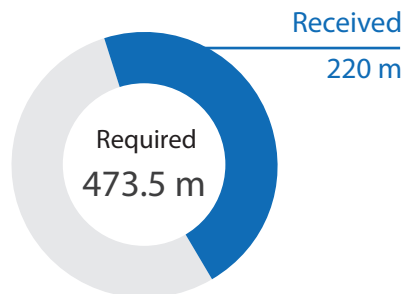




The end of year dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Food Security sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Promote food availability; OUTCOME 2) Promote food accessibility; OUTCOME 3) Promote food utilization; OUTCOME 4) Promote food stabilization.

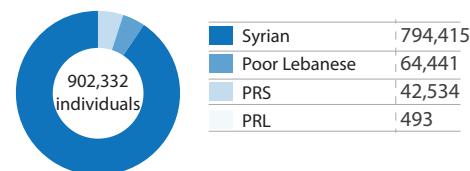
2016 Funding Status as of 31 May 2016



Targeted Population groups

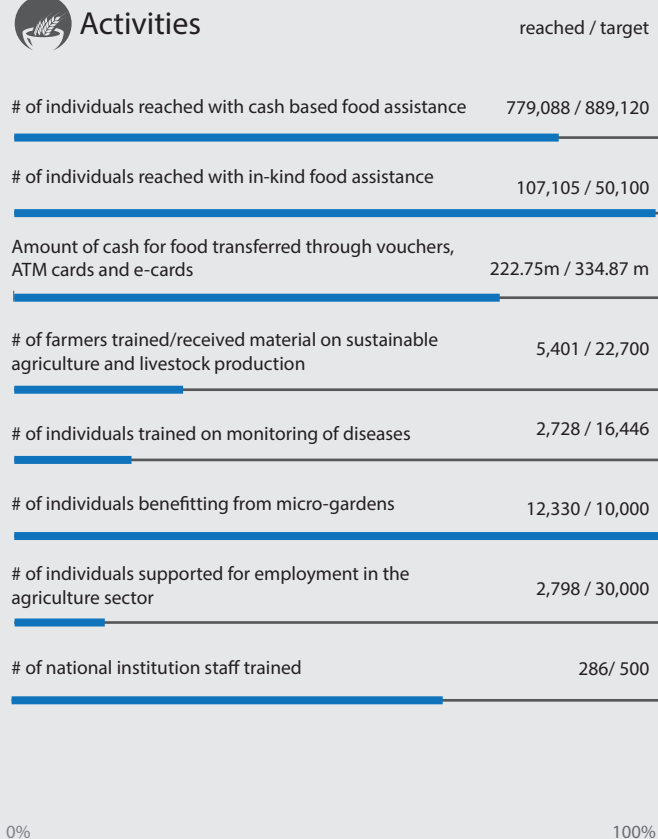


Population reached by cohort

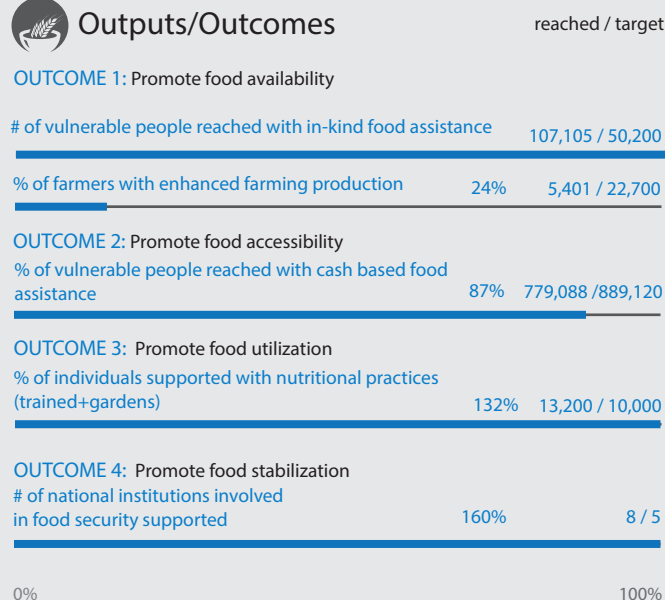


Progress against targets

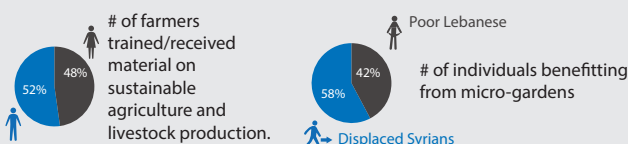
Activities



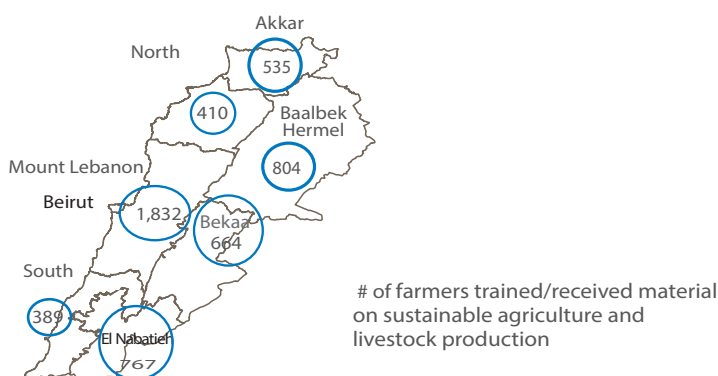
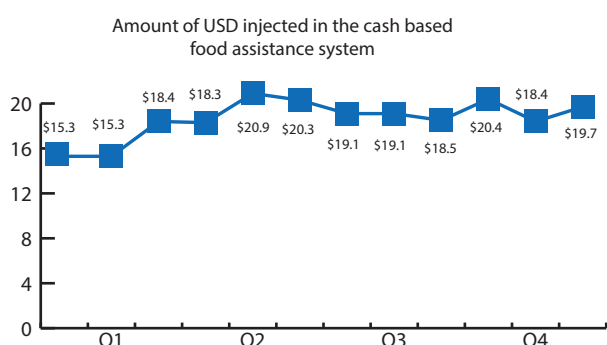
Outputs/Outcomes



Age/Gender breakdown



Analysis



- 900,000 individuals from all population groups were assisted in 2016 by Food Security Sector partners through a combination of direct humanitarian assistance (up to 886,193 individuals reached through different types of food assistance) and agricultural livelihoods interventions. The food assistance provided has helped stabilize the situation – ensuring poor and food insecure families can meet their basic food needs.
- In support of the most vulnerable Lebanese population cohorts, sector partners increased their interventions to assisting 5,400 farmers to promote sustainable agricultural and livestock production, energy and water conservation technologies, postharvest management, food losses and monitoring of plant and animal diseases through capacity building activities and distribution of agricultural inputs and tools. To improve the employability in the agricultural sector, all seven of the Ministry of Agriculture Technical schools were supported, where more than 2,419 youth were enrolled in both short and long term courses receiving trainings on agriculture and employability skills as well as basic literacy and numeracy. Job creation activities were initiated at the end of 2016, where to date, around 400 vulnerable individuals have been employed as casual (88%) and seasonal labourers in the agriculture sector.
- More than 13,000 individuals (both Lebanese and displaced

Syrians 82%) were supported for improved nutritional practices, of which more than 12,000 through the introduction of micro-gardening activities at household level and around 1,000 through food preservation and transformation techniques and kits.

- In support of national institutions, around 300 staff from the Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanese customs, Airport Authorities, Order of Engineers (Tripoli), Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute, and the Lebanese University (faculty of Agriculture) received capacity building on various topics including food security, information management and statistics, monitoring of plant diseases, etc.
- With specific reference to the provision of direct assistance and the effort to establish a harmonized approach, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF and LCC started since October 2016 distribution of the Common Card to displaced Syrian households in Lebanon. The e-cards can be used in any of the 490 WFP-contracted shops across the country and any of the thousands of ATMS across Lebanon, depending on the type of assistance loaded. The humanitarian agencies are striving to provide all forms of cash assistance on this single, common card and maximize efficiency gains in the delivery of assistance to vulnerable households.



