



Newsletter March 2025

Latest WASH news

LEWAP COLLABORATION ON SANIHUB

The SANIHUB project is a collaborative sector effort of Global WASH Cluster members and addresses existing challenges and knowledge gaps in the humanitarian sanitation sector. It provides quick and easy access to contextualized, practical, relevant resources and tools and also offers direct and personal support to sanitation field practitioners where and when needed.

Part of the current project phase, is collecting practical knowledge resources and tools from sanitation/ WASH practitioners and make them

available through the platform to the global sanitation sector, which will be conducted by LEWAP with the endorsement of the Lebanese WASH Cluster.

The objective of this work is to ensure that the practical experience and lessons learned in the field of sanitation and faecal sludge management in emergencies in Lebanon are made available to the global humanitarian sanitation sector through the SANIHUB. Once all resources are compiled, the link to SANIHUB will be shared with everyone.

LEBANESE CIVIL SOCIETY FOR WATER (LCSW) RESUMING THEIR MEETINGS – 17 MARCH 2025

LEWAP in collaboration with LebRelief have resumed the LCSW meetings for 2025 ; the network has been expanded to include on new organizations interested to be involved in the sector. Online quarterly meetings will be held for sharing updates and any hot topic, and workshops/field visits will be conducted throughout the year.

In the first meeting, Mohamad Mansour coordinator of LHDF (Lebanon Humanitarian & Development NGOs

Forum) attended to present the forum, the mission and objectives, who is part of the forum and how can registered organizations in Lebanon be part of this forum which already groups hundred of organizations in different sectors. This was followed by a quick presentation from LEWAP on the latest news in the sector afterwards each organization was given the chance to update the rest of their accomplished and ongoing projects.

On December 17 and 18 2024, a final workshop was conducted by ESCWA and the Arab Centre for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD) under the United Nations Development Account project “Improved Water Security in Arab States”.

The workshop, hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries in Tunisia, aims to explore the following pillars, which also include relevant activities supported by the Government of Sweden under the “Climate Resilience through Regional Cooperation for Inclusive Sustainable Development” project:

- Latest developments related to the Arab Groundwater Knowledge

Platform.

- Capacity development and case studies on assessing the impacts of climate change on groundwater resources.

- Capacity development and case studies on the use of the Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE) mission for monitoring groundwater storage.

- Capacity development and case studies on the use of remote sensing to estimate quantities of groundwater used for irrigation.

To access the workshop documents, check the link [here](#)

News from Hawkamaa-EU project (MADAD 3)

PARTNERS' ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS

The HawkaMaa-EU project, funded by the European Union, continues its activities to enhance water governance and public water and wastewater services in Lebanon, benefiting all communities in need in Lebanon. A Consortium comprising various organizations is actively involved, with ACTED, ACF, WW-GVC, LebRelief, and Solidarités International serving as implementing partners, supported by IMPACT, LCPS, Nahnnoo, and LEWAP.

Unfortunately, the effects of the conflict in Lebanon meant that many of the project's infrastructure activities could not be implemented as planned. However, the Consortium partners used the time to reorient the remaining activities to respond to the emergency needs of the water establishment. These

activities which were implemented include assisting the North Lebanon Water Establishment (NLWE), the Bekaa Water Establishment (BWE), the South Lebanon Water Establishment (SLWE) and the Beirut and Mount Lebanon Water Establishment (EBML) with operational and maintenance support under the project's El-SICR program..

UPDATES FROM THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND WATER

On February 8, 2025, a new government was formed led by Prime Minister Nawaf Salam ; Mr. Joe Saddi was appointed as the minister for the Ministry of Energy and Water.

US STOP-WORK ORDER IMPACT ON THE WASH SECTOR

The US stop work order impacted mainly the funding for WASH in informal settlements as it consists 85% of the total sectoral budget ; 11 partners received direct or indirect stop work order (1 UN, 8 INGOs, 2 local NGOs). 15.3 million USD for planned projects in 2025 were affected by this stop work

order ; the available LHF funds allow only for bridging around 30% of the gap for WASH services provision for up to 3 months (April-May). The sectors that were mostly impacted were WASH, Health, Food Security and Education.

