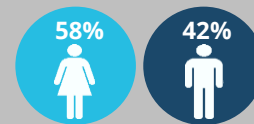




SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Lebanon Country Brief April 2019

In Numbers



729,319 people assisted
in April 2019

US\$ 24 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 79.7 m six months (May–October 2019) net funding requirements

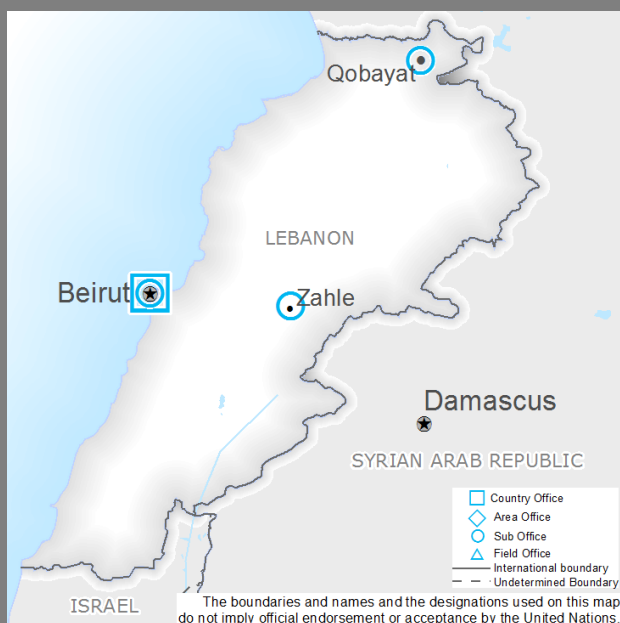
Operational Context

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 April 2019, 938,531 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

- Across March and April, WFP and UNHCR jointly conducted a validation exercise of refugee households receiving multi-purpose cash and cash for food to verify the presence of refugees in country and confirm that the right household is still in possession of the correct e-card. The validation exercise was attended by 55,264 households out of the 57,166 invited. Refugee identity is validated using biometric technology.
- Starting in May, WFP will be rolling out a self-validation model, beginning with a pilot throughout May to test the functionality of the new system, followed by a planned full roll-out of the system in June for households receiving multi-purpose cash. The self-validation model will increase the number of validation sites accessible to refugees from the current 16 sites to 170 across the country. Validation centres will be in Liban Post and Cash United branches, with the aim of making the process more streamlined for refugees to access any of the sites to complete the exercise.
- As a part of the school snacks programme, in April WFP began kitchen rehabilitation in six new schools that will participate in a school kitchen pilot, in line with the list selected from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) in March. With the introduction of school kitchens, nutritious and fresh traditional sandwiches will be prepared on site, serving students in both morning and afternoon shifts.
- On 11 April, WFP hosted the final training of MEHE school health educators in schools piloting WFP's nutrition education materials, as a part of MEHE's health curriculum for primary aged students in grades KG1-9. The workshop was attended by 36 school health educators, representing 22 public schools. Training topics included: 'Healthy Food Choices' and 'Breakfast and Healthy Meals'. The nutrition education materials will be rolled out in selected pilot schools in next year's academic curriculum.

Contact info: wfp.lebanon@wfp.org
Country Director: Abdallah Alwardat
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Lebanon

Photo Caption: A WFP food for training (FFT) programme participant.
WFP/Edward Johnson.

Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

| Total Requirements (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 885.1 m | 602.0 m |
| 2019 Requirements (in USD) | Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (May–October 2019) |
| 312.5 m | 79.7 m |

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

- During the month of April, 2,237 vulnerable Lebanese and 2,316 Syrians participated in Food for Assets (FFA) and Food for Training (FFT) activities, benefiting almost 22,800 indirect beneficiaries. FFA activities included: reforestation, rehabilitation of trails, trainings on forest management, and forest fire prevention. FFT activities included: technical and vocational education training (TVET), food preservation, digital skills, and life skills.

- WFP launched a call for proposals for the 2019/2020 selection of cooperating partners to lead FFA and forestry activities in pre-selected vulnerable municipalities located across the country. The selected partners will begin project implementation in July 2019.

Monitoring

- Midline data collection of WFP's assistance to refugee's impact study took place throughout April and is expected to be completed in early May. A total of 1,750 households are to be sampled from three refugee groups: food e-card beneficiaries, multi-purpose cash beneficiaries, and refugees not assisted with WFP cash. The same households were visited in October 2018 to gather baseline data.
- School meal activities will now be reported in the next quarterly Education Dashboard of MEHE's Reaching All Children with Education (RACE II) strategy which is coordinated by the Education Sector.

Challenges

- Clearance from the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) for the midline data collection of WFP's impact study in the Beqaa area was delayed until the end of April. As a result, the deadline for data collection for the Beqaa area was extended into early May in order to complete the midline before the commencement of Ramadan.

Beneficiary story

Cultivating seeds and dreams in Lebanon

The local organisation *Buzuruna Juzuruna* ('our seeds, our roots'), the Amel organisation and WFP are running a vast curriculum of sustainable agriculture trainings for Lebanese and Syrian participants, as a part of WFP's Food for Training (FFT) activities. The list of classes includes, among others: tree management and grafting, bee keeping, composting, seed cultivation, production of organic pesticides and fertilizers, and wheat and bread production.

A Lebanese farmer participant, Ali, explained the benefits of the fertilizer workshop. "I have 300,000 sq metres of land which is expensive to run. But now I've gone organic and I'm saving enough to buy more tools. Non-organic fertilizer is \$40 a kilo. Organic fertilizer costs me nothing."

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

Donors

Australia, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, Norway, Republic of Korea, Private Donors, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States of America