# COUNTRY FACTSHEET

# LEBANON

#### **ABOUT WORLD VISION LEBANON**

**WHAT** 

World Vision began working in Lebanon in 1975, when it provided shelter, food and medicine to people affected by the civil and regional wars. Today, World Vision promotes long-term development in the communities where we work, in addition to supporting adults and children affected by manmade and natural disasters.

#### **PRIORITY ISSUES**

Children Benefited:

200.763

LEBANON

Programme Areas:



Children

in Country:

million

Children live

in poverty: **62.000** 

Children under 5:

320,000

### **GIVE BABIES THE BEST START**

Through advocacy and awareness-raising as well as community health and training programmes, World Vision has contributed significantly to the improvement of health, especially for mothers and children in Lebanon. Among other achievements, World Vision played a key role in the nearly doubling of babies who are exclusivley breastfed during their first six months of life. Between 2010 and 2013, the number of babies who are exclusivley breastfed increased from 16 to 27 per cent thanks, in part, to World Vision's nationwide campaigns.

#### FAST FACTS





Only 15 % of babies under 5-months-old are exclusively breastfed (UNICEF, 2010) 68,000 children are out of school. (UNESCO, 2012) 22% of boys do not attend secondary school (UNICEF, 2013) Only **38%** of children ages 3-5 attend **primary school.** (UNICEF, 2013)

A Syrian refugee boy studies in school project WorldVision operates in Bekaa, Lebanon in cooperation with UNICEF. Photo by Simone Siddiqui, WorldVision.

## **EDUCATING CHILDREN FOR LIFE**

In Lebanon, World Vision partners with the Ministry of Education, parents, teachers and children to improve the quality of education so that children and youth have the skills and knowledge they need to succeed. In 2013, 9, 117 children benefited from World Vision's educational programmes and an additional 65 schools were provided with necessary educational materials.

### **KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE**

World Vision Lebanon's advocacy strategy seeks to address the root causes of abuse, neglect and exploitation in a holistic and comprehensive way, by influencing policy reform, building the capacity of the government and civil society to adopt a systems approach to child protection and also strengthening community-based child protection mechanisms.

## EQUIPPING ADULTS TO CARE FOR KIDS

In Lebanon, many working parents are not able to provide adequately for the health, education and daily needs of their children. World Vision believes that improving job opportunities for parents enables them to better meet the needs of their children by boosting their capacity to increase their income through trainings and loans.

### TRAINING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY

World Vision trains children and youth to advocate for their rights and enables them to be part of the decisionmaking processes through grassroots, national and advocacy initiatives. In 2013, 5,203 children attended life skills trainings to better prepare them for their future.



## LEARN MORE: www.wvi.org/lebanon

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# FAST FACTS



**82%** of children experience **violent discipline** (UNICEF, 2013)

**100,000** children are involved in **child labour** (Ministry of Labour, Republic of Lebanon, 2013)

**155,800** youth are not **employed**, in **education** or **training** (ILOSTAT, 2013)



**362,000** children live below the **poverty line** (World Bank, 2011)



Home to more than **1,000,000** Syrian **Refugees**, At least **50%** of whom are **children** (UNHCR, 2013)

# IN CASE OF EMERGENCY...

Natural and manmade disasters are common in Lebanon and families and communities are often affected by circumstances outside of their control. World Vision works to reduce the impact of emergencies by helping families and communities prepare and plan for potential threats, while also responding to immediate needs when emergencies do occur. In 2013, World Vision continued to provide support to Syrian refugees and their host communities through: water, sanitation and hygeine infastructure and training, education as well as food and non-food items.

