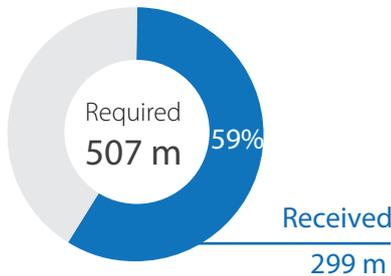


The dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Food Security and Agriculture sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Promote food availability; OUTCOME 2) Promote food accessibility; OUTCOME 3) Promote food utilization; OUTCOME 4) Promote stabilization.

2018 Funding Status
as of 31 December 2018

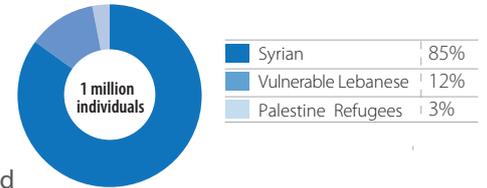


Targeted Population groups

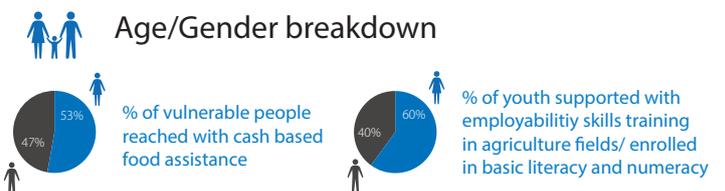
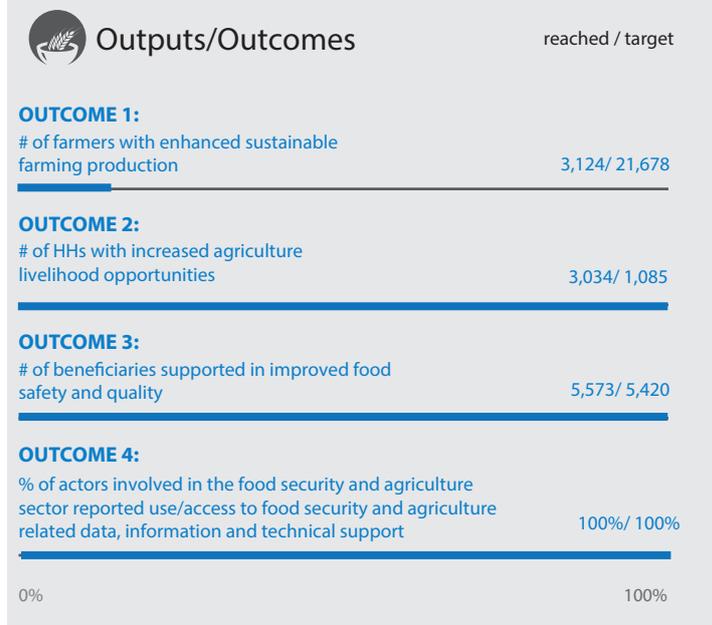
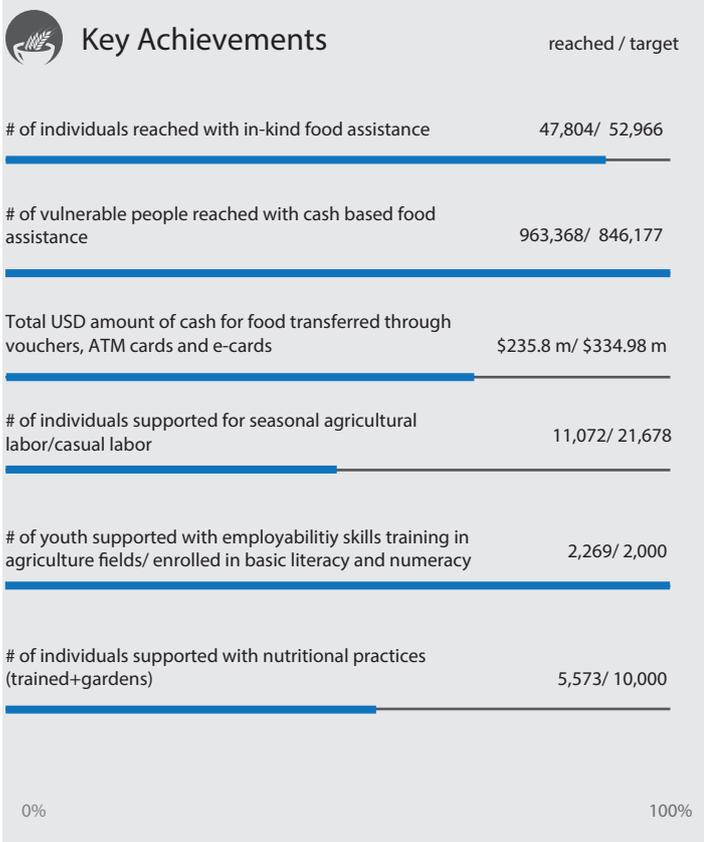
2 m (People in Need)



