



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Lebanon | Situation Report

August 2024

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

In 2024, Lebanon continued to face socioeconomic and political turmoil including a prolonged presidential vacuum and escalating tensions along Lebanon's southern borders, impacting over **200,000 individuals**, with more than half internally displaced. The updated [Integrated Food Insecurity Phase Classification \(IPC\) analysis](#) conducted in March 2024 projected a deterioration in the food security situation in Lebanon - from **19 percent** food insecure people in March 2024 to **23 percent** between April and September 2024, equivalent to **1.26 million** people, due the persistent multiple crises and the reduction of humanitarian assistance.

WFP RESPONSE

In line with its Country Strategic Plan (CSP) for 2023–2025, WFP remains focused on the response to Lebanon’s economic and refugee crises and the additional needs linked to the escalating security situation in South Lebanon since October 2023. In August, WFP assisted **670,000** Syrian refugees and around **140,000** Lebanese nationals*.

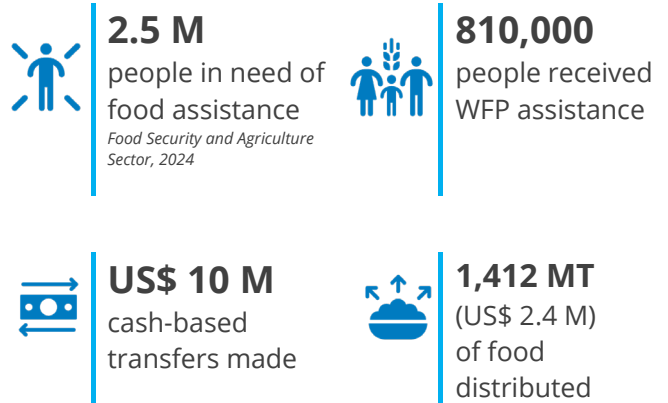
Due to funding constraints and based on retargeting exercises, WFP has reduced assistance to both refugees and Lebanese by up to **52 percent** reaching around **1 million** individuals during the first half of 2024 compared to **2.1 million** in November 2023.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

	% Funded	Available	Required
Country Strategic Plan (2023-2025)	25%	US\$ 766 M	US\$ 3.1 B
2024 Total Requirements	28%	US\$ 265 M	US\$ 960 M
Net Funding Requirements (Sep 2024 - Feb 2025) US\$ 303.6 M			

*Excluding 150,000 students who received school meals during the academic year, which concluded in June.

IN NUMBERS - AUGUST 2024



HIGHLIGHT:

WFP RESPONSE IN SOUTH LEBANON

In August, the intensity of the conflict on Lebanon’s southern borders remained high. Since the onset of the conflict, over **113,000** people have been internally displaced. **1,250** individuals currently reside in shelters, while the rest stay with families in secondary residences or sub-par dwellings improvised as shelters.

Security challenges in the South also led to the closure of **72** public and private schools, affecting more than **20,000** enrolled students.

In addition to its regular programmes in the South, **WFP has supported over 240,000 people affected by the conflict since October 2023**, with several rounds of food and cash assistance helping to cover their additional needs.

In August alone, WFP distributed in-kind food parcels to **around 16,700 Lebanese people affected by the conflict** in Beirut, Saida and Tyr districts.

WFP is also preparing for a larger emergency response in case of further escalation. More details on WFP’s emergency response in the South will be included in the upcoming situation report.

WFP RESPONSE

Cash Assistance for Refugees



In August, WFP provided unconditional cash-based assistance to **670,000 Syrian refugees** (119,500 households) through three modalities:

- **Multipurpose Cash**, for food and other essential needs redeemable at ATMs or money transfer agents: 249,300 Syrian refugees.
- **Cash-for-Food**, for food needs redeemable at ATMs, money transfer agents, or shops: 171,300 Syrian refugees.
- **Food e-cards**, for food needs redeemable at WFP-contracted shops: 249,400 Syrian refugees.

Economic Crisis Response Supporting Lebanese

WFP reached 121,000 individuals (28,500 households) with food parcels in August, providing 1,262 kcal per person per day meeting about 60 percent of the average daily calorie intake needs.

