



Lebanon

Monitoring and Evaluation Report

Overview

This consolidated Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Report provides an overview of the World Food Programme (WFP) monitoring activities in Lebanon covering the distribution of food assistance to Syrian refugees, primarily through a voucher programme, in the months of April to June 2013. This report discusses the needs of the affected population, measures taken by WFP to resolve operational constraints and efforts to improve efficiency and effectiveness in achieving its objectives.

Since the outbreak of the violence in Syria, the Lebanese government has maintained an open-border policy, welcoming an increasing number of refugees. Upon the invitation of the Government of Lebanon (GoL), WFP has responded to the current influx of Syrian refugees in Lebanon since 2012, targeting all regions: North Lebanon, Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley, and has implemented its voucher operations mainly through four partners: the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Premiere Urgence (PU) and World Vision (WV), which were already present in Lebanon. WFP and its partners gradually scaled up their operations, bringing the total planned coverage for June 2013 to 426,381 people. WFP will continue to increase its operations, planning to assist 623,170 people in August 2013. More shops will be contracted to match the increasing number of refugees: 39 shops were added during the reporting period. In April 2013, WFP also partnered with five additional organizations for the implementation of its food parcel programme, which was put in place to swiftly respond to newly arrived refugees as well as refugees awaiting registration with UNHCR.

During the second quarter of 2013, 389 (0.1%) households were visited for post-distribution monitoring interviews: 98 in North Lebanon, 43 in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon and 248 in the Bekaa Valley. Data collection was reduced in May 2013 as all WFP staff were busy collecting data for the Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR).

Household interviews have shown that beneficiaries are largely satisfied with the food assistance programme, often naming it as their most reliable source of assistance since coming from Syria. Levels of vulnerability appear heterogeneous across the refugee population and the need for food assistance remains a priority for many households. However, increasingly, people need to satisfy other urgent needs for items such as baby-care products, healthcare products, fuel/gas and rent through the exchange or sale of their food vouchers.

Highlights

- * 506,454 individuals were assisted through the food voucher and the food parcel programme at as of June 2013.
- * During the reporting period, 8% of the refugee population indicated that they lived with host community members while 10% lived in a tent or a shelter.
- * 38% of households reported hosting an un-registered Syrian refugee.
- * The percentage of people in waiting registration decreased from 17% to 6% between the first and second quarter of 2013.
- * 35% of respondents relied on labor as a main source of income, although 19% named "charity." 8% of households reported not having three different income sources.
- * The main household expenditure remained rent (22%) and medicine (12%). Food was also an expenditure constraint for 3% of the respondents; however it was less than the previous quarter (9%).
- * The most recurring food consumption-based coping strategy was to skip meals (23% of the interviewed population). 75% reported having debts and 16% indicated a need to sell assets. Further, 13% reported having to send children under 18 to work to cover needs such as rent, medicine or food.
- * Vouchers were redeemed during an average of two to three weeks after receiving them. Close to 80% of interviewed households reported buying fresh items on at least once a month but informal conversations showed that many wished they could buy some more regularly.
- * 34% of respondents reported exchanging one or more of their vouchers for cash or non-food items (NFIs). The rate particularly high in North Lebanon (50%) and the Bekaa Valley (44%).
- * \$39.8 million were injected in the Lebanese economy from January to June 2013.
- * As the caseload continued to increase significantly, time and resources remained a major constraint to perform all necessary monitoring activities.

I. Post-Distribution Monitoring

Socio-economic and Demographic Profile

Arrival Date

- The amount of time since arriving into Lebanon has increased from the first quarter up to June, with refugees not returning to Syria as can be seen in Figures 4 and 5. On average in the second quarter, beneficiaries reported arriving 10 months ago compared to 8 months ago at the previous quarter.

Household Composition

- 42% of households in April and 49% in June reported having a least one registered child under 5. Children under 5 generally have special needs and adequate food is not accessible. Furthermore, in emergency and displacement situations, having children under 5 can put the household in deeper vulnerability: parents (and especially women) can resort to negative coping mechanisms in order to satisfy food needs of children. Moreover, access to food might be compromised, particularly as it might be more difficult for women-headed households to travel to distributions and shops.

-Figure 5 shows that the average household size is 6.5 in the second quarter. From the first to the second quarter, the average household size has increased in the Bekaa Valley, from 6.7 to 7.5

members, and North Lebanon, from 5.5 to 6.0 members (Figure 4). This could be due to the fact that family members originally left in Syria are increasingly crossing the border to Lebanon to join their families.

- 39% of interviewed families reported hosting un-registered Syrian refugee, which is a similar rate to the one reported at last quarter (38%) as shown in Figure 4. This may provide further evidence that many refugees are still arriving to Lebanon and that newly arrived household members have yet to register with UNHCR. However, the geographical concentrations have changed: whereas 38% of households reported having un-registered members in North Lebanon from January to March; only 27% reported so from April to June 2013. Similarly in the Bekaa Valley, the number of household having un-registered members decreased from 45% to 39%. The proportion significantly increased in the Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon from 33% to 49%. This could imply to refugees are increasingly moving towards Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon where the concentration of refugees was originally lower.

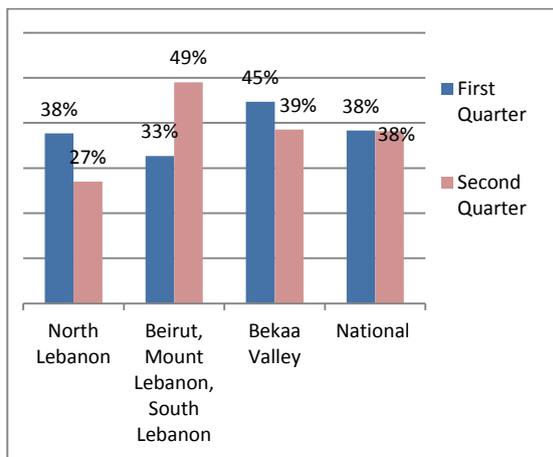


Figure 4. Household with unregistered members

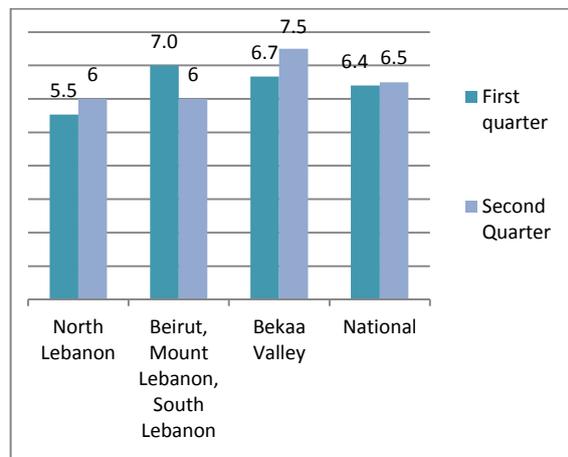


Figure 5. Average Household Size from January to June 2013

- Figure 6 shows the reasons for not registering. 59% of the un-registered members had not registered because they had recently arrived while 6% were still undergoing the registration process. This is an improvement from the first quarter where 66% had recently arrived and 17% were awaiting registration. This could be explained by the fact that in April, UNHCR implemented a fast-track registration, which did speed up the registration process. No un-registered members reported an “unwillingness” to register in June.