IMPACT AGAINST THE LCRP STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Food Security Sector during 2016 contributed to the LCRP Strategic Objectives 1 and 3. Humanitarian assistance was provided up to 880,746 individuals in the form of food assistance representing the 95% achievement against the target established by the sector. The provision of such assistance contributed in removing the concern about where the next meal would have come from, as combined sector activities instilled a sense of hope and allowed families to focus on their day-to-day activities. Although the 2016 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) is showing a slight deterioration in the Food Security situation for the displaced Syrians, the increased food assistance since early 2016 – thanks to generous and timely donor contributions – prevented a sharp deterioration like the one seen 2015. In order to reinforce Lebanon's economic, social, and institutional and stability", 400 jobs were created in the agricultural sector, both as casual and seasonal labour, and businesses were supported to generate income for local economies across Lebanon with a special emphasis on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), including WFP-contracted shop, women cooperatives and community kitchens.

Support to government institutions was provided mainly to the Ministry of Agriculture offices (7), centers (30) and technical schools (7) by enhancing their capacities and productivity to strengthen their implementation of service and technical support to vulnerable Lebanese farmers in; improving their information management for enhance interventions and policies and improve educational system and support enrollment to improve the employability of the youth. Similarly, MoA, along with other national institutions were supported in monitoring and controlling of plant diseases under the umbrella of disaster risk management. The Ministry of Social Affairs through its Social Development Centers (SDCS) was supported to enhance its delivery of social welfare and services under the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), the main direct aid process for vulnerable and poor Lebanese.

A special emphasis was undertaken in mainstreaming and emphasizing interventions towards most vulnerable groups such as women, youth and children, through micro-gardening and food preservation and transformation activities for women, support to enrollment of youth in vocational agriculture schools and supporting the National Action Plan of the Ministry of Labour in combating child labour specifically in agriculture.

During 2016 it remained a sector priority to ensure that the distributions conducted for the food assistance activities are, and should continue to be, organized in order to ensure access faced by persons with specific needs. The sector moreover takes into consideration the increased vulnerability of people with specific needs, including female heads of household and households with pregnant and lactating women and children under 5, when targeting for its activities.



Facts and Figures

- 57%** of refugees HHs highly and severely vulnerable to Food insecurity¹
- 20%** of refugees HHs moderately vulnerable to Food insecurity¹
- 54%** of refugees depending on the e-car for food assistance as main livelihood source¹
- 61%** of refugees HHs adopting severe and crisis coping strategies¹
- 52%** of refugees HHs unable to cover SMEB (Survival Minimum Expenditures Basket)¹
- 10%** of Lebanese HHs vulnerable to food insecurity
- 72%** of Farmers in need of agriculture support²
- 94.5%** of PRS food insecure population³

Data Sources:

Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VaSyR 2015)
Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Host Communities (FSLA 2015)
PRS needs assessment 2015

Similarly, targeting for agricultural livelihoods activities is done on equal coverage of men and women, despite the fact that women only represent 9% of the total farming population (based on MoA census 2010). This is done to insure women's livelihoods are supported, due to the patriarchal nature of the country, where productive assets such as land and livestock are registered under the male household member, even if the main worker is a female member. For example, 30% of farmers who were supported during 2016 were women. In addition, all direct beneficiaries of micro-gardening activities were women and specifically women and women headed households.

In addition, in efforts to support social protection and targeted and needs based assistance, the sector has been working to enhancing the available information on farmers and is initiating a farmers' registry to promote and provide social protection to the most vulnerable groups, the small-scale Lebanese farmers. With increased information on Lebanese farmers, specifically through assessments on agricultural production, the agricultural labour market and child labour in agriculture among others that were conducted during 2016, the sector's understanding of the situation and needs have increase which in turn will impact

evidence based policies and programming.

