



**World Food  
Programme**

**Programme  
Alimentaire  
Mondial**

**Programa  
Mundial de  
Alimentos**

**برنامج الأغذية  
العالمي**

# WFP News Video

21 November 2013

## Influx of Syrian refugees into Lebanon

### WFP Video

**Arsal, Lebanon**

**Shot: 20-21, Nov 2013**

**TRT 2:01**

#### Shot list

:00-:23

Arsal, Lebanon

Syrian refugees at unfinished Mosque waiting for distribution of food parcels , blankets and other items. The food parcels consist of dry rations consisting of around 43 Kg of oil, cheese, tuna, coffee, canned meat, pasta, halva, wheat flour, lentils, bulgur, beans, dry pulses, rice and sugar. Each parcel is designed to provide for a family of 5 persons for one month.

Shot: 20Nov2013

:23-:40

Arsal, Lebanon

SOT Amina Al-Arawi

(Arabic)

“My name is Amina Al-Arawi. We came from Al-Qusayr to Qarah. We rented a house and we were okay. Then the shelling became very heavy and we could no longer stay there, so we left. The route was very difficult. We had to sleep in the mountains. The children were crying a lot. We had no food and no water and we were very cold. It would have been easier if it were summer. My son was killed in the revolution. My husband was killed too. We are now here in Arsal, we live with our relatives until God willing we find a house and now we are here to receive assistance.”

Shot: 20Nov2013

:40-:57

Arsal, Lebanon

Syrian refugees at unfinished Mosque receiving distribution of food parcels , blankets and other items.



Shot: 20Nov2013

:57-01:08

Arsal, Lebanon

SOT (english): Brett Hanley, WFP Lebanon

“We have already assisted 4000 individuals with food that will cover for one month and we will continue until assistitng until all those that require have received it.

Shot: 21Nov2013

01:08-01:37

Arsal, Lebanon

Syrian trying to keep warm in Mosque, Registering for relief items.

Shot: 20Nov2013

01:37-01:48

Arsal, Lebanon

SOT(english): Brett Hanley, WFP Lebanon

“Winter has already arrived here in Arsal so its very cold and we expect over the next month that it will continue to get colder making the situation for thsoe who have recently arrived very difficult”

Shot: 21Nov2013

01:48-02:01

Arsal, Lebanon

Syrian refugees at unfinished Mosque receiving distribution of food parcels , blankets and other items.

Shot: 20Nov2013

ENDS

## **Background**

Humanitarian agencies are responding to an influx of some 13,200 Syrian refugees who arrived to Aarsal in the Bekaa Valley in the past five days, following heavy fighting in the Qalamoun area of Rural Damascus. Aarsal was already hosting some 19,500 refugees before this recent influx and more are expected to arrive in the coming days. With this influx the total population of Aarsal has almost doubled. WFP responded quickly and has so far assisted over 7,000 people with food parcels for one month. WFP, together with its partner, the Danish Refugee Council, continues to provide food assistance as more people continue to arrive. Once these people are registered, they will receive WFP E-cards starting next month. WFP is also monitoring the food security situation in Aarsal and the ability of the shops to respond to the needs of the new influx.

Most of these newly arriving refugees come from the Qarah village where heavy clashes took place but were originally displaced from Homs. They are scattered in Aarsal around 14 different temporary sites, consisting of four collective shelters and 10 improvised tented settlements. The majority of them are women and children who fled under the cover of the cold night. Clashes have spread to the Nabak and Yabroud over the past hours driving more people to Aarsal.

Some 200,000 people live in the area of Qalamoun and it is expected that a further escalation of the conflict in this area could lead to a significant displacement to the Bekaa where winter is very harsh.

In preparation for such a potentially larger influx, WFP is ramping up its contingency stock and has already mobilised 3,400 food parcels in warehouses in the Bekaa enough for around 17,000 people for one month and ready for dispatch if needed. In total, WFP has a contingency stock of food parcels, enough for around 120,000 people in the country.

WFP in Lebanon is assisting around 600,000 Syrian refugees meet their food needs through an innovative electronic voucher system and food parcels.

WFP provides food parcels to vulnerable families who are newly arrived but have not yet registered. The food parcels consist of dry rations consisting of around 43 Kg of oil, cheese, tuna, coffee, canned meat, pasta, halva, wheat flour, lentils, bulgur, beans, dry pulses, rice and sugar. Each parcel is designed to provide for a family of 5 persons for one month.



Since the beginning of 2013, WFP has delivered over 3.6 million food vouchers worth more than US\$95.5 million in addition to over 1,670 tonnes of food parcels to Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

The food parcel commodities distributed to Syrians waiting to register are also purchased locally. Through this type of assistance, WFP has injected an additional US\$ 130,000 into the local market since the beginning of the year.

The Government estimates that 1.3 million Syrians are in the country (or 30 percent of the population of Lebanon) while around 817,000 are registered or awaiting registration.

END