



World Food Programme



ONE FUTURE #ZEROHUNGER



# WFP Syria Situation Report #3

March 2018

## In Numbers

**13.1** million people in need of humanitarian assistance\*

**6.1** million people internally displaced

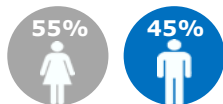
**10.5** million people in need of food assistance

\*According to the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)

## Highlights

- WFP dispatched food assistance for 3 million people in all 14 Syrian governorates in March, achieving 100 percent of the monthly plan.
- Approximately 133,000 IDPs have left the besieged enclave of Eastern Ghouta; since 15 March, WFP and other partners have been covering the needs of all evacuees.
- The situation in Afrin district remained volatile as Turkish forces continued their advance into Afrin district. An estimated 137,000 people have been displaced.

**3 Million**  
People assisted  
March 2018



GENDER MARKER **2A** TICSP

**Global Humanitarian Funding\***

**Overall: USD\***

**WFP share: USD 792,163,289**

## WFP Net Funding Requirements in 2018

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) (May -December 2018)

**USD 310 million**

\* The 2018 HRP is currently being finalized

## Situation Update

### Situation in Eastern Ghouta in Rural Damascus

- Despite the passing of Resolution 2401 which was intended to enhance access, both the humanitarian and security situation in Eastern Ghouta continued to deteriorate. At least 1,600 people have reportedly been killed and thousands injured. Approximately 133,000 people have left the besieged enclave of Eastern Ghouta either through established corridors to IDP sites in Rural Damascus or through evacuation agreements to Idleb and Aleppo governorates. With the most recent agreement for the last remaining fighters in Douma to be evacuated to Aleppo governorate, there is cautious optimism amongst the United Nations agencies that humanitarian access may improve. Since 15 March, WFP and other partners have been covering the needs of all evacuees; providing food assistance in collective shelters in Rural Damascus, areas inside Eastern Ghouta accessible by actors, crossing points, and in Idleb and Aleppo governorates.

### WFP's Operations in North-Eastern Syria

- WFP's operations in north-eastern Syria are continuing as planned. A sustainable solution to the temporary agreement between the Government of Syria and the Kurdish Self-Administration for the registration of NGOs in the area still needs to be identified. WFP targets 357,000 people in Al-Hasakeh, Deir Ezzor and Ar-Raqqa governorates, with food and nutrition assistance on a monthly basis.

### Security Situation in North-Western Syria

- In north-western Syria, conflict escalated on several fronts. Fighting between government forces and non-state armed groups (NSAG) in Idleb governorate has resulted in the displacement of 385,000 people since December (some with multiple displacements). Despite renewed fighting and the temporary suspension of food assistance, WFP met the monthly operational plan, providing food assistance for



Photo: ©WFP / Marwa Awad  
Caption: United Nations inter-agency convoy reaches Ar-Raqqa City.

480,000 people in Idleb and Aleppo governorates through the cross-border operation from Turkey.

- The situation in Afrin district remained volatile as Turkish forces continued their advance into Afrin district despite the Security Council resolution. An estimated 137,000 people have been displaced from Afrin district into other parts of Aleppo governorate, mainly to Tal Rifat, Nubul and Zahra. In response, WFP provided food assistance that can meet the needs of 150,000 people through regular, cross-border and cross-line deliveries, including RTE rations, nutrition supplies, milk, and fresh bread.

### Security Situation in Southern Syria

- In southern Syria, the security situation deteriorated in early March as government forces launched a large-scale military offensive in eastern parts of Dar'a governorate. Fighting caused the displacement of thousands of people within eastern Dar'a, particularly from villages close to the frontlines such as Busr Al-Harir, Malihat and Hrak. The security situation temporarily hampered WFP's access to some villages, though the situation stabilized end of March to the extent that WFP was able to access parts of south-western Dar'a for the first time in a year. WFP conducted a rapid needs assessment and through its cross-border operation in Jordan, WFP completed two rounds of RTE rations for 3,700 people in March.

### WFP's Response

- Under the March cycle, WFP delivered food assistance for 3 million people in all 14 governorates, achieving 100 percent of the monthly plan.
- Cross-border deliveries from Jordan and Turkey accounted for 23.3 percent of the total food dispatched. The food delivered meets the needs of 706,000 people in areas inaccessible from inside Syria in Aleppo, Idleb, Quneitra, As-Sweida and Dar'a governorates.
- Moreover, dispatches included the delivery of food assistance for 275,175 people in 12 locations, classified by the United Nations as besieged or hard-to-reach, in Hama, Rural Damascus, Aleppo, Homs and Dar'a governorates.
- Four cross-line inter-agency convoys were conducted, through which WFP provided food assistance and nutrition supplies for 162,100 people in Aleppo, Homs, and Eastern Ghouta in Rural Damascus.

