

Lebanon

Education Thematic Report

January - December 2016



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Prepared by:
UNICEF Lebanon
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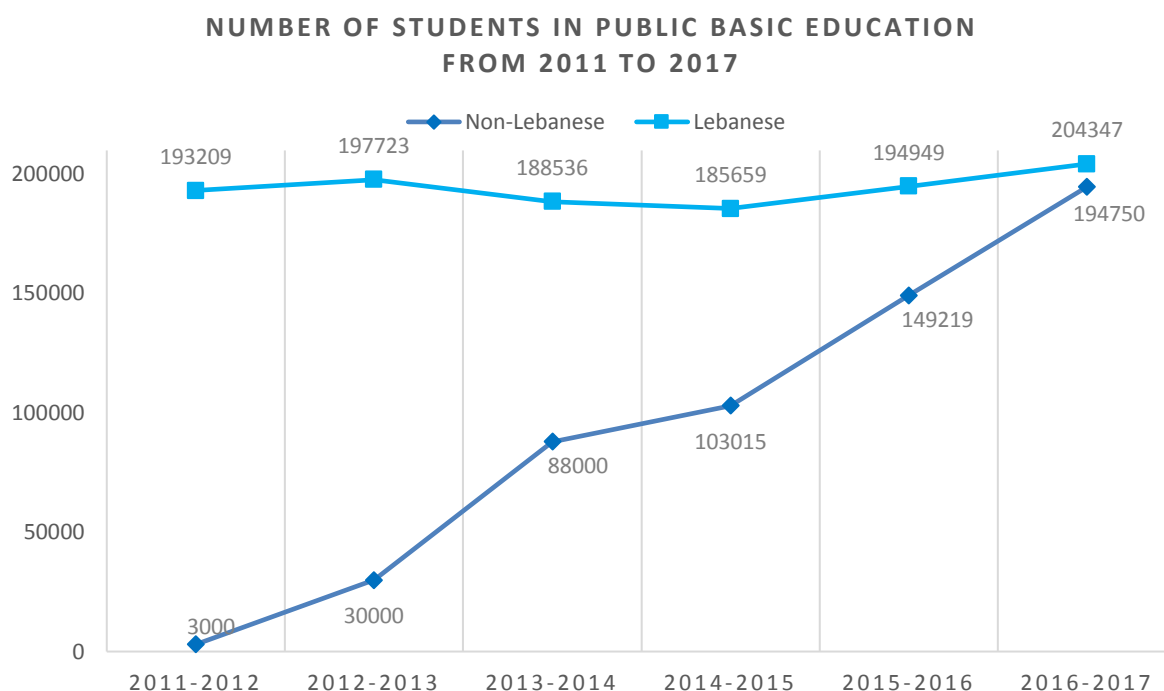
A) ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ALP	Accelerated Learning Programme
CERD	Centre for Educational Research and Development
ECE	Early Childhood Education
EWG	Education Working Group
GOL	Government of Lebanon
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
MEHE	Ministry of Education and Higher Education
NFE	Non-formal Education
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PSS	Psychosocial Support
RACE	Reaching all Children with Education Plan
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

B) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, now in its sixth year, continues to exact a devastating toll on its civilian population. As of December 2016, around 1 million Syrian refugees are registered in Lebanon, of which approximately 482,761 children aged 3-18 years (128,312 children aged 3-5 years, 276,101 children aged 6-14 years, 78,348 children aged 15-18 years). This is aside from the estimated 500,000 non-registered refugees in the country, as a result of the suspension of new registration by UNHCR Lebanon in May 2015.

The Syrian refugee influx has dramatically increased the demand on the public education system in Lebanon. The system was limited even prior to the crisis, with only 30 per cent of Lebanese children aged 3-18 years (275,000) estimated to be attending public schools, and the remainder mainly attending private schools. As such, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) initially launched the 'Reaching All Children with Education' (RACE) plan (2014-2016), followed by the RACE II plan (2017-2021) launched in September 2016, to provide Syrian refugee and vulnerable Lebanese school-aged children (3-18 years) affected by the Syria crisis with access to quality learning opportunities in safe and protective environments. Today, the substantial investments of the international community into the Lebanese education sector via RACE have allowed for the increase in the number of students enrolled in the Public Basic Education system, such that today over 204,000 Lebanese children and around 195,000 non-Lebanese children (aged 5-14 years) are enrolled in public schools.



Nevertheless, a large majority of the Syrian refugee children are still faced with significant barriers to access and stay in the formal education system due to language and curriculum differences, safety concerns, household reliance on income from child labour, and violence and discrimination in school. This re-emphasises the need to invest in access to education as a component of RACE II, addressing demand and supply barriers that impede enrolment into formal education; in parallel to the interventions to improve the quality of the education delivered and to system support.

