

# WFP LEBANON EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## External Situation Report 11

05 December 2024

### HIGHLIGHTS

- WFP is closely monitoring population movements following the ceasefire, **swiftly adapting its assistance** to meet the urgent needs of displaced individuals and returnees. Since 23 September, WFP **reached 497,900 people with cash and food assistance** in addition to its regular programmes. This brings the total number of people assisted by WFP in November to **more than 2.1 million**, across both regular and emergency programmes.
- This week, WFP conducted **three joint interagency convoys to Aarsal in North Lebanon, as well as Saida and Nabatiyeh in South Lebanon**, delivering critical food and non-food assistance to heavily impacted areas.
- A tripartite agreement was signed between WFP, the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs, and UNICEF to **register 1.2 million IDPs in a national registry** for potential assistance.

### IN NUMBERS



**1.6 million** people affected by the conflict

**658,500** conflict-affected people assisted *since January 2024*



Needs resourced      Net-funding requirement

**US\$ 88 M**

**US\$ 18 M**

*October-December 2024*

*\*The beneficiaries' figures are to be confirmed once November 2024 reporting is completed by partners. The total beneficiaries figure accounts for the overlap between people receiving cash and food assistance.  
\*\*The figures of the regular programmes do not include the emergency response figures.*

Emergency Response  
*Since 23 September 2024\**

**497,900**  
assisted people



**4.6 M** cooked meals  
**US\$ 12.8 M** transferred cash  
**1,200 MT** of food baskets

Regular Programmes  
*November 2024\*\**

**917,400**  
assisted people



**870 MT** of food baskets  
**US\$ 19.8 M** transferred cash

Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN)  
*November 2024*

**770,300**  
assisted people



**US\$ 18.9 M** transferred cash

### SITUATION UPDATE

- Nine days into the ceasefire, the situation in the country remains fragile, with **multiple violations** through ongoing military activities recorded in the first week alone.
- Of the **1.6 million** people displaced by the conflict, **201,800** remain internally displaced. [IOM estimates](#) that **786,500** Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) have begun returning to their communities, though these observed returns cannot be considered permanent, as many people remain on the move.
- As of 5 December, only **8,700** people remain in shelters, representing a **96 percent** reduction since pre-ceasefire levels.
- Reverse cross-border movements between Syria and Lebanon have also accelerated following the simultaneous announcement of the ceasefire in Lebanon and rapid escalation of hostilities in Syria. UNHCR estimates that **34,000** Lebanese nationals have returned to Lebanon, while the exact number of newly arriving Syrian refugees is yet to be confirmed.
- The two main border crossings, Arida and Josiah, connecting Lebanon and Syria, have been targeted by airstrikes this week and are temporarily closed.
- Schools have started reopening, with those previously used as shelters currently undergoing infrastructure assessments and needed repairs before they can be used again for education.
- Lebanon's food insecurity is set to worsen**, further straining infrastructure, displacing communities, and deepening the effects of the economic crisis. As per the World Bank, Lebanon's real GDP growth for 2024 is projected to decline by 6.6 percent, further deepening an economic contraction of over 34 percent in the past five years, equivalent to losing 15 years of growth.

## WFP OPERATIONS

### WFP Response

- In 2024, WFP, in collaboration with the Government of Lebanon and its partners, reached **658,500 people affected by the conflict** with food and/or cash assistance, including **497,900 reached** after the recent escalation on 23 September.
- Alongside its emergency response, **WFP reached 1.68 million people through its regular food and cash assistance in November**, broken down as follows: in-kind food to 85,000 Lebanese, cash assistance to 832,400 Syrian refugees, and the Government's ESSN cash transfers to 770,300 vulnerable Lebanese.
- On 3 December, WFP re-started its school meals operation, distributing snacks in **80 schools to 21,600 students**. This activity will be gradually rolled out in the remaining WFP-supported schools as they reopen. WFP plans to scale up its assistance from **110,000 students** in the previous academic year to **130,000 students** in the current academic year. This plan will be coordinated with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education's technical team to agree on the areas to be targeted.
- A tripartite agreement was signed between WFP, the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs, and UNICEF to **register 1.2 million IDPs in a national registry for potential assistance**.

### Supply Chain

- **WFP has dispatched 3,200 mt of WFP food assistance**, including light Ready-to-Eat (RTE) rations, regular RTEs, food parcels, bulk commodities, and bread packs, deploying more than 400 trucks since 23 September.

## CLUSTERS AND COMMON SERVICES

### Food Security Cluster

- Since 23 September, Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) partners, including WFP, have supported **displaced people in shelters and outside shelters** by providing **more than 10.5 million hot and cold meals, RTEs, bread, and food parcels**. (View more [here](#)).
- Since the ceasefire, uncertainty persists regarding the precise number of IDP movements and changes in shelter populations. FSAC is working with partners to

ensure continued monitoring of population movements. As WFP and partners re-assess their response strategies, FSAC is also adjusting the **FSAC Partners Joint Response Plan** to align priorities and readjust plans based on emerging needs.

### Logistics Cluster

- During the reporting period, **three inter-agency convoys** were completed for Aarsal, Saida and Nabatiyeh. The convoys supported a total of seven partners. Since the activation of the Logistics Cluster on 8 October 2024, a total of 1,283 m3 were transported for 13 partners and nine partners were supported via common storage services in Beirut.

## ASSESSMENTS AND MONITORING

- WFP estimates that the food basket cost per person has reached **US\$ 37.7**, marking a **3.9 percent** (+US\$1.5) increase since the second week of September. Cereals and pulses, especially bread, are the main drivers of the increase during this period, spurred by the lifting of subsidies on wheat flour used to produce Arabic bread earlier in September. The cost of the bread component per person per month, alone, rose by **15 percent** (from US\$ 5.8 to US\$ 6.7). The non-food items (NFI) basket cost for a household of five per month registered a **3.8 percent**, or US\$ 2, increase, reaching **US\$ 54.4** per month. This is largely attributed to the cooking gas cost per month, which rose from **US\$ 13** in mid-September to US\$ 14.8 in late November.
- The exchange rate of Lebanese pound to US dollar remains stable, standing at LBP 89,700/ US\$ 1 in the informal market and at LBP 89,500/US\$ 1 with the Central Bank rate.

## ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED PEOPLE

- During the reporting period, WFP's call center received almost 836 inquiries, predominantly from displaced individuals. Key concerns included requests for cash and food assistance. Protection-related calls made up 12 percent, **with 89 percent of those requesting shelter services**, mainly from Syrian refugees, either reporting that they are without shelter after the ceasefire or that they are facing significant increases in rental fees by landlords, making them unable to secure housing.

# WFP EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE | 23 September – 05 December 2024

