**FOOD SECURITY**

**HIGHLIGHTS on Resilience:**
- WFP seeks to help the Government reach the neediest food insecure people more effectively and efficiently by (1) Strengthening National Institutions that Support Food Security; (2) Enhancing Access to Education and Combatting Child Labour; (3) Building Resilience of Vulnerable Groups; and (4) Supporting Nutrition.
- WFP Egypt aims to provide food assistance in the form of school snacks in order to enhance children’s access to and attendance in pre-primary and primary education, and contribute to combatting child labour and building resilience for

**NEEDS ANALYSIS:**
- Insipce of the deterioration in food security levels compared to the last quarter of 2014, WFP-assisted Syrian refugees managed to maintain their level of food consumption level stable since beginning of 2015. However, it has been observed that such stabilization in terms of diversity and frequency of food consumption was actually associated with increased level of stress of assisted Syrian refugees, presumably related to the cuts in voucher value that occurred in January.
- In particular, the post distribution monitoring exercise has revealed notable increases in the implementation of both food consumption-based strategies – e.g. borrowing food from relatives and friends, limiting portion size - and asset-depletion ones, such as spending savings and reducing health/education expenditures.
- Food prices have increased by 1.4 percent during the month of April, mainly driven by a 6.4 percent increase in vegetable prices, and a 4.5 percent increase in fruit prices.
- Food prices will possibly further increase pushed by an expected higher demand during the month of Ramadan that will start in mid-June. Further increases in prices are also expected in July with a scheduled increase in electricity prices and a possible introduction of the Value Added Tax (VAT) before July 2015. On 23 April, the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) decided on not to further decrease interest rates and instead keep it unchanged to avoid inflationary pressures and ensure price stability.

**REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS: MAY 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Syrian and Syrian Palestinian Refugees in the Community (boys/girls 5-18 years old)</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>19.2 OR BELOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89% of households with acceptable food consumption score</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79,935 eligible vulnerable persons who benefit from food assistance</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>89,371</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**LEADING AGENCIES:**
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