NEWS FROM THE WASH SECTOR

Over the past three months, the sector has developed a comprehensive response strategy for returnees, which includes in-kind support. In parallel, efforts have been focused on restoring water and sanitation supply schemes that were damaged due to hostilities. This approach covers various components, including water sources and stations, ensuring the availability of electrical supply and the replacement of photovoltaic panels where needed. Additionally, it addresses the rehabilitation of distribution systems, tertiary networks, and household connections through Water Establishments. To support the most vulnerable households,

conditional assistance for household-level water storage has been introduced. Furthermore, emergency public drinking water points have been installed or rapidly repaired, while water trucking operations have been deployed where necessary, particularly in high-return areas, locations hosting internally displaced persons (IDPs), and regions lacking functional water supply systems.

In collaboration with the Food Security Cluster, joint distributions have been taking place in affected areas, mainly in the southern suburbs of Beirut.

These efforts are complemented by infrastructure projects implemented in the same locations to enhance service provision. The sector has also introduced the Cash for WaSH strategy, which is closely linked to other cash-based assistance programs and coordinated with the Ministry of Social Affairs' registration forms to ensure an integrated and efficient response.

Significant progress has been made in strategic planning and coordination. The sector's chapter under the Lebanon Response Plan, along with the annual work plan and the corresponding log frame, has been developed and officially endorsed by the ministry. Additionally, the sector strategy under the Pooled Fund (LHF) has been finalized, with partners pre-selected based on criteria set by the fund strategy. Further

coordination has taken place with the South Water Establishment, leading to the development of an assessment tool to evaluate infrastructure damages. This tool has been endorsed and adopted by sector partners and the water establishment, ensuring a standardized approach to damage assessment and recovery planning.

Moreover, a Protection Risk Analysis was developed and shared with sector partners to guide interventions with a protection-sensitive lens. The sector's priority activities, alongside its overall strategy, were also formulated under the Flash Appeal to ensure a timely and well-coordinated emergency response. These efforts reflect the sector's ongoing commitment to addressing critical needs while strengthening the resilience of affected communities.

Latest publications

More publications on LEWAP and pS-Eau [database](#). To share a publication, send it via email to contact@lewap.org.

STANDARDS FOR TREATED WATER REUSE IN AGRICULTURE – LIBNOR 2024

Lebanon needs realistic and affordable water reuse standards that promote risk minimization and provide legal security and economic opportunities to farmers and confidence to consumers. The use of treated water for irrigation can augment the available water resources and contribute to address the water gap, but water reuse needs to be safe for people, crops, plants and the environment. Therefore, there is a need for a systematic adoption of a local standard for the reuse of treated water in the country.

A review of international experiences in the field and investigation of local scientific evidence on water treatment and reuse was done focusing on the WHO guidance published in 2006 in order to develop the best standards for

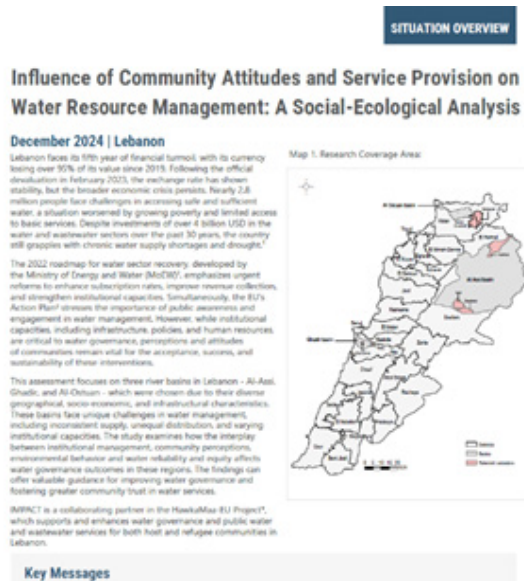
treated water reuse in irrigation

To access the standards, visit the link [here](#)

SOCIO ECOLOGICAL ANALYSIS FACTSHEET – DECEMBER 2024

As part of the HawkaMaa-EU project, IMPACT has conducted a socio ecological analysis around the 3 river basins targeted by the project (Al Assi, Al Ghadir and Al Oustouan) . The assessment methodology was built upon the Social Ecological System (SES) model that explores the interactions between water resources and human societies. It aimed to assess the extent to which communities' attitudes, institutional capacities and service provision influence water

management, and to highlight the interconnectedness of governance structures, service availability and household perceptions to inform key stakeholders' targeted advocacy initiatives.



