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COMPREHENSIVE APPEAL

RESTORING DIGNITY:

RESPONSES TO
THE CRITICAL
NEEDS OF
VULNERABLE
PALESTINE
REFUGEES
IN LEBANON
2012 - 2016

28 September 2011

UNRWA LEBANON FIELD OFFICE



FATHER AND SON IN NAHR EL BARED CAMP

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The presence of Palestine refugees in Lebanon dates back to 1948 when around 100,000 Palestinians fled their homeland during the Arab-Israeli war. They eventually settled into a number of camps and gatherings throughout the country, primarily near the urban centres of Beirut, Tripoli, Saida, Tyre and the Bekaa. Since 1950, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has been providing health, education and emergency relief services for the displaced Palestine refugees in Lebanon. In recent years, UNRWA has also sought to rehabilitate shelters and to upgrade water, drainage and sanitation services in the camps as part of its Field Infrastructure and Camp Improvement Programme (FICIP).

There are currently 425,000 Palestinians registered with UNRWA in Lebanon in the twelve official camps and forty-two gatherings across the country; however, the actual number of Palestine refugees currently residing in Lebanon is estimated to be between 260,000 and 280,000. Palestine refugees in Lebanon continue to experience great hardship and poverty in their daily lives. Lacking many basic rights and excluded from state services, they depend on UNRWA to provide for their most basic health, education and relief needs. Living conditions within the twelve camps in which the majority are confined have also continued to steadily deteriorate, with infrastructure placed under increasing strain by a growing population with no room to expand. In the absence of a resolution to their

long-standing plight, refugees face an increasingly bleak and uncertain future, with few prospects and little hope of improvement.

The AUB/UNRWA survey, published in December 2010, brought to light the dire situation facing the Palestine refugees in Lebanon. According to the survey, two-thirds of Palestine refugees are considered to be poor (subsisting on less than US\$ 6 per day), while 6.6% are classified as living in extreme poverty, meaning that they are unable to cover their basic daily food needs. Early school leaving and low levels of educational qualifications (only one-third of Palestinians have the Brevet, the official exam taken at the conclusion of Grade 9), coupled with restrictions in their ability to participate in the Lebanese labour force (56% are jobless) means that many families exist in a state of persistent economic insecurity.

The rates of chronic illness and disability among the Palestine refugee population in Lebanon are indicative of the overall health status of the community; both impact on the livelihoods of individuals and create a potential burden for the families affected. According to the AUB/UNRWA survey, one-third of the Palestine refugee population is estimated to have a chronic illness. Furthermore, the percentage of household expenditure allocated to health increases significantly when a family member is chronically ill or disabled, straining already limited financial resources.



SHELTER IN BEDDAWI CAMP



WOMAN IN BEDDAWI CAMP

Poor nutrition is closely correlated with ill-health and poverty and the AUB/UNRWA survey states that 55.7% of households are considered vulnerable to food insecurity, reporting an inability to afford more food when food was insufficient. A lack of adequate food leads to malnourishment which is known to cause stunting and poor cognitive and psychomotor development in children. This can bring about both increased health risks and impaired learning ability.

In spite of the growth of local camp populations, the surface areas of the camps have not increased since they were first established. Housing conditions within the Palestine refugee camps continue to be dire, with thousands of families residing in rundown and hazardous shelters. 40% of households have water leaking through the roof or walls; 8% live in shelters with roofs and/or walls made from corrugated iron, wood or asbestos. Camp infrastructure is also decayed, including a lack of adequate drinking water, corroded sewerage pipes and deteriorating and congested roads and alleyways. The overcrowded living conditions and haphazard maintenance of housing are in part responsible for the poor health of the refugee population; they have been linked to poor physical and mental health and a disproportionately high level of chronic illness among Palestine refugees.

There are positive signs of change in the Lebanese government's policies towards the Palestinian refugee population. In the Ministerial Statement issued in July 2011, the government committed itself to providing for the humanitarian and social rights of Palestinians in Lebanon. Whilst rejecting settlement

in all its forms, it expressed its specific support for the reconstruction of Nahr el-Bared Camp and for the strengthening of UNRWA's budget to enable it to fulfill its humanitarian role.

Notwithstanding these positive commitments and the introduction of reforms as reflected in recent amendments to the Labour Law and Social Security Law (approved by the Parliament on 17 August 2010), refugees are still deprived of many of their basic socio-economic and human rights. Taken as a whole, the Palestinians' chronic marginalisation has the potential to threaten social stability in the country. Combine this with an overwhelmingly young and disenfranchised population – half of whom is under 25 years of age – and the situation is apt to boil over into conflict. As the sole neutral service provider in a highly volatile environment, UNRWA therefore faces unique challenges.

Palestine Refugees In Lebanon | Facts & Figures

Population:	260,000 – 280,000
No. of Official Camps:	12
No. of Gatherings:	42
Refugees in Camps:	62%
Living on less than US\$ 6/day:	66.4%
Living on less than US\$ 2.17/day:	6.6%
Jobless:	56%
Low-skilled labor force (primary education or below):	46%
Never attended School:	10.2%
Households lacking sufficient living space:	55%
Households with at least one chronic illness:	72%
Households with at least one disability:	15%

Source: AUB Socio-Economic Survey of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon

In light of the findings presented in the AUB/UNRWA survey, UNRWA Lebanon has redesigned its programmes to better identify and address the needs of the poorest among the Palestine refugee population. With the linkages highlighted between poverty, education, chronic illness, employment and shelter conditions, the Agency has been able to redefine its criteria for beneficiary selection to make sure that the most vulnerable refugees are assisted. These targeted interventions will help to make the greatest

impact to alleviate poverty among Palestinians in Lebanon while simultaneously contributing to greater peace and stability within the country.

This appeal focuses primarily on the urgent needs for 2012. However, the Agency would also like to bring attention to its funding requirements for the subsequent years in order to encourage donors to take a long-term view towards addressing the high rates of poverty and substandard living conditions among the population. Without this assistance, Palestine refugees would be subject to increased poverty and marginalization. The support of the international community is crucial in ensuring that UNRWA can discharge its mandate and bring about lasting improvements for the beneficiaries it serves.

The relief and recovery needs for Nahr el-Bared Camp (NBC) are distinguished from those of the other camps and the gatherings throughout Lebanon. The prolonged displacement of nearly 27,000 residents from the camp after its complete destruction in the summer of 2007 has resulted in an acute humanitarian crisis among the population. Refugees from NBC suffer from increased health problems, particularly in the form of mental illness. In addition, the restrictions on movement into and out of the camp imposed by the Lebanese authorities have led to the stagnation of the community's once-thriving economy. This has further increased the financial burden on displaced families.

In regards to the reconstruction of Nahr el Bared, the Agency still faces a shortfall of US\$ 195 million dollars (or 60% of the total budget). UNRWA is not requesting funding for the reconstruction of the camp under this appeal. However, it is important to note that NBC relief and recovery activities are intrinsically linked to the rebuilding of the camp. The need for basic health, food and shelter provisions of the displaced population will remain an urgent funding priority for the Agency until the camp has been fully reconstructed.

