



2021 3rd QUARTER SECTOR DASHBOARD

Food Security and Agriculture

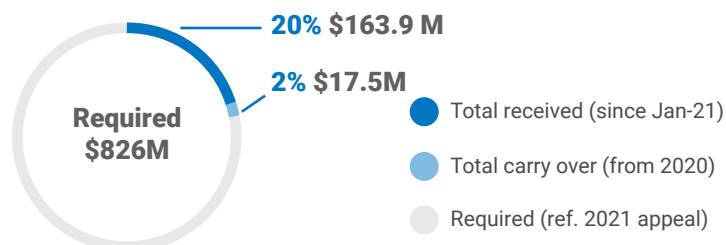


Inter-Agency
Coordination
Lebanon

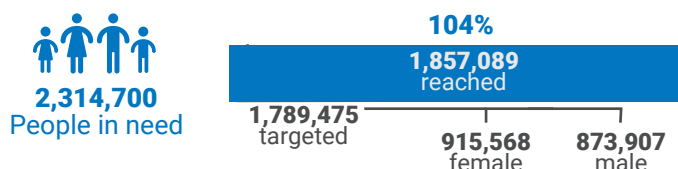
The dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Food Security and Agriculture sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Promote food availability; OUTCOME 2) Promote food accessibility; OUTCOME 3) Promote food utilization; OUTCOME 4) Promote food stabilization.

2021 Sector Funding Status

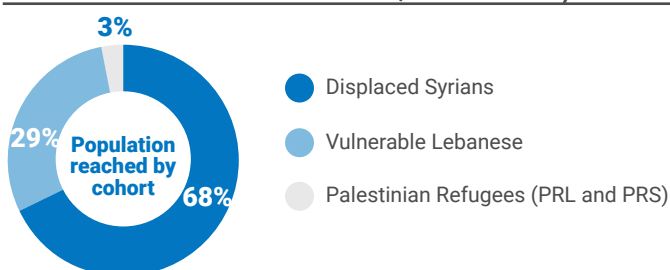
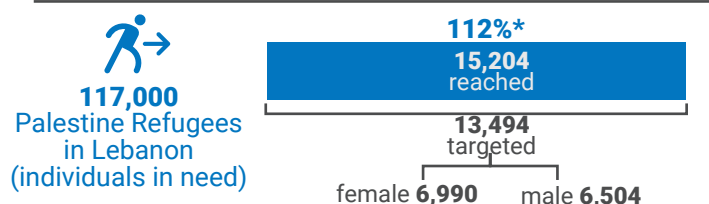
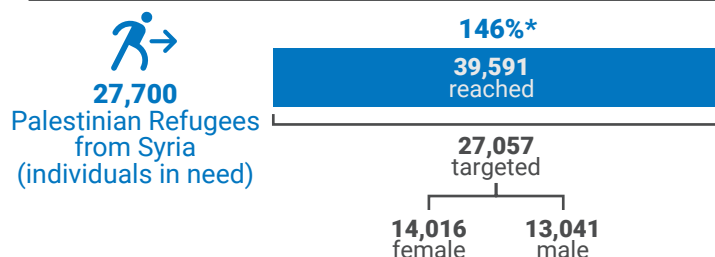
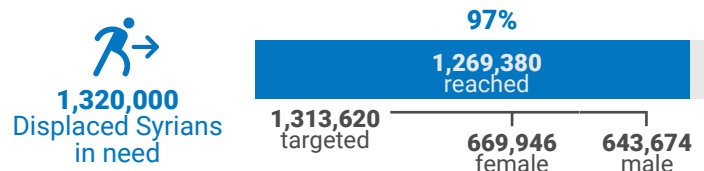
As of 30th of September



2021 population reached



2021 population figures by cohort



Progress against targets

Key Achievements

of individuals provided with in-kind food assistance (food parcels provided on a one-off basis)

430,744 / 125,947

of individuals provided with ready-to-eat food or hot meals

330,722

of individuals with access to cash-based food assistance (e-cards, NPTP, ATMs, Food Vouchers)

1,435,303 / 1,633,528

Total amount of cash-based food assistance (\$) redeemed

165,114,888 / 565,577,466

farmers receiving emergency assistance (cash or vouchers) to promote agricultural investment

1,555 / 30,000

of individuals with access to temporary/casual agricultural labour

15,816 / 13,340

of local agricultural groups/ associations/ cooperatives/ MSMEs receiving technical and/or material support

311 / 457

of individuals attending trainings on skills and competencies to access temporary/casual labour in exchange of Food Assistance for Training

