



# EUTF'S CONTRIBUTION TO LEBANON AT A GLANCE

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS OF  
THE EUTF OUTCOME EVALUATION

MAY 2023

**Lebanon is the country hosting the largest number of Syrian refugees per capita in the world. According to UNHCR, in 2023, 806,326 Syrian refugees are registered in the country, although UNHCR also reports that an estimated 1.5 million Syrians actually live in Lebanon along with more than 200,000 Palestinian refugees. They mainly live in four governorates: Bekaa, North Lebanon, Beirut and South Lebanon.<sup>1</sup>**

Since 2019 Lebanon has been facing a multi-faceted economic, financial, social and health crisis. Albeit at a slower pace, the economy continues to contract – in 2022 by 5.4%. Despite tourism rapidly increasing after the pandemic, this has not been enough to compensate the collapse of private consumption. Public finances have slightly improved but only due to spending reducing faster than the revenue generation. The Lebanese Pound continues to depreciate, by an additional 145% in 2022, losing over 90% of its value since 2019. Inflation shows an upward trend -186%, overall, and 332% food inflation- in 2022 (World Bank: Monitor 2022)<sup>2</sup>.

This pressure is exacerbated by the rise of global food prices, Lebanon being heavily dependent on Ukrainian and Russian wheat after the country lost their strategic reserves in the Beirut port explosion. An institutional and political vacuum is preventing decision-making and causing delays in the implementation of any recovery measures. The UN Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2023<sup>3</sup> highlights how the sharp increase in poverty (46% Lebanese households are food insecure and 88% of Syrian refugees are extremely poor)<sup>4</sup> and limitations to food, health, education, employment and other basic services, are disproportionately affecting vulnerable Lebanese communities, Syrian and Palestinian refugees, putting now at risk 1.98 million Lebanese and Syrians in urgent need of humanitarian action (Lebanon Crisis. Response Plan 2023).

- 1. <https://data.unhcr.org/fr/situations/syria/location/71>
- 2. Lebanon Economic Monitor: World Bank, 2022: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/lebanon/publication/lebanon-economic-monitor-fall-2022-time-for-an-equitable-banking-resolution>
- 3. <https://lebanon.un.org/en/230732-2023-lebanon-crisis-response-plan-lcrp>
- 4. World Food Programme, 2022: <https://www.wfp.org/countries/lebanon>

## EUTF IN LEBANON

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Since 2015, the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis (EUTF) has supported Lebanon with fifty-five actions, including components in regional projects, and investing more than 1,057 million EUR (44% of the overall EUTF budget), in different sectors such as basic and higher education, livelihoods, health, Water, Sanitation

and Hygiene (WASH) and social protection and cohesion. Support is to strengthen local capacities, provide access to services, improve local infrastructure. Currently, twenty-five actions are still in implementation (see Tables by sector, below).<sup>5</sup>

## OVERALL ASSESSMENT

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EUTF's support to Lebanon shows a high accomplishment of targeted outputs across sectors and categories, the exceptions being the WASH sector strengthening of local capacities, higher education (certificates awarded) and work opportunities, where results can still be improved. There are also some new targets from newer projects such as in strengthening local capacities (education) and improvements of local infrastructure (education and health).

This country update uses the recent outcome evaluation (April 2023) as the main source to summarise sector results in Lebanon. By using the EUTF Strategic Outcome Framework, the outcome evaluation assessed the extent to which outcomes were achieved in 2014-2021 and identified lessons learned. This summary focuses on key sector outcomes, grouped in three areas:

- (1) Behavioural changes of refugees or host community members towards specific services that are provided to them;
- (2) Changes in intervention strategies of local organisations, providing services related to specific sectors and
- (3) Changes in national strategy, policy or regulation, promoted by national institutions.

Overall, the outcome evaluation highlights increased access to most of the services (education, health, cash assistance and social protection) for Syrian and vulnerable Lebanese communities. It also highlights institutional improvements, for example, in the primary health care sector (new affordable package of services) and education (pilot of inclusive education), as well as policy and regulatory changes as in the protection sector (anti-sexual harassment law, gender national observatory, national disability allowance).

However, the difficult economic conditions in the country and the political crisis are limiting the scope of some of these outcomes, especially since 2020. For example, an increase in the number of students dropping out of education, difficulties to meet basic needs despite cash assistance or cash for work, and increasing anxiety of these populations which in turn has led to social tensions arising in some localities. The situation is further compounded for those, ongoing EUTF projects who are now facing new challenges due to additional pressures on public services.

→ 5. EUTF had become the main financial instrument to implement EU assistance to refugees in Lebanon in the framework of the Partnership priorities and the EU LB Compact. The implementation timeline ends in June 2025. EU funding for the refugees continues as part of NDICI special measures as a crisis response.

## BASIC EDUCATION

EUTF has strongly supported the basic education sector in the country, primarily through two partners, UNICEF and AVSI, focusing respectively on access to and retention in public education (coverage of enrolment fees, cash for education and inclusive education for children with disabilities and learning difficulties, homework support and summer schools), and non-formal education (NFE).<sup>6</sup> In total

15 actions, implemented by different partners have been funded by EUTF. While most of the projects are education interventions (see Table), the remainder include educational components in technical and vocational education and training -TVET (GIZ), livelihoods (GIZ, AFD, UNRWA), protection (UNRWA) or multisector (World Vision) projects.

### PROJECT LIST:

Table 1

NO.	PROJECT PARTNER	PROJECT CODE	TITLE	LOCATION	EUTF CONTRIBUTION
8.	AVSI	T04.22	Back to the future: School readiness, inclusion and retention for children victims of the Syrian Crisis in Lebanon and Jordan	Lebanon Jordan	€ 9,608,734
11.	UNICEF	T04.13	Education and Protection Programme for Vulnerable Syrian and Host Community School-aged Children in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey	Jordan. Lebanon Turkey	€ 41,116,127
13.	UNICEF	T04.78	Education and Protection Programme for Vulnerable Syrian and Host Community School-aged Children in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey	Jordan. Lebanon Turkey	€ 70,100,000
▶ 65.	UNICEF	T04.143	Supporting Access to Formal Education for Syrian Refugee and Lebanese Girls and Boys in Lebanon's Public Schools	Lebanon	€ 86,500,000
74.	AVSI	T04.198	Back to the future II	Lebanon	€ 10,000,000
▶ 109.	UNICEF	T04.257	Strengthening the public education system in Lebanon to deliver inclusive and quality education for vulnerable school-aged children - including Syrian refugees - ensuring their full access and retention	Lebanon	€ 57,500,000
▶ 114.	Save the Children	T04.302	Supporting the right to quality education for vulnerable Syrian and host community children and youth	Lebanon	€ 10,000,000

▶ Projects are still being implemented.

● Projects have been assessed by the outcome evaluation.

→ 6. AVSI has implemented this project with a consortium formed with Terre des Hommes Italy, War Child Holland and 13 local NGOs.

## BASIC EDUCATION

Lebanon's education sector faces similar challenges as Jordan while it suffers also from additional issues: decrease of the quality of education since the pandemic, in turn worsened by the devaluation of the Lebanese Pound affecting teachers' salaries and working conditions, leading to teachers' strikes and recurrent public school closures; accumulated learning losses, absenteeism and high numbers of school dropouts; and limited national financial resources

allocated to the sector. Currently from the EUTF portfolio, 3 education projects and two other actions with education components are still being implemented.

In terms of output achievements, based on the Key Performance Indicators (KPI), the sector shows good levels of performance, especially on pupils' enrolment (96%), access to non-formal education (more than 100%) and referrals (76%). Targets



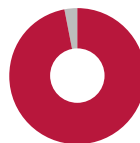
### Access to services

**01.**

Children whose registration fees for public formal education are subsidised.

Contributors: 3

**97%**



**501,268**  
(Aggregated current value)

**518,559**  
(Target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

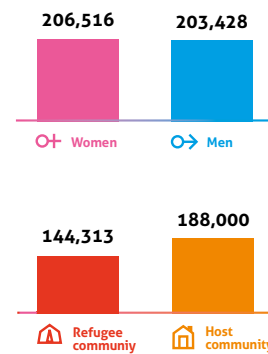


Figure 1.



### Access to services

**02.**

Children and adolescents referred to formal education.

Contributors: 3

**72%**



**25,413**  
(aggregated current value)

**33,130**  
(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

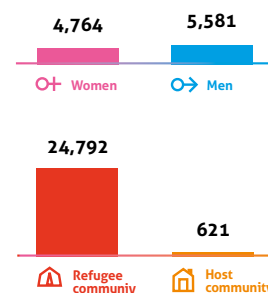


Figure 2.

## BASIC EDUCATION

for local capacity strengthening i.e. training of teachers, and for local school infrastructure require improvement<sup>7</sup>, 51% and 46% respectively, however four actions are still implementing associated activities.

Terre des Hommes Italy, corroborates the overall good performance in increasing enrolment of children from refugee and host communities. Nevertheless, it identifies some challenges such as retention, quality education and learning performance which impact on other outcomes.

The recent outcome evaluation, after analysing the sector with UNICEF and AVSI War Child Holland/



### Access to services

**03.**

Children benefitting from non-formal education and learning support programmes.

Contributors: 8

**>100%**



**106,319**

(aggregated current value)

**89,691**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

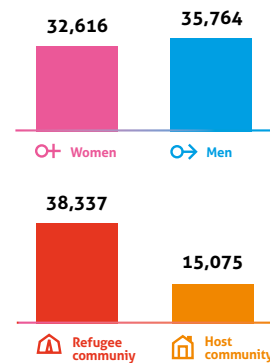


Figure 3.



### Local capacities

**04.**

Educational personnel, including teachers, volunteers and administrative staff trained.

Contributors: 8

**51%**



**29,472**

(aggregated current value)

**57,580**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

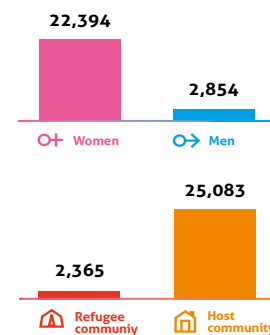


Figure 4.

→ 7. EUTF database, December 2022.

## BASIC EDUCATION

### Changes of individual behaviour and attitudes

towards schooling is reflected in the increased numbers of enrolment over time to date and is primarily attributed to the positive outcome of efforts in formal and NFE<sup>8</sup> – parents are now more likely to send their children to formal education after they finished their cycle in NFE centres as was the case at the beginning of the EUTF. The outcome evaluation also highlights that retention in public schools of children from refugee families and host communities has improved, although it cannot be accurately measured, especially when it comes to attendance during the pandemic.