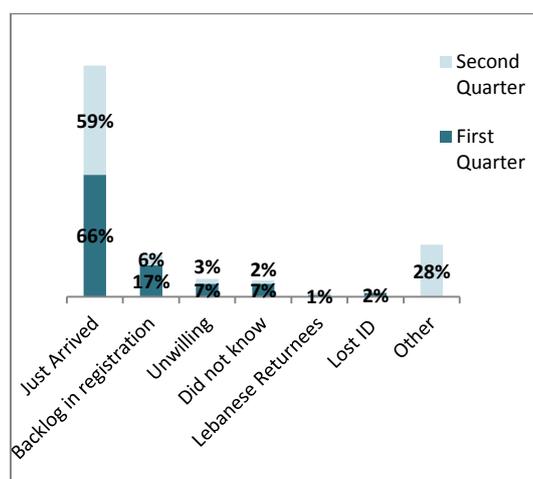


Figure 6. Reasons for not registering in 2013

Main Resources

- According to Figure 7, 35% of respondents relied on labor as a main source of income while 19% reported relying charity. As displayed by Figure 8, non-government organizations (NGOs) remained the main alternative source of income (24%).

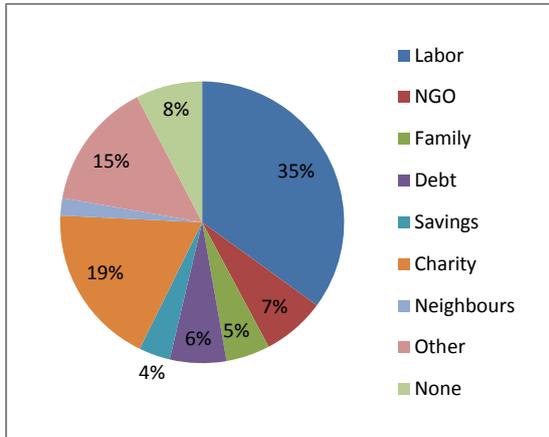


Figure 7. Household main resources from April to June 2013

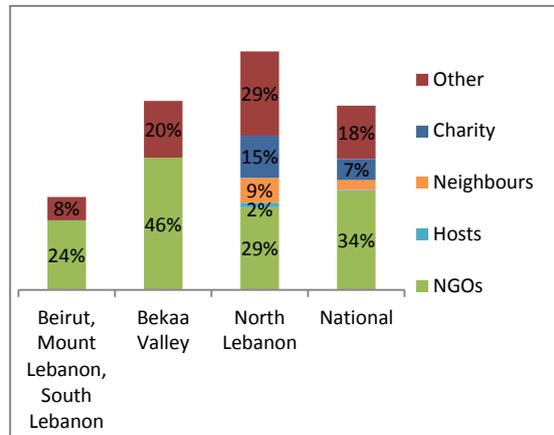


Figure 8. Additional Sources of assistance from April to June 2013

- During the second quarter, a lower number of households reported relying on NGOs (7%) and debt (6%) as a main income source (Figure 7). Figure 9 shows that although the number of households relying on charity decreased from 25% to 19%, the rate remained significantly high. The number of households relying on savings also decreased from 6% to 4% because this resource was already being exhausted (Figure 9). 8% of households reported not having three different sources of income.

-In Figure 10, it is worth noting that:

- 98% of the households in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon reported relying on labour as main source of income.
- 31% of households in the Bekaa Valley and 100% in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon reported not having a third source of income.
- One fifth of households in North Lebanon reported relying on charity as one of the three primary sources of income in June indicating high levels of vulnerability.

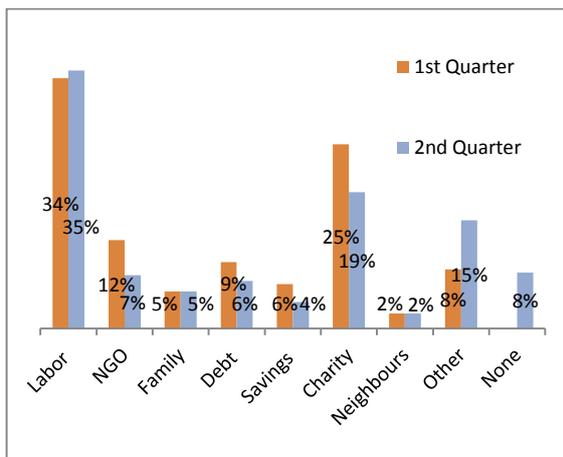


Figure 9. Main resources comparison from January to June 2013

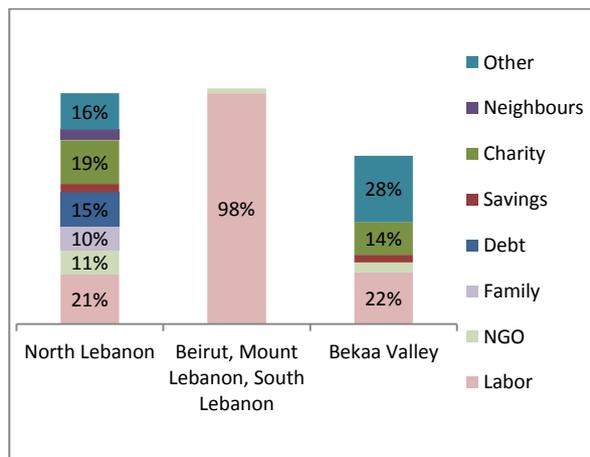


Figure 10. Main resources broken down per region from April to June 2013

Main Needs

- Figure 11 displays the main needs during the second quarter. The main household constraint remained rent (22%) and medicine (12%) although their share was declining compared to the last quarter. Food remained a constraint for 3% of respondents; however it was less than at the previous quarter (9%). The predominant share of rent and medicine in the constraint chart could explain the reported need for cash and the high rate of voucher sale among beneficiaries, particularly in North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley.

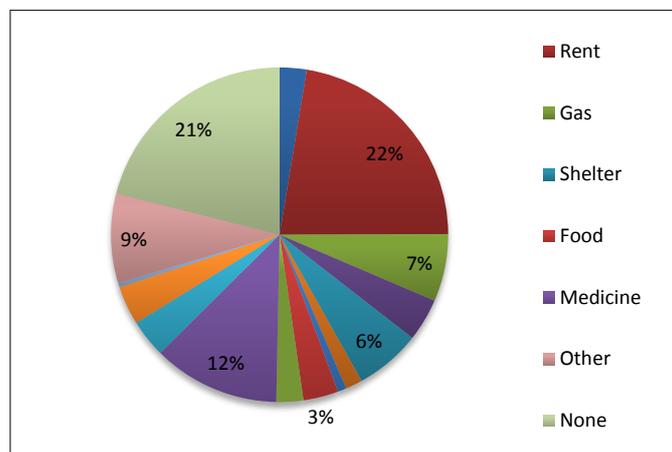


Figure 11. Main needs during the second quarter of 2013

- According to Figure 12, while medicine was reported as a need in North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley for 19% and 16% of the respondents respectively, the second main need in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon was school for 8% of beneficiaries. This proportion might increase in the upcoming months with the start of the school year. Further, gas remained an important need for 17% in April and 8% in June of the respondents; food was an important need in the Bekaa Valley for 8% in April and 9% of respondents in June.

