



Palestinian Central  
Bureau Of Statistics



Central Administration  
Of Statistics - Lebanon

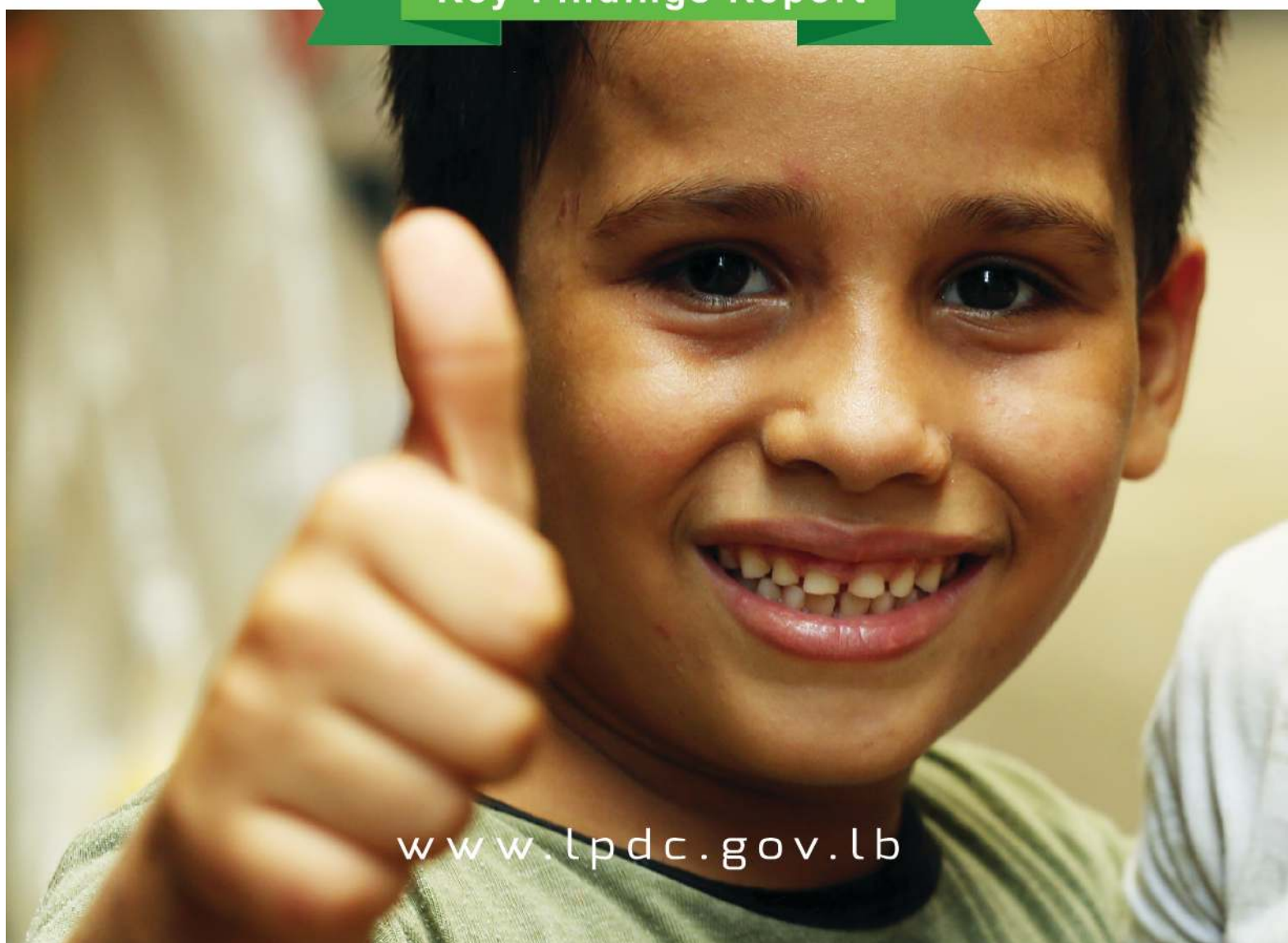


Lebanese Republic | Presidency  
of the Council of Ministers  
LEBANESE PALESTINIAN  
DIALOGUE COMMITTEE



# POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS IN PALESTINIAN CAMPS AND GATHERINGS IN L E B A N O N 2 0 1 7

## Key Findings Report



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## Preface

For more than seven decades of Palestinian refugee's presence in Lebanon, the absence of official statistical researches, partly, has limited the capacity of the Lebanese Government to undergo policy reforms. The numbers of refugees estimated by different agencies were used to drive inaccurate and sometimes falsely understandings of the Palestinian refugees' population presence in the country.

The Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC) seeks to improve the living conditions of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, which is impossible to achieve without a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the social, economic and demographic realities of the Palestinian refugees population living in Lebanon. There is a growing need for a solid data for developing plans and strategies and formulating policies and programs to improve the living conditions of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon in partnership with the international community.

Accordingly, the Lebanese Working Group on Palestinian refugees<sup>1</sup> has issued a recommendation to carry out a census in Palestinian camps and gatherings in Lebanon, which will generate the much-needed indicators in support of the Government's efforts to formulate adequate policies<sup>2</sup>.

Therefore, the LPDC had initiated and facilitated the discussions between the Lebanese and Palestinian authorities leading to the approval and signature of an MOU between both Governments in October 2016. With generous support from the Governments of Japan, Norway and UNICEF, the LPDC in partnership with the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) was able to mobilize the needed resources to carry out the census operations during 2017/18. The Project aimed to lay the foundation for a statistical data for the governmental and international agencies use and to improve decision-making capacities of policies/programs affecting Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. The execution of its activities was managed and supervised by the two official statistical offices (CAS and PCBS) according to international standards and procedures for conducting censuses.

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<sup>1</sup> The Lebanese Working Group on Palestinian refugees is composed of representatives of the key-political Lebanese Parties: Lebanese Forces, Hezbollah, Amal Movement, Free Patriotic Movement, Kata'eb Party, Future Movement and Progressive Socialist Party.

<sup>2</sup> Recommendation No 5, 24 April 2015, "A Unified Lebanese Vision for the Palestinian Refugees Affairs in Lebanon", LPDC publications 2017, P:23

The census, in the making and afterwards, has caused controversy and skepticism around its objectives and timing. Some consider it a step towards settlement (tawte'en) of Palestinian refugees, while others were concerned by the political implications that may result from it. Though we understand the backgrounds of such concerns, the lack of trust as well as the negative historical backdrop, we still believe that this fact-based approach is the optimum approach that can lead to public policy reform. Creating the climate for developing public policies based on reliable data and facts in parallel to the consensual political processes, on even the most sensitive files, is today, an absolute necessity. The Government is now able to benefit from the accumulated experiences in conducting a general census for Lebanon.

The Population and Housing Census in the Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon (PHCPCG-2017) is the first statistical operation of such magnitude in Lebanon. It included the Palestinians refugees' population in Lebanon, whose majority resides in the 12 Palestinian camps and 156 gatherings. The use of new technologies advancement enabled CAS and PCBS to meet high standards of data collection, monitoring, validation as well as quality assurance.

More than 1,000 Palestinian and Lebanese young men and women have worked hard to ensure the success of this operation. During data collection phase, access to certain security-sensitive areas represented a challenge. However, the collaboration of the Lebanese and Palestinian security institutions and local forces facilitated the entry and movement of fieldworkers in all targeted areas.

