



Photo: WFP/Photo Library

WFP Lebanon

Fuel Operation Progress Report



September 2021 - March 2022

HIGHLIGHTS



10.4
million
litres of fuel
distributed
in total

622 facilities
reached across all
8 Governorates in
26 Districts



272 Health
Facilities



350 Water
Stations

100%

of the locations for which data was
received were served with fuel

FUNDING

TOTAL RECEIVED: USD 8.5 million	
WASH	<p>Funding Source: Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)</p> <p>Grant Period: 15 September 2021 - 5 March 2022</p> <p>Allocation Received: USD 4 million</p>
Health	<p>Funding Source: Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF)</p> <p>Grant Period: 15 October 2021 - 14 February 2022</p> <p>Allocation Received: USD 4.5 million</p>

CHALLENGES AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Oversupply of fuel: A number of facilities were receiving fuel through sources other than WFP, without concrete means of coordination at a ministerial or sectoral level. This led to duplication of efforts, and in turn, has challenged the efficiency of the operation. In addition, the limited storage capacity at most of the facilities necessitated multiple visits per month in order to deliver their monthly requirements, which posed challenges at the coordination level.

Data availability and accuracy: Following the identification of discrepancies in some of the received data for various locations, WFP utilized its superintendent contracted company to conduct on-site assessments to ensure accuracy of the information communicated by the fuel suppliers. In addition, WFP delegated one of its staff to support the data collection and cleaning processes at the Health Sector.

Fuel suppliers' coverage: The operation had a slow start due to limited logistics capacity of fuel suppliers. This led WFP to increase its resources and contract additional transportation companies to support the operation, allowing for larger quantities of fuel to be delivered in a timely manner. Accessing certain locations however remained relatively challenging due to insufficient transportation capacity, occasional security incidents, as well as turbulent weather conditions.

Volatile fuel prices: Fluctuating international fuel prices, particularly following the Ukraine crisis, have affected WFP's ability to procure the planned quantities of fuel via available funds. The price of diesel nearly doubled since the beginning of the operation in September 2021 (USD 56 cents/litre) till its closure in March 2022 (USD 1.094 cents/litre). As a result, WFP had to closely monitor fuel prices and adjust its delivery targets on a weekly basis to ensure funding limits are not exceeded.

Breakdown of fuel deliveries per establishment between September 2021 and March 2022

WASH	Establishment	Quantity Delivered (in litres)
	Beirut / Mount Lebanon Water Establishment	2,345,476
	Bekaa Water Establishment	818,302
	North Lebanon Water Establishment	1,006,843
	South Lebanon Water Establishment	1,120,975
	Total	5,291,596

HEALTH	Facility	Quantity Delivered (in litres)
	Cold chain	133,021
	Hospital	3,607,412
	National TB / AIDS Programme	8,802
	Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC)	1,267,858
	United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)	41,700
	Vaccination Site	34,010
	Total	5,092,803

IMPACT ON THE POPULATION



WASH

The WASH operation relieved pressure in the urban areas, and reduced the population's reliance on bottled and trucked water tanks with all the additional financial burdens they bring.

Those living in the coastal areas and up to approximately 700 meters on the Western range of the mountains, received most of their water requirements through the gravity feed from the associated water stations.

As the operation expanded its reach to other regions in the country such as Western Bekaa, Northern Bekaa and Akkar, the populations felt a relief with increased supply hours.

According to a recently conducted vulnerability mapping assessment, 2.3 million people in Lebanon have benefitted from the fuel operation through support to water stations.

HEALTH

This fuel service supported 31 hospitals to continue operating an estimated 1,183 beds of which, 485 beds at 15 hospitals were dedicated to COVID-19 patients in both regular and intensive care units.

It also enabled service continuity at 202 PHCCs which are estimated to have provided a total of 615,000 consultations over the course of the fuel project. This included facilities that operate as part of the Ministry of Public Health's PHCC network, as well as facilities operated by UNRWA and the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS).

