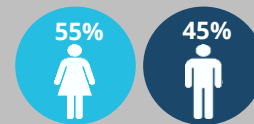




WFP Syria Country Brief July 2019

In Numbers

3.9 m people assisted
in July 2019



51,516 mt of food assistance delivered

US\$ 1.9 m in cash-based transfers made

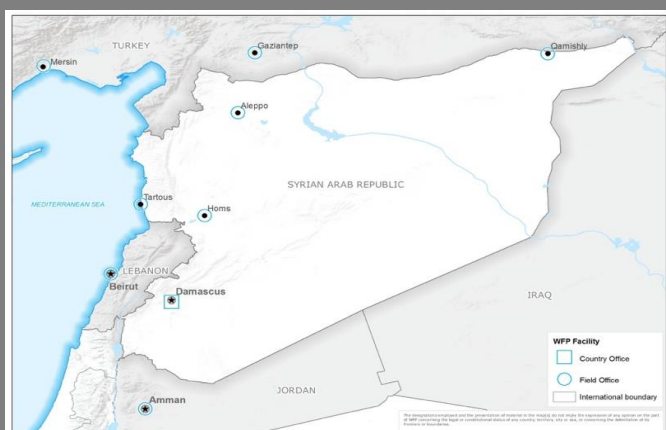
US\$ 178.6 m six-month net funding requirement
(August 2019 – January 2020)

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: **Low-income**

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

Operational Updates

- In July, WFP delivered General Food Assistance (GFA) for 3.9 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, 23 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas not accessible from inside Syria, including Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates. WFP delivered food assistance to some 382,200 people in 66 locations across Syria, defined by the United Nations as [hard-to-reach](#).
- The security situation in north-western Syria remained volatile over the month of July. Ongoing fighting and hostilities have had severe humanitarian impacts on the three million people who are living there, with reports of mass casualties, population displacement and widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure. Reports suggest that more than 518,000 people have been displaced since 01 May, escaping hostilities in southern Idlib and northern Hama governorates towards safer areas in northern Idlib and Aleppo. WFP continues to provide emergency food assistance, reaching more than 256,400 people with ready-to-eat rations (RTEs) since 01 May. In addition, 933,000 people across the north-west were targeted with 1,900 kcal/day food rations under the GFA program in July.
- Should the situation in the north-west deteriorate further, WFP remains ready to respond with strategic stocks of RTEs, food rations as well as nutrition supplies pre-positioned inside Idlib governorate, in other hubs inside Syria, as well as in Turkey.
- WFP continues to provide monthly food assistance to populations across the north-eastern governorates of Syria. On 14 July, WFP was able to reach Al Baghouz town of rural Deir Ezzor governorate and distribute enough food rations to approximately 2,250 people who recently returned to the town. WFP, through its cooperating partner, is the first and only humanitarian agency to access

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019–2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
1.39 bn	358.2 m
2019 Requirement (in USD)	Six-month Net Funding Requirement (in USD) (August 2019–January 2020)
737.8 m	178.6 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.

the town of Al Baghouz, the last Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)-held area before it was reclaimed by the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in late March, since then the area remains inaccessible to humanitarian actors due to the ongoing explosive ordnance disposal and demining work. In Ar-Raqqa governorate, WFP is responding to the humanitarian needs of people returning to Ar-Raqqa city and is scaling up food assistance provided under the GFA program, to include an additional 10,000 people starting from August 2019.

- Through the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) cooperating partner, WFP continues to provide food assistance in the collective shelters of Homs governorate hosting evacuees from the Rukban settlement. Of the total 17,080 people who have left the settlement since 24 March, some 426 people remain in Homs collective shelters, with the rest having left to destinations of their choice (as of 23 July). WFP covers people leaving the shelters with an extra allocation of food through SARC.

Monitoring

- In July, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 561 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 161 checklists, equivalent to 29 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, European Commission, Canada, Japan, Kuwait.