

REGIONAL OVERVIEW: RRP5 Update - September 2013

FOOD



TARGETS



2,067,803

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



197,500

Host Families in Lebanon



156,700

Lebanese returnees



120

staff of public/private service providers as well as beneficiary farmers



716.6 million USD required

NEEDS

The most vulnerable of the Syrian refugees, both in camps and outside of camps, often struggle to find sufficient resources to cover the needs of their families. Efforts are made, especially with the support of WFP, to provide food assistance or the equivalent purchasing power to secure food for vulnerable people of concern. 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.

Under WFP's auspices, and with other RRP5 partners, vouchers and e-card methodology to distribute assistance is increasingly identified as a more efficient means of food assistance and moreover supports local economies. School-age children also benefit through increased enrollment and retention in formal education when provided with healthy school snacks. 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 SEPTEMBER DEVELOPMENTS

In **Lebanon**, an Information campaign for targeted assistance is ongoing and cash assistance programmes using e-cards started in the South.

In **Jordan**, food vouchers were introduced in camps with plans to double the values in October. Vouchers are used in a variety of local businesses complementing other food distributions. School feeding programme being piloted.

The Government of **Turkey** sets and implements food policies for Syrian refugees there and a large number of Syrians are now supported with e-food cards in 14 camps. Assistance through the e-voucher system continues and an estimated 10.5 million meals were prepared during September.

In **Iraq**, individual food rations and food vouchers are distributed to refugees in camps and the distribution of monthly family food rations to new arrivals has continued. The recent influx of Syrian refugees into the Kurdistan Region has slowed since the closure of the principal border crossings on 12 September in anticipation of regional elections. Planning began for the transition from general food in-kind distribution to a voucher-based distribution system.

Egypt: In September WFP distributed food vouchers worth over US\$1.5 million assisting 53,160 Syrian refugees and 702 Palestinian refugees from Syria in greater Cairo, Damietta and Alexandria. Food voucher distributions for October will target 60,000 Syrian refugees and 1,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria. A request for proposal is being prepared for a OneCard system to provide a more efficient electronic solution for food assistance that can also serve as a common assistance platform with other UN agencies.

ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE



1,583,000 food vouchers distributed to refugees



116,000 refugees in 14 camps across Turkey received e-cards for food



328,000 food parcels were distributed



11,000 school children received date bars and in camp schools



5,456 host community members received agricultural support

WFP Food Assistance Beneficiaries