With increased reports and evidence on child labour incidence (and specifically in agriculture), and in order to ensure the protection of children and their wellbeing the sector has been conducting two studies on child labour in agriculture in collaboration with the child protection working group members such as ILO and UNICEF. This joint effort aims at minimizing the negative impacts of this social phenomena while understand its magnitude, underlying causes, impacts and draw potential remedial solutions to firstly decrease and potentially eliminate child labour in agriculture. As first steps, a study has been initiated in 2016 on child labour in agriculture with ILO and UNICEF and another one with UNICEF, tackling respectively the supply and the demand. Similarly, field staff including government and local partners are being trained on Operational Safety and Health measures to promote decent work standards in agriculture. The next steps are currently being coordinated together with FAO child labour team and other partners such as ILO and UNICEF in support to the Ministry of Labour in achieving their National Action Plan in combating child labour.

CHALLENGES

After several years into the crisis, the sector and its partners have been able to mitigate through various challenges faced through coordination and planning. At the operational level, the sector has been able to support its partners whether through technical support or capacity building. As for challenges in funding, the sector witnessed an increase in funds directed to supporting Lebanese farmers and the agricultural sector after quarter 3 of 2016. Due to the nature of the interventions, the progress and the impact of such responses is expected to be more visible and tangible in the upcoming years to follow.

KEY PRIORITIES AND GAPS FORESEEN - 1ST QUARTER 2017

VASyR 2016 shows a slight increase in the percentage of food insecure households compared to 2015; 93 percent of the population is food insecure to some degree, against 89 percent in 2015. The percentage of mildly food insecure households has decreased, while the percentage of households with moderate and severe food insecurity increased with 36 percent of the households falling under these two categories. Vulnerability to food insecurity is affecting 10 percent of Lebanese households. 94.5 percent of the total population of Palestine Refugees from Syria are food insecure. The agricultural economy and food production capacity has been affected all over Lebanon. Farmers who have traditionally relied on agricultural inputs and services at subsidized/cheaper rates from Syria currently face an increase in input costs, and are struggling to keep up production.

Based on the current food security situation sector priorities remain the provision of direct and critical food assistance (through cash-based transfers for food and also in-kind assistance where appropriate) in support for highly vulnerable groups; promote agricultural investment to improve agricultural opportunities for Lebanese small-scale farmers to protect their assets, stabilize their livelihood opportunities and enhance long term competitiveness; and to create adequate job and livelihood opportunities for men and women; support national and local food security systems, including social safety nets' capacity building and social protection to promote stabilization.

With the ongoing crisis, the sector has shifted its interventions since 2015, moving from direct humanitarian assistance to medium stabilization interventions. With this, the overall sector needs for stabilization have increased from 14% of total needs in 2015, to 27% in 2016 to 32% in 2017.

Nevertheless, the sector has high recurrent needs, with some \$20 million a month needed for the core food assistance to displaced Syrians.

List of partners who reported on Activity Info in 2016

ACF, AVSI, CLMC, DRC, Dar El Fatwa, DORCAS, FAO, IOCC, IR Lebanon, INTERSOS, Lebanese Red Cross, MCC, Mercy Corps, MoA, MoSA ,Near East Foundation, PU-AMI, QRC, SCI, SHEILD, SIF, Triumphant Mercy, UNDP, UNRWA, URDA, WFP, WVI