Regarding referrals, (AVSI), despite limited capacities of the Ministry for Education and Higher Education (MEHE), the action was able to refer pupils formal education after they completed their NFE cycles. The real transition from non-formal to formal education remained low due to lack of organization by MEHE of Accelerated Learning Programmes (ALP) cycles for children graduating from Basic Literacy and Numeracy, lack of places available, documentation required by public schools for children graduating from community-based Early Childhood Education, or for other economic reasons. Lessons learned from AVSI include: the importance of articulating a protection component with education, of providing additional teachers for homework and retention

support, and of articulating formal and informal support networks in the communities to facilitate retention after the transfer from NFE to formal education. Obstacles remain, such as economic cost of schooling (transportation or school materials) or other social and cultural aspects, especially when it comes to schooling of girls or child labour for boys. The economic crisis in particular has increased risk of early marriage of girls and of boys dropping out of school to support their family economy. According to the evaluation, there is also a current trend of children enrolling in longer cycles of NFE - up to 9 months - but this is unregulated, and running in parallel to EUTF funded initiatives. Some local tensions had also been reported in the cash-for-education interventions as the programme was mainly benefitting Syrian refugees in second-shift schools rather than host communities.

According to the outcome evaluation, **local organisations and institutions** have changed their practices providing refugee and host communities with greater access to education through:

- (a) construction of new schools and/ or enhancement of school infrastructure;
- (b) recruitment of additional educational staff; and
- (c) enhancement of teachers' training.



### Local infrastructure

05.

Schools and other educational facilities constructed, refurbished or equipped.

Contributors: 9

Cut off date: **December 2022**

47%



87

(aggregated current value)

187

(target)

Figure 5.

→ 8. Associated activities and factors contributing to the positive outcomes include community support activities, intensive information campaigns for refugees, settlement of families over time in the host countries, cash transfer programmes, additional school shifts, improved infrastructure.

## BASIC EDUCATION

School rehabilitation is *“having a rapid impact on local communities in (...)”* and *“host communities appear to be prouder of their local public schools subsequent to rehabilitation in both countries”*. In Lebanon, teachers' professional development in formal and non-formal education in terms of training, coaching, and mentoring has been developed in close coordination with MEHE. The outcome evaluation highlights that teachers *“were able to better meet the education needs of students thanks to the training”*. Most of them also *“acknowledge the importance of the psychosocial support services (PSS) sessions and their positive impact on their mental health”*.

The current devaluation of the Lebanese pound and the political crisis and social are negatively affecting the ability of public schools to operate. NFE teachers are paid in USD under the support from the international community, while public schools teachers are paid in Lebanese Pounds for both morning and afternoon shifts under the support of the government of Lebanon and of the international community. This creates a *“double standard in the country for educational staff (NFE) receiving salaries or incentives in dollars (mostly associated to interventions funded by international donors) vis-à-vis salaries provided by state institutions in the local currency (for formal education teachers), which notably contributes to discourage educational staff and civil servants in general to leave their positions in search of better”*.

Regarding support to the operational costs of public schools through the subsidised coverage by EUTF of the Schools Fund and of the Parents Council Fund allocations, the evaluation quotes that *“the initiative does not seem to yield results in facilitating participation into the schools' governance”*. In comparison, NFE interventions implemented by local NGOs, *“are closer to the refugee and vulnerable host communities, which can better voice their concerns, needs, and raise recommendations that might affect the functioning of the learning centres.”*

The outcome evaluation also highlights the role of community-based organisations in the provision of NFE. This provision has been found to be *“more efficient and effective”* so that institutional and human capacities being now strengthened and *“their committee having played a key role to ensure project adaptability and responsiveness”*.

At **national policy and regulatory level**, Lebanon has officialised its 5-year general Education Plan (2021-2025) at the end of 2021. The EU and UNICEF contributed to the plan with comments and recommendations based on previous actions. UNICEF with MEHE also promoted the inclusive education pilot initiative in selected schools as part of the National Inclusive Education policy and its implementation roadmap, under finalisation. In terms of further organisational changes at national level, the national Programme Management Unit (PMU) created for the management of the education for refugees under the national strategy Reaching All Children with Education (RACE I and II 2024-2021)- has been fully integrated in MEHE.

The evaluation also notes that, UNICEF, together with MEHE, *“has created a number of data-sharing tools in the education sector that are deemed useful for enhancing coordination and avoiding duplications in the efforts undertaken by the multiple national and international stakeholders engaged in similar interventions”*. This is aimed at addressing structural shortcomings in information exchange on attendance and performance in public schools.

The outcome evaluation reports a *“growing interest”* from MEHE in *“better addressing NFE and the transfer to formal education from basic literacy and numeracy programme (BLN)”*. The outcome evaluation also highlights that MEHE has increased interest, engagement and ownership (AVSI: T04.198, ROM 2021), showing *“better coordination and cooperation, sometimes leading to co-design of NFE related interventions with international NGOs and civil society; the establishing curricula and Standard Operating Procedures for NFE; and the strengthening of their own internal procedures and monitoring systems (including Information Management System on NFE)”*. MEHE *“recently launched a new School-Based Bridging Programme (SBBP) that foresees to facilitate flexible pathways to formal education and facilitate re-entry for out-of-school children and adolescents”*, including children with disabilities. The new Transition Resilience Education Fund (TREF) scheme will be implemented in the context of the 5-year Education Plan by MEHE with UNICEF's support and it incorporates key lessons, such as a focus on quality and flexible learning opportunities for all and preventing or limiting dropouts for all Lebanese and non-Lebanese children.

## HIGHER EDUCATION

The EUTF's main partners to support higher education and TVET in Lebanon have been DAAD, SPARK and GIZ. The projects on higher education have changed over time, initially with the focus on access to and graduation from higher education through the provision of scholarships, while the more recent actions have approached the pathway from higher/ technical education to the labour market in a more comprehensive way. Currently, 2 actions are still being implemented in Lebanon (see Table).

Regarding the KPIs for this sector, targets on access to scholarships have been exceeded at this stage, while graduation certificates awards show a relative achievement of 58% (EUTF database December 2022). Dropout numbers have increased since the pandemic due to reasons, such as migration or the need of urgent employment and livelihoods (exacerbated by the financial crisis) and is affecting both Syrian and host communities.

The outcome evaluation - having assessed the DAAD led projects and the TVET action implemented by GIZ in the country - reports that enrolment of young Syrians and vulnerable host communities in higher and technical education has increased overall.

Regarding **changes at individual level**, the evaluation highlights that enrolment and retention in higher education has improved, and the attitudes, perceptions and behaviours of Syrian refugees and host communities have positively changed since the beginning of the EUTF implementation. Implementing partners have overcome initial obstacles regarding lack of trust, especially by the Syrian community who was reluctant to share personal information. For this purpose, implementing partners used effective outreach strategies (exceeding targets), including social media, actions by the EU Regional Network for Alumni and Young Professionals

### PROJECT LIST:

Table 2

NO.	PROJECT PARTNER	PROJECT CODE	TITLE	LOCATION	EUTF CONTRIBUTION
27.	DAAD	T04.11	HOPES - Higher and further education opportunities and perspectives for Syrians	Egypt. Iraq. Jordan. Lebanon and Turkey	€ 2,950,659
34.	SPARK	T04.26	Access to Higher Education for Syrian Refugees and IDP's to prepare for post-conflict Reconstruction of Syria and Integration in Host Communities	Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq	€ 5,141,000
▶ 83.	DAAD	T04.220	Higher and further education opportunities and perspectives for Syrians and vulnerable youth in Lebanon - HOPES-LEB	Lebanon	€ 8,399,999
▶ 95.	GIZ	T04.231	VTE4all: Vocational and Technical Education for All in Lebanon	Lebanon	€ 4,350,000

▶ Projects are still being implemented.

● Projects have been assessed by the outcome evaluation.

In case of regional projects, EUTF contribution to Lebanon only will be shown.



## HIGHER EDUCATION

and specific provision of technical support and advise on registration procedures, as well as counselling<sup>7</sup>. The EU Regional Network for Alumni promoted the scholarship opportunities, through the 'Network Talks' and the series of stakeholder dialogues "*Higher education in times of collapse*", jointly with the National Erasmus+ Office in Lebanon. It is worth mentioning that this programme was behind the creation of a common

space for all donors to put their higher education, TVET and youth calls for proposals. At the time of the evaluation, information on scholarship offers for graduate studies continued to be shared regularly with the students, disseminated through the structures of the partners, the HOPES-LEB website or through the Call for proposals projects targeting relevant beneficiaries (DAAD). Implementing partners also used partnerships

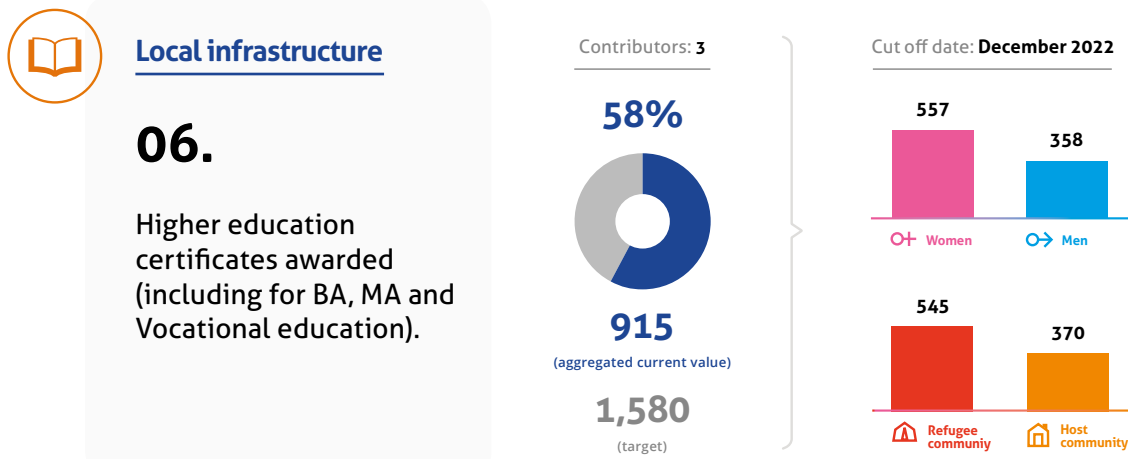


Figure 6.

