

The background image shows a dense urban environment, likely a slum or informal settlement. In the foreground, laundry, including a patterned cloth and a striped garment, hangs on a line. Below, a narrow alleyway or courtyard is visible, with a large metal water tank on the ground. The buildings are multi-story and closely packed, with various balconies and windows. The overall scene depicts a crowded and resource-constrained living space.

MAPPING MIGRATION IN BEIRUT MUNICIPALITY

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THREE NEIGHBOURHOODS | 2018

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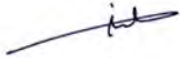
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FOREWORD

UN-Habitat is pleased to offer this report on how migration intersects with selected indicators of urban well-being and sustainable development. The humanitarian development of Beirut and other cities in Lebanon is closely linked to migration forms. The displacement of people from Syria since 2011 and their large-scale forced migration have resulted in demographic pressure concerns in the already stressed urban pockets of Lebanese cities.

The empirical data presented here considers aspects of vulnerability at neighborhood level across both host and immigrant communities. It is anticipated that Beirut Municipality and other partners will be able to use the data to nuance responses, noting that sustainability can only reside in actions that have reference to all residents of the area in question.



Tarek Osseiran
UN-Habitat Lebanon Country Programme Manager

Migration has long constituted a formative dynamic in the urban development of the city of Beirut and of Lebanon.

The mass inflow of people into Lebanon resulting from the Syrian crisis from 2011 onward has seen a new influx of displaced people into the cities, including Beirut.

Beirut Municipality welcomes this report as a knowledge resource to inform its ongoing response to the challenge and opportunities that international migration brings.



Jamal Itani
Mayor of Beirut Municipality

CREDITS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This document was prepared with information collected through field assessments, focus group discussions with local residents and key informant interviews with governmental actors, political representatives, and stakeholders in health facilities in the neighbourhoods of Arab El-Maslakh, Daouk Ghawash and Karm El-Zeitoun.

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CONTENTS

Executive Summary	4
Purpose of the Report	4
A. Pilot Project Background	4
B. Beirut Municipality	5
Definition & Types of Migration	6
Context	7
A. Current Migration Trends in the Arab Region	9
B. Overview of Migrant Challenges in the Arab Region	9
C. Syrian & Palestinian Migrant Challenges in Lebanon	10
Overview of the Three Neighbourhoods in Beirut Municipality	11
A. Location & Size of Neighbourhoods	12
B. History of Neighbourhoods	14
Migration Governance	15
Neighbourhood Mapping Methodology & Caveats	16
Demography	18
A. Population per Neighbourhood	18
Housing	20
A. Percentage of Migrants in Buildings	20
B. Type of Occupancy (Individual or Family) by Nationality	21
C. Population Distribution by Number of Occupance per Residential Unit	22
D. Number of Individuals per Bedroom	23
E. Eviction Threats	24
Access to Jobs & Services	25
A. Employment Rate	25
B. Education	28
C. Health	29
D. Communal Spaces	31
E. Infrastructural Network	34
Social Stability, Safety & Security	35
A. Social Stability	35
B. Safety & Security	35
C. Migrants' Desire to Return to Place of Origin	36
Conclusion	37
Bibliography	39

LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1. Population distribution by cohort in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 2. Population distribution by cohort in Daouk Ghawash – October 2017
 Figure 3. Population distribution by cohort in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017
 Figure 4. Type of occupancy by nationality in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 5. Type of occupancy by nationality in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017
 Figure 6. Population distribution by number of occupants per residential unit in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 7. Population distribution by number of occupants per residential unit in Daouk Ghawash – October 2017
 Figure 8. Population distribution by number of occupants per residential unit in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017
 Figure 9. Number of individuals per bedroom in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 10. Number of individuals per bedroom in Daouk Ghawash – October 2017
 Figure 11. Number of individuals per bedroom in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017
 Figure 12. Eviction threats in the last six months in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 13. Eviction threats in the last six months in Daouk Ghawash – October 2017
 Figure 14. Eviction threats in the last six months in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017
 Figure 15. Employment and unemployment rates in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 16. Employment and unemployment rates in Daouk Ghawash – October 2017
 Figure 17. Employment and unemployment rates in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017
 Figure 18. School attendance by gender in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 19. School attendance by gender in Daouk Ghawash – October 2017
 Figure 20. School attendance by gender in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017
 Figure 21. Communal space conditions by nationality in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 22. Communal space conditions by nationality in Daouk Ghawash – October 2017
 Figure 23. Communal space conditions by nationality in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017
 Figure 24. Population count on consideration of returning to place of origin in Arab El-Maslakh – October 2017
 Figure 25. Population count on consideration of returning to place of origin in Daouk Ghawash – October 2017
 Figure 26. Population count on consideration of returning to place of origin in Karm El-Zeitoun – October 2017

LIST OF TABLES

- Table 1. Population count in the three neighbourhoods – October 2017
 Table 2. Primary Healthcare Centres in Beirut Municipality

LIST OF MAPS

- Map 1. Location of the three neighbourhoods in Beirut Municipality
 Map 2. Arab El-Maslakh neighbourhood location
 Map 3. Daouk Ghawash neighbourhood location
 Map 4. Karm El-Zeitoun neighbourhood location
 Map 5. Percentage of migrants in buildings in the three neighbourhoods
 Map 6. Distribution of Primary Healthcare Centres in Beirut Municipality
 Map 7. Condition of communal spaces of buildings in the three neighbourhoods

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

DGSG	Directorate General of General Security	MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
DPAR	General Directorate of Political Affairs and Refugees	MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
FGD	Focus group discussion	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
FS	Field survey	NGO	Non-governmental organization
GoL	Government of Lebanon	PHCC	Primary Healthcare Centre
HRW	Human Rights Watch	PLO	Palestinian Liberation Organization
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development	PRL	Palestine refugees in Lebanon
ILO	International Labour Organization	PRS	Palestine refugees from Syria
IYCF	Infant and young child feeding	SDC	Social Development Centre
KII	Key informant interview	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
MDWs	Migrant domestic workers	UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
MoIM	Ministry of Interior and Municipalities	UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
MoL	Ministry of Labour	UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project is the research component of a wide Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project led by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), aimed at contributing to improved migration governance at city level in Europe and the Southern Mediterranean, including Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Turin, Tangiers, Tunis and Vienna.

A desk-based literature review on the history surrounding migrant influxes to Beirut shows that there is a wider range of migratory backgrounds that combine and interact in Lebanese cities, namely Beirut. Here, the term Beirut Municipality refers to a 21 km² administrative unit at the core of a much larger 111 km² continuously built-up area of 31 municipalities, which constitutes the city of Beirut. To create a better understanding of how migration is inserted into the urban fabric of Beirut Municipality, this profile makes usage of three case studies; the three neighbourhoods of Arab El-Maslakh, Daouk Ghawash and Karm El-Zeitoun. Each neighbourhood is inhabited by a mix of host and migrant communities, as identified during a population count by UN-Habitat.

Municipalities can play a key role in targeting the improvement of living conditions of migrant populations in the city; however, they are challenged by the lack of precise data and specific knowledge of tools that can

address the needs of such a diverse group of demographic and migration backgrounds. On the short term, this profile provides the municipality with supplementary visual data and maps on migration, and on the long term, such data could inform policies through the local Beirut administration, which would be effective in reaching communities or groups that are currently being left behind due to their particular or special needs.

This scoping study visualizes migration movements in terms of population and cohorts in the three neighbourhoods; it can be stated that the Syrian cohort comprises the largest migrant population as a percentage of the three neighbourhoods' total population. Of the remainder, the Bangladeshi, Ethiopian and Palestinian cohorts are the largest groups (with varying representation across the neighbourhoods). A secondary analysis on the migration policy framework in Lebanon highlights key challenges that are derived from this framework among the Palestinian and Syrian cohorts.

