



LEBANON

COUNTRY BRIEF
October 2026



402,300 people assisted in September
(52% female)



465 mt food distributed in September



USD 9.8 M cash transferred in September



USD 125.3 M required in the next six months
(October 2026 – March 2027)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- WFP is preparing to launch a two-month mixed-modality assistance pilot for recently displaced Syrian households in collective shelters in Jabal Mohsen in Tripoli.
- The Logistics and Telecommunications Cluster facilitated seven convoys to hard-to-reach locations in South Lebanon and supported two regional Jordan-Lebanon convoys.
- WFP and UNHCR Representatives undertook a high-level advocacy mission to Berlin, engaging Members of Parliament, BMZ, GFFO and key policy stakeholders. The mission reinforced the need for sustained international support to Lebanon, spanning humanitarian funding, social protection and capacity strengthening.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Low-intensity hostilities persisted in southern Lebanon, including reports of airstrikes, shelling, drone activity and military incursions, while the continued Israeli military presence in parts of the south underscored the challenges facing any stabilization efforts.
- According to IOM, although more than **877,200 people had returned** to their areas of origin by 29 September. Over **330,000 remained displaced**, including **14,280 people residing in 154 collective shelters**. Recovery efforts continued to be constrained by insecurity, damaged infrastructure and limited access to some areas of origin, as well as basic services.
- According to [a World Bank report](#), following a brief recovery, Lebanon's economy is projected to contract by 6.4 percent in 2026, while inflation is expected to rise to 17.5 percent. Economic pressures are already mounting, with consumer prices increasing by 77.3 percent since August 2023 and annual inflation reaching 16.66 percent in August 2026. Price increases have been particularly pronounced in water, electricity, gas and other fuels (+32.1 percent), transportation (+31.7 percent), housing and utilities (+17.9 percent), and food and non-alcoholic beverages (+11.7 percent), further increasing the cost of basic services, mobility, and household consumption.
- At the same time, one-third of previously employed workers have lost their jobs, and labour incomes have fallen by more than 40 percent, eroding purchasing power and limiting households' ability to meet essential needs.

Reporting Period: September 2026

Photo Caption & Credit: On the ground in South Lebanon, WFP teams witness the scale of destruction during a field visit to the affected villages. WFP/Khadija Dia

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Emergency Response

- **Since the escalation in March, WFP has reached 1.1 million conflict-affected people across Lebanon** through a combination of cash (77 percent) and in-kind (23 percent) assistance. Through its emergency food response, **WFP assisted 324,600 internally displaced persons and vulnerable individuals in host communities with in-kind food assistance**, delivering **over 9.7 million hot meals, 33,700 ready-to-eat (RTE) rations**, and more than **650,000 bread packs, food parcels, and snacks**. WFP and partners have also provided **USD 45 million** in cash assistance, reaching **768,000** people across Lebanon.
- WFP maintained **seven operational community kitchens** across Lebanon in September, including six TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training) kitchens and one OPD (Organisations of Persons with Disabilities) kitchen in Saida, producing approximately **44,000 hot meals**. While community kitchen operations in Baalbek and Hermel remain suspended due to security constraints, WFP has expanded preparedness through the rehabilitation and equipping of additional kitchens in the Bekaa, North and South. If activated, these facilities will increase emergency response capacity and expand geographic coverage.
- Since the conflict escalation, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster has facilitated **48 convoys** delivering humanitarian aid including WFP's food parcels and bread to almost **160,000 people** in hard-to-reach areas.

Assistance for Syrian Refugees

- **As part of the shelter prioritization exercise to transition displaced Syrian households with cooking capacity from hot meals to in-kind assistance**, WFP conducted in-shelter distributions on 21 September in four shelters in Jabal Mohsen, Tripoli. Of the 475 individuals (183 households) targeted, 413 individuals (159 households) received in-kind food assistance, representing an 87 percent coverage rate. To support the transition, beneficiaries continued to receive two hot meals per week alongside two packs of bread to complement the dry food ration.
- WFP also continued providing emergency hot meals to displaced Syrian households remaining in shelters, **delivering approximately 400,000 meals to 13,200 individuals across 71 shelters**. This included 10,700

individuals in 47 shelters in Baalbek-El Hermel and 2,500 individuals in 24 shelters in North and Akkar.

