



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Lebanon Country Brief March 2019

## In Numbers



**733,682 people assisted**  
in March 2019

**US\$ 24 m** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 68.2 m** six months (April–September 2019) net funding requirements

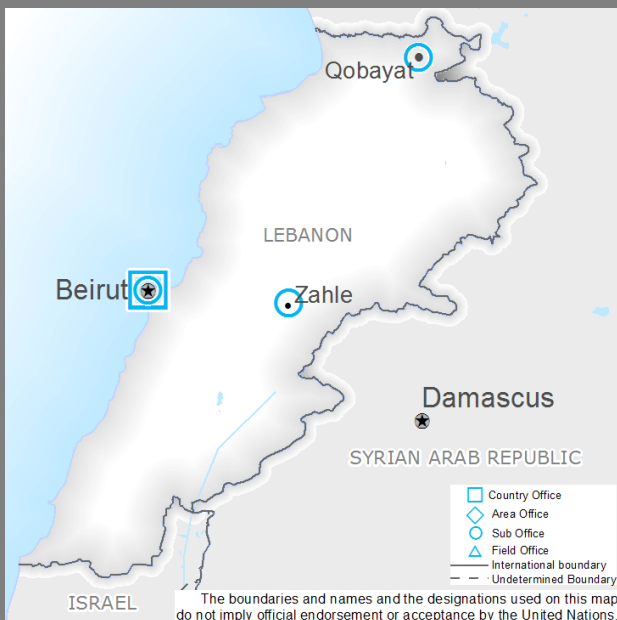
### Operational Context

Lebanon is classified as an upper middle-income country. The current Human Development Index (HDI) value is 0.763 – in the high human development category – positioning the country at 80 out of 188 countries and territories.

With six million people living in a land area of just 10,000 square kilometres on the eastern Mediterranean coast, Lebanon is small and densely populated.

As of March 2019, 944,613 Syrian refugees have been registered in Lebanon by UNHCR. The massive influx of refugees has placed a significant strain on existing resources and host communities.

WFP has been present in Lebanon since 2012.



Population: **6.0 million**

2018 Human Development Index:  
**80 out of 188**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Gross National Income per capita:  
**US\$13,312**

### Operational Updates

- Alongside representatives from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) and the Canadian Embassy, WFP distributed its five millionth school snack in March. Through the programme, WFP provides vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian students with a locally-produced nutritious daily snack.
- Confirmation was received from MEHE for WFP to establish school kitchens in six schools participating in the school snack programme. This will allow the preparation of healthy sandwiches each day for both Lebanese and Syrian children on site.
- Validations began for recipients of WFP's multi-purpose cash assistance across Lebanon. The exercise is designed to ensure that the right families have the right e-cards and allows WFP to ensure that its finite cash assistance is being channelled to the most economically vulnerable families. Preparations are ongoing for a self-validation exercise throughout Lebanon using biometric technology in 170 branches of Liban Post and Cash United.
- WFP's smartphone app, Dalili, which allows users to view their closest WFP-contracted shops and compare food item prices across WFP-contracted stores, was downloaded 22,000 times since the launch of the app.

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**Photo Caption:** WFP's renovated farmers' market in Baalbeck provides farmers with a safer and cleaner space to sell their produce. WFP/Edward Johnson.

Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>885.1 m</b>	<b>602.0 m</b>
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (April–September 2019)
<b>312.5 m</b>	<b>68.2 m</b>

**Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food**

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food-insecure refugees – including school-age children – and crisis-affected host populations have access to life-saving, nutritious and affordable food throughout the year  
**Focus area:** Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food (CBTs)
  - School meal activities (cash and in-kind)

**Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes**

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable women and men in targeted refugee and Lebanese communities sustainably improve their skills, capacities and livelihood opportunities by 2020  
**Focus area:** Resilience-building

- Activities:**
- Individual capacity strengthening activities (CBTs)
  - Asset creation and livelihood support activities (CBTs)

**Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food**

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable populations in Lebanon are enabled to meet their basic food needs all year long  
**Focus area:** Root causes

- Activities:**
- Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food (CBT)

**Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs**

**Strategic Outcome 4:** National institutions and national and international humanitarian actors are supported in their efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of their assistance  
**Focus area:** Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Institutional capacity strengthening activities

Monitoring

- February monitoring showed increased food consumption scores for WFP’s multi-purpose cash and food e-card recipients. Food consumption patterns remained stable for those receiving cash-for-food, but the percentage of households with poor consumption decreased by 2 percent.
- Multi-purpose cash households adopted fewer food coping strategies.
- Food remains the biggest expenditure for all households, followed by rent and medical expenses.

Beneficiary story

How handmade briquettes are fuelling fires and memories in Lebanon

As a teenager, Ghassan visited Lebanon’s Chouf forests on a long summer family holiday. He has vivid memories of day-long picnics and football matches in forests with piles of pine cones as goalposts. He and his cousins roasted birds on small fires they lit at sunset and left to crackle through the night as they fell asleep beneath the star-lit sky.

Fifteen years later, Ghassan returned to the same hillside beside the sleepy town of Baakline that he once visited. This time he came with his wife and two sons, but not as tourists. Now they are refugees.

Read more [here](#) about how funds from Germany are helping Lebanese and Syrians in Lebanon.

Donors

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