



# WFP Syria

## Situation Report #5

May 2017

### In Numbers

**13.5 m** people in need of humanitarian assistance

**6.3 m** people internally displaced

**9 m** people in need of food assistance

**3.7 million people assisted**  
May 2017



**GENDER MARKER 2A** PRRO 200988

**Global Humanitarian Funding**

**Overall:**  
**USD 3,407,792,269**  
**WFP share:**  
**USD 797,579,193**

### WFP Net Funding Requirements\*

PRRO 200988 **USD 308 million**

Logistics Cluster & ETC (SO 200788) **USD 7.7 million**

\*Net funding requirements until the end of 2017, including confirmed pledges and solid forecasts

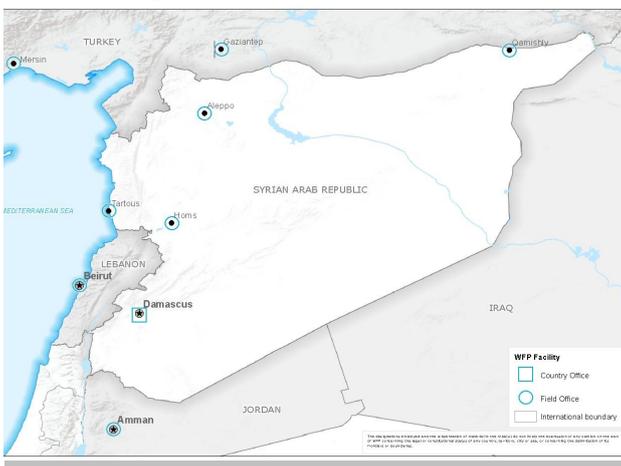


Photo: A displaced woman is collecting WFP ready-to-eat ration which serves a family of five for five days, Ar-Raqqa governorate, in north-eastern Syria. WFP Third Party Monitor

### Highlights

- WFP dispatched food assistance for 3.7 million people; 24 percent of the assistance was delivered to areas reachable only through cross-border, cross-line and air deliveries, including besieged and hard-to-reach locations.
- In response to population displacement in north-eastern Syria, WFP has so far provided urgent food assistance for 172,550 displaced people in northern Ar-Raqqa, northern Deir Ezzor and Al-Hasakeh governorates.
- By 31 May, WFP completed 251 airdrops to the besieged parts of Deir Ezzor city since April 2016. The airdrop operation is currently almost 100 percent accurate.

### Situation Update

#### Evacuation of people from opposition-controlled areas in Damascus and Homs

- During the month of May, the last group of a total of 20,000 people were evacuated from Al-Wa'er in Homs city, following a deal between the Syrian government and armed opposition groups. Al-Wa'er had been under siege since late 2013, resulting in dire humanitarian conditions among the population, as food and other basic supplies were scarcely available. Access restrictions prevented regular and sustained humanitarian deliveries to Al-Wa'er, which was being reached primarily through inter-agency humanitarian convoys.
- Since the evacuation of the families from Al-Wa'er started in mid-March, WFP responded to the immediate needs of 12,500 people through the provision of ready-to-eat rations. Furthermore, following the conclusion of the evacuation process, WFP conducted assessments in Al-Wa'er, where supply routes are re-opening and markets seem to be recovering.
- As part of additional evacuation deals between the Syrian government and opposition groups, hundreds of families have left rural Damascus (Barzeh, Qaboun) for opposition-held areas in Idleb and Jarablus. Since the evacuation started, WFP has assisted 5,075 people with ready-to-eat rations in Idleb. WFP currently does not have access to Jarablus in north-eastern Aleppo but stands ready to provide assistance in the area.

#### Northern Syria

- The military offensive against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in north-eastern Syria that started in March continued over the reporting period. Thousands of people were displaced in and around Ar-Raqqa governorate to nearby safer areas. Many families have been displaced several times and have

little certainty about their immediate future.

- Fleeing ISIL-held areas, most families sought refuge in northern Ar-Raqqa, northern Deir Ezzor and Mabroka camp in Al-Hasakeh governorate. A recent assessment by WFP and partners in Ein Issa camp in northern Ar-Raqqa governorate, where most of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) are staying, shows that food needs are high among the displaced families. In response to the displacement, WFP has so far provided food and nutrition assistance for over 172,550 people since March.
- Food supplies used for this response are airlifted from Damascus to Qamishly and subsequently transported via land to these areas. In preparation of additional displacement and increasing humanitarian needs, WFP is prepositioning food supplies through its airlift operation in order to enable an immediate response if required.

### **Southern Syria**

- Heavy fighting between government forces, armed opposition groups and ISIL in the southern governorate of Dar'a continued to fuel population displacement, particularly in the first weeks of May. Ongoing clashes and shelling were reported in Dar'a al-Balad, the southern part of Dar'a city, and the farms surrounding the city, and forced the displacement of more than 3,000 people to safer areas in Um Al Mayathen, Nasib, Sayda, Jizeh and Sahwa in eastern rural Dar'a. WFP provided ready-to-eat rations to all the newly displaced people to meet their immediate food needs.

