



# SITUATION UPDATE

JULY 2015

## SYRIA CRISIS REGIONAL RESPONSE

### HIGHLIGHTS

- WFP will cease assistance to 229,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees in Jordan from September.
- Based on the results of Iraq's Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment, WFP will reduce its caseload by almost half starting next month.
- WFP has developed plans until the end of 2015 for each of the countries in the region, channelling its limited available resources to support the most vulnerable among Syrian refugees.



For information on WFP's Syria Crisis Response in 2013 - 2015, please use the **QR Code** or access through the link: [wfp.org/syriainfo](http://wfp.org/syriainfo)

WFP/Berna Cetin



**World Food Programme**

## Assessments indicate deteriorating food security

The protracted nature of the crisis, combined with the lack of livelihood opportunities and the overall reduction in humanitarian assistance, continue to have a negative impact on the vulnerability and food security of Syrian refugees.

The Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME) completed in May 2015 in **Jordan** found that 85 percent of Syrian refugee households are either vulnerable to food insecurity or food insecure - a dramatic increase from 2014, when only 48 percent of households were food insecure. Refugees residing in communities have been particularly affected with 35 percent experiencing a decrease in their food security status.

The use of coping strategies is becoming ever more common amongst Syrian families. In 2015, in Jordan, 67 percent of households reported they have adopted crisis or emergency livelihood coping strategies<sup>1</sup> to deal with a lack of resources to buy food – nearly double the number of households resorting to such strategies in 2014.

In **Lebanon** the 2015 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) reports a deterioration in food security, with 54 percent of Syrians depending on WFP cash-based transfers (CBT)<sup>2</sup> as their main income source in 2015 – an increase from 40 percent last year. Syrian refugees adopting severe and crisis coping strategies also increased from 28 percent in 2014 to 67 percent in 2015. Half of refugee families are below the survival minimum expenditure basket<sup>3</sup> compared to 29 percent in 2014.

The reported trends show that humanitarian assistance is not sufficient to meet the needs and that this shortfall is impacting the vulnerability and food security levels of the Syrian refugees.

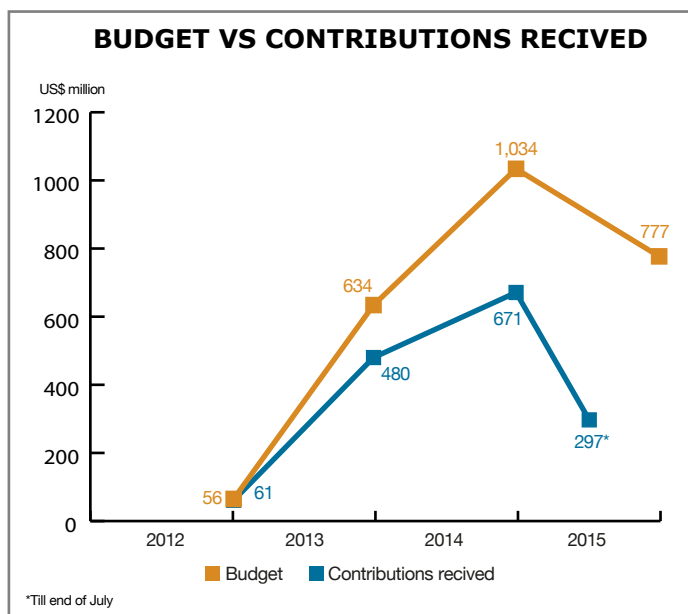
## Available resources do not accompany the increasing needs

Despite the generosity of donors, current resources are simply not enough to ensure the necessary support to refugee food needs in the fifth year of the Syria Crisis.

