



EUROPEAN UNION



The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis

الصندوق الاستئماني الأوروبي 'مدد'

LEBANON

The conflict in Syria has triggered the world's largest humanitarian crisis. Refugees from Syria are the biggest refugee population from a single conflict in a generation, with over 5.5 million Syrian refugees¹ in neighbouring countries and the wider region.

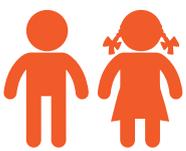
The countries bordering Syria are hosting the majority of refugees. Lebanon hosts 880,414 registered Syrian refugees¹ and has one of the largest per capita refugee population in the world.

The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis supports more than 45 projects in Lebanon, benefiting both Syrians and Lebanese.

As well as having a direct impact on the lives of Syrian refugees, Palestinian Refugees from Syria and vulnerable host communities in Lebanon, EU Trust Fund projects have a common emphasis on pursuing a longer-term resilience agenda that has a transformative effect on public service delivery systems across a range of sectors.



Sectors covered by the EU Regional Trust Fund (current values²):



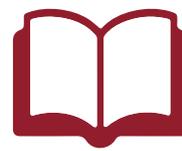
BASIC EDUCATION

361,662 girls & boys have access to primary education



LIVELIHOODS & LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

311,449 Syrians & Lebanese are benefiting from livelihoods & resilience support



HIGHER & FURTHER EDUCATION

1,645 young women & men have access to higher education or vocational training



WATER & SANITATION

148,826 Syrians & Lebanese have access to improved water services & infrastructure



HEALTH SERVICES

3,491,332 Syrians and Lebanese have access to medical care & health services



PROTECTION

82,106 Syrians & Lebanese are benefiting from protection services



SOCIAL COHESION

319,182 Syrians and Lebanese have access to social cohesion services

1 Source - UNHCR latest 2020 data

2 Seventh Results Reporting – EUTF Syria & Region – September 2020

IMPACT



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Mohammad, father of a one-and-a-half-year-old boy and a seven-year-old girl, lives in Khyara where he works and tries to provide sustenance to his family and three sisters.

"I have a car and I work but I don't get far; I just stay in my region here. I have some vegetables (tomatoes and cucumbers) and I sell them from my car. All day long," explains Mohammad, "I drive around to sell some

products and make some money to provide for the house."

However, what he is able to make is not close enough to support the needs of his family. "The girls are just at home, they don't work anymore. One of my sisters got sick and her illness really affected us," he adds.

Treatment for his sister is very expensive and the other sisters have to constantly take care of her. Mohammad's daughter used to attend school but he is now unable to cover her tuition. "We don't have anything [...] I am on my own running around to provide for the kids and to try and get by," he says.

With the support of the EU Trust Fund, however, the World Food Programme (WFP) is supporting families like Mohammad's through the Lebanese Government's National Poverty Targeting Programme. For the past five months, with the rechargeable e-card he received, Mohammad has been able to buy essential products for the household like rice, tea, lentils, oil and burghul. "Our situation was very bad and we could barely make it," says Mohammed. He continues: "My sisters [...] used to work in the field but ever since my sister got sick, they are at home to take care of her. We borrowed money from a lot of people."

He explains that WFP's cash assistance at least gives them a little push and a chance to afford something to eat. "At least now we can stand a bit on our feet," he says.



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28-year-old Sahar, mother of 3, is from Halab, Syria, and lives with her family in Saïda, Lebanon. "The situation is very hard here," she explains. "Sometimes my husband doesn't work, we have 3 children and do not receive any aid, so we can barely provide for the kids. Living conditions here are very hard." Their home does not have a door or any windows.

Sahar's family, however, can at least rely on the health services provided by the International Medical Corps (IMC), with the support of the EU Trust Fund, through a project called REBAHS, which stands for "Reduced Economic Barriers to Accessing Healthcare Services". Patients pay a moderate fee (i.e. 3,000 LL, about €1.8 euros) for consultations, lab diagnostics, test results and medications from the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health's essential medical list.

"My son had a problem with his eye and we had to rush him to the hospital. We only paid 3,000 LL but the medicine is not covered so we have to buy it elsewhere," explains Sahar when asked about IMC's health services. "I came to this hospital because it was the cheapest [...], any other hospital would charge more. I wouldn't have been able to get medical treatment for my kids as my husband works on rare occasions and we can barely afford bread."



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Ghina Ottoman is a teacher at the Al-Nejmeh centre in Tripoli and she helps Lebanese and Syrian children between the age of 10 and 14 who have been school drop-outs for at least two years. "We teach them Arabic and math, we have entertainment activities," she explains. Many Syrian and Lebanese children from lower-income regions like the one where the Al-Nejmeh centre is located drop out of school more easily: their families cannot afford school fees or need their children's help in providing for the household. Some parents are more interested in education for their children than others: "it doesn't have to do with them being Lebanese or Syrian, it depends on the parents' culture and beliefs," she continues.

Ghina is happy because through her work she feels she is making a difference for these children, especially by providing them with the psychological support they need.

With the support of the EU Trust Fund, Back to the Future gives almost 100,000 Syrian refugee and local children in Jordan and Lebanon access to informal education and protection, and a better chance to, one day, go back to the official education system.

SOME OF OUR IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

