

PRESS RELEASE**The Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) allocates \$6 million to support vulnerable populations**

Beirut 17th January 2022 – As part of the Emergency Response Plan (ERP), fourteen NGO projects funded under the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) will start this month providing Child Protection (CP), Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and Education assistance for those most vulnerable populations affected by the ongoing multi-faceted crisis in Lebanon. This is the fourth allocation of funding from the LHF in 2021 and has assigned \$6 million.

The activities are implemented by 6 national and 7 international NGOs and target all vulnerable populations with a focus on outreach to currently unsupported groups among Lebanese, Syrian refugees, Palestine refugees, and migrants. 61 percent of the indicative targeted population will be Lebanese, 32 percent Syrian, 4 percent Migrant, and 3 percent Palestine refugees.

“The LHF fulfills a critical role in focusing on those who are most in need of urgent assistance, targeting its support for the most vulnerable. In this allocation, the support will be for children out of education or at risk of dropout, children with disabilities and child survivors of GBV, as well as survivors of GBV and individuals at high risk of exploitation and abuse including those people with disabilities and special needs” said Najat Rochdi, United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon and Custodian of the Fund.

As a component of the transparency and accountability of funding provided through the LHF, the Fund maintains a commitment of zero tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA). The end goal is that all LHF partners have in place robust systems in their respective organizations to prevent both the incidence of SEA and when prevention fails, that their systems can effectively respond to the victims.

“This funding from LHF comes at a critical time as the dire situation in Lebanon continues to deteriorate and the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) has only received \$36.2 million (9.5%) of the total request of \$383 million leaving considerable unmet lifesaving activities” noted Rochdi, adding that “we count on generous donor support to address such vital unmet needs while we will all advocate for a swift and effective implementation of the reform agenda as the only way to end the humanitarian needs and to start a sustainable recovery”.

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