### Livelihood and Resilience Projects

- WFP is currently implementing six livelihood projects, targeting over 60,000 people in ten governorates across the country. Projects cover various areas including vocational skills training, kitchen gardens, poultry, farming, and food processing.

### School Meals Programme

- Under the school meals programme, WFP dispatched 4,400 mt of milk and fortified date bars, enough for over 450,000 children attending schools in Aleppo, As-Sweida, Damascus, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Rural Damascus, and Tartous governorates. WFP also reached 1,096 students through its cash-

based-transfer (CBT) support to out-of-school children (OOSC) activity in Homs and Lattakia governorates.

### Nutrition Assistance

- In March, WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 127,596 children in Aleppo, Idleb, Rural Damascus, Damascus, Tartous, Quneitra, Dar'a, Homs, Hama, Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates, through the cross-border operation from Turkey as well as regular deliveries from inside Syria.
- WFP also delivered nutrition supplies for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition to CMAM<sup>1</sup> centers and mobile clinics in Aleppo and Rural Damascus governorates. The supplies are sufficient to meet the needs of 997 children and pregnant and nursing women for a period of three months. Of this number, nutrition supplies for 867 children and pregnant and nursing women were dispatched to WFP partners as part of Eastern Ghouta emergency response.
- Moreover, 20,587 pregnant and nursing women received nutrition support through CBT to purchase fresh food, including dairy products, meat, fruits and vegetables, from WFP-contracted retailers in Lattakia, Tartous, Homs, Hama, Rural Damascus and Aleppo governorates.



### Supply Chain

- In March, WFP moved a total of 46,200 mt of various food commodities from its eight storage facilities to 50 cooperating partners across all 14 governorates. Commodities were delivered under various activities and included food boxes, fortified wheat flour, nutrition supplies, date bars, milk, and yeast.

### Clusters and Common Services



#### Food Security and Agriculture Sector

- As part of its regular activities, the Food Security and Agriculture Sector in Syria facilitated discussions with Whole of Syria partners to determine areas where food support will be needed through inter-agency convoys for both March and April.
- The Food Security and Agriculture Sector in Damascus is coordinating with partners responding to both the Afrin and Eastern Ghouta emergencies. This entails regular coordination meetings, ad-hoc meetings and bilateral discussions to ascertain needs and gaps.



#### Logistics Cluster

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster continued to facilitate coordination services, information management and logistic support to the humanitarian community in Syria, and provided logistics services to six partners in March. This includes land transport of humanitarian supplies to Deir Ezzor and Al-Hasakeh governorates on a no-cost basis.
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated four inter-agency humanitarian convoys to the besieged area and hard to reach areas of Eastern Ghouta in Rural Damascus,

<sup>1</sup> Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition

Homs and Aleppo.

- In addition, a total of 2,458m<sup>3</sup> of health, WASH and nutrition cargo were transported via land inside Syria on behalf of DRC, MEDAIR, UNICEF and UNFPA.
- The cluster also stored 3,785 m<sup>3</sup> of newly received humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Aleppo, Homs, Qamishly and Rural Damascus on behalf of IMC, IOM, Oxfam, UNFPA, UNRWA and UNICEF.

## Resourcing Update

- WFP is currently providing food assistance to 3 million people instead of the envisioned 4 million people due to lower funding levels than anticipated. WFP needs funds to continue providing food assistance to those most in need and requires USD 310 million to keep operations running through 2018.

## Contacts

- WFP Representative and Country Director: Jakob KERN
- Reports Officer Syria: Rikke KASSE  
[rikke.kasse@wfp.org](mailto:rikke.kasse@wfp.org)
- Food Security and Agriculture Sector: Samantha CHATTARAJ  
[samantha.chattaraj@wfp.org](mailto:samantha.chattaraj@wfp.org)
- Logistics Cluster: Alessandra PICCOLO  
[alessandra.piccolo@wfp.org](mailto:alessandra.piccolo@wfp.org)

WFP's Activities					
	Total Requirements (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (May-December 2018) (in USD)	People Assisted (March 2018)	Female	Male
<b>Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP)</b> (Jan – Dec 2018)	792 million	310 million	3,028,100*	1,665,455	1,362,645
General Food Assistance			3,028,100	1,665,455	1,362,645
School Meals Programme			451,439	221,205	230,234
Out-of-School Children			779	749	1,528
Nutrition - Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			127,596	65,074	62,522
Nutrition Support for Pregnant and Nursing Women (Cash-Based Transfers)			20,308	20,308	0
Nutrition - Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			1,322	780	545
Livelihood Activities			49,490	27,220	22,271

\* The total beneficiary figure includes beneficiaries of all activities as there is almost a complete overlap between activities.