



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Lebanon Country Brief December 2022



In Numbers



1.8m people assisted in December 2022

US\$ 22m cash-based transfers made

4,500 MT of food distributed

US\$ 463 m six months (January 2023 – June 2023)
net funding requirements

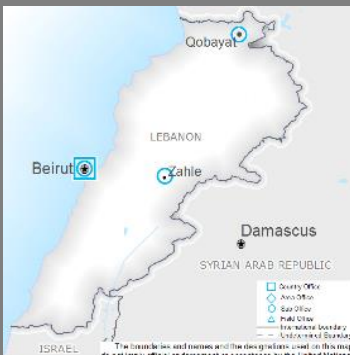
Operational Context

Lebanon is entering its fourth 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 have added to the already dire situation in Lebanon.

These crisis have led to high levels of poverty and food insecurity amongst both Lebanese and refugee communities. The first Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) for Lebanon in September 2022 found that 1.29 million Lebanese and 700,000 Syrian refugees are facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3, *Crisis*, and Phase 4, *Emergency*). As the economic crisis continues to worsen, and food prices increase, food insecurity is expected to affect 1.46 million Lebanese and 800,000 Syrian refugees by April 2023

Basic living conditions for Syrian refugees are in continuous decline. The 2022 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees found that 90 percent of Syrian refugee families were in need of humanitarian assistance to survive, with the most basic needs out of reach due to inflation.

WFP is at the forefront of the response to Lebanon's economic and refugee crisis, which supported 2.1 million of the most vulnerable Lebanese and refugees in 2022 to meet their food and other essential needs. WFP plans to maintain its assistance to vulnerable people in 2023, targeting 2.4 million people.



Population: **6.8 million**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

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

Operational Updates

- In December, WFP assisted a total of 1.8 million people through cash-based transfer modalities amounting to USD 22 million and through the distribution of food parcels. The people assisted were 683,400 Lebanese, 1,087,000 Syrian refugees, and 5,300 refugees of other nationalities.
- The new cycle of cash assistance for refugees will start in January 2023. Eligibility announcements were shared with beneficiaries in November, informing them of their assistance status for 2023. Households who were not selected for assistance were able to submit claims on their eligibility status through the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). The claims are being analysed jointly by WFP and UNHCR, and families will be informed of their assistance status by February 2023.
- WFP assisted 356,200 Lebanese individuals (63,600 families) through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) in December. Together with the Ministry of Social Affairs, WFP will complete the scale-up in early 2023 to reach 430,000 individuals (75,000 families) on a monthly basis with cash assistance through the NPTP.
- WFP supported 289,900 vulnerable Lebanese individuals (76,000 households) with food parcels in December with distributions in all 26 districts across Lebanon. Starting January 2023, will distribute a new food basket of 11 commodities tailored to the size of assisted families, covering 61 percent of individual energy requirements.
- In December, 65,000 refugee and Lebanese students in 105 schools received snacks through WFP's School Meals programme. An additional 4,8000 students received cold meals (sandwiches and fruit/vegetables) prepared by women in 6 schools as part of the School Kitchens initiative. WFP installed solar panels at 3 of the 6 school kitchens (in Akkar, Tyre, and Zahle), which will help extend cold storage of foods and increase production of cold meals.

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

Photo Caption: It's recess time! Khadija, alongside other women partaking in WFP's School Kitchens initiative, prepares sandwiches for students at Qoubbeh school in Tripoli.
WFP/Khadija Dia

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Percentage Funded
3.39 bn	2.21 bn	65 %
2022 Requirements (in USD)	2022 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (Jan 2023 – Jun 2023)
1.33 bn	897 m	463 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 (CBT 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 (CBT)
- Asset creation and livelihood support activities (CBT)

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 food Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) reached LBP 1.1 million per person/month in November, a 2 percent increase from October. The full SMEB, including food and other

essential needs, amounted to LBP 5.6 million for a family of five in November, a 3 percent increase from October.

- In December, 373 Syrian families receiving cash assistance were visited and interviewed. Findings show that the average time to reach ATMs or Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) to redeem entitlements increased from 21 minutes in November to 25 minutes in December, mainly due to hikes in fuel prices.

Story Worth Telling



Intisar preparing her 'mouneh', a type of Levantine food provisions, to last her the winter season.

Photo: WFP/Mustapha Ghabris

In Intisar's home, traditions aren't lost. The 63-year-old Syrian woman, originally from Damascus, still makes sure to buy the food items and ingredients she needs to make her own *mouneh* – a type of Levantine food provisions.

Preparing *mouneh* is common practice amongst families in Lebanon and Syria alike. As temperatures drop in autumn, certain foods are dried, fermented, or preserved in olive oil to last the winter season. This traditional method has long helped families in rural areas maintain a regular source of food when the weather got too cold and certain foods were no longer available.

Intisar's family is one of more than 80,000 Syrian refugee families in Lebanon who receive unrestricted cash assistance to support their food needs (others receive multipurpose cash assistance or restricted food e-vouchers). With this card, Intisar can withdraw cash from ATMs or MTOs or use her card at any shop to buy what she needs, including those contracted by WFP.

"I withdraw the money from the card and use it to buy the items for my *mouneh*," says Intisar. "We prepared two jars of makdous (pickled stuffed eggplant), but they're almost done. We said to ourselves that when we have enough money again, we'll make two more jars."

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