

WFP's Response in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq

Situation Report # 9

Reporting Period: 1 - 7 July 2012



**World Food
Programme**

Fighting Hunger Worldwide

HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- **In Jordan**, WFP is targeting a total of 35,000 Syrian refugees in local communities initially through packaged food and moving to voucher assistance in late July. WFP is providing meals to an average of 2,100 people daily in 3 transit centres and family food packages to over 460 people in a fourth.
- **In Lebanon**, more than 24,000 Syrian refugees will receive family food packages in July; WFP is targeting over 14,880 beneficiaries in the North and some 9,250 in the Bekaa Valley who are awaiting eligibility to the voucher programme. The voucher programme has begun in the Bekaa Valley where more than 5,800 people are receiving voucher assistance this month following UNHCR registration.
- **In Iraq**, WFP is preparing to deliver direct food assistance to some 5000 refugees in the Kurdish area of the country by late July with a value-based voucher programme starting in September. WFP's planning figure for Iraq has increased to 15,000 beneficiaries in December in line with the revision of the Regional Response Plan (RRP).
- **In Turkey**, WFP will complement Government of Turkey's assistance to Syrian refugees through a voucher program with an initial caseload of 30,000 refugees increasing to 60,000 in December. A WFP Head Quarters voucher mission is arriving in Turkey on 15 July.

Jordan

SITUATION UPDATE

- UNHCR reports that as of 3 July, they have registered 28,934 Syrian refugees with an additional 2,056 currently awaiting registration. The Government of Jordan reports that over 130,000 Syrians have entered the country.
- A UNHCR-led task force meeting revealed that Syrian refugees were arriving at an average of 900 per day from 2-6 July. All 4 transit centres are currently at full capacity indicating a need to open a camp most likely in Za'atri at Mafraq and/or in Rabah Sarhan.

WFP RESPONSE

- WFP is targeting 25,000 Syrian refugees living in local communities in Irbid, Zarqa, Marfaq, Karak and Amman with family food packages.

- In addition, WFP is providing food assistance for up to 2,800 people per day in four transit centres: in Al-Bashabsha, King Abdullah Park and Prince Hashem Stadium, WFP is providing daily hot meals, breakfast and lunch, while in Cybercity, WFP is providing weekly family food packages as the building has been equipped with cooking facilities by UNHCR.
- King Abdullah Park, a new transit centre for singles in Ramtha, was opened on 27 June in lieu of Prince Hashem Stadium. To accommodate for the new influx of Syrians during the reporting period, the Government of Jordan reopened Prince Hashem Stadium.
- The June cycle distribution of direct food assistance to a planned 25,000 beneficiaries started on 17 June and is ongoing. WFP's implementing partners, JHCO and JRC, have distributed 241.09 mt of dry food rations to 27,150 Syrian refugees in urban settings in June so far. WFP food assistance to these beneficiaries will phase over to a value-based voucher programme in the end of July.
- WFP is targeting a total of 35,000 Syrian refugees with its voucher programme starting in the end of July.
- During the reporting period, WFP provided hot meals and breakfast in Al-Bashabsha and Prince Hashem Stadium and King Abdullah Park for about 2,100 people daily; in Cybercity WFP assisted over 468 people with weekly family food packages.

WFP Food Distribution to Syrian Refugees in Transit Centres in this reporting period

BENEFICIARIES REACHED								
Transit Centres	Al-Bashabsha		Prince Hashem Stadium		Cybercity		King Abdullah Park	
Assistance	Daily Average	Total to Date	Daily Average	Total to Date	Average	Total to Date	Daily Average	Total to Date
Bread*	--	32,600	--	21,850	1,300**	53,300	--	--
Breakfast	1,383	32,830	829	13,359	n/a	n/a	352	3,298
Lunch	1,492	42,534	845	16,318	n/a	8,525	380	3,139
Weekly Family Food Packages***	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	539	1,674	n/a	n/a

*Pieces ** Bread is distributed in Cybercity on a daily basis. ***Packages tailored to the number of individuals per family.

- WFP continues the assessment for implementing a voucher programme in the Cyber City transit centre, having met with potential retail partners in the area.
- WFP Jordan is awaiting the Government of Jordan's coordination committee feedback on the nutrition survey methodology.
- WFP Jordan monitors the delivery of all food to communities through a regular reporting system: WFP receives daily, weekly and monthly reports from JRC and JHCO including beneficiaries reached (using gender-disaggregated data), packages distributed and quantity of commodities delivered. WFP and implementing partner NGO Takiyet um Ali (TUA) are both monitoring the implementation of hot meal assistance in transit centres.

COORDINATION/EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- Five NGOs have submitted proposals to implement the voucher programme in partnership with WFP. Final selection of implementing partners will be determined during the second week of July.
- A draft of the UNHCR-led contingency plan for Jordan was completed in June incorporating input from WFP. Based on this framework, WFP developed a draft of a Concept of Operations (CONOPS) to detail WFP's possible response.
- On 10 July, the Australian Ambassador will visit Ramtha refugee sites including transit centres, guesthouses, grouping locations and health centres. WFP has already prepared for this visit.