For the 11 other camps and the gatherings in Lebanon, UNRWA is planning a number of interventions between 2012 - 2016 to improve the living conditions and alleviate poverty among the Palestine refugee population. This will include:

- The rehabilitation of substandard shelters to improve the living environment for around 4,150 families throughout Lebanon;
- Major infrastructural improvements to upgrade water and sewerage networks, household connections and roads for 14,667 families in Ein el-Hilweh Camp;
- Ensuring the availability of safe drinking water for 14,833 families in Shatila, Burj el Barajneh, Dbayeh, Mar Elias, Beddawi, El Buss, Mieh Mieh and Wavel Camps;
- Increased coverage for tertiary health care services and medications for 4,100 refugees suffering from acute or chronic illnesses;
- Food assistance for 70,000 of the most vulnerable Palestine refugees;
- Improved access to UNRWA services for 945 refugees with disabilities;
- Emergency and community support to 600 individuals;
- Enhanced vocational training and job placement services for 2,800 youth; and,
- Improved primary, secondary and university education for Palestinian youth.

For 2012 activities in Nahr el-Bared Camp (amounting to US\$ 15.8 million), UNRWA recently received confirmation of a donation of US\$ 5,440,000. This leaves a funding shortfall for 2012 of US\$ 10,336,000. From the 2012 budget requirements to support vulnerable Palestine refugees in Lebanon (amounting to US\$ 27.5 million), the Agency has positive indications that it will receive US\$ 12.5 million from donors. Thus, UNRWA is seeking an additional US\$ 15 million to carry out relief and recovery activities for vulnerable Palestine refugees throughout Lebanon in 2012. Overall, the Agency has secured around 40% of its funding needs for 2012. The Agency is seeking approximately US\$ 26 million to meet its funding shortfall for next year.

We hope additional funding will be mobilized to allow the Agency to implement projects in the areas of infrastructure, health care, education, employment and relief services for all Palestine refugees living throughout Lebanon.

II. JUSTIFICATION FOR URGENT RELIEF AND RECOVERY ASSISTANCE

A. NBC DISPLACED FAMILIES

Following the destruction of Nahr el-Bared Camp in 2007, the homes, commercial properties, mosques and NGO and community facilities of the Palestinian community were left in ruins. The UNRWA Compound which housed the Agency's local health clinic, schools and relief office, was also completely destroyed. Nearly 27,000 inhabitants from NBC were forced to abandon their homes.

Four years later, over 5,900 families remain uprooted and are completely reliant on UNRWA's assistance. Many of them are currently residing in temporary accommodations in Beddawi camp near Tripoli, the areas adjacent to NBC and other locations in the vicinity. The effects of this displacement have compounded the already severe socio-economic conditions facing these refugees and constitute a chronic humanitarian crisis.

In 2011, the Agency commenced the delivery of the first of eight construction packages in NBC. The first portion of Package 1 was completed in April 2011. As of September 2011, over 300 families have received the keys to their new homes in Package 1 and some local businesses have been able to return. Construction on Package 2 is progressing and the first families are expected to return in the spring of

2012. Package 3 is now fully funded and the first two blocks in this package are being tendered.

The reconstruction of the first three school buildings in the UNRWA Compound located within NBC was recently completed in time for the start of the 2011 - 2012 academic year on 17 September. This allowed nearly over 2,400 primary and secondary school students to relocate from overcrowded temporary school buildings in Beddawi and the NBC Adjacent Areas which are currently operating on a double-shift basis. Funding has also been secured for the health centre as well as one additional school. With the support of donors, UNRWA has been able to establish an expanded North Training Center (NTC) within one of the reconstructed schools. The center helps displaced NBC residents to develop skills that will improve their employment prospects and help regain their livelihoods following the crisis.

Notwithstanding these positive developments, however, the major impediment to the reconstruction of the camp is insufficient funding. The most recent estimate of the cost of reconstructing Nahr el-Bared Camp is US\$ 345 million (including pre-reconstruction operations). To date, only 40% of the donations required for reconstruction have been secured, leaving a shortfall of US\$ 195 million.

Status of NBC Reconstruction & Pre-Reconstruction Operations

Total cost:	US\$ 345 million
Total funds secured:	US\$ 150 million
Total shortfall:	US\$ 195 million
No. of Packages:	8
Expected Completion of P1:	Fall 2011*
Expected Completion of P2:	Summer 2012
Packages in Need of Immediate Funding:	4 and 5
No. of Schools Constructed:	3
No. of Schools Under Construction / Tendered:	1
No. of Schools to be Funded:	2

* All Package 1 residents have now returned, with the exception of parts of block N1 and the 39 buildings that needed to be retendered.

The full reconstruction of Package 1 is expected to be completed in 2012.

Generous donor support since 2007 has allowed UNRWA to meet the most basic relief and support needs of the displaced population. Nevertheless, the long-term recovery of NBC and its residents is by no means assured, and UNRWA's continued support to those who have been displaced continues to be vital. Many UNRWA services, such as the provision of rental cash subsidies and increased hospitalization coverage, were considered to be a condition of NBC residents' displacement. As families return to their new homes, the caseload of families receiving rental cash subsidies will be reduced to approximately 3,000 families by the end of 2012. The lack of improvement in the overall economic situation and restrictions on movement imposed on NBC residents means they will continue to depend on UNRWA's increased hospitalization support, food assistance programmes and provisions for temporary shelter, representing a significant cost.



JAL EL BAHER GATHERING, TYRE, SOUTH LEBANON

B. VULNERABLE PALESTINE REFUGEES IN LEBANON

While much international attention in recent years has been focused on the reconstruction of NBC and the relief needs of those who have been displaced, there remains a pressing need to address the plight of Palestine refugees living in the other 11 camps and many gatherings around Lebanon.

More than half of the refugee population (62%) reside in the camps and face particular challenges in terms of poor living conditions, a high incidence of chronic illness and a lack of food security. According to the UNRWA/AUB survey, poverty among Palestine refugees is particularly concentrated in the camps in the south around Tyre and Saida.

Unlike other fields of UNRWA operations (including Syria, Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza), Palestine refugees remain excluded from services provided by the Lebanese State. Moreover, the Government of Lebanon provides very little support to the refugee camps, other than allowing the connection of the camps' waste water and storm water to the municipal systems and the connection of a small number of camps to the municipal water supply network.

Therefore, most Palestine refugees look to UNRWA to be the main service provider for infrastructure, including housing rehabilitation, the provision and upgrading of water supply networks and other water-related services inside the camps.

While the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health covers 85% of hospital care and provides medications free-of-charge for Lebanese patients suffering from severe chronic illnesses, Palestine refugees can only access subsidized health care through 35 UNRWA-contracted hospitals. Otherwise, they must pay the full amount out-of-pocket. Given that 95% of the refugee population lacks medical insurance, UNRWA goes beyond its usual role by absorbing the costs of primary and secondary care and partial expenses for tertiary care incurred by Palestinians in Lebanon. In May 2011, recognising the acute challenges faced by refugees, UNRWA increased its coverage for tertiary hospitalization from 30% to 40%, thereby raising the ceiling per admission from US\$ 2,000 to 3,000.

The poverty that Palestine refugees face in Lebanon as a result of their marginalisation means that many of them are unable to meet their most basic needs including access adequate food. Families in these categories are more prone to removing their children from school in order to send them to work, further



EARLY INTERVENTION UNIT IN SAIDA

hindering future income-earning opportunities and tying them to an unending cycle of poverty.

These groups are also more likely to delay accessing medical treatment, resulting in high levels of chronic illness and disability, further exacerbating poverty levels among the population. As identified in the recent AUB/UNRWA survey, all households with a disabled family head (9%) are classified as extremely poor, which places them in an increasingly vulnerable situation.

Two of the root causes of poverty amongst the Palestine refugee population are low educational attainment and the lack of employment opportunities. Results from the AUB survey show that 8% of those between 7 and 15 years of age were not at school in 2010 and only half of young people of secondary school age (16 - 18 years) were enrolled in education. Furthermore, two-thirds of Palestinians above the age of 15 do not have a Brevet. This low level of educational achievement has a direct impact on income-earning opportunities and on other lifestyle measures; household heads with at least Brevet are less likely to have poor households.