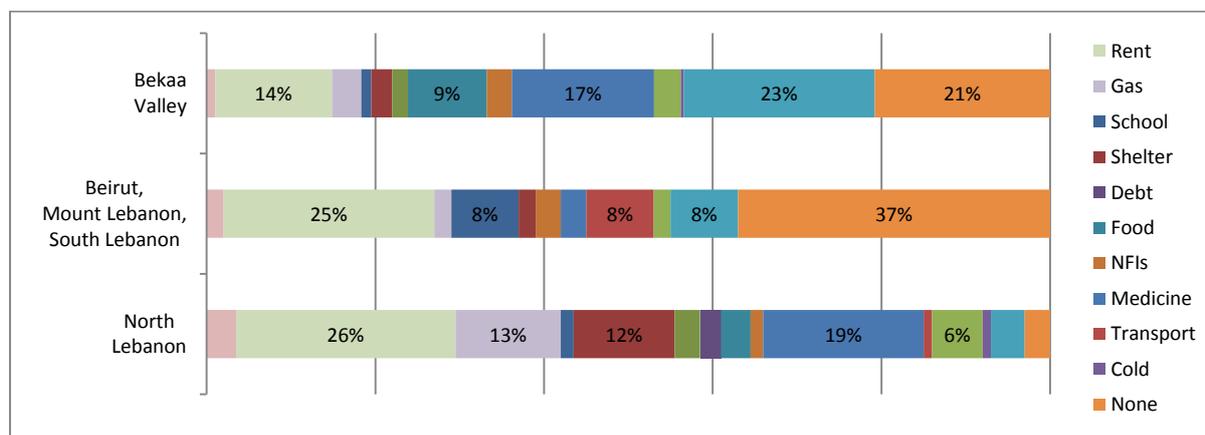


Figure 12. Main needs during the second quarter of 2013 broken down per sub-office

Food Security

Coping Strategies

-According to Figure 13, from April to June 2013, the most recurring food consumption-based coping strategy for 23% of the interviewed population was to skip meals, compared to 31% in the last quarter. 19% of respondents reported the need to reduce portions compared to 15% at the beginning of the year. 5% reported not eating at all on a regular basis compared to 12% in the last quarter (Figure 13).

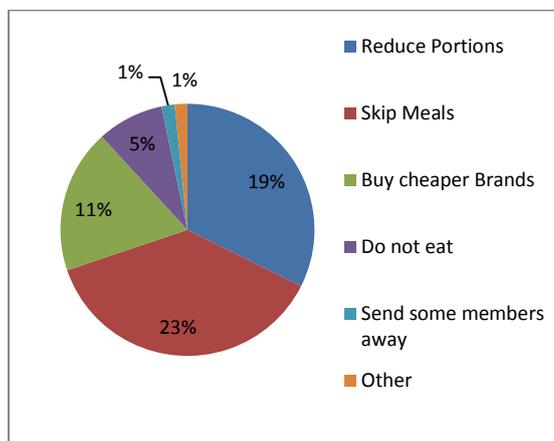


Figure 13 Main coping strategies among from April to June 2013

- Although the rates at which households reported resorting to negative food consumption-based coping strategy remains worrying, the situation has improved in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and the South and the pattern has changed in the Bekaa Valley and North Lebanon as shown by Figure 14.

- According to Figure 14, it is worth noting that:

- The most worrying observation is the increase by 12% of people reporting skipping meal in North Lebanon and by 4% for those reporting not eating at all on a regular basis.
- For 28% of the interviewed population in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon, the most recurring food consumption-based coping strategy was to reduce portion sizes (Figure 14).
- The situation was particularly serious in North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley where 48% and 26% of the interviewed population reported either not eating at all and/or skipping meals on a regular basis (Figure 15). This however an improvement from the first quarter.

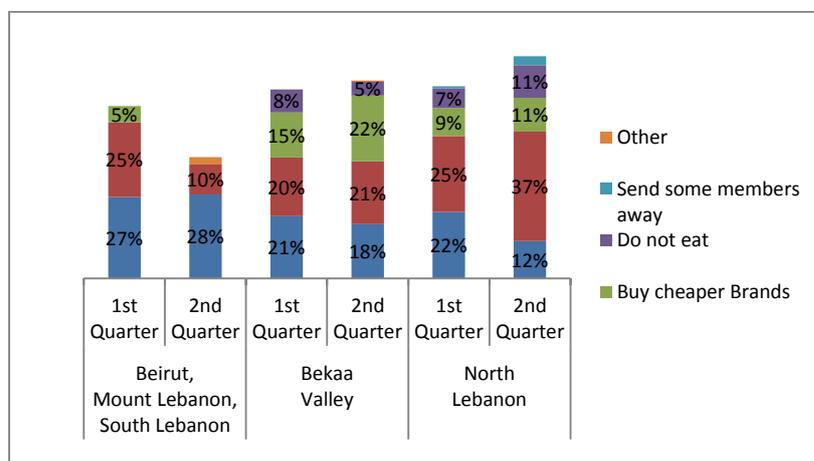


Figure 14. Main food consumption-based coping strategies from first to second quarter, broken down per region

-Some of the above coping strategies adopted could be explained by observations made earlier in the report. Since 49% of the interviewed population has one or more children under 5 in June, the restricted consumption of adults in order to feed young children might have occurred because families choose to sell some of their vouchers to buy infant formula food, only available in pharmacies, or food adapted to baby needs. Furthermore, as the share of cash expenses in Lebanon (rent, medicine) was also very high, it might have forced families to reduce food consumption on a regular basis to cover other, more urgent needs.

Assets Depletion

- The depletion of assets is of an important indicator for WFP as it indicates possible declining access to food. According to Figure 15, during the second quarter, 75% of the interviewed population reported having debts. 16% reported needed to sell assets to cover needs such as rent, medicine or food. 13% reported having to send children under 18 to work to cover such needs. The proportion of households that sold assets was particularly high in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon (20%) and the Bekaa Valley (18%) as displayed by Figure 16. This might be because households in North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley have less assets remaining than in the South. Households reporting the need to have children under 18 work was high in North Lebanon with the rate reaching 19% of respondents in June 2013 (Figure 16).

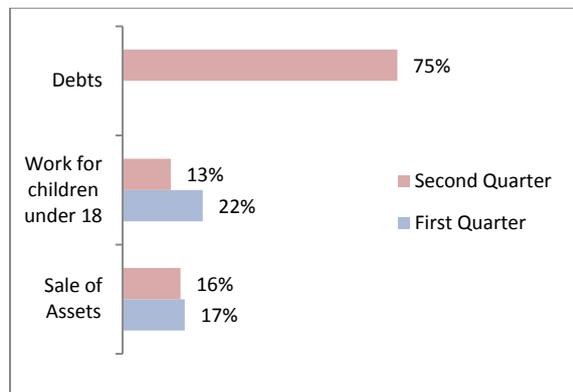


Figure 15. Alternative Coping Strategies in 2013

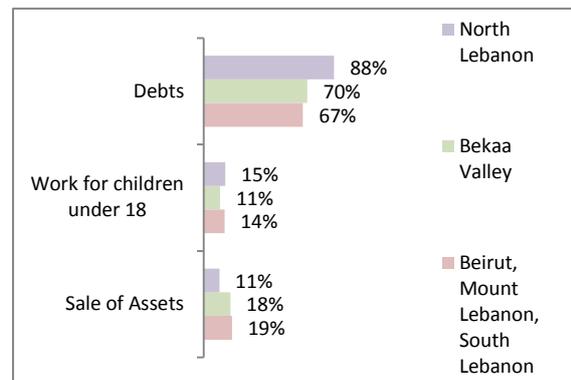


Figure 16. Alternative Coping Strategies Coping Strategies per region

Voucher Use

- Figure 17 shows the three most purchased items during the reporting period. The most purchased commodities by refugees during the second quarter were cereals (26%), sugar (24%) and oil (18%). Since beneficiaries must redeem each voucher in one go and within a month from distribution and because many households lacked the appropriate storage capacity, dry goods were most often purchased with the WFP vouchers. Figure 18 shows the changes in purchasing patterns from the first to the second quarter of 2013. Households appear to be buying more: Sugar (+7%), cereals (+5%), and less: oil (-6%), canned food (-5%), bread, dairy and pasta (-2%). It appears that WFP's beneficiaries' basket is less diverse at the second quarter than at the first quarter.