Population reached by cohort

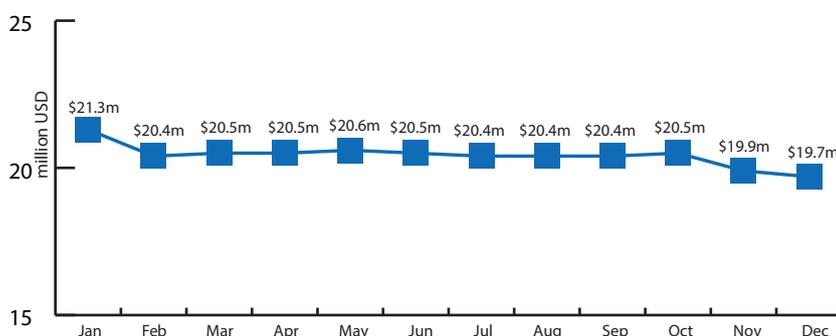


Progress against targets

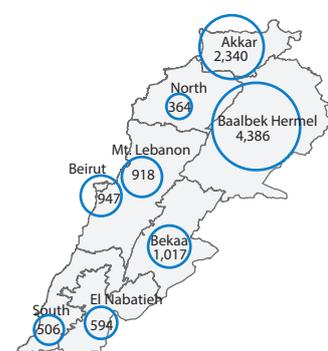


Analysis

Amount of USD injected in the cash based food assistance system



of individuals supported for seasonal agricultural labor/casual labor



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Up to **1,011,172** vulnerable individuals¹ received food assistance exceeding the target 899,143 individuals using different Cash based and in-kind (parcels) and ready to eat food assistance.
- Up to **826,578** displaced Syrians, representing 53 percent females 47 percent males received food assistance through e-cards thus exceeding the target.
- 3,124** individuals (26 percent females and 74 percent males) among those most vulnerable farmers were trained and provided with agricultural inputs.
- 32,399** Palestine refugees from Syria (50 percent females and 50 percent males) were provided with food assistance through e-card up to July due to the United States Government decision to reduce support for UNRWA.
- Up to **98,239** vulnerable Lebanese (51 percent males 49 percent females) received food assistance monthly through e-card under the National Poverty Targeting Program framework.
- 2,269** youth aged 15-25 from January to December 2018 enrolled in agriculture schools and literacy classes training in agriculture and employability skills, basic literacy and numeracy skill related to agriculture. For the last four months, **921** youth were enrolled.
- Up to **11,072** vulnerable individuals were employed temporarily as casual and seasonal agricultural laborers, creating **28,564** job man-days.
- USD **235.8** million of cash for food was transferred through vouchers, ATM cards and e-cards from January to December 2018.