The results, to be disseminated in the coming months, will provide a wealth of knowledge that will benefit all concerned stakeholders including Governmental entities, UN agencies, Donors, civil society organizations, researchers and academics in pursuing a decent living for Palestinian refugees until their right of return is realized.

Hassan Mneymneh  
Chairman of the LPDC  
Beirut, December 2017

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## Acknowledgments

The Population and Housing Census in the Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon (PHHCCG-2017) has been an ambitious project led by the Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC), in partnership with the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).

The Chairman of the LPDC, Dr. Hassan Mneymneh, would like to thank His Excellency, Mr. Prime Minister Hariri for his extensive support and patronage. Prime Minister Salam support was key to grant governmental approval on the project.

He would also like to highlight the outstanding efforts made by Director General of CAS (Dr. Maral Tutelian), the Head of PCBS (Dr. Ola Awad) along with the Census Director (Abdel Nasser El-Ayi), all Central Management team members (senior statisticians, IT experts, coordinators of publicity campaign, field supervisors, field team leaders, enumerators, administrators and other team members) to plan, manage, implement, supervise, monitor, and coordinate the PHHCCG-2017 activities.

The implementation of the PHHCCG-2017 was generously financed by the governments of: Japan and Norway as well as the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF).

Acknowledgment should be extended, as well, to all members of the Lebanese Working Group on Palestinian Refugee Affairs and to the International Consultant (Fafo) who supported the planning of the census.

Along the way, the Steering Committee formed of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, National Defense, Interior and Municipalities, and the Embassy of the State of Palestine played a key role. In advisory capacity; ESCWA, UNRWA, ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP provided technical support and collaboration throughout the process.

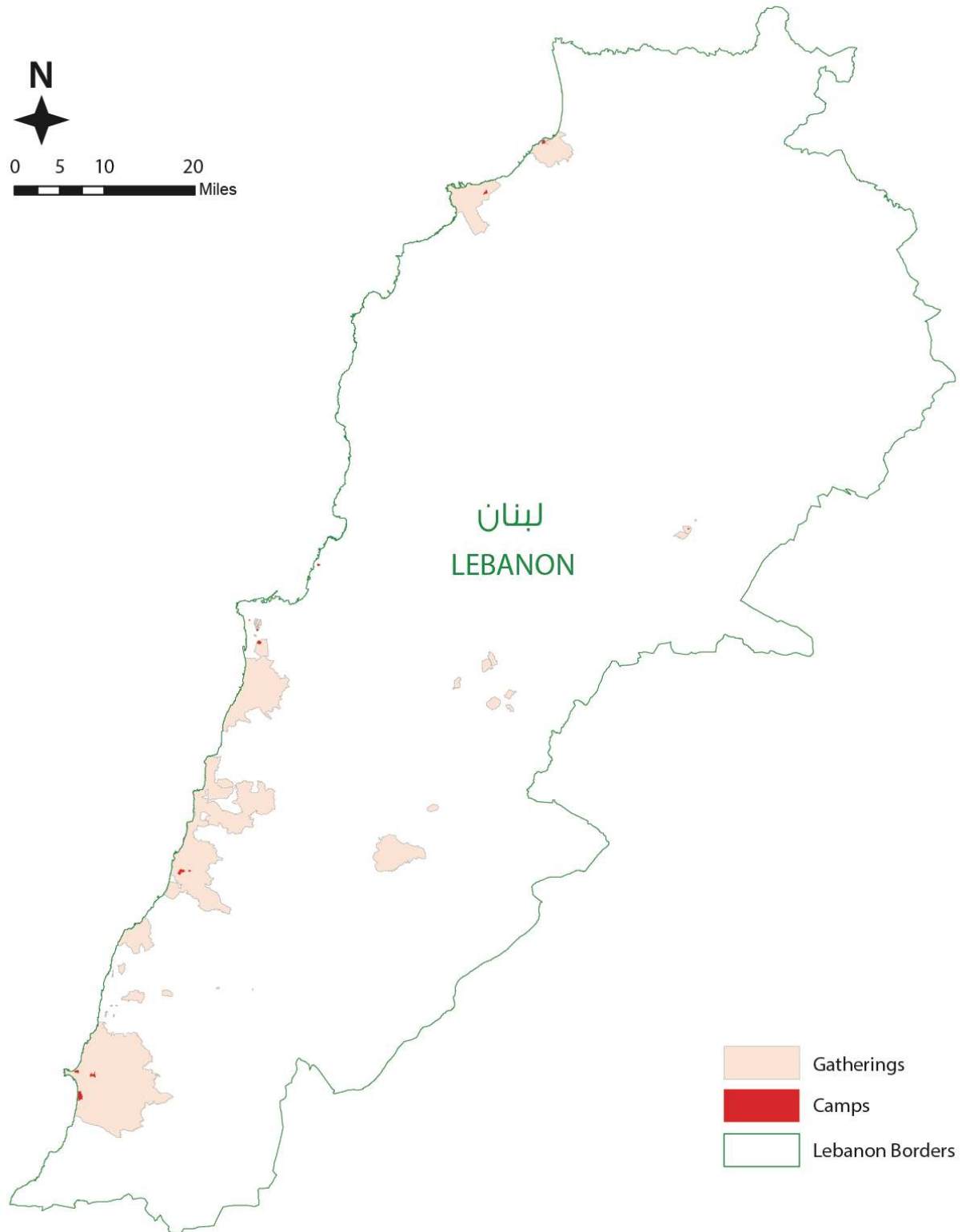
During the implementation, the LPDC heavily relied on UNDP's Country Office administrative and management support to the entire operation.

LPDC extends its deep gratitude to all the aforementioned personalities and institutions for the undeniable efforts exerted to accomplish the PHHCCG-2017.

## List of Acronymes

<b>CAS</b>	Central Administration of Statistics
<b>CMO</b>	Central Management Office
<b>DPRA</b>	General Directorate of Political Affairs and Refugees of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities
<b>EA</b>	Enumeration Area
<b>ESCWA</b>	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>GPS</b>	Global Position System
<b>ILO</b>	International Labor Organization
<b>LPDC</b>	Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee
<b>PCBS</b>	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
<b>PES</b>	Post-Enumeration Survey
<b>PHCCG-2017</b>	Population and Housing Census in the Palestinian camps and Gatherings
<b>PLO</b>	Palestinian Liberation Movement
<b>PM</b>	Prime Minister of Lebanon
<b>PRL</b>	Palestinian Refugee in Lebanon
<b>PRS</b>	Palestinian Refugee displaced from Syria
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children Fund
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNRWA</b>	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

# Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon



# I. Introduction

The Population and Housing Census is one of the most important pillars of national statistical work, and is a prerequisite for the formulation of public social and economic policies, as well as, an exercise of national sovereignty. Most countries perform population censuses every ten years, to keep the policy-makers and other stakeholders informed on the degree of population stability and the extent of changes in its characteristics.

Recognizing the importance of knowing and tracking the fundamental changes in the Palestinian refugees' population residing in Lebanon, the Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC) started in 2015 preparing for a census.

After two years of preparation, both the Lebanese and Palestinian Governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in October 2016 based on Council of

Minister's Decision issued two months earlier<sup>3</sup>. The CAS and the PCBS, under the umbrella of the LPDC, implemented in 2017 the Population and Housing Census in the Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon.

