

REGIONAL OVERVIEW: RRP5 Update - December 2013 FOOD SECURITY



TARGETS



2,000,000

Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt (registered and/or awaiting registration)



197,500

Host Families in Lebanon



156,700

Lebanese returnees



716.6 million USD required

NEEDS

The most vulnerable Syrian refugees, both in and out of camps, often struggle to find sufficient resources to cover their families' needs. Efforts are made to provide food assistance or the equivalent purchasing power to secure food, and this is all the more important for those vulnerable refugees who have suffered multiple displacements and may be accommodated in the poorest of conditions. New arrivals and those who have not yet registered may be in need of emergency assistance, pending eligibility for enrollment in food assistance programmes. School-age children also benefit through increased enrollment and retention in formal education when provided with healthy school snacks.

WFP and other RRP5 partners have identified vouchers and e-cards as a more efficient means of food assistance which also supports local economies. The above-described needs require vigilance, information mapping, surveillance and vulnerability assessments done at the macro and household levels to ensure fair and equitable targeting, and to ensure that those who are most in need benefit from food assistance.

KEY DECEMBER DEVELOPMENTS

In **Lebanon**, the e-Card roll-out has been completed in all regions by WFP. More than 25,000 households (92 per cent of the total number to be verified) were visited by verification teams. 23 per cent of the visited households have so far been re-included. Verification of identified new arrivals remains a challenge for all actors. Some community frustration has emerged in and around informal settlements, where large amount of support is being given to a small number of households.

In **Jordan**, the WFP Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME) has been completed in Jordanian communities and will continue in Al Za'atri camp through the first week of January. The findings of the CFSME will inform the vulnerability development of targeting criteria, an initiative currently underway and led by UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP. In Al Za'atri camp, the transition from dry food rations to food vouchers continues as the food basket is adjusted for the January cycle and the voucher value has increased to JOD8 (US\$11.31). A roll-out of the e-voucher programme is scheduled for 10,535 registered Syrian refugee families in Jerash and Ajloun governorates in January 2014. 15 Community Based Organisations are currently operating in the camp. Safeway supermarket and Tazweed in Za'atri camp will be ready to begin accepting vouchers in early January.

The Government of **Turkey** (GoT) sets and implements food policies for Syrian refugees. 119,612 Syrians are now supported with e-food cards in 14 camps. Within December, WFP provided assistance worth US\$ 4.6 million through the e-voucher system, which is also a direct investment into the local economy. Through the funding of the e-voucher assistance, an estimated 10.6 million meals were prepared during December.

In **Iraq**, in addition to food voucher distribution in Domiz camp and distribution of individual food rations in Al Obaday camp, distribution of monthly family food rations to new arrivals continued in transit and established camps in Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah governorates with assistance from Barzani Charity Foundation and WFP cooperating partner, ACTED. WFP conducted a series of emergency food airlifts from Erbil to Qamishli in northeast Syria from 15 to 26 December. 6,000 family food rations were delivered for distribution to affected families in Hassakeh governorate. WFP also delivered 21 metric tonnes of health kits and other water and sanitation supplies from UNICEF in conjunction with the food airlifts on 18 and 19 December.

In **Egypt**, December distributions have been completed reaching 89 percent of the target in Damietta, Alexandria and greater Cairo. Nearly 80,000 Syrian refugees and over 3,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria were assisted in December. An agreement is being finalised with an additional supermarket partner (Carrefour) to facilitate monthly vouchers distributions in greater Cairo pending the launch of the OneCard system in the second quarter of 2014.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013



1,384,000 beneficiaries of food vouchers or cash assistance for food



333,000 beneficiaries of food parcels or food rations



33,868 children have received high-energy biscuits or snacks



28,000 host community members received agricultural support

Featured map, Egypt Beneficiaries reached in Dec 2013
Source data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/ ... maps