4,958 / 6,500

COVID-19 Response

of food parcels distributed **9,592**

of individuals receiving food parcels **26,047**

of hot meals distributed **31,874**

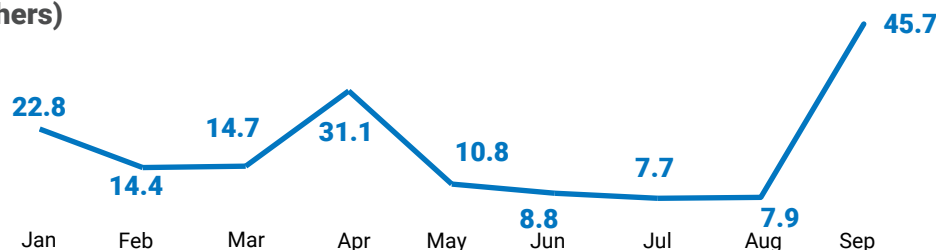
of individuals receiving hot meals **26,072**

*The number of persons reached corresponds to the number of multiple services/interventions provided and not to unique beneficiaries.

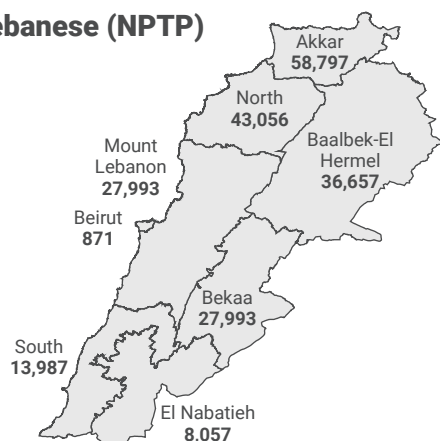


Analysis

Amount of USD (in millions) disbursed in cash-based food assistance through various modalities (e-cards, NPTP, ATM, Food Vouchers)



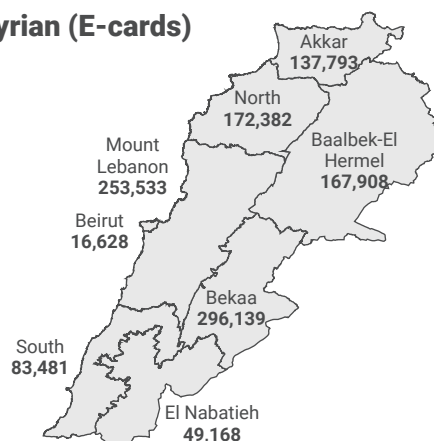
Lebanese (NPTP)



Amount of cash redeemed through NPTP (USD)

Jan 2021	2,185,431
Feb 2021	1,377,795
Mar 2021	1,304,646
Apr 2021	1,374,925
May 2021	3,277,026
Jun 2021	1,260,600
Jul 2021	1,626,756
Aug 2021	1,541,529
Sep 2021	7,535,985

Syrian (E-cards)



Amount of cash redeemed through e-cards (USD)

Jan 2021	20,576,063
Feb 2021	12,939,625
Mar 2021	13,387,116
Apr 2021	14,646,308
May 2021	7,406,974
Jun 2021	7,462,453
Jul 2021	6,132,891
Aug 2021	6,393,213
Sep 2021	38,101,307

1. Key achievements of the sector at the output level

Between July and September 2021, a total of 22 Food Security and Agriculture Sector's partners reached 1.8 million beneficiaries (40% women and 60% men) through direct food distributions (Outcome 1), cash and voucher assistance and livelihood interventions targeting the agricultural sector (Outcome 2).

Some 330,000 vulnerable individuals (53% women and 47% men)¹ had access at least once during the reporting period to in-kind food assistance (including food parcels, ready-to-eat foods and hot meals) to address their immediate food and nutrition needs, of which 42% were displaced Syrians, 52% vulnerable Lebanese and 6% Palestinian Refugees from Syria and Lebanon.

Cash and voucher assistance amounting to USD 61,477,650 was disbursed to a total of 1,178,757 displaced Syrians (90%), 226,204 vulnerable Lebanese (52%) and 28,940 Palestinian Refugees from Syria and Lebanon (71%), to enable the purchase of essential food items and meet basic needs. Transfers were redeemed through ATMs, food vouchers, e-cards and the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), the latter targeting extremely poor Lebanese. To mitigate the adverse impacts of inflation and price hikes on people's purchasing power, in September the food transfer value was increased from LBP 100,000 to LBP 300,000 (USD 17.6) per person per month, and from LBP 400,000 to LBP 800,000 (USD 47) per household per month for other needs. Moreover, in September WFP began distributing cash assistance under the NPTP in US dollars, whereby beneficiaries can withdraw their entitlements from ATMs in USD or LBP at a preferential rate.

