

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**TRAINING OF TRAINERS**

**FOR USE BY FRONT-LINE TRAINERS IN LEBANON**

**Community Engagement Assessment**

**Phase**

**CASE STUDY:**

The Bekaa valley has the highest concentration of Syrian refugees in all of Lebanon. In some villages, the Syrians outnumber the Lebanese. The country itself hosts the highest number of refugees per capita in the world.

The valley is a fertile agricultural area, so there is high demand for cheap labour. Syrian refugee adults have restricted access to the labour market in Lebanon, which often forces children to take responsibility and become breadwinners. Children are paid less than adults, are not required to show identification papers at checkpoints, and are less likely to know their rights.

The work in the fields of the Bekaa is seasonal, which greatly impacts children’s attendance to school. Even if children are enrolled in public schools, they may be absent for periods, or drop out completely if their family’s economic situation worsens.

Not only is the number of Syrian child labor is growing, but the percentage of Lebanese children engaged in worst forms of child labour is rising as well.

Poor Lebanese families often face precisely the same challenges as Syrian refugee families, a great majority of whom have settled in Lebanon’s poorest areas.