

Food Security & Agriculture Sector

National Level Meeting

April 18, 2023

AGENDA

- Rapid Needs Assessment by AFDAL III project /CARE
- Food Security and Market Situation Analysis – WFP/RAM updates
- Draft MEB and Economic Capacity to meet essential needs for Lebanese receiving social assistance - WFP/RAM
- Updates from the sector (Activity Info reporting, mapping of agriculture projects, CCPM 2022 report)
- AOB
 - LHF



AFDAL III

Agriculture Farmers Development And Livelihoods III

Rapid Needs Assessment in North and South Lebanon

[February 2023] – [Lebanon]



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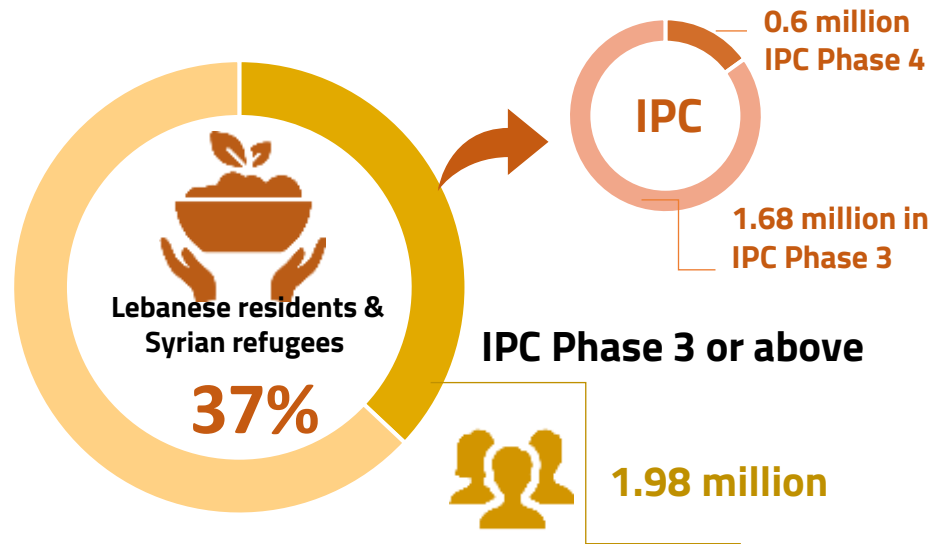
Food security and Agriculture situation





Food security and Agriculture situation

As a result of the multiple crises afflicting the country, population classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or above **require urgent humanitarian action to reduce food gaps, protect and restore livelihoods and prevent acute malnutrition**



Rural area has the highest level of acute food insecurity among Lebanese residents (Akkar, Baabda, Baalbek, and Tripoli)

- ➔ **People now depend on assistance, more than ever**
- ➔ **Need to provide sustainable support to people most in need**
- ➔ **Agriculture intervention, needed as a main sector in rural area**
- ➔ **Urgent need to transform the country's agrifood systems to make them **more efficient, more inclusive, more resilient, and more sustainable****

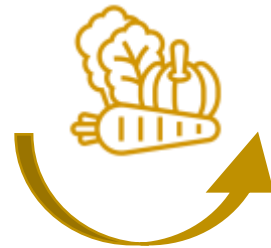


Food security and Agriculture situation

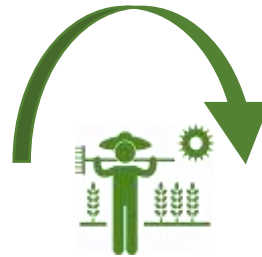
Lebanon has the highest proportion of agricultural land in the Middle East with 64.3% of total land area, while 14% (132 000 hectares) of the total area is considered arable (Bahn et al., 2019)



Major regions for crops, include the Bekaa plain, the North and the South with the coastal. Mount Lebanon and Nabatiyeh are also important agricultural zones (with lower shares of cultivated land) (IDAL, 2017).



Vegetables rank 1st in production size (potatoes are the main produce), Fruits rank 2nd (Citrus, apples, grapes and bananas) and Livestock production has also been picking up in recent years (IDAL, 2017).



Essential form of sustenance for many rural and increasingly urban families in the country



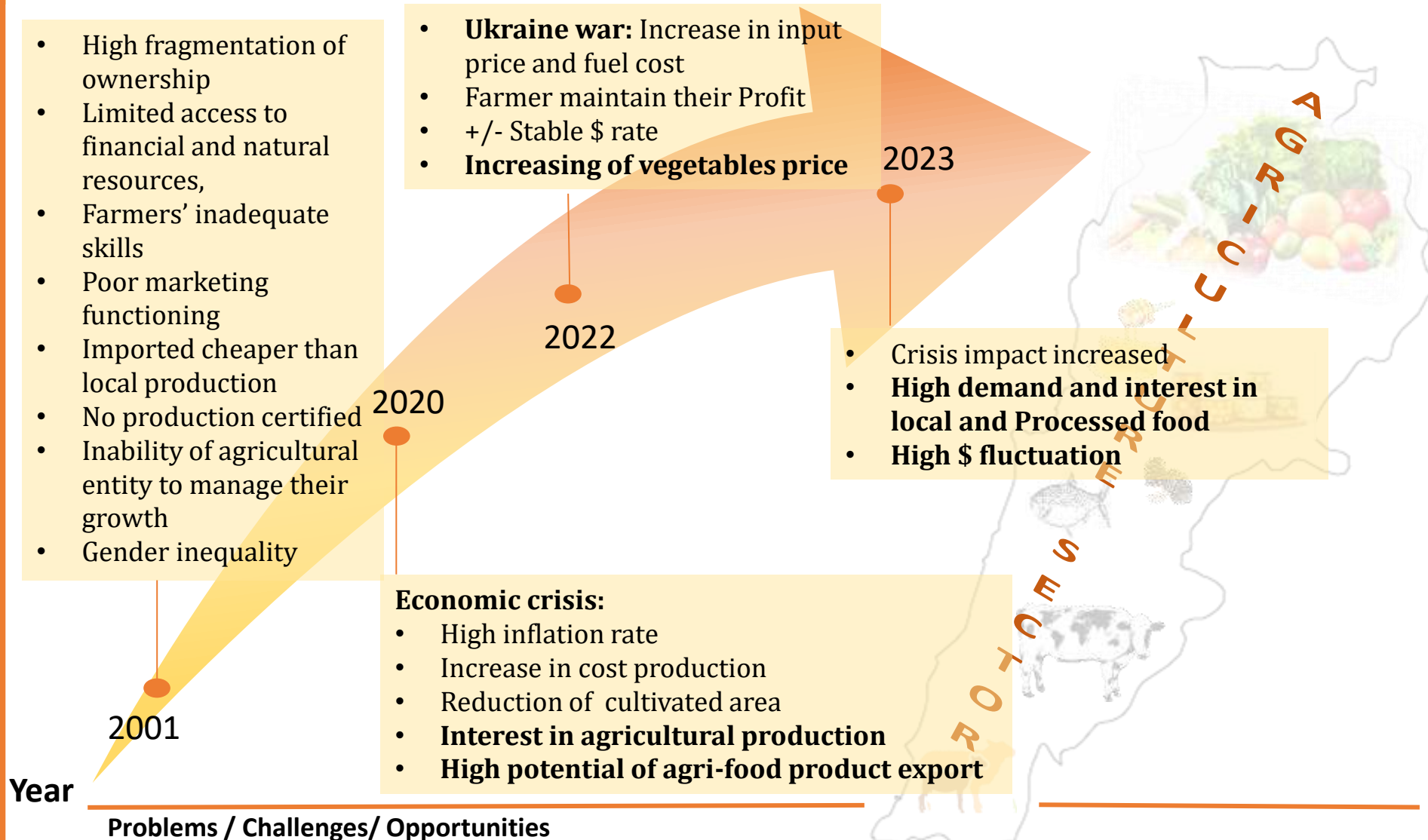
The agriculture sector is both resilient and flexible, but it continues to face mounting strains that threaten the country's food security, employment, and labor (AFD, 2021)



Women in Lebanon have been important contributors to the agriculture sector but made invisible; they account for around 43% of the workforce



Food security and Agriculture situation





Project description

2

AFDAL III





Project description

- ➔ **Funded by: BMZ & WFP**
- ➔ **Activity: Food For Training (FFT)**
- ➔ **Implemented by CIL through Partners**
- ➔ **Objective: Improve the resilience in the face of economic and climatic shocks affecting the food security**

Value chain- Phase 1: Vegetables, fruit and grains
From August 2022 to March 2023

Beneficiaries: Women, men, youth, PWDs

- 6 Farmers groups: 150 participants
- 6 Processors groups: 150 participants
- 6 Cooperatives: 84 participants
- 2 municipalities: 20 participants

➔ **Providing training and build new skills**

- **Life skills**
- **Market skills**
- **Business skills**
- **Technical skills**





3

Methodology





Methodology



A desk and literature review were developed with the aim informed the design of the research tools, the quantitative questionnaire, and the qualitative discussion guide.



Qualitative

Qualitative Data:

- 6 KIIs
- 2 FGD

- Farmer, processor
- Cooperative
- Municipalities

Recorded



Quantitative

- Assess the needs and challenges at the individual level
- sample size was n=200 adults across the North and South of Lebanon
- length of interview : 20 minutes
- The interviews were conducted via CAPI
- The incoming data monitored by the quality assurance team.



Study limitation

- Due to the limited sample size covered by the quantitative survey, results are not as conclusive as a representative sample size would be.
- Generalizations cannot be made based on the Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and Key Informant Interviews (KII)



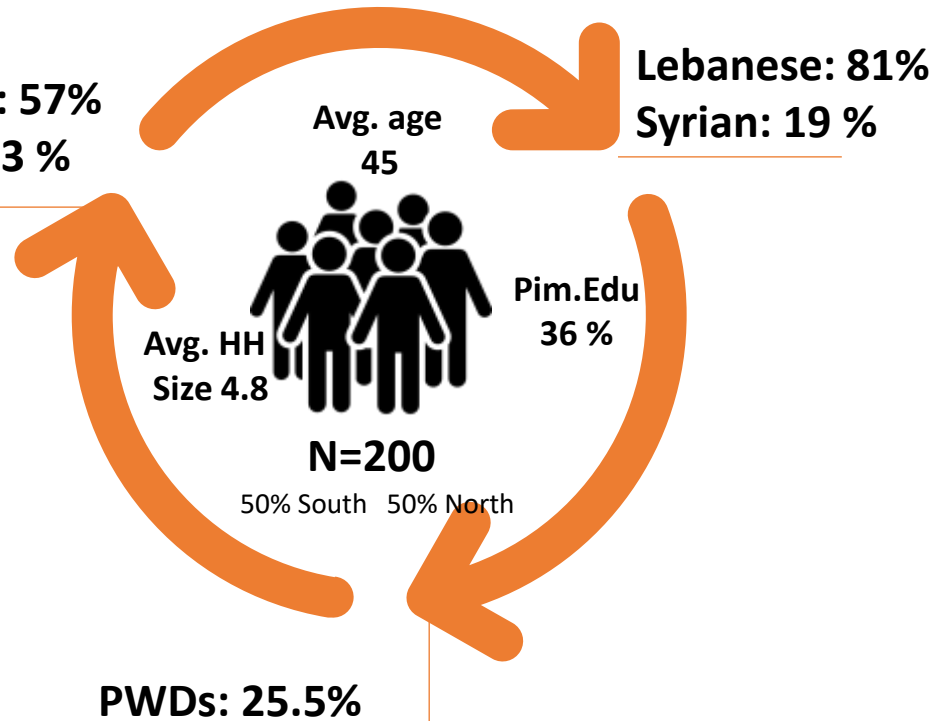
Methodology

Participant Profiling



Quantitative

Female: 57%
Male: 43 %



Lebanese: 81%
Syrian: 19 %

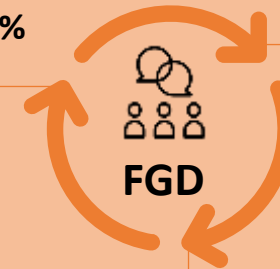
PWDs: 25.5%

Qualitative



Lebanese: 75 %
Syrian: 25 %

Female: 75%
Male: 25 %



16 participants



KII
North: 3 Villages
South: 3 Villages



Research finding

4





Research finding



35 % for Sale
45 % for personal use
20 % for both

“” Everyone with few meter have recently plant for personal use in order to reduce the economic impact and ensure their necessities (like Mouneh) “”

01
Production use



52 % struggling to make ends meet
40 % struggling at some times

“” Need for searching a new income generation, especially for people that don't have other choice rather than agriculture “”

02
HH Financial situation



Agricultural initiatives are mostly of an individual nature: like selling to neighbor, participate in exhibitions and export to their relatives in foreign countries

“” They need to develop their business and their skills “”

03
Initiative



PWD:

- Face social barrier depend on the type of disabilities.
- Those who can work are frequently criticized because their parents are deemed unsupportive

Youth:

- Youth are becoming more involved in agricultural work due to a lack of job opportunities.