## 1.1. Other sources of data

Before the PHCCG-2017, there have been two sources of data on Palestinian refugees in Lebanon:<sup>4</sup>

- Registration data from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA); and the General Directorate of Political Affairs and Refugees of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (DPRA).
- Sample based surveys by governmental and non-governmental agencies.

As shown in the below table, studies continued to point that almost half of registered refugees are not permanently residing in Lebanon.

Hence, no comparative statistics can be drawn between the Administrative data and sample-based surveys to date.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> The Lebanese and Palestinian Governments signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 19/10/2016 based on Council of Minister's Decision No. 1 dated 25/08/2016.

<sup>4</sup> "Palestinian refugees in Lebanon Kolfat eloukhwa fi zaman elsira'ah", p239- p263; LPDC, 2016.

<sup>5</sup> Conducting a registry-basis census was dismissed early in the process due to absence of proper conditions mainly a unique identity system that allow

**Table 1: Latest Palestinian Refugees numbers estimations, P242; LPDC publication, 2016**

Data type	Source	Estimated number of Palestinian refugees	Year	Coverage
<b>Administrative</b>	UNRWA	459,292	2016	All Lebanon
	DPRA	592,711	2016	All Lebanon
<b>Sample-based survey by governmental agencies</b>	CAS	200,000	1997	All Lebanon
	CAS/Ministry of social affairs	67,000	1994/1995	Camps excluded
<b>Sample-based survey by non-governmental agencies</b>	Fafo	140,000	1999/2000	Camps & gatherings
	AUB/UNRWA	260,000 to 280,000	2010/2015	All Lebanon
<b>LPDC estimates based on the sample-based surveys</b>		<b>193,000 to 241,000</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>All Lebanon</b>

## **1.2. Objectives**

The main objective of this Census has been to provide a set of high quality and up-to-date data on population and housing in the Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon for planning and decision-making purposes; and to help addressing the situation of the Palestinian refugees living there.

Such census is considered a cornerstone in the process of addressing the situation of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. This will not be achieved unless a number of indicators

are available on: social and economic characteristics, including: health, education, employment, migration among other demographic indicators.

In addition to that, the census was conducted for the following reasons:

- To form a National Geographical Information System (GIS) database for all buildings, residential and non-residential units in the Palestinian camps and gatherings located on Lebanese territories.
- To form the statistical sampling framework for implementing sample-based surveys on

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to link data. Also, there remains a need for a high-quality set of data in the population register that is constantly updated.

Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in the future.

- To provide small areas statistics, which is essential for planning process at the micro level.
- To enable population projections: the availability of statistical data from this census is key in preparing accurate estimations of population in the coming years.
- To strengthen national statistical capacities as a practice of national sovereignty over the land and population.

### **1.3. Census phases**

From its inception to completion, the census project took more than three years amidst complicated local and regional political challenges. The census was carried out at several phases, during which all activities were prepared and performed. These phases are:

**Preparation phase:** From mid 2016 to February 2017

During this stage, the official census decisions were made, the organizational structures and the census committees were formed, and major stakeholders and data users were consulted. Required IT infrastructure, office staff recruitment and

procurement were completed. Designing forms, developing plans for auditing and coding, editing data, and estimating the number of employees were also a part of the preparation stage.

**Field operations phase:** From March to August 2017

The fieldwork for the census taking included three main stages; demarcation of the enumeration areas (EA), listing the buildings and housing units and finally, population counting. Preparation of the GIS integrated mapping was conducted early 2016; and these maps were updated in the second stage of the field operations. The most important stage was the enumeration between July 17-31, 2017. This stage also covered the Post-Enumeration Survey (PES) which was carried out in August 2017.

**Data processing and dissemination phase:** From September to December 2017

At this stage, data was validated and coded, according to international and national classifications. Then, it was analyzed and tabulated. Last, a key findings report was drafted and published during a launching event under patronage and presence of Prime Minister Hariri.

## II. Concepts and Definitions

The concepts and definitions used in this PHHCCG-2017 are based on the UN Principles and recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses.<sup>6</sup> Some minor modifications were introduced to accommodate the local Palestinian refugees' context.

### 2.1. Population Census

A population census is the total process of planning, collecting, compiling, evaluating, disseminating and analyzing demographic, economic and social data at the smallest geographic level pertaining, at a specified time, to all persons in a country or in a well-delimited part of a country.<sup>7</sup>

### 2.2. Housing Census

A housing census is the total process of planning, collecting, compiling, evaluating, disseminating and analyzing statistical data relating to the number and condition of housing units and facilities as available to the households pertaining, at a specified time, to all living quarters and occupants thereof in a country or in a well-delimited part of a country.<sup>8</sup>

### 2.3. Palestinian Refugee

Every Palestinian displaced to the Lebanese territory starting 1946 due to the uprooting and the subsequent forced displacement, by Israeli occupation of Palestine and its consequences, and every descendant born to a refugee of the aforesaid definition".<sup>9</sup>

The definition of a Palestinian refugee in Lebanon applies to every individual known to have registered both with UNRWA in

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<sup>6</sup> United Nations, Principles and recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 3, 2017.  
[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series\\_M67rev3en.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series_M67rev3en.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> United Nations, Principles and recommendation for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 3, 2017, p:4  
[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series\\_M67rev3en.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series_M67rev3en.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> United Nations, Principles and recommendation for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 3, 2017, p:4  
[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series\\_M67rev3en.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series_M67rev3en.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> "A Unified Lebanese Vision for the Palestinian Refugees Affairs in Lebanon", LPDC publications 2017, p:7

Lebanon<sup>10</sup> and to the DPRA<sup>11</sup> or either one of them. In addition, a special category was specified for the Palestinian refugees displaced from Syria (PRS)<sup>12</sup> as a result of war.

#### **2.4. Palestinian Camp**

A geographic area that has been placed at UNRWA's disposal by the Lebanese host Government or leased by UNRWA for the purpose of housing Palestinian refugees and building facilities to address their needs. Areas not allocated for that purpose are not considered official camps. (Annex -2- ).

#### **2.5. Palestinian Gathering**

The geographic area, outside the official camps, which is home to a minimum 15 Palestinian households. Palestinian gatherings in Lebanon are divided into two types:

- Adjacent Gatherings to the camps, which are considered extensions to the official

camps due to wars, displacement and the need to expand the camps areas due to population increase. (Annex -2- ).

- Other gatherings: areas where Palestinians live within the neighborhoods of villages and urban areas across national territories (Annex -2- ).

#### **2.6. Building**

A building is any independent free-standing structure comprising one or more rooms or other spaces, covered by a roof and usually enclosed within external walls or dividing walls that extend from the foundations to the roof at the time of the visit, regardless of the construction material and the purpose of construction and utilization at the time of the Census. The building might be utilized for habitation, for work, for both, vacant, closed, deserted, under construction at the time of the Census.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> According to UNRWA's operational definition: Palestine refugees are people whose normal place of residence was Palestine between June 1946 and May 1948, who lost both their homes and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli hostilities.

<sup>11</sup> In Addition to 1948 Palestinian refugees, DPRA do register Palestinian refugees who arrived in Lebanon following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

<sup>12</sup> PRS are Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA in Syria Field who took refuge in Lebanon as a result of the Syrian war since 2011.

<sup>13</sup> United Nations, Principles and recommendation for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 3, 2017, p:98

## **2.7. Housing Unit**

A building or part of a building constructed for one household, with one or more independent entrance leading to the public road without passing through another housing unit. The unit might not be constructed for living purposes but found occupied with a household during the enumeration. Likewise, the unit might be utilized for habitation or for work purposes or both purposes. Also, it might be closed, vacant, deserted or occupied by one household during the Census.

