



# WFP Syria Crisis Regional Response Situation Report

October 2017

## In Numbers

**5.3 million** refugees from Syria

**3.0 million** people assisted in October

## Highlights

- As of October, there are more than 5.3 million Syrians seeking refuge in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey. During the month, WFP assisted more than 3.0 million people through various food and cash assistance programmes.
- WFP continued to scale up assistance and deploy new approaches in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable refugees, as well as host communities in the region. In Iraq, WFP piloted a Tech for Food programme to provide Syrian refugees with digital skills. In Jordan, WFP continues the roll out "choice" mechanism to allow refugees to redeem their entitlements through food-restricted vouchers or unrestricted cash, or both. In Turkey, WFP continues to expand the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme, reaching over a million refugees.

**People assisted**  
October 2017



GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200987

**Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) 2017-2018**

**Overall: US\$ 4.6 billion**  
**WFP share: US\$ 1.3 billion**

## WFP 6-month Net Funding Requirements (January – June 2018)

Regional	<b>US\$ 300 million</b>
Egypt	<b>US\$ 17 million</b>
Iraq	<b>US\$ 14.5 million</b>
Jordan	<b>US\$ 106 million</b>
Lebanon	<b>US\$ 145 million</b>
Turkey	<b>US\$ 17.5 million</b>

## Situation Update

### Regional

- As of October 2017, there are more than 5.3 million refugees from Syria in the neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

### Egypt

- Although Egypt has seen greater security and political stability in recent months, in October, the Government extended the nationwide state of emergency for another three months.

### Iraq

- Following the referendum on independence for the Kurdistan Region of Iraq on 25 September 2017, the Parviz-Khan and Bashmakh border-crossings with Iran were closed for several days but have since reopened and are operating normally. All the main land-crossings with Turkey are open and operational.

### Jordan

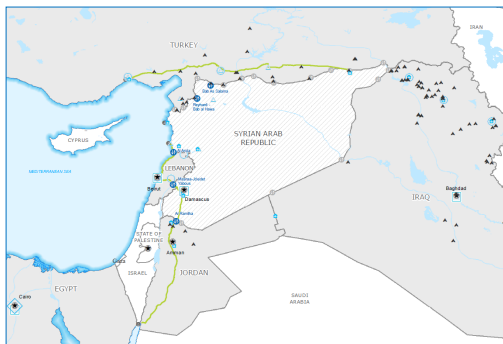
- The overall safety and security situation in Jordan remained stable, with Jordanian Armed Forces continuing to foil infiltration attempts, according to media reports. The Jordanian Armed Forces have increased defensive systems along the borders.

### Lebanon

- A joint WFP-UNDSS mission was conducted to assess Aarsal and Masharieh Al Qaa. As a result, the Security Cell issued an updated set of Standard Operating Procedures for missions in North Litani river, requiring additional clearances to travel to Aarsal and Masharieh Al Qaa. The improved changes in the security situation occurred subsequently after the removal of extremist groups from the outskirts of Aarsal and Al Qaa.

### Turkey

- On 08 October, Turkey launched an operation in Syria's northwestern province of Idleb as part of the Astana Process agreement negotiated with Russia and Iran, which aims to establish de-escalation zones in Syria. At the seventh round of talks in Astana on 30-31 October, discussions included Russia's expectation that Turkey "fully put observation points in place" where there is still a threat of offensives by radical groups in Idleb.



Legend:  
 Regional Bureau (Blue diamond)  
 Sub Office (Blue circle)  
 Field Office (Blue triangle)  
 Warehouse (Blue square)  
 Country Office (Blue square)  
 Open Border Crossings (Blue circle with plus)  
 Closed Border Crossings (Blue circle with minus)  
 Sea Port (Blue circle with anchor)  
 IDP/Refugee Camps (Black triangle)  
 Capital City (Black star)  
 Road Supply Route (Green line)

Syria Crisis: WFP Operational Overview



#### Egypt

- WFP Egypt assisted a total of 74,972 refugees from Syria with cash-based transfers through general food assistance (GFA) and asset-creation activities. Each individual received a monthly voucher assistance worth EGP 400 (USD 22).
- WFP continued to implement resilience activities to promote and support different employment schemes and livelihood opportunities in the most impacted districts. These activities include enhanced access to vocational training opportunities for youth and adults to allow graduation through job placement services and support to self-employment. WFP also started its first livelihood training in food processing in Alexandria. The training is divided into both theoretical and practical modules which are covered over 17 days.