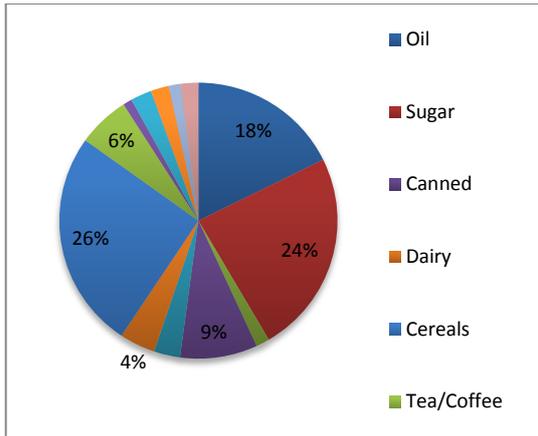


Figure 17. Voucher use from April to June 2013

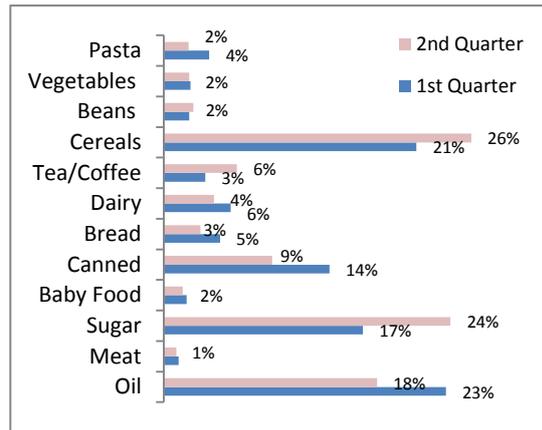


Figure 18. Voucher use during the first and second quarter

-Figure 19 displays the purchasing patterns broken down per sub-office. The purchasing patterns are similar although beneficiaries in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon are purchasing significantly less oil (8%) than in the other parts of the country and significantly more canned food (15%). Respondents in the North are buying more fresh items overall (5% vegetables, 7% dairy and 3% meat).

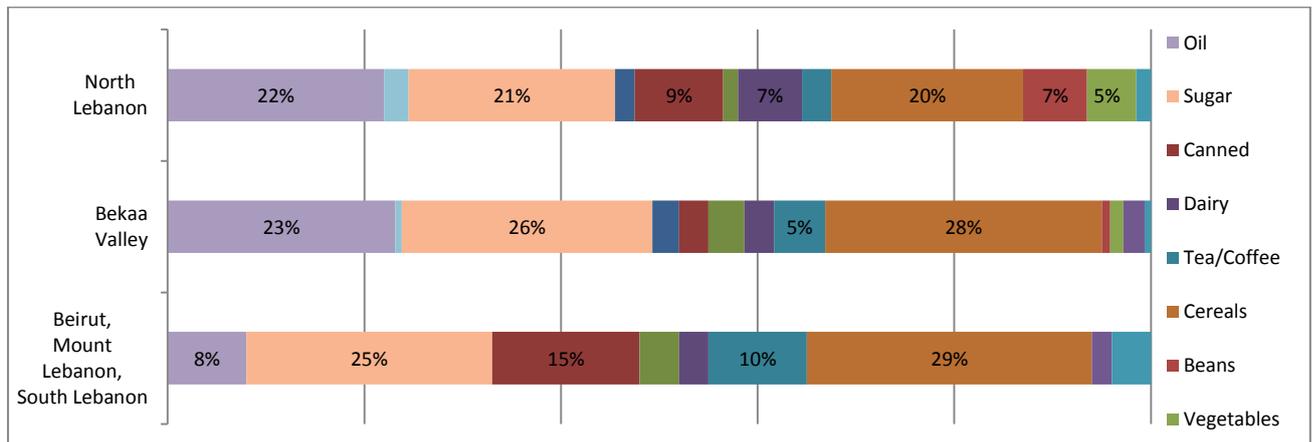


Figure 19. Voucher use per region from April to June 2013

Redemption: During the second quarter of 2013, the last vouchers were redeemed within an average of two to three weeks after receiving them as shown by Figure 20. Vouchers were on average redeemed once or twice by beneficiaries according to Figure 21. This could be partially explained by the fact that households redeem most of their voucher value at the same time as distribution of vouchers due to travel constraints to reach WFP shops and the remaining balance later to sustain the household until the end of the month

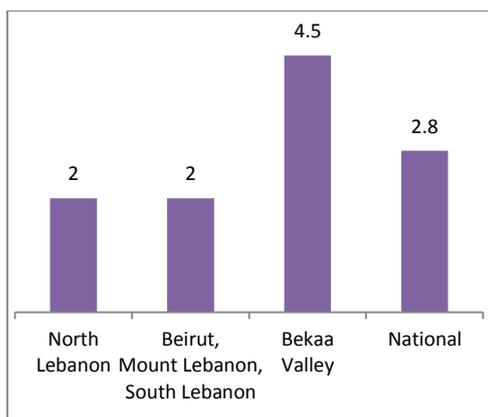


Figure 20. Number of weeks to redeem all vouchers from April to June 2013

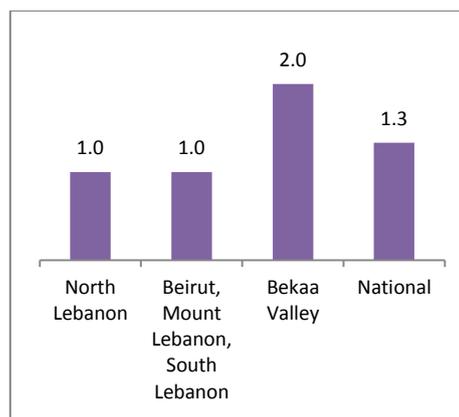


Figure 21. Number of times the vouchers were redeemed from April to June 2013

Fresh Food: Although reporting that they might not be purchasing sufficient amount, 86% of interviewed households reported buying fresh items at least once a month from April to June 2013. This is an improvement from the first quarter where only 73% reported so. This could be explained by the fact that fruit and vegetables' prices dropped during the summer and by WFP's efforts to encourage all contracted shops, which do not have fresh items (meat, fruits, vegetables) to partner with other shops for these commodities to ensure that all refugees' nutritional needs are covered through the voucher programme.