04
PWDs, Youth



Research finding



“Our neighbor has lost an arm, but he still has two arms and two legs. He works in agriculture production (spraying pesticides and work on tractors).”

- Farmer in the North



Research finding



-Female work hard as men and perform same tasks
-Due to the current situation women need to support their family

Challenge :

- Pregnant and child responsibility
- Prejudice and catcalling when performing typical male task

05
Gender



Everyone agreed on the importance of the municipality's role in light of this crisis, by:

- Create market event
- Organize agriculture committee
- Providing agricultural equipment
- Opening agriculture roads
- Implement needed project (water, electricity...)
- Land reclamation

Challenge:

- Lack of awareness about their role
- Lack of financial funds
- Lack of skills that allow municipality to implement projects

06
Municipality



Lack of Awareness about agriculture laws (if available) like forestry and other

"Municipal members are unaware of laws."

07
Laws



Research finding



→ Positive

→ Negative

▪ More interest in Agriculture:



- Interest in Agriculture sector
- Villagers return to rural area and start to plant and work in their land instead to hiring foreign workers (like harvesting their olive season)
- Many villagers started picking olives and are paid for their efforts

▪ More interest in food processing products:





- People show greater propensity in providing Moneh product for their family
- Increase immigrant purchasing power which open new opportunity for Mouneh product in exportation
- Female HH start prepare Mouneh to save money




- Increase in cost of Raw material
- Loss of salary value
- Production has dropped dramatically.
- Profit decreased (related to \$ fluctuation)
- Villagers can not prepare (open roads, afforestation, reclamation, private well) and invest in their land due to high financial constraints



Research finding


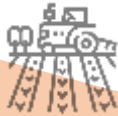



59 % Increase in input cost
31 % currency fluctuation
26 % difficulty in obtaining / accessing water




46 % currency fluctuation
45 % Increase in input cost
42 % insufficient income

09
Challenges

48 % Agriculture input
42 % Financial support
30 % Equipment
28 % Alternative energy sources
24 % access to water



73 % Financial assistant
47 % Alternative energy sources
34 % Equipment
32 % Raw material
12 % Technical Assistance

10
Needs

Training topics Needed

- 44 % Technical skills
- 38 % Climate Change
- 36 % Life skills
- 26 % Business



- 53 % Technical skills
- 47 % Business
- 36 % Climate Change
- 34 % Women empowerment



General Needs

- 72 % Medical care
- 57 % Food
- 30% Educational scholarship
- 19 % Water



Research finding



-Main beneficiaries 'from coop are employees and member
 --Importance Role under this crisis

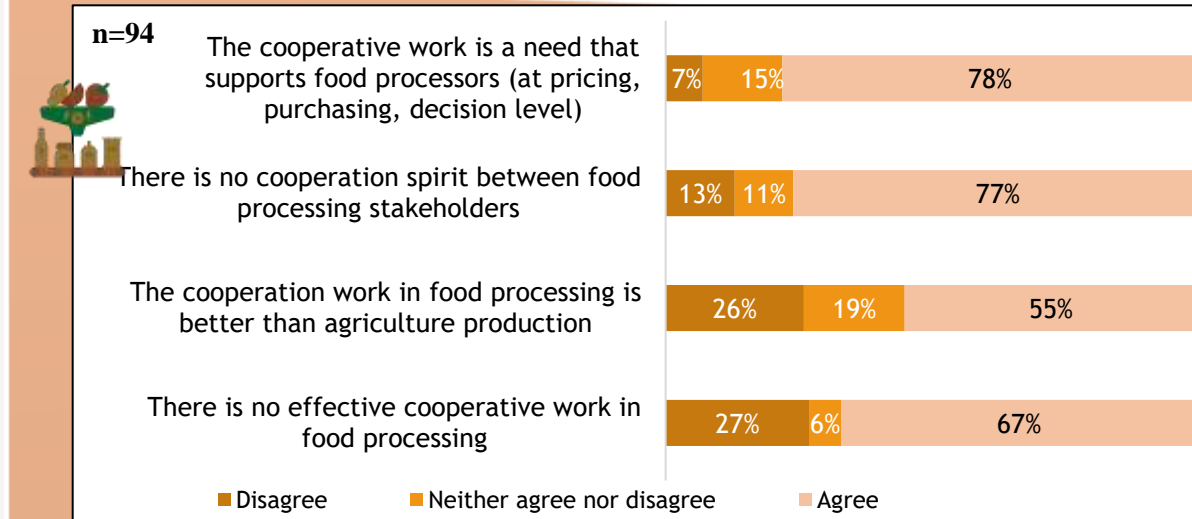
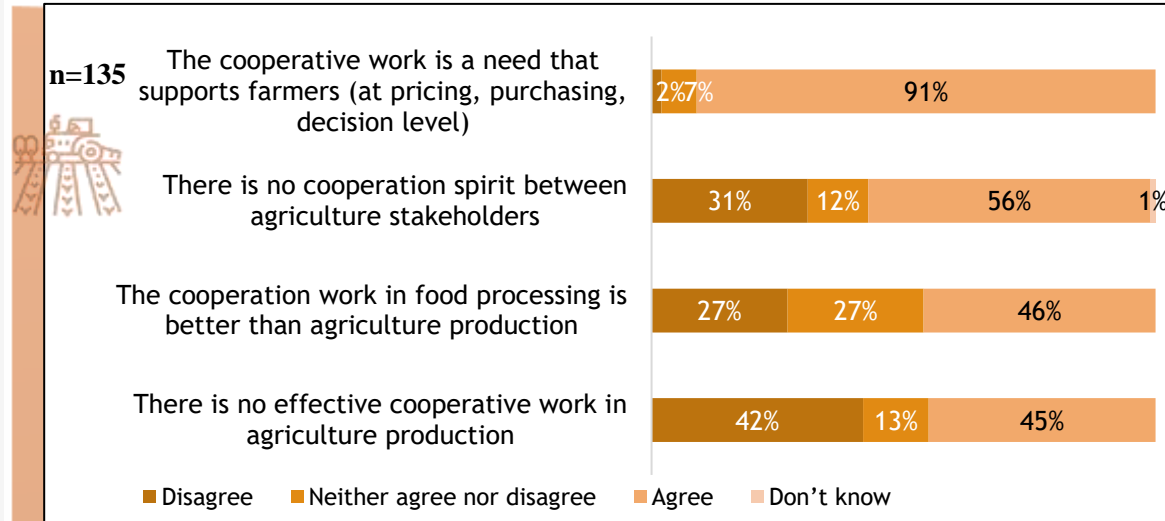
Challenge:

- High raw material cost
- Lack of cooperative spirit
- Lack of management skills

"The support is primarily for the COOP, not for individuals. This is the main issue we are dealing with."

