

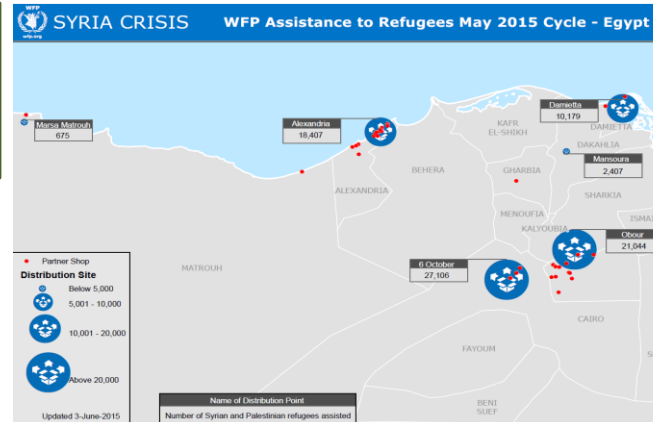
USD 1,257,664 were injected into local economy through vouchers/e-cards in **May 2015**

MAY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Total of **79,935** beneficiaries were reached during May distribution (**77,118** Syrian and **2,817** Syrian Palestinian Refugees), meeting almost **99%** of the month's target.
- The reduced voucher value will continue to be US\$17 per person per month instead of planned US\$24.2, applying 30% reduction.
- Shift from geographic to vulnerability targeting of registered Syrian refugees started in May 2015. The targeting approach is being adopted based on vulnerability categorization ranking from 1 to 4, deriving from a combination of socio-economic and food security factors that are assessed at each registered household level and resulted in exclusion of 6,800 low vulnerability individuals.
- Vulnerability targeting results (*approx. 59,000*) have been applied to Syrian refugees residing in Greater Cairo, representing approximately 63 percent of registered Syrian refugees in Egypt. Vulnerability-based assistance in other governorates is planned to be implemented in the following months.
- Refugees excluded from WFP food assistance are given possibility to appeal this decision.
- Through targeted approach, the current caseload is estimated to be reduced by approximately 30 percent in the second quarter of 2015.
- In connection with May distribution cycle, e-cards modality with Fathallah supermarkets' chain has been launched in Alexandria. Egypt EMOP currently uses Carrefour electronic shop gift cards in Greater Cairo, covering 60 percent of the caseload; shift to the e-card modality with Fathallah leaves only 15 percent of the caseload still using paper vouchers (*Hyper supermarkets chain, in Damietta*)
- Prioritization plans in case of need of further funding cuts in the Region have been prepared, applying scenarios of 50 and 40 percent of funding availability. For both scenarios, targeting thresholds will be reviewed to adjust the number of beneficiaries to available funding, as well as voucher value decreased (however, not below 50 percent voucher value per beneficiary).

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

- In spite of the deterioration in food security levels compared to the last quarter of 2014, WFP-assisted Syrian refugees managed to maintain their level of food consumption level stable since beginning of 2015. However, it has been observed that such stabilization in terms of diversity and frequency of food consumption was actually associated with increased level of stress of assisted Syrian refugees, presumably related to the cuts in voucher value that occurred in January.
- In particular, the post distribution monitoring exercise has revealed notable increases in the implementation of both food consumption-based strategies – e.g. borrowing food from relatives and friends, limiting portion size – and asset-depletion ones, such as spending savings and reducing health/education expenditures.
- Food prices have increased by 1.4 percent during the month of April, mainly driven by a 6.4 percent increase in vegetable prices, and a 4.5 percent increase in fruit prices.
- Food prices will possibly further increase pushed by an expected higher demand during the month of Ramadan that will start in mid-June. Further increases in prices are also expected in July with a scheduled increase in electricity prices and a possible introduction of the Value Added Tax (VAT) before July 2015. On 23 April, the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) decided on not to further decrease interest rates and instead keep it unchanged to avoid inflationary pressures and ensure price stability.



Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:
Status:

120,000
Refugees



131,782
109%

89,371
Direct beneficiaries



79,935
89%

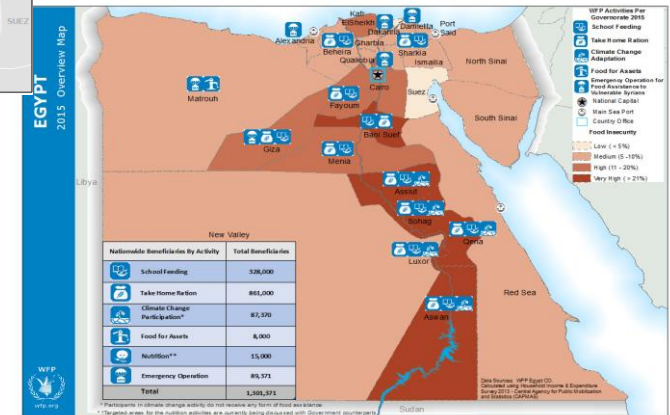
70.64M USD
Sector Funding



\$6,419,063
9%

HIGHLIGHTS on Resilience :

- WFP seeks to help the Government reach the neediest food insecure people more effectively and efficiently by (1) Strengthening National Institutions that Support Food Security; (2) Enhancing Access to Education and Combatting Child Labour; (3) Building Resilience of Vulnerable Groups; and (4) Supporting Nutrition.
- WFP Egypt aims to provide food assistance in the form of school snacks in order to enhance children's access to and attendance in pre-primary and primary education, and contribute to combatting child labour and building resilience for



REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: MAY 2015

of Syrian and Syrian Palestinian Refugees in the Community (boys/girls 5-18 years old)

