

## WFP Lebanon

# Supply Chain at WFP Lebanon

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



SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

With the start of the economic crisis in late 2019, **WFP expanded its supply chain capacity in Lebanon** to meet the increasing food security needs of both refugee and Lebanese populations, focusing on two responses:

- WFP began its **economic crisis response for vulnerable Lebanese** in 2020 with the goal of reaching 400,000 vulnerable Lebanese families through food parcels.
- In the wake of the Beirut port explosion in August 2020, which destroyed the country's only wheat silos, **WFP initiated a logistics operation to bring in and distribute 12,500 metric tonnes of wheat flour** to bakeries to increase the weight of the subsidized bread package for two months.

### OPTIMIZED SUPPLY CHAIN

In light of Lebanon's fast-changing context, WFP uses a **dual-sourcing strategy** for food parcels to support in-kind food assistance, in the most cost-efficient manner. The food is procured from the local and/or international markets to maintain a high degree of agility in securing the best value for money while effectively leveraging the associated pipeline risks.

The procured parcels are transported to WFP warehouses strategically located across Lebanon, prioritizing proximity to areas where WFP assistance is most required, with the main staging area in Beirut.

WFP optimization efforts in this regard are further enhanced by establishing a seamless **supply chain integration between WFP and its cooperating partners' warehouses**. This integration results in a dynamic and cost-efficient distribution model, where in some locations, WFP warehouses act as key staging areas while in other instances, the cooperating partner warehouses play this role. The locations of the partners' warehouses enable the swift and efficient transportation of food parcels to their final distribution sites.

In 2023, WFP conducted a comprehensive **Wheat Value Chain Analysis** covering every stage of the wheat industry, from the importation of wheat grains to the production of baking goods. This analysis aimed to identify existing gaps, with a particular focus on uncovering opportunities for wheat fortification.

WFP is working to provide **harmonized customs clearances** for UN agencies in Lebanon, ensuring better services and competitive prices. In May 2023, WFP obtained a 30-day storage permit at both Lebanese ports of Beirut and Tripoli at the minimum fee that will substantially reduce port handling costs, particularly in case of strikes or other delays.

### IN NUMBERS 2020 – JUNE 2023



**111,745 MT** of food procured

**127.5 M USD** Disbursed to procure food



**3** warehouses operated by WFP

### PROCUREMENT SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENT

As part of its different programmes, WFP actively **supported the procurement activities** of various key partner ministries during 2023. Among many important initiatives are the procurement of a **fully-equipped call centre for the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA)** (including hardware, call centre service provider and refurbishment services) and the **price monitoring and analysis services** jointly used by the **Ministry of Economy and Trade (MoET)**.

In 2022, WFP supported the **Food Safety Laboratory and Quarantine Centre rehabilitation** project at the port of Beirut in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture. A critical project in support of the country's food supply chain that included the reconstruction of the destroyed laboratory centre building, procurement and installation of damaged equipment, and replacement of the lost and destroyed lab tools and supplies aimed to return the full functionality of this facility.

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 successfully delivered more than 10 million litres of fuel to 600+ health and water facilities in all 26 districts in Lebanon. Around 2.3 million people in Lebanon benefitted from the fuel operation through support to water stations.

### 2023 AND BEYOND

Since September 2023, WFP introduced locally manufactured pasta and burghul produced in Lebanon, some of which are made from locally grown wheat, into its in-kind food parcels, aiming to boost the local agriculture and food manufacturing industry. In conjunction with this endeavor and the Wheat Value Chain Analysis, WFP aims to identify opportunities to **fortify specific wheat products** linked to the results of the Lebanon Integrated Micronutrient and Anthropometric (LIMA) survey, conducted by the nutrition sector to assess the nutritional status of the most vulnerable people.

Amid a deepening economic crisis, WFP will maintain its in-kind food operation to assist vulnerable Lebanese. These supply chain arrangements will also serve as a **strategic contingency measure** against any potential shock to the financial system that would compromise the delivery of cash assistance for WFP's other programmes.