



## **Food Security Sector joint Beirut blast coordination meeting + Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South Working Group Minutes of meeting**

**Chair:** WFP

**Date and Time:** April 29, 2021; 11:00 AM-12:30 PM

**Participants:** UNDP, UNIFIL, WFP, ADRA Lebanon, SPHERE Building Tomorrow, UNDP, MERATH/LSESD, Plan International, AMURT, SHEILD, ACTED, UNHCR, Basmeh & Zeitouneh, Jafra, WVI, ILO.

### **Agenda:**

1. WFP/RAM food security analysis
2. AI updates and partners presence map for BB (BB + LCRP +COVID)
3. Partners' updates, gaps and challenges (BB, LCRP, COVID 19)
4. Presentation on WFP – social protection unit on the scaling up of assistance to the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP)
5. Presentation from CARE on the small ruminant project
6. Update on social tension related to food subsidized items
7. AOB

### **1. WFP/RAM food security analysis and shop closure**

Please check attached presentation

Questions from partners:

- What is the impact of the Gulf countries ban the agricultural products from Lebanon?

What we know is that Lebanon last year exported fruits and vegetables at a value of USD 24 Million. That amount will be missed knowing that the sector is in need of fresh dollars.

### **2. Beirut port explosion AI updates and partners presence map for BB (BB + LCRP +COVID)**

Please check the attached presentation

- Number of Beneficiaries receiving in-kind food parcels: **10,791**
- Number of Beneficiaries receiving hot meals/ready to eat meals: **2,785**
- Number of Beneficiaries receiving food vouchers: **59,994**
- Number of Beneficiaries receiving multipurpose cash assistance: **92,218**
- Number of Mothers/caregivers receiving at least one counselling session by a lactation specialist: 0
- Number of MSMEs Supported with Direct Cash Assistance: 139

- Total Amount of Money Disbursed for Cash for MSMEs (USD):  
**266,996**
- Number of Individuals supported with Cash For Work: 220
- Total Amount of Money Disbursed for Cash for Work (LBP):  
**51,600,000**

**Beirut port explosion response Partners presence map March 2021:** The map shows **16** different partners implementing food-security response activities in Beirut during **March 2021**, please see links below. For partners implementing support to SMEs you will note that there are only 4 partners reporting on AI while many more are implementing activities on the ground. Please remember to report your achievements on the AI FSS Beirut port explosion database; the sector IMO will send a reminder towards end of April to input April data and feel free to reach out to him if you need support on AI reporting.

<https://fscluster.org/lebanon/document/beirut-explosion-response-dashboard-2>  
<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/lebanon/document/beirut-explosion-response-dashboard-march-2021>

### **3. Partners' updates, gaps and challenges (BB, LCRP, COVID 19)**

#### **WFP**

- Finalized assistance with last loading took place in March
- The beneficiaries still have access to their Western Union entitlement, as the period to cash out the assistance is 3 months
- The beneficiaries who received their assistance this month still have this week to redeem it
- The distribution for people affected by the socio-economic response, is temporarily suspended in order to finalize the planning, and will be continued until December

#### **B&Z**

- B&Z Proceeded with the distribution of food parcels for beneficiaries affected by Beirut Blast; this month will be the last month to provide this assistance
- Still proceeding with distribution of food parcels for people affected by the COVID crisis in BML and South

#### **MERATH**

- The organization's normal voucher programming is on-going
- In April they distributed more than 1000 vouchers through 19 local partners for the BB response, and 900 vouchers in BML through 13 local partners for the LCRP response
- Funded is guaranteed until the end of June
- Currently requesting that the funding would continue until the end of this year for the BB response and funding for the LCRP response to continue until March 2022

#### **UNIFIL**

- UNIFIL civil affair is developing an agriculture plan; project cycle started in June 2020 and will be closed in July 2021. So far developed 4 projects:
  1. Provision of an agriculture of a tractor and its accessories in Qunine villages located in Bent Jbeil casa; the project will be closed in May 2021.
  2. Municipal food processing factory in Nafakhoya, Tyre casa. The project will also be closed in a couple weeks

3. Agriculture support to farmers through an agriculture tractor in cooperation with the litany river authority; The project will be closed in May
4. Provision of an agriculture tractor in Hallouniye in Tyr casa; the project will be concluded next month
  - A 5<sup>th</sup> project is being submitted regarding rehabilitating a water pond in Baraachit village; We hope that the project would be approved before June.

#### **4. Update on social tension related to food subsidized items**

Please check the attached presentation

#### **5. Presentation on WFP – social protection unit on the scaling up of assistance to the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP)**

- WFP had been supporting the NPTP since 2014, starting with 5,000 HH beneficiaries
- WFP is supporting with the Food assistance portion of the assistance
- In 2016 the number doubled to 10,000 HH
- In 2019-2020 WFP scaled up assistance to 15,000 beneficiary households (where we are right now)
- In 2021 WFP is scaling up further from 15,000 to 55,000 HH by mid 2021
- Started the scale up in December and started with the verification and updating the information of the HH, it is right now subjected to the eligibility criteria; supposed to finalize the verification in order to add additional 30,000 that will be involved in the food assistance component of the NPTP. WFP is now half way in the verification process
- WFP finalized the distributing the first batches of e-cards. Because of the delays and lockdown, the process of e-cards distribution was delayed for more than 2 months
- The distribution started in mid of April for the first 2 batch of card, end of April will start to distribute the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch
- From the first batch of HH about 40% were from BML region
- Verification of the HHs will continue for the next 2 to 3 months
- Lockdown had delayed the verification process and therefore the process of registering new beneficiaries
- The plan is to reach additional 35,000 HHs by the end of July 2021, and 40% of the total will be from BML
- Right now the NPTP programme is covering 29% of the extremely poor people in BML

#### **6. Presentation from CARE on the small ruminant project**

Please check attached presentation

#### **7. AOB**

Next working group will take place on May 27 at 11:00 AM