Besides mapping of the identified migrants in the three neighbourhoods in terms of population, cohort and historical waves of migration, supplementary data to the migration profile was collected in order to disaggregated by the selected neighbourhoods. In addition, mapping of the key issues related

to housing (typology, occupancy), migrant economies and service delivery to migrants—together with focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs)—revealed key areas of concern. These issues included the following: involvement of residents in local decision-making, need for upgrading the direct living environment in terms of its infrastructural and public services, and need for improving safety and security in all three neighbourhoods (the latter more specifically in Daouk Ghawash). Addressing these areas of concern may additionally provide potential to improve inhabitants' sense of belonging to their neighbourhood.

This UN-Habitat Migration Profile provides an introduction to migration challenges in Beirut. While only focusing on a snapshot of immigration rather than emigration in the city, the profile aims to improve our understanding of challenges in relation to migrants in Beirut (population density, eviction threats, racial harassment, lack of affordability, etc.). The profile offers new evidence on the types of vulnerabilities facing migrants in contrasting neighbourhoods in Beirut Municipality. This may serve to highlight aspects of the nature and urgency of challenges facing migrants as a basis for considering their role in the development of the city.

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

A. Pilot Project Background

Internal and international migration movements in the greater Mediterranean region have a direct and long-lasting impact on the development of urban areas in the region, as these are often the actual destinations of migrant populations. In order to maximize the social and economic development potential of these migrant populations, cities need effective migration governance capacities, particularly in view of the provision of access to rights and services.

In this context, the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project aims at contributing to improved migration governance at city level in a network

of cities in Europe and in the Southern Mediterranean region. The project is implemented by a consortium led by ICMPD in partnership with the United Cities and Local Governments Network (UCLG) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as associate partner, in the framework of the Dialogue on Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM). The city network is composed of the cities of Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangiers, Turin, Tunis and Vienna.

Project activities are grouped in a dialogue component, which facilitates

the exchange of experiences and policy options among the cities: a research component, which takes stock of the migration situation in the participating cities; and an action-oriented component, which produces a toolkit compiling policy options for migration governance at local level, and offers pilot projects in the southern cities participating in the project.

As an outcome of the pilot projects, the participating southern cities will benefit from improved technical expertise and concrete instruments to improve local migration governance in the respective city. Pilot projects will support the Southern Mediterranean participating cities in taking first steps

of concrete action towards improved migration governance at city level, focusing on a specific need outlined in the City Migration Profiles and City Priority Papers identified through the thematic peer-to-peer meetings and specifically requested by the participating city. The relevant city

will steer the process by defining in a short proposal the type of support needed, in line with the priorities identified in the City Priority Papers. Ideas for possible action may also be further discussed at the occasion of the thematic peer-to-peer meetings to seek the input of other cities in

the network. Support will include activities as needed, such as expert exchanges, awareness-raising campaigns, migrant information and help desks, or migrant counselling.

B. Beirut Municipality

This scoping study aims to provide a brief introduction to migratory challenges in Beirut Municipality, using three case neighbourhood studies, rather than providing a comprehensive municipality review. Beirut Municipality is a 21 km² administrative unit at the core of a much larger 111 km² continuously built-up area of 31 municipalities that constitutes the city of Beirut. Also, this study focuses on immigration rather than emigration. This document develops an understanding of migration policies and the mainstreaming of migration into development plans in Beirut.

Three neighbourhoods were selected: Arab El-Maslakh, Daouk Ghawash and Karm El-Zeitoun. Selection was

based on discussions between Beirut Municipality and UN-Habitat to identify locations with relatively large percentages of migrant populations.