In terms of employment, in spite of the recent introduction of certain limited reforms, Palestine refugees continue to be legally excluded from the labour force in Lebanon. It is estimated that only 37% of the Palestinian population of working age is employed, primarily in low-skilled, seasonal or informal employment, with little job security or prospects for improvement.

From all of this, it can be clearly seen that Palestine refugees in Lebanon live in precarious conditions. As the provider of food and disability assistance, education and employment services, health care, and housing and infrastructural improvement to all Palestine refugees living in the twelve official camps in Lebanon, UNRWA is the primary organization in Lebanon attending to the needs of the Palestinian population. The heavy reliance of the population on free UNRWA services, however, creates a significant financial and operational burden for the Agency. Without the social service net put in place by UNRWA, however, the plight of Palestine refugees would be even worse.

III. FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

A. DISPLACED NBC RESIDENTS

Generous donor support since 2007 has allowed UNRWA to meet the most basic needs of the population as reconstruction of the camp continues. Nevertheless, the long-term recovery of NBC and its residents is by no means assured, and UNRWA's support to those displaced continues to be vital. Funding for NBC relief and recovery activities in 2012 will allow UNRWA to provide much needed assistance in the areas of shelter, food security, education and health.

UNRWA's emergency assistance objectives for NBC displaced families until the camp is fully reconstructed are:

- Provide adequate shelter for NBC displaced until their homes are reconstructed.
- Enhance the food security of NBC displaced Palestine refugee families.
- Improve the access of displaced Palestinian youths from NBC to education.
- Ensure access to health services and medications for all Palestine refugees from NBC.



OBJECTIVE 1: PROVIDE ADEQUATE SHELTER TO NBC DISPLACED FAMILIES

i. Rental Cash Subsidies

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 6,440,000
Budget for 2013 (expected):	US\$ 5,200,000
No. of Beneficiaries 2012:	3,455 families (approx. 15,548 individuals)
No. of Beneficiaries 2013:	3,000 families (approx. 13,500 individuals)

As a result of the conflict, NBC residents lost their homes, savings and personal belongings. While awaiting the reconstruction of the camp, they are residing either in rented accommodation, temporary shelters provided free of charge by UNRWA or are hosted by families across the country. For those living in rented accommodation, the additional economic burden is deepening the social and economic

hardships already experienced and a large portion of the community remain unable to pay the rent themselves.

UNRWA has committed to providing Rental Cash Subsidies (RCS) to all NBC displaced living in rented accommodation until their homes are reconstructed and they can move back to the camp. UNRWA aims to

provide US\$ 200 per month per family in rental cash payments. In the past 3 years, however, due to the lack of funding, UNRWA has only been able to provide a quarterly payment of US\$ 150 per month per person. This assistance helps ensure decent, safe living conditions for displaced families and contributes to their financial stability.

As families move back to the camp, the caseload of RCS beneficiaries will progressively be reduced. After the anticipated return of additional families in 2011, the estimated number of beneficiaries receiving rent cash subsidies at the beginning of 2012 will be 3,455. Reconstruction in Package 2 is also moving forward and it is estimated that by the third quarter of 2012 another 455 families will be able to move back to their homes in Package 2. This will again reduce the caseload of RCS recipients. With a recent donation from the European Union, the Agency is currently still seeking US\$ 1,000,000 to provide shelter assistance in 2012.



ii. Maintenance of Plots & Collective Centers

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 80,000
Budget for 2013 (expected):	US\$ 74,000
No. of Beneficiaries:	5,911 families (approx. 26,635 individuals)

UNRWA has constructed a variety of temporary structures in Beddawi Camp and the adjacent areas of NBC to meet the immediate housing, education and health needs of NBC residents. This includes six temporary schools, two health clinics, five plots of temporary shelters (plots 23, 674, 774, 385, and 755) and three rented collective centres.

A total of 715 families are provided shelter through UNRWA temporary accommodation sites. As only a few of the families living in these plots belong to Package 1 or Package 2 (i.e. those will be moving back to their constructed homes in 2011 - 2012), most of the plots will remain in operation over the course of 2012. It is expected that one of the temporary plots will be closed in 2012 as families

move back to the camp. In addition, accommodation will continue to be provided through three of the original ten collective centres.

After four years of occupancy, substantial maintenance works are required on the temporary shelters. Funds are needed to cover routine repairs (e.g. roof leakages, sewer repairs, drainage repairs) in most of the structures, while major works are required in the three aforementioned collective centres. Support is also needed for various works such as electrical supply, plumbing and infrastructure maintenance. The funding requirements for future years will vary based on the progress of reconstruction and will be updated accordingly.

iii. Leased Land & Electricity in Adjacent Areas

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 1,050,000
Budget for 2013 (expected):	US\$ 900,000
No. of Beneficiaries:	3,824 families (approx. 17,351 individuals)

Many of UNRWA's temporary facilities, including plots, schools, health clinics and collective centres, are on land that was leased for a limited period of three years. It was expected that the structures would no longer be needed after that period. As these contracts came to an end, UNRWA was able to negotiate new lease agreements on the lands in the NBC adjacent area. The Agency will maintain all temporary premises in operation over the course of 2012.

UNRWA has connected the temporary premises to the external power network supplied by the Government of Lebanon. This network consists of metered electricity from the national power provider, Électricité du Liban (EDL). UNRWA maintains three

transformers to support this connection and also utilizes rented and purchased generators. UNRWA operates a total of 15 large generators to provide electricity to the plots, schools and health centres serving NBC displaced refugees while rolling EDL power cuts affect the area. The provision of diesel thus remains a vital relief need and is especially essential in the winter months to maintain heat in the shelters, temporary schools and health centers.

The funding needs under this objective will decrease in subsequent years as homes, businesses and UNRWA facilities are reconstructed and families return to the camp.

OBJECTIVE 2: ENHANCE THE FOOD SECURITY OF NBC DISPLACED PALESTINE REFUGEE FAMILIES

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 2,420,000
Budget for 2013 (expected):	US\$ 2,450,000
No. of Beneficiaries 2013 (expected):	4,500 families (approx. 20,250 individuals)

Food assistance has been at the core of UNRWA's relief support to NBC displaced since the beginning of the crisis. The food security programme ensures that families do not engage in negative coping strategies, such as reducing the quantity of food or eliminating nutritious foods from their diets. UNRWA's provision of food assistance is based on the need to support the NBC displaced who are suffering from loss of assets, debt and the lack of access to diverse or sustainable livelihood opportunities. Though food is indeed abundant in local shops, families often lack the purchasing power to buy the items needed to meet their nutritional requirements.

Since 2010, food support has been provided on a bi-monthly basis either via food parcels according to

four family group sizes or by cash transfers calculated on a per capita basis. Unfortunately, cash-for-food has not enhanced dietary diversity among the beneficiaries. In order to increase dietary diversity and in light of the sharply rising food prices and the moderate interest in cash assistance among the beneficiaries, the Agency is planning to shift back to food in-kind in 2012.

Currently, the content of the food basket is calculated to supply approximately 30% of the minimum daily energy, protein and micronutrient needs. Given the commitment of the Agency to ensuring beneficiaries have a healthier and more nutritious diet, UNRWA is reviewing the composition of the food basket received by NBC residents so that

it is in line with the reforms for food assistance under its regular programme. This may change the amount needed to fund this component.

The annual funding requirements for food assistance are expected to remain unchanged as all NBC families will remain eligible for food assistance until the reconstruction of the camp is complete.