## **2.8. Household**

The concept of household is based on the arrangements made by persons, individually or in groups, for providing themselves with food and other essentials for living. A household may be either (a) a one-person household, that is to say, a person who makes provision for his or her own food and other essentials for living without combining with any other person to form a multiperson household; or (b) a multiperson household, that is, a group of two or more persons living together who make common provision for

food and other essentials for living. The persons in the group may pool their resources and may have a common budget; and they may be related.<sup>14</sup> The household includes:

- Household members found in the housing unit in the night of 17/07/2017.
- Visitors living outside Lebanon but who spent the night 17/07/2017. in the housing unit of the household (relatives and non-relatives)
- New births born prior to the night of 17/07/2017 and still alive.
- Household members who spent the night of 17/07/2017 with the household and died after that night.

The Persons who died before the night of 17/07/2017 and Persons who were born after the night of 17/07/2017 were excluded from households. Members of Households residing outside Lebanon were not counted.

## **2.9. Census Reference Moment**

The period thereto the census data belong midnight of 17/07/2017 is the reference date of the census enumeration in the Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon.

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<sup>14</sup> United Nations, Principles and recommendation for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 3, 2017, p:97

[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series\\_M67rev3en.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series_M67rev3en.pdf)

## III. Planning & Organization

### 3.1. Preparatory work

#### **Legal basis:**

The negotiations between the Lebanese and Palestinian authorities facilitated by LPDC officially started mid-2015 and led to the signature of an MoU between both Governments. Accordingly, CAS and PCBS were assigned the census execution under the supervision of LPDC. The agreement outlines in details the scope, division of roles and responsibilities<sup>15</sup>.

During the Census planning, data security and confidentiality was set as a priority for partners. A provisional clause was

incorporated in the MoU which emphasizes on protection of personal data in compliance with the international standards.<sup>16</sup> Data protection protocols were significantly strengthened for the entire IT security environment as well.<sup>17</sup>

#### **Budget and cost control:**

The PHCCG-2017 was co-financed by international Donors with a total budget of 2.326 M USD.<sup>18</sup> The UNDP country office was the administrative counterpart in-charge of procurement, contractual tendering as well as financial auditing.

#### **Administrative organization:**

Two committees were formed to support the Census process. A steering committee<sup>19</sup> was formed to overlook the census calendar and

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<sup>15</sup> The MoU was passed by the Lebanese Council of Ministers on September 2016. In the following months, the decision was enacted by the Palestinian Council of Ministers and finally the document was signed by both Prime Ministers in October 2016 giving the Project a needed green light to move forward. The signature was followed by a launching event attended by Prime Minister Hariri.

<sup>16</sup> The Media campaign had to make clear that the only reason for collecting individual data is for the production of statistics and that there will be no dissemination of individual information or any non-statistical linkage with existing records in other government databases.

<sup>17</sup> Data were encrypted during transfer over the web. Most importantly, the central office was able to remotely lock any tablet in case it was lost or confiscated during field operations.

<sup>18</sup> Funds provided were: 1.520.000 USD from Japan; 379.000 USD from Norway and 427.000 USD from Unicef. Additional allocations were secured from LPDC and CAS annual core budgets for indirect support cost.

<sup>19</sup> Steering committee included: Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior and Municipality and the Palestinian embassy in Beirut.

key decisions. An Advisory committee<sup>20</sup> was also established to provide technical support. A joint Management Unit from CAS, PCBS and LPDC was set to run the central Management Office (CMO) in-charge of day to day census implementation and activities.

### **3.2. Methodology and Coverage**

The PHCCG-2017 used an interviewer-based approach comprising an operation of collecting information from individuals and households on a range of topics at a specified time, pertaining in delimited part of Lebanon (camps and gatherings).<sup>21</sup> Particularly, it covered:

- All households in the twelve Palestinian Camps, regardless of nationality and citizenship;
- Households with a Palestinian person or more, residing within the 156 Palestinian Gatherings.

Interviewers were deployed to collect

information from respondents between 17/07/2017 and 31/07/2017. In order to meet the requirements of universality, simultaneity and individual enumeration, 494 enumerators assigned to cover 1407 (EA) counted all households and persons on *de facto* basis.

### **3.3. Forms Design and content**

Three forms were used for data collection stage; (i) the first is for listing the buildings and housing units; (ii) and the second is for household and housing conditions; (iii) an additional questionnaire was designed for the Post-Enumeration Survey.<sup>22</sup>

The buildings and housing units listing questionnaire included the following variables: building address (street, neighborhood, surrounding landmarks, landlord name), type and current use of the building and number of floors. On the housing units' level, information about the type and current use of the housing units, and the numbers of households inside each unit

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<sup>20</sup> Advisory committee included: UNRWA, UNFPA, UNDP, ESCWA, UNICEF and ILO.

<sup>21</sup> Without a general census in Lebanon, the Palestinian households living outside the geographical scope of the camps and gatherings will remain uncoun-

<sup>22</sup> Questionnaires design was driven based upon dialogue between the statistical agencies and LPDC as the side demanding information. Further, consultations were made with steering and advisory committees members to ensure that information to be collected is responding to user needs both at national and international levels.

was collected. The source providing the information was identified in addition to: full name of the head of household, total numbers of household members, male and female distribution and the number of Palestinian refugees among them.

Without overburdening the census forms and its possible implication on response rates and the quality of data, a short form (94 questions)<sup>23</sup> was designed for the household and housing conditions questionnaire covering questions about the housing unit occupancy, tenure, unit conditions, connectivity to public services. The household roster included date of birth, age, sex, relationship to the head of the household and nationality. It covered refugee status and registration with UNRWA and DPRA. Questions about disabilities, education, field of study, status of employment, occupation and work sector were taken into account. It also included questions about marital status, fertility and mortality, international migration and usual place of residence.

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<sup>23</sup> The initial version of the questionnaire was drafted by the international consultant FAFO based on a list of indicators.

<sup>24</sup> Quality was approached as a multidimensional concept: relevance, completeness, accuracy, coherence and accessibility among others were relatively considered.

### **3.4. Quality management system**

The use of advanced technologies in PHCCG-2017 had directly contributed in optimizing cost and efficiency of census operations, timeliness and among all, quality management.<sup>24</sup> The full digitalization of the census process including: digital mapping, electronic questionnaire for data collection, monitoring and supervising field operations, data processing and data management and archiving, as well as census data analysis and dissemination required proper infrastructure creation.<sup>25</sup>

#### **Digital Mapping:**

The aim of census mapping is to provide the cartographic basis to be used during the actual process of counting. The census enumeration team needed to have a set of unique maps covering the entire country that accurately defines the boundaries of the camps and gatherings within which each enumerator has to work during the enumeration phase of the census.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>25</sup> For technical support, a consulting company specialized in software development (realsoft) was contracted to design three main programs: an electronic questionnaire application, a field management system and smart reporting system. CAS programmers has also developed an internal management system for the CMO internal operations.

<sup>26</sup> Benefits also included achieving complete coverage

A digital base map, employing high resolution satellite images, all EA were given an administrative identifier and all buildings locations were geocoded by a GIS mapping team.

