



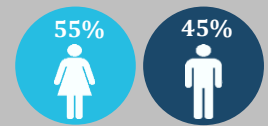
SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



WFP Syria Country Brief December 2019

In Numbers

4.5 m people assisted
in December 2019



59,555 mt of food assistance delivered

US\$ 2 m in cash-based transfers made

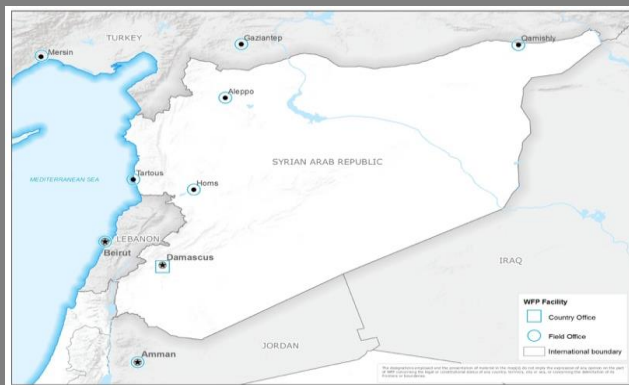
US\$119.6 m six-month net funding
requirement (February – July 2020)

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

2019 Human Development Index:
154 out of 189

Income Level: Low-income

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

Operational Updates

- In December, WFP delivered general food assistance (GFA) for 4.5 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.
- Since mid-December, the security situation in north-western Syria started to deteriorate amid heavy aerial bombardment and shelling over multiple areas of southern Idlib governorate. Hostilities have been focused on the Ma'arrat An-Nu'man sub-district, with airstrikes targeting population centres such as Saraqab and Ma'arrat An-Nu'man city.
- The ongoing fighting spurred a massive displacement movement, and in December alone, more than 367,000 displacements have been recorded according to the UNHCR-led Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster. The majority of the displaced are fleeing Ma'arrat An-Nu'man sub-district, moving towards the Dana sub-district on the border with Turkey.
- In response, WFP continues to dispatch emergency food assistance to the north-western governorates of Idlib and Aleppo, including ready-to-eat parcels and GFA baskets for immediate distribution to the newly displaced population. WFP in December assisted some 126,400 people with emergency food assistance, and partners continue rapid assessment to the newly displaced.
- The security situation in north-eastern Syria remained tense with clashes between Kurdish-led and Turkish-backed forces continuing across several areas of Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqah governorates.
- IDP return movement continues to be reported, as well as sporadic displacement due to ongoing hostilities. Some 70,600 people remain displaced, and more than 129,000 have now returned to their places of origin in Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqah governorate as of 26 November, according to [OCHA](#). In addition to the

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Photo Caption: Focus Group Discussion in rural Aleppo/Livelihood.
Credit: @ WFP/ Zuha AKKASH

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019–2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	2019 Available Contributions
1.39 bn	847 m
2020 Requirement	Six-month Net Funding Requirement February – July 2020)
649 m	119.6 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.

internally displaced, WFP Iraq in December assisted some 9,700 Syrian refugees who have crossed the border to Iraq since the beginning of the Turkish military operations.

- In response, WFP continues assisting people under the regular programme across the governorates of Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqqa with GFA baskets in camps, including Al-Hol camp. WFP has reached some 529,400 people since the beginning of the Turkish military operation in early October.

Monitoring

- In December, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 594 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 20 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.