### **WFP food assistance to students from hard-to-reach areas**

- During the month of May, more than 1,000 students from hard-to-reach areas in northern Aleppo, including Daret Ezza, Menbej, Deir Jmeil, Jarablous, Ein Al Arab, Azaz, Eastern Sam'aan, and Western Sam'aan, arrived in Aleppo, to take the preparatory school national exams. During the two-week exam period, the students stayed in special centres in Aleppo where they received WFP ready-to-eat rations and fresh bread throughout their stay. This was complemented by daily hot meals from other humanitarian actors.

### **WFP Response**

- In May, WFP dispatched food assistance for 3.7 million people in all 14 Syrian governorates, achieving 92 percent of the monthly plan. Of this, 24 percent was delivered to areas reachable only through cross-border, cross-line and air deliveries, including besieged and hard-to-reach locations.
- Some 717,005 people living in opposition-held areas in Aleppo, Idleb, and Dar'a governorates were assisted through the cross-border modality from Jordan and Turkey, representing 20 percent of the total deliveries.
- WFP participated in two inter-agency cross-line

convoys in May, delivering food assistance for 79,250 people in four hard-to-reach and besieged areas in Rural Damascus governorate.



### **Food and Nutrition Assistance**

- WFP implements a nutrition programme for the prevention of acute malnutrition in children aged 6-23 months. By providing specialized nutrition products, WFP supported over 101,000 children in May across the country. In addition, WFP targets children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing women (PLW) with specialized nutrition products to address and treat acute malnutrition. In May, WFP dispatched nutrition supplies for some 3,500 children and PLW, including for the first time through its cross-border operation from Turkey, reaching opposition-held areas in Idleb and Aleppo governorates.
- Further to this, WFP is providing nutrition support to improve the dietary diversity of PLW, as their diet has a direct impact on the first 1,000 vital days of their child's life. WFP provides monthly cash-based transfers (CBT) of USD 29 through which the women can purchase fresh foods, including dairy products, meat, fruits and vegetables, to complement the general food assistance they receive from WFP. In May, some 11,500 women received CBTs in Homs, Lattakia, Rural Damascus and Tartous governorate.
- Through its school meals programme, WFP provides fortified date bars and milk on a daily basis to pre-primary and primary school children across the country. Through its school meals programme, WFP provides fortified date bars and milk on a daily basis to pre-primary and primary school children across the country. As the school holidays have started in May, WFP didn't serve schools during the month. However, due to delays in obtaining approvals to dispatch supplies to As-Sweida and Dar'a governorates, where the school meals programme was first launched in April, distributions in these two governorates took place during the first week of May during the final exams, reaching some 85,800 pupils. The programme will resume in September for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- As part of the out-of-school-children programme, WFP reached 1,086 children and their families in Homs and Lattakia governorates with CBTs of a value of USD 23, benefitting over 5,400 people. The programme encourages parents to send their children to UNICEF Curriculum B supported schools, in order to make up for the missed years in school.

### **Livelihood and Resilience Projects**

- Since the beginning of 2017, WFP has been implementing nine different livelihood activities, benefitting 68,500 people in eight governorates across the country. Projects are implemented in

Aleppo, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Rural Damascus, Tartous and As-Sweida governorates in cooperation with 11 cooperating partners. Six of the projects were launched during the first quarter of 2017 and one project was completed by May 2017. These include support to household agricultural production as well as two vocational skills training projects.

- As of beginning of May, WFP had completed its first livelihood project in 2017, the "Retaining and enhancing beekeeping value chain in Syria". The project started in January and supported 700 beekeepers, of which almost 20 percent were women in the five governorates of Homs, Hama, Lattakia, Rural Damascus and Tartous. Each of the selected beekeepers received three beehives and associated equipment which will help them to strengthen their beekeeping association and establish a long-term and sustainable source of income. During the project lifecycle, WFP has supported 700 beekeepers and their families, bringing the total number of people benefitting from the project to 3,500 people.



### Supply Chain

- By the end of May, WFP carried out 251 airdrops to the besieged parts of Deir Ezzor city since the operation started in April 2016, airdropping 4,824 mt of WFP food commodities and supplies on behalf of humanitarian actors. During May, WFP conducted 20 airdrops, delivering 408 mt of WFP food commodities, including full food rations for 51,475 people. WFP has so far provided almost six full monthly food rations for all 93,500 people in need.
- During the month of May, WFP has surpassed the milestone of 250 airdrops to Deir Ezzor city since April 2016. The operation continues to be a success despite all security and logistics challenges on the ground. Accuracy of the airdrops is now almost 100 percent, and since December 2016, not a single airdrop landed outside the designated drop zone. In addition, the damages per month are below 10 percent while losses remain even below one percent.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Food Security & Agriculture Sector

- The Food Security and Agriculture Sector is coordinating with partners for the provision of assistance to displaced people fleeing the ongoing military offensive in Ar-Raqqa governorate. Key priorities include the provision of an appropriate and immediate response within 72 hours of displacement and readiness to provide further support beyond the first week of displacement. The Sector's key priority is to work with partners on improving access to affected populations.