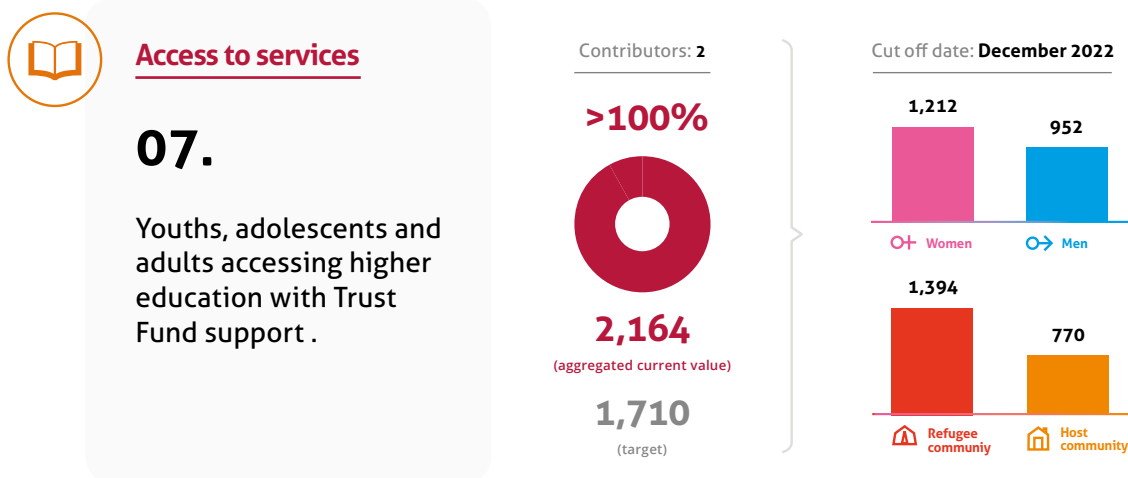


Figure 7.

→ 7. Counselling had been requested by current scholarship holders, especially when facing registration issues and the launch of online English courses.

## HIGHER EDUCATION

with community-based organisations to widely disseminate the programmes, having contributed to develop capacities of local organisations. A survey (in January 2022) conducted with the HOPES-LEB scholarship holders made evident that respondents were highly satisfied with their overall scholarship experience. However, *“they expressed the need for an increase of living allowances, English language courses and additional scholarship opportunities especially for PhD level”*.

Recently, implementing partners have noted a growing interest of Syrian refugees and host communities on vocational training vis-à-vis higher education (Bachelor: BA, Master: MA). The evaluation underlines that this might be *“due to the rampant economic crisis and the low prospects of employment opportunities, many potential applicants to BA/MA degrees prefer to enrol in shorter training courses to obtain a faster return and employability in either the host countries or abroad”*. However, Syrians can legally work in Lebanon only in agriculture, construction, cleaning, environment or become self-employed.

There is limited data and analysis available on employability due to difficulties in data collection with former beneficiaries (graduates of higher and technical education) such as mobility, change of phone numbers, or resistance to answer questions related to current employment situation. Furthermore, due to the current economic situation in the country, as yet, no job placement services as such have been established (DAAD). For TVET (GIZ), to date, seven former students have accessed jobs. Students rely on the networks and support from teachers and the involved private sector. The outcome evaluation highlights that although some graduates might find employment opportunities in NGOs (paid in dollars) or in self-employment; and some IT graduates might have good prospects finding remote jobs, there is a need to enhance job counselling and job placement components in upcoming programmes.

On **changes at the level of local organisations and institutions**, the outcome evaluation confirms that partnerships with universities have been strengthened in the country. This has contributed to establish better networks and to connect alumni

in the region. The partnership and cooperation between HOPES and the Lebanese University, the only public university in the country, resulted in a considerable saving on tuition fees allowing to almost double the planned number of the scholarships provided. Currently, T04.220, led by a consortium of DAAD, the Dutch Organization for Internationalization in Education (NUFFIC) and Campus France- engages with Lebanese University and the Lebanese International University, a private university selected based on quality of education and affordability. The EU Regional Network of Alumni and Young Professionals *“has been noted to be a convergence point from the most relevant higher interventions, not only in Lebanon, but in the region”*.

Regarding further organisational changes, a ‘school advisory board’ - on a voluntary basis - has been established (GIZ) for TVET, *“bringing together teachers, principals, parents and private sector representatives on board in their geographical areas, and also building networking opportunities for graduates”*. The intervention (GIZ) is also supporting the development of photovoltaic installation capacities as part of the TVET curriculum, given solar energy is increasing in the country and as it falls under the construction sector, Syrian refugees can also access those jobs. Furthermore, the GIZ led project provides a good example of a new collaboration between TVET and higher education: The Boarding Training Centre in Zouk Mosbeh, worked on by the construction students is going to be used by the Holy Spirit University Kaslik, who owns the building. According to the outcome evaluation, *“the university wants to make students in Lebanon job ready and to break the TVET/higher education silo”*.

**In terms of changes at national policy or regulatory level**, the outcome evaluation notes that limited policy dialogue has been promoted on higher and technical education across the wider EUTF target countries. In Lebanon, the HOPES-LEB led *“Higher education in times of collapse”* initiative has been observed as the *“most comprehensive and structured approach to policy dialogue on higher education”*, which aims at establishing a set of recommendations for helping the Lebanese Higher Education system to survive the next challenging

## HIGHER EDUCATION

years. According to the evaluation, this initiative was *“welcomed and actively supported by the line ministries.”* DAAD was asked to comment on the five-year Higher Education Plan (2022-2026) adopted at the end of 2022, nevertheless, it is not clear to what extent any of its recommendations had been followed. Implementation of the plan has not yet begun. According to MEHE “the plan is well adjusted to the current context in the country and puts at the centre the needs of the labour market.”

In terms of TVET, there is a new TVET five-year plan 2022-2026 and the draft version of the National Strategic Framework for TVET 2023-2027 (at the time of the evaluation). TVET General Director, implementing partners and donors are providing contributions. According to the evaluation, this is a lesson learned from the National Strategic Framework 2018-2022 that was not implemented because not all stakeholders were involved from the beginning. Line ministries strongly support TVET

and have expressed the willingness to address dropouts from young people. NDICI has mobilised specific funding for TVET.

At this level, accumulated experience from previous similar programmes and the sector expertise of the implementing partners (DAAD and GIZ) have been positive factors to higher education interventions. The unique position of providing higher and TVET education for Syrian refugees and host communities in a context of unaffordability and lack of scholarships also counts as added value. Challenges continue to be the collapsing of the economy and the structural policy constraints for Syrian refugees to access the formal labour market. At institutional level, devaluation of teaching salaries and strikes are also affecting learning environment.

## LIVELIHOODS

EUTF has supported twenty-nine livelihood projects (direct or as linked components) in Lebanon to date. These actions cover a wide range of approaches and strategies. All projects conceived emphasised the idea of accessing livelihoods through employment, *“focusing on life skills and vocational training, often coupled with career counselling and/or job placements, support to the creation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) or cash for work (CfW) initiatives”*. Cash assistance<sup>8</sup> is the central to various projects (e.g. WFP or UNICEF/ILO) and has also been linked to education, agricultural livelihoods, health and protection components and projects. The outcome analysis of cash assistance projects will be reported as part of the protection sector in line with the outcome evaluation.

While some focus on livelihoods through employment with job placements and/or creation and/or skills development (e.g. ACTED or AFD, GIZ), and/or MSME support (e.g. FAO, Oxfam, DRC), others link livelihoods to synergistic components, such as education, higher education, social protection and cohesion. A large number of projects also include a CfW component (e.g. UNDP) and a few projects include the development of productive physical assets to generate income (e.g. FAO or VNG International). Fourteen livelihood actions and components are still implementing activities.

In terms of KPIs, targets for output achievement on access to employability training are almost fully achieved (86%) with implementation ongoing across eight projects, while those on access to cash assistance show 69% - with six projects ongoing. The output targets regarding MSME support are 79% achieved with four projects still in implementation. On the KPI on work opportunities promoted with EUTF support, the level of achievement reflects current challenges in the economy (40% of the target achieved, and 21%, if we count only actions in implementation). There are still eight projects being currently implemented that contribute to work opportunities, some of

them showing considerable delays (e.g. FAO) (EUTF database December 2022).

The outcome evaluation positively assessed the livelihoods sector through consultations with some of the key EUTF partners (see Table). The large majority of these IPs had a consensus that “improvement seems to prevail” regarding employment opportunities for Syrian refugees since the start of the Syrian crisis. The evaluation differentiates that, while those interventions helped to increase short-term income and skills of refugees and host communities, stabilising the situation of those families for the duration of the job placements or CfW schemes, further outcomes, such as longer-term jobs face a wide range of structural challenges linked to the political situation (where refugees face restrictions to access the formal labour market) and the economic crisis in Lebanon.

Regarding **individual behavioural changes**, the outcome evaluation highlights that more access to skills improvement and CfW schemes have become *“crucial in the Syrian response and continue to be important, especially in Lebanon”*. The evaluation states that improvement in technical skills is confirmed Regional Development and Protection Programme, RDPP II while underlining the importance of soft skills. Some actions included a recurrent topic - decent work conditions - as part of skills improvement programmes (DRC). Whereas some actions are still facing challenges delivering employment opportunities (GIZ) due to more structural factors, such as the restrictions for Syrians and the economic situation of the country. Despite Lebanon having relaxed some constraints limiting access to the labour market for refugees, refugees continue to face legal restrictions, multiple financial and bureaucratic hurdles to obtain a work permit. Sectors, where they can work formally, remain limited. That is why CfW are more popular, since refugees do not need any permit. The main CfW limitation is, however, that most CfW schemes are linked to sectors, such as construction that have predominantly a male work force. More

→ 8. Although the evaluation has assessed cash assistance interventions under the sector “protection”, the KPI on cash assistance beneficiaries is under the area of livelihoods in the EUTF Results Framework.

## LIVELIHOODS

### PROJECT LIST:

Table 3 (1/2)

NO.	PROJECT PARTNER	PROJECT CODE	TITLE	LOCATION	EUTF CONTRIBUTION
3.	Danish Refugee Council	T04.10	LEADERS – Promoting inclusive local economic empowerment and development to enhance resilience and social stability	Jordan and Lebanon	€ 3,480,557
4.	GIZ	T04.15	Regional Resilience & Local development Programme for Syrian refugees and host communities	Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey	€ 20,142,000
5.	Search For Common Ground (SFCG)	T04.12	Resilient Communities-Supporting Livelihoods and Social Stability for Syrian refugee and host populations	Lebanon and Iraq	€ 1,907,569
24.	Oxfam	T04.23	Badael—Building Alternative Development Assets and Entrepreneurial Learning	Lebanon	€ 3,224,458
▶ 30.	AFD/AICS	T04.40	Resilience & Social Cohesion Programme (RSCP)	Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq	€ 5,038,200
▶ 46.	AFD/AICS	T04.50	Resilience & Social Cohesion Programme (RSCP)	Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq	€ 3,780,000
35.	Danish Red Cross	T04.30	Addressing Vulnerabilities of Refugees and Host Communities in Five Countries Affected by the Syria Crisis	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey	€ 7,550,154
▶ 61.	UNDP	T04.132	Strengthen the long-term resilience of targeted subnational authorities and their host/refugee populations in countries affected by the Syrian and Iraqi crises	Lebanon, Iraq	€ 14,971,364
62.	VNG	T04.136	Maintaining Strength and Resilience for Local Governments in Lebanon and Iraq (MASAR)	Lebanon, Iraq	€ 8,350,000
▶ 67.	FAO	T04.149	Enhancing resilient livelihoods and food security of host communities and Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon through the promotion of sustainable agricultural development	Lebanon, Jordan	€ 11,287,009

▶ Projects are still being implemented.

