



## Operational Context

In the years preceding the massive economic downturn that has affected Lebanon starting in 2019, high levels of extreme poverty and food insecurity were serious concerns primarily for the 1.5 million Syrian refugees hosted by Lebanon. The situation, however, has changed dramatically as the economic recession, compounded by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Beirut explosion, has impoverished 78 percent of the Lebanese population and almost the entire Syrian refugee population and threatens to push many more into extreme poverty.

In 2021, the economic crisis deepened alongside a severe fuel and electricity crisis which crippled essential sectors and services, rendering difficult living conditions even more dire. The lifting of subsidies on basic commodities in 2021 has led to even higher inflation and further economic decay. Access to basic necessities, including food, and basic services including healthcare and WASH, continue to be major issues for both the Lebanese and refugees.

As poverty continues to drive food insecurity in Lebanon, WFP surveys in 2021 found that 34 percent of Lebanese, 50 percent of refugees, and 33 percent of refugees of other nationalities are food insecure.

WFP remains at the forefront of the humanitarian response to Lebanon's crisis, ensuring that 1 in 4 people have enough food to sustain themselves.

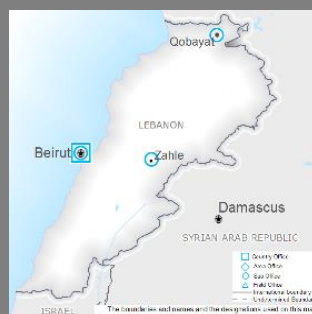
The Lebanon Country Strategic Plan, which came into effect in January 2018, is aligned with the Government-endorsed Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (2017–2020), the United Nations Strategic Framework (2017–2022), and Lebanon National Agriculture Strategy (2020 – 2025). It positions WFP as a major partner of the Government and other United Nations agencies in crisis response and towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Population: **6.8 million**

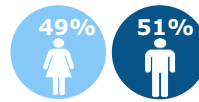
Income Level: **Upper middle**

2019 Human Development Index: **92 out of 189**

2019 Gross National Income per capita (PPP): **USD 14,655**



## In Numbers



**1,680,859** people assisted in October 2021

**US\$14.8 m** cash-based transfers made

**US\$170.9 m** six-month net funding requirements (November 2021 – April 2022)

## Operational Updates

- In October, WFP assisted a total of 1,680,859 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 14.8 million and through distribution of family food parcels. The people assisted were 498,180 vulnerable Lebanese, 1,175,089 Syrian refugees, and 7,590 refugees of other nationalities.
- The increase in the transfer value of cash assistance as of September has tripled beneficiaries' purchasing power. Despite this, beneficiaries are still unable to fully meet their food and other basic needs because of persistent inflation, particularly in light of the full lifting of subsidies. Currently, the food transfer value of cash assistance is LBP 300,000 per person per month while the food portion of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) reached LBP 415,000 in September according to WFP price monitoring.
- Through the emergency response to the ongoing economic crisis, WFP reached 68,206 vulnerable Lebanese households (about 266,000 individuals) with food parcels in October. Outcome monitoring of the Lebanese crisis response shows that between the second and the third quarter of 2021 the ability of households to access food has notably increased, alongside improved levels of food security.
- Assistance through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) e-cards benefited 35,919 households (217,301 individuals) in October. For the second consecutive month, beneficiaries were able to redeem their assistance in US dollars or the equivalent in LBP at a preferential exchange rate. While the scale-up of the NPTP is currently facing some delays, WFP expects to be able to more than double its assistance to reach 75,000 vulnerable Lebanese households by early 2022.
- In October, through the Logistics Sector established as part of the Lebanon Emergency Response Plan, WFP distributed more than 2 million litres of fuel to 563 water and health facilities to ensure critical services are sustained for the most vulnerable communities across Lebanon.

## WFP Country Strategy

### Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)		Allocated Contributions (in USD)
2.86 bn		1.56 bn
2021 Requirements	2022 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (November 2021 – April 2022)
708.3 m	805.5 m	170.9 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 lifesaving, nutritious and affordable food throughout the year

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**

- Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food (CBTs and in-kind food assistance)
- 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

#### Strategic Result 8: Enhanced global partnerships

**Strategic Outcome 6:** Partners in Lebanon benefit from effective humanitarian coordination, expertise, services in the areas of logistics and procurement.

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:** Provision of Logistics sector and procurement services to all partners

- In October, WFP reached 19,261 beneficiaries through its livelihood activities such as community-based agricultural activities, national resource management, value chain development, and individual skills building through trainings and provision of equipment. WFP is also piloting climate change adaptation interventions, which include training of livestock farmers on climate-smart practices and agriculture, delivery of solar panel units at various farms, in addition to establishing agricultural labs.

## Assessments & Monitoring

- As of 1 November, 95 percent of beneficiaries who received their cash-based entitlements redeemed their assistance through shops and ATMs.
- Meanwhile, outcome monitoring for Syrian refugees reveals that more assisted households became food secure between Q2 and Q3 of 2021, likely due to increased transfer values. The full report is expected to be released by December 2021.

## A Story Worth Telling



Aisha prepares lunch for her family, using fresh greens she grew in her garden.  
Photo: WFP/Edmond Khoury

On a typical afternoon, 13 years ago, Aisha sits on the middle cushion of her living room couch. To her left and right are her daughters. A close family friend passes by and waves hello. Aisha excitedly invites her over to catchup over freshly brewed coffee, Syrian sweets, and seasonal fruits.

After the Syrian war had broken out, Aisha's life took a drastic turn. She found herself in an informal tented settlement located at the Bekaa valley. Her spacious house has been shifted to a cramped two-room-tent, her couch is now a dull floor mattress, she lost touch with most of her friends, and her coffee, sweets and fruits have been replaced with tap water and bread dipped in sugar.

"I used to watch television reports on refugee camps and wondered how they lived. How did they shower? Did they go to separate bathrooms?" Aisha – who never imagined she would become a refugee – tells us. "I now have the answer."

In an effort to maintain a connection with her previous life and habits, Aisha grew a small garden facing the doorstep of her tent. "This beautiful greenery reminds me of the plants I took care of back in Syria," Aisha says. Aisha receives cash-based assistance from WFP, which helps her meet her needs amidst Lebanon's economic crisis.

## Donors

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, European Commission, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Kingdom, USA, Ireland, Czech Republic

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