

## RACE II: Briefing for High-Level REC

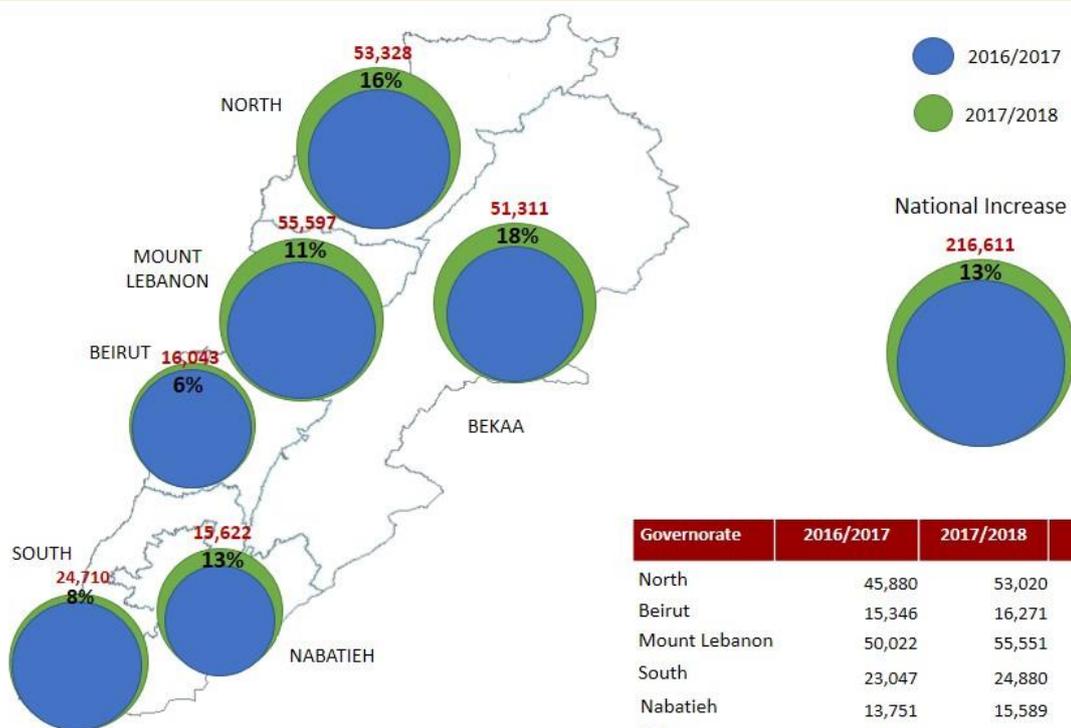
### 08 February 2018

#### 1. Access to Education

##### 2017/18 Enrolment (Formal Education)

MEHE has increased enrolment in basic formal education (KG-Grade 9) by 13% compared to 2016/17. Further efforts are needed to reach children who remain out of school.

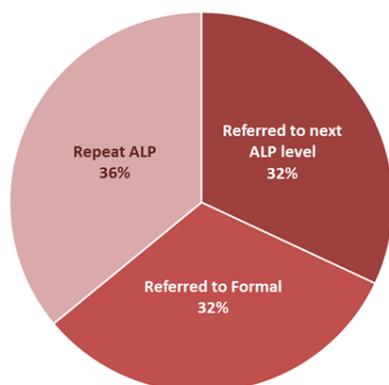
**COMPARISON OF ENROLLMENT**  
Non-Lebanese (KG to G9) in MEHE public schools  
by Governorate; by Scholastic Year



Source: MEHE Data as of February of each scholastic year

Governorate	2016/2017	2017/2018	% Increase
North	45,880	53,020	16%
Beirut	15,346	16,271	6%
Mount Lebanon	50,022	55,551	11%
South	23,047	24,880	8%
Nabatieh	13,751	15,589	13%
Bekaa	43,292	51,300	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>191,338</b>	<b>216,611</b>	<b>13%</b>

2017 Post-test results



#### Accelerated Learning Program

In 2017, more than 33,750 children were registered in ALP over 3 rounds. Of this:

- 26,436 children continued the course (these were covered by donors)
- 48% of these were girls; approximately 32% were referred to formal education and a further 32% were referred to a higher level of ALP.

(Detailed analysis of 2017 ALP rounds will be shared in the upcoming quarterly Fact Sheet.)

## 2. RACE II Planning Update

### UNICEF AWP 2018

In 2018, UNICEF continues to support MEHE's agenda that bridges both humanitarian and development programming. The Annual Work Plan 2018 is now being finalized, budgeted at approximately US\$228 million. As of date, US\$160 million (70%) of this planned budget is funded.