● Projects have been assessed by the outcome evaluation.

The outcome evaluation also included here the assessment of other multisector projects, such as T04.164 (RDPP II, social cohesion) T04.17 (social cohesion), T04.231 (vocational training) or T04.160 (protection).

## LIVELIHOODS

### PROJECT LIST:

Table 3 (2/2)

NO.	PROJECT PARTNER	PROJECT CODE	TITLE	LOCATION	EUTF CONTRIBUTION
▶ 77.	GIZ	T04.200	LEADERS – Promoting inclusive local economic empowerment and development to enhance resilience and social stability	Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq	€ 15,900,000
● 84.	UNRWA	T04.212	Regional Resilience & Local development Programme for Syrian refugees and host communities	Lebanon and Jordan	€ 30,600,000
▶ 91.	Save the Children	T04.243	Resilient Communities-Supporting Livelihoods and Social Stability for Syrian refugee and host populations	Lebanon	€ 11,150,000
▶ 92.	Oxfam	T04.229	Badael—Building Alternative Development Assets and Entrepreneurial Learning	Lebanon	€ 7,500,000
▶ 93.	Danish Refugee Council	T04.241	Resilience & Social Cohesion Programme (RSCP)	Lebanon	€ 14,500,000
▶ 105.	DRC	T04.286	Resilience & Social Cohesion Programme (RSCP)	Lebanon	€ 4,500,000

▶ Projects are still being implemented.

● Projects have been assessed by the outcome evaluation.

The outcome evaluation also included here the assessment of other multisector projects, such as T04.164 (social cohesion) T04.17 (social cohesion), T04.231 (vocational training) or T04.160 (protection).

awareness about livelihood opportunities is highlighted as a result of outreach campaigns and promotional support from municipalities. The selection of local grassroots organisations trusted by refugee and host communities has also been a contributing factor. An unexpected outcome of livelihood interventions is that self-employment is *“the preferred strategy of women”* who find there a more flexible and safer working approach. The evaluation also underlines that more successful projects on employment creation were those where a strategic partnership with private sector companies was developed (RDPP II).

A perception of aid bias has been reported by a qualitative study, 2022 Compass Study-

commissioned by GIZ. Focus groups with adults highlighted that aid bias *“is widespread across vulnerable Lebanese populations, who perceive they are receiving little to no support while Syrian communities continue to receive extensive support”*. In a context of deep economic crisis, this aid bias might have contributed to increased social tensions in the country.

The outcome evaluation also highlights **changes in local institutions** capacity to promote livelihoods related services, especially in technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions and some efforts to promote new structures around social enterprises, farmers and dialogue with local organisations. The TVET

## LIVELIHOODS

system has improved (GIZ), and according to the evaluation, TVET public schools *“have radically improved training by offering competency-based curricula, involvement of third-party assessment, the establishment of advisory boards, and the development of four new curricula (carpentry, photovoltaic installation, construction and dairy products)”*.

The Oxfam project has prepared an online Social Enterprise (SE) platform to support the establishment and growth of social enterprises by providing them with tailored access to a digital support ecosystem. This is also a strategy (a) conceived for women, since they prefer flexible working hours and struggle to find decent work job opportunities, and (b) to promote businesses with



### Access to services

**08.**

Work opportunities promoted by EUTF.

Contributors: **11**

**40%**



**6,548**

(aggregated current value)

**16,372**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

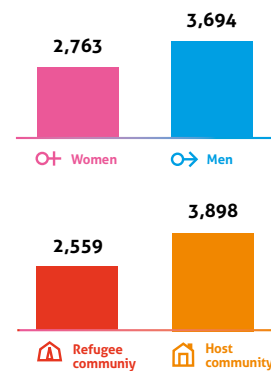


Figure 8.



### Access to services

**09.**

People participating in employability, vocational and entrepreneurial skills training programme.

Contributors: **14**

**86%**



**23,299**

(aggregated current value)

**26,958**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

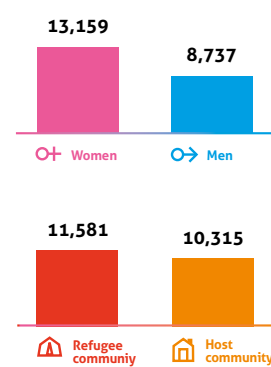


Figure 9.

## LIVELIHOODS

social impact. At institutional level, an Economic Development Policy Unit (EDPU) was established to provide support to the European Commission (EC) on understanding the living conditions and resilience of Syrians and hosting communities, which brought to the Decision of 15.12.2021 on the financing of the special measure in favour of Lebanon for 2021. Legal regulations for social enterprises were discussed at high policy level and the Social Entrepreneurship National dialogue to produce a Social Entrepreneurship Legal Framework had been launched.

It is interesting to note a graduation model established by the DRC project as new organisational approach to promote livelihood strategies. Nevertheless, outcomes are not yet visible. This approach, also used by project UNRWA, has not been able to provide linkages of the cash assistance beneficiaries with other livelihood components, such as vocational training, employment, CfW or micro-finance and small grants or loans, to set up small businesses, so that the environment to sustain the cash assistance effects has not been developed.



### Local infrastructure

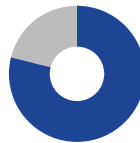
**10.**

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises supported with coaching and training.

Contributors: **6**

Cut off date: **December 2022**

**79%**



**1,014**

(aggregated current value)

**1,276**

(target)

Figure 10.



### Access to services

**11.**

People receiving cash assistance (and/or food vouchers) from EUTF.

Contributors: **7**

Cut off date: **December 2022**

**69%**



**748,307**  
(aggregated current value)

**1,083,422**

(target)

**384,914**

**360,941**



Women



Men

**351,990**

**365,587**



Refugee community



Host community

Figure 11.



### LIVELIHOODS

Another new formal institutional structure is the farmers' registry, promoted by the FAO project. The "MoA has drafted a law on farming that specifically includes the farmers' registry", according to the outcome evaluation. Although with some delays, the registration process has begun. Due to the instable political and economic situation, it is not certain yet, if the Ministry will be able to assume maintenance costs.

In the context of RDPP II, thanks to the partnership between LebRelief and RDPP, Syrian and Palestinian refugees were able to earn income, as well as secure longer-term employment upcycling and sorting of second-hand clothing facilitated by LebRelief's sub-partner, FabricAid. LebRelief is also engaging in the dialogue with the Lebanese Ministry of Environment (MoE) for the formulation of a National Recycling strategy where second-hand clothes are considered part of waste management and therefore, environment, which is one of the sectors where refugees are allowed to work. The outcome evaluation highlights that RDPP II had supported a greater demand for self-employment, especially for women, as a creative way to overcome restrictions in the formal labour market.

Regarding **national policy and regulatory changes** related to livelihoods in Lebanon, the outcome evaluation highlights difficulties in policy dialogue, limited government capacity and low responsiveness from ministries. Some positive outcomes at this level are highlighted, such as GBV legislative reforms in the workplace and beyond (RDPP II), potential effects resulted from the agricultural registry (FAO) and/or potential changes in the social entrepreneurship legislation. To date, no changes in regulations of the labour market have taken place. As previously mentioned, access to the formal labour market remains strongly constrained for Syrian refugees and the informal labour market and the CfW schemes remain the most viable options. Legal restrictions also apply to access services *"hindering potential outcomes of livelihoods enhancement activities and of the graduation models"*.

In the context of RDPP II, the outcome evaluation highlights the landmark law on sexual harassment that was passed, as a result of an advocacy campaign organized by ABAAD, a local RDPP partner. *"The Anti-Sexual Harassment Law No. 205, does not limit the protections against sexual harassment to just the workplace, but also covers harassment in any place."*

In the agricultural sector, there is high buy in from the Ministry of Agriculture for the farmers' registry. Nevertheless, changes in the legal framework have not yet been implemented.

The Oxfam-led action supported the development of a draft law document as part of the advocacy efforts to adopt a Legal Framework for Social Entrepreneurship. Nevertheless, this is not expected to be approved due to the current political situation. The EDPU *"has developed a research paper on blended TVET and distance learning that fed into the 2023-2027 national strategic framework for technical and vocational education and training in Lebanon"*.

Other projects, such as those led by DRC and Save the Children, encountered some challenges to work at national level with the Ministry of Social Assistance (MoSA) to facilitate changes in articulating livelihood pathways. Alternatives are being sought with municipalities, SDCs and local NGOs to promote a referral system for the livelihood programmes.

From the World Vision led project, the outcome evaluation highlights challenges youth are facing at different levels, especially around current and future employment opportunities. In particular the refugee populations who are particularly vulnerable as suffer discrimination in different ways, for example, they are not able to participate in youth committees that are promoted at municipal level.

## HEALTH

EUTF has supported seventeen health actions and components embedded in multisector projects in the country (see Table), ranging from comprehensive health interventions that include policy development components (IMC, WHO), institutional and organisational development and access to medical services or medicines (YMCA/WHO, LRC), to ones with a focus on access to health services and immunisations (UNRWA, UNICEF). It is important to highlight that generally there is a focus on primary health care (PHC). The large majority of actions include training of health personnel, health education, community engagement and/or outreach activities. In addition, some health components are integrated in livelihood (DRC, AFD, UNRWA), education (UNICEF, UNRWA) or protection (UNRWA) interventions. Currently, five actions on access to medicines, access to blood transfusion services and pre-hospital emergency care, to consultations and immunisations, and one component on health education continue to operate in Lebanon.

Regarding KPIs, many of the output targets have been exceeded such as access to health care consultations and essential medicines, women attending at least one postnatal care visit, children under 5 vaccinated. Local capacity building in primary, secondary and tertiary health have also been overachieved. In contrast, health infrastructure improvements remain at 20% level of achievement although there is still one action ongoing that has a new, higher target of upgrading immunisation points (UNICEF).

