



WFP Syria Crisis Regional Response Situation Report

March 2018

In Numbers

5.6 million refugees from Syria

2.7 million Syrian refugees assisted in March

People assisted
March 2018

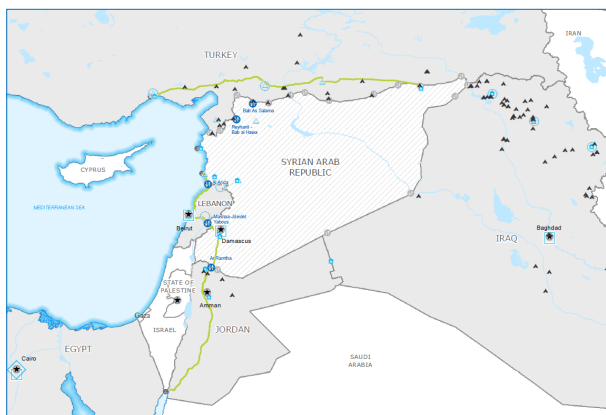


Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan(3RP) 2018-2019
Overall: US\$ 4.4 billion
WFP share: US\$ 1.5 billion

WFP Net Funding Requirements (May – December 2018)*

Regional	US\$ 340 million
Egypt	US\$ 19 million
Iraq	US\$ 9 million
Jordan	US\$ 143 million
Lebanon	US\$ 159 million
Turkey	US\$ 7 million

* This pertains to the assistance provided to Syrian refugees only.



Syria Crisis: WFP Operational Overview

Highlights

- In March, WFP reached an estimated 2.7 million Syrian refugees across Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey through various food and cash assistance programmes under the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) in Lebanon and Transitional Interim CSPs in the four countries.
- To continue the critical humanitarian assistance to millions of refugees and host communities in the region, WFP requires a total of USD 340 million from May until end of the year.

Situation Update

- According to UNHCR, as of March, there are more than 5.55 million refugees from Syria in neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

Iraq

- The international flight ban imposed on the Kurdistan Region's airports, due to expire in May 2018, was lifted on 13 March 2018, and international airlines have resumed international flights to and from Erbil and Sulaymaniyah.

Turkey

- The European Commission (EC) proposed on [14 March](#) to mobilise an additional three billion euros for the Facility for Refugees to be shared between the EC and the Facility Member States.

WFP Response

Food and Nutrition Assistance

Regional

- The Sub-Regional Office in Amman, Jordan participated in a 3-day "Education Cannot Wait-ECW" meeting for Syria – the Syria Education Dialogue Forum – bringing together donors and operational agencies in Amman, 5-7 March. WFP provided updates and forward plans on school feeding and cash-based transfers (CBTs) programmes aimed at improving access and attendance across Syria. The Forum discussed issues ranging from curriculum and teacher stipend support, to inclusivity and data sharing, updates on the ECW grant, and potential funding under the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).

Egypt

- WFP Egypt supported a total of 77,965 refugees from Syria with cash-based transfers (CBTs) through general food assistance (GFA) and food-assistance-for-training (FFT) activities. Each beneficiary received a monthly voucher assistance worth EGP 400 (USD 22).

- Results of the 2016 Egypt Vulnerability Assessment of Refugees (EVAR) show that challenges for Syrian refugees in Egypt have increased since the onset of the crisis. Nearly 51 percent of refugee households are considered severely vulnerable while 31 percent are highly vulnerable. Only 18 per cent of households are in the mild and low vulnerability groups.

Iraq

- WFP Iraq reached a total of 58,541 Syrian refugees with CBTs through GFA, totaling USD 1.1 million of assistance during the month. Each beneficiary of either unrestricted cash transfers or e-vouchers received IQD 22,000 (USD 19) per month.
- The [Iraq 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan](#) was finalized in March 2018. The UN is seeking USD 568 million to help stabilize high-risk areas.

