Support to Host Communities in North Lebanon in the WASH Sector
Project 00088194

General Information

Short Title: Access to Potable Water
UNDP Programme/Portfolio: Environment & Energy
Geographic Coverage: North
Project Status: Ongoing
Start Date: 01 January 2014
Expected End Date: 31 December 2017
Implementing Agency: UNDP (Direct Execution) (UNDP)
Last Updated: 28 February 2017

Classification

MDG Goal: 7. Ensure environmental sustainability

Contact Information

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Donors & Budget

SDC $826,901.87
GoG $2,148,717.47
BPRM $2,268,000.00
GoG $3,562,697.50
Total $8,806,316.84

Target Groups /Beneficiaries
- Lebanese Citizens
- Rural local communities

Project Details

Background
With the continuing deterioration of the situation in Syria, Lebanon is witnessing a sharply rising influx of refugees through the northern and eastern borders, spreading onward across the country. An estimated 780,000 individuals have sought refuge in the Lebanese territory. Given the current trend, this number may reach 1 million by year end, more than 20% of the total Lebanese population.

Unlike other neighboring countries, no refugee camps have been established in Lebanon. The refugees are hosted in 1,400 locations across the country and increasingly residing in informal tented settlements, with concentration in the poorest and most underserved communities, characterized by weak infrastructure and insufficient social services. Such quick increase in the population size has resulted in tremendous pressure, and is being exerted on the already deteriorated living environment and resources, specifically in terms of access to adequate basic services, leading not only to health and environmental hazards but also to rising conflicts.

Assessments carried out by UNDP and other agencies indicated that among the neediest and urgent interventions are those related to supporting basic services including water. Since the beginning of the year 2013, UNDP has implemented several water related projects in areas most affected by the Syrian crisis: equipping municipalities and expanding potable water networks in the host communities to provide access to water to vulnerable Lebanese populations and Syrian refugees. In addition, several waste management and sanitation related projects were implemented aimed at reducing the risk of health problems.

Achievements & Expected Results
Identification, implementation of water supply/storage works and commissioning and handover of works to North Lebanon Water Establishment:
- Water networks completed and the household connections in 4 villages in Wadi Khaled (Akkar - North Lebanon) under the German funds (KfW) phase I are completed. The installation of a water pump and generation are installed in Nabaa Al Safa. Water reservoirs were also rehabilitated.
- Under the German funds (KfW) Phase II, five villages to implement irrigation networks are identified in coordination with MoEW. Works are initiated in one site (Kfar Nabrakh, Mount Lebanon).
- Turnkey contract for the implementation of wastewater networks and collective septic tanks is underway

Issues & Difficulties
- Political instability and security situation in the country
- Lengthy process for licensing for works
- Site conditions do not match initial ESFD assessment