



EUROPEAN UNION



The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis

الصندوق الاستئماني الأوروبي 'مدد'

Project Factsheet

Improving Access to Quality Health Care for Persons with Disabilities in Lebanon

OBJECTIVES

- Reduce the vulnerability of crisis affected populations across Lebanon, with a focus on people with disabilities (PwDs), through disability-focused primary health care, policy understanding, and population awareness.

BUDGET
EUR 3.1 million

START DATE
03/01/2019

DURATION
14 months

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Provide quality primary health care services through primary health care centres (PHCCs) supported by the Reducing Barriers to Accessing Health Services in Lebanon project (REHABS).
- Provision of PwD-focused community support and outreach.
- Prepare a disability and health situational analysis report.

BENEFICIARIES

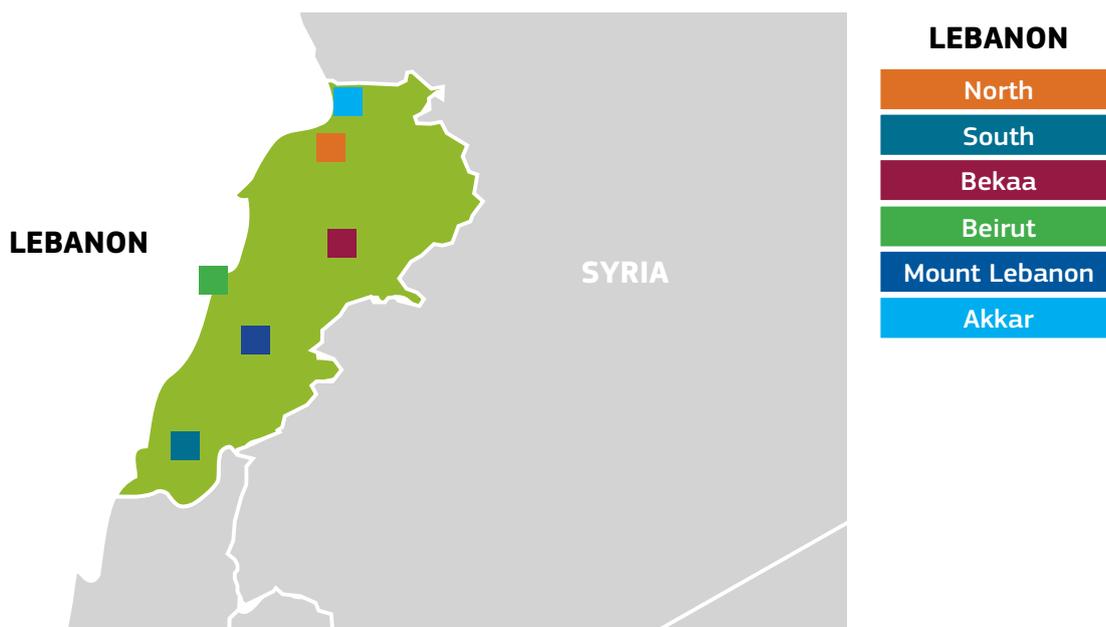
13,450

**Lebanese
and Syrians**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS



PROJECT LOCATIONS



OUR IMPACT



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Safaa and Ahmad are from Homs, Syria and now live in the back of the tire shop where Ahmad's father works, in Saida, Lebanon. *"We were registered with the UN but they took us off the list. We used to get food assistance but they stopped it for us and my in-laws,"* says Safaa.

Safaa's father in law, Said, left Homs and was joined by the rest of the family in Lebanon once bombings started. Two families now live in a small room in the back of the shop where Said works. *"A Lebanese guy told him about this place, he told him there was a room he could stay in, with his family,"* she explains.

Their living conditions are very poor: Ahmad suffers from a form of epilepsy that prevents him from working and providing for his family. *"He was born with the illness and it got worse as he grew up. He gets really nervous and he gets epilepsy episodes*

where his whole body shakes." Safaa's brother in law is also sick and cannot work.

Ahmad has access to the treatment he needs thanks to the support the EU Trust Fund gives to the International Medical Corps (IMC) and its partners on the ground. *"The consultation costs 3,000 LL, but for Ahmad's treatment they don't charge us anything,"* Safaa says. *"Before we started going to the Mouwasat clinic, [...] we were buying Ahmad's medicines with our own money."* REBAHS, which stands for "Reduced Economic Barriers to Accessing Healthcare Services" is an IMC-led project that focuses on primary healthcare, community healthcare and mental healthcare. Patients pay a moderate fee (i.e. 3,000 LL or €1.8) for consultations, lab diagnostics, test results and medications from the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health's essential medical list.

Ahmad's mother, who underwent a mastectomy and head surgery in the past, is in need of very expensive medications to treat seizures that would otherwise afflict her. *"All the money we make from working are used to buy enough food and the rest goes to her treatment. [...] We need a lot of things, clothes for the kids and food, but we are getting by."*

Lack of awareness and understanding about disability, coupled with inadequate infrastructure act as barriers to health service access. With the support of the EU, IMC is working on ensuring that primary health care centres make adequate provisions for persons with disabilities.

THE TRUST FUND: <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfund-syria-region/>