



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Syria Country Brief

April 2022



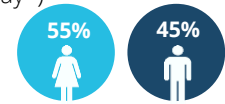
## In Numbers

**35,267 mt** of food assistance delivered

**US\$ 3.6 m** in cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 595.2 m** six-month net funding requirement *(May 2022 – October 2022)*

**5.2 m people assisted** in April 2022  
(based on dispatches as of 16 May\*)

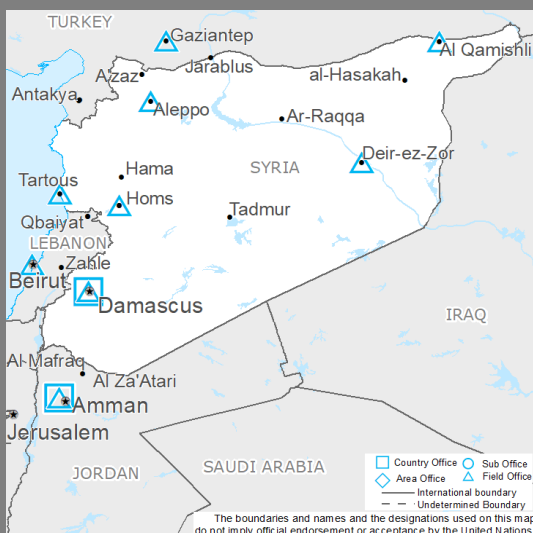


## Operational Context

The Syrian Arab Republic has faced a prolonged crisis since 2011, which has caused severe damage to the country's economic and social fabric. Protracted crisis, economic collapse and the impacts of the coronavirus disease pandemic in the past two years further exposed the Syrian people to food insecurity and eroded their livelihoods. As of late 2021, 12 million people, 55 percent of the population, were food insecure.

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.

The new 2022–2023 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP), which came into effect in January 2022, is aimed at responding to the growing food and nutrition needs, the severe deterioration of livelihoods and resilience, and the collapse of food systems. Under the new ICSP, WFP will continue its large-scale provision of unconditional food assistance, refocus its education and nutrition activities and expand its activities aimed at strengthening livelihoods, boosting household resilience and restoring food systems.



Population: **21.7 million**

2019 Human Development Index:  
**151 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low-income**

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

## Operational Updates

- In April, WFP delivered food and nutrition assistance to 5.2 million people across its general food assistance (GFA), school feeding, nutrition, livelihoods, resilience and social safety nets activities in Syria.
- WFP dispatched GFA to some 5.1 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, 27 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas of Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates not accessible from inside Syria.
- On 5 April, the [WFP Syria 2021 Annual Country Report](#) was released. The report provides a complete overview of WFP's operation in Syria in 2021. Overall, WFP successfully reached 7 million girls, boys, women, and men across its activities in Syria in 2021.
- The economic situation in Syria continues to deteriorate. In April, Syria's central bank has weakened its official exchange rate to 2,814 Syrian pounds per US dollar. The ongoing depreciation of the Syrian pound is a driving factor in increasing the prices of goods in the country, making basic goods increasingly more expensive for the population.
- WFP was forced to reduce the size of food rations in all areas of Syria due to global supply chain disruptions, funding constraints and increasing global food prices. The operation needs to urgently identify new funding to maintain its already reduced levels of assistance.
- On 4 April WFP completed the fourth round of distributions of food and nutrition items, reaching 41,835 cross-line beneficiaries in 51 locations in opposition controlled areas of north-western Syria. The assistance included food rations for families and supplementary nutritious food for children under two

\* Number are subject to change as April dispatch cycle has been extended to reach all beneficiaries.

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Photo Caption: A photo of a child next to an irrigation pipe, Ain Alqusair irrigation project, Homs governorate ©WFP

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2022-2023)	
Total Requirement (in US\$)	2022 Available Contributions
<b>2.87 billion</b>	<b>367.09 million</b>
2022 Requirement	Six-month Net Funding Requirement (May 2022 –October 2022)
<b>1.37 billion</b>	<b>595.2 million</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food-insecure populations affected by the crisis, including host communities, internally displaced persons and returnees across all governorates in the Syrian Arab Republic, meet their basic food and nutrition needs all year round.  
**Focus area:** Crisis Response

- Activities:**
1. Unconditional resource transfers to food-insecure households.
  2. Provide meals and cash-based transfers to school-age boys and girls attending formal and non-formal education centres.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food-insecure communities in targeted areas are able to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year thanks to resilient livelihoods and restored access to basic services.  
**Focus area:** Resilience Building

- Activities:**
3. Support diversified and sustainable livelihoods and food systems at the household, community and national levels.
  4. Provide technical assistance to strengthen national social safety nets.

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Nutritionally vulnerable groups across the Syrian Arab Republic, especially boys, girls and pregnant and lactating women, have access to malnutrition prevention and treatment services throughout the year.  
**Focus area:** Resilience Building

- Activities:**
5. Provide nutrition assistance to prevent chronic and acute malnutrition.
  6. Provide nutrition assistance to treat moderate acute malnutrition.

### 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 are enabled to assist crisis-affected populations all year long.  
**Focus area:** Crisis Response

- Activities:**
7. Provide common logistics services to humanitarian partners.
  8. Provide common emergency telecommunications services to humanitarian partners.
  9. Provide humanitarian air services to humanitarian partners.
  10. Provide on-demand technical assistance and support services to humanitarian partners.
  11. Provide on-demand cash-based transfer services to humanitarian partners.

years old.

## Monitoring

- In April, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 1,492 on-site monitoring (OSM) visits across all 14 governorates to monitor GFA distributions, bread distributions, livelihoods activities, nutrition activities, cash-based transfer (CBT) redemptions and warehouses. Around 25 percent of the OSM visits were conducted directly by WFP monitors or jointly with TPM. The remaining visits were conducted by TPMs in areas not accessible by WFP staff.

## Challenges

- WFP requires USD 595.2 million to sustain operations through October 2022.

## WFP’s livelihoods and resilience activities

- WFP’s livelihoods and resilience activities support families across Syria to reduce their dependency on humanitarian assistance over time by protecting and restoring their livelihoods. This improves their food security and enhances their resilience to future shocks.
- Recently, WFP finalized the rehabilitation of the Ain Alqusair irrigation project in Homs governorate. The project will help about 750 people to resume agricultural activities in an area where the main crops are apricots, grapes, and olives. Homs has a population of 1.5 million people of which 934,000 are food insecure (62 percent of the population). WFP supports 312,905 people monthly with general food assistance.

## Donors

**The largest donors to WFP Syria so far in 2022 ranked by contributions:** Germany, European Commission, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, Ireland and Japan.