

FDF FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTION PROJECT

Project Report

Name of the partner: Nation Station

Name of the project: Emergency Response support of Internally Displaced and War-Affected families in Beirut, Lebanon

Planned date of start and end of the project: March 1, 2025 to May 31, 2025

Date of submission of the final report : November 20, 2025

Total amount of the grant: 40,000 EUR

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Executive Summary and Project Overview

The FDF-Food Box Distribution Project, implemented by Nation Station in Beirut, Lebanon, ran from March 1, 2025, to May 31, 2025, with a total grant amount of 40,000 EUR. The primary objective was to provide essential food assistance to vulnerable households through regular distributions of carefully designed food boxes.

The project been successfully concluded, delivering critical emergency food assistance to internally displaced and war-affected families. The initiative surpassed its core objectives, providing sustained nutritional support and bolstering the resilience of vulnerable households. Over the project's lifecycle, **six distribution rounds** were executed, delivering **270 comprehensive food boxes to 90 families (485 individuals)**, with each family receiving three packages.

A key pillar of the project's success was its sophisticated and dignified approach to aid delivery. Moving beyond a standard distribution model, the project employed a **gender and age-sensitive food allocation system**.

- **Data-Driven Customization:** Beneficiary needs were captured through a **comprehensive digital data collection system** during household assessments. This data allowed for the precise tailoring of food box contents based on household demographics. For instance, packages were customized to include infant formula, nutrient-dense foods for growing children, and specific staples catering to the needs of adults and the elderly.
- **Nutritional Adequacy:** Each food box provided a balanced combination of essential nutrients. The project distributed over **10,881 units of dry goods** (such as grains, legumes, and canned proteins) and **4,590 units of fresh produce**, ensuring families had access to a stable and wholesome diet.

The project was executed with remarkable logistical precision. A streamlined workflow was established, covering procurement, quality control, packaging, and last-mile delivery. Distributions were reliably conducted every 15 days, providing a predictable and consistent source of support that is vital for families in crisis. This systematic execution ensured that all aid was delivered on schedule and in excellent condition.

Key Achievements and Impact

The project's achievements extend beyond quantitative metrics, demonstrating a highly effective model for targeted emergency response:

- **Enhanced Food Security:** Directly improved the food security and nutritional status of 485 individuals during a critical period of instability.
- **Needs-Based Support Model:** Successfully designed and implemented a customized aid system that respects the specific needs of diverse family structures, promoting dignity and maximizing nutritional impact.
- **Efficient and Accountable Operations:** Established a robust logistics and distribution framework, proving its effectiveness and creating a replicable model for future interventions.
- **Strategic Challenge Mitigation:** Proactively managed operational hurdles, such as compressed assessment timelines and coordination complexities in a volatile environment. The team's adaptability and agile problem-solving ensured all project milestones were achieved without compromising quality or impact.

In conclusion, the FDF-Food Box Distribution Project not only alleviated immediate hardship for 90 vulnerable families but also pioneered a more thoughtful and effective approach to humanitarian aid in Lebanon. Its success underscores the critical value of data-driven targeting, customized support, and operational excellence in emergency response.



Figure 1: Stacked food boxes in the Nation Station warehouse, organized and ready for distribution

Implementation Progress

Assessment and Beneficiary Selection

The project began with a comprehensive needs assessment phase in February 2025. Using digital data collection tools (Ona platform), the team conducted detailed household assessments to identify the most vulnerable families. The assessment collected data on household composition, income levels, current food sources, and specific nutritional needs. Based on this assessment, 90 families

were selected as beneficiaries, with 45 families receiving assistance in the first phase of the project, and 45 families in the second phase.

