

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Lebanon Country Brief July 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 July 2019, 926,717 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.

The Lebanon Country Strategic Plan, which came into effect in January 2018, is aligned with the Government-endorsed Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (2017–2020), the United Nations Strategic Framework (2017–2020), the Ministry of Agriculture Strategy (2015–2019) and WFP's Vision 2020. It positions WFP as a major partner of the Government and other United Nations agencies in crisis response and towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

WFP has been present in Lebanon since 2012.



# **In Numbers**

**724,142 people assisted** in July 2019

US\$ 24 m cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 113.6 m** six months (Aug 2019 – Jan 2020) net funding requirements

### **Operational Updates**

- In July 2019, WFP has successfully assisted a total of 724,142 beneficiaries through its cash-based transfer modalities amounting to approximately US\$ 24 million. This consisted of 641,011 Syrian refugees, 14,222 Palestinian refugees, 8,888 refugees of other nationalities, 57,426 vulnerable Lebanese through the National Poverty Targeting Programme, and 2,595 Syrians and Lebanese through Livelihoods activities.
- The second cycle of WFP self-validation, covering all Syrian refugees assisted by WFP, started on 22 July and is expected to be completed by end of September. At over 150 locations, beneficiaries are invited to carry out selfvalidation through biometric technology. Validation allows WFP to ensure that the right beneficiaries are still in the country and in possession of their cards to receive the monthly assistance from WFP.
- The Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) team continued focusing on the analysis of the situation of Syrian Refugees. The Vulnerability Assessment for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR) 2019 exercise is currently analysing a dataset comprising information from more than 4,000 households to understand the latest trends in terms of their economic vulnerability, their food security situation and protection issues among others. This data is also instrumental to develop the new Proxy mean test to assess the actual vulnerabilities of all registered and recorded Syrian Refugees. Following discussions on preliminary VASyR results with the Working Groups, official data will be made available via this link: <a href="http://ialebanon.unhcr.org/factbook/">http://ialebanon.unhcr.org/factbook/</a> starting October 2019.</a>
- The first wave of health and nutrition summer camps took place in 8 schools between 1 July and 19 July. A total of 949 children participated. In the camps, nutrition and health in all their aspects (social, emotional, and physical) are addressed through information sessions, and a variety of games, crafts, physical or group activities. The second wave of summer camps began on 22 July in 6 camps and will continue until 9 August.

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**Photo Caption:** WFP Livelihoods project participant, during one of the sewing training sessions. *WFP/Edward Johnson* 



# WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
1.25 bn	653 m
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (August 2019–January 2020)
413.3 m	113.6 m

WFP Lebanon's CSP is currently active until December 2020. An extension of the CSP until December 2021 is scheduled for approval by the WFP Executive Board in Q4 2019.

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
- A new cycle of Food for Assets activities for the construction and rehabilitation of agriculture infrastructure was launched on 15 July. Activities include the construction and rehabilitation of irrigation canals, agricultural roads, storm water drainage canals, and rehabilitation of a market. The activities will engage more than 5,500 participants for 2019 and 2020.

## Monitoring

- As part of WFP's efforts to build national capacities for the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), WFP supported the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) with the development of the data collection tool on Open Data Kit (ODK) and trained 200 MoSA staff on data collection in July. As part of the expansion of the NPTP programme, households will be visited to verify their eligibility for assistance followed by baseline data collection (including information on food security indicators, expenditures, and other cross-cutting indicators) to support MoSA in the analysis of NPTP household profiles.
- The Lebanese American University (LAU) was selected to carry out an assessment of the Health & Nutrition summer camps. The study is expected to provide insights on the camps' content, format, and lessons learnt. Knowledge data is collected at the start and completion of the camps; whereas key informant interviews and focus group discussions take place throughout the camps period.

## **Story Worth Telling**

### Weaving a tapestry of skills

There are 18 women in a classroom, surrounded by a colourful sea of fabric, needles, spools of thread and scissors. They are participants in a sewing class run by Lebanese non-governmental organisation <u>Multi Aid</u> <u>Programs</u> (MAPS). For three days a week, over two months, the women attend the blended theoretical and practical haberdashery classes in MAPS' training centre in the Bekaa Valley. Whilst participating in the course, participants receive a daily wage and travel allowance from WFP.



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