OBJECTIVE 3: IMPROVE THE ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR DISPLACED PALESTINIAN YOUTH

i. Transportation for Students

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 95,000
Budget for 2013 (expected):	US\$ 95,000
No. of Beneficiaries:	550 students

The UNRWA Compound in NBC, which was the location for all the schools serving the NBC population, was completely destroyed in the conflict 2007. To meet the immediate educational needs of the community following the conflict, UNRWA established several pre-fabricated schools in both the NBC adjacent area and Beddawi Camp as a temporary solution.

The Agency will use these temporary schools until all schools in the UNRWA compound are rebuilt. Three of the new school complexes have been completed for the 2011 - 12 academic year. This will allow schools

to operate on a single-shift basis, providing students with an optimal learning environment.

Many students, however, have been displaced to areas far away from the temporary facilities. As such, UNRWA will continue to provide buses to transport 550 students (over 10% of the overall NBC student population) to and from these temporary schools in both NBC and Beddawi. As only a small percentage of residents will have returned to the camp by the end of 2012, it is still expected that that transportation will need to be provided for students in 2013.

ii. Financial Support for University Students

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 45,000
No. of Beneficiaries 2012:	58 students

Education services were heavily disrupted as a result of the conflict in 2007. UNRWA provided NBC students who passed the Baccalaureate II exams in 2007 with a grant covering their first year of study at Lebanese universities. Without this subsidy, these students would have been unable to commence and complete their studies. Due to the ongoing financial difficulties faced by their families, UNRWA will continue to support these students until they complete their higher education programmes. 58 students will still require UNRWA financial assistance to continue their studies in the 2011- 2012 academic year. This will be the last year that financial support will be provided as all students who matriculated at the time of the conflict in 2007 are expected to graduate in 2012. The Agency will not be seeking any additional funding under this component in 2013.

OBJECTIVE 4: ENSURE ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES AND MEDICATIONS FOR ALL PALESTINE REFUGEES FROM NBC

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 4,220,000
Budget for 2013 (expected):	US\$ 4,325,000
No. of Beneficiaries 2012:	5,911 families (26,635 individuals)

Increasing medical costs and a higher demand for medical services as a direct result of the prolonged displacement have placed additional financial burden on NBC residents. The trauma of the NBC conflict and resulting economic devastation has made it increasingly difficult for residents to cover rising medical costs whilst meeting other immediate needs. UNRWA provides primary health care to NBC families through two temporary clinics in the NBC adjacent area and one clinic in Beddawi. The Agency has also contracted with five hospitals to provide inpatient services (for secondary and tertiary care) in North Lebanon. UNRWA will commence reconstruction of the Health Center in September 2011 and it is scheduled to be complete by early 2013.

In addition to the health care support the Agency usually provides, UNRWA has stepped in to offer additional assistance to NBC displaced refugees. During this period, the Agency covers the hospitalization costs not included in UNRWA's regular health programme, including the full cost of secondary treatment and coverage of tertiary treatment up to US\$ 10,000. UNRWA also supplies free-of-charge any medications not available in UNRWA clinics, such as cancer and cardiac treatments.

Taking into consideration the slow economic recovery of the camp and the continued low socio-economic indicators among the NBC displaced, a discontinuation of secondary and tertiary health



PHARMACY AT NBC HEALTH CENTRE

care support is not envisaged in the foreseeable future. UNRWA will therefore advocate for a possible continuation of the NBC health care programme. At the same time, UNRWA has faced escalating health care expenditures, due to the rising cost of medications and increasing demand for UNRWA health services.

The impact of the crisis on the mental health of NBC residents has been profound, as the number of people suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and anxiety has risen considerably. In 2010, UNRWA began offering specialized mental health services (such as psychiatric consultations and psychosocial activities). Thus, in addition to

providing hospitalization subsidies and medications free of charge, psychiatric and counseling services to the displaced community will be made available under the 2012 relief operations.

The annual budget for the provision of hospitalization coverage and medications are expected to remain unchanged as all NBC families will remain eligible for additional health care coverage until the reconstruction of the camp is complete.



B. VULNERABLE PALESTINE REFUGEES IN LEBANON

Within the Palestine refugee camps, thousands of families continue to endure dire living conditions, lack of adequate nutrition and as a result, poor health conditions. While there has been a sustained focus on relief and recovery needs of the displaced NBC residents, ongoing support is requested for UNRWA activities to meet the critical needs of the Palestine refugee population in all camps throughout Lebanon. Funding for UNRWA activities in 2012 will allow the Agency to provide assistance in the areas of shelter, health, poverty alleviation, employment and education.

UNRWA's relief and recovery assistance objectives in all camps (except NBC) are to:

- Provide adequate shelter and functioning infrastructure in refugee camps.
- Ensure access to health services and medications for all Palestine refugees.
- Improve assistance provided to the most vulnerable Palestine refugee families.
- Facilitate access to employment and livelihood improvement for Palestine refugees.
- Enhance the quality of educational services provided to Palestine refugee youth.

OBJECTIVE 1: PROVIDE ADEQUATE SHELTER AND FUNCTIONING INFRASTRUCTURE IN REFUGEE CAMPS

i. Shelter Rehabilitation

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 8,000,000
Budget for 2013 - 2016:	US\$ 39,000,000
No. of Beneficiaries 2012:	Approx. 750 families
No. of Beneficiaries 2013 - 2016:	3,377 families

Providing adequate shelter for Palestine refugees will allow camp residents to live more fulfilling lives and help prevent debilitating illnesses that can negatively affect their livelihoods. The poor quality of housing in the camps throughout Lebanon has been linked to chronic and respiratory illnesses.

Overall, 4,127 homes are in need of rehabilitation. UNRWA will conduct a comprehensive assessment of shelter conditions throughout refugee camps in Lebanon in order to prioritize homes for repair. This will be based on the urgency of the repairs needed and the socio-economic situation of the family residing

in the home, regardless of geographical location. UNRWA is adopting a new methodology to shelter rehabilitation which prioritises a self-help approach. This has resulted in a reduction in direct rehabilitation costs (for physical works only), reducing the average cost per shelter by 40%.

In addition to promoting a sense of self-reliance among the refugees, rehabilitating the shelters will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of the Palestine refugee families. The shelters will be better ventilated, protected from the elements and more hygienic and families will have the opportunity to raise their children in a healthier environment that is more conducive to their growth and development.

The rehabilitated structures will provide a better setting for students to study at home, thus improving their educational performance.

The planned duration of this intervention is five years. Funding for the rehabilitation of around 750 shelters is currently under discussion with donors. With these funds, the Agency will be able to provide improved shelter and infrastructure to approximately 3,400 individuals. UNRWA is not seeking additional funding to carry out activities under this objective in 2012, but will be looking for support for shelter rehabilitation in the following years. An additional US\$ 39 million is required to support activities under this component from 2013 to 2016.

ii. Infrastructure in Ein el-Hilweh Camp

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 6,500,000
Budget for 2013 - 2016:	US\$ 8,000,000
No. of Beneficiaries:	14,667 families (approx. 66,000 individuals)

As part of the Camp Improvement Initiative (CII), major infrastructural improvements have been undertaken in many of the camps in Lebanon. However, the conditions in Ein el-Hilweh camp in Saida still need to be urgently addressed. It is by far the largest refugee camp in Lebanon, with an estimated population of 66,000 residents. Due to a lack of funding, the infrastructure of the camp has been neglected and the conditions of the existing networks have drastically deteriorated.