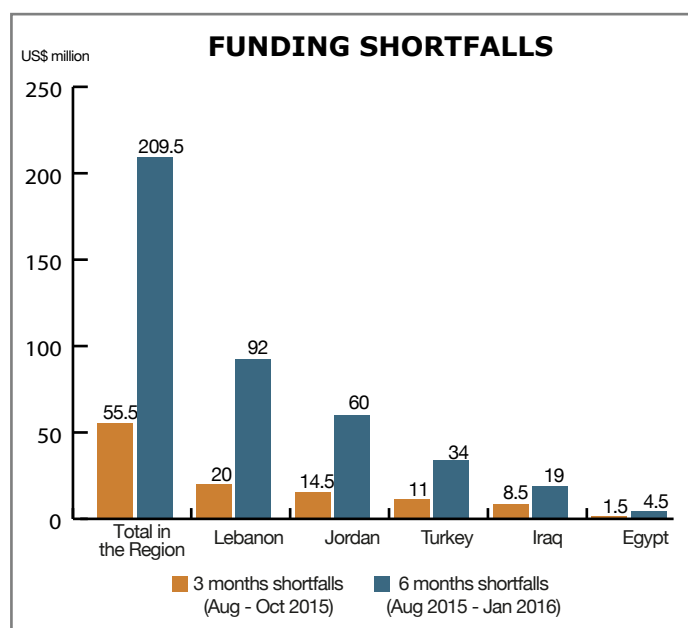
Over the past couple of years, donor attention has shifted to several other serious emergencies in the region and elsewhere – Libya, Iraq, Yemen and South Sudan; the Ebola crisis in West Africa; the earthquakes in Nepal – rendering advocacy for and financial commitment to the protracted emergency affecting Syria and countries hosting

Syrian refugees more challenging.

Thus far, donors have stood by WFP and enabled the agency to carry out the crux of its response in Syria and the region, with contributions covering 100 percent of requirements in 2012, 76 percent in 2013 and 65 percent in 2014. Now in its fifth year, WFP's response is facing a 62 percent gap in coverage (until August).



WFP still urgently requires USD 56 million to cover shortfalls for the regional operation for the next three months (Aug-Oct 2015) and USD 210 million to cover shortfalls for the next six months (Aug 2015-Jan 2016).



<sup>1</sup> Such as sending household members to beg, sending children to work and reducing expenditure on education and health.

<sup>2</sup> A cash-based transfer is a transfer of money from WFP to the beneficiary via the modality of voucher or direct cash which is redeemable or spendable for the purchase of food items. In the context of the Syrian Response, WFP's cash-based transfers refer to the paper and/or electronic vouchers distributed to beneficiaries on a monthly basis.

<sup>3</sup> Defined as the minimum food required to meet 2,100kcal per day; the minimum non-food items required per month; rent; minimum water supply required per month; clothes; communication; and transport.

## Efforts to support the most vulnerable

For the first seven months of the year, the regional EMOP has been implemented at about 57 percent of its budget. About 450,000 Syrian refugees – who were deemed able to meet their food needs – have ceased to receive assistance since the beginning of 2015. Progress continues to be made towards targeting the most vulnerable among the refugees.

Evidence-based targeting will continue to be a pillar of WFP programme design for the regional response, ensuring the agency's support to those that need it most by focusing resources efficiently. Close monitoring will be of the essence to make sure no vulnerable individual falls through the cracks. Appeals mechanisms and referrals will continue to enable feedback from the beneficiaries and address those cases that may warrant re-inclusion.

However, the reductions in funding have outpaced the more refined targeting, resulting in greater shortfalls foreseen for the remainder of the year. In order to bring some stability and predictability to the assistance until the end of 2015, an implementation plan has been put in place to ensure assistance reaches the most vulnerable among the affected populations. Since CBT uploads take place in a short timeframe, these plans remain flexible to allow for adjustment.

## The country-specific plans for the remainder of the year

- In **Jordan**, the CBT in communities will continue at 50 percent of the planned amount for the extremely vulnerable refugees who will receive USD 14.1/person/month through November. The vulnerable families will receive USD 7.05/person/month in August, but will be excluded from September onwards. As a result, some refugees may choose to move back to Syria or into camps where full assistance (USD 28.2/person/month) will be sustained. WFP has taken such potential moves into account in its planning.
- In line with the VASyR, which found that households in **Lebanon** have an on average 5.4 members, households will be limited to a maximum of five CBT from September onwards. Monthly reductions in beneficiary caseloads will continue as planned based on the results of the inter-agency household survey, currently on-going.
- From August to December, the value of the CBT in **Iraq** will be maintained for those who are food insecure, and reduced by 50 percent for those less vulnerable.

