



Photo: WFP/Giulio Orfelia

WFP Lebanon

National Poverty Targeting Programme & Institutional Capacity Strengthening

WFP is supporting the most vulnerable Lebanese families with cash assistance for food and basic needs through the National Poverty Targeting Programme and working to strengthen the capacity of national social assistance programmes and systems.

The National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) is Lebanon's first targeted social safety net programme assisting Lebanese living in poverty.

Formally launched in 2011 with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (PCM) as leading implementers, the NPTP provides a package of benefits that includes the health, education, and food assistance to families selected based on an objective targeting methodology. The assistance comes in the form of hospitalization subsidies, school fee waivers, books, e-vouchers and cash to support food and other basic needs.

Poverty rates amongst the Lebanese began rising over the past few years and drastically since the start of the economic crisis in 2019. Today, 53 percent of Lebanese are vulnerable and in need of assistance. As the impact of the economic crisis continues to deepen by the day, the NPTP's role in keeping the most vulnerable Lebanese away from hunger is more crucial than ever.

WFP's Expansion of the NPTP E-card

15,000 families
In 2020

35,000 families
In 2021

75,000 families
In 2022



FOOD ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE NPTP

Since 2014, WFP has been supporting the food assistance component of the NPTP through e-cards. Due to the worsening economic crisis, an unconditional cash top-up was introduced in May 2021 to help assisted families cover other basic or non-food needs. Since September 2021, NPTP assistance became unrestricted and can be redeemed at ATMs in USD or at contracted shops. In addition, the transfer values of the food and non-food assistance are regularly revised to ensure beneficiaries can cover their food and other basic needs.



USD 20 per person/month for food
+ USD 25 per household/month to help meet other essential needs.

Today, WFP is expanding its assistance to reach 75,000 of the poorest Lebanese families (or 430,000 people) in 2022 and also supports the NPTP by:

Extending use of WFP's systems to deliver cash-based assistance: The NPTP uses the same cash transfer platform and network of shops that WFP established for the refugee response. To help reduce crowding and travel costs for beneficiaries, WFP is piloting redemption points at selected Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) where beneficiaries are most present and in areas with a limited number of ATMs.



SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



It's lunch time at Mona's. She now relies on humanitarian assistance from WFP to put food on the table. Photo: WFP/Giulio ORIGLIA

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

As WFP collaborates with the Government for the implementation of the NPTP, it also ensures that national institutions are supported in their efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of their programmes. Direct operational support is being provided for the expansion of the NPTP, including support for staffing, training, and beneficiary communication. In 2021 and 2022, WFP supported MOSA and PCM through training of social workers and fieldwork coordinators on digital data collection, cleaning, and treatment. WFP also supported the creation of new NPTP governance structures, and conducted assessment to determine needs of the information management systems necessary to improve NPTP delivery and management.

SUPPORTING TARGETING & MONITORING

To target the most vulnerable individuals, WFP contracts private firms for data collection and MoSA social workers collect household-level data, while results are captured through Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM).

As a new Household Budget Survey is not yet on the horizon, WFP is in the meantime working with other partners, namely the World Bank, to undertake a vulnerability assessment for the Lebanese population. The assessment will provide an updated socioeconomic picture of Lebanese especially in light of the economic crisis, and potentially inform policies and design of future interventions.

ENHANCING ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

WFP, MoSA and UNWOMEN have conducted a qualitative study to mainstream gender within WFP. The

Mona, a Lebanese woman in her mid-forties, lives in Tripoli's Hay Al Tanak, also known as "the tin neighbourhood".

The forgotten land consists of makeshift shelters that reflect the fragile living conditions of its residents. For Mona and her children, the pandemic was the biggest catalyst for their downfall. She recalls the earlier memories of 2019 when prices were more affordable and a visit to the supermarket did not mean spending the minimum wage on only a couple of items.

As she sneaks a quick glance at one of her children, Mona says: "Children benefit the most when fed with nutritious food. Food keeps children healthy, protects them from diseases and helps them grow right in front of our eyes."

For Mona, WFP's cash assistance through the NPTP was the salvation she's been waiting for a very long time. "When we were informed that our family is eligible for aid, we immediately felt happy," she says. She can now use the money to buy food and other necessary items her family might need.

three entities will provide trainings on gender and gender-based violence to 650 local staff, along with 30 central staff involved with the NPTP management. Additionally, WFP is supporting the Ministry of Social Affairs to develop and launch a Grievance Redress Mechanism for the NPTP, where beneficiaries will be able to provide their feedback, concerns, and complaints as well as inquire about assistance, which in turn enhances accountability outcomes.

2022 AND BEYOND

WFP started its scale-up of the NPTP in May 2021 and aims to effectively expand its assistance to reach 75,000 of the most vulnerable Lebanese families (about 420,000 people) by September 2022. WFP is also deepening its capacity strengthening and technical support to ensure the sustainability of NPTP systems and processes.

To strengthen social safety nets and ensure more Lebanese in need are receiving assistance, WFP is providing enumeration services and delivering cash payments on behalf of the Government for the implementation the large-scale Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme. To date, a total of 63,000 vulnerable Lebanese families (approximately 295,000 individuals) have received assistance through the ESSN.

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