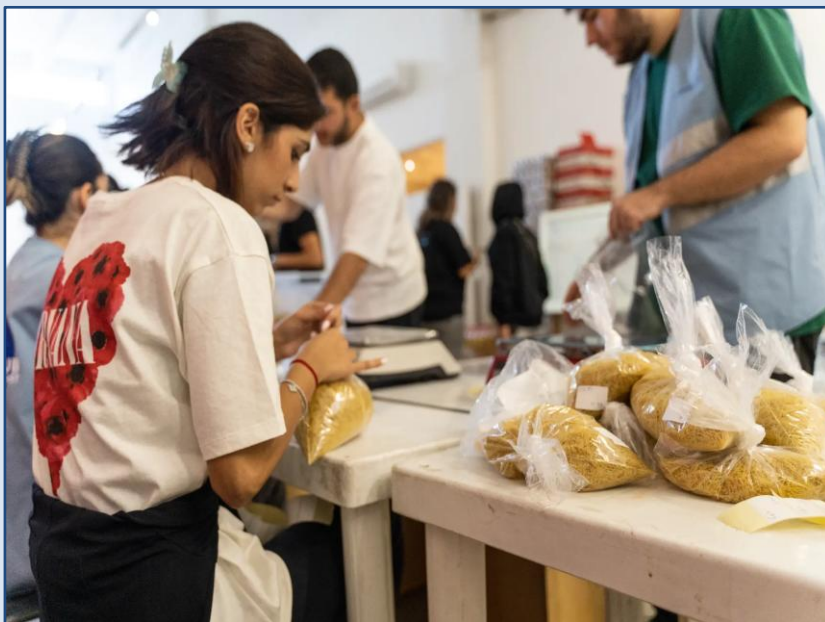


Figure 2: Nation Station staff organizing and labeling food boxes to ensure accurate distribution to beneficiaries

Food Box Design and Preparation

A key innovative component of the project was the tailored food box design that considered the demographic composition of each household. The food boxes were customized based on:

1. **Age-specific nutritional needs:** Different serving sizes and food items for adults, children (3-9 years), and infants
2. **Gender considerations:** Specific nutritional requirements for women, particularly those of reproductive age
3. **Dietary diversity:** Inclusion of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, and micronutrients through varied food items

Each food box contained both dry foods (grains, legumes, canned proteins) and fresh foods (vegetables, dairy products), providing a balanced nutritional profile. The boxes were prepared by a dedicated team that carefully weighed and packaged each item based on established guidelines.



Figure 3: Nation Station team member wearing the organization's branded t-shirt, coordinating distribution activities



Figure 4: Team members carefully handling food boxes during the loading process, ensuring efficient distribution

Distribution Process

Food boxes were delivered every 15 days to the same 45 families during phase 1, and another 45 families during phase 2. Each distribution followed a structured process:

1. Preparation of food items at the Nation Station facility
2. Packaging of dry and fresh foods into individual boxes
3. Labeling boxes with recipient information
4. Loading and transportation to distribution points
5. Verification of beneficiary identity and distribution of boxes
6. Collection of feedback for continuous improvement

The distribution logistics were efficiently managed, with transportation arranged to ensure timely delivery to all beneficiaries. The team maintained detailed records of each distribution, including quantities of food items distributed and beneficiary confirmation.



Figure 5: Nation Station team members loading food boxes onto a delivery truck for distribution to beneficiary families

Monitoring and Documentation

Throughout implementation, the project team maintained comprehensive documentation of all activities, including:

1. Digital records of all beneficiary assessments
2. Inventory tracking of food items purchased and distributed
3. Photographic documentation of the preparation and distribution process
4. Regular team meetings to address challenges and adjust operations as needed

The monitoring system allowed for real-time tracking of project progress and ensured accountability in the use of resources.