Support to Social Protection Programmes* for Lebanese

In July 2024, WFP's cash assistance under the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) ended for 400,000 Lebanese individuals set to be gradually moved to the Government's Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN). In August, WFP, the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), and the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (PCM) completed the final phase of the NPTP recertification for 17,900 additional NPTP applicant households, following the June recertification of 72,000 assisted households. Full results anticipated in September 2024, will determine the total number of newly integrated people into ESSN. However, delays in releasing ESSN funds left 400,000 ESSN beneficiaries without expected payments in July and August and postponed the gradual transitioning of NPTP households into ESSN.

Following the successful pilot of the WFP-supported Social Safety Nets Grievance Redress Mechanism and call center at MoSA in July, WFP initiated a pre-launch SMS campaign in August aiming to inform ESSN and NPTP beneficiaries about the Call Center contact number. As a result, the call center answered around 4,700 calls from beneficiaries who mainly requested more information about the delayed assistance.

School Meals for Lebanese and Refugees

In August, WFP completed the data collection for the national assessment of 386 public schools in Lebanon, initiated in May 2024 in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), UNICEF, and International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). This assessment aims to understand school needs and children's nutritional status which will inform national nutrition programmes and policies. Notably, 4,500 families, 6,710 students and 300 school directors were interviewed, with final results expected during the last quarter of 2024.

Livelihoods for Lebanese and Refugees

In July, WFP launched the Climate Adaptation Innovation Accelerator Programme to enhance food security by promoting local, climate-adaptive solutions and invited innovative ventures to apply for grants of up to US\$200,000. Nine ventures from Lebanon were shortlisted each addressing critical climate challenges faced by food system actors. Four of these ventures have advanced to the next phase where they stand to receive grants ranging from US\$ 75,000 to US\$ 200,000.

GENDER AND SOCIAL INCLUSION, PROTECTION & ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS (AAP)

The number of claims received by the WFP call center slightly increased between July and August 2024 (from **35,700** to **36,400** claims respectively). Of those, 92 percent were addressed and closed in the same month. **34** percent of the claimants requested WFP assistance, **15** percent of the calls were related to programmes (e.g. distribution and validation issues), **12** percent asked to update their personal data, **1** percent of the calls were protection-related, and **38** percent requested information on other topics.

In August, **34** percent of the protection claims were related to legal counselling, an increase by **64** percent from July. These requests predominantly came from refugees facing legal issues, risk of deportation and domestic violence, seeking legal assistance to enhance their legal status, and documentation or to process divorce and separation. All protection-related claims were referred to relevant partners for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, child protection, threats, legal counselling, and shelter.

WFP, in collaboration with its cooperating partners, activated the community volunteer network of Syrian refugees across Beirut, Mount Lebanon, the South, and Bekaa in August 2024. A two-day training session at the WFP Country Office brought together **38** volunteers (22 females and 16 males). The training equipped the volunteers with the right tools to disseminate crucial information about WFP programmes and to facilitate community-based activities.

After attending WFP's training sessions on gender and protection in July 2024, WFP's cooperating partners' staff conducted three targeted awareness sessions to **45** beneficiaries (30 women and 15 men), to improve their understanding of Gender-Based Violence and prevention strategies.

WFP continues to prioritize disability inclusion, reaching **43,300** people with disabilities in August through its different activities.

MONITORING & ASSESSMENTS

In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO, WFP launched in July the Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) to deliver an in-depth analysis of Lebanon's agricultural and food security landscape. The mission will evaluate key areas such as agricultural production, market conditions, the national food supply-demand balance, and household food and livelihood security. The assessment visits have been completed, and results are anticipated in the last quarter of 2024. These findings will inform the development of food security and livelihood programmes for 2024 and beyond.

* The NPTP is funded by WFP donors and the ESSN programme is funded through a World Bank loan to the Government of Lebanon, with WFP implementing cash transfers as a service provider.

FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Since the onset of the conflict in South Lebanon, sector partners have distributed more than **636,000** daily meals, and **60,000** food parcels and Ready-To-Eat meals to people affected by the crisis (as of the end of August). The sector also collectively provided one-time or multiple rounds of cash assistance to more than **67,000** affected households and **290** farmers whose agricultural livelihoods were impacted by the conflict.

ADVOCACY, COMMUNICATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

Throughout August 2024, WFP maintained high-level engagement with donors, including the US and Germany, to provide updates on its regular operation while also advocating for additional resources should the conflict in the South escalate further.

