LEBANON
IFRC Country Office

COUNTRY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Lebanon, a country of 4.4 million inhabitants, is hosting more than 976,002 (UNHCR) registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon. However, this number does not include all the new-borns or the unregistered refugees which are estimated at more than 300,000. The country also hosts around 30,675 Palestinian refugees from Syria, 6,000 Iraqi refugees and nearly 280,000 refugees from Palestine. This makes it the highest per-capita concentration of refugees worldwide, where one person out of four is a refugee.

This marketing document reflects the results that the Lebanese Red Cross and the Palestinian Red Crescent and the IFRC want to achieve in 2019.

LEBANESE RED CROSS: The Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) is a humanitarian organization established on 9 July 1945 as an independent National Society in Lebanon. LRC’s reputation was mainly established during the Lebanese Civil War (1975-1990) and its services, especially its ambulance service, scaled up dramatically during that period. A change in statutes in late 2005 and LRC’s highly visible actions during the July 2006 War with Israel led to a sustained effort to modernize and reform the Emergency Medical Services Department (EMS, ambulance services). New NS strategy is developed for 2019-2023, as well as specific department strategies. Revision of the statutes in 2018 was done and approved by the LRC board; this modifications provides the necessary tools to continue the process of LRC’s transformation. For 2019, LRC is focusin on operationalizing its new strategy and to continue providing services to the most vulnerable people in the country.

PALESTINIAN RED CRESCENT, LEBANON BRANCH (PRCS/L): PRCS/L has been providing medical services to Palestinian and Syrian refugees through their five general hospitals (secondary medical services) and eight community based health and first aid (CBHFA) centres inside and outside of the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. PRCS has created and manages a series of hospitals, clinics, emergency and other services in the refugee camps and other Palestinian communities to support vulnerable populations who do not have social and civil rights, have limited access to the government’s public health and educational facilities, and no access to public social services.
AREA OF FOCUS

SHELTER
Meeting basic humanitarian needs for these communities - primarily the displaced population from Syria, Lebanese host community and Palestine refugees in Lebanon - continues to be difficult. Based on LRC’s interest and commitment to work in the area of shelter with the support of PNSs and IFRC. The Shelter sector plans to build the capacity of Lebanese RC as part of a new strategic approach, which involves the IFRC Secretariat and partner NSs with shelter expertise in country.

HEALTH
LRC is the main provider of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Blood Transfusion Services (BTS) in Lebanon. Both are provided as free public services to all the population in Lebanon, including refugees. This plan will support the EMS response in some of the areas most affected by the Syria crisis, in order to ensure rapid access to pre-hospital emergency care for Lebanese, Syrian and other patients.

PRCS Lebanon Branch (PRCS/L) has created and manages a series of hospitals, clinics, emergency and other community based services in the refugee camps and Palestinian gathering.

With the absence including Palestinian refugees under any health care system (especially secondary health care system), and the increased demand for hospitalizing services, PRCS/L provides Palestinian refugees in Lebanon with hospital services.

WASH
The state of Lebanon’s water sector today is a cumulative result of fifteen years of civil war, two decades of post-conflict under-investment and the recent unprecedented Syrian refugee emergency. The WASH programme emphasizes assessment focusing on the following key criteria:

Defining a target area which lies within LRC strategic areas, Defining the vulnerability level of the target population, Applying assessment tools in order to pave the way for thorough PMER.

MIGRATION
Lebanon has traditionally been a migration destination for domestic workers from Asian and African countries. Lebanon is also home for more than 976,002 (UNHCR) registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon. However, this number does not include all the new-borns or the unregistered refugees which are estimated to be more than 300,000. Lebanon also hosts around 30,675 Palestinian refugees from Syria, 6,000 Iraqi refugees and nearly 280,000 refugees from Palestine. After the experience with IFRC EU project, LRC is looking to continue working on migration response. IFRC will provide technical assistance, training, coordination, networking as well as the necessary funding for the LRC migration officer.

STATISTICS
Lebanon has the highest per-capita concentration of refugees worldwide, where one person out of four is a refugee.

1 in 4

CONTACTS
For more information on the work of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Country, please contact:

Head of Country name: Cristian Cortez
Telephone: +961 71 802 926

Head of Country email: Cristian.CORTEZ@ifrc.org
Delegation address
Kontari Spears Street
Beyrouth, Lebanon

NEEDS ASSESSMENT
An additional 220,000 to 320,000 Lebanese citizens are estimated to have become unemployed since the Syria crisis began, and some 200,000 have been pushed into poverty, in addition to the 1 million already living below the poverty line (World Bank, 2016).

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES
The Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (CCAC) process was initiated with the support of IFRC and the first workshop was organized in January 2014. This has supported the creation of the LRC Strategy 2019-2023. The purpose of the LRC National Society Development programme is to strengthen, reform and re-organize the internal departments prof the LRC in order to improve the performance and sustainability of the main operational programmes of the LRC. PRCS/L will continue to implement its current strategy of improving capacities and leadership skills.

ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT
Facilitation of LRC training and deployment of relevant surge response mechanisms (e.g. RDRT, NDRT, ERU, FACT, PECT, etc.) will be provided through coordination support and training depending on the availability of funds. Main focus will be on provision of technical support to development and promotion of NDRT, in particular review and standardisation of manuals, SOP, curricula, etc. Additional support to LRC in the chair of the MENA Disaster Management Advisory Group (DMAG).

INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS
LRC will be supported to participate in international forums, workshops and conferences, as well as maintaining their current level of participation in the cluster system.

IFRC will continue supporting LRC in the development of IDRL for Lebanon as well as in contributing and promoting mobilization and partnership initiatives.

ENSURE EFFECTIVE IFRC
IFRC will support LRC to ensure the minimum human resources necessary for its functioning, to update its security procedures and documents as well as to implement its audit recommendations.