



**World Health
Organization**

Lebanon

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COUNTRY COOPERATION STRATEGY

2019-2023



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LEBANON

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SIGNATURE PAGE

The signing of the CCS 2019-2023 reaffirms the strength of the relationship between the World Health Organization (WHO) as part of the wider United Nations system and the Government of Lebanon.

It underscores the commitment to work together toward agreed priorities for the greater impact and relevance to the people of Lebanon as envisioned with the national targets set for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

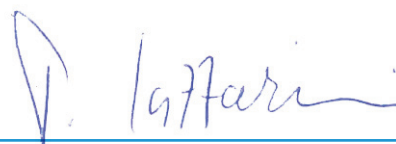
The strategy further advances WHO's long history of support to, and alignment with, the national development priorities and adds a stronger emphasis on coherence and coordination from all levels of the organization with Lebanon.



Pr. Walid Ammar, Director General, Ministry of Public Health



Dr. Iman Shankiti, WHO Representative in Lebanon



Mr. Philippe Lazzarini, UN Resident Coordinator

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CAS	Central Administration of Statistics
CCS	Country Cooperation Strategy
CHE	Current Health Expenditure
EPI	Expanded Program on Immunization
EU	European Union
EWARS	Early Warning and Response System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GPW	General Programme of Work
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
IHR	International Health Regulations
INGO	International Non-governmental organization
JEE	Joint External Evaluation
LCRP	Lebanon Crisis Response Plan
MCH	Mother and Child Health
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
NCD	Non-communicable diseases
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OOP	Out-of-pocket
PHC	Primary Health Care
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TB	Tuberculosis
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNSF	United Nations Strategic Framework
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Lebanon–WHO Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) 2019-2023 signals a strong commitment from WHO and the Government of Lebanon to work together with partners to achieve the following ambitious country goals by 2023:



The **entire population** (6.09 million people) better **protected** from health emergencies



+300,000 of the most vulnerable people (150,000 Lebanese and 150,000 refugees) have **access to affordable** essential health services



Improved **health and well-being** for **2 million people** whose health is negatively impacted by social, behavioural, and environmental risk factors

This CCS is developed at a time where Lebanon's political stability is fragile, affected by political and confessional cleavages, and the protracted civil war in Syria has severely impacted by the country's stability, economy and social fabric. The presence of an estimated 1.5 million Syrian refugees/displaced and more than 0.3 million Palestinian refugees puts huge pressure on Lebanon's resources and its social and health services. Major economic drawbacks occurred simultaneously with an unprecedented and sudden increase of demand and strain on the health care system.

Despite all this, the Lebanese health system has been showing considerable resilience. The continuous focus on targeted reforms in the health sector shows that progress in achieving strategic goals has been possible against all the odds. Improvements have been in health outcomes, in health care productivity and performance, and in health sector governance.

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