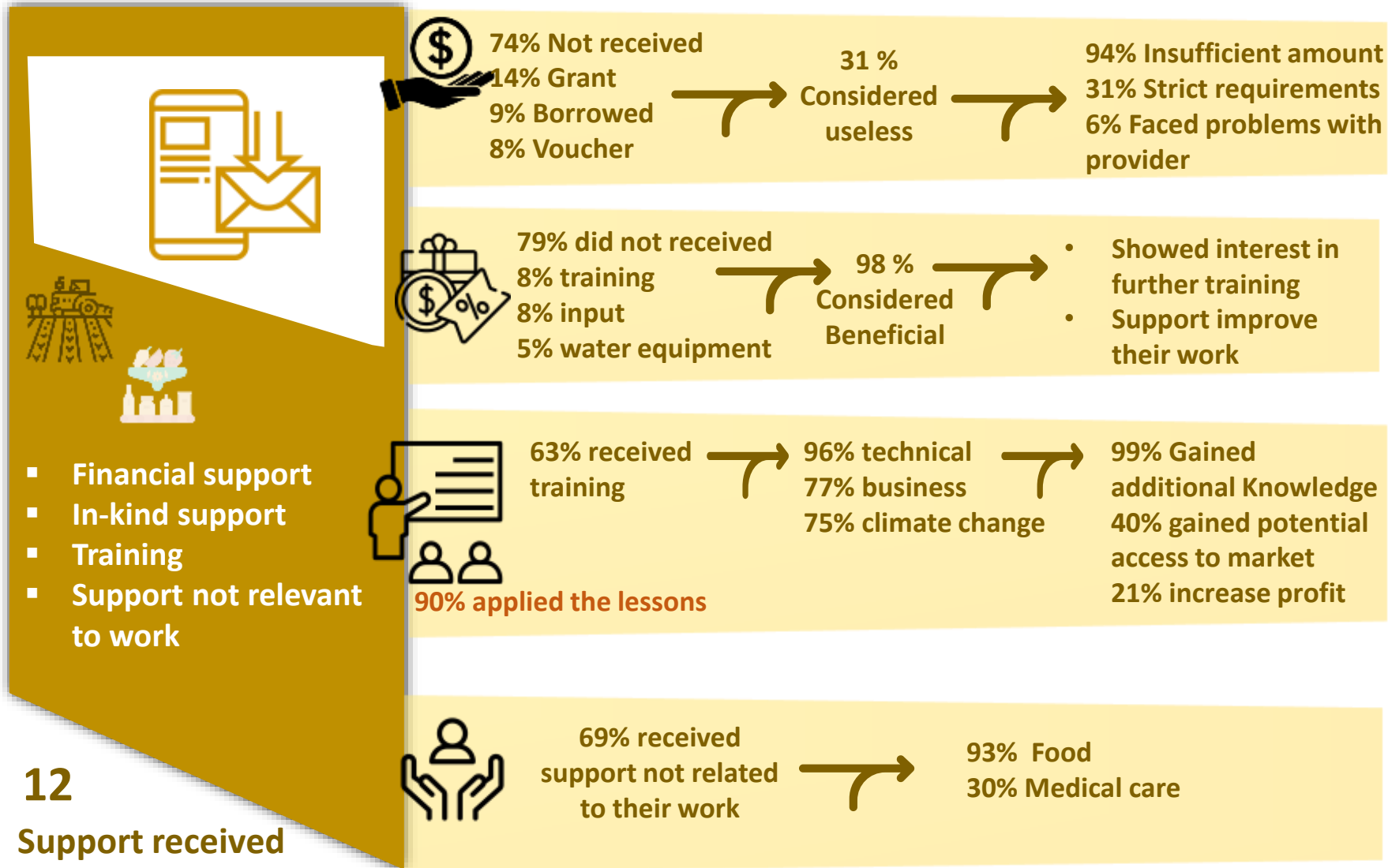
11

Cooperative





Research finding



12

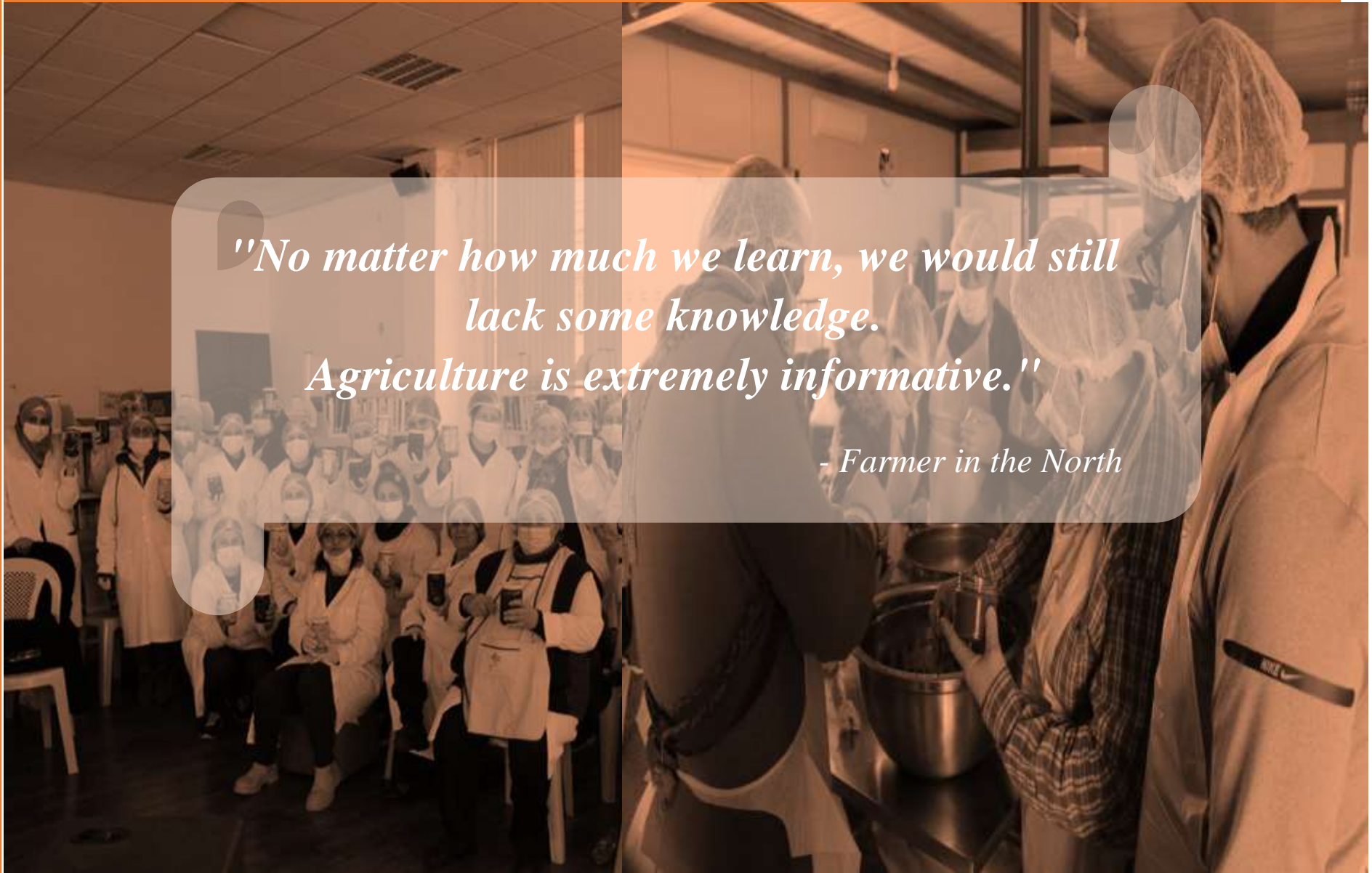
Support received



Research finding

"No matter how much we learn, we would still lack some knowledge. Agriculture is extremely informative."

- Farmer in the North





Recommendation

Conclusion

6





Recommendation & Conclusion



AGRICULTURE SECTOR



Climate change awareness sessions are needed in order to adapt and mitigate the impact.



There is a lot of work to be done to break the stereotype of the role of women in the agricultural sector



Marketing is the most challenging topic for food processors and farmers



Technical skills provided increase production which in turn improve the economic situation

Follow-up after training as well as consultation



Raising awareness about the importance of:

- Collaborative work
- Municipality role

In improving the agriculture sector



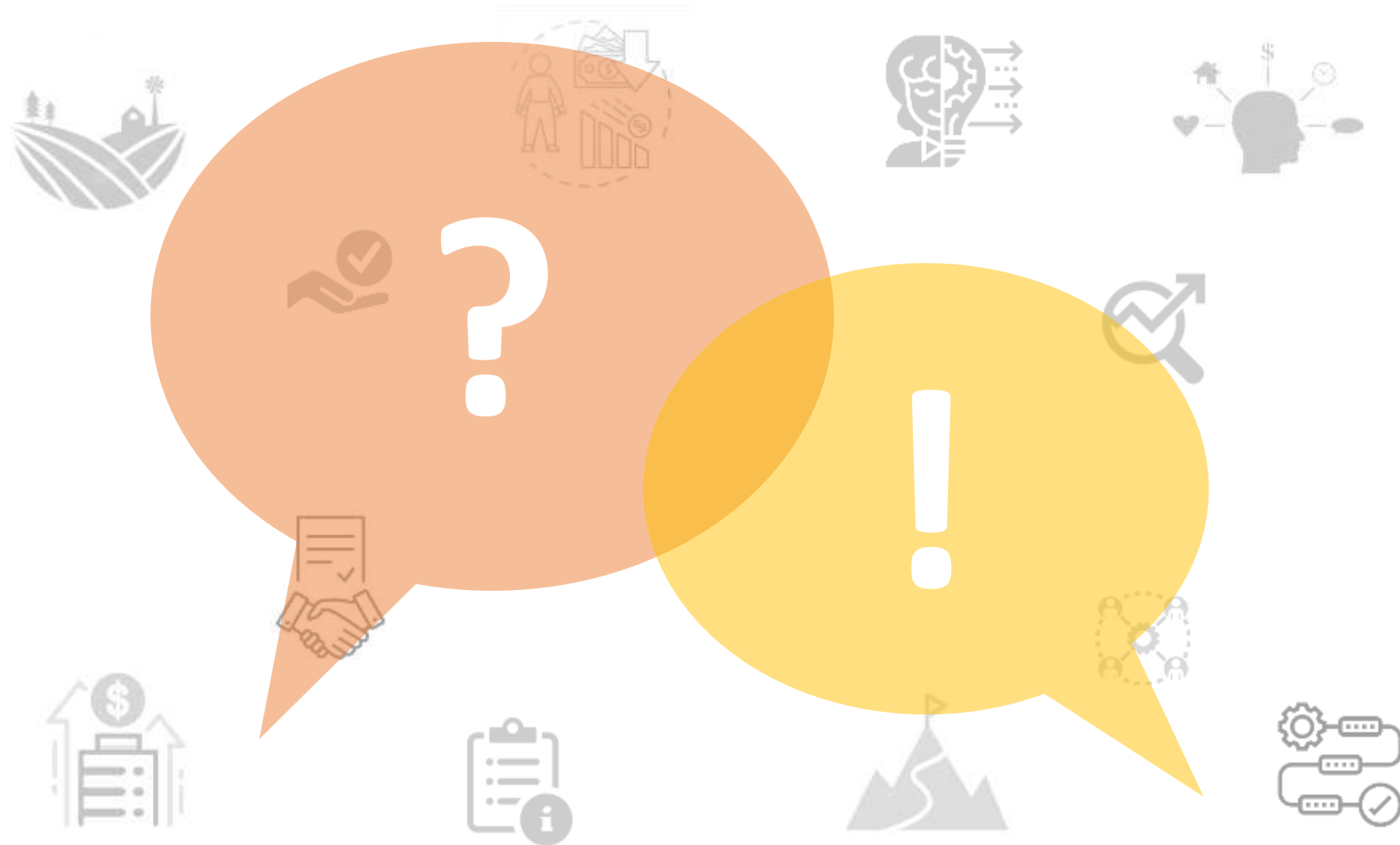
Need for financial assistance (purchases raw material)



References

- **Lebanon: Acute Food Insecurity Situation September - December 2022 and Projection for January - April 2023 Economic crisis, currency depreciation and unprecedented increase in food and non-food prices worsen Lebanon food security situation**
- Bahn, R.A., Zurayk, R., Juergenliemk, A., Aglan, F., Al Frihat, N., Al Smaidi, H., Al Yaseen, B., Hamze, W.D., Mahdi, A., Saad, H., Salahat, M. & Salibi, A. 2019. Revitalization of the agriculture sector in Iraq, Jordan, and Lebanon. Background paper to support the initiative “Mashreq Digital Transformation of the Agricultural Sector” (unpublished)
- FAO, 2021. Agricultural Sector Review in Lebanon. Rome.
- https://www.google.com/search?q=IDAL+2017&rlz=1C1GCEB_enLB1030LB1030&oq=IDAL+2017&aqs=chrome..69i57j0i10i512l9.3525j0j15&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8
- **Rapid needs Assessment, 2022**

Questions & Answers





THANK YOU !