Economic Crisis Response for Lebanese

- WFP continued the September in-kind assistance cycle, delivering **423 mt of food assistance** and reaching more than one-third of the planned caseload of **45,670 Lebanese individuals** by month-end despite operational constraints. To ensure continuity of support in areas affected by access and security challenges, beneficiaries in four border districts remained temporarily covered by emergency cash-based assistance, with **1,780 households** receiving transfers in lieu of food rations during the reporting period.
- **WFP continued implementing the interim targeting phase**, extended through October 2026 to maintain programme continuity while preparations for the next targeting cycle are finalized. As part of the process, **998 households remained temporarily on hold pending verification**. To support newly verified beneficiaries and ensure timely assistance delivery, WFP conducted both a regular monthly transfer and a supplementary payment for delayed transfers.
- In September, WFP provided **USD 6.6 million in assistance to approximately 280,000 individuals**, including 202,000 people receiving multipurpose cash assistance and 78,000 people supported through Cash for Food. The September distribution marked the fourth payment cycle under the interim targeting approach, helping sustain assistance to vulnerable populations during ongoing programme adjustments and verification activities.

School Meals

- **WFP participated in the Education Sector's After-Action Review**, organized by the Lebanon Education Sector, following the March 2026 emergency response, sharing lessons from the implementation of school meals and education-related emergency support. The review generated recommendations to strengthen sector preparedness, coordination, and response capacity for future emergencies.

Shock Responsive Agricultural Assistance

- **The joint EU-FAO-WFP programme is entering its final phase**, with a remedial payment batch planned for October for verified but previously unredeemed or on-hold beneficiaries under the Food Assistance for Training (FFT) and Smallholder Resilience and Agricultural Assistance (SRAA) components. This will

conclude all remaining cash assistance activities under the project, marking a key programme milestone.

Accountability to Affected Populations

- WFP strengthened accountability to affected populations through its call centre and other feedback channels. In September, the call centre received 26,520 claims, of which **86 percent were actionable and 93 percent were resolved, while 80 cases were referred to UNHCR for follow-up.** To improve responsiveness, WFP onboarded 19 additional call centre agents. Common concerns related to assistance eligibility, validation appointments, card and PIN issues, and access to assistance.
- Community engagement efforts focused on increasing awareness of assistance programmes, targeting criteria and feedback mechanisms through outreach activities, community volunteers and digital channels, helping affected populations access reliable information and raise concerns safely.
- In parallel, WFP strengthened gender, protection and disability mainstreaming through **capacity-building for 115 cooperating partner staff, field teams and call centre operators.** WFP also worked with UNFPA to advance disability-inclusive emergency response and recovery guidance and contributed to the Lebanon Country Gender Equality Profile 2026 to inform future UN programming.

Assessment and Monitoring

- To inform programme design of a planned two-month mixed modality assistance pilot for recently displaced Syrian households in collective shelters in Jabal Mohsen in Tripoli, WFP conducted focus group discussions, baseline food security assessments, and shelter-level consultations to gauge food security conditions, readiness for the transition, and potential implementation challenges. A post-distribution assessment will measure beneficiary satisfaction and generate lessons learned to inform future modality decisions.
- In parallel, **WFP completed cooking capacity assessments across 16 displacement sites hosting post-2024 arrivals. Findings informed a phased transition strategy,** with half of the sites assessed as ready to move directly to in-kind assistance, most of the remaining sites requiring targeted mitigation measures, and one site recommended to continue receiving hot meals due to significant infrastructure and cooking constraints. The exercise is supporting

WFP's efforts to optimize assistance modalities while ensuring changes remain aligned with beneficiary needs and local conditions.

