

WFP's Response in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq

Situation Report # 6

Reporting Period: 10-16 June 2012



Fighting Hunger Worldwide

HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- **In Jordan**, during this reporting period, WFP has provided hot meals and breakfast in Al-Bashabsha and Stadium transit centres for an average of 800 people daily while in Cybercity transit centre, WFP assisted 424 people with weekly family food packages. June distribution cycle of direct food assistance to 25,000 beneficiaries will start on 17 June.
- **In Lebanon**, distribution of WFP vouchers began on 15 June in Aarsal (Bekaa Valley) and will continue until 17 June to reach over 500 families; some shops are already receiving beneficiaries. In the North, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is distributing the 2,600 family food packages provided by WFP and the Lebanese High Relief Committee (HRC); distribution has been completed in Wadi Khaled for 666 families.
- **In Iraq**, WFP is preparing to assist some 5,000 people with direct food assistance in July as Syrians continue to cross the border; WFP's planning figure for Iraq has increased from 10,000 to 15,000 beneficiaries in December, in line with the interagency planning.
- **The Government of Turkey** has been generously supporting Syrian refugees, providing a very high standard of assistance. WFP is in discussion with the Government to complement this support using a voucher scheme covering an initial target of 30,000 beneficiaries. This activity has been included in the updated Regional Response Plan (RRP) due to be launched on 28 June. WFP is deploying an assessment team to look into the requirements of setting up the voucher programme in Turkey.

Jordan

SITUATION UPDATE

- Some demonstrations have taken place in Amman, including protests against the rise in commodity prices and the economic crisis affecting Jordan. No security concerns have been raised but WFP continues to monitor the price of food as this could affect both food security in Jordan and WFP's voucher programme for Syrian refugees.
- UNHCR reports that as of 11 June, they have registered 24,151 Syrian refugees with an additional 500 currently awaiting registration. The Government of Jordan reports that over 130,000 Syrians have entered the country.

WFP RESPONSE

- WFP is targeting 25,000 Syrian refugees living in host communities in Irbid, Zarqa, Marfaq, Karak and Amman with family food packages. In addition, WFP is providing food assistance for up to 1,500 people per day in three transit centres: in Al-Bashabsha and Stadium, WFP is providing daily hot meals, breakfast and

bread, while in Cybercity, WFP is providing family food packages as the centre has been equipped with cooking facilities by UNHCR.

- The June cycle distribution of direct food assistance to 25,000 beneficiaries will start on 17 June.
- WFP reached 15,720 Syrian refugees living in Jordanian communities during the May cycle.
- In July, WFP food assistance to these 25,000 beneficiaries will phase over to a value-based voucher programme.
- During this reporting period, WFP provided hot meals and breakfast in Al-Bashabsha and Stadium for an average of 800 people; in Cybercity WFP assisted 424 people with family food packages.

WFP Food Distribution to Syrian Refugees in Transit Centres

Assistance	Bashabsheh		Prince Hashem Stadium		Cybercity	
	This Week (average) #	Total # to date	This Week (average)	Total to date	This Week (average individuals reached)	Total to date
Bread*	780	18,200	500	14,850	1530	35,700
Breakfast	543	13,233	228	6,717	n/a	n/a
Lunch	574	26,163	237	11,067	n/a	8,525
Weekly Family Food Packages**	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	424	1,681