World Food
Programme

WFP Lebanon Research, Assessment & Monitoring Unit

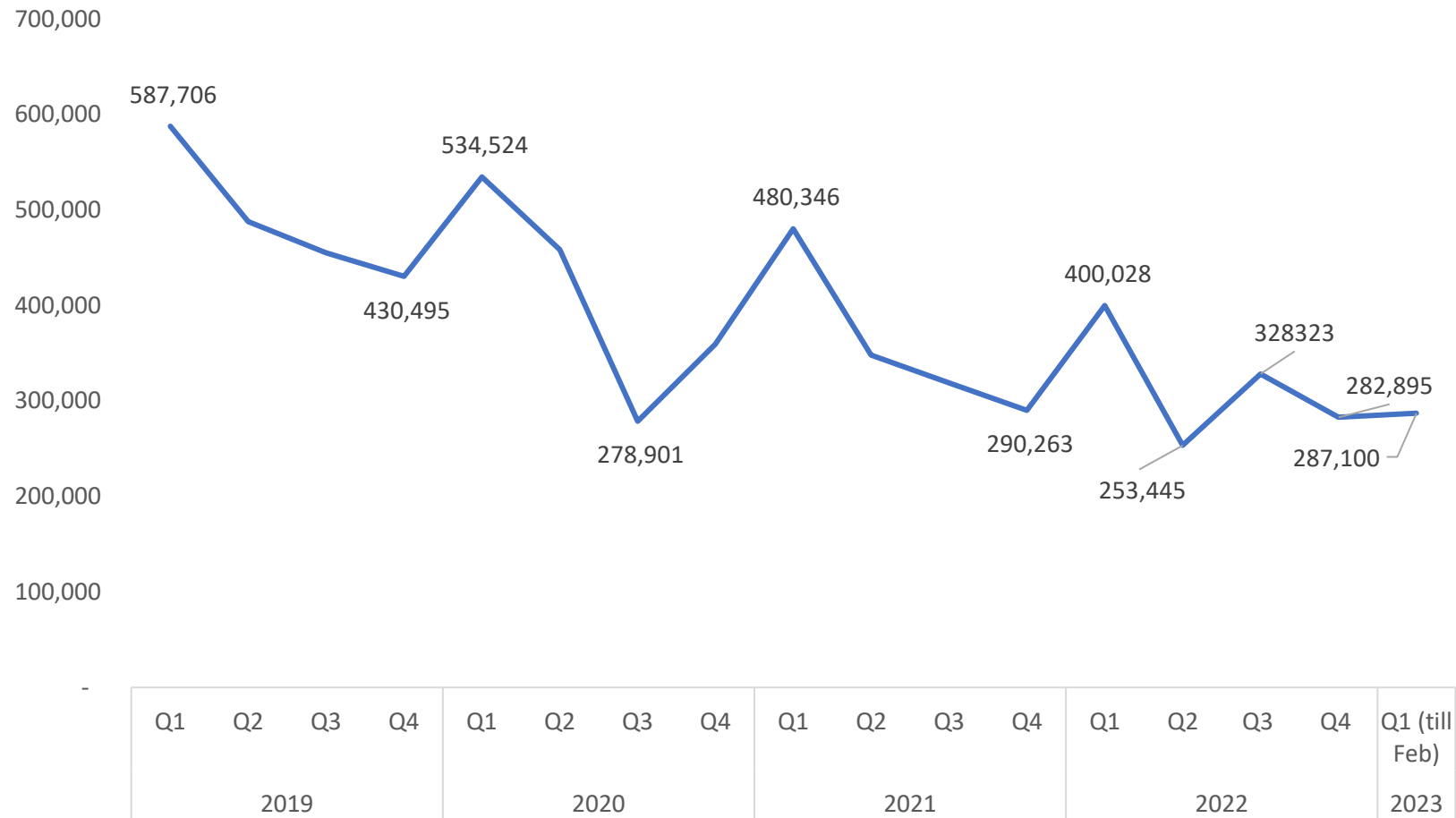
Food Security and Markets Situation Analysis

April 2023

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Increasing trend (+42 percent) in food imports Between Feb 2022 and Feb 2023

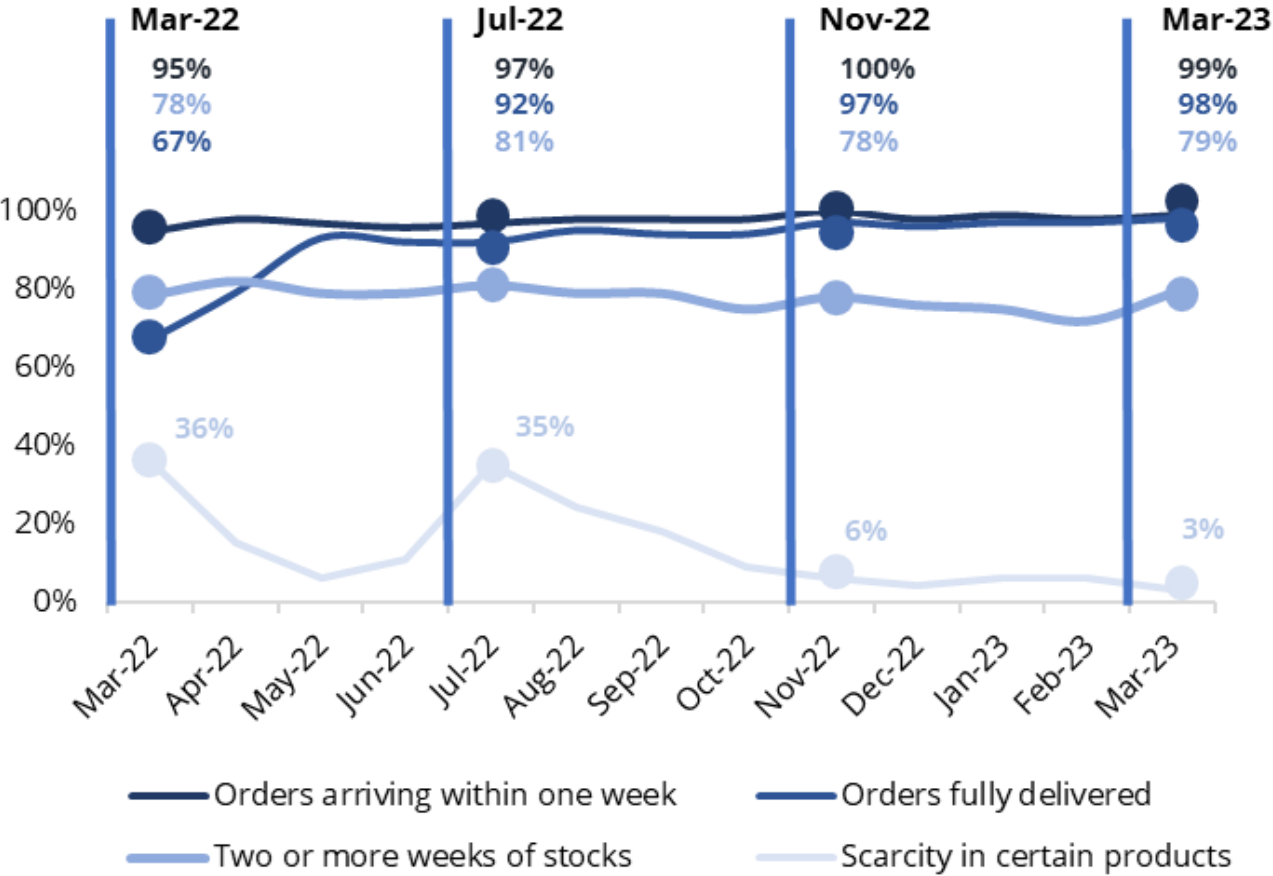
Port of Beirut Unloaded Food Weight (metric tons)



- Increase in February 2023 versus February 2022 led by the following imports categories:
 - 55 percent increase in meat;
 - 76 percent increase in edible fruits and nuts;
 - 104 percent increase in cereals.

Supply chain delivery system levels similar to previous months

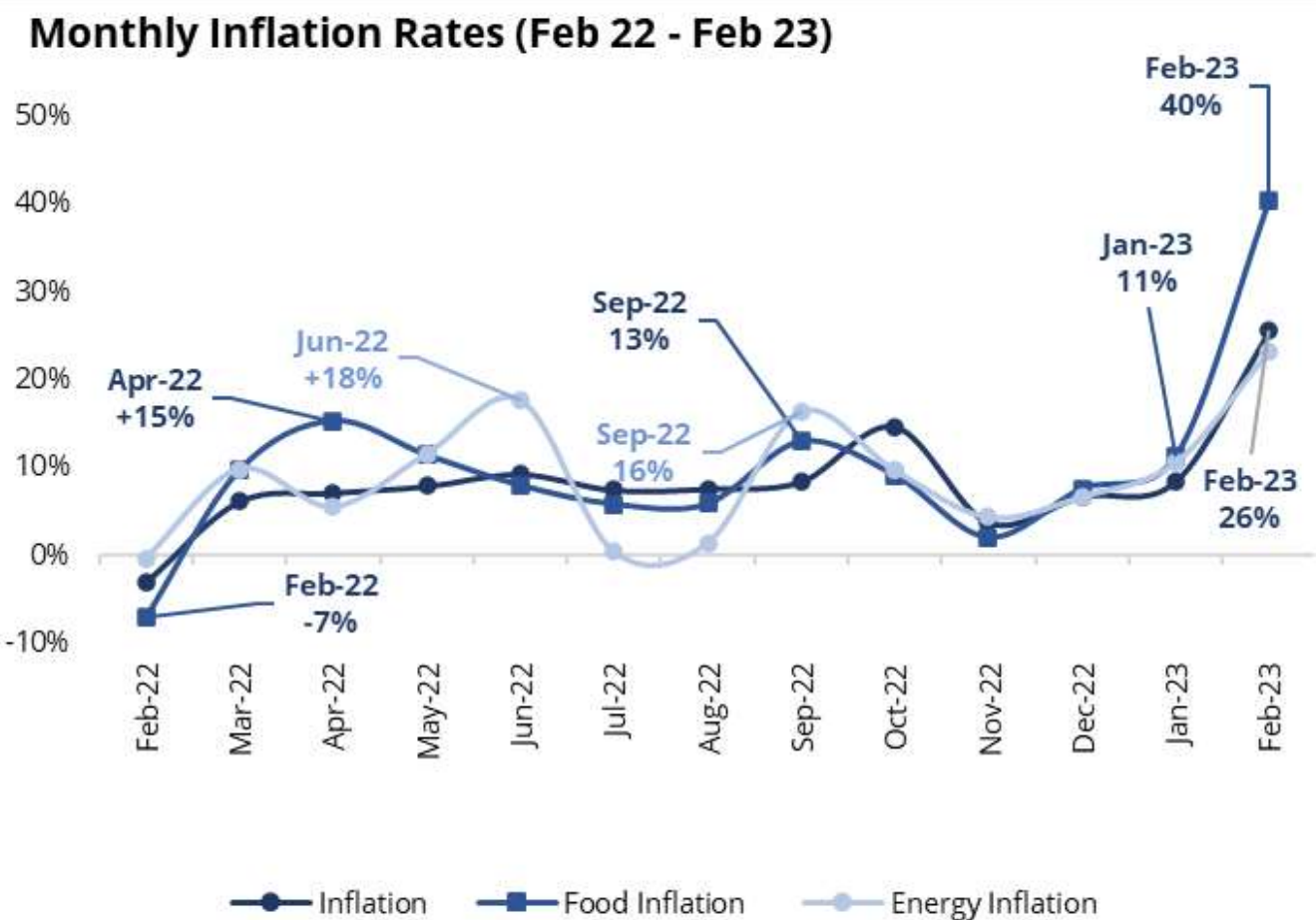
Supply Chain (Mar 22 - Mar 23)



- All shops were functional in March 2023;
- Stock levels in March 2023 remain stable;
- Shops with more than 2 weeks of stock coverage at 79 percent;
- Scarcity in products 6 percent, compared to 6 percent in February 2023, and 35 percent in July 2022, due to bread availability issues;
- Delivery of products within one week affected mainly by fuel availability. Continue to register high levels, at 99 percent in March 2023;
- Suppliers delivering full ordered quantities remains high at 98 percent.

