



# THE LEBANON RECOVERY FUND (LRF) MPTF OFFICE GENERIC FINALPROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE REPORT REPORTING PERIOD: FROM 17.06.2016 TO 12.2016

# **Programme Title & Project Number**

- Programme Title: "To support Lebanese public institutions in managing the impact of the Syrian Refugee Crisis" - Supporting Rafik Hariri University Hospital (RHUH) in Beirut - Lebanon
- Programme Number (if applicable)
- MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 3 00100930

# **Participating Organization(s)**

 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

#### **Programme/Project Cost (US\$)**

Total approved budget as per project document: USD534,650 MPTF /JP Contribution<sup>4</sup>:

USD495.000

Agency Contribution UNHCR: USD39,650

Government Contribution

(if applicable)

Other Contributions (donors)

(if applicable)

**TOTAL: USD534,650** 

### Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.

**Evaluation Completed** 

#### Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results<sup>2</sup>

Country/Region

- Lebanon/ Beirut/ Rafik Hariri University Hospital

Priority area/ strategic results

Public health, improving diagnostic services for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese

# **Implementing Partners**

- Ministry of Public Health, Lebanon
- Rafik Hariri University Hospital

#### **Programme Duration**

**Report Submitted By** 

Overall Duration (6 months) Start Date<sup>5</sup> (17.06.2016)

Original End Date<sup>6</sup> (31.12.2016)

Actual End date<sup>7</sup>(31.12.2016)

Have agency(ies) operationally closed the Programme in its(their) system?

Expected Financial Closure date<sup>8</sup>:

31.12.16

Yes No

Name: Patrick Phongsathorn

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The term "programme" is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as "Project ID" on the project's factsheet page on the MPTF Office GATEWAY.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The MPTF/JP Contribution is the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see MPTF Office GATEWAY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see MPTF Office Closure Guidelines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the <u>Certified Final Financial Statement and Report.</u>

☐ Yes ■ No Date: dd.mm.yyyy
Evaluation Report - Attached
☐ Yes ■ No Date: dd.mm.yyyy

Title: Assistant Reporting Officer

o Participating Organization (Lead): UNHCR

Email address: phongsat@unhcr.org

#### FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In light of the Syria Crisis, this project has provided institutional support to Lebanon at a time when its public services are under significant pressure. Specifically, the supported project aimed to better enable the Beirut Rafik Hariri University Hospital (RHUH) to maintain the quality of diagnostics, care and teaching through the provision of critical equipment. RHUH is the largest public hospital in Lebanon. On average, the hospital treats some 25,000 patients a year, including approximately 4,000 vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers. RHUH is also a leading teaching hospital offering outstanding education and research opportunities to students and professional researchers.

Thanks to the support provided by the Government of the Republic of Korea through the Lebanon Recovery Fund (LRF), UNHCR was able to donate vital medical equipment to RHUH. As originally envisioned, one Computerized Tomography (CT) was provided. Thanks to savings made in the purchase of this scanner, LRF funds also contributed to the purchase of one Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanner. Overall, this donation has made a significant contribution to the diagnostics, care and teaching provided by RHUH. During the project implementation period, some 4,455 CT and MRI scans were conducted. It is projected that within the life of the equipment over 71,000 scans will be performed, providing expert diagnostics and care for tens of thousands of patients. Both pieces of equipment have now been fully integrated into RHUH maintenance plans and timetables, and will be regularly checked by RHUH's Biomedical Department, and by independent suppliers and service providers.

Lebanon's public services and infrastructure - fragile even before the Syrian Crisis - are under severe pressure as a result of the refugee influx. The situation has had an acute impact on the health system, with a significant increase in hospital and Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) caseloads having a direct impact on the quickened deterioration of equipment and longer wait times. Social tensions also often arise due to an over-burdening of services and a perception of less access to basic care for vulnerable Lebanese. Additionally, a popular opinion that Syrian refugees get preferential health care treatment, due to humanitarian assistance directly targeting them, has added to communal friction. This perpetuates a vicious cycle of increased prejudices and stigmatisation of refugees and built up frustration concern among the host community. This project has contributed to the ability of the health sector to cope and provide services to both refugee and vulnerable host communities, specifically by replacing CT and MRI scanners that had become defective due to overuse. At the official hand-over ceremony marking the installation of this equipment, H.E. Minister of Public Health Wael Abou Faour welcomed the generous donation and noted that, with the support of the international community, "RHUH and other governmental hospitals are disproving the belief that all governmental hospitals are bad and failing." As such, this initiative has helped to shore up public confidence in Lebanon's public institutions, and is a sign of the international community's on-going commitment to Lebanon's health, prosperity, and stability.