Nine Food Security and Agriculture Sector partners carried out **livelihood interventions** to support agricultural activities, including provision of in-kind agricultural inputs, cash or vouchers, trainings and technical support. A total of 185 small-scale farmers (of which 17% were women) received emergency cash assistance to strengthen and enable agricultural investments and 1,266 individuals (16% women) were employed in temporary/casual agricultural labour related to building, maintaining and rehabilitating agriculture assets and infrastructure. In total, USD 12,950 were disbursed to farmers to facilitate their access to otherwise unaffordable agriculture inputs. A further 1,538 local agricultural groups, associations, cooperatives and SMEs received business plan preparation trainings and nutrition sessions. Under the Food for Assistance training, 927 individuals attended skills training to improve their access to temporary/casual work.

The Sector continues to improve and update tools which serve to enhance coordination among partners and across sectors. These include an [interactive Dashboard for Food Security Sector](#) activities (based on Microsoft Power BI), and a [dashboard on cooperatives and MSMEs](#) prepared jointly with the Livelihoods Sector.



2. Key challenges of the sector

The Sector Partners continued to experience operational and programmatic constraints during July-September 2021:

Food access and availability remain a major concern, with food prices out of reach for most people. As affordable food items become scarce, competition for basic resources is on the rise.

Discontinuation of subsidies for the Lebanese is expected to further aggravate social tensions between refugees and host community. In addition, competition on 'lower skilled work', including manual and casual labour, is often quoted as the main source of inter-communal tensions.

Spiralling prices and deterioration of the exchange rate without household-income increasing at the same pace, continues to negatively affect households' ability to meet their food needs.

Increasing the assistance of transfer value remains of critical importance to counter negative coping strategies that can also have harmful impacts on nutrition outcomes.

Fuel and gasoline prices continue to increase with a huge impact on households' expenditures, and ability to meet their needs, including access to food. In addition, the fuel crisis has impacted Food and Agriculture Sector partners' programmes operations, with mitigation measures applied to ensure business continuity.

The food component of the survival minimum expenditure basket (SMEB) recorded an 11 percent increase between July and August 2021. Since the beginning of the crisis in October 2019, the food SMEB cost increased by a staggering 628 percent.

The protracted nature of the Syria crisis and widespread food insecurity across all population cohorts, the unabating COVID-19 outbreak and the uncertainties related to socio-economic situation in the country continues to affect the food security situation among all groups, impacting all food security dimensions: access, availability, stability and food utilisation.

As most agricultural inputs (i.e., fertilizers, agro-chemicals, seeds, animal feed, vaccines and other veterinary supplies, etc.) are imported, the productive capacity of the sector has been particularly affected by increasing input costs resulting from the rapid devaluation of the Lebanese Pound in the parallel/real market and the disruptions in imports.

Agri-businesses are pushed to conduct transactions in cash on the parallel market and consequently suppliers are requesting full-cash payments rather than the usual short-term loans and end-of-season payments. This situation context is pushing particularly small-scale farmers into food insecurity, poverty and potential seizure of farming activities.

Owing to the economic and financial crisis, cash strapped farmers have started to substitute imported inputs to lower costs, such as manure or compost for compound fertilizer and saved seeds for certified ones. This has pushed the agricultural sector to move to a low input system, which is likely to result in lower yields and lower marketable production.

Urgent funds are needed to support domestic food production and farmers, including through cash and vouchers schemes to access unaffordable imported agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, materials and equipment). Funds need to be made available as complementary to short-term relief food assistance. The unpredictability of the prices and availability of material and inputs needed for building agriculture assets and infrastructure remain a constraint in 2021.

3. Key priorities for the following quarter

Priorities in Q4 for the sector remain aligned with the priorities already identified for Q3.

Ensure regular access to cash-based food assistance for vulnerable refugees and Lebanese, including advocating for meaningful transfer values.

Ensure food availability through in-kind food distribution, including hot meals and dry food parcels.

Support small-scale farmers through vouchers schemes provision aiming at restoring the agriculture-based livelihoods of men and women farmers. This will allow fostering the development of more sustainable small-scale farming systems with stronger linkages to agricultural inputs' supply chains. Consequently, preserving and strengthening domestic production and value chains is therefore not only critical to mitigate the short-term risk related to agricultural livelihoods, but also to boost the local economy in the medium and long term.

In addition, some interventions include providing farmers with matching grants to allow them to rehabilitate their lands through land reclamation, building water reservoirs and/or fruit plant seedlings to cultivate their lands. These interventions will increase the productive capacities of vulnerable farmers in addition to the creation of agricultural casual labour.

The Sector will continue to work on advocacy as it relates, for example, to discussions around the dollarization of cash-transfer assistance and the impact that the removal of subsidies will have on food security, publish dashboards and mapping at district level to ensure operational coordination. This will include a deduplication exercise with all sector partners implementing in the same distribution areas.