With regard to supporting children's access to education (Pillar I of RACE II), UNICEF will continue to provide the following humanitarian interventions:

- Enrolment cost-sharing to support families and their children (for basic formal education and non-formal education);
- Subsidising learning supplies, including supplies for children with special needs;
- Subsidising heating for high altitude schools; and
- Rehabilitating schools.

With regard to longer-term support to the MEHE (Pillars II and III of RACE II), UNICEF will continue to support MEHE's programmes that focus on inclusive and child-centered practices as follows:

- An inclusive education model that mainstreams children with different learning and physical abilities in the same school/classrooms;
- A Child Protection Policy and referral mechanism that enhances the protection of children in school;
- A revised health education approach that improves the health and well-being of children in public schools.
- UNICEF will support MEHE personnel (including public school teachers, DOPS counsellors, and CERD), further develop their capacity to deliver these inclusive models of education, through teacher training and coaching.

### S2R2 2018 Planning

- A draft costed S2R2 Work Plan for 2018 was submitted to the World Bank on 19 January 2018. This Plan included outputs of planning exercises completed at MEHE and at CERD.
- MEHE has launched procurement for the "Internal Audit and Independent Verification Agent" providers, required as covenants to the Government of Lebanon's agreement with the World Bank on S2R2. The deadline for submission of tenders is 12 February 2018. Bids are being received; and MEHE anticipates awarding the contract shortly.
- The next immediate steps for the MEHE are the contracting of senior consultant positions in financial management and procurement. Job descriptions are currently being drafted.
- Since it was first convened, the Steering Committee has met four times to date.
- A series of workshops are being rolled out, of which the first was a joint CERD-MEHE Workshop on Early Grades Reading Assessment (related to DLI4). Discussions were held with a wide range of technical partners on early-grade learning outcomes.

### Consolidated Work Plan for 2018

MEHE and CERD will work on a consolidated plan, in collaboration with UNICEF and the World Bank team.

### 3. 2018 RACE II Funding Status

**Table 1: FUNDING STATUS: SCHOLASTIC YEAR 2017/18; by Donor**

2017/18 Scholastic Year	Children registered (Feb 2018)	Unit Cost	Required Budget	Donor	Donor Contribution (through UNICEF)	Gap
Lebanese	210,790	\$ 60	\$ 12,647,400	USAID	\$ 2,077,800	\$0
				Germany	\$ 10,569,600	
First Shift Non-Lebanese	61,597	\$ 363	\$ 22,359,711	USAID	\$ 1,067,946	\$0
				Germany	\$ 21,291,765	
Second Shift Non-Lebanese	155,014	\$ 600	\$ 93,008,400	Germany	\$ 24,030,600	-\$11,585,884
				USAID	\$ 7,015,200	
				France	\$ 600,000	
				Kuwait	\$ 1,800,000	
				Canada	\$ 1,370,916	
				EU	\$ 44,925,800	
				CFJ	\$ 1,680,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>427,401</b>		<b>\$ 128,015,511</b>		<b>\$ 116,429,627</b>	<b>-\$11,585,884</b>