Sources: WFP Retail Unit Shop Phone Survey – as of 31 March 2023

Monthly Inflation



- Monthly:**

The consumer price index increased by 26 percent between January and February 2023, while energy prices increased by 23 percent and food prices increased by 40 percent for the same time period;

The CPI index has registered its largest increase on record in February 2023
- Yearly:**

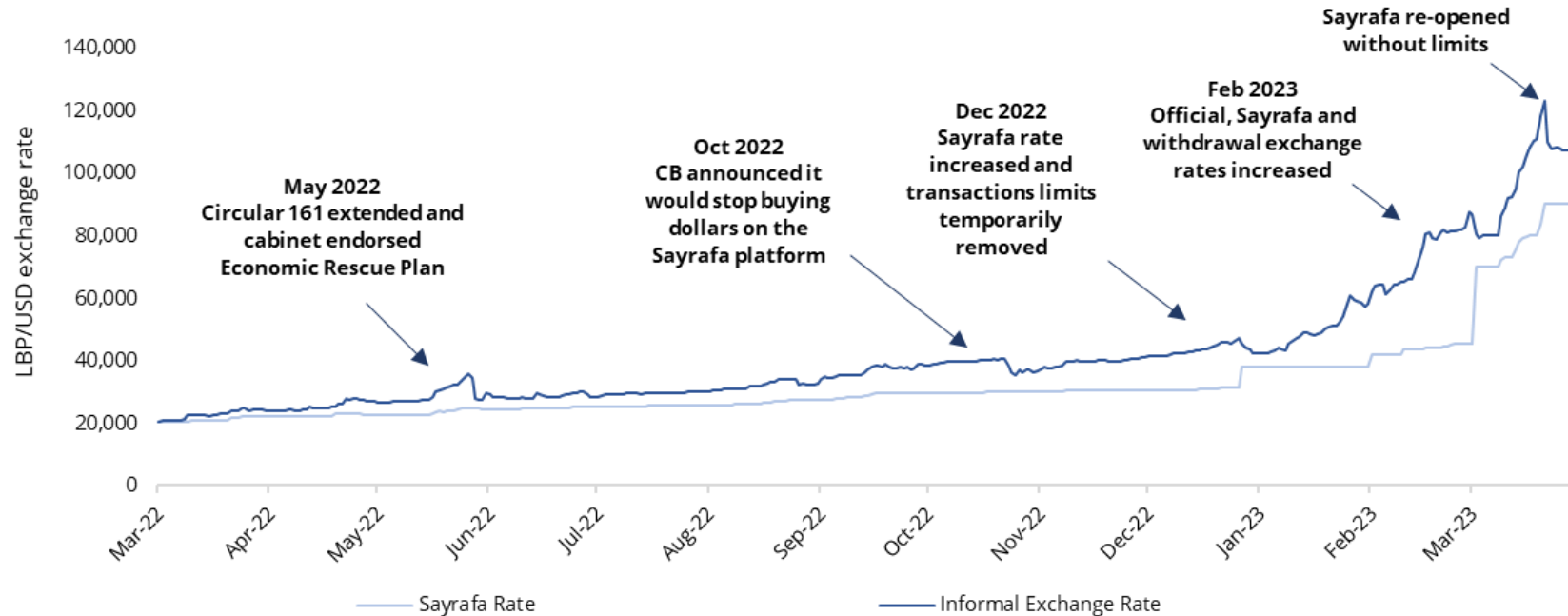
The consumer price index increased by 190 percent between February 2022 and February 2023, while energy prices increased by 200 percent and the food prices increased by 260 percent for the same time period;



Source: Central Administration of Statistics

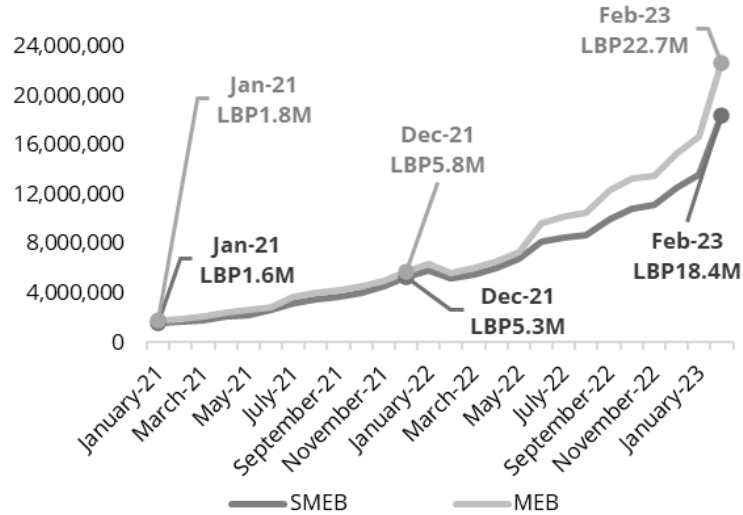
Informal market rate broke the 140,000 level

Timeline of the Exchange Rates' Variations and Central Bank interventions (Mar 22 - Mar 23)

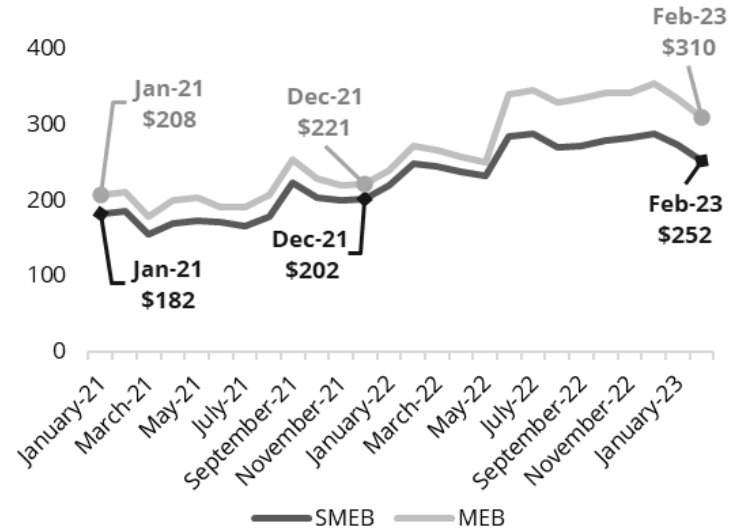


- On March 21st, the informal exchange rate reached a maximum of LBP141,000/USD, which decreased following press statements by the Central Bank that it would reopen Sayrafa to businesses and individuals and remove limits on transactions while increasing the Sayrafa exchange rate to LBP90,000/USD.
- The banks also announced they would temporarily reopen.
- Central Bank continues intervention through circular 161 (extended till end of April 2023).
- The national currency depreciated by 26 percent between February and March 2023.
- The national currency has now lost 98 percent of its value on the informal exchange rate market compared to the former official rate of LBP1,507 to the dollar.

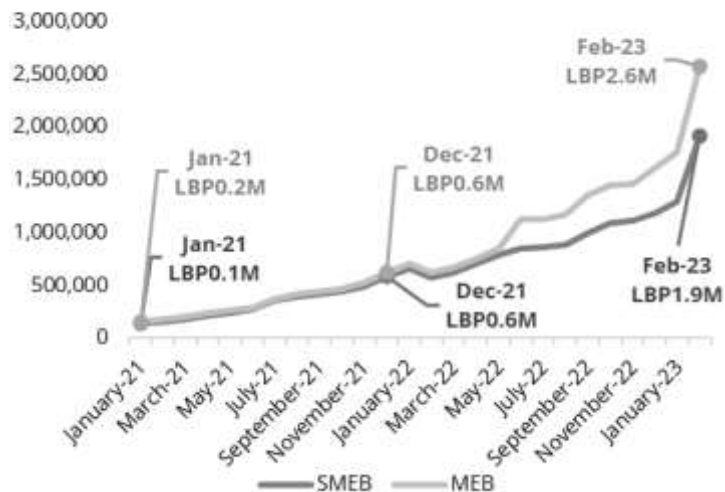
Full SMEB and MEB in LBP (per household)



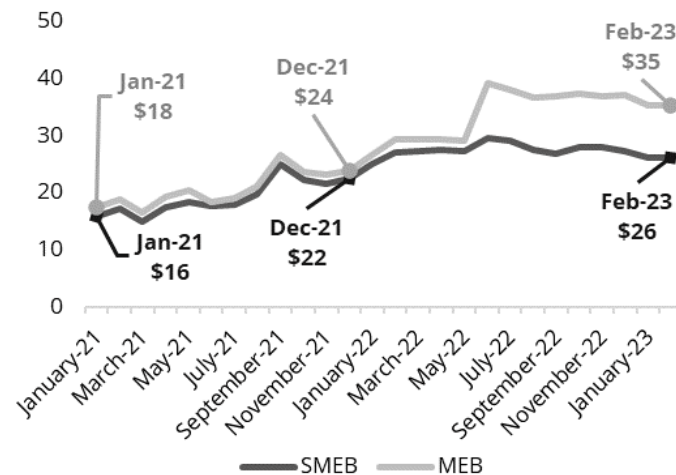
Full SMEB and MEB in USD (per household)



Food SMEB and MEB in LBP (per person)



Food SMEB and MEB in USD (per person)



■ **Full S/MEB**

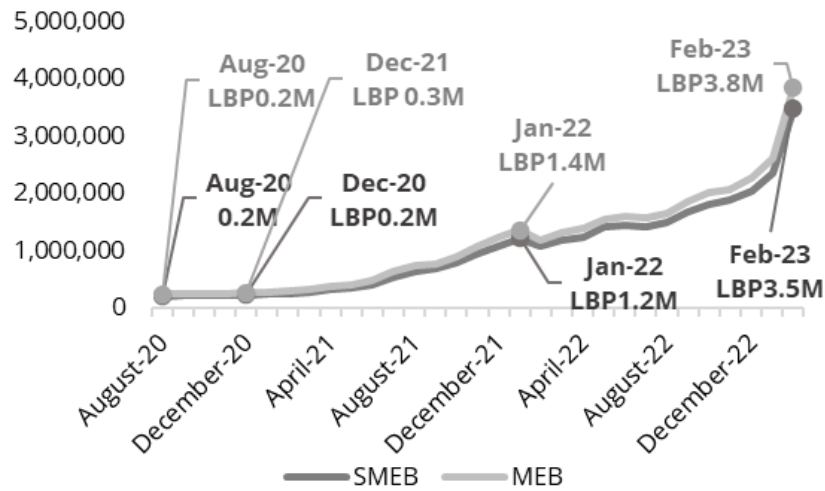
- **SMEB: LBP18.4M or USD252** for a family of five (+36 percent since Jan-23)
- **MEB: LBP22.7M or USD310** for a family of five (+36 percent since Jan-23)

■ **Food (per person)**

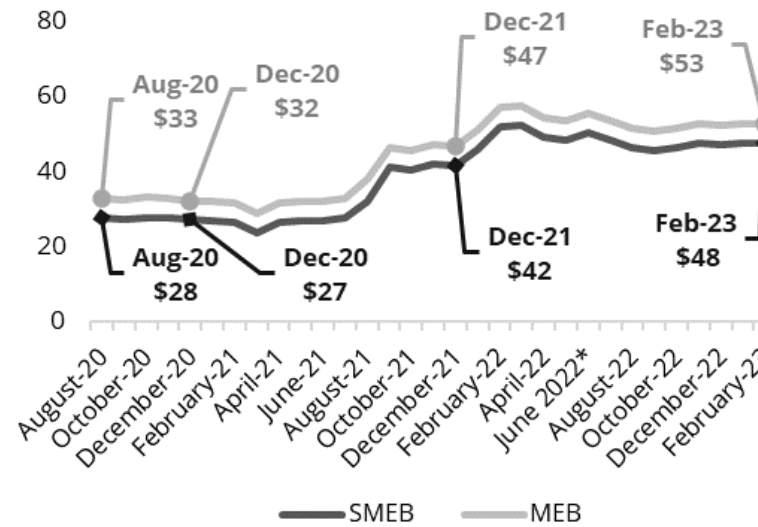
- **SMEB: LBP1.9M or USD26** (+48 percent since Jan-23)
- **MEB: LBP2.6M or USD35** per person (+47 percent since Jan-23)



