



MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS

EU SUPPORT TO LEBANON

The EU pays tribute to the outstanding efforts the country is making since the outset of the Syrian refugee crisis. The EU remains deeply committed to assisting Lebanon in dealing with the crisis. Overall, the EU is the leading donor in the international response to the Syrian crisis, with **over €6.6 billion** from the EU and Member States collectively mobilized in humanitarian and development assistance. This support goes both to Syrians in their country, and to refugees and their host communities in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey and Egypt.

At the London conference on “Supporting Syria and the region” at the beginning of February 2016, the EU pledged €1 billion for Lebanon and Jordan for the years 2016 and 2017. Lebanon is expected to receive significant additional support in tackling the refugee crisis.

Lebanon hosts more than one million Syrian refugees, which represents 25% of the country's population, which is the highest per-capita concentration of refugees worldwide.



Overall, the European Commission has allocated **close to €800 million** in assistance to refugees and vulnerable communities in Lebanon since the beginning of the crisis. This includes:

- **€356.1 million** from the humanitarian budget, including €87 million for 2016
- **more than €250 million** from the European Neighbourhood Instrument mainly to support Lebanese institutions to provide Lebanese vulnerable communities and Syrian refugees with access to basic services
- **more than €42 million** from the Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability to address longer term resilience needs of affected civilians, both refugees and Lebanese host communities
- **€1.2 million** from the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights
- **close to €142 million** through the EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis, the ‘Madad Fund’, to address longer-term resilience needs of Syrian refugees and support Lebanese host communities and the national administration with a focus on increasing access for refugees to education and training, as well as livelihoods and health

This support comes **on top of the over €219 million** in regular programmed bilateral cooperation for Lebanon under the European Neighbourhood Policy, which brings **overall support to more than €1 billion**. The main part of non-humanitarian funding is allocated to the education sector, but also towards health, livelihoods and local infrastructures.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EU RESPONSE TO THE SYRIAN CRISIS

- Protect and assist Syrian and Palestinian refugees from Syria
- Help Lebanon mitigate the impact of the crisis by addressing the medium and long term needs of both vulnerable Lebanese citizens and refugees from Syria
- Reinforce the policy dialogue with the Lebanese government and the capacities of existing Lebanese institutions responsible for managing the crisis, at national and local levels
- Contribute to the provision of basic services such as free public education, primary and secondary health care, child and women protection, psycho-social support as well as access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
- Support the most vulnerable municipalities in improving their infrastructure and economic recovery

HUMANITARIAN AID TO LEBANON

EU humanitarian funding has contributed to cash assistance for most vulnerable refugees, secondary healthcare for lifesaving cases, non-formal education and shelter -including water, hygiene and sanitation- to improve the living conditions of the vulnerable families mostly affected by the displacement. Protection remains a

fundamental sector where partners conduct regular monitoring of the main protection concerns and provide awareness, counselling and legal assistance to the refugee population. Between 2015 and 2016, the EU's **humanitarian aid to Lebanon reached around 665.000 Syrian refugees.**

Number of registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon:
1 033 513*

Number of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon:
260 000 - 280 000



Number of Palestinian refugees from Syria:
40 739

Number of Iraqi refugees in Lebanon:
6 000

PREVENTING A LOST GENERATION OF SYRIAN CHILDREN AND YOUTH

According to UNHCR, close to 417.000 Syrian refugee children in Lebanon are aged between 3 and 14 years old. While exact numbers are not available, it is estimated that nearly half of Syrian refugee children do not have access to any form of education, exposing them to physical and/or psychological violence, child labour and exploitation, early marriage, and recruitment by armed groups. At the London conference, the participants committed that by the end of the 2016/2017 school year, all refugee children and vulnerable children in host communities will be in quality education with equal access for girls and boys.

Since the start of the Syrian refugee crisis, the EU has committed around to €188 million for education and child protection purposes in Lebanon. These funds are spent on formal and non-formal education, including providing refugee students with a safe environment where to learn and exchange while supporting the improvement of the quality of education and institutional capacities in the sector.

In particular, since 2012 EU funds, channelled largely through UNICEF and UNHCR have been paying enrolment fees for around 240,000 refugee children from Syria (6-14 age group)

DELIVERY OF AID

Since 2015, an increasing part of **non-humanitarian aid** for Syria's neighbouring countries to cope with the refugee crisis is channelled through the **EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis, the 'Madad Fund'**. The Trust Fund aims to bring a more coherent and integrated EU response to the crisis by merging various EU financial instruments and contributions from Member States and other international donors into one single flexible and quick mechanism. The Trust Fund primarily addresses longer term resilience needs of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries such as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq, as well as the hosting communities and their administration. In the future, the Trust Fund may start financing resilience activities inside Syria and could become a funding tool for reconstruction, resettlement and governance support following a political settlement of the crisis. With recent pledges from 21 Member States - amounting to over €69.3 million - and contributions from various EU instruments, the Fund is now reaching a **total volume of more than €700 million**. Additional funds will be committed in 2016 and beyond.

The Operational Board of the Trust Fund has already approved actions for a total amount **€628 million** including **€142 million support to Lebanon**, with a focus on increasing access for refugees to education and training, as well as livelihoods and health.

