



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# WFP Syria Country Brief July 2018



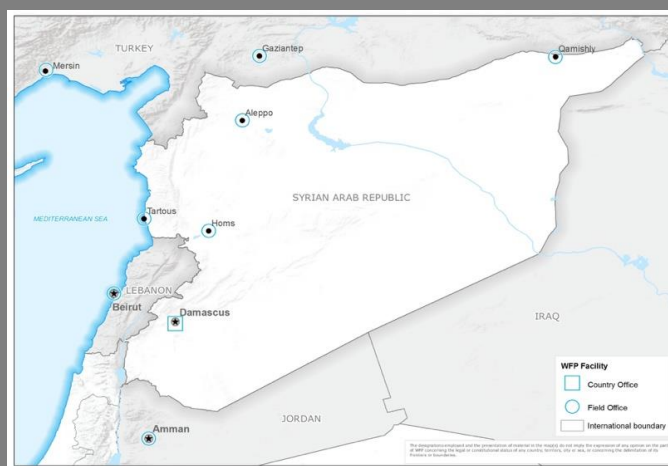
## Operational Context

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. 1.5 million people live in hard-to-reach areas with irregular access, leaving those particularly exposed to food insecurity.

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: **81,700 of children between 6-59 months**

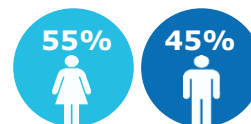
## In Numbers

**42,500 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 709,400** cash based transfers made

**US\$ 148.5 m** six months (Aug 2018 -Jan 2019) net funding requirements, representing 19% of total – changed to reflect the % of total budget

**3.35 m people assisted**  
in July 2018



## Operational Updates

- In July, WFP delivered food assistance for 3.35 million people in all 14 Syrian governorates: 16 percent of the food assistance was delivered through the cross-border operations in Turkey.
- In July, WFP provided assistance via four inter-agency convoys to eight hard-to-reach areas in Hama, Homs and Rural Damascus governorates. Enough food assistance for 154,350 people, in addition to nutrition supplies sufficient for 333 children for a period of three months, was delivered.
- Following the mid-term review of the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview, the number of food insecure people has increased by 3 percent, from 6.5 million to 6.7 million and the number of people at risk of food insecurity has risen by 12 percent, from 4 million to 4.5 million.
- In collaboration with FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, WFP has conducted its third CFSAM (Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission) since the beginning of the crisis. The CFSAM will assess agricultural production on a national basis and overall food availability, the extent to which poor people can meet their basic food needs. In addition, a household food security assessment is ongoing.
- In southern Syria, sustained hostilities in south-western Syria continue to affect civilians and civilian infrastructure in the area. The situation remains fluid as people continue to move; it is estimated that 200,000 people remain displaced. The needs of both displaced people and returnees are severe while sustained humanitarian access, particularly to those trapped in Quneitra governorate, continues to be a challenge. WFP, in cooperation with its partner SARC and a local NGO, has dispatched food rations with wheat flour, as well as ready-to-eat (RTE) rations sufficient for 314,330 people to several locations in Dar'a, As-Sweida and Rural Damascus governorates. The response to the southern Syria emergency also includes nutrition supplies for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition in children under five and pregnant and lactating women.
- On 25 July, approximately 6,900 civilians from the last two remaining besieged locations Foah and Kefraya in Idleb governorate were evacuated to other areas. WFP has provided food and nutrition assistance to the first 2,700 people arriving in coastal areas in Tartous and Latakia governorates. Preparations for a rapid needs assessment are ongoing.

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Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/syria](http://www.wfp.org/countries/syria)

## Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Months (August – January 2019) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>792.2 m</b>	<b>446.3 m</b>	<b>148.5 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food insecure populations affected by the crisis, including host communities, IDPs and returnees, in all governorates, have access to life-saving food to meet their basic food needs all year long.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

#### Activities:

- 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.
- 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.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food insecure families in urban and rural areas affected by the crisis are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and increase their self-reliance, throughout the year.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

#### Activities:

- Creation and rehabilitation of communal asset through *Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)*; and household-level productive assets and enhanced human capital through *Food Assistance for Training (FFT)*.

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable groups, especially children, pregnant and lactating women and girls, across Syria have reduced levels of malnutrition, achieved through high quality, nutrient dense diets, throughout the year.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

#### Activities:

- Prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in children 6-23 months of age.
- CBT to targeted to PLWG to improve their dietary diversity and intake of fresh food items such as dairy, meat and vegetables.
- Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6-59 months and PLWG.

### Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Humanitarian partners across Syria benefit from augmented logistics and emergency telecommunications capacity, enabling them to provide their technical assistance, throughout the crisis.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

#### Activities:

- Provide Whole of Syria coordination, information management, capacity development and shared logistics services to sector partners that face logistical gaps.
- Provide shared ICT services, Emergency Telecommunications coordination and Information Technology (IT) Emergency Preparedness training to humanitarian organisations in common operational areas.

## Monitoring

- In July, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 421 monitoring visits in 14 governorates. In addition, 1,110 monitoring questionnaires were conducted to monitor the general food assistance programme, bread distribution, school feeding, livelihoods and nutrition activities. The number of visits and questionnaires are likely to increase as numbers are currently under reconciliation.

## Challenges

- Humanitarian access remains an issue, particularly in hard-to-reach 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 (75 percent of the original plan) 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.

### Main Photo

Credit: ©WFP/Hussam Al-Saleh  
Caption: WFP provides emergency food assistance in Dar'a governorate, southern Syria.