

HAWKAMAA-EU BULLETIN

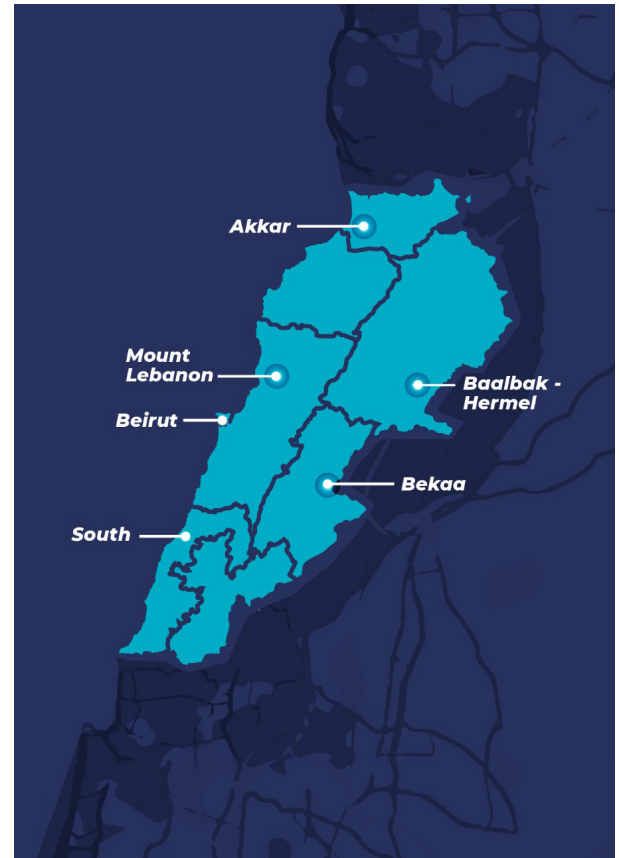
OCT 2022



BACKGROUND

This factsheet is produced as part of a national-level three-year EU-MADAD funded program and consortium, implemented by ACTED, Action Against Hunger (ACF), WeWorld-GVC (WW-GVC), Solidarités International (SI), and LebRelief, with support and technical expertise from the Notre Dame University (NDU), the National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS), the Lebanese Water Actors Platform (LEWAP), the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies (LCPS), NAHNOO and IMPACT Initiatives and in close coordination with government stakeholders. The program's objective is to **improve access to sustainable WASH services for host and refugee communities** in Lebanon, directly targeting 147,805 individuals across the country. This via three outcomes:

1. Strengthened capacity of Water Establishments to provide water and wastewater services;
2. Increased participation of civil society and local authorities in sector governance, and
3. Improved refugee protection space.



INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - AL OSTUAN RIVER BASIN

As part of ACTED's activities in the Al Ostuan River Basin (ORB), a baseline assessment of the water resources in the ORB was conducted. The results of the study, summarised below, along with a Programme of Measures, were presented to Al Ostuan stakeholders in a workshop. In the next year, the HawkaMaa-EU will support four grassroots projects around the ORB through cash grants and capacity building.

- Primary water demands are for urban (~35%) and irrigation (~62%) purposes, whereby the demand for irrigation is highly dependent on precipitation.
- **Water supply requirements are higher than water demand** due to network losses and inefficient irrigation practices. Losses in the urban network are 30%, while efficiency in the networks is around 45%.
- **Public water supply does not meet demand**, leading to the use of a high number of private wells. This has led to a lack of control over abstracted volumes and **environmental impacts** including degradation of groundwater resources and declining groundwater levels.
- Precipitation could cover all demands if adequately captured and exploited but a lack of wastewater treatment plants and the direct discharge of untreated wastewater from municipal areas and households, as well as outflows from agricultural and farmlands have led to **high levels of pollution and contamination** of the water with heavy metals.

For the full baseline report, please get in touch with Abbas Sater at abbas.sater@acted.org.

HAWKAMAA-EU RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

SOCIOECONOMIC BARRIERS TO SUBSCRIPTION, PAYMENT AND SERVICING IN THE WATER SECTOR

Using a combination of household surveys and focus group discussions, this research aims to explore the **socioeconomic barriers (financial, physical and legal) of right holders to subscribe to public water supplies across different governorates in Lebanon**. Its three overarching research questions are as follows:

1. What are the socioeconomic barriers to subscription to public water supply for right holders in Lebanon?
2. What is the perception of rights holders towards institutional capacity to deliver water (comparing Water Establishments and other Institutions)?
3. What is the right holders willingness/capacity to pay for services considering the new revised tariffs of the five year recovery plan?

Results of this research will feed into ongoing **advocacy work around water policies that promote the inclusion of economically vulnerable populations**.

This research is led by LebRelief, and supported by IMPACT and Consortium Partners.

RIVER BASIN STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

To help inform their work in and around the river basins/watersheds Al-Ghadir, Al-Ostuan and Al-Assi, partners (ACTED, WW-GVC and LebRelief) will conduct two-phased **surveys and key informant interviews with stakeholders** including but not limited to, the Water Establishments, municipalities, local NGOs, industries, mukhtars, members of parliament and civil society organisations. The data collected will feed into the **river basin management workshops and planning**, and will complement the hydrological modeling undertaken by an external consultant.

This research is led by IMPACT and supported by Consortium Partners ACTED, WW-GVC and LebRelief.

THE IMPACT OF WASTEWATER ON THE ENVIRONMENT

IMPACT and the CNRS will lead a study on the impact of wastewater on the environment in Lebanon.

The research aims to inform policy, attitude and practice with regards to the environment and wastewater management in the country.

This research is led by IMPACT and the CNRS and supported by Consortium Partners SI and ACF.

FOCUS ON...COMMUNITY PERCEPTION RESEARCH

To inform programming and communication strategies, the HawkaMaa-EU consortium partners conducted community perception research (CPR) in their respective areas of operation. The main objectives of the CPR are as follows:

- Assess the communities' water consumption
- Assess stakeholders and power dynamics
- Assess the communities' perception of water services.

CPR combines **qualitative and quantitative methods**, enabling a more elaborate sociological analysis of the target communities. Tools include key informant interviews, focus group discussions and households interviews. Numbers of surveys conducted to date:



Ouzaii



Brak Water Scheme
(Qennarit and Ghazieh)



Douris and Ain Bourday

Preliminary findings show:

- Ouzaii: 95% of respondents are considering making a legal subscription and 97% report they would pay the fee if subscribed.
- Brak Water Scheme: **21% Of the population surveyed are subscribed to the Water Establishment.**
- Douris and Ain Bourday: High reliance among respondents on water trucking (44.06% of respondents) and own wells (33.37% of respondents, 10.12% of whom have their own private well, the rest shared) vs using the water provided through public water networks. The main reasons cited for not using the WE-provided water is **lack of availability; not enough pressure, and limited quantities available.**

A full analysis of the CPR results and trends will be shared in the December edition of this bulletin.

For questions or feedback on the contents of this publication, please contact Léa Mascaro at lea.mascaro@acted.org