The infrastructure of Ein el-Hilweh camp is in disrepair; its water and sewerage systems need to be replaced, and the dearth of a network for storm water drainage has become unsustainable. Many of the water supply pipes are corroded, resulting in regular leakages in the network. The sewerage system has severely deteriorated over the years and cannot support a growing population. In the absence of a proper waste and storm water drainage system, sewage overflows are common during the rainy season.

Under this project, UNRWA intends to install new storm water drainage and sewerage systems, replace the old water supply network with a new system, provide proper household connections, connect

the camp storm water and sewer networks to the municipality, clear out the internal sewers and water channels, and reinstate roads and pathways.

Due to the scale of the project, the intervention has been divided into four packages, each with a population of around 16,000 inhabitants. This will allow partial funding and facilitate implementation. The project will directly benefit the 66,000 Ein el-Hilweh residents whose health suffers as a result of poor water infrastructure. It will also serve as a source of job creation and thereby contribute to stability within the community. In addition, this project will also indirectly benefit the Lebanese community residing in the adjacent areas through its positive environmental impact.

Funding for the rehabilitation of Packages 1 and 3 is currently under discussion with donors. With a potential donation of US\$ 2 million, UNRWA is seeking an additional US\$ 4.5 million to meet its requirements for 2012. With these funds, the Agency will be able to provide improved infrastructure in Ein el-Hilweh camp for around 30,000 individuals. The Agency will seek an additional US\$ 8 million from 2013 to 2016 for the rehabilitation of Packages 2 and 4.



CONTAMINATED WATER AT RASHIDIEH CAMP

iii. Safe Drinking Water

Budget for 2012: US\$ 3,000,000
 No. of Beneficiaries: 14,833 families (66,750 individuals)

Despite prior interventions, access to safe and potable water remains a critical need in the Palestine refugee community in Lebanon. Although several water sources exist in each refugee camp and operate on a daily basis, the quantity of water provided is insufficient for domestic use. Additionally, the quality of water supplied is not suitable for drinking. As a result, people are forced to buy water for drinking and domestic use from micro-water treatment plants located in and around the camps or from privately owned stores. This imposes an additional financial burden on refugees which many cannot always afford. Poor water quality also contributes to the spread of gastrointestinal diseases, which disproportionately affect young children and people with deficient immune systems.

Priority water intervention projects will be implemented in eight Palestine refugee camps. This will involve drilling new boreholes, improving existing ones, the installation of water treatment plants and the improvement of water network connections, amongst other activities. The targeted camps are located in Central Lebanon Area (Shatila, Burj el Barajneh, Dbayeh and Mar Elias), North Lebanon Area (Beddawi), South Lebanon Area (El Buss, Mieh Mieh) and Bekaa (Wavel). Ensuring the availability of safe and potable water will have a major impact on the environmental health conditions of nearly 66,750 Palestine refugees and their neighbouring Lebanese communities. This project will also contribute to decreasing the financial burden on Palestine refugees who are forced to buy commercial drinking water on a daily basis.

The planned duration of this intervention is 18 months. Discussions are currently ongoing to provide funding in nearly all of the identified areas under this objective. The Agency is expecting a potential donation of US\$ 2.5 million to cover works in eight camps. The remaining needs under this objective is for the drilling of two boreholes and the installation of two water treatment plants in el-Buss Camp. For this, the Agency is requesting US\$ 500,000 in 2012. No additional funding is expected to be requested under this objective in subsequent years.

OBJECTIVE 2: ENSURE ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES AND MEDICATIONS FOR ALL PALESTINE REFUGEES

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 3,000,000
Budget for 2013 - 2016:	US\$ 12,000,000
No. of Beneficiaries:	911 families (4,100 individuals)

Through its network of 35 contracted hospitals in Lebanon, UNRWA provides coverage and accessibility to all regular inpatient and outpatient services. The Agency offers full coverage for secondary care services (with a co-payment by patients in the case of non-essential, non-generic medications and prosthetics). In addition, an agreement with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) provides discounted medications for cancer and other catastrophic diseases, enabling Palestine refugees to save between 15% and 70% on their medication expenses.

Tertiary care remains the main gap to be filled. Given that only 5% of Palestine refugees have medical insurance and that individual treatments can cost tens-of-thousands of dollars, health care for Palestine refugees in Lebanon is prohibitively expensive. Even

though UNRWA subsidizes 40% of tertiary care services, meeting the remaining 60% is beyond the financial means of most families. Moreover, a single case of acute illness can plunge a family further into poverty, further exacerbating their situation.

Usually requiring high-technology equipment and specialised consultative care, tertiary hospitalization services are more costly and account for 15% of hospital admissions. Through this appeal, UNRWA intends to increase its coverage from 40% to 70%, up to a ceiling of US\$ 4,500 per patient. This will facilitate the access of over 4,000 patients to tertiary treatment. Funding under this objective will cover tertiary hospitalization, coronary procedures and cancer medications. The Agency will be seeking US\$ 3,000,000 per year to support activities under this objective.

OBJECTIVE 3: PROVIDE SUPPORT TO RELIEVE THE POVERTY EXPERIENCED BY THE MOST VULNERABLE PALESTINE REFUGEES

i. Food Assistance

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 2,400,000
Budget for 2013 - 2016:	US\$ 9,600,000
No. of Beneficiaries:	70,000 individuals

Given the particular socio-economic conditions in which Palestine refugees exist in Lebanon, UNRWA has re-modeled the Special Hardship Assistance Programme (SHAP) as a modification of the Agency's Social Safety Net (SSN) Programme. SHAP aims to reach the most vulnerable Palestine refugees in Lebanon. However, a review of the programme highlighted the fact that many of those considered among the extremely poor were not included in the SHAP while several of those among the non-poor were benefiting from the programme.

Recent reforms to the SHAP, backed by findings from the AUB/UNRWA survey, are designed to ensure that the assistance provided will capture the neediest among the refugee population, and simultaneously reduce the leakage of non-poor into the programme. The system is now designed to target families based on criteria which were proven to be directly related to a high-incidence of poverty and those that increase the vulnerability of families to falling into the extreme poverty category. The SHAP will help the Agency better

identify and serve the needs of those refugees who are unable or barely able to meet their most basic needs.

Under the revised SHAP, the number of eligible beneficiaries for food assistance could reach a maximum of approximately 80,500. UNRWA is aiming to meet 75 - 80% of the targeted groups which will be an estimated 70,000 individuals, representing a 34% increase in SHAP beneficiaries. To meet this increase in the number of beneficiaries, the Agency will be seeking US\$ 2,400,000 annually, above what is provided through the General Fund, to provide food assistance to Palestine refugees under the SHAP.



ii. Disability

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 600,000
Budget for 2013 - 2016:	US\$ 2,400,000
No. of Beneficiaries:	945 individuals

UNRWA's long-term vision for the socio-economic empowerment of People With Disabilities (PWD) entails the implementation of a two-fold approach to disability inclusion. This will be achieved by improving the accessibility of all UNRWA services to PWDs as well as ensuring they can benefit from specialized services. As steps towards this goal, specific priorities have been identified in the short to medium term.

First, UNRWA is focusing on strengthening systems and structures for coordination between programmes and partners in order to build a multi-sectoral framework. This has involved relocating the Disability Programme within the Agency to the Protection Unit which has the capacity to work across programmes. Systems to strengthen coordination and information exchange between NGO partners (including the Palestine Disability Forum) and UNRWA are also planned.

