

WFP also delivered food rations and wheat flour for 68,000 people in the hard-to reach areas of Sheikh Maqsoud in Aleppo City and Deir Hafir in eastern rural Aleppo.

Security Situation in Northern Syria

- Heavy fighting between government and armed opposition groups occurred in north-eastern Hama governorate, forcing the displacement of thousands of people. In response, WFP distributed ready-to-eat (RTE) rations for some 6,600 internally displaced persons (IDPs) who had sought shelter in Idleb and western rural Aleppo governorate. As part of the RTE distribution, WFP also reached 14,100 IDPs who had arrived from Deir Ezzor, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh governorates in the area.

Population Displacement in Southern Syria

- In southern Syria, no new displacements occurred during November; however, returnee movements of IDPs within Dar'a, as well as from Sweida governorate, were reported. Food needs have reportedly increased in several areas across Dar'a and Quneitra, where people are dependent on humanitarian assistance. Needs have increased due to the prolonged absence of one of the large actors that used to provide food assistance in opposition controlled areas of southern Syria.
- After conducting rapid assessments, WFP provided RTEs to 15,340 IDPs and returnees in Kherba village, Alfager, Tayfour, Asef, Aldanha, and Jabal alarab clan camps, and Mlihet El Atash eastern Dar'a.
- On 20 November, a large fire broke out in a warehouse belonging to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) in Quneitra governorate, a result of intensified fighting in the area. The fire caused a significant loss of humanitarian aid items, including food, WASH and medical supplies, while no injuries to persons were reported. There were no WFP items stored at the warehouse at the time of the incident.

WFP's Response

- In November, WFP delivered food assistance for 3.52 million people in all 14 Syrian governorates; 24 percent of the food assistance was delivered through the cross-border operations from Jordan and Turkey and inter-agency convoys to besieged and hard-to-reach areas.
- Through the cross-border operations, WFP dispatched food for more than 600,000 people living in opposition-held areas in Aleppo, Hama, Idleb, Quneitra and Dar'a governorates, accounting for 17 percent of the total deliveries in November.
- WFP took part in five cross-line inter-agency convoys, delivering food assistance and nutrition supplies for about 230,000 people in five hard-to-reach and besieged locations in Rural Damascus, Hama, and Homs governorates.
- As part of the convoys, WFP reached the besieged area of Eastern Ghouta twice, delivering food and nutrition assistance for 21,500 people in Duma and for 7,200 people in Nashabiyah. [WFP's assessment in Duma found that the overall food security situation in the besieged area is of great concern](#), as people's food stocks are depleted, while they face skyrocketing food prices and lack of nutritious food in the market.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- Under its nutrition interventions, WFP dispatched specialised nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition for almost 53,000 children aged 6-23 months across the country through regular, cross-border and cross-line deliveries. In addition, WFP assisted more than 1,300 children aged 6-59 months, and pregnant and nursing women with specialised nutrition products to treat moderate acute malnutrition through regular and cross-line deliveries.
- Furthermore, WFP continued to provide nutrition support to pregnant and nursing women to improve the dietary diversity, as their food intake has a direct impact on the first 1,000 vital days of their child's life. In November, 16,500 pregnant and nursing women received cash-based nutrition support to enable them to purchase fresh food, including dairy products, meat, fruits and vegetables, from 22 designated retailers in Aleppo, Rural Damascus, Homs, Lattakia and Tartous governorates.

School Meals Programme

- WFP dispatched fortified date bars for some 368,000 children to schools in Aleppo, Damascus, Rural Damascus, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, As-Sweida and Tartous governorates. During the first half of the 2017-18 school year, WFP plans to target up to 500,000 students in UNICEF-supported schools in Aleppo, Rural Damascus, Damascus, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Quneitra, As-Sweida and Tartous governorates.
- As part of the cash-based assistance for out-of-school-children, a total of 630 children were assisted in Homs and Lattakia governorates. WFP is targeting children enrolled in UNICEF's accelerated remedial classes with a monthly transfer of USD 20.
- Building upon the successful pilot from spring 2017, on 26 November, WFP launched a fresh school meals activity in Aleppo City, targeting 10,000 school children at three elementary schools in cooperation with two partners. WFP is targeting schools in areas that were inaccessible to the United Nations from inside Syria between 2012 and 2016 and which now witness a relatively high return rate.
- In November, WFP provided 10,149 children with daily meals, consisting of date bars, a sandwich, and a piece of fruit or vegetable, providing over 500 kcal. The project employs 48 women, most of whom are IDPs, who prepare the fresh meals every morning. WFP also provides the fortified wheat flour to produce the sandwich bread.

