

For Immediate Release



AUB to hold seminar by Médecins Sans Frontières head of mission on Syrian refugees in Lebanon

Beirut, Lebanon- 04/03/2013 - The American University of Beirut's Faculty of Health Sciences will be organizing a seminar entitled "Misery Beyond the War Zone: Life for Syrian Refugees and Displaced Populations in Lebanon," by Fabio Forgione, Head of Mission in Lebanon of Médecins Sans Frontières on Wednesday March 6, 2013 at 12:00 noon at the Nabil Boustany Auditorium, Van Dyck Hall.

Fabio Forgione has been Head of Mission in Lebanon for Médecins Sans Frontières since October 2009. He previously coordinated humanitarian programs in Palestine, across Africa and Central America; he holds Master Degrees in International Relations and International Studies and a University Degree in International Law.

About the Seminar:

More than 300,000 Syrians fleeing violence in their country have sought refuge in Lebanon. A survey conducted in December 2012 by the organization Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) reveals a marked deterioration of their humanitarian situation in Lebanon, with 60 percent not receiving assistance and 50 percent not receiving the required medical treatment because it is not affordable.

Based on the analysis of 2,124 refugee households in Bekaa, Tripoli and Sidon, the survey provides essential information on the socio-demographic characteristics of those refugees and displaced in Lebanon, their current living conditions and their overall health. Its findings revolve mainly around registration, medical care and housing issues. Specific vulnerabilities are highlighted, risk scenarios are presented, and targeted calls for action are made based on worrisome trends witnessed on the ground by MSF's teams.

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Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the

bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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