UNRWA will continue its efforts to improve access to education by PWD. Specific priorities include the continuation of rehabilitation services provided by the Early Intervention Units (EIU) in Tyre and Saida for 275 children with disabilities (aged 0 - 6 yrs) and their families. The EIUs ensure the inclusion of children in the elementary cycle at UNRWA schools

and specialist institutions. UNRWA will also prioritize increasing the physical accessibility of schools for children with physical disabilities while focusing on furthering the inclusion of children with visual impairment in UNRWA schools.

For those who cannot be mainstreamed in UNRWA schools, UNRWA plans to improve access to specialist education. Simultaneously, it is planned for a quota to be established for university scholarships for students with disabilities. To further disability inclusion through mainstreaming efforts, shelter rehabilitation plans as outlined in this Appeal will include PWD.

Secondly, UNRWA is also focusing on mainstreaming PWDs in its income generation initiatives. The AUB study showed that wages from employment are the main source of income for the majority of people with disabilities in Lebanon. The findings also highlighted the very low level of access by this group to vocational training. In the long term, UNRWA plans to link disability with employment centres and its vocational training strategy, contributing to poverty alleviation for PWDs. The Agency will be seeking US\$ 600,000 per year for mainstreaming and assistance to people with disabilities.



iii. Emergency and Community Needs

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 200,000
Budget for 2013 - 2016:	US\$ 800,000
No. of Beneficiaries:	600 individuals

Poor and vulnerable refugee individuals and families are unable to respond to unexpected crisis or emergency situations. This may include replacement of essential household items destroyed through flooding or fire or money for minor household repairs. In this instance, UNRWA intervenes with a cash subsidy to support them and enable them to cope with the situation.

The Agency also supports community based organizations (CBOs) working within Palestine refugee communities. These CBOs provide a wide range of activities such as skills training courses, job creation support and awareness raising and life skills sessions, many targeted at vulnerable groups including those with disabilities, women, children and youth. UNRWA aims to offer both technical and managerial capacity building training to help these CBOs to improve their efficiency and the quality of the services provided. The annual budget to support activities under this objective is US\$ 200,000.

OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVE ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT SERVICES AND INCOME-EARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 800,000
Budget for 2013 - 2016:	US\$ 5,000,000
No. of Beneficiaries 2013 - 2016:	2,800 individuals

In Lebanon, restrictions imposed on Palestine refugees with regard to their right to work have had a massive impact on their ability to obtain satisfactory employment and to improve their overall economic situation and prospects. 56% of refugees are jobless (those of working age who are not studying, pregnant or ill). Those in employment are frequently in low status, casual work of a temporary nature, giving them little security and limited opportunities for improvement.

Although amendments to the Labour and Social Security laws in 2010 have granted improved rights to Palestine refugees and have been welcomed as a positive step towards improving their right to work in Lebanon, the new legislation will not address the fact that refugees remain barred from participating in over 30 syndicated professions.

Given these enormous constraints, improving access to employment for Palestinians is one of UNRWA's key strategic objectives in Lebanon. UNRWA's employment plan is threefold and includes the following components:

1. Enhanced provision of **vocational skills to unskilled and low-skilled** Palestinians.
2. Increased provision of **placement and referral services to the Lebanese job market** through the Employment Services Centres (ESC) established in 2009 in the North in Nahr el-Bared and Beddawi camps and in 2010 in Saida; and one that will open shortly in Tyre.
3. Increased **advocacy** efforts at a policy level to improve the legal employment status of Palestinians.

At present, UNRWA is implementing several concurrent initiatives as part of this strategy. Firstly,

UNRWA provides vocational training in two separate locations, in the North, through a specific project, and in the South, through its regular programme. Secondly, through donor support, the Agency has also recently launched an initiative to facilitate access to short-term courses for Palestine refugee youth for those whose training needs are not addressed by UNRWA.

Finally, UNRWA and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) will shortly launch an operation aimed at strengthening the employment services offered to the refugees in areas of tension (in the North and South of Lebanon). In order to ensure the sustainability of this initiative following its completion, the Agency is building the capacity of Employment Officers, and is strengthening the capacity of NGOs to provide quality skills training to the low-skilled.

Discussions are currently ongoing to provide funding in nearly all of the identified areas under this objective. For 2012, UNRWA is requesting US\$ 800,000 for the provision of semi-professional and trade courses at the North Vocational Training Center (NTC). The Agency will seek an additional US\$ 5 million from 2013 to 2016 to support employment activities.



OBJECTIVE 5: ENHANCE EDUCATION SERVICES FOR PALESTINE REFUGEE YOUTH

Budget for 2012:	US\$ 3,000,000
Budget for 2013 - 2016:	US\$ 12,000,000
No. of Beneficiaries 2013 - 2016:	32,100 students

Improving access to basic education for Palestinian children and young people continues to be a top priority for UNRWA, and in recent years, the Agency has embarked on a process of reform to its education system. This involved capacity building for teachers and administrators; the introduction of new curricula and revised textbooks; the establishment of a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit to collect and utilize educational data; and, the implementation of the School Management System, an integrated electronic database of UNRWA's students and schools. The Agency also launched a Learning Support Programme and Back to School initiative to provide additional educational assistance to primary school students as well as a restructured scholarship programme for university students.

Moving forward, the Agency will embark on a new set of initiatives to better address the educational needs of Palestinian refugee youth. Specific priorities for

the coming year include: increasing learning support to students as well as professional development training to teachers and supervisors; developing new English and Arabic textbooks for the elementary and preparatory cycles; and, improving educational monitoring and information systems. UNRWA will also repeat the successful Back to School Programme which was first introduced in 2010.

Finally, the Agency will provide scholarships for over 100 students to access higher education. This will be complemented by the provision of guidance counseling services to current and prospective students to assist them in course selection in addition to offering job-specific skills coaching.

UNRWA is currently in advanced discussions with a donor in relation to the funding required to implement these reforms during 2012 and is not seeking direct funds as part of this appeal.



IV. BUDGETARY NEEDS

A. NBC DISPLACED FAMILIES

SECTOR	BUDGET 2012 (US\$)	BUDGET 2013 (US\$)
1.Shelter/Infrastructure	\$7,610,000	\$6,214,000
Rental Cash Subsidy	\$6,440,000 ⁽¹⁾	\$5,200,000
Maintenance of plots and Collective centers	\$80,000	\$74,000
Leased Land and Electricity in AA	\$1,050,000	\$900,000
Other Shelter Management Operational costs	\$40,000	\$40,000
2.Food Security	\$2,420,000	\$2,450,000
Food Commodities	\$2,420,000	\$2,450,000
3.Education	\$140,000	\$95,000
Transportation for Pupils	\$95,000	\$95,000
University scholar ships for school year 2011- 12	\$45,000	\$ -
4.Health Programme	\$4,220,000	\$4,325,000
Hospitalization and Medications	\$4,220,000	\$4,325,000
5.NMU Management Cost	\$1,370,000	\$1,400,000
NMU Operations Costs	\$1,370,000	\$1,400,000
6.Donor Visibility	\$16,000	\$16,000
Donor Visibility	\$16,000	\$16,000
TOTAL RELIEF & RECOVERY APPEAL	\$15,776,000 ⁽²⁾	\$14,500,000

⁽¹⁾ Around 85% of the funding under this component has been covered by a recent donation from the European Union. The Agency estimates that an additional US\$ 1,000,000 is requested to provide rental cash subsidies to displaced NBC residents in 2012.

⁽²⁾ Considering the aforementioned secured funding, the Agency is requesting US\$ 10,336,000 to meet its 2012 budget requirements for NBC displaced families.