*Pieces

**Packages tailored to the number of individuals per family

- WFP has contracted the provision of hot meals for the beneficiaries in Ramtha to a local supplier from 19 April until 12 June. A new Field Level Agreement has now been signed with an NGO, Takiyet Um Ali (TUA), which has extensive experience in hot meals assistance programmes in Jordan. TUA will be responsible for all aspects of this activity including the preparation of meals, distribution, reporting and monitoring. WFP will also continue its own monitoring of these activities.
- WFP's food is procured locally and is delivered to the implementing partner's central warehouses directly where all repackaging is done. Distribution takes place either directly from these warehouses or through the different distribution centers around the country.
- Preparations for the nutrition survey in Jordan (and Lebanon) are ongoing. The WFP and UNICEF nutrition consultants will start working in Jordan this week (16 to 21 June).
- WFP Jordan Country Office monitors the delivery of all food to transit centers and communities through a daily reporting system. WFP receives daily, weekly and monthly reports from JRC and JHCO including beneficiaries reached (using gender-disaggregated data), packages distributed and quantity of commodities delivered.
- The Post Distribution Monitoring exercise for the dry rations distribution is currently underway and is expected to finish by the end of next week (24 June).
- A consultant Cash & Voucher expert is in Amman supporting the development, initiation and implementation of the voucher-based food assistance to the Syrian refugees in Jordan, based on WFP and partners' best practices in the region.

COORDINATION/EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- Five NGOs have submitted proposals to implement the voucher programme in partnership with WFP. Follow up with the potential partners for final selection will take place by next week (25 June).
- After discussion within the food sector coordination group, WFP has submitted all food sector inputs into the Jordan component of the UNHCR-led RRP revision which plans assistance of Syrian refugees through

December 2012. The food sector inputs are largely based on WFP's Regional Refugee EMOP but incorporate the other activities planned by partners within the sector.

Lebanon

SITUATION UPDATE

- Several abduction incidents reported over the last week in different locations in north Lebanon heightened tensions in that area; similarly, in the Bekaa Valley, reports of cross-border incursions, kidnapping incidents and alleged planting of landmines along the eastern borders caused concerns among refugees and local communities. These events have slowed down the general activities of the Humanitarian Community and are of concern to WFP, which continues to monitor closely.
- As of 14 June UNHCR has registered 20,702 Syrian refugees in the country. An additional 2,250 Syrians in Tripoli and 4,000 in the Bekaa Valley are pending registration while being assisted by UNHCR and partners.
- UNHCR started registration in Jdeide, Bekaa Valley where 881 individuals have been registered so far, bringing the total for the Bekaa Valley to 5,299 persons. In the North, UNHCR registered an additional 767 people during this reporting period bringing the total to 14,727.
- New Syrian families have arrived in villages in North Bekaa including Al Hermel, Al Qaa, and Mazraat Ain el Jaouze. UNHCR is following-up with the local authorities in order to confirm numbers and needs.

WFP RESPONSE

- Starting in June, WFP is assisting 15,000 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in the Bekaa Valley through value-based food vouchers. In addition, WFP has provided 1,300 family food packages for the June distribution parallel to the 1,300 families assisted through High Relief Commission (HRC) in north Lebanon. Further assistance in this region will be provided through value-based vouchers from July.
- DRC is distributing the 2,600 family food packages provided by WFP and HRC for beneficiaries in the North for the June cycle. The distribution has been completed in Wadi Khaled covering 666 families.
- WFP met with DRC and ACF to finalize the work plan for implementation of the voucher programme in the North. Due to capacity constraints, DRC have informed WFP that they will not be able to start the programme in the North before September; WFP and DRC are discussing options to overcome this issue including the possible collaboration with DRC and ACF to conduct the retail assessment in order to speed up the process. Family food packages will be provided until the voucher system comes on line.
- Distribution of WFP vouchers began on 15 June in Aarsal (Bekaa Valley) and will continue until 17 June, reaching over 500 families. On 16 June, the Emergency Coordinator, the Head of Sub-Office (HSO) and the RB Voucher expert went to Aarsal to monitor the voucher distribution and visit retail stores. The distribution was proceeding as planned. Of the 9 stores visited, 4 were already serving beneficiaries.
- WHO, UNICEF, Action Contre la Faim (ACF), IOCC and WFP held a final meeting in Beirut to fine tune the methodology and the questionnaire to be used for the Nutrition Survey of the refugee population. All documents have now been sent to Amman to ensure compatibility between the Jordan and Lebanon surveys. A committee comprised of WFP, UNICEF, WHO, IOCC and ACF will meet regularly to oversee the implementation and analysis of the survey. The Lebanese authorities (Ministry of Health and High Relief Commission) have given their approval for survey implementation.
- Discussions on the need for a Food Security Survey of the Syrian refugee population in Lebanon under the supervision of the RB VAM unit are ongoing given the data available. Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and World Vision Lebanon (WVL) have already completed assessments and further information is likely to be available from the upcoming UNDP livelihood and economic survey and the rapid nutrition assessment which, at WFP's request, has integrated questions on food security. Once all this data is available, WFP will

examine whether it is necessary to undertake further data collection or if analysis can be done with existing data.

