

Lebanon

The UNHCR-WFP Joint Hub Country Support Brief

In 2024, Lebanon was hosting approximately **1.5 million refugees**, over 750,000 of whom were from Syria, Iraq and other countries, falling under UNHCR's mandate, in addition to Palestinian refugees supported by UNRWA. Nine out of ten refugee households have been living in **extreme poverty, affected by hyperinflation and worsening socio-economic conditions**. Food insecurity has been rapidly deepening across Lebanon, with almost a **quarter of the population facing acute hunger**.

JOINT HUB SUPPORT

The Joint Hub supported the UNHCR and WFP country offices in Lebanon between January and September 2024. The team undertook a technical review and analysis of the **targeting, prioritization and accountability to affected people (AAP) systems in the UNHCR-WFP Cash Assistance for Basic Needs Program for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon**. As part of the review, the Joint Hub conducted an extensive desk and literature review, data analysis and in-country mission. In September 2024, a final report summarizing the findings and recommendations was submitted to the country operations to inform their ongoing and future programming.

KEY SUPPORT AREAS



Targeting and Prioritization



Accountability to Affected People (AAP)

FINDINGS OF JOINT HUB TECHNICAL REVIEW

The Joint Hub's review found that the current targeting, prioritization, and accountability systems in Lebanon are effectively identifying and reaching the most vulnerable Syrian households. These systems have proven to be both cost-efficient and accurate in their approach. Several key practices contributed to this success:

- **Data and targeting:** The strategic use of high-quality data, the implementation of a robust evidence-based targeting method, and the integration of a non-expenditure measure of vulnerability into an initially expenditure-based model.

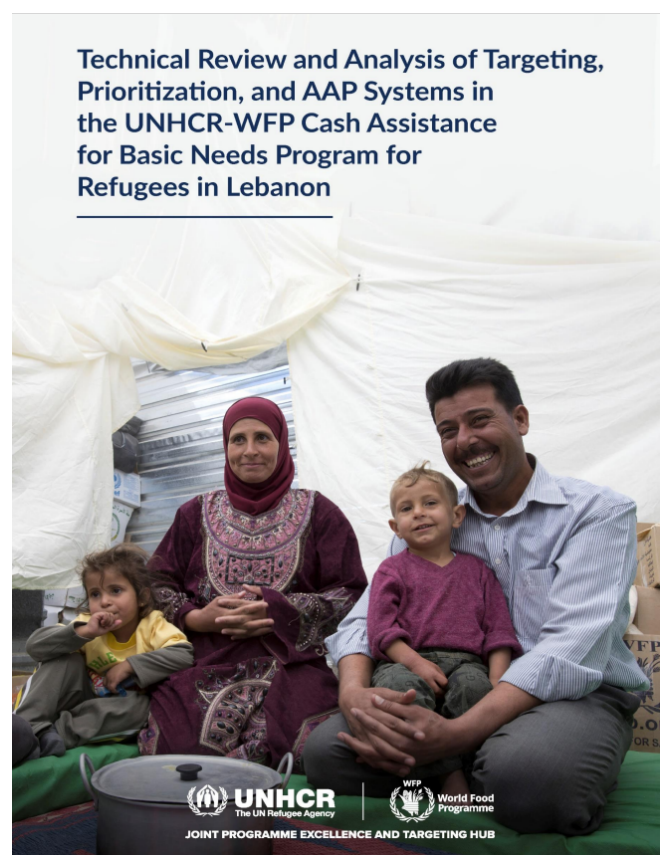
- **Integration of protection:** A protection-based layer has been added to the targeting model, further enhancing its effectiveness. This comprehensive and multidimensional approach is recognized as an example of good practice in humanitarian assistance, showcasing a well-rounded and effective methodology for addressing the diverse needs of vulnerable populations.
- **Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM):** Over time this mechanism has been continuously strengthened, evolving into a crucial component of the UNHCR-WFP Cash Assistance for Basic Needs Program. The GRM effectively identifies vulnerable Syrian families who may not be reached by the established targeting and prioritization methodology. The insights gained from the GRM have also contributed to improvements in the overall targeting approach.
- **Communication with communities:** Key information is regularly and promptly shared through various communication channels preferred by refugees, including both remote and face-to-face methods. This proactive and responsive approach has significantly enhanced the program's effectiveness.

In addition to highlighting good practices, the report identifies areas where **optimization and improvement** could better align with agency guidance and recognized humanitarian standards. The current targeting and prioritization model in Lebanon is complex, making understanding and communication challenging, even among practitioners. Simplifying the targeting and prioritization approach while maintaining effectiveness would improve the model's clarity and understanding, thereby enhancing transparency and stakeholder engagement. A streamlined and comprehensible approach, supported by robust quantitative and qualitative analysis and clear

communication, would further enhance the programme's effectiveness.

As **coverage has decreased** from 90 percent to 50 percent, and is likely to drop even lower, addressing these complexities becomes increasingly important. Improved communication will help manage expectations and reduce the risks of dissatisfaction among the people we assist.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK IN LEBANON



Internal document: [Joint Hub \(2024\): Technical review and analysis of targeting, prioritization, and AAP systems in the UNHCR-WFP cash assistance for basic needs program for refugees in Lebanon](#)

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