B. VULNERABLE PALESTINE REFUGEES IN LEBANON

SECTOR	BUDGET 2012 (US\$)	BUDGET 2013 (US\$)
1.Shelter/Infrastructure	\$17,500,000	\$47,000,000
Shelter Rehabilitation.....	\$8,000,000 ⁽³⁾	\$39,000,000
Infrastructure in Ein el-Hilweh Camp	\$6,500,000 ⁽⁴⁾	\$8,000,000
Safe Drinking Water	\$3,000,000 ⁽⁵⁾	\$ -
2.Health Programme	\$3,000,000	\$12,000,000
Hospitalization and Medications.....	\$3,000,000	\$12,000,000
3.Poverty Alleviation	\$3,200,000	\$12,800,000
Food Assistance.....	\$2,400,000	\$9,600,000
Disability	\$600,000	\$2,400,000
Emergency and Community Needs	\$200,000	\$800,000
4.Employment	\$800,000	\$5,000,000
Vocational Training and Employment Services Center.....	\$800,000	\$5,000,000
5.Education	\$3,000,000	\$12,000,000
Learning Support, Back to School, Scholarships, etc.....	\$3,000,000	\$12,000,000
TOTAL RELIEF & RECOVERY APPEAL	\$27,500,000⁽⁶⁾	\$88,800,000

(3) This component has been fully covered by a recent donation from the European Union

(4) With a potential donation of US\$ 2 million, UNRWA is seeking financial support for US\$ 4.5 million for this component

(5) With a potential donation of US\$ 2.5 million for 7 camps, only US\$ 500,000 would be required for el-Buss camp

(6) Taking into consideration the discussions with the above mentioned donors, US\$ 15 million are still urgently needed to cover the 2012 needs of vulnerable refugees who reside in Lebanon. This figure is exclusive of the funding needed for Nahr el-Bared Camp.

V. ANNEXES

A. STATISTICS FROM THE AUB / UNRWA SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY

Table 1: Highest Education Achievement Levels Attained by Palestine Refugees

HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL ATTAINED	PALESTINE REFUGEES
Never attended school	10.2%
Elementary education without degree	22.4%
Middle Level without degree	33.9%
Brevet or Vocational Qualification	20.3%
Bacc. or higher education Qualification	12.9%

(Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 32)

Table 2: Poverty by Household Head's Education Level

	POVERTY HEADCOUNT RATE	DISTRIBUTION OF THE POOR	DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION
POVERTY			
Primary and below	73.0	51.7	47.0
Above primary	60.5	48.3	53.0
TOTAL	66.4	100.0	100.0
EXTREME POVERTY			
Primary and below	8.6	61.5	47.0
Above primary	4.8	38.5	53.0
TOTAL	6.6	100.0	100.0

(Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 31)

Table 3: Deprivation Index Composition

DEPRIVATION DIMENSION	INDICATORS DESCRIPTION	INCIDENCE (% OF HOUSEHOLDS)	SOCIAL EXCLUSION DIMENSION
Health	Household has at least one chronic illness	72%	Health Service Coverage
	Household has at least one disability	15%	
	Household has at least one chronic depression case	41%	
Food	Food is insufficient (Household did not have enough food to eat in the past week)	6%	Low income
	Hunger is felt in the house all the time	5%	
Education	Household members do not have adequate schooling (not all children aged 6 – 18 attend school)	19%	Distribution of access to discrimination in educational and cultural services
	Adult members of working age do not have good education (primary and below)	46%	
Employment	Household head is jobless	7%	Labour market inclusion
	Household workers have precarious (seasonal / non-permanent) jobs	17%	
Housing	Lack of sufficient living space: more than 2 persons sleep in the same room	55%	Distribution of access to neighbourhoods
	Poor housing conditions: water leaking from walls and ceiling	39%	
Essential assets	Refrigerator / Washing machine lacking within house	9%	Low income
	No heater in house	9%	

[Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 36]

Table 4: Percentage of Households Reporting Food Insecurity

SATISFACTION WITH FOOD QUANTITY AND QUALITY	%
Don't know	1.2
Most of the time quantity not enough	6.5
Sometimes not enough quantity	15.5
Enough but not varied	39.5
Quality and quantity are enough	37.3
VULNERABLE TO FOOD INSECURITY	
Most of the time	14.3
Sometimes	41.4
Never	44.2
MILD FOOD INSECURITY	
Almost every month	11.4
In some months	16.3
In only 2 - 3 months	7.0
Never	65.4
MODERATE FOOD INSECURITY	
Almost every month	9.0
In some months	13.6
In only 2 - 3 months	5.6
Never	71.8
SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY	
Almost every month	5.7
In some months	6.5
In only 2 - 3 months	2.7
Never	85.1

[Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 42]

Table 5: Frequency and Types of Chronic Illness

PREVALENCE OF CHRONIC ILLNESS	%
Yes	31.1
No	68.8
Don't know	0.10
TYPE OF CHRONIC ILLNESS	
Hypertension	32.32
Back pain	9.26
Asthma	8.50
Diabetes	8.31
Rheumatism	5.63
Heart problems	3.61
Epilepsy	2.62
Other*	29.63

[Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 55]

* Other chronic illnesses include cholesterol, chest pains, cardiac arrest, stroke, anemia, prostate cancer, osteoporosis, kidney problems, Thalesaemia, autism, Down's Syndrome, schizophrenia, mental health

Table 6: Frequency and Types of Acute Illness

PREVALENCE OF ACUTE ILLNESS IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS		%
Yes		24.5
No		75.4
Don't know		0.10
TYPE OF CHRONIC ILLNESS		
Cold / Flu		19.41
Gastrointestinal		18.59
Respiratory		17.24
Musculoskeletal		9.26
Urinary / Reproductive		5.98
Other*		29.53

[Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 57]

Table 7: Frequency of Psychological Problems

PREVALENCE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS		%
Yes		20.65
No		78.78
Don't know		0.57

[Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 57]

Table 6: Frequency and Types of Acute Illness

	PALESTINIAN POPULATION (%)
TYPE OF INSURANCE	
No Insurance	94.29
Private	4.54
Public	1.17
MEAN	
TYPE OF INSURANCE	
Hospital visit in past 6 months	614.24
Non-chronic illness in past 6 months	164.40
Regular doctor visits or medication for chronic illness	137.12
Regular doctor visits or medication for disability	262.15

[Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 61]

Table 9: Frequency and Types of Functional Disability

PREVALENCE OF CHRONIC ILLNESS		%
Yes		4.4
No		95.6
REPORTED FUNCTIONAL DISABILITY		
Disability of extremities (excluding paralysis and amputations)		30.22
Paralysis		14.73
Blindness		8.91
Deafness		8.25
Amputation of extremities		8.78
Inability to Speak		2.84
Other		26.04
Missing		0.24
REASON FOR FUNCTIONAL DISABILITY		
Birth defect (congenital)		29.63
Accidental		19.93
War		18.58
Work		8.37
Other		23.27
Missing		0.22

[Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. 2010: 56]

Table 10: Frequency Table on Housing Indicators*

HOUSEHOLD BENEFITED FROM UNRWA HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES (N=57977)		%
Yes		5.62
No		89.44
Missing		4.94
TYPE OF WALLS IN THE HOUSE (N=57977)		
Rendered Blockwork (painted)		84.62
Rendered Blockwork		4.75
Concrete Blockwork (unrendered)		5.22
Poured Concrete		4.71
Other (Wood, Asbestos, Fibre Cement)		0.70
TYPE OF ROOF IN THE HOUSE (N=55457)		
Building Stone		2.34
Fibre Cement (Eternit)		7.51
Cement		89.1
Other (Wood, Asbestos)		1.00
HUMIDITY PROBLEMS IN THE HOUSE (N=55119)		%
Damp patches (blotches) on the wall		18.48
Damp patches (blotches) over 1m ²		5.35
Water seepage through the walls		7.60
Water seepage through the ceiling		34.91
No problems		33.66
CROWDING INDEX** (N=55435)		
←2		57.62
2 - 3		34.87
→3		7.51

(Source: AUB/UNRWA Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon, 2010: 64)

* Household Percentages

** Crowding Index is the number of people per room in the household.

END NOTES

American University of Beirut (2010) Socio-Economic Survey of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon, Executive Summary p. X (Beirut: AUB)

Chronic illness refers to a group of health conditions that are known to last for a long time, usually more than three months. These include hypertension, asthma, heart problems and diabetes, among others.