Facts and Figures

90%	Of Syrians Displaced HHs present some level of food insecurity ¹
33%	Of Syrians Displaced HHs are moderately to severely food insecure ¹
32%	Of Syrians Displaced HHs depend on food voucher/ecard for income source ¹
63%	Of Syrians Displaced HHs adopt emergency and crisis coping strategies ¹
51%	Of Syrians Displaced HHs unable to cover SMEB ¹ (Survival Minimum Expenditures Basket)
10%	Of Lebanese HHs vulnerable to food insecurity ²
73%	Of Farmers in need of agriculture support ²
94.5%	Of PRS are food insecure ³

Data Sources:

¹ Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VaSyr 2018)

² Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Host Communities (FSLA 2015)

³ AUB UNRWA 2015

KEY CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS LCRP IMPACT(S)

The Food Security and Agriculture Sector aims at reducing the percentage of food insecurity among all vulnerable population groups in Lebanon, hence improving food security stabilization in the country and the resilience of the Lebanese agricultural farmers and host communities. The most vulnerable groups in need of assistance are the displaced Syrians (1.5 million), the Palestinian refugees from Syria (28 800), the Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (180 000) and the vulnerable Lebanese farmers (170 000).

The 2018 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees results demonstrate an increasing trend in the proportion of food secure households, reaching 10 percent of total households. The assessment shows the proportion of the marginally food insecure households increasing by 4 percent to 57 percent, while the proportion of moderate and severe food-insecure households decreased by 4.5 percent to reach 33 percent.

During 2018, the sector contributed to the LCRP Strategic Objectives 2, 3 and 4. Under the second objective, Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations, up to 1 033 210 individuals received food assistance, in kind and cash-based, representing a 112-percent achievement against the established target of 920 821 individuals.

Under the third objective "Support service provision through national systems", the sector supported services of the Ministry of Agriculture through trainings in integrated pest management and in child labour. It supported the Green Plan, institution in charge of land reclamation by farmers, with trainings in management, procurement, and in monitoring and evaluation (M&E); and provided support to seven technical agricultural schools of the Ministry in reviewing the formal baccalauréat technique curriculum.

In addition, the sector supported the Ministry of Social Affairs' social development centres enhancing their delivery of social welfare and services under the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) for the food assistance component through cash-based transfer system. In addition, the sector organized training on the use of mobile monitoring tools within the framework of digitizing the NPTP food voucher M&E tools, and training for more than 200 social workers and coordinators on the use of mobile data collection tool.

The sector provided support the Ministry of Education and Higher Education through school-feeding activities provided to 24 000 students enrolled in the public education system in order to enhance school attendance and retention rates. The sector also developed a comprehensive nutrition activities package, highlighting food sources, food groups, and the importance of healthy eating, for use by health educators for all grades from kindergarten to grade nine.

Under the fourth objective of the LCRP, Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social, institutional and environmental stability, the sector continued promoting labour-intensive projects for casual and seasonal jobs, for Lebanese and Syrians. In 2018, interventions included the rehabilitation and construction of water networks, market places and irrigation canals. The land reclamation project created 6 672 casual jobs (i.e. 40 530 working days) for construction of water reservoirs and for land rehabilitation. In addition, the sector supported businesses to generate income for local economies across Lebanon with a special emphasis on micro, small and medium enterprises, including WFP-contracted shop and women cooperatives.

CHALLENGES

The sector has to ensure that all vulnerable communities and households have access to sufficient and nutritious food and understand how to manage sustainable agriculture production systems.

Those challenges lead to three potential accelerators:

- With improvement of food availability and accessibility, through in-kind and cash-based assistance and through sustainable agriculture livelihoods, food security and food production increase among vulnerable households and communities, and therefore ensuring that a big proportion of the vulnerable groups do not fall back into poverty.
- Improvement of food use through the production and consumption of more diverse and nutritious foods, from individual households and community gardens applying sustainable and climate-smart practices, induce a strengthening of the resilience and nutritional well-being of vulnerable communities. It then empowers vulnerable families to climb out of poverty and become self-reliant.
- When the sector reinforces the capacity of municipalities, communities and targeted households with knowledge and information on issues such as sustainable agricultural practices, natural resources management and food market prices, then agricultural productivity increases, and the condition of renewable natural resources improves. It leads to improve competitiveness and create adequate job and livelihood opportunities for vulnerable women and men.