# I. Purpose

The key objective of this project was to support Lebanese institutions in managing the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis. Specifically, the supported project aimed to better enable the Beirut Rafik Hariri University Hospital (RHUH) to maintain the quality of diagnostics, care and teaching through the provision of critical equipment. This project was a result of a direct request from the Director of RHUH to assist in the purchase and installation of Computerized Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanners. This project was implemented in line with UNHCR's programmatic priority to support host communities and institutions in managing the impact of the Syrian crisis, and was fully endorsed by the Ministry of Public

Health (MOPH). This project also contributes to UN Strategic Framework (2017-2020) Core Priority 3 – Outcome 3.2 and UN Development Assistance Framework Outcome 4.1 by enabling access to quality health services to some of the most vulnerable Lebanese and refugee communities in Lebanon.

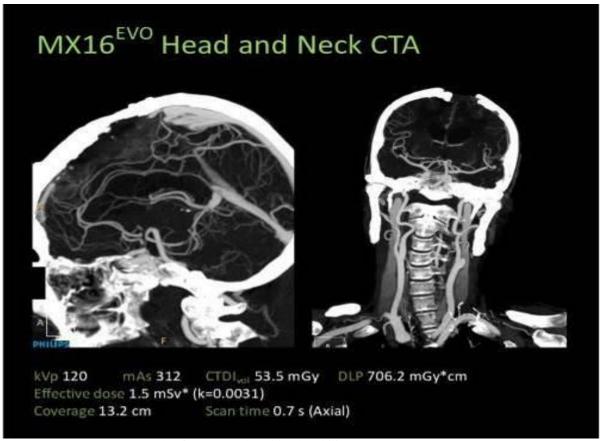
#### **II.** Assessment of Programme Results

### i) Narrative reporting on results:

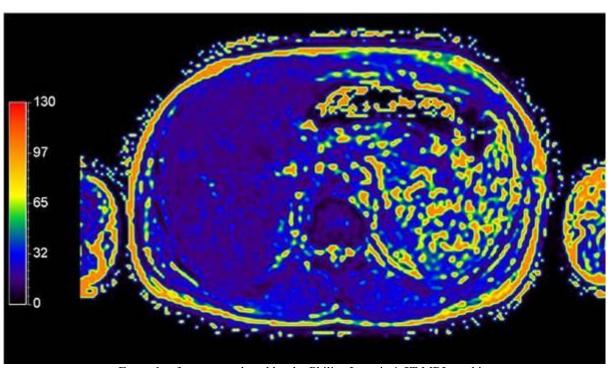
This project reinforced the health response plan of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2015-2016 by building "capacities for treating non-communicable and chronic diseases, improved access to secondary/tertiary care and the administration of some healthcare costs" (LCRP, 2015-16). Specifically, the project supported the RHUH in Beirut, Lebanon's largest public hospital, through the provision of a CT and MRI scanner. Based in Beirut's southern suburb, RHUH offers lifesaving care to some of Lebanon's most vulnerable citizens as well as Syrian refugees. As a result of the increasing patient volume since the onset of the Syria crisis, the hospital's diagnostic machines had become overused and was no longer fully functional. Replacing these machines was needed in order to maintain the quality of diagnostics, care, and teaching at this major referral hospital.

#### • Outputs:

Thanks to the generous support of the Government of the Republic of Korea through the LRF, UNHCR was able to procure and install one Philips MX16 Evo CT scanner. This support also contributed to the procurement and delivery of one Philips Ingenia 1.5T MRI machine. Although it was originally envisioned that the support of the LRF would only be able to cover the cost of one CT scanner, thanks to savings made through the competitive bidding process used in the purchase of the CT scanner, UNHCR was also able to partially fund the purchase of an MRI machine using LRF funds. Like the CT scanner, the MRI machine also responded to a direct request from RHUH and was co-funded by UNCHR. This state-of-the-art equipment allows for excellent image quality of scans (see below), high durability and cost-effectiveness, as well as being highly suited to routine radiology procedures as well as more specialized scans such as neurological studies, bone mineral analysis, and virtual colonoscopies. During the project implementation period, some 4,455 CT and MRI scans were conducted. It is projected that within the life of this equipment, estimated at eight years, over 71,000 scans will be conducted, providing expert diagnostics and care for tens of thousands of patients. Both pieces of equipment have now been fully integrated into RHUH maintenance plans and timetables, and will be regularly checked by RHUH's Biomedical Department, and by independent suppliers and service providers. This equipment is also covered by a warranty of three years.



Example of a scan produced by the Philips MX16 Evo CT scanner



Example of a scan produced by the Philips Ingenia 1.5T MRI machine

#### • Qualitative assessment:

This intervention benefitted from a good level of cooperation and coordination between UNHCR, RHUH, MOPH, and the LRF Secretariat, and has achieved its output as well as contributed to the achievement of the project outcome. The CT scanner was purchased, delivered and installed within the agreed timeframe and budget as laid out in the project documents. Thanks to savings made through the competitive bidding process used in the purchase of the CT scanner, UNHCR was also able to partially fund the purchase an MRI machine using LRF funds. This machine was also purchased, delivered and installed within the project implementation period.