### **Electronic questionnaire:**

As described earlier, the enumeration method was a face-to-face interview with electronic questionnaire. Electronic forms provided improved data quality and operational efficiencies by implementing validation rules on individual questions, cross validation between questions or with listing records, automatic sequencing (take the operator to the next appropriate question), more options in pick lists, capturing more detailed data, providing computer assisted coding and the ability to ask tailored supplementary questions.

### **Monitoring and supervision of field operations:**

Electronic questionnaires provided results

more quickly by transferring data to a central database immediately using real time connectivity.

Capturing a range of operational information, a call center in CMO used a supervision online system to monitor operations in different regions and analyze responses, including the time taken to complete the form by enumerators, the date/time the form was completed, the device used to complete the form and more importantly tracking using Global positioning system (GPS).<sup>27</sup>

To correct errors and making necessary adjustments to improve the quality of the work, a data quality assurance unit was reviewing the forms completed by enumerators in real time.<sup>28</sup>

Another tool to monitor overall progress and quality was the live reports system to track the level of progress and key data indicators. Errors and delays were detected while knowledge related to them was fresh and hence, appropriate remedial actions may be taken.

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by showing clearly that there are no gaps or overlaps in the area to be enumerated; and improving the ability of personnel to manage field operations effectively by equitable and well-defined distribution of workload amongst enumerators.

<sup>27</sup> This tool enabled to monitor and record information on the daily navigation of the enumerators

simultaneously or cumulatively across Lebanon. In addition, electronic questionnaires remain inaccessible unless the enumerator is in the right location set by the GPS.

<sup>28</sup> The team were required to revise at least 5% of every enumerators data per day. Performance Reports were documenting common mistakes and errors.

As monitoring was carried out from the central office, supervisory teams were distributed in the 5 regions to observe and support the enumeration team. The field operations structure (Annex -3-) was composed of three levels: Enumerators, Team Leaders and Area Coordinators with hierarchal reporting line.

### **Training and testing:**

The training program for the enumeration team included both theoretical and practical instructions, with emphasis on the latter. Trainees participated in practice interviews and role-playing exercises, including the use of adopted IT solutions. Training manuals were developed for this purpose covering statistical definitions, questionnaire content and communication methods.

The CMO units (human resources, call center, quality assurance, communication, logistical support and mapping) were all trained to operate the new technologies.

To test the census forms and procedures, a comprehensive *pilot census* preceded the main census. This exercise examined the questionnaire design and the suitability of the

content, reporting functions, data quality, information and communication technology (ICT) solutions and data transmission as well as allowing the CMO to calculate the average time required for enumerating a single household. Such information was essential in estimating staff and cost requirements.

### **Post-Enumeration Survey (PES):**

As per the UN recommendations, the ESCWA, an independent entity, had supervised the PES, a key exercise to measure the coverage of the census as well as the data quality. It was conducted by selecting a random sample of 41 EA (3%) representing all geographical localities. The results of this exercise confirmed the high standards of the census field operations.

### **Data Processing and Dissemination:**

A master file for tabulation was produced following micro editing of the raw data errors. Validation, field and office audit and cross-tabulation checks tested consistency and quality. Open question fields undergone coding of education, occupation and industrial classification.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> The Announcement of the key-findings was also preceded by a broad consultation on results with key stakeholder's. Additional meetings with Project Donors and UN organizations and UNRWA in

particular were organized in preparation for the announcement of the results.

## IV. Key Findings

The key findings at this stage are composed of the total population distributed by region, geographical locality and nationality. The results include also the findings of the post enumeration survey and the total number of buildings, housing units, and the persons as they were counted during the period 17/07/2017 to 31/07/2017. Some preliminary socio-economic indicators were added to this publication.<sup>30</sup>

### 4.1. Size of the Population

#### **Actual Enumerated Individuals**

- The results show that the total number of individuals who were actually counted is 224,901.
- Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon accounted for 74,687 (65.4%) of the camps population and 8,487 (7.4%) of PRS while the remainder were distributed to Syrian 26,378 (23.1%), Lebanese 4,058 (3.6%) and from other nationalities 596 (0.5%).

- The PRL individuals actually counted were distributed as 74,687 (45.1%) in the Camps against 90,862 (54.9%) in the Gatherings.
- By region, the Palestinian Refugees individuals in Lebanon are concentrated in Sidon with (35.8%), followed by North (25.1%), Tyre (14.7%), Beirut & its suburbs (13.4%), Al Chouf (7.1%) and Bekaa (4%).
- 99.5% of the PRL individuals are registered with DPRA while (99.3%) are registered with UNRWA.
- Percentage distribution of PRL by gender was (50.4%) for males against (49.6%) females.

#### **Total Population According to the Results of Post Enumeration**

The main objective of the post enumeration survey is to measure the under-coverage or over-coverage ratio to be taken into consideration in the final population count and future population projections. The PES showed that the under-coverage ratio in this Census was (2.3%). In addition, the percentage of non-response rate stands at (3.3%). **therefore, the adjusted total**

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<sup>30</sup> The detailed findings of the (PHHCCG-2017) are currently under in-depth analysis and review and

therefore slight variances in socio-economic indicators may occur in future statistical or analytical reports.

**number of PRL individuals becomes 174,422 residing in the Palestinian Camps and Gatherings.**

#### **4.2. Households**

- The total number of households which were actually counted is 55,473 of which 42,748 are PRL. 19,563 (45.7%) were found in the Camps against 23,185 (54.2%) in the Gatherings. The household size is estimated at 4.0. Findings showed that (17.2%) of head of household are females.
- Results found 4,926 households with mix-marriages out of which 3,707 with the Head of Household being a Palestinian and 1,219 with the Head of Household being a Lebanese. The results also indicated that about (4.9%) of the Palestinian refugees have another nationality.

#### **4.3. Buildings and Housing Units**

- The total number of buildings in the Palestinian Camps and Gatherings is 22,692 of which 10,983 (48.4%) in the Camps and 11,709 (51.6 %) buildings in the Gatherings. The total number of housing units is 52,716 of which 26,995 (51.2%) in the camps and 25,721 (48.8%) in Palestinian Gatherings.

- Findings showed that only (20.7%) of the housing units in the Adjacent Gatherings and (26.4%) in the other Gatherings are legally owned and registered at the general directorate of land registry and cadastre. Findings showed that (31.5%) of the housing units in the camps are rented

#### **4.4. Preliminary socioeconomic indicators**

- Results indicate there are 52,596 individuals currently enrolled in education at all levels and about (7.2%) of the Palestinian refugees are illiterate. Only (10.5%) of the PRL individuals has completed university education. There are 51,393 individuals in work age out of which (18.4%) are unemployed. Around 1,700 persons are graduated in study fields linked to liberal professions or other diplomas affiliated with Orders, from which (40%) are in the domain of engineering. Only (5.2%) of the workforce have official permits issued by the Ministry of Labor.
- The main destinations for Palestinian refugees' international migrants were Germany (27.3%) followed by United Arab Emirates (16.7%) and then Denmark (8.4%) and Sweden by (7.5%).