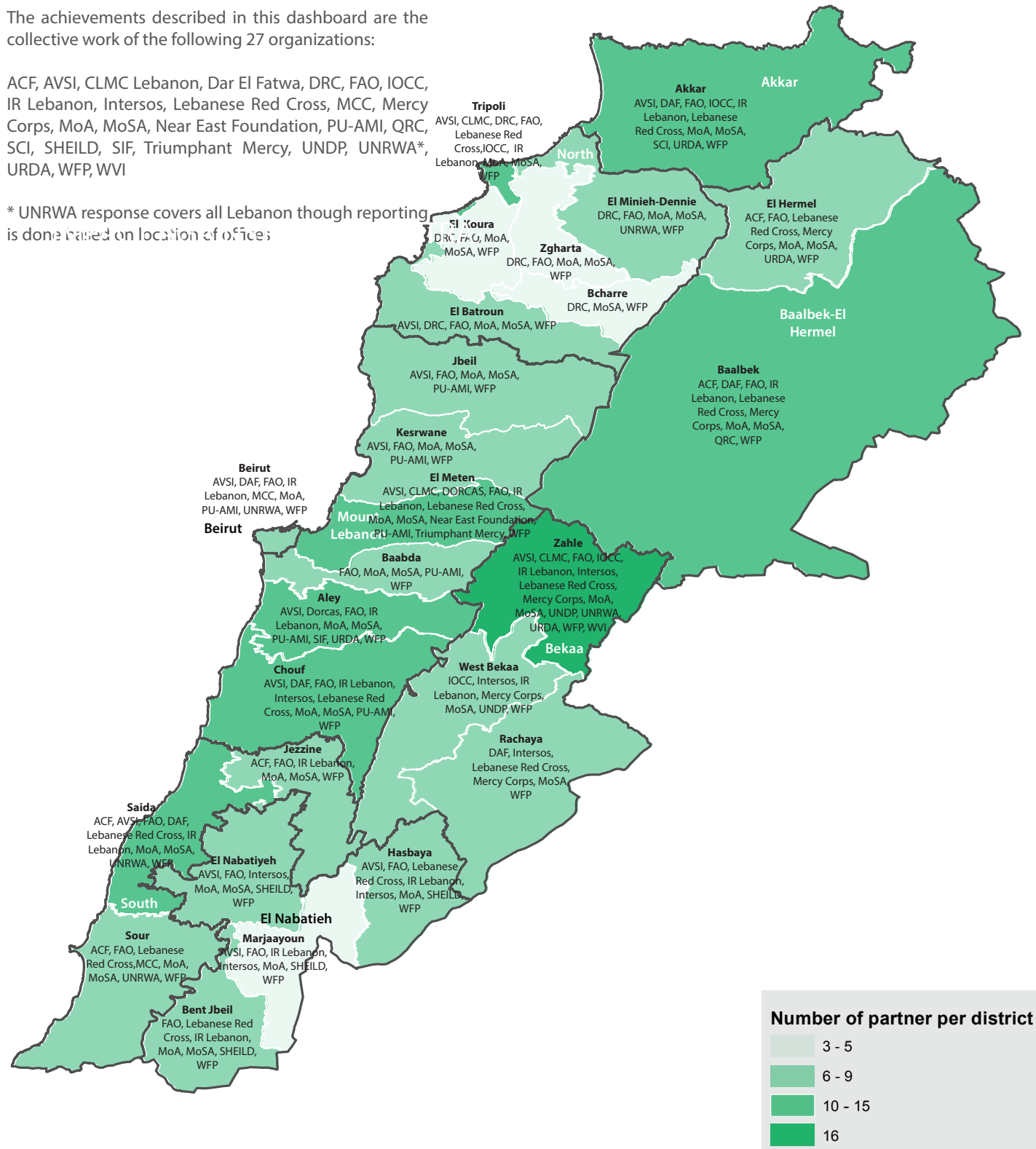


Organizations per district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 27 organizations:

ACF, AVSI, CLMC Lebanon, Dar El Fatwa, DRC, FAO, IOCC, IR Lebanon, Intersos, Lebanese Red Cross, MCC, Mercy Corps, MoA, MoSA, Near East Foundation, PU-AMI, QRC, SCI, SHEILD, SIF, Triumphant Mercy, UNDP, UNRWA*, URDA, WFP, WVI

* UNRWA response covers all Lebanon though reporting is done based on location of offices



Note: This map has been produced by UNHCR based on maps and material provided by the Government of Lebanon for UNHCR operational purposes. It does not constitute an official United Nations map. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.