KEY PRIORITIES AND GAPS FORESEEN IN 2019

The sector priority will continue providing life-saving, in-kind and cash-based, food assistance for the most vulnerable households so that food is available and accessed to them. In addition, the sector will develop environmentally sustainable solutions through support to human capital, agriculture livelihoods and agriculture production systems, with a special focus on women, youth, children and persons in need.

The focus on agricultural livelihoods will create a win-win situation for displaced Syrians and host communities with investments in the agriculture sector providing means to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of relevant agriculture-based value chains. It will improve livelihoods for farming communities and creating temporary employment opportunities for women and men.

Another priority of the sector remains the support to national and local food security systems, including integrated social protection schemes, safety nets, capacity building and promotion of stabilization.

The sector will also advocate for an enhanced system supporting sustainable rural poverty reduction. Partners will receive policy advice and capacity development. The sector will promote the integration of conflict sensitivity, gender mainstreaming, youth and children, including combatting child labour in agriculture, in all programmes design and interventions in addition to facilitating food access distribution to persons with specific needs and their inclusion in agricultural livelihoods activities.

HUMAN INTEREST STORY

Ministry Staff Member Advocates for Occupational Safety and Health in Agriculture

“Let me show you some pictures!” an enthusiastic Mr. Fouad Wansa answered when we asked him if he benefitted from the two-day FAO training on ‘Child Labour in Agriculture and Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)’. He proceeded in showing us a photo series of his students at the Technical Agriculture School holding pesticide warning signs that he printed himself, and wearing pesticide protection gear.

Fouad Wansa is the Head of the Agricultural Center, an Extension Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture in Marjeyoun, South Lebanon. He also teaches 15-18 year old students at the Technical Agriculture School in the area. Wansa has recently participated in an extensive two-day FAO training on child labour and occupational safety and health in agriculture with special focus on child protection.

“I have always known about harmful effects and protective measures in agricultural labour; but my knowledge only focused on adults, until I started participating in FAO trainings”. Wansa is among 179 participants who attended OSH trainings with emphasis on child protection. These sessions were conducted across the seven Lebanese governorates, targeting Ministry of Agriculture staff, child protection workers, and farmers.

One specific tool used in the training: ‘The Visual Guide on the Protection of Children from Pesticides’ proved to be very beneficial for Wansa. “This was such a simple, practical, clear, and informative tool that helped me transfer this important information to 12 of my young students. I have used this guide and will continue to use it and implement related activities to make learning effective, interactive, and pleasant”. Wansa has also based one of his monthly extension sessions to farmers on the visual guide itself, naming the session: Protect Children from Pesticides.

Wansa took it upon himself to raise awareness on occupational safety and health in agriculture in his area with a focus on child protection. This is not his first training with FAO; he previously participated in an awareness session about the laws and conventions for combating and eliminating the worst forms of child labour. “I now know the right messages, and have great tools to advocate for protective measures for children engaging in agricultural labour. We now have more and more farmers less resistant to reduce child involvement in agricultural practices where young educated farmers fully respect protection measures and are actively working on reducing the harms of the agriculture labour, which is a pretty big success”.

Even though Wansa’s individual activities have proved to be successful, he still believes that more should be done. “We need to raise awareness on the impact of child labour in general, and focus on the effects of pesticides on the health of both farmers and children”. He eagerly says that “we should not stop, and that we need to target employers, parents and the local community; we need more sessions, and informative material like posters and brochures”.

Fouad Wansa’s journey to combat child labour and raise awareness on protective measures in agriculture labour is a journey that, he assures, is still in the beginning but one that will make a difference.