SITUATION UPDATE

- As of 6 July, UNHCR has registered 26,905 Syrian refugees in the country. An additional 2,000 Syrians in Tripoli and 1,500 in the Bekaa Valley are pending registration while being assisted by UNHCR and partners. Part of the registered caseload is awaiting receipt of their final registration cards which are mandatory to obtain WFP vouchers; in the meantime, WFP is assisting these refugees with family food packages and will phase over to vouchers as soon as beneficiaries receive their cards.
- UNHCR reports that over 75% of the Syrian refugees who are being assisted are women and children. Many live with host families who themselves struggle to make ends meet. Among the most pressing needs are food and basic non-food items, shelter, medical care and psychosocial support.
- Tensions are high in Lebanon but all June planned distribution of food packages and vouchers have been completed. July voucher and food package distribution in the Bekaa Valley started this week as planned.

WFP RESPONSE

- In July WFP is targeting nearly 30,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon, 3,000 more than the 27,000 planned under the EMOP reflecting the new arrivals. In the North, WFP is distributing family food packages to 14,886 beneficiaries (2,991 households). In the Bekaa Valley, WFP is providing assistance through value-based food vouchers distributed in a phased approach to 5,833 beneficiaries (1,277 households). An additional 9,232 people will receive assistance through family food packages (2,007) while awaiting eligibility for the voucher programme.
- During June, WFP assisted over 8,000 refugees in Lebanon: In the North, WFP provided family food packages to 1,300 refugee households (6,470 persons), and value-based food vouchers to another 388 households (1,543 persons) in the Bekaa Valley.
- In the North, July cycle distribution will start on 15 July.
- The Field Level Agreement with Danish Refugee Council (DRC) for the implementation of the voucher programme in the North is signed and DRC and WFP have started the retail assessment in Akkar District. The voucher programme will begin in Akkar in August and in Tripoli by September.
- WFP voucher distribution in the Bekaa Valley for July has started in areas where registration has been completed. As UNHCR has experienced some delays in their registration exercise, WFP began voucher distribution only in Arsal, Al Sahel and Central Bekaa to registered refugees. Distribution will be completed in the week of 8 July.
- In remaining areas (West Bekaa, Zahle, Hermel and Baalbeck), WFP is providing 2,007 food packages (reaching 9,232 persons) through DRC and World Vision Lebanon (WVI) to refugees, awaiting UNHCR registration based on local actors' lists. DRC has started distribution of food packages in Baalbeck for 530 households.
- WVI will start food package distribution in Central Bekaa and Zahle after they receive the food packages from WFP on 14 July.
- The rapid nutrition assessment of the Syrian refugee population is underway. All experts from UNICEF, ACF, WHO and WFP are in Beirut and have finalized the questionnaire.
- DRC, 8 volunteers from the Lebanese Red Cross network and 4 WFP Programme staff started the shop assessment and market reconnaissance in Akkar district (North Lebanon) on 4 July. On 5 and 6 July, the teams visited more than 25 shops in and around Halba. Most of the shops, who accepted to collaborate with the new vouchers system, were assessed. The assessment will continue next week.
- WFP is planning a Food Security analysis of the Syrian refugee population in Lebanon: WFP will determine whether it is necessary to undertake further data collection or if analysis can be done with existing data.

- The sub-office in Chtaura (Bekaa Valley) and the sub-office in Qobayat (north Lebanon) are fully operational. A new office space has been identified in Zahle (Bekaa Valley) near UNHCR and partners and will be ready for WFP by 15 July.

COORDINATION/ EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- WFP Emergency Coordinator attended a presentation of the Regional Response Plan (RRP) organised by UNHCR to the donor community in Beirut. A plea was made for quick donations to the WFP regional operations, explaining the urgent need and the current poor level of funding (13%).

Turkey

- From 24 May to 4 July, there has been an increase of 46% in the total number of Syrians currently receiving temporary protection from the Government of Turkey: there are 35,565 refugees registered with the Government (4 July).
- WFP has received written agreement from the Government of Turkey to complement Turkey's assistance to Syrian refugees through a voucher program with an initial caseload of 30,000 refugees, increasing to 60,000 in December. These planning figures have been included in the revised Regional Response Plan (RRP) and will be included in the EMOP through a budget revision. The Government of Turkey has been generously supporting Syrian refugees providing a very high standard of assistance. WFP's voucher planning and market assessment mission will start on 15 July to liaise with government officials, review the operational requirements and visit the camps. WFP will continue to work closely with UNHCR through the process.

Iraq

SITUATION UPDATE

- As of 6 July, UNHCR has registered 6,163 Syrian refugees while 320 Syrians await registration. UNHCR reports that an estimated 15 families and 100 singles continue to enter the Kurdistan Region on a weekly basis.