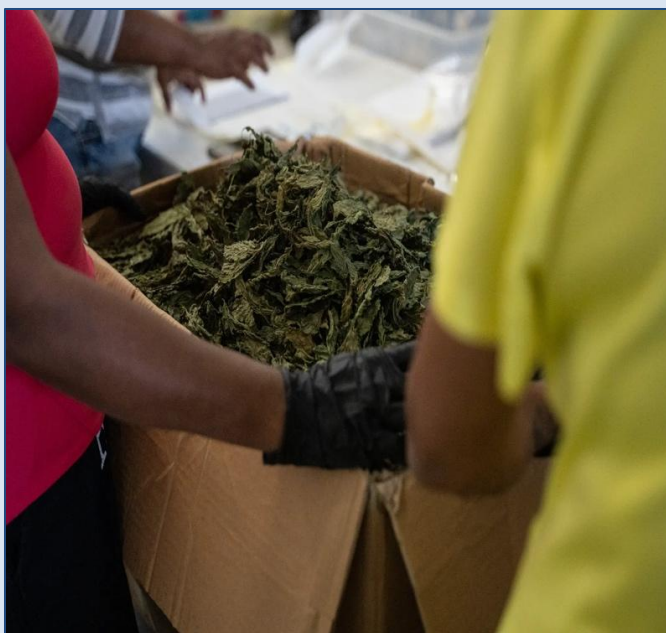


Figure 6: Staff members preparing and weighing dried molokhia

Key Figures and Tables

Distribution Summary

Distribution Metric	Value
Total families served	90
Total individuals reached	485
Total food boxes distributed	270
Distribution frequency	Every 15 days
Distributions completed	6 rounds
Project completion	100%

Food Items Distributed

Top 5 Food Items by Quantity

Item	Total	
	Quantity	Unit
Maggi 8g	3,075	cubes
Fava 600g	1,368	cans
Rice	1,284	kg
Tuna 180g	1,161	cans
Pasta	1,026	kg



Figure 7: Nation Station Staff Stacking Boxes

Dry Foods Distribution

Phase 1 (247 individuals)

Food Item	Quantity per Distribution	Total Distributed
Fava bean (600g can)	232	696
Chickpeas (400g can)	156	468
Mortadella (340g can)	46	138
Tuna (180g can)	201	603
Oil (L)	80	240
Rice (Kg)	221	663
Lentils (Kg)	92	276
Beans (Kg)	39	117
Vermicelli (Kg)	14	42
Sugar (Kg)	39	117
Salt (Kg)	45	135
Pasta (Kg)	177	531
Maggi (8g cube)	513	1,539

Phase 2 (238 individuals)

Food Item	Quantity per Distribution	Total Distributed
Fava bean (600g can)	224	672
Chickpeas (400g can)	150	450
Mortadella (340g can)	46	138
Tuna (180g can)	186	558
Oil (L)	77	231
Rice (Kg)	207	621
Lentils (Kg)	85	255
Beans (Kg)	50.0	150
Vermicelli (Kg)	1.0	3
Sugar (Kg)	51	153
Salt (Kg)	45	135
Pasta (Kg)	165	495
Maggi (8g cube)	485	1455

Fresh Food Distribution

Item	Unit	Quantity per Distribution	Total Distributed
Olive Oil	L	45	270
Pickles	Jar	45	270
Jam	kg	38.25	153
Nuts	kg	22.5	135
Dried Fruits	kg	22.5	135
Loukoum/halawa	kg	22.5	135
Biscuits	box	45	270
Yogurt	kg	90	540
Labneh	kg	22.5	135
Fresh Vegetables	kg	Various	~900

Beneficiary Demographics

Demographic Group	Percentage of Beneficiaries
Lebanese nationals	42.9%
Lebanese-Palestinians	7.8%
Syrian refugees	5.15%
Palestinian refugees	38.1 %
Palestinian-Syrian Refugees	6%

Household Type	Percentage
Female-headed households	22.2%
Households with children under 10	35%
Households with infants	18.9%

Food Box Tailoring by Age Group

Age Group	Serving Size Adjustment	Special Considerations
Adults	Standard portions	Gender-specific nutritional needs considered
Children (3-9 years)	60-80% of adult portions	Reduced spices, increased nutrient density
Infants (0-3 years)	30-40% of adult portions	No high-salt items, no mortadella, limited sugar

ONA Dashboard Visualizations

The Ona dashboard provides valuable insights into the beneficiary population and their needs:

Household Composition

The assessment data shows that the average household size among beneficiaries is 4.5 persons, with 22.2% of households headed by women. Approximately 35% of households include children under 10 years old, and 18.9% have infants under 3 years old.

