

More than USD 1.5M were injected into local economy through vouchers/ e-cards since **JANUARY 2016**

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS:

- April distributions took place from 19 April to 25 April 2016, targeting 65,959 beneficiaries (2,947 Palestinian refugees from Syria and 63,012 Syrian refugees).
- Redemption period from April cycle is until 7 May 2016.
- Since March 2016, the voucher value has returned to its original value of US\$ 24.2.
- The Egypt Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR) started on April 26 in Damietta and on May 3 in Alexandria.

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. Net international reserves increased to USD 17 billion at end of April, compared to USD 16.6 billion at end of March. However this is probably associated with the recent unsustainable incoming financial support from the Gulf countries. The imposed restrictions on exchange market transactions are feeding into fiercer speculations on the pound, pushing up the exchange rate in the parallel unofficial market.
- The implementation plan's beneficiary caseload is planned to 70,877 for the year 2016.

Monitoring findings:

- With the current inflation in Egypt and the reduction in voucher value and funding based prioritization, a dynamic system was introduced in the whole region. The system will monitor those currently receiving assistance and those that have been excluded, based vulnerability criteria, in order to show the changes in their food security status.
- The new system is called Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM). FSOM is an enhanced PDM including non-beneficiaries on a quarterly basis. FSOM system includes two toolkits, FSOM interviews and FSOM focus group discussions with current WFP beneficiaries and excluded ones.
- In the first quarter of 2016, Egypt Country office piloted FSOM system. The team conducted 444 interviews; 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. Data collected is currently being analysed and will be presented in quarter two.
- WFP Hotline and WFP Facebook page: The majority of registered queries and complains during April were related to previous removals from WFP food assistance (31%) and the assessment results (23%) which was

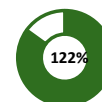


WFP paper food vouchers, Photo/ WFP

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, 120,500 currently registered or awaiting registration.



3RP Overall Funding Status:



USD 146.6 million required in 2016, USD 14.6 million received in 2016.



EGYPT RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY - APRIL 2016