Supply Chain

- WFP continued to strengthen supply chain efficiency, accountability and preparedness through ongoing market assessments to monitor vendor capacity, price fluctuations and warehousing options across Lebanon. **Under a new service-level agreement with UNRWA, WFP commenced management of the handling and distribution of 7,000 mt of wheat flour,** with the first 2,000 mt already received and dispatches underway.
- Following approval of retailer sourcing procedures, **WFP strengthened oversight by centralizing retailer offer management and advancing an end-to-end digital solution to enhance process traceability.** In September, 18 sourcing exercises were completed, while performance reviews of food e-card, school feeding, emergency and SME (Small and Medium Enterprises) contracts progressed.
- **WFP also began migrating retailer transaction data to its Amazon Web-based NEST platform,** creating a stronger foundation for price monitoring, market intelligence and evidence-based programme decision-making.

Logistics and Telecommunication Cluster

- In September, the WFP-led Logistics and Telecommunications Cluster facilitated **seven convoys to hard-to-reach locations** in South Lebanon and supported **two regional Jordan-Lebanon convoys,** enabling **ten organizations** to deliver humanitarian assistance to affected populations.
- The Cluster also advanced preparedness and coordination efforts through **a nationwide telecommunication needs assessment** and consultation with humanitarian partners. In addition, Lebanon's experience as a pilot operation under the Humanitarian Reset agenda continued to inform global discussions on integrated logistics and telecommunications coordination and future cluster approaches.

Food and Agricultural Sector

- The Food Security and Agriculture Sector continued to provide critical assistance to populations affected by displacement, return movements and conflict, **reaching 644,720 people under the Flash Appeal through food assistance in 2026.** The sector also

supported the coordinated distribution of bread in partnership with the Ministry of Economy and Trade following a flour donation.

- **Emergency agricultural interventions reached 4,700 conflict-affected farmers with USD 1.68 million in cash and in-kind support**, while partners continued assessments to identify recovery needs. Despite ongoing assistance, humanitarian needs remain high, particularly in South Lebanon and Nabatiyeh, where infrastructure damage, insecurity and limited access to services continue to affect vulnerable households and farming communities.

Partnerships and Advocacy

- On 22-23 September, **WFP and UNHCR undertook a high-level advocacy mission to Berlin, engaging Members of Parliament, BMZ, GFFO and key policy stakeholders**. Discussions focused on Lebanon's humanitarian situation, access constraints, social protection reforms, refugee return dynamics and recovery prospects. The mission helped reinforce the need for sustained international support for Lebanon, with ongoing discussions around humanitarian funding, as well as interest in supporting government-led approaches, including social protection systems and capacity strengthening initiatives.

From supporting children's learning to strengthening communities



A school meal may be served in minutes. But behind it are years of work, partnerships and planning. In Lebanon, that work has been taking shape since 2016.

What began as a way to help children stay nourished and ready to learn is growing into a national school meals system that supports children, families and communities. Today, 135,000 students are reached, up from 78,000 in 2023, while 92 percent of food is produced locally, connecting school meals with local businesses and producers.

"There's a sense of warmth that comes with knowing you're preparing a meal your child will eat in class. I used

to sometimes drop my kids off at school and wait in the car until the school day ended. Now, I join other mothers in the school kitchen to prepare sandwiches while the children are learning. Says Lamis, a mother volunteering in one of WFP's school kitchens

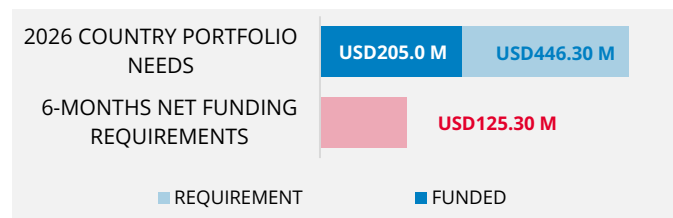
Beyond the classroom, the systems, skills and partnerships built around school meals can also strengthen communities, particularly during times of crisis.

Under the Government's leadership, WFP is supporting efforts to build a sustainable national school meals system. Lebanon's commitment through the School Meals Coalition includes expanding school meals, particularly for the most vulnerable children, and integrating them into national education policy.

With the new school year, which begins in October, approaching, the Government, with support from WFP, partners and donors, continues to lay the foundations for school meals to become an enduring investment in Lebanon's children and communities.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)



Donors

Australia, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Private Donors, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN and other funds, UN CERF, United Kingdom, United States.

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