



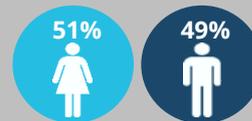
World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Lebanon Country Brief February 2020

## In Numbers



**792,406** people assisted  
in February 2020

**USD 24.6 m** cash-based transfers made

**USD 82 m** six months net funding  
requirements (March-August 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, the number of Syrian refugees registered in Lebanon by UNHCR reached 914,648 people. The massive influx of refugees has placed a significant strain on existing resources and host communities.

Since October 2019, the largely peaceful protests have witnessed increasing yet intermittent 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.

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 (2017–2021), the Ministry of Agriculture Strategy (2015–2019). 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.



Population: **6.0 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **80 out of 189**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Gross National Income per capita per year: **USD 13,312**

## Operational Updates

- In February, WFP has assisted a total of 792,406 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 24.6 million. The people assisted were 654,745 Syrian refugees, 13,644 Palestinian refugees from Syria, 8,432 refugees of other nationalities and 115,585 vulnerable Lebanese.
- WFP continues to implement the scale-up of the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) food e-card component in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). In February 2020, a total of 102,022 Lebanese beneficiaries received food assistance through the Food e-card with total cash-based transfers amounting to USD 2.4 million. This represents a total of 14,612 Lebanese households.
- In view of the deterioration in the economic situation in Lebanon and at the request of Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), WFP has started working on an urgent expansion in the school snacks programme to cover 12,000 additional students in public schools.
- The validation exercise, which confirms the right beneficiary has the right assistance card, began for the first quarter of 2020 on 07 January. Nearly 90,000 households have been validated in February, out of a total of 112,000 invited for validation. In March 2020, WFP will follow up on those who did not get validated yet.
- Three school kitchens started providing sandwiches and fruits/vegetables to 2,169 children on 17 February, in Akkar, Tripoli and Zahle. Mothers have been called to volunteer to join the kitchens teams and have received training on food safety and organizational skills during the first week of February. Three additional schools will be launched in March.

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# WFP Country Strategy

## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>1.8 bn</b>	<b>907 m</b>
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (March – August 2020)
<b>463 m</b>	<b>82 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

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

**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 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 5:** National institutions and national and international humanitarian actors are supported in their efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of their assistance  
**Focus area:** *Root causes*

- Activities:**
- Institutional capacity strengthening activities

## Monitoring

- The first Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) for 2020 for Activity 5 was completed on 13 February in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). The analysis is ongoing with the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (PCM) and results will be shared in March.
- WFP is working to roll out a systematic approach to monitoring at high-use ATMs, taking into consideration risks for the staff of WFP’s partners while undertaking this activity. WFP will also continue to monitor the functionality of markets by conducting frequent interviews with retailers, price monitoring, and

wholesale monitoring.

## Story Worth Telling



Nasmat, a Lebanese woman living in the town of Khiara, close to the border with Syria, has one dream: for her daughters to have the education she never received.

Nasmat is one of the many women who were part of the Germany-funded livelihood programme which aimed to invest to enhance skills and resources of rural women to help them generate income and expand their knowledge. She worked in a communal kitchen in Khiara. Nasmat was trained on food safety, and to properly prepare dairy products in addition to learning climate-smart food preservation techniques.

The kitchen Nasmat and other women worked in was also rehabilitated by WFP’s partners and has been used by them to prepare meals for Syrian refugees in the area.

“Nasmat today is not the same as Nasmat who first joined this programme,” Nasmat said, adding: “I want to give my daughters everything I never had. Their father passed away so I have to be both their mother and father and with this support, I can and I am.”

This programme is funded by BMZ Germany and implemented in cooperation with the American University of Beirut’s (AUB) Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU).

### Donors

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:** *Cheese made entirely by women taking part in a WFP run livelihood programme in rural areas in Lebanon. Photo: Malak Jaafar*

**Photo Caption:** *Nasmat working in the WFP-rehabilitated kitchen in Khiara, east Lebanon. Photo: Adeeb Farhat*