## Iraq's Targeting Exercise

WFP and its cooperating partner, REACH Initiative, completed data analysis for the Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment of all refugees residing in camps in mid-July. The results from the Food Security and Vulnerability assessment indicate there was a variation in the food security status of the camp population:

- 32 percent food secure (22,326 individuals)
- 67 percent marginally food secure (47,533 individuals)
- Less than 1 percent food insecure (860 individuals)

Based on the percentages above WFP will adopt a tiered approach, where food insecure refugee residing in camps will receive USD19 (22,300 IQD), marginally food secure refugees will receive USD10 (11,700 IQD) per person/per month and food secure refugees will no longer receive WFP food assistance. This will total a 47 percent reduction from WFP's previous caseload.

The Food Security and Vulnerability assessment for non-camp refugees is expected to start in September.

- WFP caseload in camps in **Turkey** was reduced by 30 percent – while the Government stepped in to maintain the voucher value and full caseload. In July, a programme to assist refugees not living in camps began targeting 2,000 people and will progressively increase the caseload expected to reach 30,000 refugees by the end of the year. WFP and the Turkish Red Crescent field teams continue to register Syrians in Gaziantep and Hatay for inclusion in the programme.
- As a result of the ongoing inter-agency socio-economic vulnerability assessment conducted in **Egypt**, there will be a progressive monthly reduction in the number of assisted refugees. This will see the current caseload of Syrian refugees decreasing from 69,000 to an estimated 45,000 by October, when the assessment of the remaining registered caseload in Egypt will be completed.

Communication plans are in place in all of the countries to inform WFP's beneficiaries and partners of the agency's operational plans. This, along with information on the appeals review process, is carefully shared in order to ensure beneficiaries are aware of their entitlements for each month and to allow as much time as possible for them to plan accordingly.

It must be noted, however, that the aforementioned implementation plan is purely resource-driven and in no way should be interpreted as a reflection of the vulnerability and food security of the population, which – if anything – have increased in this the fifth year of the crisis, as evidenced in the results of the food security assessments and other surveys in Jordan and Lebanon, particularly.

# Implementation Plan Based on Available Resources August – December 2015

		August		September		October		November		December	
LEBANON	Caseload	772,102	25,000	638,573	25,500	628,573	26,000	618,573	26,500	608,573	27,000
	Voucher value	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5	US\$ 13.5
JORDAN	Communities	229,000	211,000	211,000	96,000	201,557	115,000	194,057	130,000	189,057	140,000
	Camps	96,000	96,000	96,000	96,000	115,000	115,000	130,000	130,000	140,000	140,000
TURKEY	Communities	15,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
	Camps	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
EGYPT	Communities	53,340	47,756	42,830	42,830	42,830	42,830	42,830	42,830	42,830	42,830
	Camps	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
IRAQ	Communities	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
	Camps	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
		US\$ 10	US\$ 19	US\$ 10	US\$ 19	US\$ 10	US\$ 19	US\$ 10	US\$ 19	US\$ 10	US\$ 19
		Vulnerable Syrian refugees		Extremely vulnerable Syrian refugees		Vulnerable Syrian refugees in camps		Palestinian refugees from Syria			



## Joint planning and response

The 2015 Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) was developed with the aim of empowering host governments to take the lead in the implementation of long-term inter-agency programming in response to the Syrian Crisis. It represents the efforts made towards a more effective and sustainable response that strengthens the resilience and stability of countries affected by the crisis. However, by mid 2015, the 3RP has secured less than 30 percent of the requirements. This is a difficult situation, not least of which for the affected populations and the communities and countries hosting them and it comes at a time when we see a dramatic deterioration in food security.

The imbalance of increased needs in the face of dwindling funding is a function of the protracted nature of the conflict, the lack of employment and other livelihood opportunities available to refugees, as well as the general lack of sufficient humanitarian assistance.

WFP calls its partners and UN sister agencies to make realistic assumptions and plans for 2016, so as to prioritize the most vulnerable. Such efforts will require joint vulnerability frameworks and increased cooperation to maximize efficiencies and ensure the most effective use of scarce resources.

## Longer-term planning

### *Syria Regional Resilience Strategy*

The goal for WFP in the longer term is to ensure that affected populations and host countries are able to cope with and recover from the food security, nutrition, social and economic impact of the Syria crisis, by preserving food security, good nutrition, human capital and social cohesion.

WFP created a combined response and resilience strategy aimed at leveraging interventions for self-reliance for the most vulnerable while also promoting improved and diversified social protection and safety net options. WFP will also support governments to manage crises and risks and increase the global visibility and relevance of their accumulated know-how in urban crises and middle-income country responses.

