



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.

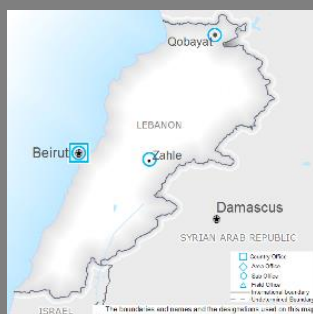
The Lebanon Country Strategic Plan, which came into effect in January 2018, is aligned with the Government-endorsed Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (2017–2020), the United Nations Strategic Framework (2017–2022), and Lebanon National Agriculture Strategy (2020 – 2025). It positions WFP as a major partner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

Population: **6.8 million**

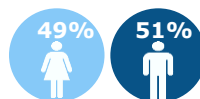
Income Level: **Upper middle**

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

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



In Numbers



1,580,990 people assisted in December 2021

US\$18.4 m cash-based transfers made

US\$133.9 m six-month net funding requirements (January 2022 – June 2022)

Operational Updates

- In December, WFP assisted a total of 1,580,990 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 18.3 million and through distribution of family food parcels. The people assisted were 533,675 vulnerable Lebanese, 1,039,758 Syrian refugees, and 7,557 refugees of other nationalities.
- Through the emergency response to the ongoing economic crisis, WFP reached around 62,000 vulnerable Lebanese households (247,522 individuals) with food parcels in December. WFP plans to reach 100,000 families with in-kind food assistance by March 2022.
- WFP delivered cash assistance to 35,382 households (214,303 individuals) through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) in December. Meanwhile, WFP initiated the verification process in December to support the planned NPTP scale-up, where 75,000 vulnerable Lebanese households will be assisted by May 2022.
- With registration of refugee students finalized for the academic year 2021 - 2022, WFP assisted around 63,000 Lebanese and Syrian students in December through the School Meals programme in 108 schools across Lebanon. 62 volunteer mothers in 6 schools also received training on food safety and kitchen management in preparation for the School Kitchens project to launch during the second semester of the school year. Through this project, students will receive a cold meal (i.e., a sandwich and a piece of fruit or vegetable).
- 505 individuals who participated in WFP's digital skills training, under the Livelihoods programme, graduated in December. The training enables young adults to build a set of skills which prepares them for innovative models of employment, including online work and freelancing, entrepreneurship, as well as work in the technology field. Of the participants in the skills training programme, 8 teams were selected to receive funding to launch their business idea, following a competitive process.

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
2.88 bn	1.61 bn
2022 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (January 2022 – June 2022)
814.4 m	133.9 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 December, WFP reached around 28,000 Lebanese and Syrian beneficiaries through its livelihoods activities. Through forestry activities, WFP finalized the rehabilitation of 7 forest centres and nurseries for the Ministry of Agriculture, as well as supported 6 nature reserves across the country.
- In December, through the Logistics Sector established as part of the Lebanon Emergency Response Plan, WFP distributed more than 2 million litres of fuel to 492 water and health facilities to ensure critical services are sustained

for the most vulnerable communities across Lebanon. Since the beginning of the operation, more than 7.5 million litres of fuel have been distributed.

Assessments & Monitoring

- As of 2 January 2022, 98 percent of beneficiaries who received their cash-based entitlements redeemed their assistance through shops and ATMs.
- Currency devaluation and the overall economic deterioration continue to impact people's ability to afford basic necessities, including food. According to the latest WFP assessments, the price of the food portion of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) reached over LBP 490,000 in November – over a nine-fold increase since October 2019.

A Story Worth Telling



Fatima participating in a line-cooking session supported by WFP.
Photo: WFP/Photo Library

Like many others across Lebanon, Fatima Al-Ghabra, a 44-year-old Lebanese woman living in Tariq al Jdide, lost her job due to the economic crisis. Having worked 26 years as an accountant, Fatima was the family's sole breadwinner.

"When I heard about the training programme WFP offered in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, I immediately rushed to register myself to participate," Fatima tells us, adding that her main goal in life is starting a small business of her own.

The training sessions came just in time as they supported her with CV writing, team building, and allowed her to be exposed to different types of clients.

Fatima also believes that the English, Marketing and Business classes will be an added asset to help her grow in her career.

WFP is able to provide assistance through the generous support of its donors:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, European Commission, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon's Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Netherlands, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Kingdom, USA