C) STRATEGIC CONTEXT OF 2016

The Education Programme is planned in synergy with the Lebanon's national priorities and the overall vision of the Lebanon Country Office. It advocates for the rights of children as principal and inherent in its interventions and partnerships. The Education Programme is also strongly linked to Lebanon's National Priorities for Education, as articulated in the RACE II Plan (Reaching All Children with Education 2017-2021); which, as the Education Sector's work plan, envisions furthering inclusive education for the most vulnerable children in Lebanon by improving access to education, the quality of service delivery, and strengthening national education systems. These national education priorities are also in alignment to the goals of the UN system in Lebanon, which are articulated in the UNSF (United Nations Strategic Framework: 2017-2021). Globally, the Education Programme is also tied to SDG Goal 4; "Supporting quality education and life-long learning".

D) PLANNING AND RESULTS OUTLINED BY EDUCATION PROGRAMME AREA

In its final year of implementation, the Reaching All Children with Education (RACE I) Strategy resulted in significant successes by increasing the access to quality formal and non-formal education (NFE) opportunities for vulnerable Lebanese and non-Lebanese children. In line with the No Lost Generation initiative, RACE I interventions were achieved through the improved abilities of national systems and institutions to provide education services.

With regards to improving access to the formal education system, UNICEF Lebanon supported 113,328 Non-Lebanese children and 144,312 Lebanese children with enrolment into formal education for the 2015-16 scholastic year. Moreover, for the scholastic year 2015-16, over 30,000 children were provided with transportation.

As for improved access to non-formal education, UNICEF Lebanon's technical support in drafting the national Lebanese NFE framework – has been a key to improving access to education opportunities for children who have missed several years of schooling or for those who have never attended school before. Regulated NFE programmes under this framework provide certified reintegration pathways to those children who could not previously qualify for entry into formal education. The NFE Framework also clarifies the different types of admissible programmes and implementation modalities, and outlines the role of Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) in governance and quality control of these programmes. The content of several NFE programmes (Community-Based Early Childhood Education (CB-ECE), Preparation-Early Childhood Education, the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP), and retention support) under this framework were revised and regulated and later formalised as regulated and certified MEHE NFE programmes.

In parallel, to ensure that the rights of children that are unable to access formal schooling were fulfilled, UNICEF Lebanon, through NGO partners, provided access for 29,354 children into non-formal education programmes as a pathway to formal education (17,605 in ALP, 7,087 in CB-ECE, 4,662 in Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN)). On top of that, with UNICEF Lebanon's support, several international non-governmental organisation (INGO) partnerships were initiated which resulted in 32,479 school children receiving remedial education classes and/or homework support.

In addition, a total of 372,649 Lebanese and non-Lebanese children received school supplies comprised of stationery and learning materials in the formal and non-formal education systems.

Success in improving access in formal and non-formal education opportunities was aided by UNICEF Lebanon's support to core technical positions at the MEHE and its key institutions – the Directorate General, the Project Management Unit (emergency response unit), the Department of Orientation and Guidance (DOPS), and the Centre for Educational Research Development (CERD). This resulted in several changes at the systemic level: the national framework for NFE was drafted and finalised; a five-year education response strategy (RACE II) was drafted and endorsed; discussions on the revision of the teaching curriculum were initiated; a national symposium on education for children with special needs was organised; and national protocols for child protection in schools are in the final stages of endorsement.

Notwithstanding the expansion of the public education absorption capacity, significant demand-side bottlenecks remained. UNICEF Lebanon addressed this issue through the Back-to-Learning initiative that ran throughout the year, engaging parents, households, and communities on social attitudes to education, informing caregivers of various education pathways available, and also ensuring cases of institutional barriers to enrolment were forwarded to the MEHE.

Table A: Lebanon Education Humanitarian Performance Monitoring

		Sector 2015 target	Sector 2015 results ¹	UNICEF 2015 target	UNICEF total 2015 results
EDUCATION					
# of girls and boys enrolled into Formal Education (School year 2015-2016)	KGs	n/a	n/a	27,047	194,891
	First Shift of Primary Basic (Grade 1-9)	n/a	n/a	112,133	
	Second Shift of Primary Basic (Grade 1-9)	n/a	n/a	123,816	62,749
# of girls and boys (aged 03-04 years) participating in community-based ECE programmes		51,400 _a	3,658 _a	12,800	7,087
# of Non-Lebanese girls and boys enrolled in the ALP programme		30,000 _b	4,901 _b	25,714	17,605
# of girls and boys enrolled in Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN) programme (aged 08-15)		45,000 _b	8,016 _b	7,000	4,662

¹ The sector results are reported against the sector dashboards as taken from: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees>

# of girls and boys (aged 03 to 18) enrolled in formal and non-formal education programmes provided with adequate learning materials	n/a	n/a	450,847	372,649
# of personnel whose capacity has been strengthened	n/a	n/a	3,275	2,601

- a) Sector results from the Inter-Agency Coordination, November Statistical Dashboard (data from Jan-Nov 2016).
b) Sector results from the Inter-Agency Coordination Quarter Dashboard (data from Jan-May 2016).

