



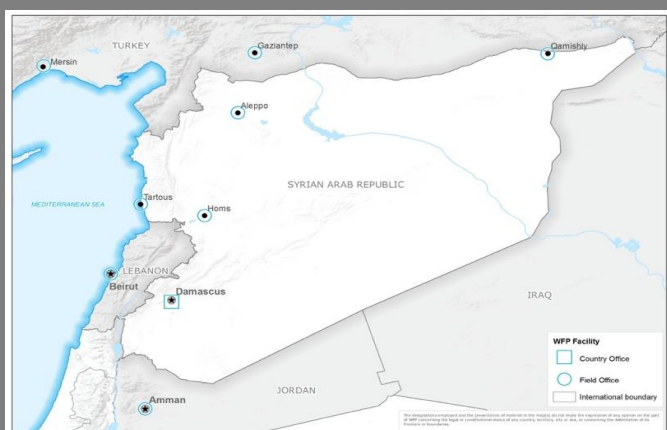
WFP Syria Country Brief January 2019

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 5.7 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 2.5 million people at risk of food insecurity, according to the 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview. While 2018 has seen a significant change in conflict lines, some 1.2 million people in need remain in hard-to-reach areas with irregular access, leaving them 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**

In Numbers

3.1 m people assisted
in January 2019



48,060 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 1.4 m in cash-based transfers made

US\$ 102.4 m six-month net funding requirement
(February - July 2019)

Operational Updates

- In January, WFP delivered general food assistance (GFA) for 3.1 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, 17 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas in Idlib, northern Hama, and western rural Aleppo governorates. In addition to the monthly standard GFA allocation plan of 2.9 million people, WFP maintains a buffer to assist approximately 600,000 additional people over the course of the month to address emerging needs, for a total monthly target of some 3.5 million people.
- Following anti-ISIL military operations, WFP continues to support IDPs arriving at the Al-Hole camp (Al-Hasakeh governorate), which has received some 23,000 people since 04 December 2018. WFP is providing all new arrivals with ready-to-eat rations (RTEs) and covering the entire camp population of approximately 34,000 people with 2,100 kcal/day GFA food rations, as well as nutrition assistance to children and pregnant and lactating women and girls.
- In January, based on observed high levels of food insecurity, WFP, in cooperation with the Syrian Arab Crescent (SARC), assisted some 28,000 people in Al-Mayadeen city (Deir Ezzor governorate) with food rations, wheat flour and RTEs.
- Infighting between non-state armed groups in north-western Syria has resulted in the Hayat Tahrir Al Sham (HTS) group reportedly consolidating control over 70-80 percent of Idlib governorate, as well as rural western Aleppo governorate and large parts of north-western Hama governorate. WFP remains ready to respond to 1 million people with strategic stocks of RTEs as well as nutrition supplies for 150,000 children both inside Idlib, in Turkey, and inside Syria should the situation in the north-west escalate further.
- Following extensive advocacy efforts, approval was granted to resume United Nations humanitarian assistance to Areesha camp (Al-Hasakeh governorate). WFP has since distributed food

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
1.39 bn	296.0 m
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (February – July 2019)
737.8 m	102.4 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 round.

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 feeding 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:

- Provision of livelihood support through household- and communal-level asset creation through food assistance for assets (FFA) activities and enhanced human capital through food assistance for training (FFT).

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable groups, especially children and pregnant and lactating women and girls, across the Syrian Arab Republic have reduced levels of malnutrition throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in children aged 6–23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls.
- Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls.

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 the Syrian Arab Republic benefit from augmented logistics and emergency telecommunications capacity and services, enabling them to provide humanitarian assistance throughout the crisis.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide coordination, information management, capacity development and shared logistics services to sector partners that face logistics gaps.
- Provide shared ICT services, emergency telecommunications coordination and information technology (IT) emergency preparedness training to humanitarian organizations in common operational areas.
- Provide technical assistance and support services to humanitarian partners.

rations, RTEs and nutrition supplies for the entire camp population of approximately 12,000 people. Prior to this, the last provision of food assistance to the camp was conducted on 10 November 2018.

- The exceptional United Nations delivery of humanitarian assistance from Jordan to Syria continued over the month of January. On 16 January, WFP completed its part of the operation with 289 trucks carrying WFP commodities sufficient for 780,000 people having crossed.

Monitoring

- In January, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 289 on-site monitoring checklists across all 14 governorates to monitor GFA distributions, bread distributions, school feeding activities, livelihood activities, nutrition activities, cash-based transfer redemptions and warehouses.

Challenges

- 2018 was noted as one of the worst years of the Syrian conflict in terms of the escalation of hostilities and the humanitarian impact, as seen in areas such as Eastern Ghouta, southern Syria, Deir Ezzor and Idlib. A total of 1.6 million people were internally displaced over the course of the year.
- While conflict lines are shifting, humanitarian access to distribute relief assistance, assess needs and monitor remains a challenge, 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 continues to implement its activities at a reduced level in line with available and projected funding. Additional and timely funding is needed due to the long procurement lead time of up to four months.

Donors

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