With the double-shift arrangement one group of children attend school during normal school hours in the morning, while a second group attends in the afternoon. This arrangement, while necessary on an interim basis, is detrimental to promoting childrens' educational welfare.

The entirety of Package 1 (less parts of block N1 and the 39 buildings that needed to be retendered) is expected to be completed and handed over to residents by September 2011. Once this is complete, all families who have received the keys to their new apartment in P1 and who are currently receiving rental cash subsidies will be removed from the RCS beneficiaries list.

Arising from the security concerns of the Lebanese government, movement in and out of the camp has been severely curtailed, with residents and construction workers requiring permission from the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) to access the camp. While these restrictions have been eased somewhat since 1 June 2011, with women and children now able to enter the NBC adjacent area without permits, these restrictions will continue to present a significant impediment to the restoration of commercial life to the area as non-residents are not permitted entry.

AUB Survey, p. 23. For example, the percentage of refugees in low status elementary occupations is highest in Tyre where nearly a quarter of workers are employed in the agricultural sector; this group is more likely to be among the working poor than those working in other professions.

AUB Survey, pg. xi
The Brevet is the Lebanese national exam given at the end of Grade 9 which allows students to continue to secondary school. In order to obtain the certificate students must demonstrate their comprehension in a number of subject areas including Math, English, and Arabic, chemistry, biology, physics, civics, history and geography.

AUB Survey, pg. xi

Amendments to Lebanese labor regulations in August 2010 allows Palestinians to work in all professions open to foreigners as well as work permits free of charge. It also provides some welfare benefits.

According to the UNRWA/AUB survey, only 13% of Palestine refugees receive direct financial or in-kind support other than that provided by UNRWA, and many of these are infrequent and irregular.

According to the UNRWA/AUB report, if UNRWA was not present in Lebanon, overall poverty among refugees would increase by 14% and extreme poverty would be multiplied by three.

Around 85% of the funding under this objective has been covered by a recent donation from the European Union.

As families are handed over the keys to their homes, in Package 2, they will be removed from the list of eligible RCS beneficiaries. However, it is important to note that there will not be a proportional reduction in RCS as some families from Packages 1 and 2 are living in temporary accommodation or are hosted by families in the area and thus are not receiving rent assistance.

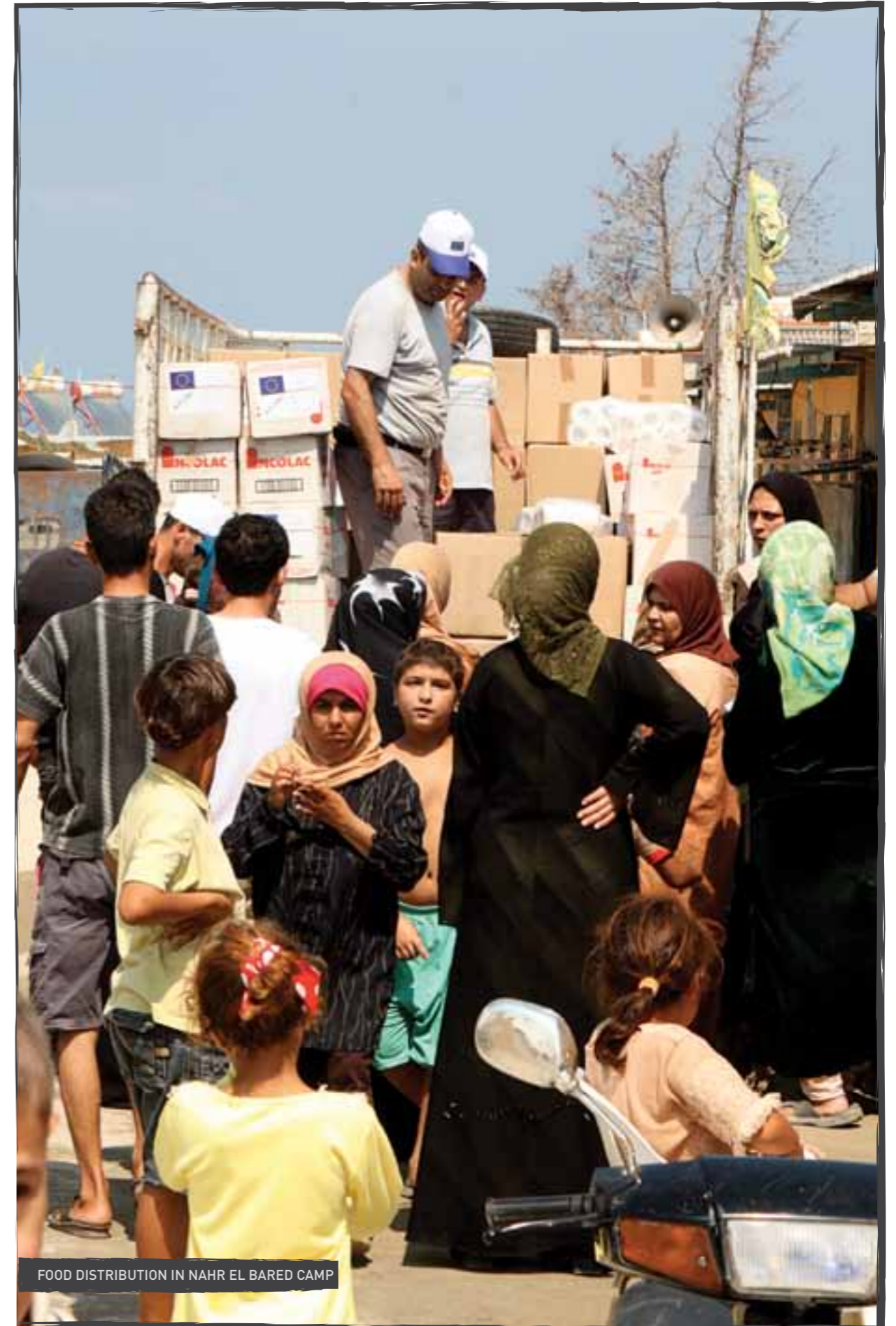
The supply of electricity has also been supplemented by 444 solar panels on the temporary shelters in plots 674, 23 and 755. These are primarily used for supplying hot water to the shelter inhabitants.

This component has been fully covered by a recent donation from the European Union.

With a potential donation of US\$ 2 million, UNRWA is seeking financial support for US\$ 4.5 million for this component

With a potential donation of US\$ 2.5 million for 7 camps, only US\$ 500,000 would be required for el-Buss camp. In order to have full coverage of all tertiary health care, UNRWA would need an additional US\$ 2.1 million. This includes: \$800,000 to cover tertiary hospitalization, \$700,000 to cover heart procedures and \$600,000 to cover cancer medications.

The previous SHAP programme served 52,587 Palestine refugee families.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN NAHR EL BARED CAMP



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RESPONSES TO THE CRITICAL
NEEDS OF VULNERABLE
PALESTINE REFUGEES IN
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