



SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Lebanon Country Brief March 2022

Operational Context

Once an upper middle-income country, albeit hosting the largest number of refugees per capita in the world, Lebanon is now in its third year of a severe economic, political, and social crisis. The geopolitical developments in 2022, particularly the recent hike in international fuel prices, are adding to the already dire situation and ongoing inflation in Lebanon.

The human impact of these crises is sobering. In 2021, both the Lebanese and refugees suffered from high levels of poverty and food insecurity. Taking into account vulnerability criteria not limited to monetary poverty, such as food insecurity, 54 percent of the Lebanese (2.1 million people) were found to be vulnerable and in need of assistance in 2021. Food insecurity alone reached 46 percent of Lebanese by the end of 2021.

The multiple crises also had a very negative impact on the 1.5 million Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Since 2020, 88 percent of Syrian refugees (1.3 million people) were extremely poor and in need of assistance and half of the Syrian refugee population was food insecure in 2021.

WFP remains at the forefront of the humanitarian response to Lebanon's crisis, planning to support 2.3 million of the most vulnerable Lebanese and refugees in 2022 to meet their food and other essential needs.

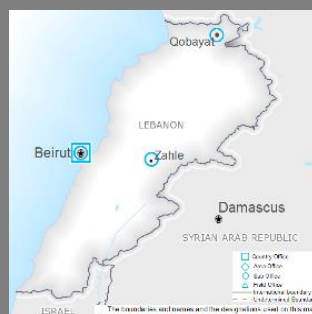
The Lebanon Country Strategic Plan (CSP) for 2018 – 2022 positions WFP as a major partner of the Government and other United Nations agencies towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. WFP is developing the new CSP for the next three years to articulate its strategy and priorities to respond to the increased needs in Lebanon. The new CSP will remain aligned with the Government-endorsed Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (2017 – 2022), the United Nations Strategic Framework (2017 – 2022), and Lebanon National Agriculture Strategy (2020 – 2025).

Population: **6.8 million**

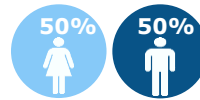
Income Level: **Upper middle**

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

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



In Numbers



1,606,632 people assisted in March 2022

US\$20 m cash-based transfers made

US\$109.3 m six-month net funding requirements (April 2022 – September 2022)

Operational Updates

- In March, WFP assisted a total of 1,606,632 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 20 million and through distribution of family food parcels. The people assisted were 529,194 vulnerable Lebanese, 1,071,007 Syrian refugees, and 6,431 refugees of other nationalities.
- WFP supported 1,036,675 Syrian refugees in March with cash assistance to meet food and other basic needs. As the price of the survival minimum basket continues to increase, the food assistance value will be increased from LBP 300,000 to LBP 500,000, and the non-food from LBP 800,000 to LBP 1 million in April to enable beneficiaries to better meet their basic needs.
- Through the emergency response to the ongoing economic crisis, WFP reached 69,092 Lebanese households (around 276,500 individuals) with food parcels in March. This includes 1,664 households who received assistance for the first time as part of the scale-up of WFP's crisis response to reach 100,000 vulnerable Lebanese households.
- In March, WFP assisted 70,508 Syrian and Lebanese students registered in 108 schools through the distribution of school snacks, as well as cold meals (sandwiches and fruit/vegetables) through the School Kitchens project.
- WFP assisted 36,620 Lebanese families (around 220,000 individuals) through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) in March, including 761 households who received assistance for the first time as part of WFP's ongoing scale-up. As of April, WFP will increase the food transfer value for NPTP beneficiaries from USD 15 to USD 20 per person per month in line with the Emergency Social Safety Net programme's benefits.
- 3,675 Syrians and Lebanese benefitted from WFP's livelihoods activities, including individual skills building, value chain development, and construction of agriculture roads. WFP, through its climate change adaptation project, provided trainings on sustainable agriculture and climate change for 75 herders and farmers in Akkar, Bekaa, and South Lebanon throughout March.

Photo caption: "Climate change is not coming soon. It is already here and farmers like Rana are on the frontline."
Photo: WFP/Edmond Khoury

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
2.88 bn	2 bn
2022 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (April 2022 – September 2022)
814.4 m	109.3 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 March, WFP concluded its fuel provision support to the Health sector with 5.1 million litres of fuel delivered to 272 Health facilities since the beginning of the project in September 2021. In total, 10.4 million litres were delivered to the Health and WASH sectors.

Assessments & Monitoring

- As of 31 March 2022, 98 percent of beneficiaries who received cash-based entitlements redeemed their assistance through shops and ATMs.

- Based on WFP's market assessments, the price of the survival minimum food basket increased from LBP 569,000 in February to LBP 639,000 in March. The increase is due to currency depreciation, from LBP 21,000/USD in February to LBP 23,000/USD in March, coupled with the impact of the Ukraine conflict on global food prices, namely sunflower oil, sugar, and wheat.

A Story Worth Telling



Rana had to sell almost half of her livestock to take care of the remaining ones in the face of rising fodder prices.

Photo: WFP/Edmond Khoury

Rain or shine, for almost 30 years, Rana got up at 5 a.m. to make a living out of what she loves most: working on her parents' farmland. "I am a farmer at heart," says the former nurse.

But Rana's passion hasn't always been rewarding. She is now counting her losses after what seemed like last year's never-ending summer. "You don't need a weather app to tell you something is not right." Rana says.

The agriculture sector is heavily impacted by environmental changes, which in turn are affecting farmers' livelihoods and putting food security at risk. Since 2017, WFP has been on the frontline of the response to the country's climate crisis – over 1.1 million seedlings were planted and 502 hectares of forests preserved in Lebanon by WFP.

In partnership with AUB, WFP is currently implementing the CLIMAT (Climate-Smart Livelihoods Initiatives and Market Access Tailoring) project that is strengthening the adaptive capacities of farmers and rural communities against climate change in Lebanese areas susceptible to climatic shocks including Akkar, Bekaa, Baalbek, and Hasbaya.

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

Australia, Belgium, Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon's Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Lebanon Humanitarian Fund, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Kingdom, USA

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Lebanon

WFP Lebanon 2021 Annual Country Report **New**