On 30 August 2024, the WFP Lebanon Country Director Matthew Hollingworth met with USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator Diana Darsney, USAID Mission Director Julie Southfield and her team. The discussions focused on WFP's preparedness measures in southern Lebanon and its response to the country's ongoing crises. WFP and USAID also discussed their collaboration and emphasized their shared commitment to maintaining a strong partnership.

In August, WFP commemorated World Humanitarian Day and released a video featuring one WFP Lebanon logistics staff member who shared his experience in delivering WFP assistance to families affected by the South conflict. The video can be accessed [here](#).

KEY CHALLENGES

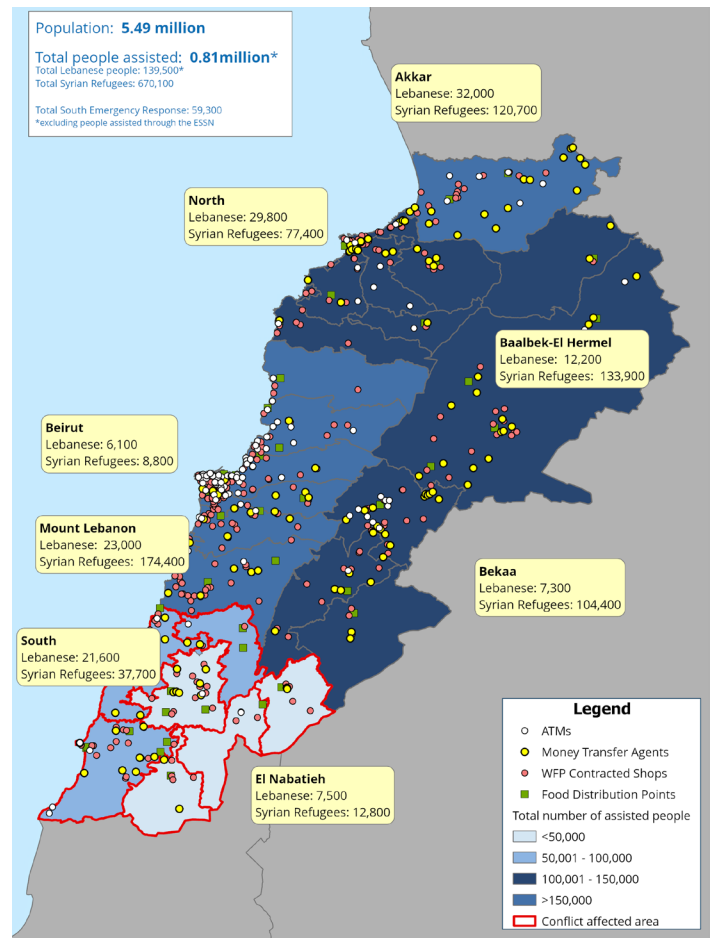
The ongoing conflict in South Lebanon continues to disrupt WFP's regular operations, particularly in the Bekaa and South regions. Coupled with funding shortfalls, WFP faces the dual challenge of sustaining emergency programmes for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese, while also addressing the urgent needs in the South.

WFP is actively advocating for increased funding through strategic engagement with key donors and exploring new funding opportunities to meet the growing demands.

Donors

Australia, Austria, Canada, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lebanon's Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Malta, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Sweden, United Kingdom, USA

WFP CASH & IN-KIND ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES AND LEBANESE – AUGUST 2024



Zaher benefiting from WFP in-kind distributions holds his food box in his van.
Photo: WFP / Photo Library

Zaher, a 60-year-old father of four living in Lebanon, works long hours as a security guard for a private company. Despite his dedication, he earns just US\$350 a month, which barely covers the essentials for his family. Before the economic crisis, Zaher and his family managed to meet their needs, with some room for small comforts. Now, they find themselves burdened with debts, struggling to make ends meet. Food assistance from the World Food Programme (WFP) has been a lifeline, easing the pressure and ensuring the family has enough to eat. This support has allowed Zaher's children to stay in school, giving them hope for a brighter future. "What I hope for most is the return of stability and peace for my children and the chance for them to finish their education, something I never got to do," says Zaher. For many Lebanese like Zaher, WFP's assistance is a vital source of support in these challenging times.