#### Iraq

- WFP Iraq assisted a total of 56,615 Syrian refugees with cash-based transfers through GFA. Those assisted with either unrestricted cash transfers or electronic vouchers received IQD 22,000 (USD 19) per person per month.
- Those enrolled in WFP's Tech for Food project received USD 10 each per day, with the project consisting of 35 days of training with an overall timeframe of nine months until March 2018. Following the completion of the Tech for Food pilot to train Syrian refugees in digital skills, 22 of the graduating students were offered internships by local companies. However, the political unrest in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq resulted in the suspension of most of the job placements. WFP is looking at bringing some of these students as Computer Lab Coordinators in the Arbat Camp's computer lab, which was also refurbished by WFP under the Tech for Food programme.

#### Jordan

- WFP Jordan assisted a total of 832,266 Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians through a variety of activities. Of this, a total of 489,739 beneficiaries were supported with electronic cards and paper vouchers in the host communities, in the King Abdullah Park Transit Centre, and in Azraq and Za'atri camps. Through WFP's tiered approach, the extremely vulnerable Syrian refugees in host communities were assisted through e-cards with a value of JOD 20 (USD 28), and vulnerable refugees through e-cards with a value of JOD 10 (USD 14). In camps and the Transit Centre, WFP also assisted Syrian refugees through paper vouchers and e-cards with a value of JOD 20 (USD 28).
- WFP resumed its support to the national school meals programme, reaching over 300,000 schoolchildren with date bars, and around 25,000 schoolchildren with baked meals produced through the Healthy Kitchen project in communities. In addition, WFP reached around 30,000 Syrian schoolchildren attending formal education in Za'atri and Azraq camps with date bars and "healthy meal" distribution. Each date bar and the baked meal provides a child with 330kcal.
- Given the promising initial results, WFP will explore the expansion of the Blockchain technology to: 1) further enhance the efficiency of WFP food vouchers in camps; 2) support WFP's vision to provide "choice" for beneficiaries to access their entitlements through food-restricted vouchers or through cash, while at the same time multiplying

the cash-out channels; and 3) advocate for renewed inter-agency collaboration on using the same neutral Blockchain platform.

#### Lebanon

- WFP Lebanon assisted 780,040 Syrian refugees, Palestinian refugees from Syria, and vulnerable Lebanese with food and cash assistance through GFA, school meals, asset-creation and training activities.
- WFP distributed a stream of unrestricted cash, reaching 170,000 individuals. This gives targeted refugees the opportunity to redeem their USD 27/person entitlements either at any WFP-contracted shops and/or at any ATMs throughout Lebanon. As part of the DFID contribution, approximately 90,000 of the most vulnerable households started to receive USD 27/person for food assistance plus a top-up of USD 175/household to contribute towards additional food expenses and other non-food essentials.
- The first school snacks distribution for the new school year began on 09 October for first shift participating schools, while distribution for the second shift started on 16 October in most of the schools.

#### Turkey

- WFP Turkey reached a total of 1,202,632 people in October. Of this, a total of 140,063 people received e-vouchers with monthly value of TRY 50 (USD 14) under the in-camp assistance programme. Additionally, through the ESSN, payments were transferred to 178,583 households (1,062,569 individuals), with each household receiving monthly cash transfer of TRY 120 (USD 34).
- WFP participated in a UNHCR-hosted refugee sensitisation session in October, and the ESSN Facebook page will feature information about a vaccination campaign run by WHO.



#### Economic Impact

- Since 2012, WFP's regional operation has injected US\$ 3.2 billion into local economies in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, through cash-based transfers, local food procurement and other expenditure.

#### Resourcing Update

- WFP needs an additional US\$ 300 million from January to June 2018 to continue providing food assistance for refugees in the region. With the current levels of confirmed contributions, WFP's operations in the region are facing pipeline breaks as early as January 2018. Without additional funds, millions of people currently being assisted will have their assistance either significantly reduced or completely cut. It has been proved that reductions in food assistance causes families to turn to negative coping strategies such as taking children out of school, and not covering urgent medical needs, in order to save money for food.

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## WFP Operation

	<b>Total Requirements</b> (in US\$)	<b>6 Months Net Funding Requirements</b> (in US\$) (January—June 2018)	<b>People Assisted</b> (October 2017)	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Modality</b>
<b>Regional PRRO 200987</b> (2017-2018)	2.31 billion	300 million	3.03 million		
<b>Egypt</b>		17 million	74,972	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training	Cash-Based Transfers
<b>Iraq</b>		14.5 million	56,615	General Food Assistance	Cash-Based Transfers
<b>Jordan</b>		106 million	832,266	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training School Meals	Food Cash-Based Transfers
<b>Lebanon</b>		145 million	865,626	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training School Meals	Cash-Based Transfers
<b>Turkey</b>		17.5 million*	1,202,632	General Food Assistance	Cash-Based Transfers

\*Excluding ESSN