EUROPEAN UNION

The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis

الصندوق الاستئماني الأوروبي 'مدد'

Project Factsheet

MASAR for Local Governments
Maintaining Strength and Resilience for Local Governments in Iraq and Lebanon

OBJECTIVES

Strengthen the long-term resilience of targeted subnational governments and their host, refugee and IDP populations to deal with displacement. In addition:

- improve the capacities of subnational governments to engage in holistics, area-based planning and consider different scenarios that respond to the needs of host, refugee and IDP populations;

- improve service delivery to generate greater social stability outcomes, based on the needs of host, refugee and IDP populations;

- empower subnational governments and service providers to create economic opportunities through better access of municipal investment that benefithost, refugee and IDP populations.

BUDGET
EUR 15 million

START DATE
20/12/2018

DURATION
36 months

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Enhance capacities of subnational governments to engage in holistic, area-based planning and consider different scenarios that respond to the needs of host, refugee and IDP populations.

- Increase service delivery that is responsive and generates greater social stability outcomes, based on the needs of host, refugee and IDP populations.

- Empower subnational governments to facilitate local economic development and have better access to municipal investment that benefits host, refugee and IDP populations.
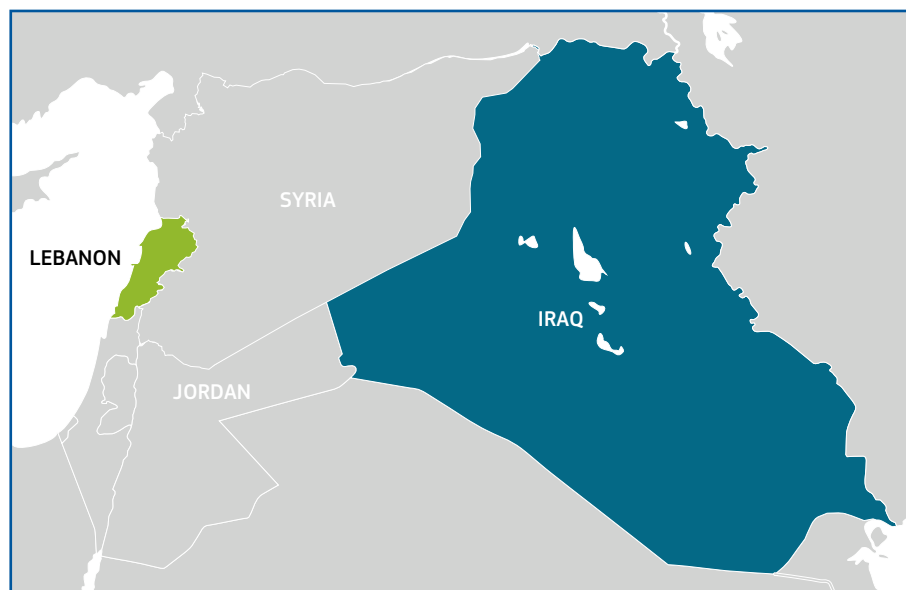
BENEFICIARIES

Host communities, refugees and IDP populations in Lebanon and Northern Iraq, especially youth and women, and subnational governments

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

VNG Vereniging van Nederlandse Gemeenten

KL

PCPM

Generalitat de Catalunya
Government of Catalonia

PROJECT LOCATIONS

IMPACT

The conflict that erupted in Syria in 2011 has resulted in what is now the largest refugee crisis in the world. More than 5.6 million Syrian refugees are registered in neighbouring countries, primarily Turkey (3 million), Lebanon (1 million), Jordan (650,000) and Iraq (250,000). Aside from being a humanitarian disaster, the refugee crisis puts heavy weight on the communities in which refugees reside.

From service delivery to housing, infrastructure, waste management or local economies, the mass influx of refugees presents many challenges to communities. Local or subnational governments are often the actors responsible for responding to these challenges.

This is why MASAR for Local Governments seeks to strengthen the long-term resilience of subnational governments and their host, refugee and IDP populations to deal with displacement. Financed by the EU's Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis ("MADAD"), the project targets those areas most heavily affected by the Syrian refugee crisis. By focusing on impro- ving service delivery, area-based planning and facilitating better access to municipal investment, the project seeks to help local and subnational governments develop sustainable long-term solutions to the challenges they face.

MASAR for Local Governments consists of two relatively autonomous programmes in Lebanon (Akkar, Baalbek-Hermel, and the coastal plain north of Tripoli) and Iraq (Duhok in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and the Ninewah plain in Federal Iraq), each with their own specific activities. Amongst others, activities focus on the development of emergency scenarios, strategic planning, capacity development in the areas of procurement and service delivery, technical assistance to help local governments attract municipal investment projects, as well as other activities focused on improving service delivery and creating economic opportunities for host, refugee and IDP populations.

MASAR is being implemented by VNG International along with the Polish Center for International Aid (Polish acronym PCPM), the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (Catalan acronym ACCD), and Local Government Denmark (Danish acronym KL).

Being rooted in local government, all organisations have solid understanding of the context within which they operate, and proven experience carrying out projects that target subnational governments.

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