Cash and NFIs: 34% of respondents reported exchanging their vouchers for cash or NFIs as shown by Figure 22. Figure 23 shows the break down between sub-offices and highlights the fact that this rate reached 50% in North Lebanon and 44% in the Bekaa Valley in June 2013. Refugees reported selling their vouchers for 85% to 90% of the full value. 1% of beneficiaries reported selling food bought from vouchers to cover other needs.

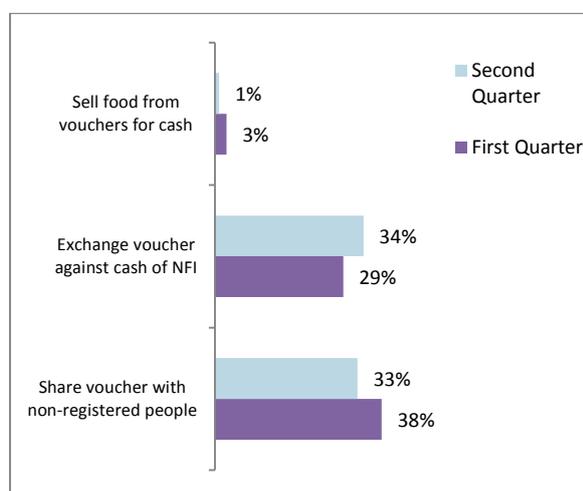


Figure 22. Alternative voucher use from april to June

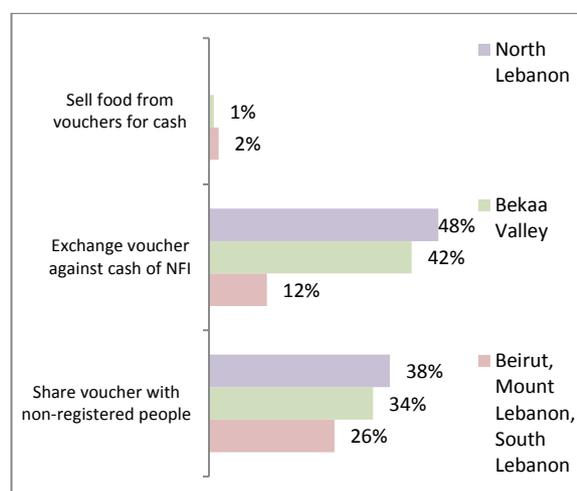


Figure 23. Alternative voucher use from April to June 2013 broken down per region

Shared Food Assistance: 33% of interviewed households reported sharing food with un-registered refugees, of which 28% were family members. 34% in North Lebanon, 30% in the Bekaa Valley and 25% in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South shared food with their families in the second quarter. 4% in North Lebanon and 3% in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon shared assistance with neighbors.

Food Assistance Preferences: 98% of the respondents reported preferring food vouchers to food parcels as it allows them to choose the food commodities they prefer.

Satisfaction

Satisfaction: 90% of the interviewed households reported being satisfied by the voucher programme. Of those not fully satisfied, 74% reported being dissatisfied with the voucher value as it did not allow them to cover their needs until the end of the month. Among these 74%, 100% in the Bekaa Valley and the Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon complained about the voucher value. On the other hand, only 30% in North Lebanon complained about the value. The remaining 70 percent reported having issues with the limit redemption date of the voucher.

Other Costs related Food Assistance: According to Figure 24, 19% of respondents reported paying taxi fares to reach WFP shops and 11% reported living too far from a WFP shop during the second quarter of 2013. WFP is increasing the number of shops to ensure that all refugees are within reasonable distance from a WFP shop. As shown in Figure 25, 31% of households continued to report that they believe prices in WFP shops were too high in June 2013. WFP is ensuring that prices are not fluctuating in its contracted shops but the situation should still be monitored closely. Reasons that could explain beneficiaries' perception that prices are too high is that prices in Lebanon are higher than in Syria and preferred brands were not always available. Among respondents in North Lebanon, only 5% in April and 3% in June reported paying other Syrians to get their vouchers. Partners reported isolated cases where some beneficiaries are paying other beneficiaries to skip the distribution lines.

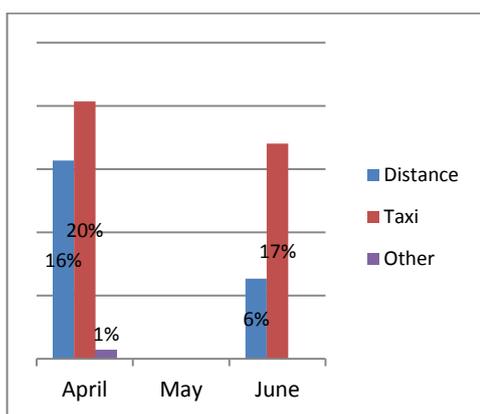


Figure 24. Problems in accessing shops April-June 2013

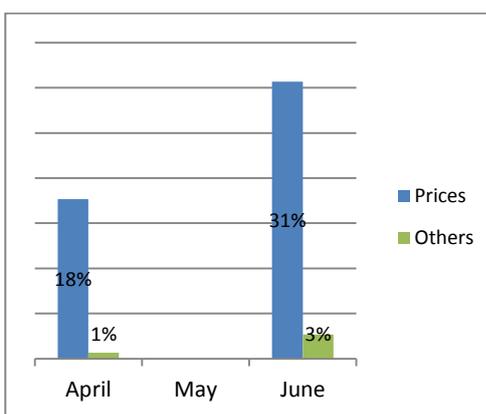


Figure 25. Problems at the shop level April-June 2013

Irregularities: Of those not reporting exchanging vouchers, 12% of respondents were aware of the sale of vouchers and 8% were aware of the purchase of NFIs with the WFP vouchers in the second quarter. The rates reached 20% and 21% respectively in North Lebanon, where the level of irregularities remained the highest.

Implementing partners: 96% of interviewees reported being satisfied with the performance of WFP's partners. Only 5% in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon, and 3% in North Lebanon reported ill treatment such as rudeness or refusing to answer their questions.

Post-Distribution Monitoring Methodology

- Each month, WFP staff in Lebanon aim to conduct monitoring visits to 1% of the WFP caseload across the territory. During these visits, staff gather information on beneficiaries' socio-economic status, demographics, food security status, the use of food assistance, the process of distribution and redemption of vouchers and freedom from exploitation. These interviews are conducted before and after WFP assistance is received in order to track changes in the conditions of refugees after joining the programme. Interviewed households are selected depending on security and access issues.

Main Monitoring Challenges and limitations

- Access and security issues remained a problem in some of the areas namely Wadi Khaled in North Lebanon and the Hermel/Arsal region of the Bekaa Valley continued to be very difficult to reach.

- The main constraint for WFP's the various field locations remained time and adequate staffing resources to conduct an increasing number of half-value vouchers distribution as well as monitoring a growing number of shops..

- In May 2013, WFP led the Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR), a multi-sectoral survey undertaken at national level with the aim of better understanding the living conditions of refugees and their vulnerability profile. The results of the assessment, along with information gleaned from UNHCR's "ProGres" registration system, are to provide the criteria by which households are to be identified for the up-coming targeting exercise. Data collection took place from 28 May – 12 June, 2013. Therefore, capacity for monitoring activities, particularly PDMs taking place during the last week of the month and the first week of the following month, was reduced.

