

WFP Syria Crisis Regional Response Situation Report

September 2018

In Numbers

5.6 million refugees from Syria

3.2 million Syrian refugees assisted in July

USD 4.0 billion injected into local economies of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey through cash-based transfers, local food procurement and other expenditure since 2012.

People assisted

September 2018



Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) 2018-2019

Overall:
US\$ 4.4 billion

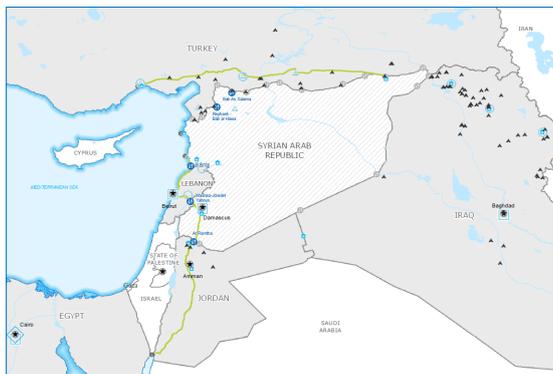
WFP share:
US\$ 1.5 billion

WFP Net Funding Requirements

(November 2018 – April 2019)*

Regional	US\$ 307.4 million
Egypt	US\$ 16.8 million
Iraq	US\$ 3.5 million
Jordan	US\$ 104.0 million
Lebanon	US\$ 112.6 million
Turkey	US\$ 107.3 million

* As of 24 October 2018. Figures pertain to the Syria regional refugee response only.



Syria Crisis: WFP Operational Overview

Highlights

- In September, WFP reached more than 3.2 million refugees – out of a total of 5.6 million registered Syrian refugees – and host community members across Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey through various food and cash-based assistance programmes under the Country Strategic Plan (CSPs) in Egypt and Lebanon, and Transitional Interim CSPs in the three countries.
- Self-organized refugee returns verified by UNHCR in 2018 totalled 28,251 as of September 2018. Results from UNHCR return intention surveys showed that voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity remains the preferred durable solution for Syrian refugees in the region.

Situation Update

Regional

- As of September 2018, there are around 5.6 million refugees from Syria in the neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.
- According to UNHCR's Return Perception and Intention Surveys conducted in 2018, 76 percent of Syrian refugees hoped to return to Syria one day, up from 51 percent in 2017, while 19 percent noted that they do not want to come back. Voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity remains the preferred durable solution for Syrian refugees in the region.

Jordan

- The Nasib border crossing between Syria and Jordan is slated to open on 10 October, with logistics preparations under way for the re-opening. The border crossing, which was closed off in 2015, when it fell to Syrian opposition factions, will soon begin to receive the movement of trucks and transit to and from Syria. Previous media reports also said that the crossing is ready to receive Syrian refugees' returning from Jordan.

Lebanon

- Under Lebanon's general security arrangement and in coordination with UNHCR, a total of 1,483 Syrian refugees returned to Syria from Arsenal, crossing the border through Zamrani, and by bus through Aboudieh and Masnaa.

Turkey

- Following talks between presidents Putin and Erdoğan, Russia and Turkey agreed to establish a de-militarised 'buffer zone' in Idlib province, where Turkey has established 12 observation points.
- The annual inflation rate increased to 15.9 percent in July and to 17.9 percent in August 2018. The steep increases have affected the off-camp Minimum Expenditure Basket costs; the basic cost of living for a refugee has increased from TRY 295 per person per month in June 2018 to TRY 305.8 in August. The Turkish lira may continue to be volatile through the fourth quarter with consequent likely continued inflation; this raises particular concerns for energy prices, given higher rates of consumption in cold months.

WFP Response



Food and Nutrition Assistance

Egypt

- WFP Egypt supported a total of 80,600 refugees from Syria and host community members with cash-based transfers through General Food Assistance (GFA) and nutrition support to pregnant and nursing women. Each beneficiary received a monthly voucher assistance worth EGP 400 (USD 22).
- WFP, in partnership with Carrefour, launched a Social Behavioural Change Campaign, targeting pregnant women frequenting the hyper stores. The campaign was featured in all 11 hyper markets of Carrefour (in Cairo and other governorates) for a duration of one month where communication material was developed, with behavioural changing messages urging pregnant women to consume dairy daily during their pregnancy.