The recent EUTF outcome evaluation, having assessed various actions (see Table), highlights that improved access to quality primary health care services for Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities is “the most significant change obtained by e.g. REBAHS”. Since fees have also been subsidised, affordability has also improved. While the three IMC-led actions had been testing models of subsidisation of primary health care centres (PHCCs) removing economic barriers to improve access to PHC, which includes antenatal health services, other actions have improved access to acute and chronic medicines (YMCA/WHO), vaccine stocks (UNICEF), pre-hospital emergency care and blood transfusion services (LRC) or reproductive health and psychosocial services at community level

(Medair). The evaluation also highlights improved capacity of healthcare providers and strengthened PHC system as key outcomes, primarily in the case of the IMC projects.

According to the same source, there is moderate evidence that EUTF interventions have affected **changes in behaviour and perceptions** among the target groups. Syrian refugees' attitudes, perceptions, and behaviours “*have positively changed when it comes to seeking treatments in public primary health care*”. Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities are increasingly using PHC services; they are more aware that services in PHCC are affordable, and that medication is free of charge; people are perceiving PHCCs as trustworthy, with qualified medical staff, and people are reporting improvements in their day-to-day lives, as well as improved knowledge of (mental) health topics.

Increased awareness is related to improved use of health services. This has resulted from comprehensive outreach strategies combined with community engagement work. While IMC has carried out health education with community volunteers, UNICEF and WHO have ensured their locations are accessible, LRC reached out through dissemination sessions or mobile units and Medair followed the Health Family, Peaceful Home messaging campaign.

Regarding **changes in local organisations and institutions**, the evaluation highlights positive effects in the institutional framework of the sector and practices and capacities of local PHCCs (IMC projects). Overall, it is recognised that in addition to the improvement in quality of PHC services, PHCCs improved capacities and together this strengthened the PHC system. REBAHS I and II are considered “the most important, learning-by-doing approach in Lebanese primary health care” and therefore, the evaluation categorised it as case study. The projects strengthened PHCCs' capacity to match well the identified health needs, ensuring at the same time access to subsidised primary health care services. An immediate response model after the Beirut blast (IMC), a long-term primary healthcare subsidization protocol (LPSP), i.e. a comprehensive fee-based health services protocols package, is now applied

## HEALTH

### PROJECT LIST:

Table 4

NO.	PROJECT PARTNER	PROJECT CODE	TITLE	LOCATION	EUTF CONTRIBUTION
10.	UNHCR	T04.47	Providing essential lifesaving care to refugees in Lebanon	Lebanon	€ 15,000,000
20.	IMC	T04.54	Reducing Economic Barriers to Accessing Health Services in Lebanon	Lebanon	€ 31,800,975
23.	IMC	T04.147	Improving Access to Quality Health Care for Persons with Disabilities in Lebanon	Lebanon	€ 3,095,268
47.	Medair	T04.31	Strengthening Protection Mechanisms for Syrian Refugees and Vulnerable Host-Communities in Jordan and Lebanon	Jordan and Lebanon	€ 2,741,515
52.	YMCA/WHO	T04.74	Provision of Chronic Medications at Primary Health Care Centres for vulnerable Syrian Refugee and Lebanese Host Communities	Lebanon	€ 38,400,000
▶ 54.	UNICEF	T04.96	Securing access to essential medical commodities for most vulnerable population in Lebanon	Lebanon	€ 21,599,934
80.	IMC	T04.210	REBAHS II	Lebanon	€ 42,000,000
▶ 89.	LEBANESE RED CROSS (LRC)	T04.227	Improving access and effectiveness of pre-hospital emergency care and blood transfusion services in Lebanon	Lebanon	€ 8,000,000
104.	IMC	T04.281	Reducing Economic Barriers to Accessing Health Services – Piloting the Long Term PHCC	Lebanon	€ 10,000,000
▶ 106.	WHO	T04.300	Supporting the response to the Beirut Blast and health system's strengthening through the provision of essential medications for chronic and acute diseases for vulnerable Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities.	Lebanon	€ 11,000,000
▶ 108.	UNICEF	T04.296	Supporting the COVID-19 response for the most vulnerable populations in Lebanon	Lebanon	€ 8,000,000

▶ Projects are still being implemented.

● Projects have been assessed by the outcome evaluation.

## HEALTH

in a large number of PHCCs (T04.281). It is noted that the *"a strong link and trust with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) were established"* through the subsidisation model, *"being coherent and suitable for Lebanon in its current situation"*.

Discussions are being held with MoPH about the model of funding primary care. It is now clear that if people's basic health needs are addressed in PHCCs, the overuse of hospitals, which is more expensive can be reduced. The evaluation also

highlights improved knowledge of health staff on how to manage mental health cases. Capacities of PHCC have been "substantially increased to attend increased number of patients". PHCCs also undertook changes in their management of cases, after the project support. According to the implementing partners, PHCCs have an enormous absorption capacity to change.

UNICEF strengthened 800 vaccination points, all with cold chain and able to store and administer



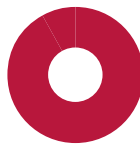
### Access to services

**12.**

People receiving primary health care consultations and essential medicines.

Contributors: 8

**>100%**



**5,362,109**

(aggregated current value)

**4,388,499**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

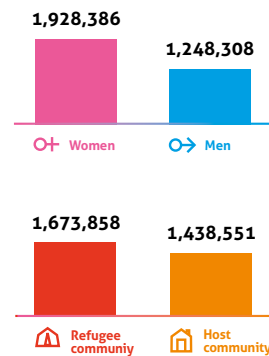


Figure 12.



### Access to services

**14.**

Pregnant women receiving 4 or more antenatal consultations.

Contributors: 3

**92%**



**26,211**

(aggregated current value)

**28,624**

(target)

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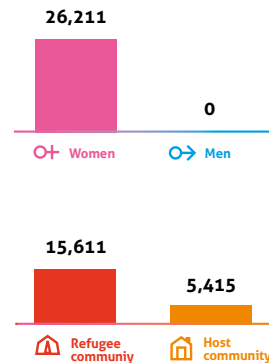


Figure 13.

## HEALTH

vaccines, across the entire Lebanese territory, while YMCA and WHO are supporting the MoPH in their ability to procure and store medications. Challenges with the supply chain and shortages of chronic diseases medications were being addressed at the time of the evaluation with transportation of blood units still being an issue. LRC has become a proxy blood bank in the country- since there is no national institution assuming this task. Albeit Medair supported health staff and provided equipment in

the SDCs, contributing to widening their capacities, they were still not part of the MoPH network.

Referral paths, which needs to be strengthened in the country to lower pressures on the hospital system, are not yet fully effective however, according to the evaluation "projects are dealing also with this aspect of the fragmented health systems". There is also evidence that most projects are contributing to strengthened coordination



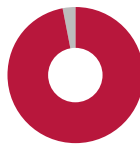
### Access to services

**15.**

Women attending at least one postnatal care visit at the supported health facilities.

Contributors: 3

**97%**



**27,096**

(aggregated current value)

**27,860**

(target)

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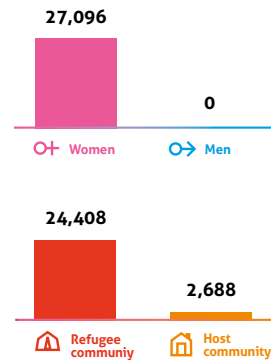


Figure 14.



### Access to services

**16.**

Children under 5 years vaccinated.

Contributors: 3

**>100%**



**1,262,295**

(aggregated current value)

**1,132,855**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

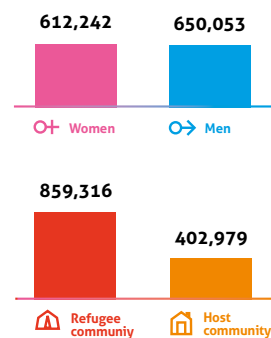


Figure 15.

## HEALTH

among health institutions and organisations. For example, MoPH showed leadership in supporting the PHCC network to implement the IMC project. Due to this, the network membership has increased. MoPH also facilitated coordination so that UNICEF made routine vaccination in PHCCs available. Similarly, YMCA/WHO's project was part of the coordination effort to facilitate access to medication free of charge in PHCCs part of the MoPH network. LRC is part of the coordination efforts with UNICEF

at PHC level. Medair strengthened community links through a community outreach component, where Syrian volunteers and community-based organisations and local NGOs increased capacities to engage with the local communities and increase referrals for reproductive health and psychosocial support services.

In a context with a renewed focus on primary



### Local capacities

**17.**

Professional staff trained in primary, secondary and tertiary health care services.

Contributors: 9

>100%



**5,658**

(aggregated current value)

**5,016**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

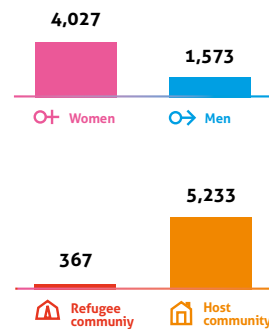


Figure 16.



### Access to services

**18.**

People reached through health education activities.

Contributors: 7

>100%



**342,843**

(aggregated current value)

**269,768**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

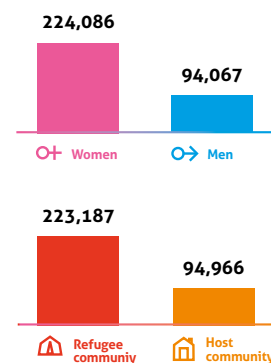


Figure 17.

## HEALTH



### Local infrastructure

19.

Health infrastructure upgraded/refurbished/constructed.

Contributors: 6

Cut off date: **December 2022**

20%



151

(aggregated current value)

751

(target)

Figure 18.

health care, some of the projects assessed had a clear policy component to work on a health model towards universal health care, i.e. widening access to more beneficiaries and doing it more affordably. This is in line with EUTF's main objective of promoting universal primary healthcare through the PHCC that contributes to social cohesion

Regarding **changes at regulatory or national policy** level, REBAHS most significant outcomes refer to the institutional and policy framework of the sector. Particularly, the subsidisation model, the LPSP, that was tested with and approved by MoPH, has expanded as a viable model of primary health care. For now, PHCCs are only accessible to patients with some sort of subsidy.

Although ownership is high, due to the crisis in the country, the model is still dependent on donor funding and the sector is still dominated by large private health providers. The Minister has also realised an imbalance highlighted by the evaluation, between funding and actual service delivery: while 80% of the people use PHCCs, less than 3% of the health care budget is for primary health care. Other outcomes highlighted by the evaluation are the introduction of the indicator for disability to health sector policy, along with a switch from a medical model to a rights-based one, including the mental health integration in PHC. This model is now a reference for the future mental health integration in PHCCs. Community health is also introduced as a concept and a guidebook for PHCCs, approved by MoPH. WHO also contributed to the first draft of the Health Sector Strategy, available since July 2022.