WFP RESPONSE

- WFP is targeting about 5,000 Syrian refugees in late July to early August with provision of direct food assistance; priority will be given to camp refugees in Domiz, Dohuk Governorate. After two months, WFP will phase into voucher assistance.
- WFP's planning figure for Iraq has increased from 10,000 to 15,000 beneficiaries in December in line with the revision of the Regional Response Plan (RRP). The financial implications of this rise will be reflected in a budget revision of the regional EMOP.
- WFP will start distribution of direct food assistance by the end of July; BMD has agreed to provide food assistance to the refugees in the Domiz refugee camp until then.
- The Department of Displacement and Migration (DDM) continues the provision of three hot meals per day to single males and food packages to families.
- A request for commodities has been sent to HQ for processing. WFP Iraq has also sent an advance financing request to HQ for the procurement of 167 mt of mixed commodities urgently needed for refugees in the Domiz camp.
- WFP and UNHCR-led joint needs assessment of the Syrian refugees in Erbil, Dohuk, Suleimaniyah and the camp in Domiz, conducted with UN agencies, NGOs and the Bureau of Migration and Displacement (BMD), is ongoing. The first phase is completed in the Domiz camp and Dohuk; the second phase of the field work is ongoing in Erbil.

- WFP Cash & Voucher feasibility assessment report will be finalized by 8 July in preparation for the implementation of the value-based food voucher component of the Regional EMOP.

COORDINATION/ EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- Islamic Relief Worldwide, Qandil NGO and ACTED NGO will be submitting proposals to distribute WFP commodities to the refugees in Domiz.
- The financial requirement for WFP in Iraq has been updated to US\$1.9 million in the revised RRP.
- WFP met with DDM in Dohuk to discuss the implementation of the WFP food assistance from August 2012.

Activities and coordination at Sub-Regional level

COORDINATION

- WFP has developed a draft Concept of Operations (CONOPs) based on the UNCHR led contingency plan to ensure readiness in the event of a rapid escalation of humanitarian needs in the region with the support of the Regional Bureau.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Resource Mobilization for Regional EMOP	
Japan*	US\$300,000
CERF Jordan	US\$2 million
CERF Lebanon	US\$899,286
Switzerland	US\$198,346
Total Resourced:	US\$3,397,632
Total Cost to WFP:	US\$ 23,832,571
Total Budget Shortfall: 20,434,939	

*The Government of Japan has donated US\$3 million: US\$1.2 million towards IR EMOP Jordan; US\$1.5 to IR EMOP Lebanon; US\$300,000 for the regional EMOP.

- Under the revised Regional Response Plan (RRP) launched on 28 June, the planning target figure and period have been extended from 90,000 beneficiaries in September in the original RRP to 185,000 by December in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq. The request for funds has consequently increased from US\$84.1 million to US\$193.2 million, US\$34.5 million of which are planned to support WFP activities in the four countries.
 - The Government of Switzerland has made a contribution to the Syria Regional EMOP valued at almost US\$200,000.
- Thanks to contributions from the Government of Japan, the CERF, and the Government of Switzerland, US\$3,397,632 has been resourced to date towards the EMOP, leaving a budget shortfall of US\$20,434,939.
 - The Government of Japan fully covered the US\$2.7million cost of the IR EMOPs in Jordan and Lebanon, which allowed WFP to initiate the assistance to Syrian Refugees in these countries while preparing the implementation of the EMOP's voucher scheme.

WFP'S RESPONSE AT A GLANCE

Approved Projects/June Distributions							
Coverage	Project No.	Current Budget (US\$)	Duration	Modality	Planned Beneficiaries		Reached Beneficiaries
Syria	EMOP 200339	59,034,315*	Dec 2011 – Dec 2012	GFD	500,000		453,645 <i>distribution ongoing**</i>
Regional Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq & Turkey	EMOP 200433	23,832,571	July – Dec 2012	C/V + GFD	Jordan	N/A	<i>Will start in July</i>
					Lebanon	N/A	
					Iraq	N/A	
					Turkey	N/A	
Jordan	IR-EMOP 200414	1,212,926	April-July 2012	GFD	Refugees in the Community	25,000	27,150 <i>distribution ongoing</i>
				Hot meals or GFD	Transit Centres	1,500-2,100/day	Average 1,500/day to 2,100/day at end of June
Lebanon	IR-EMOP 200426	1,482,140	May-July 2012	C/V***	Bekaa	15,000	1,543
				GFD	North	7,000	7,000

*Following Budget Revision no. 5, the budget requirements will increase to US\$102,536,841. **May distribution for the May cycle was concluded by 19 June for most governorates with the exception of Damascus, where distribution was delayed and only concluded on 28 June due to the volatile situation in one of the targeted areas (Sayda Zaenab).

***Target beneficiaries subject to UNHCR registration.

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