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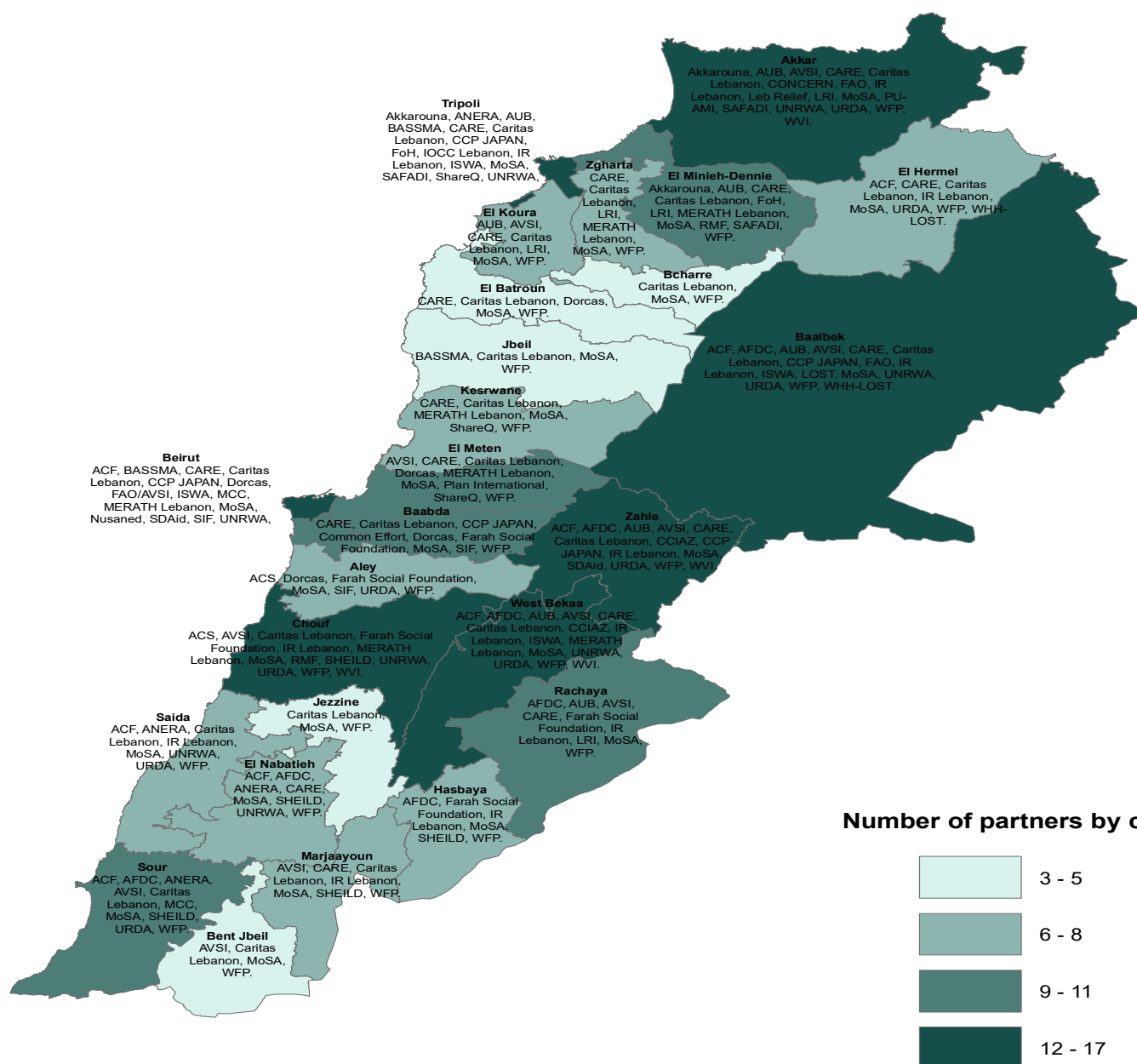


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41 Reporting Partners

ACF, ACS, AFDC, Akkarouna, ANERA, AUB, AVSI, BASSMA, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, CCIAZ, CCP JAPAN, Common Effort, CONCERN, Dorcas, FAO, Farah Social Foundation, FoH, IOCC Lebanon, IR Lebanon, ISWA, Leb Relief, LOST, LRI, MCC, MERATH Lebanon, MoSA, Nusaned, Plan International, PU-AMI, RMF, SAFADI, SDAid, ShareQ, SHEILD, SIF, UNRWA, URDA, WFP, WHH-LOST, WVI.

Partners' Presence Map LCRP Response - 2021 - Q3



0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Kilometers