



WFP Syria Country Brief

May 2018

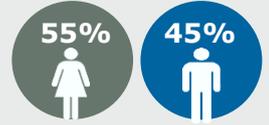
In Numbers

40,270 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 790,000 cash-based transfers made

USD 275 m (June-December 2018) net funding requirements, USD 60 million per month to reach 4 million people in Syria

2.82 m people assisted
in May 2018



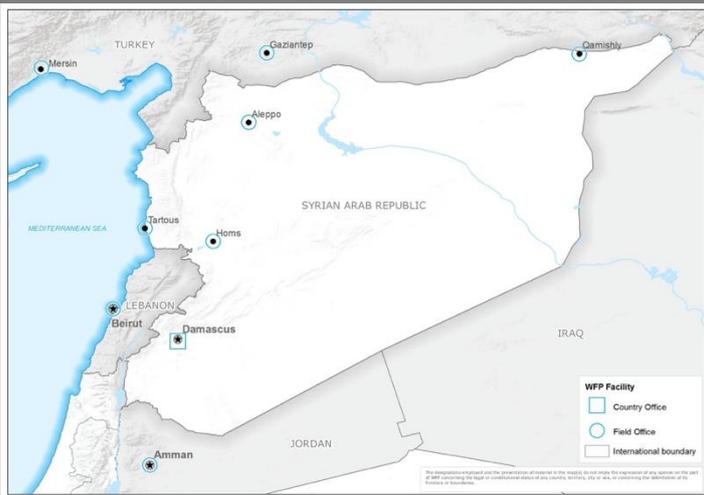
Operational Context

The conflict in Syria has entered its eighth year and has taken a devastating toll on the lives of the Syrian people, resulting in the largest displacement crises since World War II.

Soaring food and fuel prices, stagnant salaries, loss of livelihoods and reduced food production have led to widespread food insecurity across the country, with 6.5 million people unable to meet their food needs and a further 4 million people at risk of food insecurity. The most vulnerable people live in hard-to-reach and besieged areas, home to 2.05 million people, all inhabitants are food-insecure, and access to assistance is intermittent.

In response to the alarming situation, WFP has been providing food assistance to the most vulnerable families in the country.

WFP has been active in Syria since 1964.



Population: **18 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **149 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **18,700 children between 6-59 months**

Operational Updates

- In May, WFP delivered food assistance for 2.82 million people in all 14 Syrian governorates: 20 percent of the food assistance was delivered through the cross-border operations in Jordan and Turkey.
- On 30 May, WFP provided assistance via an inter-agency convoy to the hard-to-reach areas of Talbiseh and surrounding villages in Homs and Tlul-Elhomor in Hama delivering 20,950 food rations sufficient for 104,750 people. In addition, WFP provided nutrition supplies for the treatment of malnutrition in 258 children.
- Following the agreement between the Syrian government and non-state armed groups for people to evacuate from both Homs and southern Damascus to Idlib and Aleppo, WFP is responding through the cross-border operation from Turkey. WFP has provided food rations for about 21,000 people in Idlib and western rural Aleppo, while other Food Security and Livelihood Sector partners are on the ground providing emergency food assistance. WFP pre-positioned approximately 30,000 ready-to-eat (RTE) rations and will continue to track the movement of the displaced population.
- In Eastern Ghouta, WFP and partners continued to cover the needs of all IDPs by providing food assistance in displacement sites in Rural Damascus and areas inside Eastern Ghouta accessible by actors. WFP will transition this population to monthly food rations once other actors can coordinate cooking facilities.
- In response to the population displacement from Afrin, WFP transitioned to its second phase of the response, providing monthly food rations as people gained access to cooking facilities. It is estimated that 22,800 displaced families remain in Tal Rifat, Nubul, Zahra and surrounding villages. WFP provided 13,771 food rations sufficient for almost 70,000 people in addition to the provision of 7,000 daily bread bundles.
- In Aleppo city, WFP provided over 4,100 schoolchildren from eastern rural Aleppo with ready-to-eat rations as a form of food support while they sat their final exams. The ninth and twelfth-grade students come from Menbij, which is classified by the United Nations as a hard-to-reach area.
- In Dar'a governorate, WFP completed a SCOPE (WFP's beneficiary management platform) registration pilot for livelihoods beneficiaries. More than 2,200 households were enrolled to participate in livelihoods projects, receiving garden kits and technical support.

Main Photo

Credit: ©WFP/ Zuha Akkash
Caption: WFP provides fresh school meals to schoolchildren in Aleppo.

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WFP Country Strategy		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Seven-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June - December)
Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018)		
792.2 m	325.7 m	275 m

WFP Country Activities

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- SO 1** 1 – Provision of general food assistance in the form of regular in-kind monthly food rations and ready-to-eat rations in the initial phase of displacement.
- SO 1** 2 - Provision of school meals for pre- and primary school children in regular schools and CBT to out-of-school children enrolled in informal education or alternate learning opportunities.
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- SO 2** 3 – Creation and rehabilitation of communal assets through Food Assistance for Assets (FFA); and household-level productive assets and enhanced human capital through Food Assistance for Training (FFT).
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- SO 3** 4 – Prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in children 6-23 months of age.
- SO 3** 5 – CBT to targeted pregnant and nursing mothers to improve their dietary diversity and intake of fresh food items such as dairy, meat and vegetables.
- SO 3** 6 – Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing mothers.
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- SO 4** 7 – Provide Whole of Syria coordination, information management, capacity development and shared logistics services to sector partners that faces logistical gaps.
- SO 4** 8- Provide shared ICT services, Emergency Telecommunications coordination and Information Technology (IT) Emergency Preparedness training to humanitarian community to deliver relief assistance.

Monitoring

- In May, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 522 monitoring visits in 14 governorates. WFP staff conducted 208 visits, while the remaining 314 were conducted by TPMs in areas not accessible to United Nations staff. In addition, a total of 1,188 monitoring questionnaires were conducted to monitor the general food assistance programme, bread distribution, school feeding, livelihoods and nutrition activities. Of these, 523 were conducted by WFP staff.

Challenges

- Humanitarian access remains an issue particularly related to hard-to-reach and besieged areas. The United Nations calls on all parties to facilitate unconditional, unimpeded and sustained access to all people in need throughout the country.
- WFP Syria is currently implementing its activities at a reduced level in line with available and projected funding levels. Additional funding is needed to enable WFP to scale up its activities. Furthermore, due to the long procurement lead time of up to four months, contributions are needed to ensure coverage for 2019, when WFP Syria will move to an Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP).

Donors

Five largest donors to WFP Syria in 2018 ranked by contributions: Germany, United States, Canada, United Kingdom, and European Commission.