021 |
| Methodology/ Sample Size | MEAL Manager | October 2021 |
| MSNA launching |  | 25th of November 2021 |
| Data Collection | Service provider | 7th of December 2021 |
| Data cleaning/ Main findings and interpretation/ Data Analysis | Service provider | 11th of December 2021 |
| Full Report (to be Shared with INTERSOS) | Service provider | 15th  of December 2021 |
| Report Review | Head of Mission, Program Coordinator, Protection Coordinator and MEAL Manager, | 22nd of December 2021 |
| Final Reports | Service Provider | 27th of December 2021 |

1. Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), 2021 update [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Real Time Monitoring Q1 2021, Lebanon Child Protection Working Group. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Lebanon, Vigil InSight Economic and Political Situation Alert, Insecurity Insight, 18 June 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. CAMEALEON Rapid Field Monitoring Survey: The impact of the COVID-19 total lockdown on WFP multi-purpose cash recipients in Lebanon, WFP, January 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)