Livelihood and Resilience Projects

- Since the beginning of 2017, WFP has implemented 15 livelihood projects, benefitting more than 100,000 people. WFP's livelihood projects are aimed at enhancing food security and resilience and are implemented in relatively stable areas of the country, in the governorates of Aleppo, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Rural Damascus, Tartous, Al-Hasakeh and As-Sweida. Among others, the projects include rehabilitation of bakeries, support to household agricultural production, beekeeping, as well as vocational skills training.
- During November, WFP concluded two projects for the rehabilitation of bakeries. In Aleppo city, four

bakeries are now rehabilitated in areas that were inaccessible to the United Nations from inside Syria between 2012 and 2016 and have seen a relatively high return rate. The rehabilitated bakeries will meet the daily needs of about 60,000 people in four neighbourhoods at an affordable price. In addition, through the cross-border operation from Jordan, WFP completed the rehabilitation of a bakery in Dar'a City (Dar'a Al Balad) in cooperation with one of its cross-border partners. The rehabilitated bakery shall increase access to bread and will cover the needs of some 15,000 people in the area and other nearby villages.



Supply Chain

- WFP completed the transition of its cash-based transfers (CBT) from paper vouchers to e-vouchers solutions with the use of SCOPECARDS. As the banking system has been disrupted in Syria and Internet and mobile coverage is not consistent throughout the country, the SCOPECARD is an ideal end-to-end payment platform which functions without electricity, offline as well as online. The CBT transfer modality is used by WFP for its education support programme for out-of-school children and the nutrition support to pregnant and nursing women, while some livelihoods activities are also partially transitioning to the CBT modality.
- WFP has so far introduced SCOPECARDS in Aleppo, Rural Damascus, Homs, Lattakia, and Tartous governorates. Lattakia is the latest example of a successful shift – with over 6,000 pregnant and nursing women registered and assisted in the governorate.
- The move from paper vouchers to SCOPECARDS is a major undertaking, and includes training and provision of equipment to cooperating partners and retailers, as well as brochures and information material to the targeted beneficiaries.

Clusters and Common Services



Food Security and Agriculture Sector

- The Food Security and Agriculture Sector facilitated discussions under the Whole of Syria (WoS) approach to determine areas which will receive food assistance through inter-agency convoys in December. The regular monthly coordination meeting was conducted on 13 November for partners based in Damascus to discuss coverage, gaps and operational issues.
- The sector also completed its part of the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), and now awaits final consultations with the Government of Syria.
- The sector initiated its third round of Outcome Indicators Monitoring, with the trainings completed in all three hubs in Damascus, Amman, and Gaziantep.

Logistics Cluster

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster continued to facilitate coordination services, information management and logistic support to the humanitarian community operating within Syria. The Logistics Cluster facilitated five inter-agency humanitarian convoys to besieged and hard-to-reach locations in Rural Damascus, Hama, and Homs governorates. Around 5,428 m³ of relief cargo was transported, including Education, Food, Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter, and WASH items in the framework of the inter-agency humanitarian convoys.
- In November, 182 m³ of Health and WASH cargo were transported via land inside Syria on behalf of UNFPA and Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and All the East (GOPA). In addition, the Logistics Cluster stored 464 m³ of newly received humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Tartous, Qamishly and Rural Damascus on behalf of IMC, IOM, OXFAM, UNFPA and GOPA.
- The Logistics Cluster offered two Basic Procurement Trainings for 23 participants from 12 organizations in Damascus and 18 participants from 12 organizations in Beirut.

Resourcing Update

- WFP is grateful to the donors who have contributed to the current operation. WFP urgently requires new contributions or an indication of the level of resources to be expected next year in order to leverage WFP's internal advance financing mechanisms. To ensure uninterrupted assistance throughout the first half of 2018, WFP Syria requires USD 263 million.
- In order to stretch available resources, WFP has scaled back its core relief response to reach 3.3 million people in December. During the first three months of 2018, WFP will only be able to reach up to 2.8 million people. With the 3-4 months of lead time to bring food into the country, timely funding is key. New contributions are needed urgently to avoid critical breaks in assistance expected in the second quarter of 2018.

Contacts

- WFP Representative and Country Director: Jakob Kern
- Reports Officer Syria: Rikke Kasse rikke.kasse@wfp.org
- Food Security and Agriculture Sector: Samantha Chattaraj samantha.chattaraj@wfp.org
- Logistics Cluster: Alessandra Piccolo alessandra.piccolo@wfp.org

WFP Operation

	Total Requirements (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (Jan-Jun 2018) (in USD)	People Assisted (November 2017)	Female	Male
Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) (Jan - Dec 2018)	796 million	263 million	3,524,760	1,938,618	1,586,142
General Food Assistance			3,524,760	1,938,618	1,586,142
School Meals Programme			368,176	180,406	187,770
Out-of-School Children			630	309	321
Nutrition - Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			52,910	26,984	25,926
Nutrition Support for Pregnant and Nursing Women (Cash-Based Transfers)			16,497	16,497	-
Nutrition - Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			1,346	794	555
Livelihood Activities			49,975	27,486	22,489