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WFP Syria Crisis Regional Response Situation Report

November 2017

Highlights

- As of November 2017, there are more than 5.3 million Syrians seeking refuge in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.
- During the month, WFP assisted more than 3.0 million people through various food and cash assistance programmes.
- WFP continued to scale up assistance and deploy new approaches in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable refugees, as well as host communities in the region. Additionally, WFP prepares for the transition to Country Strategic Plans, which will start in January 2018, replacing the Regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation.

Situation Update

Regional

- As of November 2017, there are more than 5.3 million refugees from Syria in the neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey. Egypt
- On 24 November, a bomb and gun attack near the al-Rawdah Mosque during Friday prayers in Bir al-Abd, located west of North Sinai Governorate's al-Arish, took place. At least 305 people were killed and more than 109 injured. The attack is considered to be the deadliest in Egypt's modern history. The attack has no direct impact on WFP operations.

Iraq

 With the declaration of victory over ISIL, the Government and the humanitarian community in Iraq are now shifting their focus from major military campaigns and emergency assistance to rebuilding communities and recovery activities. The Iraqi Government has started encouraging IDPs to return home from camps. In addition, with the expected return to a more stable society, the Government has scheduled its parliamentary elections for May 2018.

Jordan

 The overall safety and security situation in Jordan remained stable, with Jordanian Armed Forces continuing to foil infiltration attempts, according to media reports. The Jordanian Armed Forces have increased defensive systems along the borders.

Lebanon

Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri resigned on 4 November, but later announced he is suspending his resignation. Hariri had accused coalition partner Hezbollah and Iran of spreading strife across the region. He said the situation had been resolved after all members of the Government agreed to stay out of the affairs of other Arab states. The political situation had no major impact on WFP's operations.

Turkey

• Large numbers of suspects continued to be arrested in counter-terror operations across Turkey for their links to

In Numbers

5.3 million refugees from Syria **3.0 million** people assisted in October

People assisted





GENDER MARKER 24 OF PRRO 200987

Regional Refugee Overall: US\$ 4.6 billion and Resilience Plan(3RP) WFP share: US\$ 1.3 billion 2017-2018

WFP 6-month Net Funding

Requirements (January – June 2018)

Regional	US\$ 300 million		
Egypt	US\$ 17 million		
Iraq	US\$ 14.5 million		
Jordan	US\$ 106 million		
Lebanon	US\$ 145 million		
Turkey	US\$ 17.5 million		

IDP/Refugee A Sea Port Ó

Syria Crisis: WFP Operational Overview

the Kurdistan Workers' Party and Daesh. Turkish security forces seized a large amount of explosives and ammunition during these operations particularly in south-eastern provinces.

WFP Response

Food and Nutrition Assistance

Egypt

- WFP Egypt supported a total of 75,908 refugees from Syria with cash assistance through general food assistance (GFA) and food-assistance-for training (FFT). Each beneficiary received a monthly voucher assistance worth EGP 400 (USD 22).
- WFP completed a verification exercise, distributing 5,344 new e-cards out of the planned 5,516 to Syrian refugee households in Alexandria, Matrouh and Mansoura. A total of 19,234 people will benefit from the new e-cards.

Iraq

- WFP Iraq reached a total of 57,133 Syrian refugees with cash-based transfers through GFA, totaling USD 1.074 million of assistance. Each beneficiary of either unrestricted cash transfers or e-vouchers received IQD 22,000 (USD 19) per month.
- WFP launched phase 2 of its Tech for Food activity, with 57 returning students from the pilot phase. The students have been split into two groups – one taking WordPress and online freelancing and the other working on projects' simulation as well as testing income-generating platforms and services. Both groups are also taking English language classes. Recruitment of 50 new participants to take part in a new 8-week round of basic training set to start in January is underway.

Jordan

- WFP Jordan supported a total of 858,753 Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians through a variety of activities. Of this, a total of 490,683 beneficiaries were supported with e-cards and paper vouchers in the host communities, in King Abdullah Park Transit Centre, and in Azraq and Za'atri camps. Through WFP's tiered approach, the extremely vulnerable Syrian refugees in host communities were assisted through e-cards with a value of JOD 20 (USD 28), and vulnerable refugees through e-cards with a value of JOD 10 (USD 14). In camps and Transit Centre, WFP also assisted Syrian refugees through paper vouchers and ecards with a value of JOD 20 (USD 28).
- As of November, 10,500 people had successfully redeemed USD 1.8 million of entitlements (food restricted e-vouchers) through 220,000 transactions handled through the blockchain system. The technology has resulted in reduced transaction fees by 98 percent. It also enabled WFP to directly manage beneficiary entitlements in real time, control financial risks, and better protect beneficiary data.
- WFP phased in the Healthy Kitchen Project in Za'atri and Azraq camps. Around 30,000 schoolchildren attending formal education at the two camps will start receiving baked meals prepared in six operational kitchens in the camps.
 Lebanon
- WFP Lebanon assisted 791,719 Syrian refugees, Palestinian refugees from Syria, and vulnerable Lebanese with food and cash assistance through GFA, school meals, asset-creation and training activities.
- As part of the contribution from the UK Department for International Development, approximately

90,000 of the most vulnerable Syrian refugees continued receiving USD 27/person for food assistance plus a top-up of USD 175/household to contribute towards additional food expenses and other non-food essentials. Cash is redeemable at any ATM throughout the country. With the support of additional funding from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid, in December, a total 115,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees will be targeted with this type of assistance.

Turkey

- WFP Turkey reached a total of 1,262,939 people in November. Of this, a total of 140,693 people received e-vouchers with monthly value of TRY 50 (USD 18) under the in-camp assistance programme. Additionally, ESSN payments were transferred to 1,122,246 individuals in November, or 189,589 households, with each household receiving monthly cash transfer of TRY 120 (USD 44). The average beneficiary household size further decreased slightly, and is now 5.92 people per household. Applications to the ESSN continue to grow, with up to 3,500 applications received by Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations, and Service Centres each week.
- The final report from the first round of a Social Cohesion Survey has been published, and shows refugees generally have a strong sense of gratitude to the Turkish people and the Government. Turkish sentiment towards refugees is polarised, with economic issues appearing to be contentious. The report makes a case for further accurate communication of information to host communities to correct misunderstandings and misperceptions surrounding refugees.

📌 Economic Impact

• Since 2012, WFP's regional operation has injected US\$ 3.2 billion into local economies in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, through cash-based transfers, local food procurement and other expenditure.

Resourcing Update

• WFP needs an additional US\$ 300 million from January to June 2018 to continue providing food assistance for refugees in the region. With the current levels of confirmed contributions, WFP's operations in the region are facing pipeline breaks as early as January 2018. Without additional funds, millions of people currently being assisted will have their assistance either significantly reduced or completely cut. It has been proved that reductions in food assistance causes families to turn to negative coping strategies such as taking children out of school, and not covering urgent medical needs, in order to save money for food.

Contacts

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WFP Operation						
	Total Requirements (in US\$)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (January—June 2018)	People Assisted (November 2017)	Activities	Modality	
Regional PRRO 200987 (2017-2018)	2.31 billion	300 million	3.05 million			
Egypt		17 million	75,908	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training	Cash-Based Transfers	
Iraq		14.5 million	57,133	General Food Assistance	Cash-Based Transfers	
Jordan		106 million	858,753	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training School Meals	Food Cash-Based Transfers	
Lebanon		145 million	791,719	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training School Meals	Cash-Based Transfers	
Turkey		17.5 million*	140,693 (in-camp) 1,122,246 (ESSN)	General Food Assistance	Cash-Based Transfers	

*In-camp only