Jordan

- WFP Jordan supported a total of 869,684 Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians with in-kind and CBTs through GFA and Food for Assets (FFA) activities, of which 494,206 are Syrian refugees.
- WFP resumed its school meals activities in poverty pockets across Jordan, and approximately 320,000 children in school received fortified date bars (80g). In addition, 55,000 school children received freshly baked meals consisting of a baked pastry or date bar, a piece of fruit and a piece of vegetable. Meals were prepared by Jordanian women and men working in 11 kitchens. WFP also continued to support the school attendance of 26,000 Syrian school children in camps through the provision of healthy meals prepared by Syrian refugees.
- WFP continued to implement the innovative modality of “choice” in selected governorates in Jordan offering 60,000 Syrian refugees the opportunity to use their assistance either as cash, restricted food vouchers or both. Results from the ongoing monitoring activities during March showed that 48 percent of “choice” beneficiaries used their assistance as e-voucher, 43 percent as cash, 5 percent as both, while the remaining did not redeem their assistance. Based on the positive results, WFP will expand the “choice” modality to Amman governorate with an additional 130,000 Syrian refugees in April 2018.
- WFP started, jointly with the UN Refugee Agency, the preparations for the General Food Assistance beneficiary validation exercise planned for April/May 2018. This is the second such exercise, with the first one conducted in April/May 2017.

Lebanon

- WFP Lebanon assisted 727,537 Syrian refugees, Palestinian refugees from Syria, and vulnerable Lebanese with food and cash assistance through GFA, and school meals, of which 638,736 are Syrian refugees.
- With currently over 500 active users, the Dalili App aims at improving the shopping experience for WFP beneficiaries, boosting market efficiency by improving competition and empowering beneficiaries with market information to make informed customer decisions. Thus, beneficiaries can maximize their purchasing power by accessing real-time market information on product prices and Promotions.

Turkey

- WFP Turkey reached a total of 1,403,432 beneficiaries in March. Of this, a total of 144,943 beneficiaries received e-vouchers with monthly value of TRY 50 (USD 18) under the in-camp assistance programme.

- Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) payments were made to 1,258,489 people in March. As of 31 March, a cumulative total of 427,379 applications (representing over 2 million people) has been received since November 2016 for the ESSN. Of these, 224,698 were assessed as eligible, representing an inclusion rate of 53 percent of households.



Economic Impact

- Since 2012, WFP’s regional operation has injected USD 3.7 billion into local economies in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, through cash-based transfers, local food procurement and other expenditure. In 2017 alone, WFP injected USD 940 million into the local economies.

Resourcing Update

- WFP requires USD 340 million until end of 2018 to continue providing food assistance for refugees and host communities in the region. With current confirmed contributions, WFP’s operations in the region would be facing first pipeline breaks by end of May in Lebanon and Egypt, end of June in Jordan and end of August in Iraq. In Turkey, the in-camp programme is currently funded until end of September whereas assistance to up to 1.5 million vulnerable refugees living off-camp through the ESSN cash programme is funded throughout 2018.

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WFP Operation

	Total Requirements in 2018 (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements in 2018 (in USD) (May to December 2018) **	People Assisted (March 2018)	Activities	Modality
Combined TICSPs/CSP	965 million	340 million	2.7 million		
Egypt*	22 million	19 million	77,965	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training	Cash-Based Transfers
Iraq*	18 million	9 million	58,541	General Food Assistance	Cash-Based Transfers
Jordan	180 million	143 million	494,206	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training School Meals	In-kind Food Cash-Based Transfers
Lebanon	231 million	159 million	638,736	General Food Assistance Food Assistance for Assets/ Training School Meals	In-kind Food Cash-Based Transfers
Turkey	514 million***	7 million***	144,943 (in-camp) 1,258,489 (ESSN)	General Food Assistance	Cash-Based Transfers

* Pertains to the refugee response only

** Pertains to the refugee response only (assistance provided to Syrian refugees and host communities)

***In-camp support only