Vulnerability Assessment

The vulnerability assessment revealed that 73.3% of households have monthly incomes below the extreme poverty line, with 58.9% reporting that they had reduced meal sizes in the month prior to assessment due to lack of resources.

Food Security Indicators

Food security indicators show that 95.6% of households rely primarily on cash purchases for food, while 22% depend on assistance from organizations as their secondary food source.

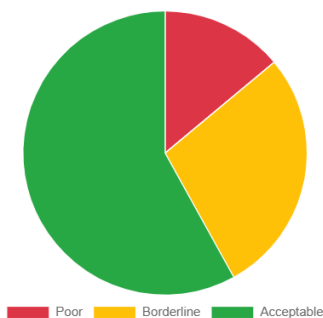
Geographic Distribution

Beneficiaries are distributed across several neighborhoods in Beirut, with concentrations in Burj (35%), Geitawi (25%), and other areas (40%) including Dahye and surrounding neighborhoods.

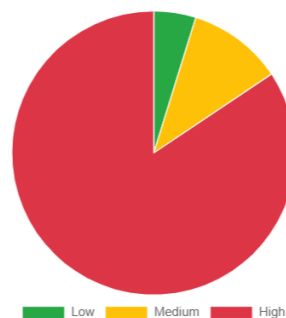
Recovery challenges

Post-war data shows improvement from crisis levels but remains worse than pre-war conditions, indicating the long-lasting impact of conflict on food security.

Food Consumption Score Categories



Coping Strategy Index Distribution



Challenges and Solutions

1. Tight Assessment Timeframe Due to Urgency of Launching Distributions

Solution: The team implemented a quota-based assessment approach, assigning specific daily targets to data collectors. Digital data collection tools (Ona platform) were utilized to streamline the process, allowing for real-time data verification and reducing the need for follow-up visits.

2. Coordination Challenges Between the Teams

Solution: Regular coordination meetings were established between the teams, and clear roles were assigned to prevent overlap or miscommunication. A unified schedule was created for food preparation and packaging, with dry foods prepared first, followed by fresh foods on distribution days.

3. Logistics and Transportation into a Conflict-Affected Area outside of Nation Station's Usual Geographic Coverage

Solution: The team established partnerships with area representatives who could serve as distribution points in some neighborhoods, reducing the number of individual deliveries required. For direct deliveries, the Nation Station van was supplemented with a contracted driver to ensure sufficient transportation capacity.

4. Food Storage Challenges Due to Fresh Food Items (perishable) and Inventory Management

Solution: The team implemented a phased procurement strategy, purchasing non-perishable items in bulk for all three distributions while acquiring fresh items closer to each distribution date. A detailed inventory tracking system was established to monitor stock levels and prevent shortages.

5. Tailoring Food Boxes to Household Needs (unusual modality as opposed to standard boxes regardless of household composition)

Solution: The team developed standardized formulas for calculating food quantities based on household composition data from the assessments. These formulas considered the number of adults, children, and infants in each household, as well as gender-specific nutritional needs.

Adaptations and Improvements

Based on the challenges encountered and feedback received during the first phase (3 rounds), Nation Station implemented several improvements to enhance project efficiency:

1. **Refined Assessment Tools:** The household assessment form was refined to capture more specific information about dietary preferences and restrictions to ensure even further tailoring.
2. **Streamlined Packaging Process:** The packaging workflow was optimized through improved team communication and a more refined process based on lessons learned, reducing preparation time by approximately 25%.
3. **Enhanced Beneficiary Communication:** A more structured communication system was established to inform beneficiaries about upcoming distributions.
4. **Improved Documentation:** The documentation process was enhanced to better capture distribution metrics and beneficiary feedback.



Figure 8: Packaged Dry Molokhia

Acknowledgment

Nation Station extends its sincere gratitude to Fondation de France for their generous support of this critical emergency response initiative. The funding provided enabled us to deliver essential food assistance to vulnerable families in Beirut during a period of significant hardship. We also acknowledge the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and community partners whose commitment has been instrumental in the successful implementation of this project.