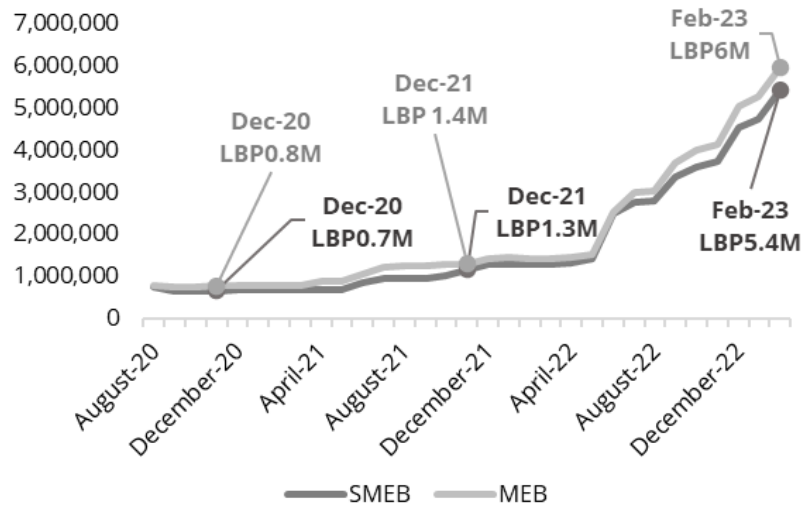
Non-Food Items (NFI) SMEB and MEB in LBP (per household)



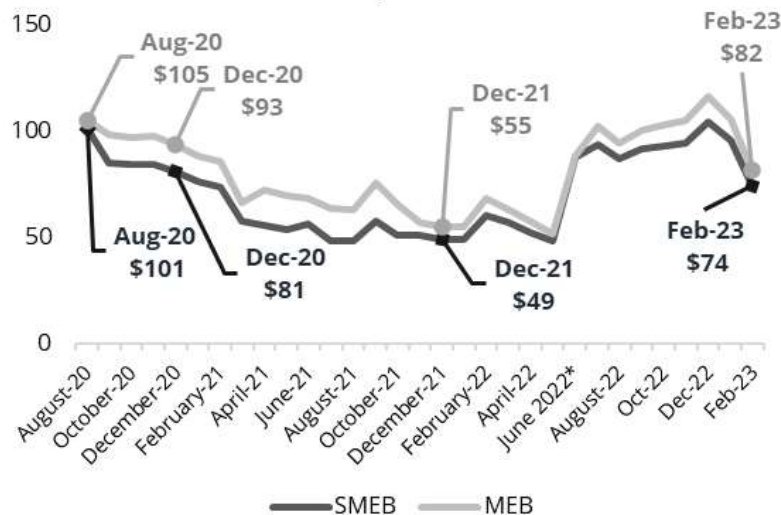
Non-Food Items (NFI) SMEB and MEB in USD (per household)



Non-Food Services (NFS) SMEB and MEB in LBP (per household)



Non-Food Services (NFS) SMEB and MEB in USD (per household)



- **Non-Food Items**
 - **SMEB: LBP3.5M or USD48** for a family of five (+45 percent since Jan-23)
 - **MEB: LBP3.8M or USD53** for a family of five (+47 percent since Jan-23)

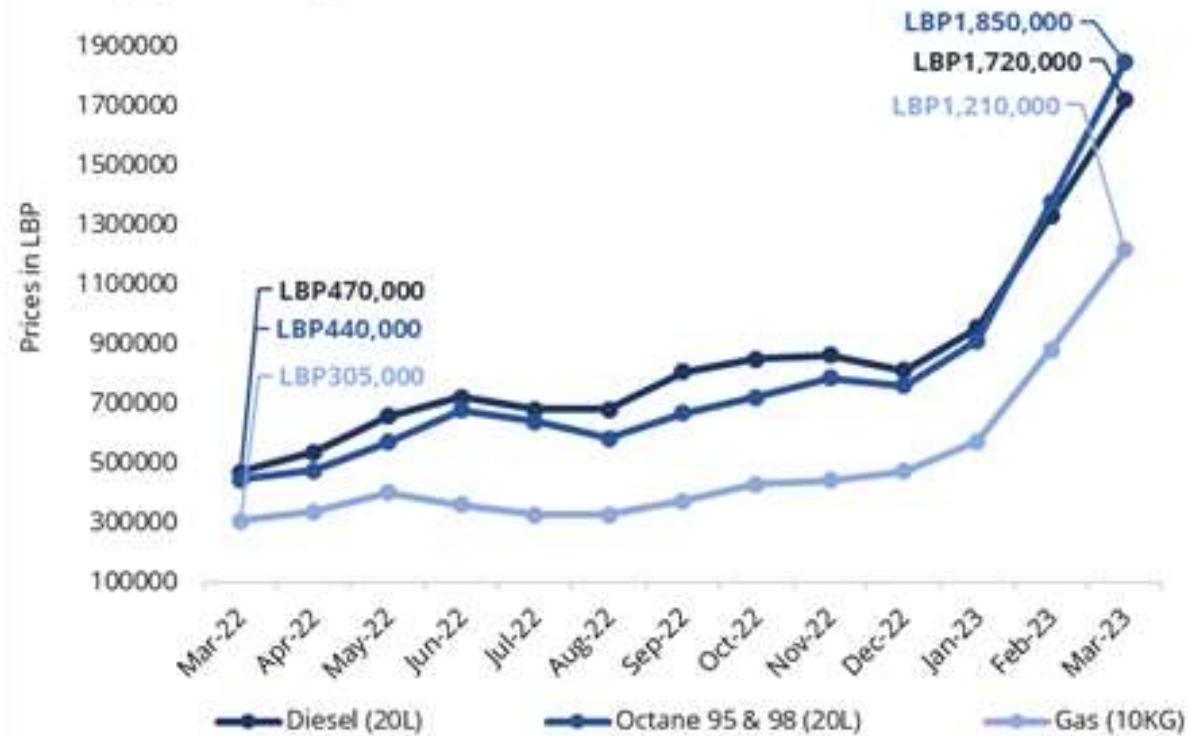
- **Non-Food Services**
 - **SMEB: LBP5.4M or USD74** for a family of five (+14 percent since Dec-22)
 - **MEB: LBP6M or USD82** for a family of five (+13 percent since Dec-22)

Price increase in LBP continue across all components of the food SMEB between January and February 2023

SMEB Components		Price (Feb 23)		Percentage Variation (LBPs)			Percentage Variation (USDs)		
		LBP	USD	Monthly	Quarterly	Yearly	Monthly	Quarterly	Yearly
Food SMEB per individual	Bread (7.02 Kg)	232,000	3.18	+37%	+51%	+272%	-7%	-19%	+6%
	Pasta (1.8 Kg)	189,000	2.59	+42%	+75%	+248%	-4%	-5%	0%
	Brown Bulgur (1.95 Kg)	127,000	1.74	+44%	+74%	+287%	-2%	-6%	11%
	Egyptian Rice (2.4 Kg)	162,000	2.21	+46%	+81%	+266%	-1%	-2%	+5%
	Potatoes (2.1 Kg)	71,000	0.97	+82%	+66%	+153%	+24%	-10%	-28%
	Lentils (0.75 Kg)	78,000	1.07	+42%	+73%	+192%	-3%	-6%	-16%
	White Beans (0.3 Kg)	32,000	0.44	+40%	+71%	+175%	-4%	-8%	-21%
	Chickpeas (0.9 Kg)	101,000	1.39	+43%	+76%	+223%	-3%	-5%	-7%
	Powder Milk (0.6 Kg)	270,000	3.70	+48%	+82%	+243%	1%	-2%	-2%
	Sunflower Oil (0.51 L)	71,000	0.97	+44%	+65%	+225%	-2%	-11%	-7%
	Sugar (0.6 Kg)	38,000	0.52	+46%	+76%	+276%	0%	-5%	+8%
	Tomato Paste (0.6 Kg)	82,000	1.12	+43%	+68%	+256%	-3%	-9%	+2%
	Eggs (0.45 Kg)	57,000	0.78	+39%	+50%	+188%	-6%	-19%	-17%
	Cabbage (2.7 Kg)	45,000	0.62	+92%	+60%	+314%	+30%	-13%	+19%
	Apples (1.5Kg)	79,000	1.08	+103%	+138%	+306%	+38%	+29%	+16%
	Salt (0.12 Kg)	2,000	0.03	+40%	+73%	+252%	-5%	-7%	+1%
	Tea (0.12 Kg)	76,000	1.04	+41%	+72%	+210%	-4%	-7%	-11%
	Carrots (0.6 Kg)	22,000	0.30	+87%	+111%	+224%	+27%	+14%	-7%
Sardine (0.45 Kg)	176,000	2.42	+47%	+75%	+195%	0%	-6%	-16%	

Gasoline prices

Monthly price average (Mar 22 - Mar 23)



- Between March 2022 and March 2023:
 - The price of 20 litres of motor fuels (Octanes 98 and 95) increased by 318 percent;
 - The price of 20 litres of diesel increased by 267 percent;
 - The price of a 10Kg gas can increased by 298percent.

General updates

- The month of March was characterized by prolonged public and private sector strikes that affected the country's economic and financial performance:
 - The banking sector went on strike between March 14th and March 21st.
 - The employees of Ogero (the public telecommunications provider) went on strike between March 24 and March 31st, which affected internet coverage across the country during the last week of March.
- The IMF Staff Concluding Statement on March 23, observed that “limited progress” had so far been made in implementing reforms set out in the April 2022 Staff-Level Agreement, despite a worsening economic and financial situation.
- In late March, the Ministry of Finance announced an increase in the private sector minimum wage and transportation allowance per working day to LBP9 million and LBP250,000, respectively.
- The Ministry of Finance also announced that public sector employees would be getting their LBP salaries converted to US dollars at a preferential LBP60,000/USD rate for the month of March, down from an initial rate of LBP90,000/USD proposed earlier in March.



