



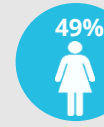
World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Lebanon Country Brief September 2022



In Numbers



1.7m people assisted in September 2022

US\$ 24m cash-based transfers made

4,600 MT of food assistance distributed

US\$ 507 m six months (October 2022 – March 2023) net funding requirements

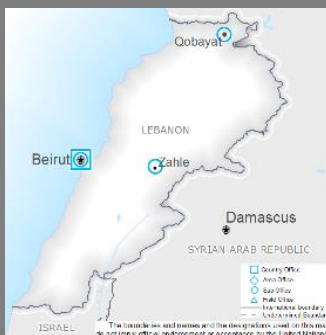
Operational Context

Once an upper middle-income country, Lebanon is now in its third year of a severe economic, political, and social crisis while also hosting the largest number of refugees per capita in the world. 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: **Lower middle**

2021 GNI per capita (US\$): **3,450**

Operational Updates

- In September, WFP assisted a total of 1,719,000 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 24 million and through distribution of food parcels. The people assisted were 665,500 Lebanese, 1,048,100 Syrian refugees, and 5,400 refugees of other nationalities.
- Following the successful pilot of expanding the number of cash redemption points to include Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) in August, WFP contracted additional MTOs throughout Lebanon in September. Refugee and Lebanese beneficiaries receiving cash were able to redeem assistance at 27 MTO locations alongside the existing network of ATMs and have reported high satisfaction rates with the redemption process. On average, it took beneficiaries approximately two minutes to redeem their assistance at MTOs, marking an overall swift and efficient process.
- In September, WFP assisted 347,700 Lebanese individuals (62,000 households) through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP). As of September, WFP has reached 83 percent of its target to assist 75,000 Lebanese households through the NPTP and is working with the Ministry of Social Affairs to include the remaining targeted households. WFP also delivered payments to 350,000 individuals (78,000 households) on behalf of the Government for the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN).
- WFP supported 298,100 vulnerable Lebanese individuals (77,600 households) with food parcels in September as part of its response to the ongoing economic crisis. Households who did not receive assistance in August due to shipment delays were prioritized for distributions in September.
- In September, WFP distributed snacks to 27,400 students in 136 schools across Lebanon in support of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education's summer 'catch-up' programme aiming to enhance students' preparedness for the 2022–2023 academic year. The snacks consist of either a carton of UHT milk and apple chips, or mixed nuts and dried fruits.

Photo Caption: "You give us life," says Hassan, who receives cash assistance through the National Poverty Targeting Programme. WFP/Dana Houalla

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Percentage Funded
3.39 bn	2.07 bn	61 %
2022 Requirements (in USD)	2022 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (October 2022 – March 2023)
1.33 bn	675.7 m	507 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 latest WFP price monitoring shows that between July and August 2022, the cost of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) increased from

LBP 860,000 to LBP 884,000, following continued depreciation of the local currency.

- WFP conducted process monitoring interviews with 350 Syrian and 132 Lebanese households receiving cash assistance in September. Beneficiaries reported slightly improved redemption experiences in September, with a lower average time to reach ATMs (27 minutes in September vs 29 minutes in August) and a lower average roundtrip cost of approximately LBP 73,000 in September (down from LBP 87,000 in August). Meanwhile, visits to 87 unique ATM locations across Lebanon showed that more than three-quarters of ATMs were observed without any crowding in September.

Story Worth Telling



Hassan passes on his experience in plating to his grandson.
Photo: WFP/Dana Houalla

At an age when most retire, Hassan is still searching for a source of income in the crisis-hit Lebanon. Hassan used to supervise forestation projects, until he was let go almost twelve years ago without a pension nor an alternative for livelihood. As the primary guardian of his two grandchildren, he worries he won't be able to provide for them amid increasing inflation. "They are a source of happiness, and a source of pain", says Hassan, referring to his grandchildren.

In May 2022 however, Hassan started receiving assistance through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), helping him buy food for his family, as well as medicine for his wife and himself.

The NPTP is Lebanon's first targeted social safety net programme assisting Lebanese in poverty. WFP has been supporting the food assistance component of the NPTP through e-cards since 2014 and is scaling-up its assistance through this programme to reach more people as the economic crisis worsens.

Donors

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