**Table 2: FUNDING STATUS: LCRP APPEAL 2018 (RACE II Work Plan); by Pillar**

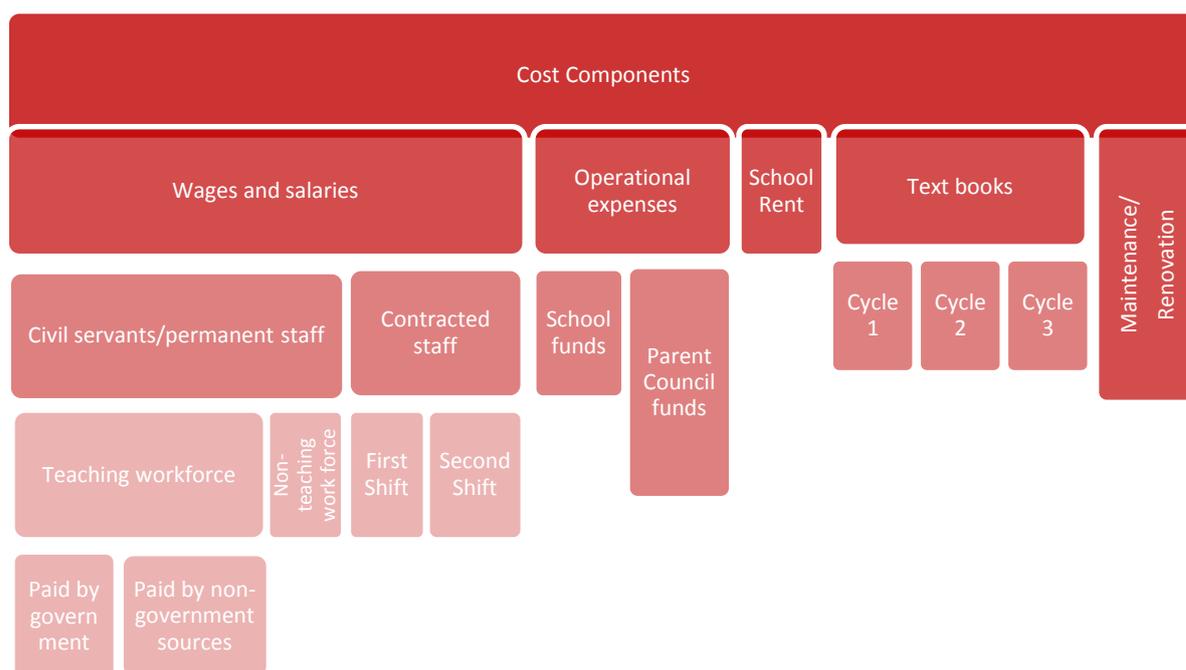
RACE II Pillar	RACE II Costing	Available Funds	% funded	Gap	% gap
PILLAR I - Access	\$ 334,796,000	\$162,453,554	48.5%	-\$172,342,446	51.5%
PILLAR II - Quality	\$16,515,593	\$5,607,203	34%	-\$10,908,390	66%
PILLAR III - Systems	\$2,000,000	\$2,893,505	Surplus of 1.4% *	\$893,505	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$353,311,593</b>	<b>\$170,954,262</b>	NA	<b>-\$182,357,331</b>	<b>-</b>

**NOTE:**

- There is a crucial need to further detail and update Pillar III Costing once the RACE II enrolment costing is finalized as this exercise will also inform the costing for needed reforms and systems' related interventions
- Table 2 does not yet reflect S2R2 funding.

#### 4. RACE II Enrolment Costing

The PMU convened several meetings of the RACE II Finance Sub Committee, the last on 1 February 2018; to explore the different alternatives for costing and Budgeting of RACE II. The committee discussed the necessity of transitioning from the existing “unit cost approach” into a more comprehensive and dynamic costing approach. An alternate costing model was presented, building on the existing resource distribution, while taking into account current reform programs, plans, and strategies. The model responds to donor requests for a bottom-up approach, a multi-year planning tool that links investment/resources to education outcomes. In the long run, this model requires dependable multi-year funding, a sound financial management system, and an integrated data system.



Given the complexity of the costing work, the financial subcommittee will meet weekly going forward, to finalize the Model prior to the Brussels Conference 2018. A detailed report will be shared by PMU once the financial subcommittee finalizes the discussions around the topic.

#### 5. MEHE’s Approach on School Construction and Rehabilitation Harmonising international investments

- MEHE is in initial discussions with both KFW and AFD on potential investments into school construction and rehabilitation. At the same time, MEHE also intends to use a portion of finance earned by meeting DLIs for S2R2 on this critical issue.
- MEHE plans to bring these, and any other investments in this area together, delivering a clear vision and a single implementation approach, to reduce transaction costs for the government.
- Plans are already in place under S2R2 to build procurement and financial management capacity at MEHE, while drawing on existing civil engineering expertise in Lebanon.

Partners aligning their investments in the future will benefit from this work, which will also contribute to the RACE II aim of strengthening institutions in the sector in Lebanon.

### **Inter-Agency Collaboration**

- MEHE will work with the World Bank, UNICEF, KFW, AFD, and other interested bilateral partners on enhancing school infrastructure.
- MEHE will lead a Needs Assessment on construction and rehabilitation, based on:
  - GIS mapping already underway with support from Save The Children;
  - An assessment of the physical condition of all public-school buildings, currently being conducted by MEHE engineers;
  - An analysis of relevant socio-economic, geographic, vulnerability, population, and land ownership information.
- Based on the Needs Assessment, a detailed five-year plan will be developed by MEHE for school rehabilitation and construction. This Plan will take into account bilateral investments, as well as funds earned through S2R2.

### **6. School Information Management System (SIMS) and Education Data**

- School level data entry to SIMS for 2017/18 was delivered faster and with fewer issues than in 2016/17. The quality of data will continue to improve.
- By the end of March 2018, MEHE officials will be able to access SIMS disaggregated data for policy discussions, analysis, and reporting.
- Training for MEHE officials (at central, regional, and school-levels) on how to access and use SIMS will begin by April 2018.