



## 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 affected 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) have been living in extreme poverty and require assistance, with food insecurity affecting half the refugee population in 2021.

WFP remains at the forefront of the response to Lebanon's economic and refugee 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**

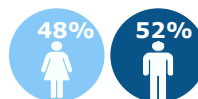
Income Level: **Upper middle**

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

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



## In Numbers



**1,663,800** people assisted in April 2022

**US\$29 m** cash-based transfers made

**US\$346.5 m** six-month net funding requirements (May 2022 – October 2022)

## Operational Updates

- In April, WFP assisted a total of 1,663,807 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 29 million and through distribution of family food parcels. The people assisted were 585,005 vulnerable Lebanese, 1,072,356 Syrian refugees, and 6,446 refugees of other nationalities.
- WFP supported 1,039,175 refugees in April with cash assistance to meet food and other basic needs. The value of cash assistance in local currency was increased from LBP 300,000 to LBP 500,000 per person per month for food needs and from LBP 800,000 to LBP 1 million per household per month for other essential needs to help beneficiaries cope with increasing food prices.
- Through the emergency response to the ongoing economic crisis, WFP reached 76,762 vulnerable Lebanese households (around 306,000 individuals) with food parcels in April. Beneficiaries reported high satisfaction rates of the quality and quantity of food delivered via the parcel.
- In April, 68,888 Syrian and Lebanese students registered in the morning and afternoon shifts benefitted from WFP's School Meals programme, including 4,635 students who received cold meals prepared by students' mothers as part of the School Kitchens initiative.
- WFP assisted 42,500 Lebanese families (around 250,000 individuals) through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) in April, including 6,000 households who received assistance for the first time as part of WFP's ongoing scale-up. WFP increased the transfer value for NPTP beneficiaries from USD 15 to USD 20 per person per month for food needs (and maintaining USD 25 per household for other essential needs) in line with the benefits of the Emergency Social Safety Net programme.
- Under the Food System Grant Facility – an innovative approach developed by WFP to support small and medium sized businesses affected by the ongoing crises – 5 out of 10 selected businesses received grants to optimize their operations through the procurement of equipment and technical assistance packages provided by WFP.

## WFP Country Strategy

### Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>3.39 bn</b>	<b>2 bn</b>
2022 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (May 2022 – October 2022)
<b>1.33 bn</b>	<b>346.5 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 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

## Assessments & Monitoring

- In April, 99 percent of beneficiaries who received cash-based entitlements successfully redeemed their assistance through shops and ATMs.
- Prices of food and other essential needs continued to increase. The latest WFP assessments show that the price of the minimum food basket increased from LBP 619,000 in March to LBP 700,000 in April – exceeding the official monthly minimum wage which remains at LBP 675,000.

## A Story Worth Telling



Bushra preparing cheese sandwiches to students.

Photo: WFP/Dana Houalla

The cold weather in Zahle, the third largest city in Lebanon and capital of the Bekaa governorate, does not stop Bushra and her children from their daily on-foot journey to and from school. “School is the most important thing in life. My children’s education is a priority; a red line that cannot be crossed.”

Bushra is one of ten mothers who participate in WFP’s School Kitchens programme in Zahle’s Haoouch el Oumara Mixed Public school. The mother of five came with her family from Syria to Lebanon around 9 years ago. “We live in harmony with the Lebanese, and they’ve welcomed us warmly. In the kitchen, we feel like a family.” Bushra works alongside other mothers in the school, preparing 2 sandwiches for each student, along with a serving of fruit.

Bushra is particularly proud and happy that she is able to help her husband with the household bills, as well as provide for her children the items they need. “Before every allowance, my kids become restless asking me when I will get paid, so that I can buy them the items they want,” she explains.

In addition to paying the bills and buying household essentials, Bushra is also able to buy meat, chicken, and fruit for her family; luxuries that many families in Lebanon can no longer afford. The bi-weekly allowance she receives is able to help cover a big portion of the family’s food and rent expenses.

### 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