## WASH

The WASH portfolio in Lebanon includes nine actions with key partners, such as: ACTED, AFD, CISP, GVC, NRC UNICEF (see Table above). Most of them have focused on expanding WASH access, strengthening local capacities and WASH infrastructure, except one multisector project that included one WASH component in schools and the community (World Vision). Currently, three actions are still being implemented.

Regarding the sector KPIs, there is some room for improvement in terms of access to safely managed water (at 66%) and local capacities' strengthening (45%). WASH projects have faced a wide range of challenges, such as, delays in construction and rehabilitation works, institutional weaknesses and contextual factors (e.g. electricity crisis). While the KPI on metres of transmission and distribution lines is at 89%, the targets for water and wastewater

### PROJECT LIST:

Table 5

NO.	PROJECT PARTNER	PROJECT CODE	TITLE	LOCATION	EUTF CONTRIBUTION
18.	ACTED	T04.34	Providing Lebanese and Jordanian communities hosting Syrian refugees with improved WASH infrastructure and facilities at community, institution, and household level	Jordan and Lebanon	€ 6,363,587
39.	Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC)	T04.20	Promoting Sustainable Management of Water Services and Resources in Countries Affected by the Syrian Crisis	Lebanon	€ 12,618,646
55.	CISP	T04.100	Access to WASH Services	Lebanon	€ 7,200,000
56.	UNICEF	T04.90	Mitigate social tensions among vulnerable populations through improved water services in Lebanon	Lebanon	€ 15,000,000
57.	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	T04.98	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme for refugees from Syria and Lebanese host communities	Lebanon	€ 7,799,950
▶ 110.	UNICEF	T04.294	Sustaining Continuity of Public Water Services within a Multiple Crisis Context	Lebanon	€ 22,000,000
▶ 98.	ACTED	T04.272	WASH assistance to support water governance and public water and wastewater services in Lebanon for host and refugee communities	Lebanon	25,000,000
▶ 99.	AFD	T04.206	Structuring Water and Wastewater Services in Ersaal and the Valley	Lebanon	€ 23,000,000

▶ Projects are still being implemented.

● Projects have been assessed by the outcome evaluation.

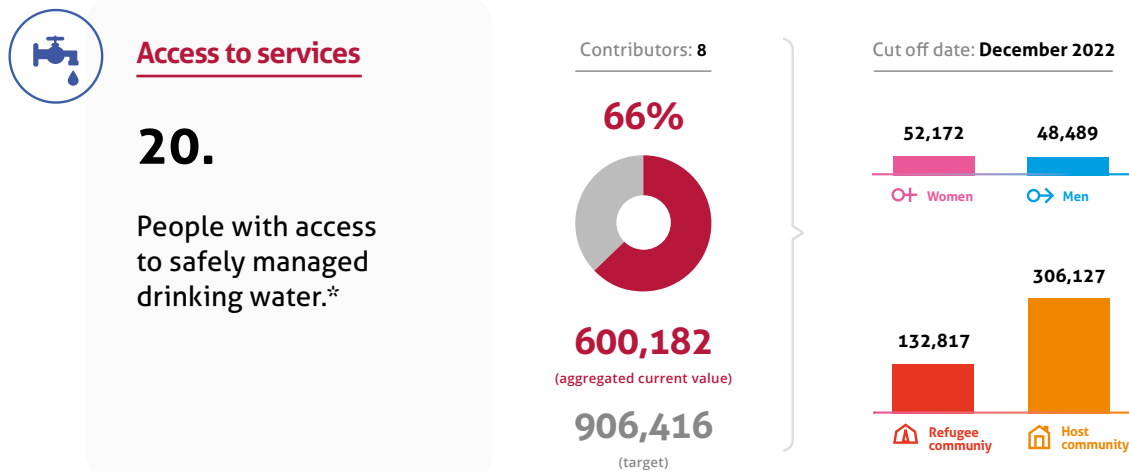


## WASH

facilities constructed and/or rehabilitated are exceeded (data from EUTF database, December 2022).

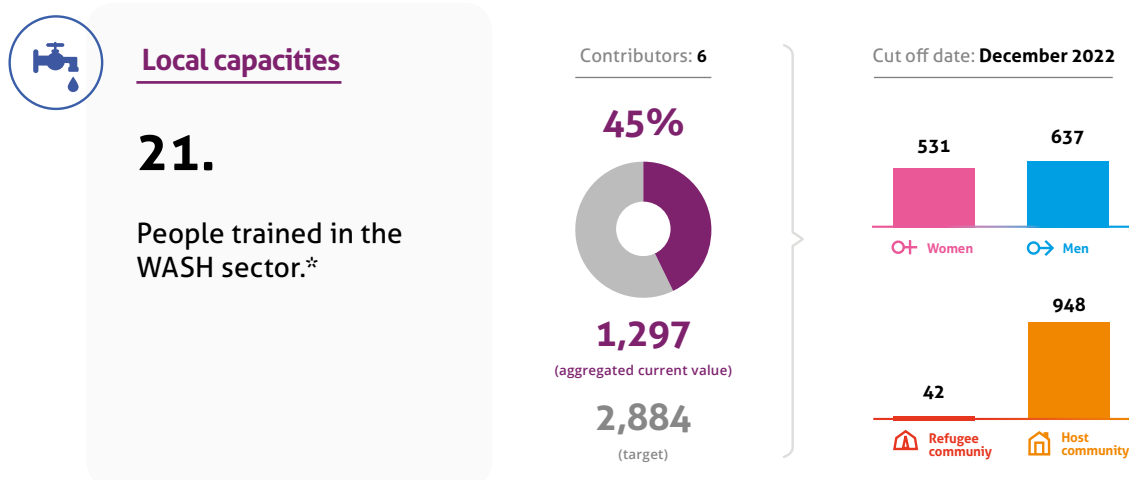
The outcome evaluation has approached this sector assessment by analysing the EUTF WASH portfolio evaluation and the following actions implemented by AFD, CISP, GVC, NRC/Oxfam and UNICEF. Overall, the outcome evaluation highlights that *“in Lebanon, where WASH projects mainly focus on access to water, it is*

*very difficult to capture tangible outcomes”*. The portfolio evaluation highlights that in targeted municipalities subscriptions have increased by 26%, and service hours have also increased from 2 hours per day to 9 hours per day on average. According to the WASH evaluation, a relationship between EUTF contributions and increased water availability is clearer than with increased subscriptions, because many of EUTF WASH projects did not include it as a specific objective. The outcome evaluation, after interviewing and



\* Full disaggregation by sex and community of origin is not available.

Figure 19.



\* Full disaggregation by sex and community of origin is not available.

Figure 20.

## WASH



### Local infrastructure

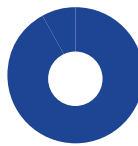
22.

Municipal/regional water and wastewater facilities constructed/rehabilitated or equipped.

Contributors: 8

Cut off date: December 2022

>100%



186

(aggregated current value)

144

(target)

Figure 21.



### Access to services

23.

Metres of transmission and distribution lines installed.

Contributors: 5

Cut off date: December 2022

89%



117,149

(aggregated current value)

131,167

(target)

Figure 22.

surveying implementing partners came to the following conclusion: Although throughout 2018 and 2019 the perception was positive with the number of subscribers increasing and positive results in some localities, this has negatively changed in 2020, when the crisis deepened, purchasing power dropped and the water supply capacity, due to electricity crisis, decreased (GVC, CISP and NRC).

In the context of **individual behavioural changes**, the outcome evaluation highlights that the majority of implementing partners responding to the online survey confirmed that *“the Syrian refugees’ attitudes, perceptions, and behaviours have positively changed in the period from 2014 to 2021 when it comes to engaging with WASH service operators”*. This

was perceived by respondents, as a result of the wide range of outreach activities and community-based mechanisms strengthening the relationship between operators and users. Although a majority of responding implementing partners considers that the access to WASH service had increased during the EUTF period, they state that *“this increase is deemed as weak and moderate”*.

Available data from the 3 mentioned projects lead the outcome evaluation to conclude that *“the level of satisfaction and the positive perception of users concerning suppliers is linked to the capacity of the latter to provide quality water, regardless of whether the infrastructure project has been correctly carried out or not”*. The number of subscribers remains

## WASH

an essential indicator showing the improvement in the relationship with service providers. Some improvements are highlighted in that regard (GVC), and key strategies have helped to improve the relationship between the water establishments and the communities, such as community focal points and municipalities' (Oxfam), community consultations (ACTED, NRC), hotline for reporting network issues or a community perception tool (GVC). On the other hand, projects also faced challenges in the communication between water establishments, local authorities and communities, due to institutional weaknesses of water establishments, lack of resources to operate specific tools, the pandemic, or delays in infrastructure activities. Despite specific improvements in some localities, the *"level of trust toward water establishments and municipalities remains low, as the population must still (recur to) on trucking and private wells to (complement the water received from public services and be able to satisfy their needs)"*.

In the context of **local organisations and institutions**, the outcome evaluation underlines that WASH operators have improved their technical capacities as a result of EUTF Syria-supported interventions. Most of the surveyed implementing partners state that *"local WASH actors, service providers and other stakeholders, including NGOs, have changed their practices and developed their capacities to provide refugee and host communities with greater access to WASH services as a result of the EUTF project/s"*. As key elements they highlight that changes in practices are related to the increased number of staff in the water establishment from 2014 to 2019, and to a lesser extent, *"the inclusive approach to WASH management and the reduction of discriminatory practices between refugees and host communities"*.

The WASH portfolio evaluation highlights positive institutional and organisational effects at the local scale across the water establishments through geo-referenced customer database, call centres with web portals and trained teams for customer service, communication departments, etc. The portfolio evaluation also concludes that *"the water establishments have (enough) technical know-how to manage the water supply systems with all their components"*, however, the effects of these results are limited due to a current situation of bankruptcy and professional staff leaving the institution due to low

salaries. The lack of comprehensive reforms in the sector also have resulted in some capacity building effects being lost, since they did not occur *"in synergy"*.

The majority of EUTF WASH projects have not included advocacy to influence **changes in the regulatory or national policy level**. The only exception is the Water Forum in Lebanon, established with the EUTF support to Oxfam (T04.98). It is a policy dialogue mechanism that contributed to the revision of the National Strategy in 2020, which emphasises water and energy nexus and the solarization, and the community/municipality engagement. Interviewed implementing partners agree on the fact that national institutions have changed their WASH national strategy to face the refugee situation. The outcome evaluation highlights the support of the Delegation of the European Union (EUD) in the country, *"which contributed to revising the water sector national strategy"*. There is no consensus among the interviewed implementing partners about to what extent the Ministry had adopted strategies to support alternative WASH initiatives, including community-based ones, or promoted better access to services. There have been a substantial number of interventions to support the sector, but there is agreement on weak coordination. A mechanism, PACT (Policy and Advocacy Coordination Table), was established, but later discontinued.

