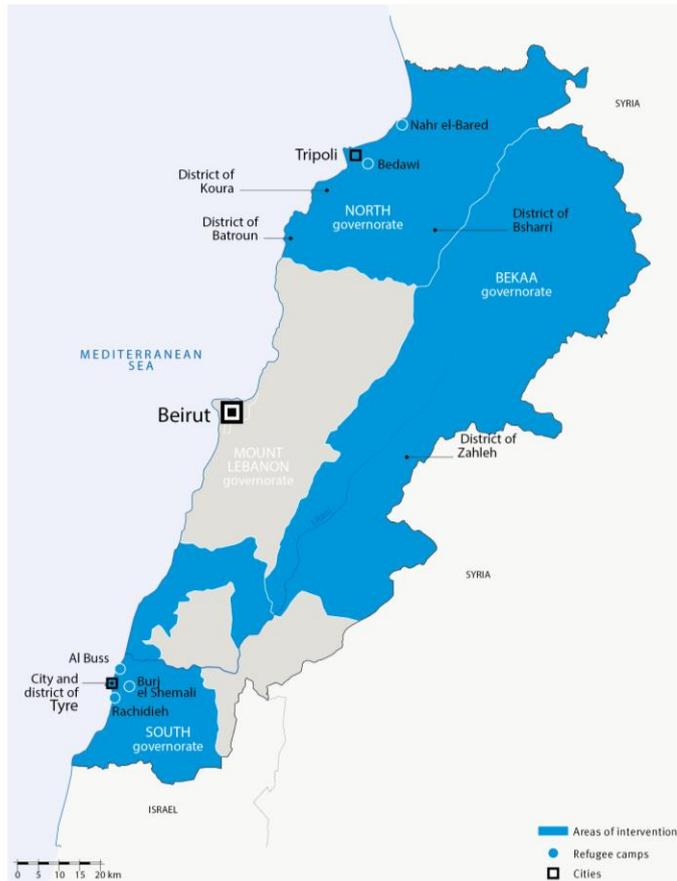




Lebanon



MANDATE

HI's work in Lebanon aims to increase the involvement of people with disabilities and vulnerable people¹ in community life, both physically (for instance, by providing access to education and health services and infrastructure etc.) and in terms of professional, cultural and social inclusion. The organisation also undertakes mine clearance in the north of the country to protect local population from the numerous explosive remnants of war from the 15-year civil war which ended in 1990.

As a result of the humanitarian crisis caused by the conflict in Syria, HI has also rolled out emergency projects aimed at the affected population groups (refugees and host populations). Specific situation updates provide information about these emergency projects.

SITUATION

Lebanon has high quality services, notably health, education and social welfare. However, people with disabilities, particularly in rural and isolated areas, find it hard to access these services. Lebanon is also home to a large community of Palestinian refugees, who mainly live in informal camps.² These refugees find it particularly difficult to access health and education services.

Additionally, as a result of several decades of intermittent conflict and despite 15 years of clearance efforts, the population continues to be affected by mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), with some victims requiring life-long assistance to live with their injuries.

Finally, the fighting in Syria has forced hundreds of thousands of Syrians to take refuge in the neighbouring countries, including Lebanon. These populations are becoming increasingly vulnerable over time. On arrival, new refugees find themselves in an unknown environment and sometimes have no resources. They very often require emergency assistance, primarily to treat their physical and psychological injuries.

INITIAL ACTIONS

HI started work in Lebanon in 1992 in the Palestinian refugee camps and clusters (rehabilitation and promoting the rights of people with disabilities, and mental health work with the populations most affected by the violence). The association has also provided emergency assistance in the crisis situations that have rocked the country and region. Finally, HI ran its first mine clearance projects in the country in 2007.

STAFF

127 staff members

Human development index (HDI) *	76 (out of 188 countries)
GNI per capita (\$PPP) *	\$13,312
Surface area *	10,450 sq.km.
Population (millions) *	5.9
Life expectancy *	79.5 years

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRDPH)	Ratified on 14/6/07
Oslo convention on cluster munitions	Ratified on 5/11/10
Ottawa mine ban convention	Not signed

*UNDP 2016 data: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/LBN>

¹ People whose independence, dignity or physical or mental integrity is at risk. Vulnerability may be caused by age, illness, infirmity, a physical or mental impairment, or pregnancy.