RESOURCES

Table 1: Planned Budget for Outcome Area 5 and Available Funding

Due to the extension of the Country Programme, there was no planning figures at the output level in 2016 at all levels.

Table 2: Country-level thematic contributions received in 2016

No country level thematic contributions were received in 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

Table 3: Expenditures by Programme Area

**Outcome Area 5: Education for UNICEF Lebanon
2016 Expenditures by Key-Results Areas (in US Dollars)**

Organizational Targets	Expenditure Amount			
	Other Resources - Emergency	Other Resources - Regular	Regular Resources	All Programme Accounts
05-01 Early learning	41	41	45,842	45,924
05-02 Equity # focus on girls# and inclusive education	90	1,326	101,454	102,870
05-03 Learning and child-friendly schools	4,803,680	2,037	2,441	4,808,159
05-04 Education in emergencies	91,778,204	30,045,679	224,566	122,048,449
05-05 Education # General	12,954,196	639,595	185,924	13,779,715
Grand Total	109,536,211	30,688,679	560,227	140,785,118

Table 4: Expenditure of thematic contributions by programme area

**Outcome Area 5: Education for UNICEF Lebanon
2016 Expenditure of thematic contributions by programme area (in US Dollars)**

Organizational Targets	Expenditure Amount
Other Resources - Emergency	
05-05 Education # General	12,370
Other Resources - Regular	
05-02 Equity # focus on girls# and inclusive education	1,235
05-04 Education in emergencies	1,735,400
Grand Total	1,749,005

Table 5: Expenditures by Specific Intervention Codes

Outcome Area 5: Education for UNICEF Lebanon
Major Interventions Using Thematic Funds based on Specific Intervention Codes in 2016 (in US Dollars)

Specific Intervention Codes	Expense
05-03-02 Child Friendly Schools # Education	4,454,066
05-04-03 Life skills and vocational training	177
05-04-06 Education - Emergency response	116,013,941
05-05-01 Education -Systems	2,513,648
05-05-07 Adolescent development # building assets and skills	10,149,803
08-01-06 Planning # General	926,306
08-01-07 Humanitarian Planning (CAP/SRP, HAC) and review related activities	487,449
08-03-01 Cross-sectoral Communication for Development	155,521
08-03-02 Communication for Development at sub-national level	217,488
08-03-03 C4D # training and curriculum development	14,640
08-06-01 Building evaluation capacity in UNICEF and the UN system	4,493
08-09-06 Other # non-classifiable cross-sectoral activities	4,406,623
08-09-07 Public Advocacy	64,478
08-09-08 Engagement through media and campaigns	146,567
08-09-11 Emergency preparedness and response (General)	1,152,607
2092 Education interventions for out of school children in humanitarian response and post-crisis recovery	75,604
7921 Operations # financial and administration	1,706
Grand Total	140,785,118

* Total Utilized figures exclude recovery cost and are indicative figures obtained from UNICEF Performance Management System.

Planned budget for 2017

Include projection of planned budget and resources secured for programming in the year ahead. This will assist resource partners in understanding what shortfalls there may be in future programme delivery, and where they might be able to provide support.

Table 6: Planned budget for 2017

**Outcome Area 5: Education for UNICEF Lebanon
Planned Budget and Available Resources for 2016**

Education Outcome	Planned Budget	Funded Budget	Shortfall
Other Resources - Emergency	232,081,270	121,013,439	111,067,831
Other Resources - Regular	27,090,900	29,691,724	(2,600,824)
Regular Resources	70,000	70,000	-
Total for 2016	259,242,170	150,775,163	108,467,007

Funded amount includes carry over from previous year and amounts re-phased to 2017. ORE is contribution amount.

E) EXPRESSION OF THANKS

UNICEF Lebanon is grateful to its many donors for their strong and proven commitment to the vulnerable children and women affected by the Syria crisis. The flexibility of thematic support (OR+) provided for crucial humanitarian response activities and programmes is well appreciated in a context of ever-changing emergency needs, contributing significantly to results against critical Education targets.

F) ANNEX

UNICEF Lebanon invites donors to complete the Donor Feedback Form, the link for which is here below: English: [https://intranet.unicef.org/PARMO/PARMO.nsf/0/65C04DD38430DF04852579C80055C4E2/\\$FILE/Donor%20Report%20Feedback-PARMO.doc](https://intranet.unicef.org/PARMO/PARMO.nsf/0/65C04DD38430DF04852579C80055C4E2/$FILE/Donor%20Report%20Feedback-PARMO.doc)