



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Lebanon Country Brief May 2022



In Numbers



1.66 m people assisted in May 2022

3,124 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 28 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 364 m six months (June - November 2022) net funding requirements

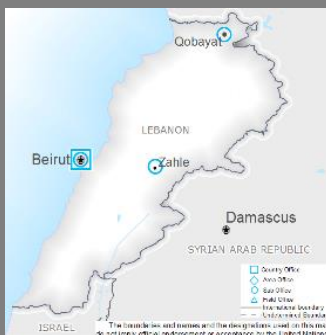
Operational Context

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. Record-high global food and fuel prices are adding to the already dire situation in Lebanon.

The human impact of these crises is sobering, with high levels of poverty and food insecurity amongst both Lebanese and refugee communities. 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 have 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.



Population: **6.8 million**

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

Income Level: **Upper middle***
Likely to be downgraded to lower-middle income status (World Bank, April 2021)

2020 GDP per capita (current US\$): **4,891**

Operational Updates

- In May, WFP assisted a total of 1,694,546 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 28 million and through distribution of family food parcels. The people assisted were 632,898 vulnerable Lebanese, 1,055,761 Syrian refugees, and 5,887 refugees of other nationalities.
- WFP supported 1,022,125 refugees in May with cash assistance to meet food and other basic needs. To ensure a safer and more efficient redemption process for beneficiaries, WFP increased its crowd management and monitoring of ATMs beginning February. As a result, the average time it took beneficiaries to withdraw their assistance notably decreased from 42 minutes in December 2021 to 26 minutes in April 2022. Beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with the withdrawal process and reported feeling safer at ATMs in the presence of WFP partner staff.
- Through the emergency response to the ongoing economic crisis, WFP reached 80,632 vulnerable Lebanese households (around 326,663 individuals) with food parcels in May. This included 4,901 households who received assistance for the first time.
- In May, 70,000 Syrian and Lebanese students registered in the morning and afternoon shifts benefitted from WFP's School Meals programme, including 4,619 students who received cold meals prepared by students' mothers as part of the School Kitchens initiative.
- WFP assisted 48,079 Lebanese households (around 275,600 individuals) through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) in May, including 4,045 households who received assistance for the first time as part of WFP's ongoing scale-up to reach 75,000 households.
- WFP, through its climate adaptation programme, installed "living labs" in Akkar, Bekaa, and South areas to experiment on new techniques and climate-smart approaches to agriculture.

Contact info: Yein Kim, Head of Reporting (yein.kim@wfp.org)
Country Director: Abdallah Alwardat
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Lebanon

Photo Caption: Participants in WFP's Livelihoods programme are working together to plant trees in Majdal Anjar.
WFP/Mustapha Ghabris

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Percentage Funded
3.39 bn	2 bn	59 %
2022 Requirements (in USD)	2022 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June– November 2022)
1.33 bn	618.4 m	364 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.

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

Monitoring

- The price of the minimum food basket continued its upward trend following currency depreciation in May and has increased by 14 percent since April to reach LBP 792,000 – a 15-times increase from October 2019.

Story Worth Telling



Zaher digs land and helps WFP plant over one million trees in Lebanon. Photo: WFP/ Khadija Dia

Zaher, who came to Lebanon back in 2010, is one of the first to enrol in WFP’s forestry project in Qaraoun.

The project was launched in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, establishing planting guidelines and encouraging the growth of small plants from native seedlings, such as pine and cedar trees.

For Zaher, the training gave him new skills and allowed him to provide his family with a monthly allowance to help afford food expenses. “This project removed a big portion of expenses off my shoulders,” he says. Zaher also remembered the good times he spent with his co-workers on the field. “We used to sing and laugh and have the best of times.”

Donors

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