



Photo: WFP / Mustapha Gharios

WFP Lebanon



SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Supply Chain at WFP Lebanon

Enabling WFP to be at the forefront in the fight against hunger.

Prior to the start of Lebanon's economic crisis in late 2019, the bulk of WFP's supply chain work in Lebanon consisted of the procurement of goods and delivery of services to support its operation. This includes contracting of the Financial Service Providers (FSP) to deliver cash transfers for LOUISE agencies, including for WFP assistance, and the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP).

AGILE RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES

In the wake of the Beirut port explosion, which destroyed the country's only wheat silos, WFP initiated a logistics operation through which 12,500 metric tonnes of wheat flour were brought into the country. The flour came at a critical time and was distributed to bakeries to increase the weight of the subsidized bread package for two months. In the immediate aftermath of the Beirut port explosion, WFP also distributed food parcels to 2,206 Lebanese and refugees affected by the explosion before transitioning to cash assistance. In addition, WFP provided logistics support to NGOs and other UN agencies responding to the Beirut blast.

EXPANDING SUPPLY CHAIN CAPACITY TO MEET GROWING NEEDS

The economic crisis and Beirut port explosion, both of which put food security at a great risk in Lebanon, led to an increased demand for expanded supply chain capacity in Lebanon. As the economic crisis continues to deepen, affecting the livelihood and food security of both the refugee and Lebanese populations, WFP's role in assisting the Lebanese grows by the day.

To continue and scale-up the delivery of this type of assistance to Lebanese, WFP's supply chain necessitated significant augmentation, and within a very short timeframe.

WFP began its economic crisis response for vulnerable Lebanese in 2020, through which beneficiaries are assisted via food parcels. With the goal of reaching 100,000 vulnerable Lebanese families through food assistance, WFP adopted a dual sourcing strategy for food parcels. Currently, 80 percent of the food is procured internationally as it is more cost efficient. Meanwhile, the remaining 20 percent is sourced locally through two suppliers, ensuring timeliness, benefiting the local economy, and acting as a contingency in case of delays in international shipping.

48,311

Metric tonnes of
food distributed
since 2020

USD 73M

Disbursed to procure
food between 2020
and 2022

STRATEGIC WAREHOUSING

Internationally procured food parcels are brought in by sea through Beirut and Tripoli's ports and are complemented by parcels procured locally prior to their dispatching. The parcels are then transported to three WFP warehouses strategically located in Beirut, Koura, and Zahle, close to where WFP beneficiaries are most present. To ensure greater coverage, 10 warehouses run by WFP's partners are also used to store food. The location of the warehouses enables swift and efficient transportation to distribution sites, where beneficiaries pick up their food parcels.



STRENGTHENING NATIONAL SUPPLY CHAIN CAPACITY

In coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP supported the Food Safety Laboratory and Quarantine Centre rehabilitation project at the port of Beirut. The project included rehabilitation of the destroyed laboratory centre, procurement and installation of damaged equipment, and replacement of the lost and destroyed lab tools and supplies to return functionality of these facilities. WFP, through its supply chain unit, procured and delivered the needed material for the implementation of this project. The project will help prevent the spread of harmful exotic plants and plant/animal product pests inside Lebanese territories, as well as enhance import – export operations.

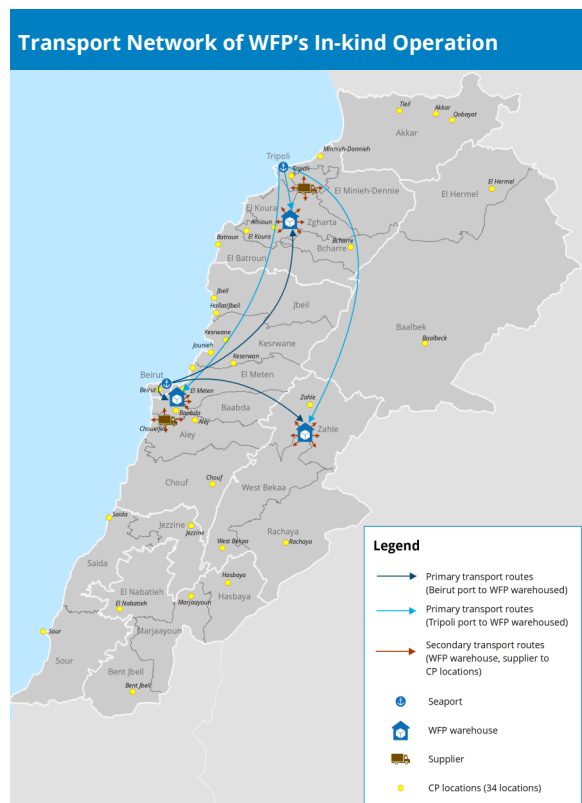
Between September 2021 and March 2022, WFP led the operation to supply Lebanon's health and water facilities with fuel to ensure their continuity amid a severe electricity crisis. WFP contracted and procured fuel through two of the largest fuel companies in the country and arranged all necessary logistics supply chain and monitoring of the operation from the fuel terminal to the final delivery points in urban and remote areas. At the end of the project, WFP successfully delivered more than 10 million litres of fuel to 600+ health and water facilities in all 26 districts in Lebanon.



WFP staff are ensuring fuel is delivered to facilities in need.
Photo credit: WFP/Photo Library

Support to water stations helped relief pressure in urban areas and reduced the population's reliance on bottled and trucked water tanks, averting their financial burdens. According to a vulnerability mapping assessment conducted in 2022, 2.3 million in Lebanon have benefitted from the fuel operation through support to water stations.

Meanwhile, support to health facilities ensured 31 hospitals, 202 Primary Health Care Centres (PHCCs), and the national AIDS and Tuberculosis programmes remained operational. 4.6 million new doses of COVID-19 vaccines were also securely stored following the fuel support.



2022 AND BEYOND

As the ongoing economic crisis continues to affect people's livelihoods and food security, WFP will maintain its in-kind food operation and the necessary supply chain arrangements to support it. In parallel, WFP is working to provide harmonized customs clearances for UN agencies in Lebanon, ensuring better services and competitive prices.