



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Syria Country Brief November 2018

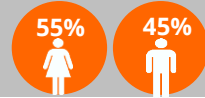
In Numbers

42,474mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 1,238,053m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 116.9m six months (December 2018-May 2019) net funding requirement

3.5 m people assisted in November 2018



WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

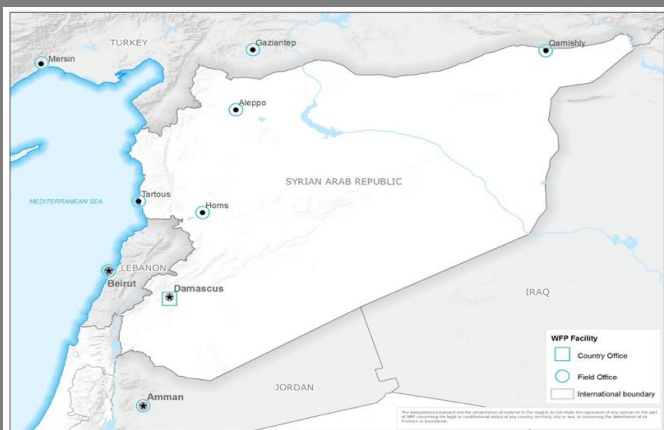
Operational Context

The conflict in Syria has entered its eighth year, taking a devastating toll on the lives of the Syrian people. The largest displacement crisis since World War II, some 6.2 million Syrians are internally displaced and 5.6 million are registered as refugees outside of the country.

Soaring food and fuel prices, stagnant salaries, loss of livelihoods and reduced food production have led to widespread food insecurity across the country. There are 6.5 million people unable to meet their food needs and a further 4 million people at risk of food insecurity (Humanitarian Needs Overview 2018). While 2018 has seen a significant change in conflict lines, some 1.5 million people remain in hard-to-reach areas with irregular access, leaving those particularly exposed to food insecurity.

Since 2011, WFP has been providing food, nutrition and livelihoods assistance to conflict-affected Syrian families in the country.

WFP has been active in Syria since 1964.



Population: **18 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **155 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

Operational Updates

- In November, WFP delivered food assistance for 3.5 million people in all 14 Syrian governorates, 96 percent of the monthly target of 3.6 million people. Of this assistance, 17 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas in Idlib, northern Hama, and western rural Aleppo governorates.
- In early November, WFP provided assistance via an inter-agency convoy to Rukban makeshift settlement in Rural Damascus governorate, delivering enough food rations and wheat flour for over 50,000 people.
- Fighting between government forces and non-state armed groups in southern and eastern Idlib and northern Hama governorates continued in November. Should the situation deteriorate further, WFP stands ready to respond to the needs of 1 million people with strategic stocks of ready-to-eat rations (RTEs), food rations as well as nutrition supplies for 150,000 children that are prepositioned inside Idlib governorate and in hubs inside Syria as well as in Turkey.
- In Aleppo governorate, heavy shelling resulting in approximately 100 injuries in Al Khaldia and Az-Zahraa neighbourhoods was reported on 24 November. The reported use of a chemical agent in this shelling is unconfirmed. As a retaliation, Russia carried out airstrikes in Rashideen and Khan Tuman districts in the western suburbs of Aleppo city and in areas near Idlib governorate. These were the first airstrikes carried out since the Russian-Turkish Idlib buffer zone agreement was signed in mid-September.
- In November, WFP - in collaboration with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) - completed its emergency response in the Southern Syrian governorates that was initiated in July 2018 following the changes to lines of control. Since July, WFP has provided enough food rations for 535,000 people in Dar'a and Quneitra governorates.
- In late November, WFP and FAO jointly commenced a 6-month response to assist some 14,450 rural families severely affected by drought in Al Hassakeh, Hama, Aleppo, Deir Ezzor and Ar-Raqqa governorates. Through this response, each family will receive 200 kilograms of FAO-provided wheat seeds and a WFP-provided food basket.

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- The Syrian Defence Forces (SDF) and Coalition-supported anti-ISIL military operation in Hajin sub-district resulted in small scale displacement to areas inside and outside Deir Ezzor governorate. WFP covered the needs of the newly displaced people in three IDP camps across the north-eastern governorates with life-saving food assistance, including RTEs for some 1,000 IDPs in Areesha camp (Al Hassakeh) and food rations for 785 IDPs in both Abo-Khashab (Deir Ezzor) and Twehina (Ar-Raqqa) camps.

Monitoring

- In November, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 548 monitoring visits in all 14 governorates. In addition, 1,118 monitoring questionnaires were conducted to monitor the general food assistance programme, bread distribution, school meals, livelihoods and nutrition activities.

Challenges

- The year 2018 has been proclaimed as one of the worst during the Syrian conflict in terms of the escalation of hostilities and the human impact, as seen in Eastern Ghouta, southern Syria, Deir Ezzor and Idlib. The movement of 1.2 million people was observed within the first six months alone. While conflict lines are shifting, humanitarian access remains a challenge, particularly to 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 in line with available and projected funding. Additional and timely funding is needed due to the long up-to-four-month procurement lead time 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: United States, Germany, European Commission, Canada, Multilateral Funds, and Norway.

Main Photo Credit: ©WFP/Hussam Al-Saleh
Caption: Distribution of WFP food rations in to the most in need in Damascus governorate.

Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month (December 2018 – May 2019) Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
790.2 m	596.7 m	116.9 m

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.