

World Food Programme

SAVING

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LIVES

# WFP Lebanon Country Brief May 2019

## **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 May 2019, 935,454 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.



# **In Numbers**

738,627 people assisted in May 2019

US\$ 24 m cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 88.4 m** six months (June–November 2019) net funding requirements

## **Operational Updates**

- WFP's self-validation exercise has started with a soft launch in May, piloting 1,000 households receiving multi-purpose cash assistance. Ninety-one percent of the invited cases were validated, and beneficiaries expressed their comfort and satisfaction with the new process. In June 2019, WFP will roll out the WFP self-validation process for the entire multi-purpose cash recipients, expanding the validation sites from 16 to 160 sites, increasing accessibility for beneficiaries across the country.
- Monthly assistance was successfully loaded onto cards of targeted Syrian refugees, Palestinian returnees from Syria (PRS), as well as vulnerable Lebanese registered with the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP). Assistance to refugees of other nationalities was also introduced (non-Syrian, non-Palestinian), whereby approximately 9,000 beneficiaries in this category receive USD 27 per person redeemable in ATMs across the country.
- The graduation ceremony for the digital skills programme was organized with the German Embassy and the American University of Beirut (AUB), whereby approximately 560 Lebanese and Syrian students received their certificates. The ceremony was attended by the German ambassador, as well as AUB President and WFP Representative and Country Director. The ceremony was followed by an Opportunities Fair, where students got the chance to meet with tech start-ups and academic institutions for potential training/educational opportunities.

**Photo Caption:** *In May, WFP marked the scale-up of the National Poverty Targeting Programme WFP/Edward Johnson.* 

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## WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
885.1 m	633.1 m
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June–November 2019)
312.5 m	88.4 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
- The National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) scale-up event was organized on 29 May in the presence of Prime Minister Hariri, European Union and German ambassadors along with the Minister of Social Affairs (MoSA) and WFP Representative. During the event, PM Hariri, MoSA and ambassadors met with some of the vulnerable Lebanese families benefitting from the assistance at a WFPcontracted shop. The scale-up of the NPTP from 10,000 to 15,000 households under the food assistance component was also announced during the event.

## Monitoring

 Cash impact study midline data collection was completed. A total of 1,538 households were reached out of the 1,750 households previously visited in October 2018 for the baseline. Of those reached in the mid-line, 783 are food e-card beneficiaries, 381 are unrestricted cash beneficiaries and 374 are non-assisted.

### Story

On World Milk Day, WFP counts how much milk it has helped put on people's shelves.

In Lebanon, there's plenty of milk produced. The dairy industry is huge. And, thanks to the World Food Programme (WFP), it's a staple on shelves in homes, schools and shops across the country supporting the sustainability of the dairy sector, economic development, livelihoods and nutrition.

Read more <u>here</u> about this topic.

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