

# REGIONAL: RRP6 MONTHLY UPDATE - AUGUST

# FOOD SECURITY



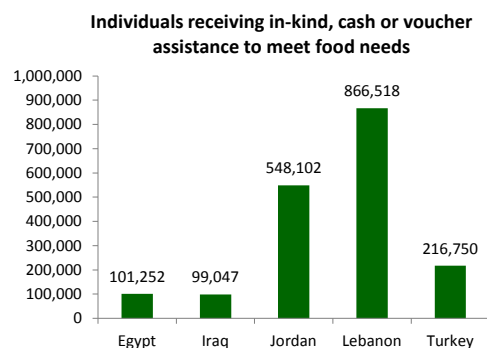
**Almost 75,000 people have now benefited from agricultural livelihoods support programmes across the region this year**

## AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS:

**Food assistance** during August reached over 100,000 beneficiaries in Egypt, injecting over US\$ 2.8 million into the local economy through food vouchers. In Lebanon, over 820,000 Syrian refugees were reached with the e-card and 23,092 newly arrived refugees were assisted with food parcels. Through the e-card, US\$ 24.5 million was injected into the Lebanese economy in August. In Jordan, e-voucher entitlements were loaded for 323,671 individuals — a total of US\$ 10.98 million. For voucher distributions, food security sector partners reached more than 80,000 beneficiaries in camps and over 145,000 in the community. In Iraq, over 32,000 persons received in-kind food in seven camps, while 66,344 beneficiaries were targeted in August with food vouchers in Domiz camp. Around US\$ 3 million was injected into the local Iraqi economy during August through the voucher programme. In Turkey, the e-food card programme reached approximately 217,000 beneficiaries in camps, which is supplemented by the AFAD e-card programme. Direct transfers to beneficiaries' e-Food cards in refugee camps in Turkey amounted to about US\$ 6.1 million in August.

In Jordan, partners began a 'self-targeting' initiative in August, encouraging food-secure Syrian households in communities to voluntarily remove themselves from the voucher programme. In preparation for the transition from blanket to **targeted assistance**, the initiative is also meant to introduce the idea that humanitarian assistance is primarily intended for the most vulnerable families.

In Lebanon, the **livestock** vaccination programme has now reached over 760,000 livestock, while 4,400 vulnerable Lebanese and 820 Syrian refugees were assisted with concentrated feed across the country.



Jordan, WFP

## SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE REGION:

2,986,008

Refugee Population, end-August 2014

3,590,000

Refugee Population Planning figure, end-2014

## NEEDS ANALYSIS:

The supply of agriculture and food products and production capacity is increasingly under strain due to the Syria crisis. Up to 25 per cent of domestic food supply in the region is sourced from rural, mostly poor populations, often in areas hosting large numbers of refugees. There are increased reports of trans-boundary animal and plant diseases and pests in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon. RRP partners across the region are concerned about early indications of water shortages which may impact domestic food production, livestock availability and, consequently, livelihoods. Water shortages could further increase retail prices for food products and reduce informal labour opportunities. The gap between wages earned and household expenditure is forcing families to take out loans and engage in other negative coping strategies.

The estimated number of people who will be in need of food assistance by the end of 2014 is some 2.6 million. Pre-assistance baseline monitoring reports indicate that Syrian refugees arrive in neighbouring countries with very low levels of food consumption. In Lebanon, 27 per cent of newly-arriving Syrian refugees were categorized as having poor to borderline food consumption scores. Refugees who had access to food assistance were likely to significantly improve, by more than 100 per cent within one month of receiving food assistance. In Jordan, the WFP/REACH Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME), released in July, found that while only 6 per cent of Syrian refugees are food insecure, 42 per cent remain vulnerable to food insecurity, with the vulnerability increasing with the length of time spent in Jordan. This evidence supports the necessity of not only maintaining food assistance in the region but also for food assistance to continue to be a strategic priority and for an examination into alternative, more sustainable, means for meeting basic food needs.

## REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS:

1,831,669 individuals receiving in-kind, cash or voucher assistance to meet food needs

1,831,669

Planned Response, by end-2014

2,605,000

22,146 children reached with micronutrient supplements/supplementation, including school feeding programmes

22,146

32,500

74,285 individuals benefiting from agricultural livelihoods support

74,285

80,000

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Planned response based on full funding of RRP6 for an expected population of 3.59 million Syrian refugees in the region by end-2014. As at end-August 2014, there were 2.98 million refugees in the region and the overall RRP6 appeal was 44% funded.