

FSS WORKING GROUP Monthly Virtual MEETING

September 14, 2021

Agenda

1. Opening
2. WFP – RAM: presentation on analysis/updates on Food Security
3. Food Security Sector Updates - July 2021
 - a. LCRP Reporting updates (Progress)
 - b. Updates on the Transfer Values
 - c. Partners' updates round and impact of fuel shortages on their interventions
 - d. ERP Updates/ Projectization
 - e. Reminders
4. AOB

PARTNERS ATTENDING: 44 participants from 31 agencies including the Sector Coordination team ACF, ADRA, Al Majmoua, Basmeh & Zeutooneh, Oxfam, CARE, Caritas, CCP Japan, CESVI, Concern Worldwide, DPNA, FAO, ICU, Islamic Relief Lebanon, Jafra Foundation, KSR Lebanon, LebRelief, LOST, MCC, MERATH, Michel Daher Foundation, PARCIC, PCPM, Relief International, SAWA For Development And Aid, SCI, SHEILD, UNHCR, URDA, WFP, WHH.

1- WFP RAM: presentation food security analysis updates

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- A decrease of 18% is noticed when comparing August 2020 - July 2021 figures against the same period the previous year
- Stock levels remained stable despite challenges, as traders have been able to re-stock so far
- Retail shops across country affected by electricity blackouts and fuel availability.
- Black market rate trading at around LBP 16,000 following formation of new government
- Revised Food SMEB recorded an 11% increase between July and August 2021, at LBP 387,433
- Unclear on the timeline of the fuel subsidization rate, previously increased to USD/LBP 8,000 - severe shortages continue
- Subsidies removal ongoing – potential alternative plan still to fully materialize

2- FSS August updates

- a. Partners' progress update August 2021. For more information, please refer to the slides.

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- b. Updates on the Transfer Values
 - Following the UNHCR/WFP request through the RC/HC to MoSA, WFP started increasing the food and non-food transfer value as of September 2021
 - Food Transfer Value increased from LBP 100,000/person/month to LBP 300,000/person/month

- For non-food (MPCA): Transfer value increased from LBP 400,000/household/month to LBP 800,000/household/month
- Aligned with NPTP Transfer value for Food but slightly higher for non-food
- They would align with the ESSN (Emergency Social Safety Net Project) values whether in USD or LBP
- Due to fuel and electricity shortages impacting functioning and replenishment of ATMs, overcrowding at ATMs has increased.
- As a temporary mitigation measure: reduce the number of people queuing at ATMs', beneficiaries will receive double loadings for September and October
- For Dollarization, WFP is testing the first phase of the hybrid approach targeting NPTP and the first load expected to occur by 23 September 2021 as follows:
 1. 15 USD/person/month for Food;
 2. 25 USD/household/month for other food and non-food needs

This will be done without any change in programme design nor in beneficiaries

- c. Partners' updates round and impact of fuel shortages on their interventions
- Ad-hoc National Inter-Sector meeting was held 27 August 2021
 - If fuel supply deterioration continues, there is a high risk of discontinuity of critical humanitarian programming under the LCRP and future delivery of the ERP
 - From a logistical perspective, there is limited ability to keep office running with electricity and internet connection: pressure on staff working in bad conditions
 - Current objective is to ensure sufficient fuel is made available to maintain business continuity
 - LCRP partners across sectors are reducing movement and prioritizing activities, leading to delays across all activities
 - From FSS perspective: close monitoring of the situation is needed (with support from Regional Coordinators through direct liaison with local partners)
 - Logistics Sector Activated: WFP: next step: mapping of fuel needs against critical activities, through sectors or agencies
- d. ERP Updates/ Projectization
- **People in Need** : 1.4 M
 - Targets for Food Assistance: 400,000 Lebanese and 90,300 Migrants beneficiaries
 - Total Budget appealed : 115.4 Million USD
 - **Duration**: 12 months / August 21 – July 22
 - **Projects selected by the sector**: 26 (11 LHF + 15 ERP)
 - No changes in the LCRP response: ERP would be an additional response targeting both Lebanese and Migrants
 - ESSN (Emergency Social Safety Net) programme : implementation planned to start in October and reaches full targets February 22
 - LHF projects should be included – all 11 projects have now been technically approved
- e. Reminders
- Upcoming meetings:
 1. National FSS September meeting: Tuesday October 12 - 11 AM
 2. Area FSS September meetings:
 - North-Akkar: Tuesday 28 Sept 1 PM nancy.hassan@wfp.org

- Bekaa-Baalbek: Wednesday 29 Sept 11 AM nisrine.rizk@wfp.org
- Beirut-Mount Lebanon-South: Thursday 30 Sept 10 AM
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3- AOB

- a. Advocacy paper on removal of subsidies revised on the analysis section for the combustible fuel and medicine, given the rapidly evolving situation
- b. Survey on Mapping on Agriculture Cooperatives and MSMEs : deadline last Friday.
- c. VASyR 2021: findings presented during the Inter-Sector meeting last Friday
- d. De-duplication tool (WFP): Coordination / maximize assistance / Alignment of transfers & harmony / PIN within governorates and districts