² Roughly 455,000 of the 5 million Palestinian refugees registered with the UN (UNRWA) in the Middle East since 1948 currently live in Lebanon in 12 camps and close to 39 unofficial clusters. Source: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, UNRWA.

Current projects 2017



Psychosocial and psychological support³

GOAL

This project aims to support the children of Palestinian families who are experiencing acute psychological suffering. The project seeks to improve as much as possible the living conditions of these children in the Palestinian refugee camps and clusters in Northern Lebanon and in the Tyr Region. Since 2013, this project has included children from Palestinian families who had been living in Syria before the conflict forced them to flee their homes. Now in its final stage, the successful results set the ground for replication. It is thus expected that another phase, building on the achievements of the current project, will be developed in January 2018, to further improve perceptions about children living with mental health issues and continue increasing their living conditions.

METHOD

HI intervenes in three main areas:

- **Community based mental health services:** provided in homes and in centres run by local partner organisations and teams of psychologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, psychomotricians, speech therapists and community workers. A specialist staff member organises fun activities for children, helping them express their feelings, work through their problems and overcome their traumas and psychological disorders. These activities are performed individually and in groups.
- **Family mobilisation:** parents are encouraged to become involved in the rehabilitation process of their children. Sensitization and awareness work on mental health is carried out for parents to increase their knowledge and change their perception of mental health issues, and encourage them to seek out help to alleviate the worsening of their child(ren)'s psychological condition. Psychological support services are also available for affected parents.
- **Technical and managerial support:** provided to local partner organisations to strengthen their technical and managerial skills and the quality and sustainability of mental health services.

BENEFICIARIES

- Each year, at least 245 children suffering from acute psychological problems and their parents in Palestinian refugee camps
- At least 150 Palestinian children forced to flee the war in Syria and who have serious mental health problems (or at high risk of developing them following very traumatic experiences) and their parents. Due to the impact of the Syrian crisis, Lebanese and Syrian children living close to the targeted Palestinian camps also benefit from the project's support.
- Teams of health professionals from partner organisations

PARTNERS

- Family Guidance Centre (FGC) in the region of Tyr
- Community Based Rehabilitation Association (CBRA) in Northern Lebanon

LOCATION

- Region of Tyre and North Lebanon (Tripoli)



Weapons clearance

GOAL

The aim of this project is to support socio economic development in Lebanon through clearance of mines and other Explosive Remnants of War (ERW).

METHOD

HI currently deploys 4 manual mine clearance teams that operate in the North Lebanon Province and more specifically in the districts of Batroun, Becharre and Koura. The contamination problem affects not only people's security, but also the economy. For many years the socio-economic development of Lebanon has been hampered by the significant contamination of land by mines and explosive remnants of war. As a result, the need to promptly and effectively complete demining activities in these communities is imperative to the continued economic development of Lebanon. Efforts are already being made to bring land no longer considered to be dangerous back into use by planting olive trees, building tourist facilities, and rehabilitating or constructing infrastructure. Some projects in highly strategic areas were launched as soon as weapons clearance ended. They include road widening, the erection of electricity pylons and bridge construction.

BENEFICIARIES

Lebanese citizens living in the province of Northern Lebanon

PARTNERS

Lebanese Mine Action Centre (LMAC)

LOCATION

Province of Northern Lebanon (districts of Batroun, Becharre and Koura).

³ AFD



Disability mainstreaming and inclusion of disability in services provided by humanitarian actors⁴

GOAL

Supported agencies have improved their capacity to identify barriers to access WASH facilities and tailor services to people with specific needs and people with disabilities.

METHOD

HI has been mandated by UNICEF to increase the capacity of UNICEF's partners working in areas of water, sanitation and hygiene to improve the inclusiveness of their services and ensure they are accessible to people with specific needs. The key activities for this programme are to provide capacity-building training sessions and tools tailored to each organization to increase their capacity to address inclusion challenges and provide responsive aid to people with specific needs.

BENEFICIARIES

UNICEF WASH implementing partners.

PARTNERS

N.A

LOCATION

Lebanon



Rehabilitation services for children with mental health issues in Lebanon⁵

GOAL

Needs of Children with Disabilities living in Palestinian camps and surroundings in North Lebanon are addressed by providing multidisciplinary and community based rehabilitation services.

