



EUROPEAN UNION



Project Factsheet

Supporting access to formal education for Syrian refugee and Lebanese girls and boys in Lebanon's public schools

OBJECTIVES

Contribute to better education services for vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian children in Lebanon, through access to quality education, during the school years 18/19 and 19/20.

BUDGET

EUR 86.5 million

START DATE

15/02/2019

DURATION

24 months

EXPECTED RESULTS

- The registration fees for the enrollment of Lebanese and Syrian boys and girls in Lebanese public schools have been covered for the scholastic years 18/19 and 19/20.
- The families of Syrian refugee girls and boys enrolled in formal education for the 18/19 and 19/20 scholastic years benefit from cash support to assist their children to reach school.

BENEFICIARIES

335,164

Lebanese and Syrian refugee girls and boys in public schools

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER



PROJECT LOCATION



OUR IMPACT

Activity 1: Provide registration fees for Lebanese and Syrian refugee girls and boys for enrolment into MEHE's public schools (First and Second Shift; KG to Grade 9) for the 18/19 and 19/20 scholastic years

Supporting children to enrol in formal education is a key intervention to supporting human rights and child rights principles (to education, participation, and a healthy future). UNICEF reiterates as part of its core mandate, the need to support the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) in its obligations to provide all children with access to quality education in safe and protective environments. Education, especially for Syrian refugees, who have lost potential opportunities in their home country, will keenly benefit from this investment in their future – a certified education from a host government will provide them legal documentation, less discrimination and a chance for gainful employment, wherever they eventually move.

In addition, and in order to reduce barriers to education, UNICEF, through the support of the Communication for Development section, will place a particular focus on increasing demand for formal education. This will be done through targeted decentralised advocacy campaigns, continuous awareness raising interventions, and engagement with local authorities around the importance of education.

Activity 2: Provide transportation for Syrian refugee girls and boys enrolled in formal education for the 18/19 and 19/20 scholastic years

Reaching school safely can be a major concern for many refugee parents who send their children to Second Shift schools (operating in the evenings between 2 pm and 6 pm). Security concerns and the mountainous terrain of Lebanon mean some schools are not easily accessible to children and this prevent some parents from allowing their children to walk to school. In order to mitigate this major obstacle to access education, and in accordance with the RACE Plan, UNICEF through a national partner, provided buses to transport children attending Second Shift schools during the academic year 2015/16 and 2016/17.

In January 2018, UNICEF monetized the school bus operation through a new cash assistance programme. Families with children enrolled in the Second Shift and facing challenges getting their children to school, received US\$20 per child a month in assistance under this new programme called "Reaching School". UNICEF will continue to provide the most vulnerable families cash support to assist their children to reach school for the academic years 2018/19 and 2019/20. The programme implementation relies primarily on UNICEF staff in an effort to resort to more cost-effective solutions.