In Numbers

US$24 m cash-based transfers made

US$57.8 m six months net funding requirements (February-July 2020)

771,666 people assisted in January 2020

Operational Context

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 30 December 2019, 914,648 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. Since 26 November, the largely peaceful protests have witnessed increasing violence and tensions. The situation remains volatile as failure to implement urgent economic reforms could cause the devaluation of the Lebanese currency and precipitate in a very serious economic crisis, resulting in scarcity of basic commodities and fuel, inflation, and deepening social crisis/unrest.


WFP has been present in Lebanon since 2012.

Operational Updates

- In January, WFP has assisted a total of 771,666 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 24.6 million. The people assisted were: 647,425 Syrian refugees, 13,591 Palestinian refugees from Syria, 8,726 refugees of other nationalities and 101,924 vulnerable Lebanese.
- To understand the magnitude and extent of the impact of the economic and financial crisis on vulnerable Lebanese, WFP, the World Bank and its partners are preparing to conduct a survey to assess their vulnerability. WFP is currently reviewing different data collection modalities with different sector partners.
- WFP continues to implement the scale-up of the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) food e-card programme in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). In January 2020, a total of 93,682 Lebanese beneficiaries received food assistance through the food e-card, with total cash-based transfers amounting to USD 2.1 million. This represents a total of 13,316 Lebanese households.
- Due to the deterioration of the economic situation in Lebanon and at the request of Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), WFP is working on an urgent expansion of the School Feeding programme (Activity 2) to cover 12,000 additional Lebanese and Syrian students in public schools.
- Jointly with UNHCR, WFP has implemented the results of the Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM) – a system where refugees excluded from the November retargeting exercise can appeal and be re-considered for inclusion in the assistance programmes. This mechanism aims to enhance accountability to refugees. 5,420 households were jointly selected with UNHCR and will be included in the assistance programme as of January 2020. An additional 17 refugee households, 15 families from Iraq and two from Sudan, were also included in the programme.

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

“Our kitchen isn’t fancy, but it doesn’t matter as long as I can cook healthy food and feed my children,” Nawal, a mother of four told us, adding: “It’s not just about feeding your kids anything, it’s about knowing what you’re feeding them as well. I do know first-hand though that not everyone has the luxury to think about nutrition...”

Nawal is one of the 8,161 women who were part of the WFP’s livelihood programme which aims to equip these women with skills to generate their own income.

“...”

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

Photo Header Caption: Children stand outside an informal tented settlement in Beqaa, east Lebanon. Photo: Mazen Hodeib
Photo Caption: Nawal’s children having lunch in their home in Beqaa, east Lebanon. Photo: Mazen Hodeib