Economic Capacity to Meet Essential Needs of Poor Lebanese Reached by Social Assistance

March 2023

**WORK IN PROGRESS
DO NOT QUOTE**

Updates from the sector

Filters

Assistance

- (All)
- Agricult...
- Food

Activity

- (All)
- AA - Cas...
- AA - CFA
- AA - CFT
- AA - In-

Govern.. (All)

Partner

(All)

Month

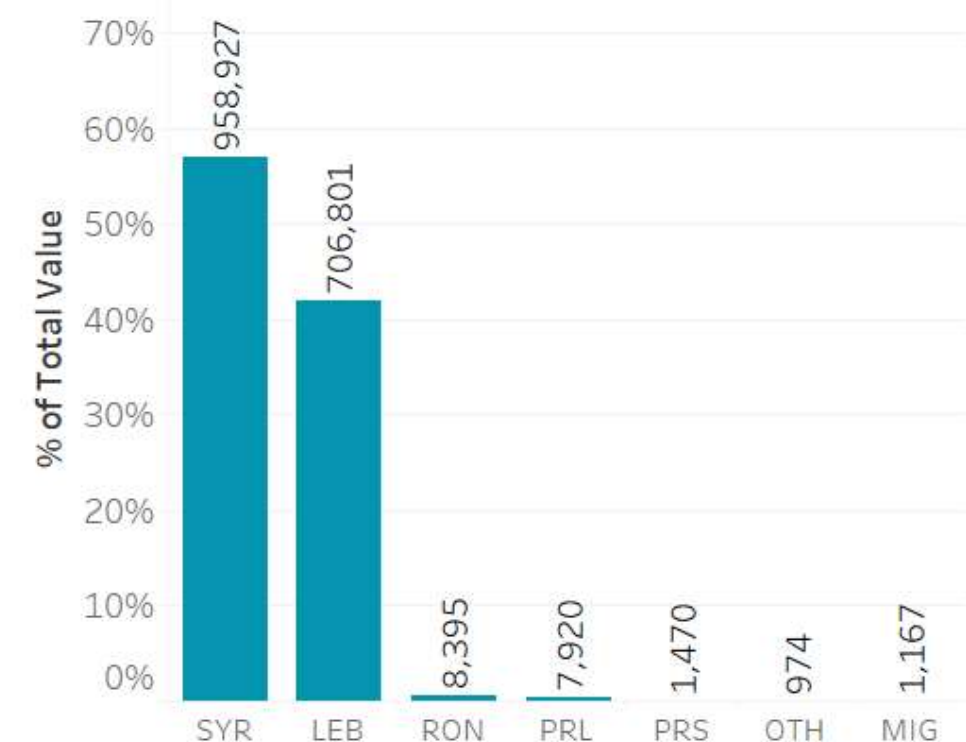
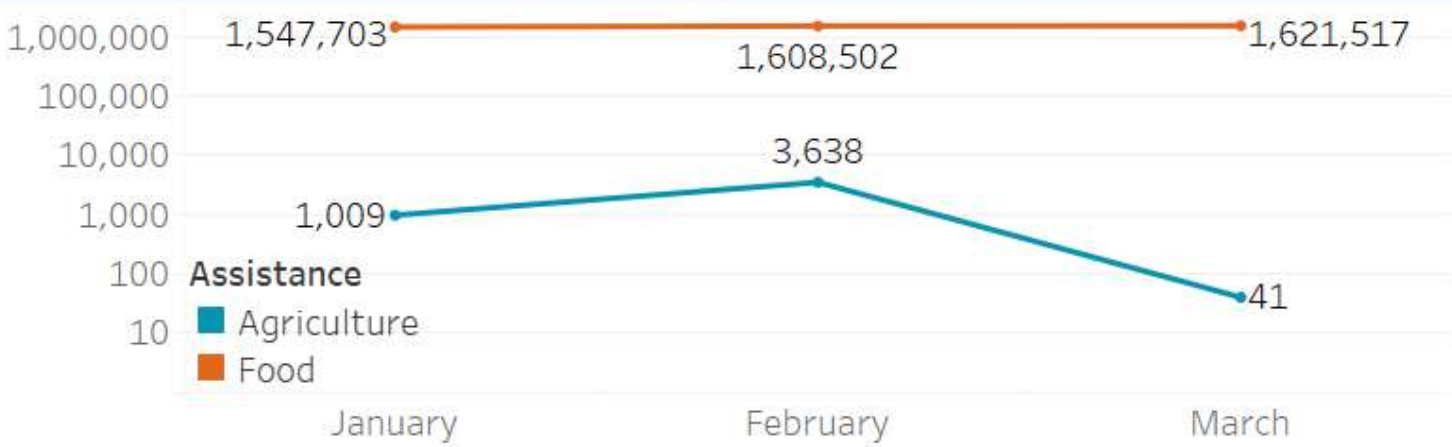
(All)

Cohort

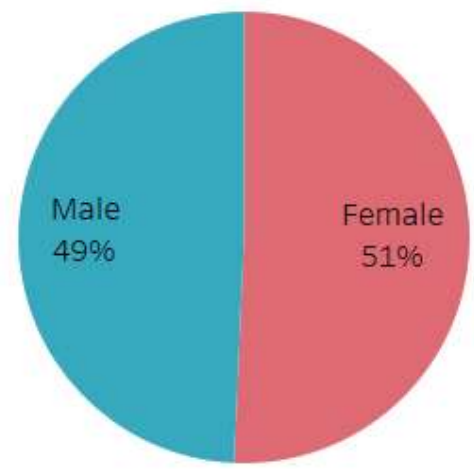
(All)

Regions

(All)



Total Unique Reached*
1,685,654



- 23**
- ACF Spain
 - ACTED
 - ADRA
 - AMEL
 - ANERA
 - BASSMA
 - DRC
 - Fair Trade Lebanon
 - FAO
 - Farah Social Foundation
 - GNFF
 - GVC
 - IRW
 - ISWA
 - Jafra Foundation
 - John Paul II Foundation
 - LOST
 - MCC
 - MERATH Lebanon
 - MoSA
 - Naba'a
 - Nusaned
 - WFP

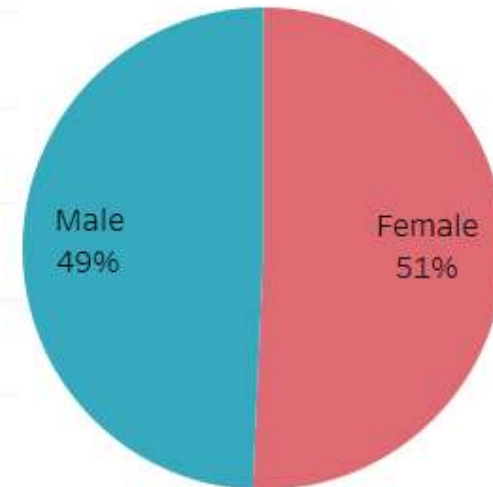
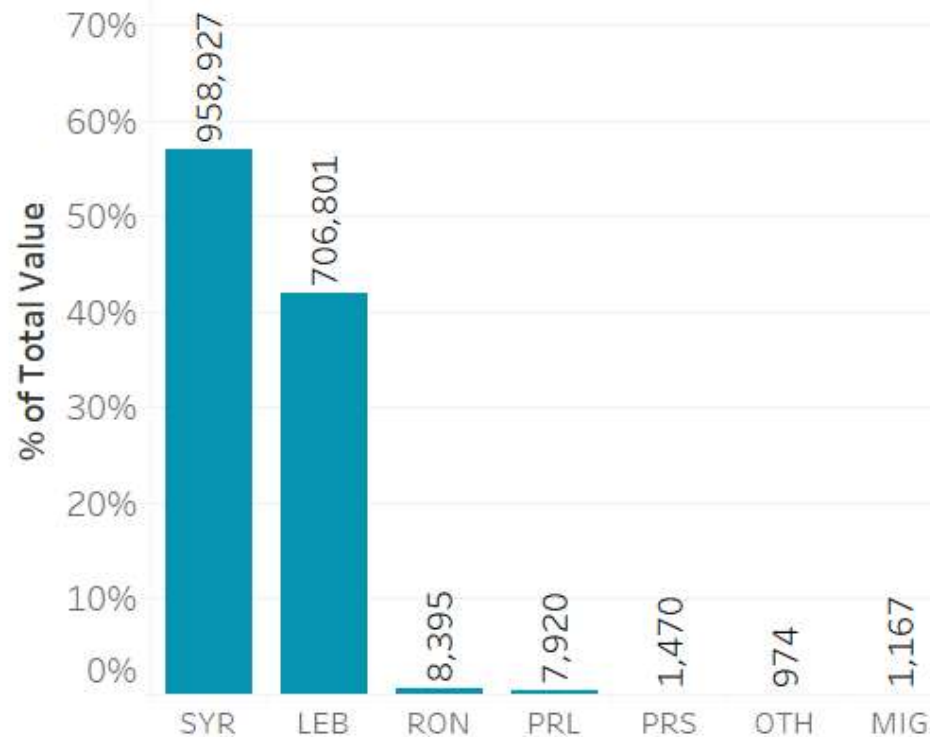
*Total Reached doesn't include hot meals or partial food parcels

Filters

Assistance [⌵]	Activity	Month		
		January	February	March
Food	FA - Cash/Voucher	1,233,755	1,291,898	1,299,750
	FA - In-Kind	313,948	316,604	321,767
Agriculture	AA - Cash/Voucher	324	734	
	AA - CFA	39	173	
	AA - CFT	8	297	
	AA - In-Kind	254	338	
	AA - Training	384	2,096	41
	Grand Total		1,548,712	1,612,140

Month

- (All)
- January
- February
- March



ACF Spain ACTED ADRA AMEL ANERA BASSMA
DRC Fair Trade Lebanon FAO
Farah Social Foundation GNFF GVC IRW ISWA
Jafra Foundation John Paul II Foundation LOST
MCC MERATH Lebanon MoSA Naba'a Nusaned
WFP

