Situation Update

- UNHCR registered around 1.1 million Syrian refugees in Lebanon. It is the world’s largest concentration of refugees compared to its population. The influx is placing significant strain on Lebanese resources and communities.

- As the Syrian crisis continues, WFP - the world’s largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger - is increasingly relied upon to provide life-saving assistance to an extraordinary number of vulnerable refugees.

The 2015 multi-sectoral Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) in Lebanon shows a continued deterioration of the food security situation among refugees across the country compared to 2014. Specifically:

- 70 percent of households are below the poverty line (USD 3.84/person/day);
- 52 percent of households are below the survival minimum expenditure basket;
- 61 percent of households are applying emergency and crisis coping strategies;
- 11 percent of households are food insecure; and
- 23 percent of households are moderately food insecure.

WFP Response

- In Lebanon, WFP provides assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugees and Palestinian refugees from Syria through e-cards and cash transfers. E-cards are the principle modality of assistance as local markets are capable of providing sufficient food. Additionally, they allow beneficiaries to choose the food they want to eat.

- Massive funding constraints in 2015 meant that tough decisions were made to prioritise less assistance to the neediest refugee households. In 2016, WFP is only able to provide 80 percent of the intended ration of USD 27 to beneficiaries. With such sustained constraints, WFP is

In Numbers

594,899 Syrian refugees were assisted in January with USD 21.6

Highlights

- In January, WFP assisted 594,899 Syrian refugees with USD 21.6. Approximately 52 percent of beneficiaries are female and 48 percent are male.
- In February, WFP will launch a nine month school feeding pilot project for 10,000 Lebanese and Syrian pupils.

Funding Update

Regional emergency operation

WFP’s regional emergency operation (EMOP 200433) requires USD 131 million between February and April, equivalent to USD 10 million per week.

Requirements

WFP Lebanon immediately requires an additional USD 11 million to implement operations from February to April. Over the coming six months, an additional USD 70 million is needed.
unable to meet the basic needs of the beneficiaries.

- Since 2013, WFP has injected over half a billion dollars directly into the Lebanese economy.
- WFP provides assistance to the Ministry of Social Affairs through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP). Through the programme, vulnerable Lebanese receive USD 30 per month for food.

Food Assistance

- In January, WFP assisted 594,899 Syrian refugees with USD 21.6. That assistance is limited to five persons in a household, meaning that the maximum a household can receive is USD 108 in a month. In February, WFP intends to assist the same refugees with USD 21.6.
- WFP also assisted 20,000 Palestinian refugees through UNRWA’s ATM card programme as well as 27,000 vulnerable Lebanese by providing technical assistance to the government’s NPTP programme.
- In February, WFP will launch a nine month school feeding pilot project. 10,000 Lebanese and Syrian pupils will receive snacks upon suitable school attendance.

Food Security Sector

- In 2016, sector priorities have been established to:
  - Provide direct and critical food assistance to ensure improved food availability through in-kind food assistance for example with food parcels and community kitchens, and improved food access through cash-based transfers for food;
  - Improve agricultural livelihoods by increasing production capacity of vulnerable small-scale farmers and by increasing employment opportunities in the food and agriculture sector;
  - Improve nutrition practices and households’ dietary diversity; and
  - Strengthen food security information systems and coordination mechanisms.

Logistics Cluster

- In January, WFP dispatched 5,500 metric tons of bulgur, chickpeas, lentils, vegetable oil and white beans by road from Beirut Port to Damascus for WFP’s emergency operation inside Syria.

Partnerships

- WFP works closely with the Lebanese government and has key relationships with the Ministry of Social Affairs. WFP is also strengthening partnerships with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. Maintaining and building upon these relationships is key to WFP’s long-term planning as it looks at diversifying interventions.
- For its e-card activities, WFP works with eight non-governmental organisations: Action Contre La Faim, Danish Refugee Council, InterSOS, Mercy Corps, Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale, Save the Children, SHEILD and World Vision.
- WFP continues to liaise closely with the American University of Beirut on the development of a new targeting formula which will assist with accurately identifying the most vulnerable populations.

Resourcing Update

- WFP urgently requires an additional USD 70 million to continue its operation until July.
- WFP Lebanon’s biggest donors since 2012 are: Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Norway, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, the United Nations Central Emergency Relief Fund, UNHCR, the United States of America and the World Bank.

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WFP Lebanon’s Operation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total 2016 Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (in USD)</th>
<th>6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>People Reached (in January)</th>
<th>Female (approximate)</th>
<th>Male (approximate)</th>
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<tr>
<td>EMOP 200433</td>
<td>237 764 742</td>
<td>49 000 000</td>
<td>119 000 000</td>
<td>594 899</td>
<td>309 867</td>
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