



World Food Programme

SAVING  
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LIVES



## WFP Lebanon Country Brief October 2022

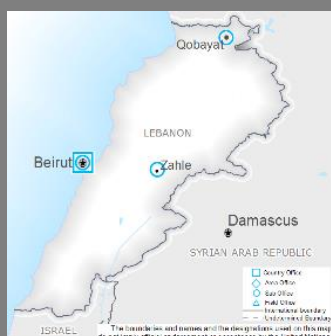
### Operational Context

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**

### In Numbers



**1.8m people assisted** in October 2022

**US\$ 23m** cash-based transfers made

**4,700 MT** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 544 m** six months (November 2022 – April 2023) net funding requirements

### Operational Updates

- In October, WFP assisted a total of 1,773,200 beneficiaries through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 23 million and through distribution of food parcels. The people assisted were 685,400 Lebanese, 1,082,300 Syrian refugees, and 5,500 refugees of other nationalities. An additional 352,000 Lebanese received cash assistance through the Government's Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN).
- 1,050,300 Syrian refugees and refugees of other nationalities received WFP's cash assistance in October. The time it took beneficiaries to withdraw assistance notably decreased from 42 minutes in December 2021 to 19 minutes in October 2022, following WFP's crowd management and monitoring measures. These measures received positive feedback from beneficiaries, including from women who expressed feeling safer at ATMs in the presence of WFP's partner staff. Meanwhile, the expansion of redemption points through Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) continued in October, where beneficiaries were able to redeem assistance at 35 MTOs alongside the existing ATM network. Beneficiaries who withdrew cash at MTOs reported high satisfaction rates with the process, noting reduced withdrawal times.
- In October, WFP assisted 352,800 Lebanese individuals (63,000 families) through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPT). The target to reach 75,000 families through the NPT is expected to be met by December.
- WFP supported 298,700 vulnerable Lebanese individuals (77,800 households) with food parcels in October as part of its response to the ongoing economic crisis. WFP has opened a supply route via the port in Tripoli to reduce logistics costs and increase the efficiency of the in-kind operation.
- The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) launched the 2022–2023 academic year in October. Subsequently, WFP resumed its regular school meals programme, providing more than 62,000 Syrian and Lebanese students with school

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**Photo Caption:** WFP is supporting reforestation projects across Lebanon through its livelihoods activities.

WFP/Edmond Khoury

snacks in 111 public schools.

## WFP Country Strategy



### Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Percentage Funded
3.39 bn	2.15 bn	64 %
2022 Requirements (in USD)	2022 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (November 2022 – April 2023)
1.33 bn	764 m	544 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

- In October, WFP resumed the implementation of Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) and Food Assistance for Training (FFT) activities, part of its livelihoods programme. More than 8,700 Syrian

and Lebanese individuals benefited from these activities, which support the agriculture and agri-food sectors by strengthening the capacity of farmers and individuals and rehabilitating agricultural assets.

## Monitoring

- The latest WFP price monitoring shows that the cost of the food Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) reached LBP 988,000 in September, a 12 percent increase over the previous month. The increase is the result of currency depreciation witnessed in September, coupled with the full lifting of subsidies on fuel and gas.

## Story Worth Telling



*Fatima, who suffered losses in her tomato harvest this year, participates in WFP's livelihoods programme.*

*Photo: WFP/Edmond Khoury*

Fatima is one of many farmers who benefitted from WFP's training sessions in 2022, part of the livelihoods programme. She also received solar panels that allowed her to "rely less on fuel and more on green energy." Having suffered losses in her tomato harvest this season due to pests, Fatima says that "people's food security is at stake as prices continue to increase and harvests are affected."

Lebanon is highly susceptible to the impact of climate change. In response, WFP and its partners have been working on implementing reforestation projects. "The climate change is imposing serious threats on the food sector in Lebanon, affecting agriculture, livestock, and water supply," says Kassem Jouni, WFP Lebanon's agricultural engineer. According to Kassem, as an effort to combat this change, WFP and its partners are implementing climate-smart agricultural projects, which focuses on growing crops that best fit the changing climate. This technique allows crops to withstand the external changes in their environment.

## Donors

Australia, Canada, Cyprus, European Union, 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