

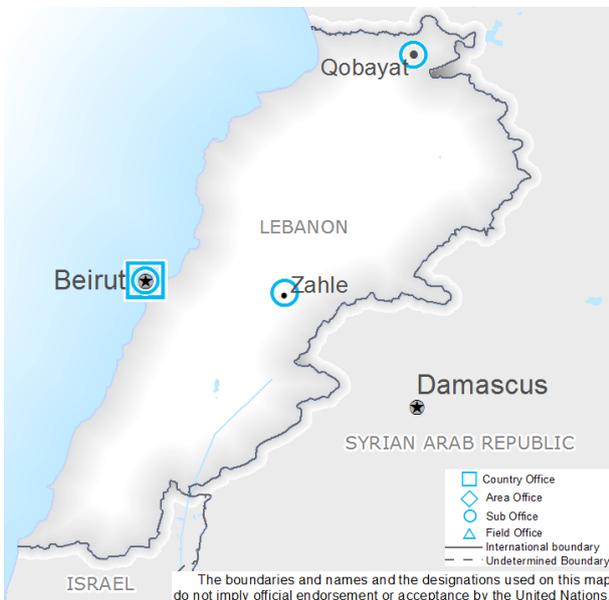


WFP/Edward Johnson



World Food Programme

Lebanon: Syria Crisis Response



Context and WFP Response

- UNHCR has registered over 1.1 million Syrians in Lebanon, representing the world's highest per capita concentration of refugees compared to its population. It is an influx that is placing significant strain on existing resources and host communities.
- As the Syria crisis continues, WFP - the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger - is increasingly relied upon to provide life-saving assistance to an extraordinary number of refugees. However, massive regional funding gaps in 2015 meant that tough decisions were made to prioritise less assistance to the neediest refugee households. WFP now provides only 80 percent of its intended ration to refugees. With sustained constraints, WFP will be unable to meet the basic food needs of those refugees.

See WFP's dynamic map here: <http://bit.ly/1Wfu6W0>

Numbers

November: 603,423 people targeted with USD 21.6

December: 595,134 people targeted with USD 21.6

January: 595,134 people targeted with USD 21.6

Since 2013, WFP has injected over **USD 550 million** directly into the Lebanese economy through the e-card programme.

WFP's shortfall to March 2016: USD 14 million

WFP's shortfall to June 2016: USD 73 million

Highlights

- In December, WFP assisted 595,134 Syrian refugees with USD 21.6. WFP continues to maintain a 'capping at five' concept however, meaning that the maximum amount of assistance one household can receive is USD 108.
- WFP is preparing to launch a pilot school feeding programme in January, benefiting 10,000 Lebanese and Syrian pupils.

- In Lebanon, WFP provides assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugees and Palestinian refugees from Syria through e-cards and cash transfers. E-cards are the principal modality of assistance as local markets are capable of providing sufficient food. Additionally, they allow beneficiaries to choose preferred foods. Since 2013, WFP has injected over USD 550 million directly into the local economy.
- WFP provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Affairs through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP). Through it, vulnerable Lebanese receive USD 30 per person per month.
- The 2015 multi-sectoral *Vulnerability Assessment of Refugees (VASyR)* in Lebanon shows a continued deterioration of the food security situation across Lebanon compared to 2014. Specifically:
 - ◇ 70% of households are below the poverty line (US\$3.84/person/day),
 - ◇ 52% are below the survival minimum expenditure basket,
 - ◇ 61% are applying emergency and crisis coping strategies,
 - ◇ 11% are food secure, and
 - ◇ 23% are moderately food insecure.

WFP Assistance

- In December, WFP assisted 595,134 Syrian refugees with USD 21.6. WFP continues to maintain a 'capping at five' concept however, meaning that the maximum amount of assistance one household can receive is USD 108.
- WFP also assisted 20,142 Palestinian refugees through UNRWA's ATM cards as well as 27,208 vulnerable Lebanese through a separate e-card programme.
- In January, WFP plans to assist the same 595,134 Syrian refugees with USD 21.6.
- In January, WFP also intends to launch a pilot school feeding project. 10,000 Lebanese and Syrian pupils will receive snacks in school over the coming nine months.

Food Security Sector

- The overall amount required under the sector for 2016 is USD 473.5 million. Within this amount, USD 22.9 million is required for in-kind food assistance and USD 344.8 for cash-based interventions. The overall food assistance requirements for 2016 are USD 367.8 million.

Partnerships

- WFP works closely with the Government of Lebanon and has key relations with the Ministry of Social Affairs. WFP is strengthening partnerships with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education. Maintaining and building on these partnerships is key to WFP's long-term planning as it looks at diversifying interventions.
- For its e-card activities, WFP works with seven non-governmental partners in Lebanon: ACF, Danish Refugee Council, InterSOS, Mercy Corps, Première Urgence—Aide Médicale Internationale, Save the Children and World Vision.

- WFP continues to liaise closely with the American University of Beirut (AUB) on the development of a new targeting formula which will assist with enhancing 2016 targeting.

Resourcing Update

- An additional USD 14 million to maintain operations until March 2016.
- WFP Lebanon's biggest donors since 2012 are: Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Norway, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, the United Nations Central Emergency Relief Fund, UNHCR, the United States of America and the World Bank.

Impact of Limited Funds

- With insufficient rations—now at 80 percent of the intended value of USD 27 per person per month, beneficiaries have been forced to adopt coping mechanisms with long term detrimental effects.
- Beneficiaries continue to reduce sizes and frequencies of meals, withdrawing children from school to work, begging, relying on debts and borrowing, searching for additional—illegal—employment often in high risk fields, or contemplating returning to Syria.

Contacts

Information management: Edward Johnson
<edward.johnson@wfp.org> +961 76320761

Information management: Seonghee Choi
<seonghee.choi@wfp.org> +961 76320586

WFP's operation in Lebanon					
	Project duration	Planned number of people	Requirements to March 2016 (in USD)	Refugees assisted with e-cards	
				Reached (December)*	Planned (January)
EMOP 200433	Jul 2012 — Dec 2016	2 130 228	14 million	595 134	595 134

* Pending reconciliation

The next report will be available in early February

wfp.org/countries/lebanon