Key findings:

- Trust in public institutions and fairness of water distribution plays an important role in shaping community behaviours. Higher levels of trust are associated with increased participation

in sustainable practices, such as water conservation and pollution reduction.

- Reliable and equitable water distribution significantly enhances community trust in institutions, with improvements in water quality, supply consistency, and access linked to higher trust levels.

- Concerns about unfair water distribution and institutional inefficiency were frequently reported, with perceptions of inequity leading to lower trust in institutions and reduced engagement in environmental initiatives.

- Improvements in water reliability help alleviate operational pressures on water management by reducing service disruptions and maintenance challenges.

To access the factsheet, click [here](#)

ISRAELI OFFENSIVE ON LEBANON – CRNS-LB REPORT 10 DECEMBER 2024



the period up to the ceasefire on November 27, 2024 summarizes all the data documents by CNRS-LB since October 8, 2023. The first section of the report documents all forms of Israeli attacks (including bombings, airstrikes, phosphorus shells etc.) their frequency, intensity and geographical distribution. The second section outlines the impact of these attacks across various sectors (population, environment, agriculture and infrastructure)

To access the report, check the link [here](#)

Since October 8, 2023 the CNRS-LB refocused its efforts to monitor, document and analyze the various forms of attacks, assessing their impacts and consequences. This comprehensive report covering

FROM CRISIS TO RECOVERY: LOCAL AUTHORITIES CONFRONTING POST-WAR REALITIES IN LEBANON (RAPID IMPACT ASSESSMENT) – JANUARY 2025



On January 2025, the UNDP published the rapid impact assessment of local authorities post-war. The report examines the impact of hostilities and the post-escalation conditions of affected municipalities in Lebanon. It focuses on displacement, infrastructure damage, socio-economic conditions, and initial recovery needs.

Data were collected from municipalities and their respective unions, with support from the Disaster

Risk Management (DRM) Units at the Governorate level. A survey was conducted in 135 affected areas between 5 and 15 December 2024. The data collected covers demographics, education, health, infrastructure, and damage to businesses, with a detailed breakdown of

the types of damages. The data collection approach prioritizes primary sources from the field, recognizing that local authorities are best positioned to describe their realities. In addition to the survey, UNDP conducted focus group discussions and interviews in several areas to

provide deeper insights into the human and people-centered impact. The report also analyzes DRM displacement data from December 2024, alongside findings from the UNDP/ARK Regular Perceptions Survey conducted in November 2024.

To access the report, click [here](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON FLOOD RISKS IN THE ABOU ALI RIVER BASIN, LEBANON: A HYDROLOGICAL MODELING APPROACH – 31 JANUARY 2025

Climate change presents a significant environmental and socioeconomic challenges in the 21st century, notably disrupting water resources in Lebanon through altered rainfall patterns and increased flood risks. This research examines the impacts of climate change on flood dynamics in the Abou Ali River Basin in Tripoli, Lebanon, utilizing three global climate models (GCMs) from the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report. This study provides crucial insights into future

flood risks in Tripoli, emphasizing proactive responses to climate change challenges.

This research offers valuable insights for policymakers, urban planners, and stakeholders involved in water resource management and flood mitigation. Adopting adaptive strategies, such as upgrading drainage infrastructure, integrating early warning systems, and adopting sustainable land-use practices, is essential to reduce flood risks.

Furthermore, incorporating RRI-generated inundation maps into urban planning can help target interventions for high-risk zones like Abou Samra,

Zgharta, and Kousba.

To know more about there report, click [here](#)

Upcoming event

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