# Annex -1- Tables

## Adjusted PRL numbers by geographical localities including the post-enumeration correction rate (2.3%) and the non-response rate (3.3%)

Nationality/refugee status	Camps	Adjacent gatherings	Other gatherings	Total
PRL	78897	37652	57873	174422

## Actual enumerated individuals of all nationalities

Individuals by geographical localities and nationalities				
Nationality/refugee status	Camps	Adjacent gatherings	Other gatherings	Total
PRL	74687	36154	54708	165549
PRS	8487	4153	5066	17706
Lebanese	4058	1318	6654	12030
Syrian	26378	677	1262	28317
Other	596	123	580	1299
Total	114206	42425	68270	224901

## Individuals by regions and nationalities

Region	PRL	PRS	Lebanese	Syrian	Other	Total
North	41495	3859	2067	6730	144	54295
Beirut	22149	1619	3625	18090	492	45975
Al Shouf	11752	1978	1972	445	181	16328
Sidon	59201	5550	3024	1427	320	69522
Tyre	24410	2706	751	1307	114	29288
Bekaa	6542	1994	591	318	48	9493
Total	165549	17706	12030	28317	1299	224901

## Percentage Distribution of individuals by regions and nationalities

Region	PRL	PRS	Lebanese	Syrian	Other	Total
North	25.1%	21.8%	17.2%	23.8%	11.1%	24.1%
Beirut	13.4%	9.1%	30.1%	63.9%	37.9%	20.4%
Al Shouf	7.1%	11.2%	16.4%	1.6%	13.9%	7.3%
Sidon	35.8%	31.3%	25.1%	5.0%	24.6%	30.9%
Tyre	14.7%	15.3%	6.2%	4.6%	8.8%	13.0%
Bekaa	4.0%	11.3%	4.9%	1.1%	3.7%	4.2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Individuals by camps and nationalities						
Camp	PRL	PRS	Lebanese	Syrian	Other	Total
Bourj el-Barajneh	8219	687	529	8790	126	18351
Miye ou Miye	1935	253	68	94	9	2359
Burj el-Shemali	8142	1444	76	522	34	10218
Shatila	4156	537	1155	8064	98	14010
Dbayeh	758	8	690	276	40	1772
Ain el-Hilweh	18763	1523	185	709	29	21209
Mar Elias	748	55	161	690	113	1767
Rashidiyeh	8641	560	86	329	40	9656
Nahr al-Bared	8091	1015	147	208	9	9470
Wavel	1421	626	33	74	11	2165
Beddawi	9740	1367	630	6193	65	17995
El-Buss	4073	412	298	429	22	5234
total	74687	8487	4058	26378	596	114206

Individuals by adjacent gatherings and nationalities						
Adjacent Gathering	PRL	PRS	Lebanese	Syrian	Other	Total
AG. Bourj el-Barajneh	2031	47	187	46	21	2332
AG. Miye ou Miye	1352	74	35	11	4	1476
AG.Burj el-Shemali	592	169	36	11	5	813
AG. Shatila	1032	92	181	41	16	1362
AG. Ain-el Hilweh	9165	1826	297	247	24	11559
AG. Nahr al-Bared	15997	831	261	187	27	17303
AG. Wavel	714	530	17	41	4	1306
AG. Beddawi	5271	584	304	93	22	6274
Total	36154	4153	1318	677	123	42425

Individuals by other gatherings and nationalities						
Other Gathering	PRL	PRS	Lebanese	Syrian	Other	Total
OG. North	2396	62	725	49	21	3253
OG. Al Shouf	11752	1978	1972	445	181	16328
OG. Sidon city	12633	745	1293	165	151	14987
OG. Sidon region	7831	456	686	105	45	9123
OG. Southern Sidon	7522	673	460	96	58	8809
OG. Tyre	2962	121	255	16	13	3367
OG. Baalbek	263	12	31	13	1	320
OG. Western Beka'a	4144	826	510	190	32	5702
OG. Beirut	5205	193	722	183	78	6381
Total	54708	5066	6654	1262	580	68270

### Percentage Distribution of Individuals by Camps and nationalities

Camp	PRL	PRS	Lebanese	Syrian	Other	Total
Bourj el-Barajneh	44.8%	3.7%	2.9%	47.9%	0.7%	100%
Miye ou Miye	82.0%	10.7%	2.9%	4.0%	0.4%	100%
Burj el-Shemali	79.7%	14.1%	0.7%	5.1%	0.3%	100%
Shatila	29.7%	3.8%	8.2%	57.6%	0.7%	100%
Dbayeh	42.8%	0.5%	38.9%	15.6%	2.3%	100%
Ain al-Hilweh	88.5%	7.2%	0.9%	3.3%	0.1%	100%
Mar Elias	42.3%	3.1%	9.1%	39.0%	6.4%	100%
Rashidiyeh	89.5%	5.8%	0.9%	3.4%	0.4%	100%
Nahr al-Bared	85.4%	10.7%	1.6%	2.2%	0.1%	100%
Wavel	65.6%	28.9%	1.5%	3.4%	0.5%	100%
Beddawi	54.1%	7.6%	3.5%	34.4%	0.4%	100%
El-Buss	77.8%	7.9%	5.7%	8.2%	0.4%	100%
Total	65.4%	7.4%	3.6%	23.1%	0.5%	100%

### Individuals by adjacent gatherings and nationalities

Adjacent Gathering (AG)	PRL	PRS	Lebanese	Syrian	Other	Total
AG. Bourj el-Barajneh	87.1%	2.0%	8.0%	2.0%	0.9%	100%
AG. Miye ou Miye	91.6%	5.0%	2.4%	0.7%	0.3%	100%
AG. Burj el-Shemali	72.8%	20.8%	4.4%	1.4%	0.6%	100%
AG. Shatila	75.8%	6.8%	13.3%	3.0%	1.2%	100%
AG. Ain el-Hilweh	79.3%	15.8%	2.6%	2.1%	0.2%	100%
AG. Nahr al-Bared	92.5%	4.8%	1.5%	1.1%	0.2%	100%
AG. Wavel	54.7%	40.6%	1.3%	3.1%	0.3%	100%
AG. Beddawi	84.0%	9.3%	4.8%	1.5%	0.4%	100%
Total	85.2%	9.8%	3.1%	1.6%	0.3%	100%

### Percentage Distribution of Individuals by other gatherings and nationalities

Other Gatherings (OG)	PRL	PRS	Lebanese	Syrian	Other	Total
OG. North	73.7%	1.9%	22.3%	1.5%	0.6%	100%
OG. Al Shouf	72.0%	12.1%	12.1%	2.7%	1.1%	100%
OG. Sidon city	84.3%	5.0%	8.6%	1.1%	1.0%	100%
OG. Sidon suburbs	85.8%	5.0%	7.5%	1.2%	0.5%	100%
OG. Southern Sidon	85.4%	7.6%	5.2%	1.1%	0.7%	100%
OG. Tyre	88.0%	3.6%	7.6%	0.5%	0.4%	100%
OG. Baalbek	82.2%	3.8%	9.7%	4.1%	0.3%	100%
OG. Western Beka'a	72.7%	14.5%	8.9%	3.3%	0.6%	100%
OG. Beirut	81.6%	3.0%	11.3%	2.9%	1.2%	100%
Total	80.1%	7.4%	9.7%	1.8%	0.8%	100%

## Actual enumerated households

Households by geographic localities and nationality of head household				
Nationality of the Household head	Camps	Adj. gatherings	Other gatherings	Total
PRL	19563	8825	14360	42748
PRS	2202	1055	1199	4456
Lebanese	919	190	1181	2290
Syrian	5455	101	199	5755
Other	169	11	44	224
<b>Total</b>	<b>28308</b>	<b>10182</b>	<b>16983</b>	<b>55473</b>

