



More than USD 8M were injected into local economy through vouchers/ e-cards since **JANUARY 2016**

MAY HIGHLIGHTS:

- May distributions took place from 19 May to 24 May 2016, targeting 66,358 beneficiaries (2,877 Palestinian refugees from Syria and 63,481 Syrian refugees).
- Redemption period from May cycle ended on 31 May 2016.
- Since March 2016, the voucher value has returned to its original value of US\$ 24.2.
- The Egyptian Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR) started on 26 April. During May, data was collected from 1,600 households across Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta.



WFP paper food vouchers, Photo/ WFP

Sector Response Summary:



166,400 Refugees & Local Community Members targeted for assistance by end of 2016, 202,190 assisted in 2016.



Syrian Refugees in EGYPT :



107,000 Syrian Refugees expected by end-2016, 117,700 currently registered or awaiting registration.



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 146.6 million required in 2016, USD 30.7 million received in 2016.



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

- Food insecurity in Egypt remains an issue of household access to food driven by diminishing purchasing power. The average Egyptian household spends more than 40 percent of their income on food, rising to more than 60 percent for the poorest families. The seasonal increase in food prices continues and the gap between inflation rates in producer and consumer prices are growing wider in 2016.
 - Fluctuations in foreign currency reserves and exchange rates remain a risk to food access for vulnerable people, as Egypt is a net food importer, importing approximately 60 percent of its wheat requirements. The exchange rate which was devalued by 14% in March is expected to see another devaluation towards the end of 2016 up to EGP/USD 9.8. The leap in foreign exchange rates has directly affected domestic inflation rates, imposing addition risks on vulnerable and food insecure households. Therefore, the government raised the value of assistance transferred through food subsidy system by 20 percent effective June 2016.
 - The implementation plan's beneficiary caseload is planned to 70,877 for the year 2016.
- Monitoring findings:**
- In the first quarter of 2016, Egypt Country office piloted the Food Security Outcome monitoring (FSOM) system. A total of 444 interviews were conducted; 222 with beneficiaries and 222 with excluded beneficiaries based on UNHCR vulnerability assessment exercise. In addition to this, M&E team together with the Emergency Response Team conducted two types of FGDs in Alexandria and Damietta; one with current WFP beneficiaries and the other with WFP excluded beneficiaries.
 - The first quarterly report, covering the period from January to March 2016, revealed that 6.2 percent of excluded beneficiary respondents were recorded to have a 'poor food consumption score' in comparison to 1.4 percent of beneficiary respondents. The Diet Diversity Score (DDS) was found to be 'medium' for most of interviewed households, for both beneficiaries and excluded beneficiaries, showing a relative diversified diet composed of different nutrients.
 - In the first quarter a total of four Focus Group Discussions took place in two of the targeted governorates (Alexandria and Damietta). The discussions in Alexandria revealed that the top three spending priorities were as follows: medicine, food, and personal expenditure. In Damietta WFP beneficiaries prioritize food, followed by education and health. In regard to excluded beneficiaries, in both governorates the first spending priority was rent.
 - WFP Hotline and WFP Facebook page: The majority of registered queries and complains during May were

HIGHLIGHTED 2

Resilience:

- In October 2015, WFP launched operations to support public primary schools funded by the Government of Canada, to support Syrian refugees and the host population in Alexandria and Damietta.
- Actual implementation of the project started on the second week of the academic year 2015/16, with the daily distribution of nutritious High Energy Biscuits (HEB) in the target of 130 schools hosting Syrian refugee children.
- Distributions were on halt during May due to examinations followed by the summer holidays. WFP will resume distributions when the new semester begins at the end of September 2016.

EGYPT RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - MAY 2016