II. Distribution

- WFP food parcel and voucher distributions take place on a monthly basis, and are usually completed over the course of a month. The dates for each cycle covered in this report are listed below:

	Cycle Dates
April	2 nd -26 th April
May	3 rd May-3 rd June
June	2 nd June-21 st June

-WFP has been distributing food rations to refugees in Lebanon since June 2012 and food vouchers since July 2012. WFP in Lebanon distributes food parcels to newcomers and refugees pending registration for a period of over four weeks, while the voucher programme targets refugees registered with UNHCR. With a target of 8,000 beneficiaries at the beginning of the operation, WFP progressively scaled up its activities to reach a planned 339,367 refugees in April, 411,582 people in May, and 506,454 people in June. Despite the difficult operating environment, WFP was able to reach 82 percent of its operational target in April, 77 percent in May and 85 percent in June as displayed by Figure 27.

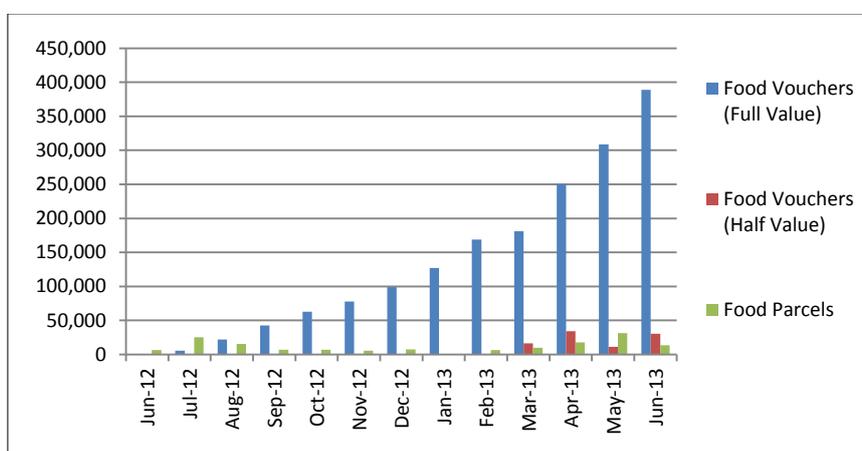


Figure 27. Distribution outcome since the beginning of the WFP operations in Lebanon

Access

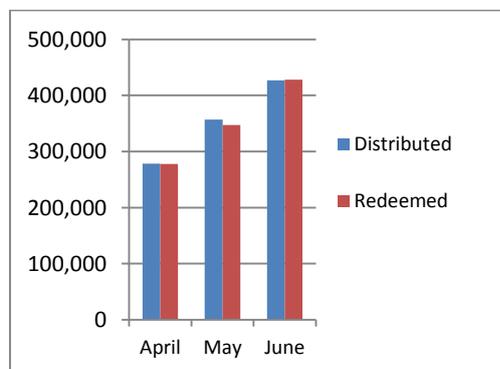
- From April to June, the deteriorating security situation and a rise in tensions impacted – in some cases delayed- WFP distributions. Outbreaks of violence in Tripoli (North Lebanon) and Saida (Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon) disrupted food parcel and food voucher distributions for several days.

- **In April**, the delivery of food parcels was delayed due to the inadequate capacity of implementing partners. As the number of refugees increased significantly, WFP and its partners struggled to assist the necessary caseload. **In May**, the outbreak of violence in Tripoli prevented the WFP’s food parcel supplier, based in Tripoli, to deliver parcels across the country. Most of the May caseload was postponed until June. Parcels distributions were suspended in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon due to the fighting in Saida until the next cycle. **In June**, WFP carried out voucher and parcel distributions at early in June in order to allow families to meet food needs during the month of Ramadan. Half-value vouchers in North Lebanon were distributed at registration site directly to prevent families from being unassisted until the next distribution cycle.

Food Vouchers

- WFP provides food vouchers to all Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR. During the reporting period, distributions took place at 35 distribution points in April, 41 in May and 46 in June, all agreed upon with partners. In North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley, voucher distributions were also simultaneously performed with NFI distributions. At times, this caused delays or disturbances for WFP distributions.

- In cases where households did not come to distributions, WFP agreed with its partners to organize additional “no-show” distributions to try and reach the maximum number of beneficiaries in all field locations. Table 1 below shows the vouchers distribution coverage over the reporting period.



Graph 2. Vouchers distributed vs. vouchers redeemed

	Planned Operational	Actual	% Reached (actual against operational)
April	276,117	259,733	94.1%
May	352,932	315,794	89.5%
June	453,829	414,468	91.3%

Table 1. Food vouchers achievement from January to March 2013

-Security and Organization. Distribution in the Bekaa Valley, North Lebanon and Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon were safe and well organised (crowd management, waiting areas, distribution procedures, time management, and provision of information). To address security issues in Tripoli, a site was designed for distribution and used for the first time in May. Additionally, DRC hired a private security company to further secure distribution site and facilitate crowd management. From April onwards, “no-show” distributions were taking place on a regular basis, in the North and in the Bekaa

-Protection. All sites are well-equipped: chairs in waiting-areas, fences between entrance and waiting area, protection against the rain in April and against the sun in May and June. . A preferential distribution system is in place in all regions for all beneficiaries with disabilities,

pregnant or lactating women and women with children under 5. A UNHCR protection desk exists in North Bekaa and North Lebanon at WFP distribution sites.

-Information. Leaflets containing the updated list of shops were distributed at distribution sites. Partners repeat WFP distribution and voucher redemption rules regularly to ensure the programme is well-understood by all beneficiaries.

-Waiting time. The waiting was considered reasonable by interviewed beneficiaries at distribution sites in the Bekaa Valley and Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon. Due to changes in distribution mechanism in North Lebanon in April, the waiting time increased significantly (more than 30 min) causing frustration among beneficiaries. However, in June, the waiting time went back to below 15 min.

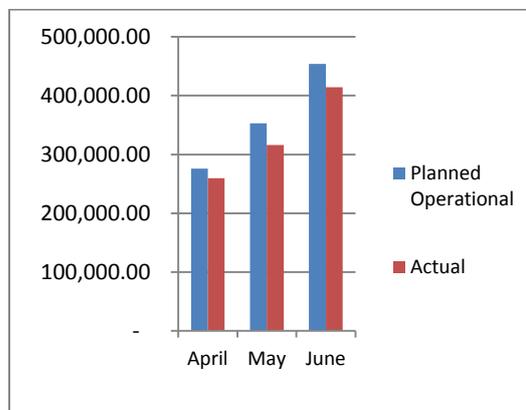
Remaining Challenges

- Access to sanitary facilities was still limited in many distribution sites.
- An increasing number of dealers could be found at distribution site entrance in all three sub-offices. Dealers offering to buy vouchers were often Syrians workers settled in Lebanon for a long time.
- In North Lebanon, tensions with taxi mafia to transport beneficiaries increased insecurity outside distribution sites.
- Tripoli remained a difficult location for distribution as it combines high levels of insecurity with a very large caseload (with two thirds of the North Lebanon caseload).
- Irregularities were found in identification (ID) control: no official documents, fake IDs, pictures difficult to read, slowing the distribution process.
- Unrecorded movement of refugees continues to mean that WFP staff struggle to ensure that the correct amount of vouchers are available for distribution. .
- Security needs to be strengthened at distribution sites in North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley, especially in view of the upcoming targeting.