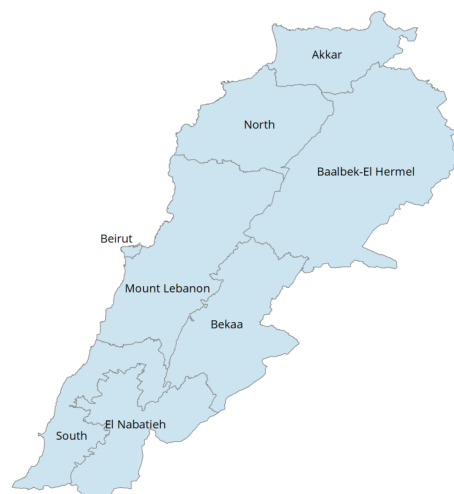
The building of the National AIDS Programme was supported to continue providing services – including distribution of anti-retroviral medicines – to an average of 780 patients per month.

HEALTH (cont.)

Meanwhile, the National Tuberculosis (TB) Programme, which also functions in the same location as the National AIDS Programme, provided anti-TB and preventive medicines to 475 patients throughout the project.

Cold chain storage was assured across all locations in Lebanon, most notably for two locations of the central drug warehouse which contain catastrophic medicines and vaccines for both routine immunization and COVID-19 vaccination. Between September 2021 and March 2022, nearly 4.6M new doses of COVID-19 vaccines were received in Lebanon and securely stored awaiting further distribution and administration across the country. In addition, a mass vaccination site in Saida received 5 months of fuel support to increase vaccination capacity in the South.

Click the below map to see the geographical coverage of the fuel operation in Lebanon



LOGISTICS COORDINATION



Number of Logistics coordination meetings held: 13

Number of participating organizations: 46

Number of information management products: 26

FUEL SUPPORT TO THE HUMANITARIAN COMMUNITY



Number of organizations that expressed interest in accessing the service: 16

Number of SLAs signed: 8 organizations

1. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
2. Norwegian Refugee Council
3. Save the Children
4. Médecins Sans Frontières, France
5. Tripoli Arteries Association
6. Danish Church Aid
7. International Rescue Committee
8. World Vision

WFP negotiated the use of the priority lines for humanitarian organizations' office vehicles at 18 gas fuelling stations via a priority access card. In addition, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been put in place for the official private use of gasoline.

While no requests for fuel deliveries were received, WFP remained ready to support the humanitarian community with **diesel** through bilateral service provision.

A total of **8 organizations**, who expressed their interest in accessing this service, had signed all the necessary agreements as an emergency preparedness measure in case the fuel situation further deteriorates. The process was communicated to all organisations working under Lebanon's Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP).

In addition, WFP worked with a fuel supplier on a solution for facilitated access to **gasoline** at fuelling stations. A membership card can be issued for the organizations' office vehicles and for critical staff to ensure facilitated access at a number of **18 strategically located fuelling stations** across the country through a dedicated lane. The process was communicated through the Logistics Sector network.



CIVIL - MILITARY COORDINATION



No military escorting was requested throughout the project. WFP provided advanced notice to the relevant entities before accessing any locations that might have been sensitive according to the UNDSS classification.

WFP, OCHA, UNDSS and the Lebanese Army Forces revisited the notice period initially agreed upon for the deliveries in the different regions in order to speed up the process without putting the staff nor the operation at risk.

CONCLUSION & LESSONS LEARNED

The project **kept life-saving health and water facilities operational** and thereby ensured critical support to all groups of the Lebanese society. WFP's assistance through the fuel project came at a critical time, amidst soaring fuel prices and the perpetual COVID-19 pandemic.

A major contributor to the success of the fuel project was the close coordination between WFP's Logistics unit and the Health and WASH sectors, which helped ensure the timely delivery of support to targeted facilities with the required fuel quantities.

However, lack of visibility on fuel support provided by municipalities and entities other than the UN hindered the efficiency of the fuel operation. In addition, earmarked funding resulted in limited operational flexibility, particularly amid the challenges faced throughout the project.



Photo: WFP/Photo Library

2022 AND BEYOND

The initial exit strategy for the fuel project as formulated in the 2021-2022 Emergency Response Plan (ERP) was that the responsibility for uninterrupted provision of basic services, including healthcare and water, remains with the Government. However, the limited capacity of national authorities to respond to the energy crisis and inability to subsidize fuel means that access to diesel by crucial sectors continues to be hindered.

For 2022, and in coordination with the Regional Coordinator and HCT, WFP is preparing a fuel contingency plan to support Health and WASH facilities with fuel for critical cases of fuel shortages.