### *WFP's Protracted Relief Operations in the region*

- In **Lebanon**, WFP is providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) to implement the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) for vulnerable Lebanese affected by the Syria Crisis. Launched in November 2014, the NPTP adopted WFP's

e-card platform to deliver food assistance to Lebanese beneficiaries. WFP cooperating partners provide an oversight role on the monitoring and reporting activities as a means to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the comprehensive voucher programme.

- In **Jordan**, WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) addresses the needs of vulnerable and food insecure Jordanians. This operation is not directly related to the EMOP and has its own programmes. By working closely with the Jordanian Government, WFP is implementing a food for assets (FFA) programme with the dual objective of enhancing the food security of vulnerable Jordanians, while improving community infrastructures and services. Moreover, graduates from the previously conducted intensive vocational courses under the food for training (FFT) activity will be enrolled in an on-the-job training starting in September. The aim is to assist participants in acquiring the professional skills necessary to enter the job market, thereby earning a sustainable income.
- In **Egypt**, WFP's Development (DEV) Programme includes school feeding activities directed at schools that have a high concentration of Syrians. This programme is coordinated on behalf of the country office and is, hence, not directly related to the EMOP. In this way, WFP is aiming to support the children of both refugee and host populations.

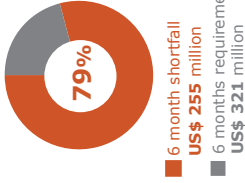


# Syria Crisis - Regional Response Dashboard

Date created: 20 August 2015

## FUNDING

### EMOP 200339 Requirements & Funding (Aug 2015-Jan 2016)

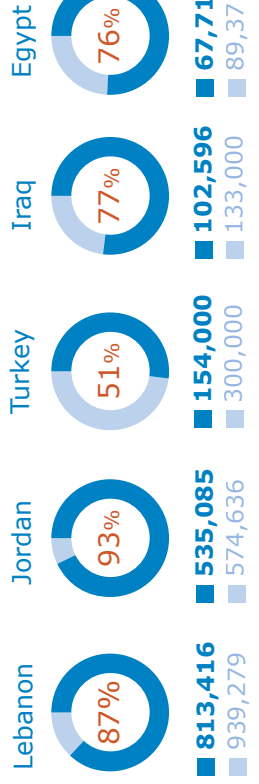


Source: PEGS, 20 August 2015

## BENEFICIARIES

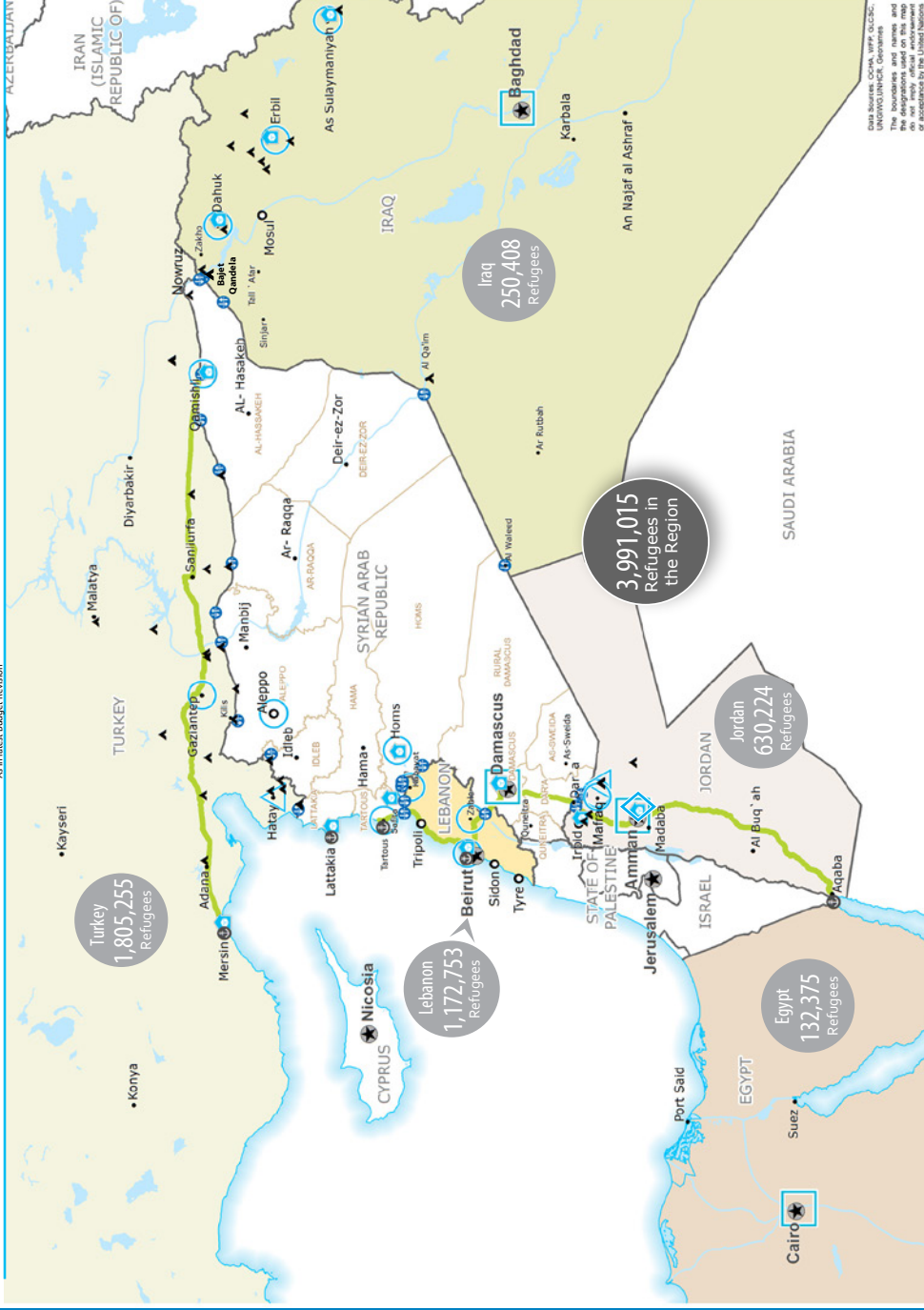
(31 July 2015)

Reached  
Planned



Total beneficiaries\* for July: 2.03 million

\*As in latest Budget Revision



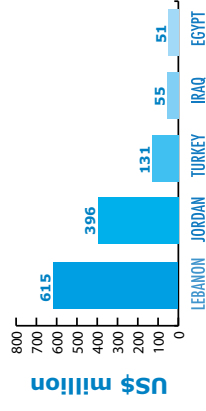
- Country Office
- Field Office
- Regional Emergency Coordinator's Office
- Warehouse
- Refugee Camp
- Road Supply Route
- Official Border Crossing Point

- National Capital
- Major Town
- Intermediate Town
- Small Town

- International boundary line
- Governorate Boundary
- Port

## \$

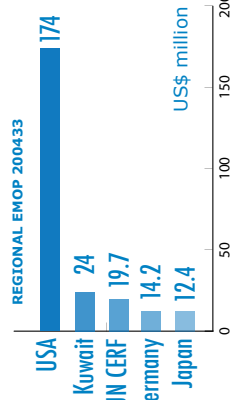
### MONEY INJECTED INTO LOCAL ECONOMIES BY VOUCHER PROGRAMMES (Start of Operations - July 2015)



Total Injected in the region: US\$1.25 billion

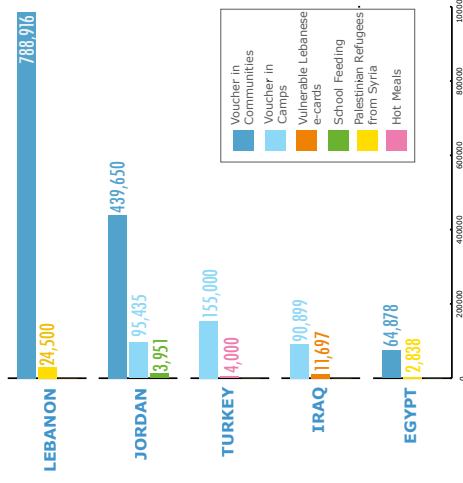
## \$

### TOP DONORS IN 2015 (WFP, as of 19 August 2015)



## \$

### ASSISTANCE MODALITIES (30 June 2015)



WFP is grateful for the critical support provided by multilateral donors in response to the Syria crisis, as well as that of Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Denmark, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States and private donors.



Donors are represented in alphabetical order.

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