



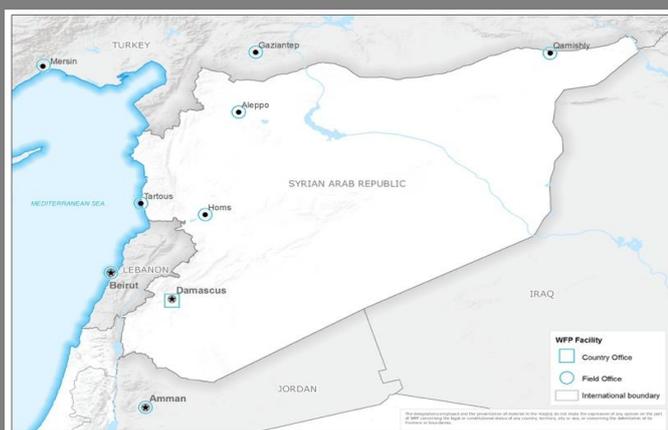
WFP Syria Country Brief October 2019

Operational Context

The conflict in Syria has entered its ninth 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.

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**

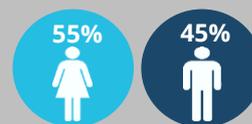
2018 Human Development Index:
155 out of 188

Income Level: **Low-income**

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

In Numbers

4.3 m people assisted
in October 2019



56,975 mt of food assistance delivered

US\$ 1.8 m in cash-based transfers made

US\$ 158 m six-month net funding requirement
(November 2019 – April 2020)

Operational Updates

- In October, WFP delivered general food assistance (GFA) for 4.3 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, 24 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas not accessible from inside Syria, including Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates.
- In October, a total of USD 1.8 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) was distributed to more than 58,900 beneficiaries across two activities: nutrition support to pregnant and lactating women and girls, and livelihood support.
- Large-scale military operations commenced across north-eastern Syria (Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates) following the Turkish announcement of a military incursion into north-eastern Syria on 09 October.
- The fighting displaced more than 215,000 people in less than three weeks, and had forced some 12,000 refugees to flee across the border to northern Iraq by the end of October. By [early November](#), some 115,500 of the internally displaced had returned to their places of origin as the security situation had stabilized in several areas, while some 99,600 people remained displaced.
- In response, WFP on 11 October commenced a large-scale emergency operation, dispatching emergency food assistance (including ready-to-eat rations (RTEs) and GFA for immediate distribution to the displaced and host communities. By the end of October, WFP had by reached more than 381,300 people in north-eastern Syria since the start of the response.
- While north-western Syria has seen a relative calm prevail in October since the announcement of a ceasefire on 31 August, sporadic airstrikes, shelling

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019–2020)	
Total Requirement (in USD)	2019 Available Contributions
1.39 bn	577.7 m
2019 Requirement	Six-month Net Funding Requirement (November 2019–April 2020)
737.8 m	158 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.

and ground clashes continued to be reported along the front lines across several areas of north-western Syria.

- In October, WFP assisted more than one million people across north-western Syria with GFA delivered cross-border from Turkey, and provided nutrition assistance (through blanket supplementary feeding) to some 41,200 children.

Monitoring

- In October, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 408 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 119 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 humanitarian assistance, assess needs and monitor operations remains a challenge. The United Nations continues to call on all parties to facilitate unconditional, unimpeded and sustained access to all people in need throughout the country.

Donors

The largest donors to WFP Syria in 2019 ranked by contributions: Germany, USA, Canada, European Commission, Kuwait.