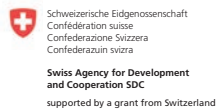


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IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS IN PALESTINIAN GATHERINGS Host Communities



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UNDP project in Palestinian Gatherings

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• Palestinian Gatherings

▲ Palestinian Camps



PALESTINIAN GATHERINGS IN LEBANON

Vulnerable communities exacerbated by the Syrian crisis

Due to the absence of basic urban service providers, the 42 Palestinian refugee Gatherings are considered to be among the most vulnerable host communities in Lebanon. In addition to some 110,000 original Palestinian dwellers, these Gatherings host today around 30,000 Palestinian (and Syrian) refugees displaced from Syria, increasing the population by 27%. This has been exerting unprecedented pressure on the physical and living environment and available resources.

Why this programme?

Improving Living Conditions in Palestinian Gatherings Host Communities is a project of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that falls under the UNDP Lebanon Stabilization and Recovery Program – Supporting Resilience in a time of Crisis. Active in the 42 Palestinian Gatherings across Lebanon since 2013, this project is designed to develop the resilience of these vulnerable host communities and mitigate social tensions, by upgrading WASH and other basic urban services (BUS), enhancing shelter conditions and raising awareness on healthy and environmental practices. Bringing together various Palestinian and Lebanese stakeholders, UNDP has been also leading efforts to inform and coordinate NGOs' and agencies' response in Palestinian Gatherings.

BASIC URBAN SERVICES Interventions in 2014



PALESTINIAN GATHERINGS IN LEBANON

- ✓ are defined by Fafo (2003) as neighborhoods located outside the camps where 25 or more Palestinian refugee households live together, constituting relatively homogeneous refugee communities.
- ✓ are not a recent product of the Syrian crisis. The formation of the first Gatherings dates back to the early years of the Palestinian exodus (1948-1950). Most of the Gatherings were formed later during the Lebanese civil war (1975-1990), due to fighting, destruction of camps and demographic expansion.
- ✓ fall under the geographical domain of 25 municipalities; yet these municipalities do not provide basic urban services in the Gatherings, mainly due to lack of financial resources. Similarly, these areas do not benefit from UNRWA basic urban services, that are provided only within the boundaries of the 12 official Palestinian camps, as per UNRWA mandate.

ACTIVITIES in 2014

BUS & Shelter

- **63** WASH and infrastructure projects implemented in 35 Gatherings
- **600** shelters housing PRS households rehabilitated and equipped with WASH facilities in 30 Gatherings and surrounding localities
- **350** jobs created in local communities for Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon and Palestinian Refugees from Syria



Hygiene Promotion

- **4000** dwellers directly targeted in 11 most vulnerable Gatherings as part of pilot campaign
- **5,380** household and baby hygiene kits distributed to PRS in 30 Gatherings



Coordination & Information Sharing

- "Profiling Deprivation: An Analysis of the Rapids Needs Assessment in Palestinian Gatherings Host Communities in Lebanon" published in May 2014 on a national level
- The Gatherings Working Group re-activated as a national planning and coordination platform chaired by UNDP
- A response plan in Gatherings host communities for 2015 developed with active organizations and shared with UN agencies and sector leads