This report also provides a framework for bringing existing information from different sources together in a structured manner at both national and municipal levels. It intends to strengthen the knowledge base and can support evidence-based migration policy making. UN-Habitat advocates for the value of that accurate information in supporting an informed debate on migration-related topics.

Migration is a key governance area that requires policy coherence and coordination mechanisms

at the central, local and regional levels to foster social cohesion and sustainable urban development. UN-Habitat promotes a holistic and rights-based approach to migration policies. It seeks to promote positive values, conceptions and principles in the context of the migration debate and policy development, including through the careful use of terminology.



©Photo: UN-Habitat (2018), Arab El-Maslakh



©Photo: UN-Habitat (2018), Daouk Ghawash



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DEFINITION & TYPES OF MIGRATION

Migration transcends boundaries between cultures, languages, cultures, ethnic groups, and nation states. This ongoing process of the movement of individuals affects even those who do not migrate. Definitions of migration and migratory events vary along such dimensions as relation to place of birth, citizenship, place of residence and duration of stay. Also, technical definitions, concepts and categories of migrants and migration are often informed by legal, political, geographic, temporal, methodological and other factors (IOM, 2018a). According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM, 2018b), a migrant refers to “any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of (1) the person’s legal status; (2) whether the movement is voluntary or involuntary; (3) what the causes for the movement are; or (4) what the length of the stay is”. This report makes use of the IOM definition to focus on immigration to Beirut rather than emigration trends in the city.

When referring to international migration, international reports commonly take into consideration the movements of refugees and asylum seekers. Thus, the terms “refugees” and “migrants” are often used interchangeably, with migration becoming an “umbrella term”. However, important legal differences exist between these two terms. Refugees are defined and protected under the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol (neither of which have been signed by Lebanon),

term “refugees”, the concept of “forced migration” is not guided by a legal framework and agreed-upon definition that enjoys international recognition. Hence, the preferred practice by UNHCR is to refer to groups of people travelling in mixed movements as “refugees and migrants”. This is the best way to acknowledge that people on the move have human rights that should be respected, protected and fulfilled; and that refugees and asylum seekers have specific needs and rights that are protected by a particular legal framework (UNHCR, 2016a).

The following migration-related concepts have emerged over time and are commonly used:

Labour migrants: Individuals that move away from their country of origin to another country, or within their country—typically from rural to urban areas—with the purpose of seeking work (UN-Habitat and Ford Foundation, 2018).

Temporary labour migrants (also known as guest workers or overseas contract workers): Individuals that migrate for a limited period of time with the purpose of seeking labour opportunities.

Refugees: Individuals fleeing from their country to another country due to internal conflict, foreign aggression, occupation, violence, fear and/or other disturbing events that threatened them and/or interrupted the public order (UN-Habitat and Ford Foundation, 2018).

Asylum seekers: Individuals that have

change and/or development projects (UN-Habitat and Ford Foundation, 2018).

Crisis-displaced people: International migrants that are displaced within a country, or forced to flee to a third country, or return to their own country (returnees) due to human-made disasters as well as conflict in their countries of residence and work (UN-Habitat and Ford Foundation, 2018).

Gentrified or expelled people: Individuals that do not fall under traditional categories of migrants, refugees or IDPs and that are displaced from their land, home or place of residence due to land-grabbing deals, large infrastructure projects, urban-renewal programmes and/or market forces and powerful groups (UN-Habitat and Ford Foundation, 2018).

Family members (or family-reunion/-reunification migrants): Individuals that reunify with family members that previously entered an immigration destination under one of the above-mentioned categories.

Forced migration: Individuals (including refugees and asylum seekers) forced to move due to external factors, such as environmental disasters or development projects. This type of migration displays characteristics similar to displacement.

Highly skilled and business migrants: Individuals with certain qualifications, such as managers, executives, professionals, technicians, etc. Highly skilled and business migrants aim for employment through international labour markets with a scarcity of certain skills. In these cases, various

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