



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Syria Country Brief

July 2020

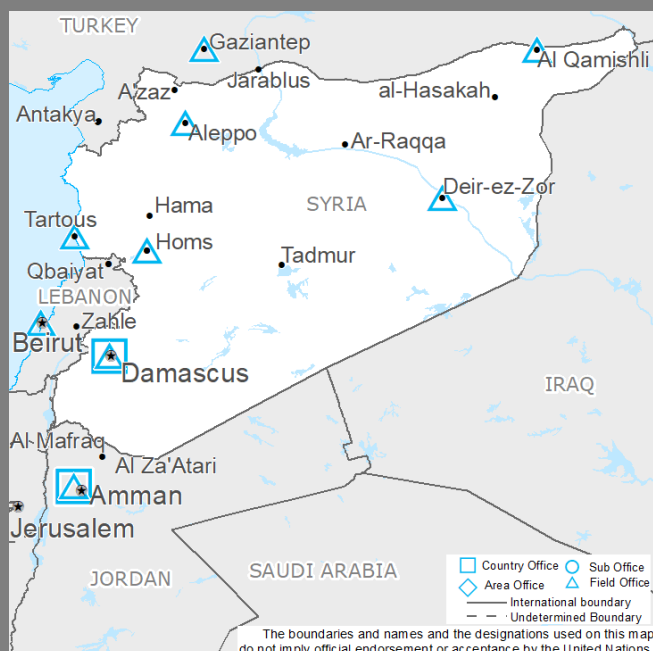


Operational Context

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 5.6 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

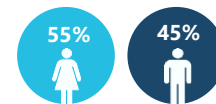
In Numbers

50,985 mt of food assistance delivered

US\$ 2.9 m in cash-based transfers made

US\$ 300 m 6-month net funding requirement
(August 2020 – January 2021, as of 11 August 2020)

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



Operational Updates

- In July, 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 4.6 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates with GFA. Of this, 30 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 1.4 million people.
- In July, WFP started piloting the use of cash-based transfers (CBT) as a transfer modality in the GFA programme. Some 6,750 beneficiaries across Damascus and Rural Damascus governorate were supported in July. WFP is planning to increase the number of people targeted under the CBT modality as the trial progresses over the next months.
- As part of the COVID-19 response, WFP continued to include soap alongside GFA rations as well as informational leaflets on hygiene and recreational booklets. WFP also included hygiene items under its CBT programme. These initiatives are done in partnership with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
- Furthermore, supporting the national COVID-19 response, WFP in July commenced a six-month institutional feeding project in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), whereby WFP is providing food to vulnerable people in COVID-19 quarantine centres.
- 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.
- On 12 July, the UN Security Council passed [Resolution](#)

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Photo Caption: Child carrying WFP-provided bread in north-west Syria. © WFP/Cooperating Partner

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)	
Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Available Contributions
1.81 billion	568.1 million
2020 Requirement	Six-month Net Funding Requirement (August 2020 – January 2021, as of 11 August)
1.07 billion	300 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).

2533 (2020), authorizing the continued cross-border delivery of humanitarian assistance across the border from Turkey to Syria for one year through the Bab al-Hawa crossing only. WFP is preparing to enhance the capacity at the still operational Bab al-Hawa transshipment hub. WFP operations in north-western Syria are ongoing,

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

- The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Syria more than doubled over the course of July, for the second consecutive month. As of 01 August, the Ministry of Health in Syria had confirmed a total of 780 cases of COVID-19, with 43 related deaths.
- WFP in July further reduced the number of staff reporting to the offices, both at the country office in Damascus and at all field offices in response to the increased number of cases. WFP is also providing all staff and their families with personal protective equipment, including masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.

Monitoring

- In July, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 498 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 192 checklists, equivalent to 39 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 300 million to sustain operations through January 2021. 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.
- Despite a relative stabilization in food prices seen in July, the average price of the WFP reference food basket remains extremely high at 23.5 times the five-year pre-crisis average; the highest ever recorded, and still more than twice as high as the previous peak at the height of the Syrian crisis in 2016.

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).