The outcome evaluation highlights the importance of a WASH sector recovery plan approved by the government with short-term objectives related to the current crisis mitigation, since there is no approved strategy for the sector yet. The EUD, through bilateral support, continues to support this process through AFD in order to capitalize some lessons learned from past support. It is made evident by the portfolio evaluation *"that achieving an improved and effective water establishments that are financially viable and autonomous from Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW) is an objective that cannot be achieved by EUTF interventions alone"*. *Despite slow progress, implementing partners show satisfaction about the revision of the National Water Strategy and the Water code, stating that "it goes to the right direction, especially as regards the water and energy nexus and the solarization, and the community/municipality engagement"*.

## PROTECTION SOCIAL COHESION

### PROJECT LIST:

Table 6

NO.	PROJECT PARTNER	PROJECT CODE	TITLE	LOCATION	EUTF CONTRIBUTION
6.	UNRWA	T04.21	Maintaining the resilience of Palestine refugees affected from Syria in Jordan and Lebanon	Jordan and Lebanon	€ 14,388,720
17.	UNRWA	T04.160	Strengthening the resilience of Palestine refugees from Syria in Jordan and Lebanon	Lebanon. Jordan	€ 14,082,464
25.	World Vision	T04.17	Youth RESOLVE: Resilience, Education, Social Cohesion, Opportunities for Livelihoods and reduced Violence	Lebanon. Jordan and Iraq	€ 3,694,797
32.	EuroMed Feminist Initiative (EFI)	T04.130	Strengthening access to protection, participation and services for women refugees, IDPs and host communities	Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq	€ 6,500,000
▶ 64.	WFP	T04.153	Syrian and host communities with better livelihoods and food access, through better employability prospects and improved financial and productive capacities	Lebanon	€ 176,200,000
72.	Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	T04.164	Regional Development and Protection Programme for Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq (RDPP II)	Lebanon. Jordan. Iraq	€ 9,000,000
▶ 75.	UNICEF	T04.189	Advancing Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence system strengthening	Lebanon	€ 17,559,249
87.	World Vision	T04.205	YOUTH RESOLVE 2	Lebanon	€ 6,993,311
▶ 97.	AICS	T04.253	Social services in particular for Child protection and Women Protection	Lebanon	€ 4,500,000
▶ 107.	UNICEF/ILO	T04.292	The EU Regional Trust Fund's support for improved social protection in Lebanon – Addressing lifecycle vulnerabilities through social grants	Lebanon	€ 20,000,000

▶ Projects are still being implemented.

● Projects have been assessed by the outcome evaluation.

The outcome evaluation also included in the assessment for this section: GIZ: T04.200 (livelihood) and Save the Children: T04.243 (livelihood).

## PROTECTION SOCIAL COHESION

EUTF has substantially supported the protection sector. In total twenty-eight projects have social protection as main goal or include it as component. More specifically, while five actions aim at improving **social services** (UNRWA, EFI, UNICEF, AICS), eighteen projects include a component of psychosocial support and GBV services, and/or GBV training<sup>10</sup>. The main **social cohesion** projects in Lebanon include RDPP II (Ministry of Foreign Relations: T04.164), Qudra II and the World Vision led action, however there is wide range of projects that include local capacity strengthening at municipal level, social cohesion capacity building and community infrastructure improvements.<sup>11</sup> **Cash assistance**<sup>12</sup> components are included in ten projects, related to protection (UNRWA), health (Medair), education (UNICEF) and livelihoods (FAO, Save the Children, UNRWA), but the main ones are implemented by WFP and

ILO/UNICEF. The large majority of actions include outreach activities in Lebanon. Currently, thirteen actions are still implementing activities in relation to social protection -including cash assistance- and social cohesion in the country.

Most of the output targets are either almost achieved, for example access to peer-to-peer activities (91%); people trained on social cohesion (99%); or exceeded, for example access to psychosocial support and GBV services, access to outreach activities and local capacities strengthening in child protection, GBV and public service delivery and municipalities benefitting from new services and infrastructure. In contrast, the KPI on improvements in community centres is still only 52% achieved (data from EUTF database December 2023). One particular action (UNICEF), already closed, had not reached its targets.

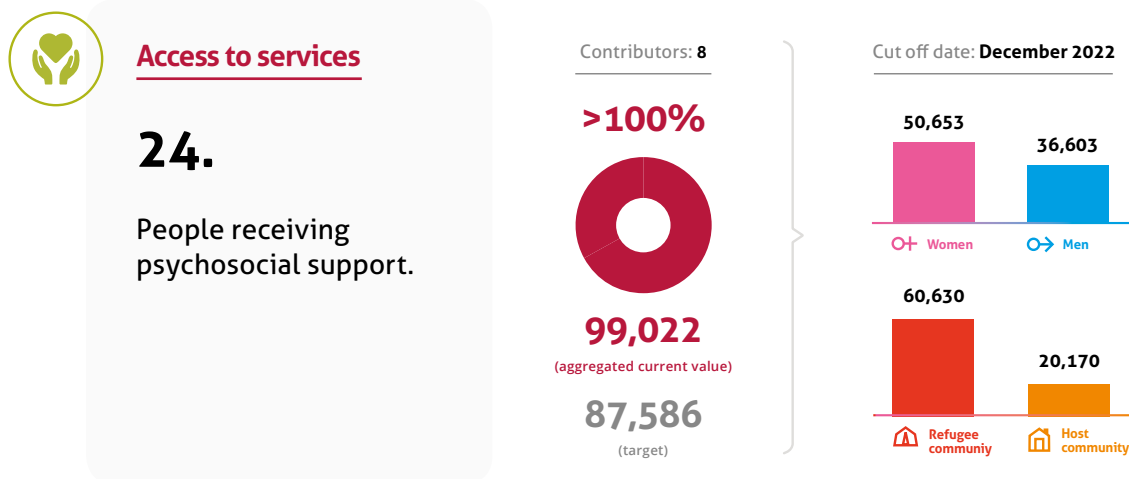


Figure 23.

- **10.** Other key actions contributing to social protection components include: AFD: T04.40, AVSI: T04.22, DRC: T04.30, GIZ: T04.15 and T04.200, Medair: T04.31, RDPP II: T04.164, UNICEF: T04.13, UNRWA: T04.160 and T04.212, WHO: T04.74, World Vision: T04.17.
- **11.** Apart from the previously mentioned projects, key partners, such as UNDP/UN Habitat (T04.132), VNG (T04.136), T04.243 (Save the Children), had put an emphasis on municipal capacities and social cohesion. Community infrastructure improvements are included in the following projects: AICS: T04.253, GIZ: T04.15 and T04.200, Medair: T04.31, Save the Children: T04.243, UNICEF: T04.189, World Vision: T04.17 and T04.205.
- **12.** EUTF transitioned from cash assistance to cover basic needs for the extremely poor and vulnerable, to also initiate and lead a policy dialogue on social protection with the government of Lebanon, with a primary focus on Lebanese nationals. This resulted in drafting a National Strategy for Social Protection, and prioritising reform of the social protection system for the Lebanese, as well as increased domestic resource mobilisation and more coherent and coordinated international community contributions.

## PROTECTION SOCIAL COHESION

The outcome evaluation has reviewed the results from the actions led by AICS, RDPP II, EFI, GIZ, ILO/ UNICEF, Save the Children, UNICEF, WFP and World Vision (see Table) to assess achievements in this sector. The overall performance is considered as positive, especially in increasing capacities and intervention methods in supporting social services. Moderate improvement has been reported in terms of access to social services while institutional and regulatory framework outcomes were least developed. Cash support has been critical to maintain food security of recipient households in Lebanon.

At an **individual level**, the evaluation acknowledged that Syrian refugees' attitudes, perceptions and behaviours have positively changed toward the social protection services. It has been identified that awareness about social protection programmes has increased more for Syrian refugees than for Lebanese host communities. Furthermore, positive outcomes resulting from cash assistance, via projects dealing with GBV and child protection and social cohesion activities were also reported and that cash assistance has been fundamental showing direct impact in wellbeing indicators. Despite the positive



### Access to services

25.

Women accessing Gender Based Violence related services.

Contributors: 2

>100%



66,789

(aggregated current value)

43,500

(target)

Cut off date: December 2022

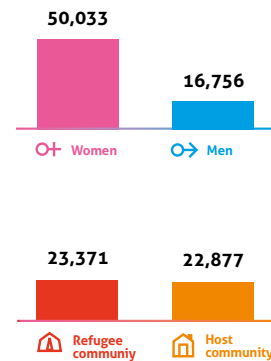


Figure 24.



### Local capacities

26.

People trained on child protection and gender based violence.

Contributors: 4

>100%



4,191

(aggregated current value)

2,977

(target)

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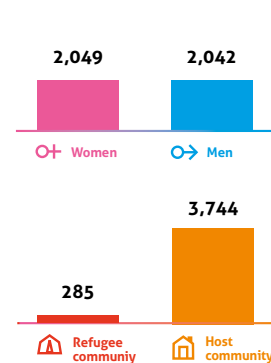


Figure 25.

## PROTECTION SOCIAL COHESION

results that awareness about social protection programmes has substantially increased since the baseline, there is still room to improve it in the case of Lebanese people. The outcome evaluation highlights a study that assessed the improvement of most wellbeing indicators during 12 months in households receiving cash assistance. Although there have been periods where food consumption score has been improved, currently there is a gap between the value of cash transfers and the food basket price. The value of cash transfers had been updated several times to provide better coverage, however, currently, it is still not sufficient to meet basic needs. Because of the worsening

conditions, wellbeing indicators are also worsening in the current context. The outcome evaluation underlined the importance of complementing cash assistance with social assistance services. The Referral Information Management System (RIMS) in Lebanon, more advanced than in Jordan, particularly worked for the management of child protection cases.

Improved self-confidence and improved sense of safety have been reported as positive outcomes of the EFI-led action on livelihoods and protection, after women received regular psychosocial support services and awareness sessions on women's

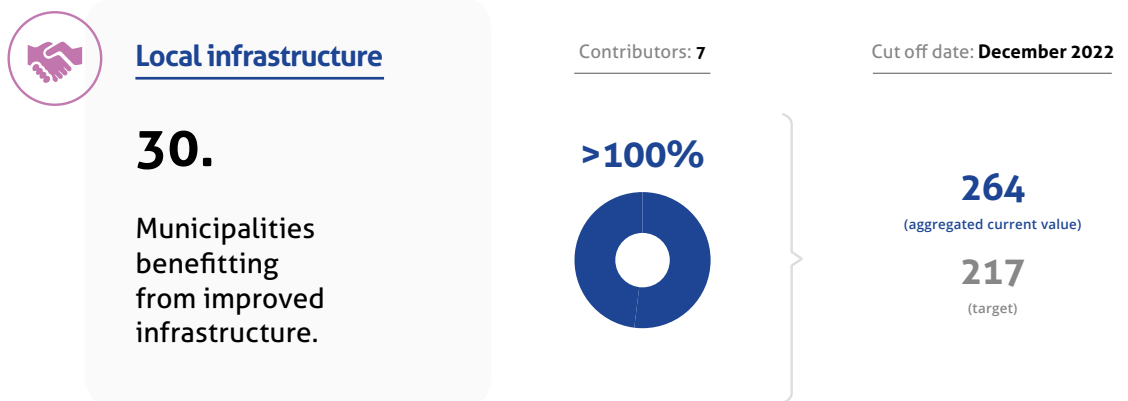


Figure 26.