Iraq

- WFP Iraq reached a total of 51,529 Syrian refugees settled in camps in Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) with cash-based transfers (CBTs) through GFA and Food Assistance for Training (FFT). Each beneficiary of either unrestricted cash transfers or e-vouchers received either 6,000 IQD/day (USD 5) or 12,000 IQD/day (USD 10) depending on the cycle of the activity (basic or advanced, and microwork cycles), disbursed through electronic vouchers or unrestricted cash transfers using the SCOPE platform, WFP's beneficiary identity and benefit management system.
- In September, 605 people (3,025 beneficiaries) participated in the activities under the Tech for Food project implemented in Sulaymaniyah, Dohuk, Erbil and Ninewa governorates. The project targets Syrian refugees, displaced Iraqis and host communities. The participants receive training on advance digital skills, such as graphic design/Adobe Photoshop, social media marketing, programming, front-end design (web/app design), and data analysis.
- The Food Security and Outcome Monitoring (FSOM) of Q3 2018 for the GFA for Syrian Refugees in Iraq was finalised in September. Main findings confirm that food security has been stable for most refugees' households in the second quarter of 2018. Food consumption remains largely at acceptable levels, with 96.6 percent of households within the category. Food remains a top priority for refugees, although food expenditure share decreased by 4 points compared to the previous quarter.

Jordan

- WFP Jordan supported a total of 879,672 Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians with in-kind food and CBTs through GFA and resilience activities. Through WFP's tiered approach, the extremely vulnerable Syrian refugees in host communities were assisted through e-cards with a value of JOD 23 (USD 32), and vulnerable refugees through e-cards with a value of JOD 15 (USD 21).
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, WFP resumed its school meals activities in communities in support of 329,159 Jordanian children in targeted poverty pockets through the distribution of fortified date bars. Under the Healthy Kitchen model, WFP provided healthy snacks to an additional 85,800 Jordanian and Syrian school children. The snacks are sourced, prepared, and delivered by Jordanian and Syrian women and men working in the kitchens. The model is implemented in partnership with the Royal Health Awareness Society, World Vision and community-based organizations.
- WFP and UN Women signed a partnership agreement on the use of the innovative blockchain technology to assist

Syrian refugee women participating in UN Women's cash-for-work programmes at the Za'atari and Azraq camps in Jordan. Through this partnership, women will be able to access their funds directly, and the accounts will be kept securely on a blockchain network.

Lebanon

- WFP Lebanon assisted a total of 662,492 Syrian refugees, Palestinian refugees, and vulnerable Lebanese. WFP continued to implement multiple delivery mechanisms such as food-restricted e-cards, cash-for-food e-cards, and multi-purpose cash for basic needs.
- In mid-September, a field visit the Ministry of Social Affairs, the World Bank and WFP took place in Saida, South Lebanon to roll out the new National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) food e-card and Hayat ID. The Hayat ID card is an identification card that is issued by NPTP to all eligible beneficiary households enrolled in the programme. All Hayat ID holders receive education and health benefits from NPTP, while 10,000 Hayat ID holders receive the food e-card from WFP.
- More than 80 percent of WFP-contracted shops are now enrolled in the *Matjari* app, which allows shopkeepers to upload their price information and display shop promotions to attract additional business from users of the *Dalili* app. *Dalili* has reached 2,400 active users.

Turkey

- WFP reached a total of 1.5 million people through CBTs. Of these, 1.4 million vulnerable refugees received the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) monthly assistance consisting of TRY 120 (USD 20) per person to help cover basic needs. In addition, 119,330 beneficiaries received e-vouchers with a monthly value of TRY 50 (USD 8.3) under the in-camp assistance programme, in eight camps. The ESSN programme remains the largest single CBT operation for WFP and worldwide.
- With the closure in early September of five Government-run camps, of which three were WFP-assisted, more than 23,000 refugees opted to live in host communities and received a transitional assistance package from UNHCR. Another 6,400 chose to be moved to other camps. WFP made every effort to avoid the disruption of assistance to refugees. WFP made its normal monthly payment to the seven camps unaffected by the closures, along with off-cycle payments to refugees who moved to other camps.
- The top-up assistance for 4,289 severely disabled ESSN beneficiaries continued in September after its kick-off in August.

Resourcing Update

- In the refugee-hosting countries across the region, with the current levels of confirmed resources, WFP's operations are covered through November, facing the first pipeline break as of mid-December. To ensure continued lifeline support in the next six months from November 2018 until April 2019, WFP needs a total of USD 307.4 million.

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WFP Operation

	Total Requirements (in USD) (November 2018 – April 2019)*	Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (November 2018 –April 2019)*	People Assisted (September 2018)	Activities	Modality
Regional	785.1 million	307.4 million	3,220,856		
Egypt	14.3 million	16.8 million***	80,600	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Training Nutrition Support	Cash-Based Transfers
Iraq	6.4 million	3.5 million	51,259	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Training	Cash-Based Transfers
Jordan	132.9 million	104.0 million	879,672	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets School Meals	In-kind Food Cash-Based Transfers
Lebanon	198.7 million	107.3 million	662,492	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training School Meals	In-kind Food Cash-Based Transfers
Turkey	432.8 million**	75.7 million**	1,546,833	General Food Assistance	Cash-Based Transfers

* Funding update as of 24 October 2018; Pertains to the Syrian refugee response only

** In-camp support only

*** The higher amount is due to outstanding advance that must be repaid.