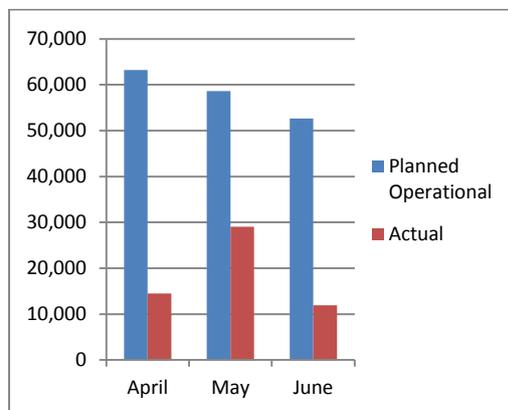
Food Parcels (General Food Distribution)

- WFP provides relief food rations to every refugee families arriving from Syria. Each pack is composed 19 food items for a family of 5 for 30 days. Distributions take place at distribution points agreed upon with partners responsible for warehousing.

- In April, WFP added five parcels distribution partners: Gruppo Volontariato Civile (GVC), Islamic Relief, Handicap International, Caritas CLMC and a national NGO, SHEILD. This was expected to increase distribution capacity and coverage.



Distribution Coverage from April to June 2013 (Food Vouchers)



Distribution Coverage from April to June 2013 (Food Parcels)

-Security and Organization. Food parcels distribution sites are safe and well-maintained. New-arrivals are identified by WFP’s partners by contacting local NGOs, municipalities, community centers, and invited to food parcels distribution. In Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon, SHEILD conducts a “vulnerability assessment” for newcomers before giving out parcels. This vulnerability assessment gives information on household composition, housing, and reasons for coming to Lebanon, access to education and willingness to register with UNHCR to get access to WFP vouchers. Syrian volunteers are helping Islamic Relief in the identification and distribution process.

-Identification. It remains difficult for WFP’s partners to identify new-comers, as well as to identify refugees who are already registered with UNHCR. To mitigate this, WFP has started providing partners with a “pending registration list”, confirming registration status.

-Protection. All distribution sites have preferential distribution mechanism at distribution sites for vulnerable groups. Partners in the Bekaa Valley and in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Lebanon also conduct door-to-door distribution for elderlies, households with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women or women-headed household with children under 5, and in areas of security concerns for refugees are very high (for example Shebba in the Nabatieh governorate). All WFP’s partners underwent a protection training from UNHCR as food parcels distribution is often one of the first point of contact with refugees.

-Resourcing issues. The number of new-comers continues to increase and WFP and partners have struggled to keep up with the demand for food parcels, especially as refugees are now settling in an increasing number of locations.

Beneficiary participation

-From April to June 2013, WFP assisted 105,594 adult women, 85,276 children under 5 and 140,706 children between 5 and 18.

	Total beneficiary April-June 2013	Women (+18)	Men (+18)	Girls Age (yrs)		Boys Age (yrs)	
				<5	(5-18)	<5	(5-18)
Food Voucher	414468	103617	91183	41447	66315	41447	70460
Food Parcels	11913	2978	2621	1191	1906	1191	2025

No-Show analysis

- Among the households who did not come to distribution, 305 (30%) were contacted in April, 350 (21%) were contacted in May and 350 (17%) were contacted in June in the North Lebanon. 2 cases in April were households of a religious confession afraid to go to a distribution by fear of retaliation. These cases were referred to UNHCR. Figure 31 shows reasons why refugee did not come to distribution throughout the reporting period.

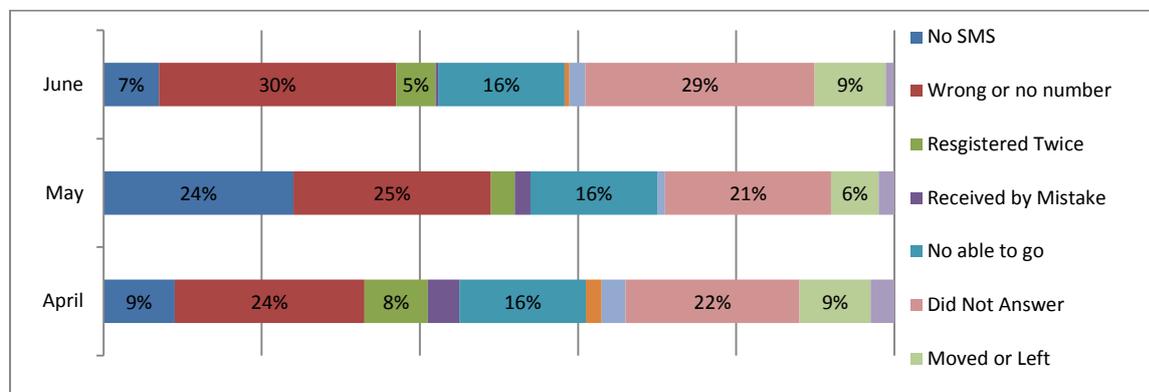


Figure 31. No-show explanation from April to June 2013 in North Lebanon

-Among households who did not come to distribution in the Bekaa Valley, 532 (20%) were contacted. Figure 32 shows reasons why refugees did not come to distribution in May 2013.

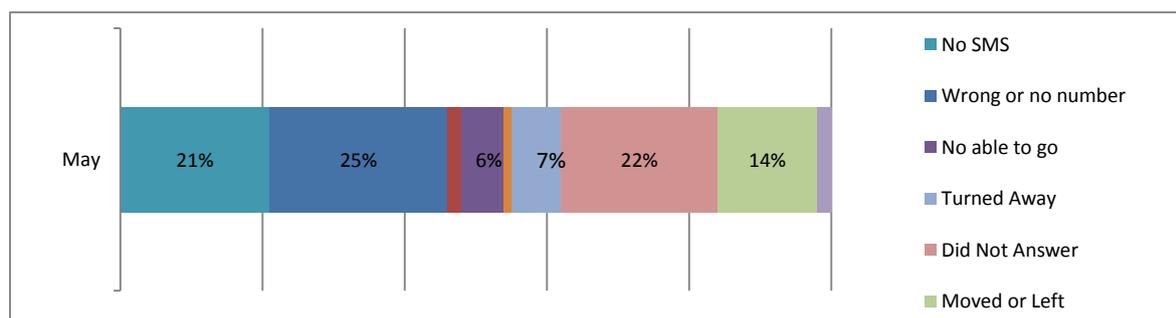


Figure 32. No-show explanation in May 2013 in the Bekaa Valley

III. Shops Monitoring

-All shops across Lebanon were visited every month to monitor the cleanliness of the shops, availability of commodities, difficulties faced by the shopkeepers and compliance with WFP rules and prices. In cases of non-compliance, shops were given a warning and a follow-up visit took place the following month, which in some cases (if shops were still not compliant) lead to termination. In June 2013, WFP had 216 shops contracted in Lebanon versus 194 in April 2013. During the second quarter, 39 shops were added, 7 terminated and 2 withdrew from the programme as it represented too much work.

-From January to June 2013, WFP injected more than \$39.8 million into the local economy as displayed by Figure 33.

