



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

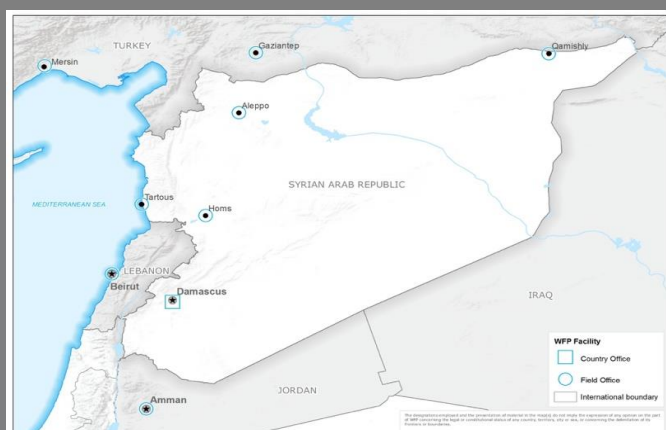
## WFP Syria Country Brief February 2019

### 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**

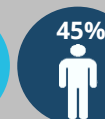
2018 Human Development Index:  
**155 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

### In Numbers

**3.3 m people assisted**  
in February 2019



**33,300 mt** of food assistance delivered

**US\$ 1.8m** in cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 110.9 m** six-month net funding requirement  
(March–August 2019)

### Operational Updates

- In January, WFP delivered General Food Assistance (GFA) for 3.3 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, 18 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas not accessible from inside Syria, including Idlib, northern Hama, and western rural Aleppo governorates. WFP delivered food assistance to some 266,000 people across 43 hard-to-reach locations.
- Military operations in the last ISIL-held areas of Deir Ezzor governorate displaced close to 20,000 people towards the Al-Hole camp (Al-Hasakeh governorate) in February. More than 10,000 people arrived over the last week of February alone in the largest wave of displacement from the area since military operations began in early December 2018. WFP is providing assistance to the entire camp population, including all new arrivals.
- The second inter-agency convoy to the Rukban settlement arrived on 05 February and was completed on 14 February. This was the largest and longest-lasting UN convoy in Syria in history, delivering life-saving humanitarian assistance, including WFP food assistance, to more than 40,000 people.
- A significant increase in violence and insecurity was observed in north-western Syria in February, especially in areas of southern Idlib and northern Hama governorates. The growing insecurity is impacting WFP operations, with WFP's cooperating partners postponing planned food distributions to more than 12,000 people in late February due to insecurity.
- WFP remains ready to respond with pre-positioned stocks of ready-to-eat rations (RTEs) as well as nutrition supplies both inside Idlib, in Turkey, and inside Syria should the situation in the north-west escalate further.

## Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019–2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>1.39 bn</b>	<b>314.8 m</b>
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (March–August 2019)
<b>737.8 m</b>	<b>110.9 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 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.

## Monitoring

- In February, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 554 on-site monitoring (OSM) checklists across all 14 governorates to monitor GFA distributions, bread distributions, school feeding activities, livelihood activities, nutrition activities, cash-based transfer redemptions and warehouses.
- Of the OSM checklists conducted, WFP monitors conducted 177 checklists, making 32 percent direct WFP monitoring coverage. The rest of the monitoring checklists were conducted by TPMs in areas not accessible to WFP staff due to the security situation, lack of approvals or temporary logistical constraints.

## Challenges

- 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 continues to call 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

**The largest donors to WFP Syria in 2019 ranked by contributions:** Germany, Japan, Kuwait, Private Donors.