

Partners in Turkey expand assistance to vulnerable refugees hosted in off-camp settings

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

In Turkey, the food security sector continues to provide support to Syrians in 11 camps, with monthly transfers to beneficiaries reaching approximately USD 3 million. As of November, 3RP partners reached 500,000 direct beneficiaries, equalling 87 per cent of the target for this year. Throughout 2015, positive progress has been made to put in place an off-camp assistance programme. Earlier this year a pilot programme was launched in coordination with the central and local authorities to assist the most vulnerable Syrian families in Gaziantep and Hatay. The registration process is now ongoing and as of the end of November, 3,800 families comprising over 34,000 individuals received assistance. Beneficiaries are assisted through the same E-Food Card modality as in camps and receive a TL 50 entitlement. Over 50,000 of the most vulnerable populations in Hatay, Gaziantep, Sanliurfa and Kilis are expected to be reached by the end of 2015.

In Jordan this month, partners coordinated a food parcel distribution reaching 2,280 households in cities and towns across Jordan. This is part of several one-off distributions conducted throughout the year. WFP has also announced that it has sufficient funding to continue with current levels of assistance through the end of May 2016.

In Iraq, over 48,700 beneficiaries received assistance through WFP food vouchers. The voucher transfer values in November were maintained at IQD 22,300 per person for extremely food insecure families, while moderately food insecure families received IQD 11,700 per person. A new food security vulnerability assessment for Syrian refugees living in host communities was completed, and preliminary findings are being consolidated.

In Egypt, an estimated USD 867,000 were injected into the local economy through vouchers and E-cards. November distributions and e-voucher uploads reached 99 per cent of the targeted 58,557 beneficiaries. An ongoing socio-economic assessment focusing mainly on the shift from geographic to vulnerability targeting has resulted in 41,450 exclusions. An appeals review process has already led to more than 5,000 re-inclusions, and the final list targeting vulnerable refugees is now close to 60,000 beneficiaries.

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.



A Syrian woman preparing food bought with WFP's e-card in Lebanon. WFP/Sandy Maroun

Sector Response Summary:



2,358,096 Refugees & Local
Community Members targeted for
assistance by end-2015
1,836,174 assisted in 2015



Syrian Refugees in the Region:



4,270,000 Syrian Refugees
expected by end-2015
4,289,792 currently registered or
awaiting registration



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 4.3 billion
required in 2015 (Agencies)
USD 2.162 billion received in 2015



NEW APP LETS USERS 'SHARE MEALS' WITH SYRIAN CHILDREN

On 12 November WFP launched ShareTheMeal, a new app allowing smartphone users to provide vulnerable Syrian children in refugee camps with vital nutrition.

The concept allows users to participate whenever they want and wherever they are by "sharing" their meals with children in need. The app then enables users to follow and track the impact of their donations.

Although ShareTheMeal is a global app, it is currently raising funds to feed children who have fled from the conflict in Syria.

Contributions will benefit Syrian refugee children in Jordan who are part of WFP's school meals programme. The current goal is to provide school snacks to 20,000 Syrian children in refugee camps in Jordan for a full year. Developers say that even a donation of USD 0.50 can provide a child with vital nutrition for a day.

The app is the latest example of how the international humanitarian community is working to harness new technologies and innovation in the response to the Syria crisis. "This digital version of sharing a meal is a tangible way that Generation Zero Hunger can act to end Hunger," said WFP Executive Director Ertharin Cousin.

Since the launch on 12 November, 250,000 users have donated over 1 million meals for Syrian refugee children in Jordan.

With 20 times as many smartphone users as there are hungry children, WFP believes the app's potential is enormous.

REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - NOVEMBER 2015

■ Progress ■ Planned Response, by end-2015

1,836,174 individuals receiving food assistance (cash, voucher or in-kind)

78%

2,358,096

57,898 individuals received food & agricultural livelihoods support

39%

92,094

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 30 November 2015.