



World Food
Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Syria Country Brief

June 2020

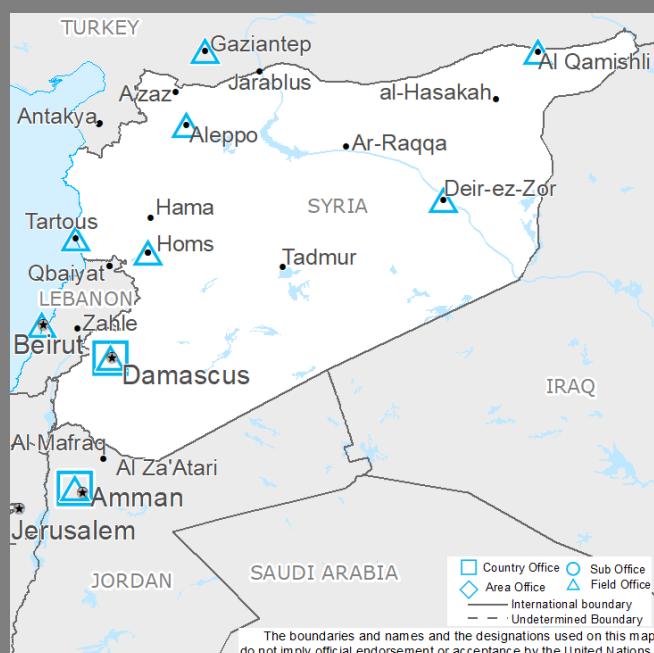


Operational Context

The conflict in Syria is taking a devastating toll on the lives of the Syrian people. The largest displacement crisis since World War II, some 6.7 million Syrians are internally displaced and 5.5 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 9.3 million people food insecure and a further 2.2 million people at risk of food insecurity, according to WFP Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping.

Since 2011, WFP has been providing food, nutrition and livelihoods assistance to crisis-affected Syrian families in the country. WFP has been active in Syria since 1964.



Population: 20.4 million

2019 Human Development Index:
154 out of 189

Income Level: Low-income

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

In Numbers

50,581 mt of food assistance delivered

US\$ 1.9 m in cash-based transfers made

US\$ 269 m six-month net funding requirement (July – December 2020)

4.6 m people assisted in June 2020
(based on dispatches)



Operational Updates

- In June, WFP delivered food and nutrition assistance to 4.6 million people across its General Food Assistance (GFA), School Feeding, Nutrition, and Livelihoods and Resilience-activities in Syria.
- WFP provided some 4.5 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates with GFA. Of this, 26 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas of Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates not accessible from inside Syria, sufficient for 1.2 million people.
- In north-western Syria, WFP distributed GFA to 1.3 million people with commodities delivered via the Logistics Cluster-facilitated cross-border operation from Turkey. WFP also assisted some 149,200 people with ready-to-eat rations (RTEs).
- WFP in June finalized the pre-positioning of more than two months' worth of food stocks inside north-western Syria in anticipation of the 10 July expiry of the Security Council resolution which authorizes the cross-border delivery of humanitarian assistance,
- The passenger aircraft chartered by WFP to operate UNHAS flights in Syria (under the new Activity 9 of the WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan, added in March 2020) arrived in Damascus on 26 June.
- UNHAS Syria will operate flights serving the humanitarian community in Syria on the Damascus – Qamishli – Damascus-route, providing passenger transport, evacuation/medevac services, as well as light cargo transport through the Logistics Cluster.

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

- The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Syria more than doubled in June. As of 30 June, the Ministry of Health in Syria had confirmed a total of 279 cases of COVID-19, with nine related deaths.
- Southern Syria remains the epicentre of the COVID-19 pandemic in Syria, and two towns; Ras Al-Ma'ara (Rural Damascus governorate) and Jdeidet Al-Fadel

Photo Caption: UNHAS aircraft at Damascus International Airport.

Credit: WFP/Nelli Jensen

Contact info: wfp.damascus@wfp.org

Country Director: Corinne FLEISCHER

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Syria

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Available Contributions
1.81 billion	574 million
2020 Requirement	Six-month Net Funding Requirement July 2020 – December 2020
1.07 billion	269 million

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:

1. 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.
2. 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:

3. 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:

4. Prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in children aged 6–23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls.
5. 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:

6. Provide coordination, information management, capacity development and shared logistics services to sector partners that face logistics gaps.
7. Provide shared ICT services, emergency telecommunications coordination and information technology (IT) emergency preparedness training to humanitarian organizations in common operational areas.
8. Provide technical assistance and support services to humanitarian partners.
9. Provide passenger and light cargo services to the humanitarian community (United Nations Humanitarian Air Service, UNHAS).

(Quneitra governorate), were put under full lockdown in June due to multiple confirmed cases of COVID-19. WFP operations to both towns are ongoing.

Monitoring

- In June, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 640 on-site monitoring (OSM) checklists across all 14 governorates to monitor GFA distributions, bread distributions, livelihood activities, nutrition activities, CBT redemptions and warehouses.
- Of the OSM checklists conducted, WFP monitors conducted 260 checklists, equivalent to 41 percent direct WFP monitoring coverage. The rest of the checklists were conducted by TPMs in areas not accessible to WFP due to the security situation, lack of approvals or temporary logistical constraints.

Challenges

- WFP requires USD 269 million to sustain operations through December 2020. Without indications from donors of at least USD 200 million by August, WFP will be forced to make substantial reductions in the ration size and number of beneficiaries effective as of October.
- The Security Council resolution which authorises the cross-border operation expires on 10 July 2020. WFP considered the cross-border operation the only viable way the United Nations can adequately assist millions of civilians in need of humanitarian assistance in Syria's north-west.
- Syria is facing unprecedented and uncontrolled food price increases which continue to accelerate, according to the latest market price monitoring data from WFP Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM). Nationwide, the monthly average price of the WFP reference food basket increased by 48 percent from May to June and 240 percent year-on-year.

Donors

The largest donors to WFP Syria so far in 2020 ranked by contributions: Germany, USA, Canada, UN Country Based Pooled Funds, UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).