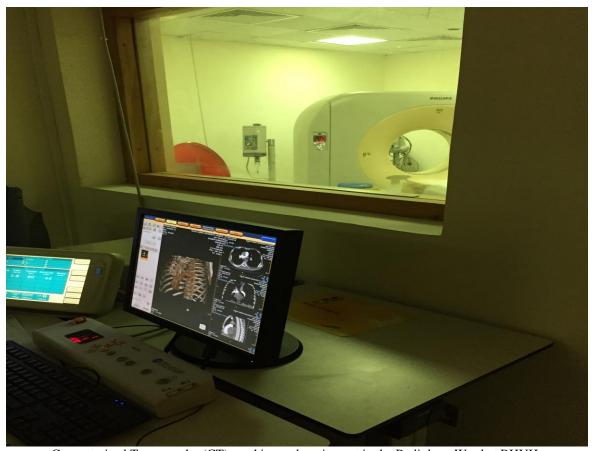
Lebanon's public services and infrastructure - fragile even before the Syrian Crisis - are under severe pressure as a result of the refugee influx. The situation has had an acute impact on the health system, with a significant increase in hospital and Primary Health care Centre (PHC) caseloads. This project has contributed to the ability of the health sector, and RHUH in particular, to copeOn 19 October 2016, an official hand-over ceremony was conducted at the RHUH and presided over by H.E. Minister of Public Health Wael Abou Faour, Ambassador Lee Yeong-man of Republic of Korea, Chairman of the RHUH Board Dr. Firass Abiad, and UNHCR's Deputy Representative in Lebanon Mr. Emmanuel Gignac. At this ceremony Minister Faour welcomed the generous donation and noted that, with the support of the international community, "RHUH and other governmental hospitals are disproving the belief that all governmental hospitals are bad and failing." Ambassador Lee thanked all the relevant stakeholders for their work in the realization of this project, and extended his gratitude to the people and government for the role Lebanon has played in supporting and hosting so many vulnerable Syrian refugees. Following the hand-over ceremony, press releases were disseminated by UNHCR and MOPH, and was publicized on the website of the Embassy of Republic of Korea (http://lbn.mofa.go.kr/english/af/lbn/mission/activities/index.jsp). The generous support of the Government of Republic of Korea through the LRF has also been indicated on a visibility plaque within RHUH's Radiology Ward (see below).



Visibility plaque in the RHUH Radiology Ward



From left: Ambassador Lee, Minister Faour and UNHCR Deputy Representative Mr. Gignac with doctors and nurses in the UNHCR Radiology Ward



Computerized Tomography (CT) machine and equipment in the Radiology Ward at RHUH

# ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
Outcome 19 Indicator: CT scanner purchased and delivered, and handover ceremony conducted Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 1	1 CT scanner purchased and delivered 1 MRI scanner purchased and delivered 1 handover ceremony conducted	Thanks to savings made through the competitive bidding process used in the purchase of the CT scanner, UNHCR was also able to partially fund the purchase an MRI machine	1) Record of handover ceremony
		using LRF funds.	
Output 1.1 Indicator 1.1.1 CT scanner installed and integrated into RHUH Maintenance Plan Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 1	1 CT scanner installed and integrated into RHUH Maintenance Plan 1 MRI scanner installed and integrated into RHUH maintenance plan	As above.	RHUH Maintenance Plan (Annex 3)

<sup>9</sup> Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be **as outlines in the Project Document** so that you report on your **actual achievements against planned targets**. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc.

#### iii) Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

UNHCR remains in close contact with RHUH and has been provided regular updates on the impact of the support provided. UNHCR Public Health staff also make regular monitoring visits to the hospital, and enjoy a close working relationship with RHUH's staff and management.

The project was fully implemented within the timeframe and budget established by the project documents. Thanks to savings made through the competitive bidding process used in the purchase of the CT scanner, UNHCR was also able to partially fund the purchase an MRI machine using LRF funds. The MRI machine responds to a direct request from RHUH and has been fully integrated into the hospital's maintenance plans and timetables.

A key lesson learnt from this project is the importance of including national partners, in this case RHUH and the MOPH, in preliminary and on-going discussions on the most effective use of funding. Thanks to the inclusive approach taken, the support provided is perceived by RHUH and MOPH as a timely and meaningful form of institutional support, during a period of unprecedented pressure on Lebanese institutions. This was sentiment was expressed and reiterated by Minister Faour and Dr. Abiad, RHUH Chairman, at the official hand-over ceremony, as well as at other meetings.