Regions

(All) ▼

Governorate

(All) ▼

Partner

(All) ▼

Cohort

(All) ▼

Filters

Assistance

- (All)
- Agricultu...
- Food

Activity

(All) ▼

Regions

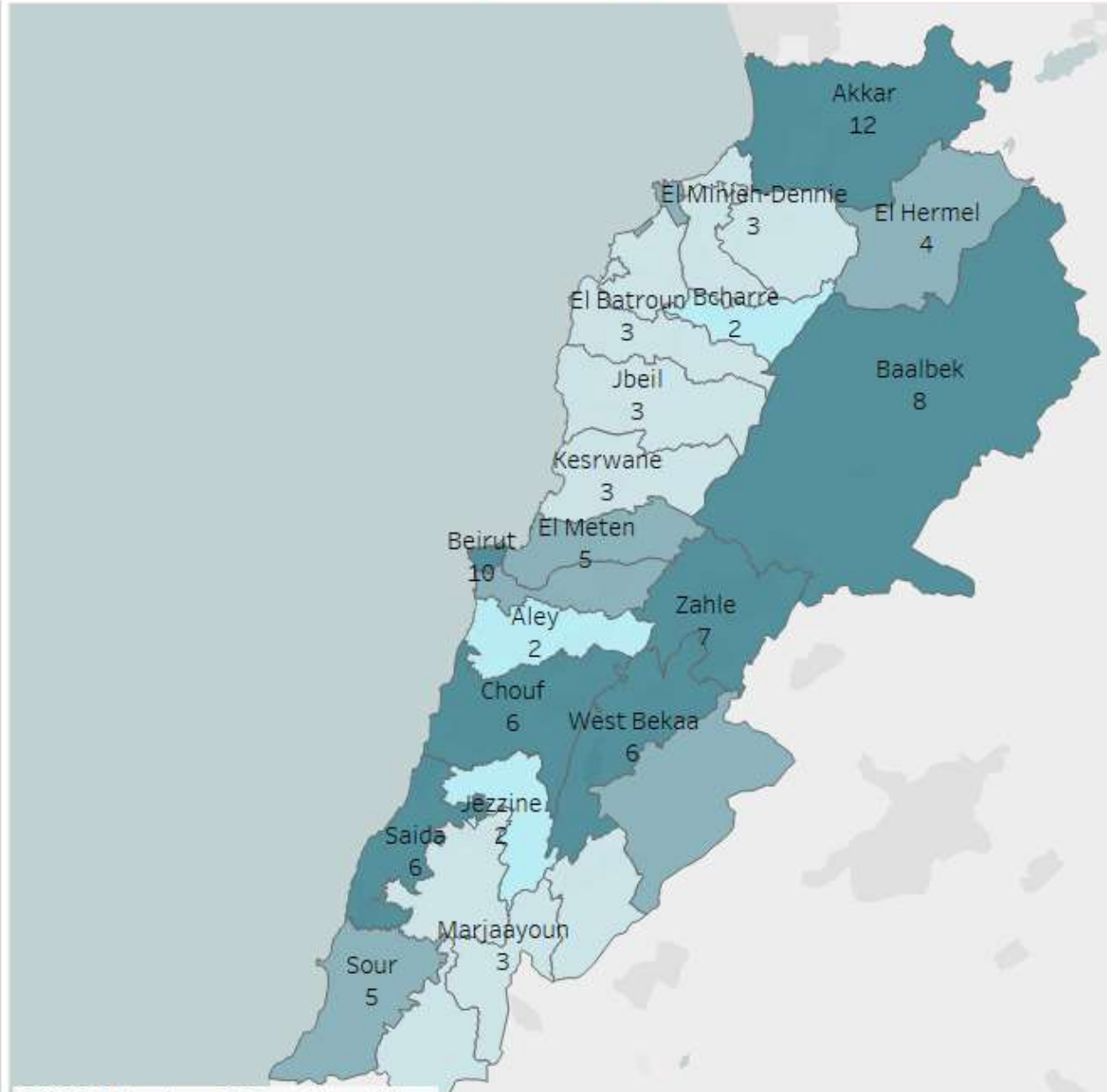
- (All)
- Bekaa
- BML-South
- North

Governorate

(All) ▼

Partner

(All) ▼

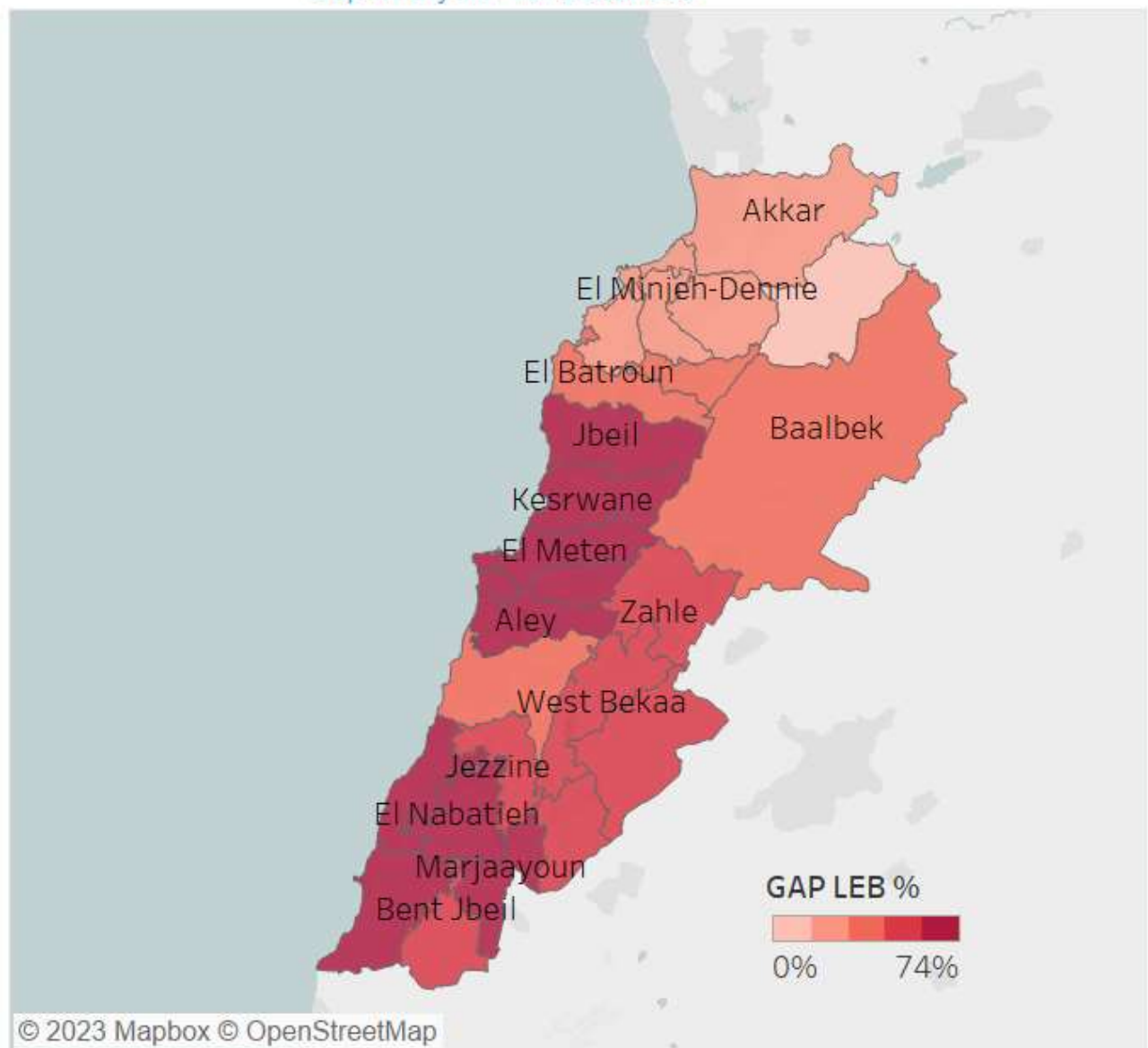


23

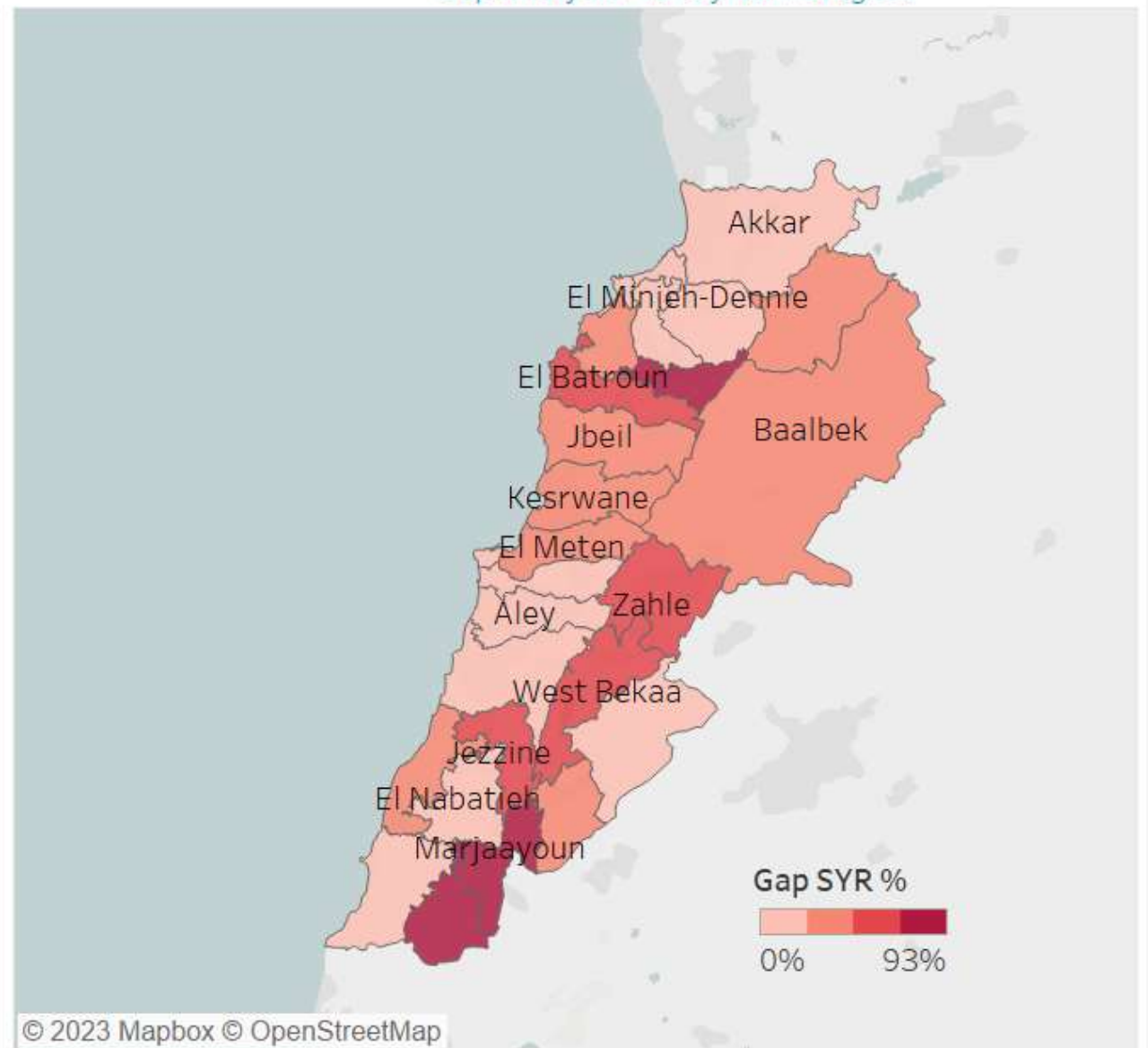
ACF Spain ACTED ADRA AMEL ANERA
 BASSMA DRC Fair Trade Lebanon FAO
 Farah Social Foundation GNFF GVC IRW
 ISWA Jafra Foundation
 John Paul II Foundation LOST MCC
 MERATH Lebanon MoSA Naba'a Nusaned
 WFP



Gap Analysis* for Lebanese



Gap Analysis* for Syrian refugees



The Gap Analysis is calculated based on people assisted with food compared to the peopl..

Mapping of Agriculture Projects

- Request from MoA & based on mapping conducted by the Government of Canada to have data at cadastre level
- Database developed on Activity Info
- Partners to update
- Link to be shared

Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) Preliminary Report

- Annual assessment by the Global Cluster Coordination Group (Country)
- Assess coordination performance against six core functions & AAP
- Survey dispatched to active members of the Sector
- Reflect on Sector's collective performance
- Identify good practice or areas for improvement in a transparent and accountable manner

CCPM- Core Questions

Supporting
Service
Delivery

Sector as **Platform** to ensure Service delivery driven by HRP & Strategic Priorities

Informing
Strategic
Decisions
HC/HCT

Needs Assessments, analysis gaps, IM tools  priorities

Planning &
Implementing
Sector
Strategies

Sector Plans, Strategies, Objectives, Indicators
Applying & Adapting to Common Standards and Guidelines
Contribution to overall funding proposals

CCPM- Core Questions

M&E

Monitoring and Evaluation of the Sector

Building
Capacity in
Preparedness
&
Contingency
Planning

Emergency and Contingency Planning to address needs
CP developed with Other sectors/governmental protocols
Early Warning

Advocacy

Advocacy Messages & Activities

AAP

Experience sharing, mechanisms and discussions involve Affected People
Mechanisms Receiving & act against complaints on assistance

AOB

- Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification (IPC)
- Level 1 training Analysis (short training refresher): 22nd May 2023 – 31st May 2023
- Analysis for the current period: June 2023 – September 2023
- Include: Lebanese + Syrians + Palestinians
- Next: September 2023 will include planning for various frameworks & data available
- Level 2 training