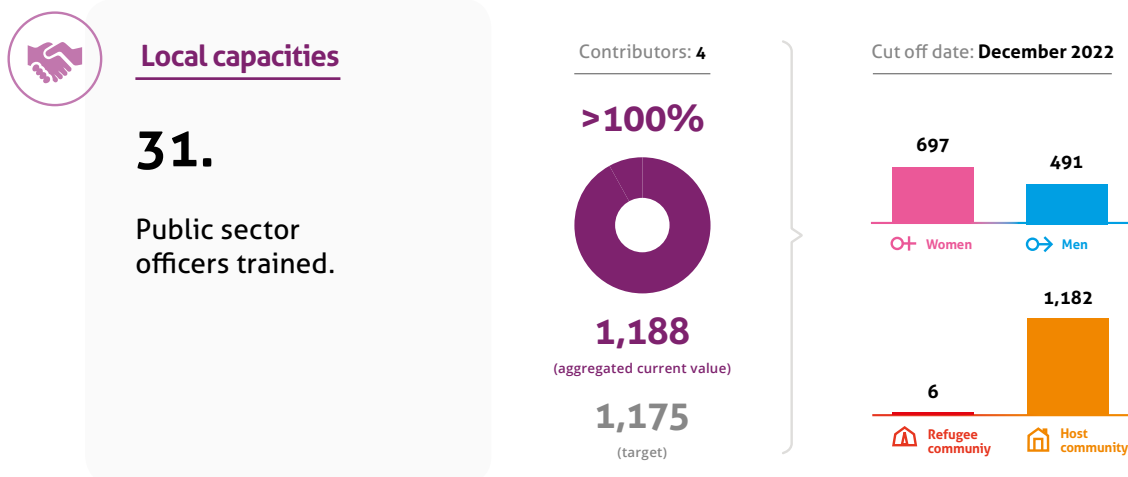


Figure 27.

## PROTECTION SOCIAL COHESION

health and rights. A number of legal cases had been launched, and local NGOs had been training in coordination with those cases. Awareness campaigns have been used by several projects (GIZ and Save the Children), as well as door-to-door approaches GIZ and the coordination with community focal points and municipality leaders (Save the Children) to promote changes in the behaviour of seeking support services. In cases of women and child abuse, the evaluation notes that the projects had met the needs of these women and children through the provision of comprehensive psychological support, GBV and legal services as well as referrals on sexual and reproductive health.

In terms of social cohesion actions (e.g. RDPP II and World Vision), the outcomes reported are *“the reduction of prejudices and the creation of a sense of belonging among youth participants to a common community”*. GIZ also undertook a survey, where both Syrian and Lebanese female adults, *“expressed gaining and applying new behavioural skills to improve communication with their children, reflecting upon and better managing their emotions – particularly anger and frustrations, and experiencing positive psychological outcomes”*. It is also reported that *“Syrian and Lebanese children were also empowered with similar skills to better manage the negative emotional effects of bullying”*



### Local capacities

**32.**

People trained in social cohesion related topics.

Contributors: 5

**100%**



**2.919**

(aggregated current value)

**2.926**

(target)

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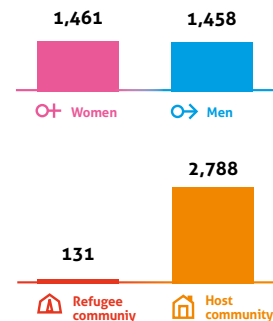


Figure 28.



### Local infrastructure

**33.**

Community centres and other facilities refurbished, upgraded in standards or equipped.

Contributors: 6

**52%**



**74**

(aggregated current value)

**143**

(target)

Cut off date: **December 2022**

Figure 29.



## PROTECTION SOCIAL COHESION

and that trust increased “among and within communities by deconstructing taboos and by adopting inclusive approach in service provision at the local level”. Paraphrasing the evaluation, *“these results are fragile and subject to the political context in Lebanon”*. Currently, material conditions in the country have drastically worsened.

On **changes at the level of local organisations and institutions**, the outcome evaluation highlights that largely *“social protection actors have changed their practices and developed their*

*capacities to provide refugees and host communities with greater and better access to social protection services as a result of the EUTF”* (UNICEF, GIZ, AICS).

The SDCs, at the local level are at the heart of social services provision in Lebanon, jointly with local civil society organisations, and MoSA. SDCs have strengthened their capacities to provide child protection and GBV services. The self-implementation modality -with focus on prevention- that some projects have supported, has not been effectively implemented due to administrative



### Access to services

**34.**

Young Syrian refugees and host community benefiting from peer information, outreach activities and extracurricular activities, such as sports and culture.

Contributors: 8

**91%**



**68,826**

(aggregated current value)

**75,261**

(target)

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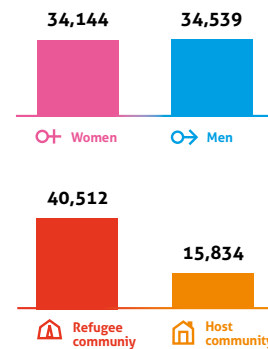


Figure 30.



### Local infrastructure

**35.**

People reached with information campaigns and awareness sessions, including on hygiene, environment, and social protection related topics.

Contributors: 26

**>100%**



**712,054**

(aggregated current value)

**567,182**

(target)

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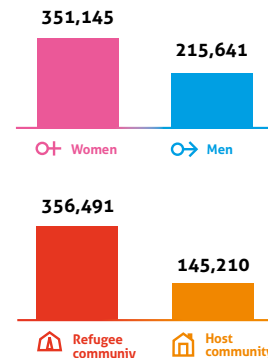


Figure 31.

### PROTECTION SOCIAL COHESION

limitations and lack of MoSA's support. Instead EUTF projects have supported an improvement in the relationship between the SDCs and specialised NGOs to ensure service provision. The evaluation highlights that the EUD had recently contracted a technical assistance to improve effectiveness of UNICEF, GIZ and AICS support, especially regarding the case management system. Retention of personnel is another key challenge in SDCs that needs to be considered to promote further organisational changes.

WFP also promotes improved capacity of relevant government bodies to manage resource transfer under the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), which includes MoSA and SDCs. The outcome evaluation highlights improvements of the monitoring through the SDCs in the field due to new equipment facilitated by the project. Data collection is a priority for WFP, so that they support MoSA's social workers with incentives to do household assessments. Although a new registry for case management and the support to MoSA and SDCs to improve the NPTP had improved the vulnerability assessments, according to the evaluation, MoSA's data management system is not functional yet and the system developed by UNICEF cannot be handed over to MoSA. AICS is now promoting a new e-networking project to bridge the gap.

Additionally, training of social workers (EFI, among others) and frontline workers (e.g. police, health workers, midwives, legal personnel) has been one of the key strategies to reinforce social service provision. According to the evaluation, *"frontline and specialized workers, now feel more confident working on child protection and GBV related issues. Work on social behavioural change has become more targeted and more refined and is being implemented with larger reach."* Not only training, but also new Standard Operating Procedures, developed with the assistance of ABAAD, a local RDPP II partner, has facilitated this strengthening process. Internal security forces (ISF) endorsed two curricula developed with the project support. The new law on anti-sexual harassment that has also been developed with ABAAD's support is related to the newly introduced regular training with police officers.

Another new organisational outcome refers to the creation of youth councils in certain municipalities, which contributed to increasing the civic participation of youth and to reducing tensions with the local authorities (World Vision). However, the current political context and, more acutely since 2019, has led to a disaffection for youth councils.

In terms of **changes in national institutions at policy and regulatory level**, the outcome evaluation highlights that in Lebanon national strategy and/or policy changes in the social protection sector have occurred to *"some extent"*.

A new strategy on social protection -the national social protection strategy, NSPS- was developed with wide consultation (ILO/UNICEF), and a first version was approved in May 2022. The NSPS, although an important step, will be limited by the adjustments required by the Council of Ministers who had recommended to exclude non-Lebanese from the protection system and apply a gradual approach considering the financial situation of the country. The NPTP still needs to be *"significantly scaled up to reach all households in extreme poverty"*. UNICEF (with EUTF support) provided technical assistance and advocated for social grants for people with disabilities. The national disability allowance has been approved and does not exclude non-Lebanese people.

The outcome evaluation highlights WFP's support to the creation of new NPTP governance structures including a Steering Committee (SC), co-chaired by the Minister of Social Affairs and by the EUD Head of Cooperation. The new SC introduced *"readjustment of transfer values to match Emergency Social Safety Net's (ESSN) ones, dollarization of cash assistance for Lebanese, and scale-up figures"*. The governance structures *"proved successful in strengthening national stewardship of the NPTP and facilitating decision-making and information sharing between NPTP stakeholders"*. "WFP transfer modality and the value of the cash assistance have frequently been modified according to beneficiary needs and the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) value.

## PROTECTION SOCIAL COHESION

A law on the criminalization of sexual harassment and rehabilitation of victims was approved in 2020, to which a local NGO, ABAAD, funded by RDPP II (EUTF) has contributed with advocacy and specific inputs to the draft law. It is the first law in Lebanon penalising perpetrators of sexual harassment and abuse. It also protects victims and witnesses and creates a specialised fund at MoSA to offer support and rehabilitation.

On child protection, the MoPH formally adopted new guidelines, developed with UNICEF support (UNICEF). These guidelines set a national framework to support healthcare providers dealing with children, victims of violence in contact with the healthcare sector. These guidelines will also help to define how cases of violence should be identified, safely referred, recorded and reports generated. It is expected they contribute to reduce the risks of child abuse and neglect and improve prevention.

In addition, the National Gender Observatory (NO) was formally established (T04.130) under the Office of Minister of State for Women's Affairs (OMSWA). After surviving several structural changes in the government, it is now integrated in the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW). The outcome evaluation highlights that the observatory, with the project support, contributed to the approval of the law to criminalize sexual harassment and for rehabilitation of its victims, and to the amendments made on the domestic violence law.