## Actual enumerated housing units

Housing units by geographic localities and type of housing unit				
Type of housing unit	Camps	Adj. gatherings	Other gatherings	Total
Stand-alone home	5087	1814	2632	9533
Apartment	21869	7702	13403	42974
Shelter	18	77	82	177
facility	21	5	6	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>26995</b>	<b>9598</b>	<b>16123</b>	<b>52716</b>

### Percentage distribution of buildings by geographic localities and type of housing unit

Type of housing unit	Camps	Adj. gatherings	Other gatherings	Total
Stand-alone home	18.8%	18.9%	16.3%	18.1%
Apartment	81.0%	80.2%	83.1%	81.5%
Shelter	.1%	.8%	.5%	.3%
facility	.1%	.1%	.0%	.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Actual enumerated buildings

Buildings by geographic locality and type of building				
Building type	Camps	Adj. gatherings	Other gatherings	Total
Stand-alone house/villa	4146	1272	2245	7663
Building	6802	2361	5708	14871
Shelter	18	37	75	130
Facility	17	5	6	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>10983</b>	<b>3675</b>	<b>8034</b>	<b>22692</b>

### Percentage distribution of buildings by geographic locality and type of building

Building type	Camps	Adj. gatherings	Other gatherings	Total
Stand-alone house/villa	37.7%	34.6%	27.9%	33.8%
Building	61.9%	64.2%	71.0%	65.5%
Shelter	0.2%	1.0%	.9%	.6%
Facility	0.2%	.1%	.1%	.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

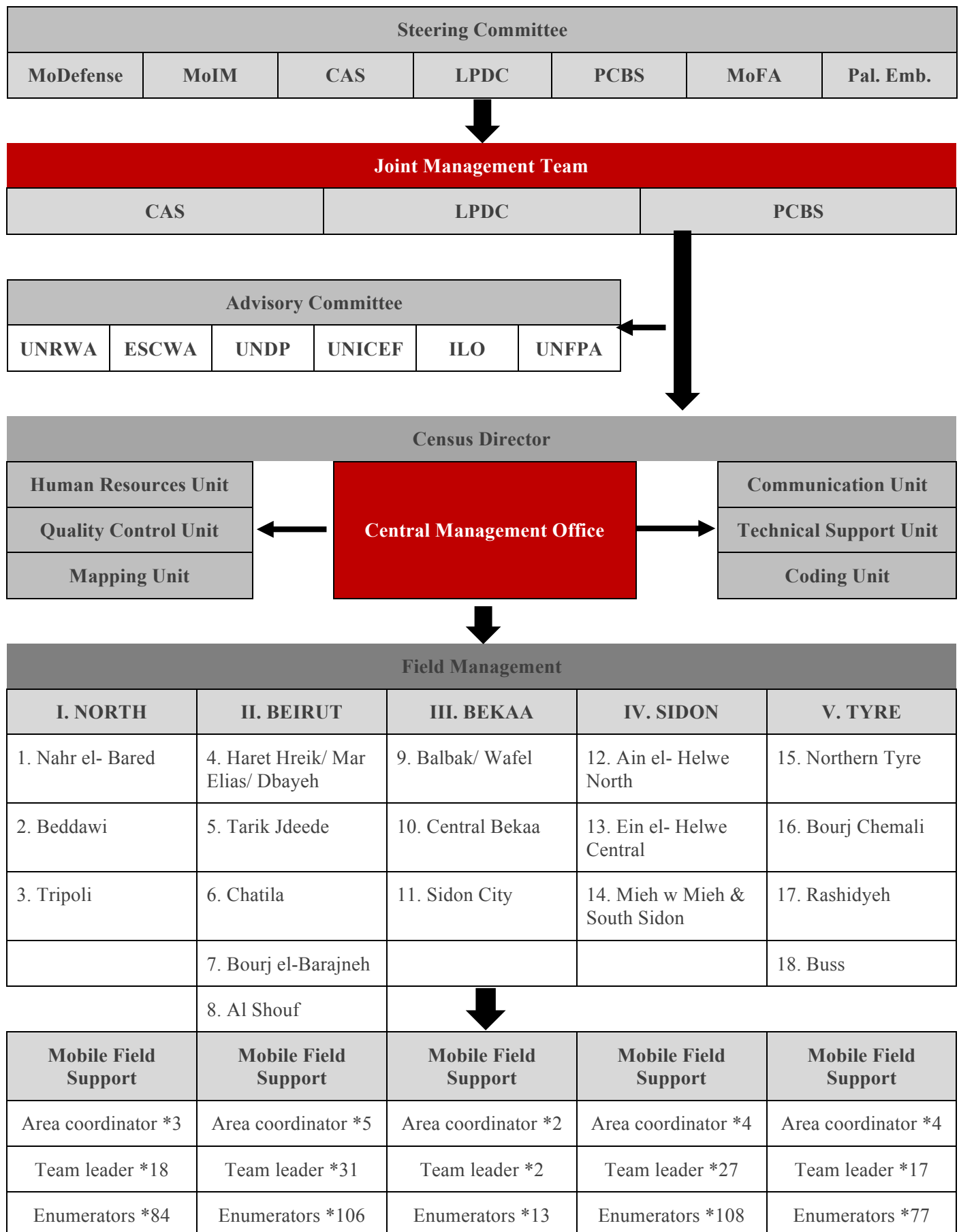
## Annex -2- Camps, Adjacent & Other Gatherings List

Camps	Adjacent gatherings	Other gatherings
Nahr al-Bared	5 gatherings adjacent to Nahr al-Bared camp (A, B,C,D,E)	Mhamara – Bebnine - bhanine
Beddawi	Haret El-lebniye	
	Al Mankobeen	
	Al Muhajareen	
	Beddawi town	
	Jabal Baddawi	
	Abu Naeem Building	
		<b>North region</b>
		Abi Samara
		Al-Zahariya
		Al Minaa
		Bab Attebana
		Bab el-ramel
		Zaytoun Abi Samarra
		Al-Qobba
		Old Tripoli and Basateen Tarablous
Bourj el-Barajneh	Bourj el-Barajneh	
	Haret Hreik	
Shatila	Sabra and the Sports City	
Mar Elias		
		<b>Beirut and suburbs region</b>
		Ouzaii and Horch el Qatil
		Tariq El Jdideh
		Nabaa - Bourj Hamoud
Dbayeh		
		<b>Al Shouf region</b>
		Borjein
		Jieh
		Rmayleh
		Saadiyat
		Choueifat
		Moenesa Alia
		El Naameh
		Wardaniyeh
		Barja
		Bechamoun
		Baasir
		Jadra
		Haret El Naameh
		Daraya, Chouf
		Deir Qoubel
		Zarout
		Seblin
		Shheem
		Aanout
		Ain Aanoub
		Choueifat Dome
		Ketermaya
		Mazboud
		Mghairiyeh, Al Shouf