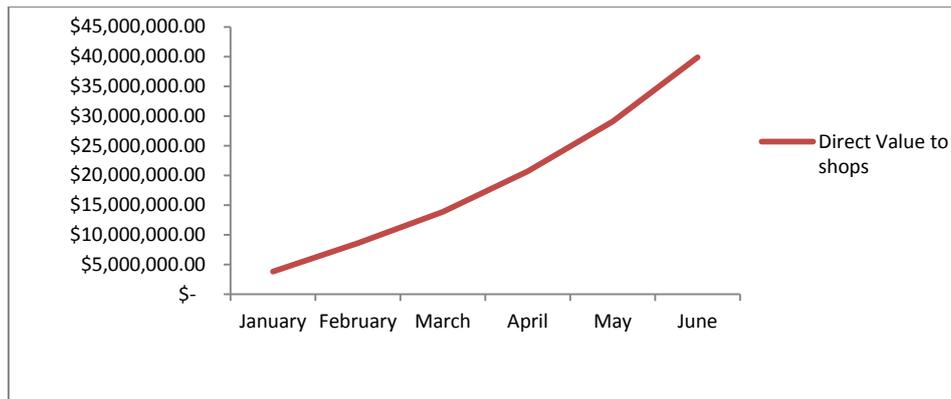


Figure 33. Amount of money directly injected into the Lebanese economy since January 2013

-Positive Outcomes. Since the beginning of the programme, shop-owners have been largely satisfied by the voucher programme (92%). According to the shops, demand increased and more regular customers were received, As a result, shops could invest in additional equipment (such as refrigerators and freezers) and technology (including point of sale (POS) terminals) so as to improve their everyday activities. 90% of shops monitored were clean, well-maintained and stocked with enough essential commodities. Registries were better maintained by the shop-keepers but invoices were often missing (26%). WFP visibility was adequate in 85% of the shops.

-Challenges. A limited number of shops were offering refugees fresh fruit and vegetables despite WFP's push to partner with smaller fresh items providers (butcher, vegetables) in order to satisfy all beneficiaries' needs. Some shops were concerned about the large numbers of refugees shopping straight after distribution (12%) or at the end of the month (5%). This often caused shops to work long hours or lead to degradation of shop or commodities. Some cases of theft were also reported when the shop becomes excessively busy. In areas where the concentration of refugees is very high, WFP will have to further diversify partner shops. Delays in payment to shops continued to be an issue, with shops reporting that such delays had started to affect relationship with suppliers.

-Prices. Prices continue to be inadequately displayed in some of the shops and refugees were still reporting unusually high prices (31%). Although this could be partly due to the fact prices in Lebanon are generally higher than in Syria and, that beneficiaries tend to choose brands that are not usually the cheapest (such as imported Syrian brands), this will have to be monitored closely in the future. Reports continued to be received that shops tend to charge Syrian refugees higher prices *at the till* making it very difficult for WFP staff to trace these irregularities down. In the next reporting period, WFP's partner, DRC, plans to dedicate staff for shop monitoring activities for two full days a week in 25% of WFP-contracted shops in North Lebanon and the northern part of the Bekaa Valley.

- Sale of Vouchers. One of WFP's main challenges remained the sale of vouchers, particularly in North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley. Some 30% of beneficiaries tried to exchange their vouchers for cash in the second quarter of 2013. Post-distribution monitoring confirmed this phenomenon. Further, undercover missions provided qualitative evidence that a growing number of beneficiaries were selling their vouchers, either to dealers or to shops directly. Although understanding the urgent need for cash to cover other expenses such as rent or medicine, the sale vouchers for 80 to 85% of their actual value is a serious concern as it might place refugees in higher levels of vulnerability. One concern as well is that a large number of non-contracted shops were redeeming vouchers, especially in North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley, and then reselling them to WFP-contracted shops.

IV. Partners Reports

-WFP received monthly reports from DRC throughout the April to June reporting period. Highlighted here are information not recorded by WFP or results differing significantly from WFP's results.

DRC-Post-monitoring household visits, in North Lebanon from April to June 2013

From April to May, DRC conducted 733 household interviews in North Lebanon. **Key findings were:**

- **Household Composition.** 42% of households reported having been displaced more than once since their arrival in Lebanon. DRC noted an increase in household size over time, particularly of female-headed households.
- **Sources of Income.** 50% of households reported having one member earning an income and 9% reported the need to have children under 18 work in North Lebanon.
- **Coping Strategies.** In May, 80% reported not spending savings because there were none left in Akkar (North Lebanon). The most common coping strategy was to buy food with credit (58% of families in Akkar and 33% of families in Tripoli). 44% of respondents reported selling assets in Tripoli and 33% in Akkar.
- **Access to Distribution Sites.** 70% of refugees reported that they lived less than 30 minutes away from distribution sites and 89% reported paying between 3,000 to 15,000 Lebanese Pounds (LBP) (US\$ 2 – 10) to get to the distribution site. Only 60% of households reported receiving the right level of food entitlements in April and 50% in May, compared to 95% as monitored by WFP. This should be further looked into.
- **Distribution.** 59% of beneficiaries reported that the distribution process was smooth. 43% pointed to long waiting times. 7% were concerned about the unavailability of water and 10% reported being mistreated by other refugees.
- **Cash and NFIS.** 53% of refugees reported exchanging vouchers for cash or NFIs for 70-80% of the actual voucher value in April. This was meant to cover food (36%), shelter (16%) and medical expenses (10%).
- **Redemption.** 53% of respondents reported redeeming vouchers in a non-WFP contracted shop.
- **Social impact.** 11% of refugees reported that host communities were hostile because of the support received for Syrians in April. In June, 19% complained about this in Tripoli.

-WFP also received the new-comers' assessment from its food parcels' partner, SHEILD, highlighting some of the characteristics of households that have just come into Lebanon.

SHEILD- April, May, June 2013: New-Comers' Assessment in the districts of Sour, Nabatiye, Bintjbaïl and Marjayoun

- 529 households were visited in April, 780 in May and 833 in June bringing the total number of interviewed households in the reporting period to 2,142 households. The main city of origin were: 13% came from Idlib, 17% from Daraa, 4% from Homos, 22% from Damascus, 6% from Hama, 4% from Raqqa, 23% from Aleppo and 4% from Der Ezzour.
- 38.2% left Syria because their home was destroyed and they had security concerns, 61.8% escaped Syria because of insecurity concerns. Between 81 and 83% of households live in rented accommodation, between 13% and 14% lived with host families and between 4% and 5% lived in a tent from April to June 2013.
- 99.4% were willing to register in April, 100% in May and June.
- 2,201 children in school age (6-15 years) were likely to not attend school in the next months in from April to June.

Fact Sheet: Gender sensitivity in WFP Lebanon's Programmes.

- At distribution sites, WFP has separated waiting areas for women (and children) and men. WFP staff and partners ensure that women will be served at the same speed as men.
- At distribution sites, WFP has preferential distribution mechanisms for pregnant and lactating women and women with children under 5.
- WFP distribution sites have gender separated toilets.
- For parcels distributions, WFP's partners conduct a vulnerability assessment for new-comers, giving preference to households with pregnant, lactating women, households with children under 5 and woman-headed households. Door-to-door distribution might happen if the family cannot come to distribution.
- WFP staff always conducts households visits two by two: one man and one woman in case refugee women are alone at home.
- All monitoring and evaluation tools reflect gender and protection issues, with WFP produces gender breakdown of distribution Figures.



For further information please contact:

Julia Hug, WFP Lebanon:
julia.hug@wfp.org

www.wfp.org