- Following an Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) mission to Damascus in April, which was hosted by the Food Security and Agriculture Sector, the Sector has been working with the authorities to secure approval for a planned Integrated Phased Classification training and analysis in mid-August. The IPC is a common tool used by food security partners for the analysis and classification of the severity of a food insecurity situation in a country.
- The Sector is actively engaged in the preparation for the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO). Discussions are ongoing with the Early Recovery and Livelihoods Sector on the possibility of strengthening the resilience component for the 2018 HNO. This approach will build on the Food Security and Agriculture Sector's strategy of integrating food assistance and livelihood activities, aiming to enhance resilience to shocks among the assisted population in the long term.



### Logistics Cluster

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster continued to provide coordination services, information management and logistic support to the humanitarian community operating within Syria. In May, the Logistics Cluster facilitated three inter-agency humanitarian convoys to hard-to-reach and besieged locations in Rural Damascus Governorate. Around 1,175 m3 of relief cargo was transported, including Education, Nutrition, Food, WASH, Protection, Shelter and Health items in the framework of the inter-agency humanitarian convoys.
- In addition, 657 m3 of WASH, Protection, Shelter, Health and Operational Support cargo were moved by bilateral road transport from and to safe and accessible locations inside Syria on behalf of UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, GOPA and UNFPA.
- The Logistics Cluster also stored 1,180 m3 of newly received humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Homs, Qamishli, Tartous and Rural Damascus on behalf of GOPA, IMC, IOM, UNFPA and UNICEF.
- The Logistics Cluster has completed 491 airlifts to Al-Hasakeh governorate since the operation commenced in July 2016, delivering 17,260 mt of WFP food commodities, nutrition products and non-food items for humanitarian actors. In May, 53 airlift rotations were conducted from Damascus to Qamishli, transporting 4,567 m3 of much needed humanitarian supplies on behalf of GOPA, ICRC, WFP, UNHCR, WHO and UNICEF.

## Resourcing Update

- WFP is grateful to the donors who have made contributions to the PRRO. With the current funding levels and in the absence of the anticipated return movements, WFP is assisting 4 million people under its general food assistance programme with a revised monthly food basket (1,500 kcal/per day) until October. Given the 2-3 months lead time to bring food into the Syria, new funding is urgently needed to ensure continued and sustainable assistance. Without additional funds, WFP will be forced to further reduce the food basket in the future and reduce complementary activities such as education, nutrition and livelihood activities to be able to continue its life-saving emergency food assistance.
- To ensure continued assistance through the end of 2017, WFP requires an additional USD 308 million for its operation inside Syria.
- Likewise, for the Special Operation for the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, the current shortfall through the end of the year stands at USD 7.7 million. If additional funds are not forthcoming, the logistical and telecommunication services provided to the humanitarian community might need to be scaled down. Particularly affected would be the humanitarian airlift operation to Al-Hasakeh governorate and transshipment services provided for the Turkey cross-border operation, as well as emergency telecommunication services to the wider humanitarian community operating inside Syria and its neighbouring countries, which are a vital part of the Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS).

## Contacts

- WFP Representative and Country Director: Jakob Kern
- Reports Officer Syria: Rikke Kasse, [rikke.kasse@wfp.org](mailto:rikke.kasse@wfp.org)
- Food Security & 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 Operation					
	Total Requirements (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements* (in USD)	People Assisted (May 2017)	Female	Male
<b>PRRO 200988 TOTAL</b> (Jan 2017—Dec 2018)	1,719 million	308 million	3,653,985	2,009,692	1,644,293
General Food Distribution			3,653,985	2,009,692	1,644,293
School Meals Programme			85,848	42,066	43,782
Out-of-School Children**			1,086	514	572
Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme			101,094	51,558	49,536
Nutrition Support for Pregnant and Nursing Women (Cash Based Transfers)			11,485	11,485	-
Targeted Treatment Programme			3,489	1,976	1,513
Livelihood activities***			68,445	51,863	42,434

\*Net funding requirements until the end of 2017, including confirmed pledges and solid forecasts \*\*The vouchers distributed to children under the OOSC programme benefit a family of five. Total number of beneficiaries for the month of May under the OOSC programme are 5,430 people. \*\*\*Since the beginning of 2017, WFP has been implementing nine livelihood projects across Syria, encompassing 13,698 participants throughout the projects' lifecycle. The food assistance provided by WFP will support a family of five; indirect beneficiaries are 68,445 people.