		Wadialzaineh
<b>Ain el-Hilweh</b>	Al Tameer Al Tahtany	
	Al Sikka	
	Al Taware'e	
	Baraksat	
	Bustan Abu Jameel	
	Bustan Al Quds and Uzo	
	Jebal al-Haleeb	
	Fadlo Wakim	
<b>Miye ou Miye</b>	Miye ou Miye surroundings	
		<b>South of Sidon gatherings</b>
		Qiaa
		Barameiya
		Bqosta
		Haret Sidon
		Iskandarani
		Al Barrad
		Al Bustann Al Kabeer
		Al Hajj Hafez
		El Zohour
		El Sit Nafisah
		Hamood
		Sabagh
		Dalla'a
		Martyrs' Square
		Al Quds Square
		Sharhabeel
		Salhiyeh
		Dakraman, Sidon
		Old Sidon
		Saida Al Wastani
		Aabra
		Majdelyoun
		Hlaliyeh
		<b>Sidon Gatherings</b>
		Ismailia
		Al-Bisaria
		Al Hesba
		Al Akbie
		Ghazieh
		Al Villat
		Miye ou Miye
		Behind American Community School
		Zaghdraiya
		Siroub
		Sarafand
		Darb El Sim
		Tanbourit
		Anqoun
		Ain Ed Delb
		Fawar and Hamshary
		Saida Village
		Heba Projects
		Maghdouché
		Military Officers' Club
		<b>North of Tyre Gatherings</b>
		Anchor

		Borgholiyeh
		Al Aab
		Aaziyyeh
		Al Eitaniyah
		Al Qasimia
		Al Wasta Al Tahta
		Al Wasta Al Foka
		Borj Rahhal
		Jal El Baher
		Jimjeem
		Harouf
		Shibriha
		Ansariyeh
		Shaitley
		Aabbassiyeh,Tyre
		Aadloun
		Kfar Baddah
		Kfar Roummane
		Cedrus Project
<b>Burj el-Shemali</b>	Burj el-Shemali	
<b>Rashidiyeh</b>		
<b>El-Buss</b>		
		<b>Tyre region</b>
		Ismailiah
		Rmayleh
		Al Zeraa
		Industrial City
		Public housing
		Batouliyeh
		Bazouriyeh
		Balauta
		Jwaya
		Al-Joura
		Al Raml
		Deirkanoun Raselein
		Raselein
		Chaaityeh
		Tyre
		Tayr Debba
		Type Church
		Maachouq
		Nahr es Samer
		Wadi Jilou
<b>Wavel</b>	Wavel Camp Perimeter	
		<b>Bekaa valley region</b>
		Duris
		Guru
		Qaraoun
		Marj
		Barelias
		Tablaya
		Joub Jannine
		Deir Zenoun
		Saadnayel
		Qabb Ilyas
		Middle Bekaa Villages

## Annex -3- Organizational Structure



## Annex -4- Images

**Fig 1: From the launching, February 2017**

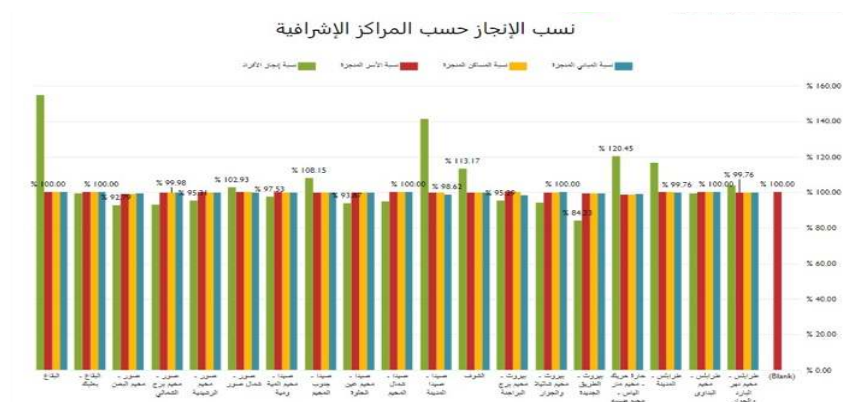
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**Fig 2: Preparations for fieldwork, March 2017**

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**Fig 6: Enumeration Training, July 2017**

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**Fig 7: Pilot census Training, March 2017**

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**Fig 8, 9, 10: Field operations, July 2017**

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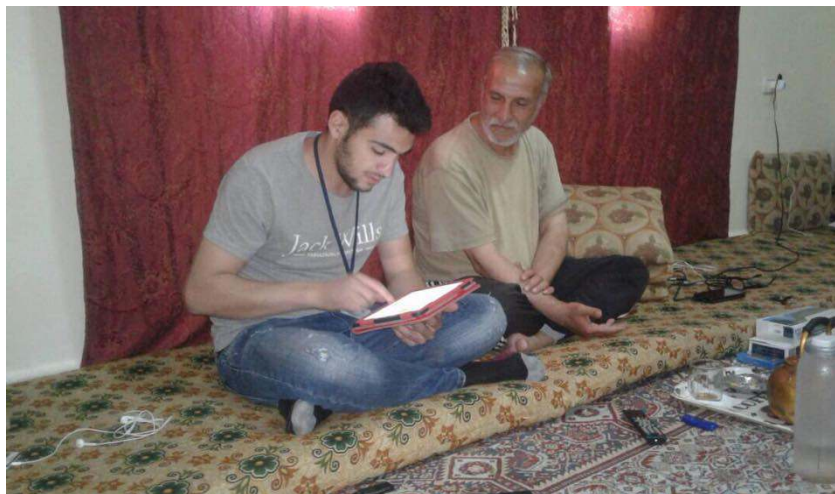
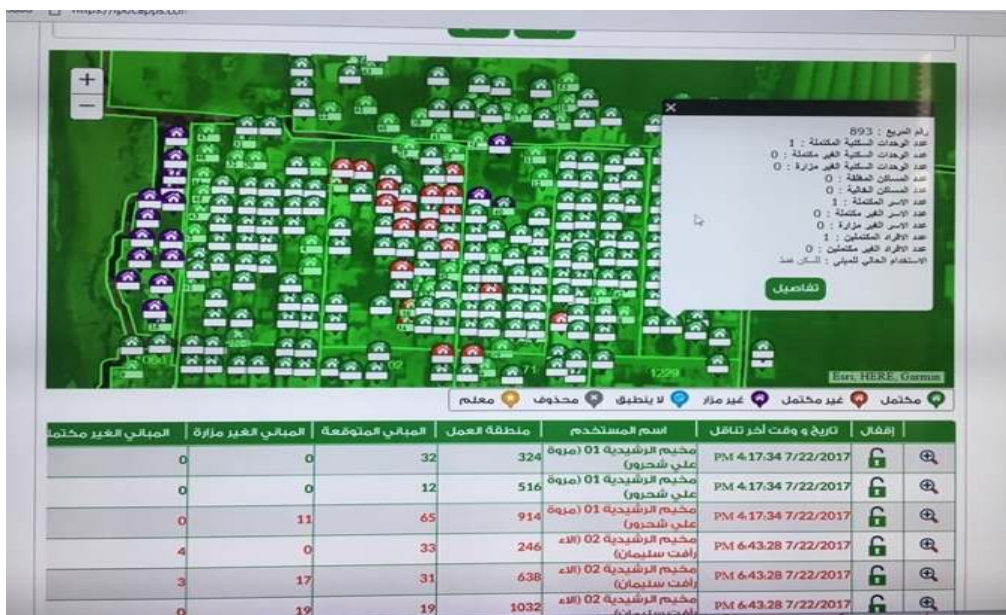


Fig 12, 13: Call Center, May 2017





**Palestinian Central  
Bureau Of Statistics**



**Central Administration  
Of Statistics - Lebanon**



Lebanese Republic | Presidency  
of the Council of Ministers  
**LEBANESE PALESTINIAN  
DIALOGUE COMMITTEE**



## POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS IN PALESTINIAN CAMPS AND GATHERINGS IN L E B A N O N 2 0 1 7

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