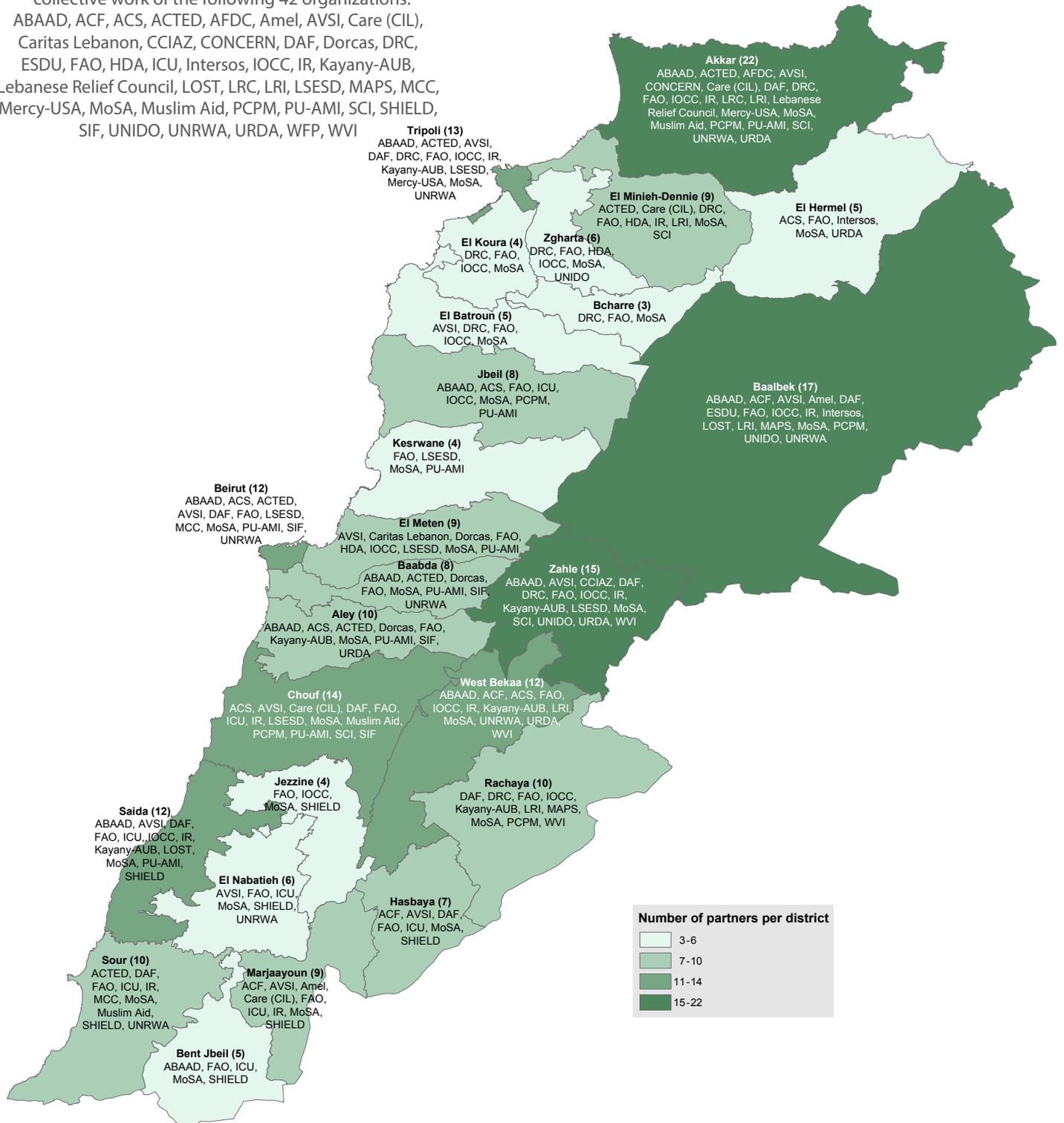


Wansa uses the ‘Visual Guide on the Protection of Children from Pesticides’ during a classroom session to raise awareness on the harmful effects of pesticides and protective measures / ©FAO



Organizations per district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 42 organizations: ABAAD, ACF, ACS, ACTED, AFDC, Amel, AVSI, Care (CIL), Caritas Lebanon, CCIAS, CONCERN, DAF, Dorcas, DRC, ESDU, FAO, HDA, ICU, Intersos, IOCC, IR, Kayany-AUB, Lebanese Relief Council, LOST, LRC, LRI, LSESD, MAPS, MCC, Mercy-USA, MoSA, Muslim Aid, PCPM, PU-AMI, SCI, SHIELD, SIF, UNIDO, UNRWA, URDA, WFP, WVI



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