



Regional Food Security workshops aim to build information and analysis capacity of the sector

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

In Jordan, two food security workshops were held in July. The first was to explain the Regional Food Security Analysis Network (RFSAN) framework, scope of the programme, position in the aid architecture, on-going activities and plans for the future. The second was designed to prepare participants to undertake the national food security information and early warning systems (FSIEWS) capacity assessment exercise. Around 534,000 beneficiaries in Jordan were reached with cash based transfers (CBT) - 95,000 living in the camps and 439,000 in communities. Only extremely vulnerable had their transfers 25 per cent less than planned value.

102,899 Syrian refugees in Iraq received food assistance during July, including food vouchers and parcels. However, use to the ongoing military operations, parcels were not delivered to Al-Obaidi camp in Anbar for the fourth month this year. While in-kind food and voucher distributions didn't stop in camps across the KRI. Tent-to-tent surveys were administered in all camps across the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), completing the data collection for the Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment of all refugees living in camps.

3RP partners launched a pilot program for off-camp assistance to the most vulnerable Syrian families in Turkey's Gaziantep and Hatay, reaching approximately 2,000 people during July. Beneficiaries are assisted through the same e-food card modality as in the camps.

In Egypt, around 67,000 beneficiaries were reached during the July distribution, meeting almost 98 per cent of the month's target. Appeals for re-inclusions were ongoing, with 800 individuals re-included. The launch of the demographic and health survey (DHS) took place, presenting relevant data related to access of food and eating habits of the population of Egypt, which were also relevant to Syrians residing in Egypt.

In Lebanon, technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) was provided in order to implement the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) for vulnerable Lebanese affected by the Syria Crisis, including adopting e-card platform to deliver food assistance to Lebanese beneficiaries. Cooperating partners provided an oversight role on the monitoring and reporting activities as a means to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the comprehensive voucher program.

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The majority of refugees from Syria rely on humanitarian food assistance as their primary source of food. Without such support, refugee vulnerabilities would increase, particularly affecting groups such as female-headed households, children, the elderly, those with chronic illness, and persons with disabilities.

The threats to agriculture could also have long-term repercussions if unaddressed. The crisis is putting increasing pressure on scarce natural resources and the uncontrolled entry of diseased plants and animals from Syria could devastate the region's food chain. As conflict and displacements continue, the lack of funding for agriculture interventions would seriously undermine efforts to protect and restore food security, employment, economic growth, the natural resource base and social cohesion throughout the region.



Voucher redemption, Darashakran camp, Erbil. WFP/Yuri Yousif

Sector Response Summary:



2,358,096 Refugees & Local
Community Members targeted for
assistance by end-2015
2,010,294 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees
expected by end-2015
4,006,382 currently registered or
awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.5 billion
required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 1.384 billion received in 2015



ASSESSMENT AND TARGETING CONTINUES TO ENSURE MOST VULNERABLE ARE ASSISTED:

In Iraq, following the Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment, a tiered approach of targeted assistance will be adopted whereby families assessed and found to be moderately food insecure will receive vouchers valued at 11,700 Iraqi Dinars per person per month, while those found to be extremely food insecure will receive 22,300 Iraqi Dinars. Over 50,000 previously assisted beneficiaries will no longer receive food assistance.

The caseload in Turkish camps was reduced by 30 percent, while a program to assist refugees not living in camps was launched, targeting 2,000 people and will progressively increase, expected to reach 30,000 refugees by the end of the year.

As a result of the ongoing inter-agency socio-economic vulnerability assessment conducted in Egypt, there will be a progressive monthly reduction in the number of assisted refugees. The current number of Syrian refugee beneficiaries will be decreasing from 67,000 to an estimated 45,000 by October, when the assessment of the remaining registered caseload in Egypt is completed.

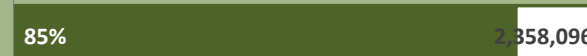
In Lebanon, monthly reductions in beneficiary caseloads will continue as planned based on the results of the inter-agency household survey. The 2015 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) reports a deterioration in food security. Syrian refugees adopting severe and crisis coping strategies also increased from 28 percent in 2014 to 67 percent in 2015. Half of refugee families are below the survival minimum expenditure basket compared to 29 percent in 2014.

In Jordan, some 440,000 refugees living in Jordanian communities were notified that assistance will be stopped in August. However, not all assistance will be stopped, due to the generous donation received from the US, in addition to smaller donations from other countries and private donors. For extremely vulnerable refugees living in communities the value of the Cash Based Transfer (CBT) will continue at 50 percent of the planned amount through to November. As for those classified as vulnerable, CBT at 50 per cent of planned value will be provided in August, with assistance to this group to stop completely from September.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - JULY 2015

■ Progress ■ Planned Response, by end-2015

2,010,294 individuals receiving food assistance (cash, voucher or in-kind)



57,631 individuals received food & agricultural livelihoods support



These dashboards reflect the achievements of the more than 200 partners, including governments, UN Agencies, and NGOs, involved in the 3RP response in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Progress and targets may change in line with data revisions. All data on this Dashboard is current as at 31 July 2015.