METHOD

To improve access of multidisciplinary comprehensive rehabilitation services to children with mental health problems, this project is using a user centred and a community-based approach.

- Partners are technically supported to assess the needs of children referred by UNRWA, to identify those at risk of/or with mental health problems.
- If the screening results require it, the team elaborates and identifies a personalized rehabilitation plan for each child or refers this child to other service providers if his needs cannot be met by our partner.
- Close attention is also paid to children's caregivers to ensure they are trained on home-based rehabilitation techniques to be applied during the daily care activities.
- After the identification of needs and the elaboration of the personalized rehabilitation plan, our partner provides comprehensive rehabilitation services to children screened and selected for rehabilitation services.

BENEFICIARIES

Children with disabilities living in Palestinian camps

PARTNERS

Community Based Rehabilitation Association (CBRA)

LOCATION

North Lebanon (Beqaa area)



Emergency intervention for the most vulnerable persons with physical and functional limitations and their family members in Lebanon⁶

GOAL

This project aims to mitigate the impact of the Syrian crisis on people with physical and functional limitations and their families living in North Lebanon and Bekaa Valley.

METHOD

The action has two main components, protection and health.

⁴ UNICEF

⁵ UNRWA

⁶ ECHO 8

- Under the first component, the most vulnerable crisis affected people with functional limitations are **identified, their needs are assessed and they have access to different services**, implemented by HI or its partners or via referrals to external stakeholders.
- The intervention ensures the provision of physical and functional rehabilitation services. **Assistive devices** (including prosthesis and orthotics). **HI trains caregivers so that they are aware of rehabilitation techniques to be provided during the daily care activities.**
- **Complementary psychosocial support is provided for beneficiaries or family members in need.** Finally, to support the emergence of a more enabling environment and better access to services for all, **HI continues sensitizing local stakeholders and authorities on the challenges faced by people with functional limitations and participates to local/national debates in order to advocate for better access to services for vulnerable people with disabilities**

BENEFICIARIES

- At least 1,795 war affected individuals with functional limitations receiving physical and functional rehabilitation services provided by HI mobile teams and its 6 partners (80%)
- 715 caregivers trained on how to take care of rehabilitation patients and follow up with exercises at home.
- 350 individuals (rehabilitation beneficiaries or their family members) benefiting from psychosocial support sessions
- 60 community members trained in order to facilitate identification of most vulnerable cases in less accessible areas and circulation of information on available assistance
- 6 local health structures for rehabilitation trained, equipped and supported by HI.

PARTNERS

Forum for the Rights of People with Disability (FRPwD or Forum), New Aarsal, Tomouh, Vision Association, Iman Medical Centre, Dar Al Zahra hospital

LOCATION

Bekaa Valley, Akaar, Baalbek Hermel and North Governorate



Disability and Education Assessment among Syrian affected population ⁷

Regional project implemented in Lebanon and Jordan

OBJECTIVE

This project aims to assess the prevalence of disability within refugee populations, in order to better plan the programming of humanitarian assistance

METHODOLOGY

There is a critical gap in information regarding the prevalence of disability within refugee population in Jordan and Lebanon. This lack of data hinders the programming of humanitarian services and refugees with disabilities' access to basic and specialized services.

HI and IMMAP will thus conduct an assessment from August, 2017 to March, 2018 in camps, host communities and informal tented settlements in Jordan and Lebanon. Specific objectives include **identifying disability prevalence and areas of functional difficulties** (i.e. seeing, hearing, moving, communicating, concentrating, self-care, anxiety) of persons with disabilities, with additional information on sex, age, location. The project will **assess their level of access to services across sectors**. Secondly, the **study will look into the needs, experiences with and barriers to education of children with disabilities aged 6-12.**

BENEFICIAIRES

N.A

PARTNERS

IMMAP

LOCATION

Jordan (Zaatari and Azraq refugee camps, Irbid host communities), Lebanon (informal tented settlements in Bekaa Valley, North Lebanon and South Lebanon).

⁷ DFAT

MAIN FUNDING BODIES

<p>French Development Agency (AFD)</p> 	<p>European Commission</p> 	<p>OCHA</p>  <p>OCHA United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs</p>
<p>UNICEF</p>  <p>unicef</p>	<p>UNRWA</p>  <p>unrwa الأونروا</p>	<p>DAFT AUSTRALIA</p>  <p>Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</p>