- The sub-office in Chtaura (Bekaa Valley) is now fully operational.
- The sub-office in Qobayat will be fully operational starting 18 June.

COORDINATION/ EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- The official letter explaining WFP's voucher strategy was sent through HRC to the Government of Lebanon; WFP met with General Bashir, HRC's Secretary General, on 12 June and he confirmed his agreement to implement the food voucher programme in north Lebanon.

Turkey

- Turkey has been generously supporting Syrian refugees, providing a very high standard of assistance. WFP is now in discussion with the Government to complement its support using a voucher scheme covering an initial target of 30,000 beneficiaries. This activity has been included in the updated Regional Response Plan (RRP) due to be launched on 28 June and will be included in the regional EMOP once necessary market and voucher assessments have been completed.
- The number of Syrians in Turkey continues to increase. There are 28,139 refugees registered with the Government as of 12 June.
- The current population of the Ceylanpınar Camp in Şanlıurfa is 4,946, an increase of more than 4,200 individuals since mid-May. Most new arrivals are now sent to Ceylanpınar as the camps in Kilis and Gaziantep are almost full.

Iraq

SITUATION UPDATE

- As of 5 June, UNHCR has registered 4,941 Syrian refugees while 465 Syrians await registration.
- UNHCR reports that an estimated 20-25 families and 100-120 singles continue to enter the Kurdistan Region on a weekly basis.

WFP RESPONSE

- At the request of UNHCR and local authorities, WFP will provide in-kind food assistance to some 5,000 Syrian refugees in July, with priority given to camp refugees in Domiz, Dohuk Governorate.
- WFP's planning figure for Iraq has increased from 10,000 to 15,000 beneficiaries in December in line with the revision of the Regional Response Plan for the Syria Situation. The financial implications of this rise will be reflected in a budget revision of the EMOP.
- UNHCR reports that under the revision of the Regional Response Plan for the Syria Situation, they are also planning for 5,000 refugees in Baghdad and 5,000 in Anbar governorate.
- WFP will start distribution of direct food assistance in July; during June, BMD has agreed to provide food assistance to the refugees in the Domiz refugee camp.
- DDM continues the provision of three hot meals per day to single males and dry food rations to families.
- The WFP and UNHCR-led joint assessment of the Syrian refugees in Erbil, Dohuk, Suleimaniyah and the camp in Domiz is currently in process. This assessment is being conducted by UN agencies, NGOs and the Bureau of Migration and Displacement (BMD).
- WFP and BMD will start the Cash & Voucher feasibility assessment for the implementation of the value-based food voucher component of the Regional EMOP on 19 June.

COORDINATION

- Islamic Relief Worldwide and ACTED NGO will be submitting proposals for the distribution of WFP commodities to the refugees in Domiz. WFP is meeting Kandil NGO to assess their capacity in assisting WFP if the caseload increases substantially.
- WFP Iraq has provided inputs for the RRP; the financing request has been updated to US\$2.18 million.

Activities and coordination at Sub-Regional level

COORDINATION

- WFP, WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF and different national authorities are in the final stages of preparing the joint nutrition survey for the refugee population in Lebanon and Jordan. The target for completion of this survey is around 15 July, before the beginning of Ramadan. Results are expected by the end of August. The methodology used will be defined jointly by WFP and UNICEF at the regional level. Nutrition consultants for both UNICEF and WFP have been recruited and are due to start working 17 June.
- WFP has developed and is continuously updating contingency plans to ensure readiness in the event of a rapid escalation of humanitarian needs in the region and is in the process of finalising a CONOPS with the support of the RB.

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