



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



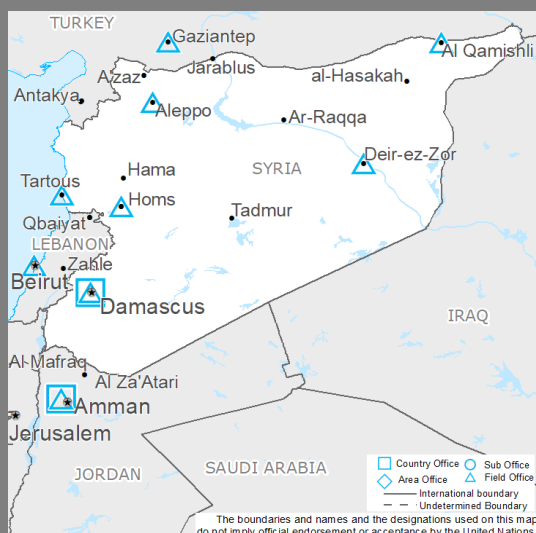
WFP Syria Country Brief September 2022

Operational Context

The Syrian Arab Republic has faced a prolonged crisis since 2011, which has caused severe damage to the country's economy 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 2022–2023 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) 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 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.



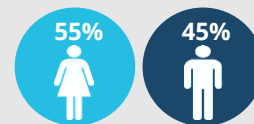
Population: **21.7 million**

2019 Human Development Index:
151 out of 188

Income Level: **Low-income**

Chronic malnutrition: **553,000 children**
between 6-59 months

In Numbers



5.2 m people assisted
in September 2022 (based on dispatches)

39,760 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 3.6 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 811.1 m six months (October 2022 – March 2023) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- In September, 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 across all 14 Syrian governorates. This includes food delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas of Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates not accessible from inside Syria.
- The seventh cross-line convoy was completed on 18 September, going from government-held Aleppo city to opposition-controlled Sarmada city in north-western Syria. The inter-agency convoy carried food rations for families and nutrition items for children under two years old. On 28 September, WFP completed distributions of these items, reaching 37,260 cross-line beneficiaries in 54 locations in non-government controlled areas of north-western Syria.
- On 19 September 2022, the Central Bank of Syria (CBS) devalued the official exchange rate for the second time this year. The new official exchange rate is SYP 3,015/USD (a 7 percent devaluation). This will make domestic food prices more expensive for Syrians. As of August 2022, prices in Syria were 36 percent higher than February 2022 (start of the Ukraine crisis) and 85 percent higher than the same time last year, according to the latest [WFP data](#).
- The implementation of the sixth round of the Food Security Assessment (FSA) across government-held areas, as well as the Food Security and Livelihood Assessment (FSLA) in non-government held areas has begun. For the first time ever, the FSA/FSLA study will collect information on the nutrition status for pregnant women, nursing mothers as well as for children under 5 years old. The study results will provide WFP with updates on the food security situation in Syria and support estimation of number of people in need for the upcoming 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO).

Contact info: Benjamin Florez (benjamin.florez@wfp.org)
Country Director: Kenn Crossley
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Syria

Photo Caption: WFP Goodwill Ambassador George Strombolopolous, visiting a school receiving fresh meals for children in Aleppo governorate, northern Syria. ©WFP

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2022-2023)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Percentage Funded
2.87 billion	573.6 million	20 %
2022 Requirements (in USD)	2022 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (October 2022– March 2023)
1.37 billion	573.6 million	806.2 m

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 provide:

5. Nutrition assistance to prevent chronic and acute malnutrition.
6. 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 provide:

7. Common logistics services to humanitarian partners.
8. Common emergency telecommunications services to humanitarian partners.
9. Humanitarian air services to humanitarian partners.
10. On-demand technical assistance and support services to humanitarian partners.
11. On-demand cash-based transfer services to humanitarian partners.

- On 6 September, WFP-led United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flights to and from Aleppo airport were cancelled again after missile strikes targeted the vicinity of the airport in Aleppo. This was the second time in the space of one week where the previous strikes occurred on 31 August. UNHAS flights resumed on 10 September upon the re-opening of the airport. UNHAS is a critical service for the humanitarian operation. It is the basis upon which staff deploy and move, and it is also a vessel for humanitarian assistance.
- An ongoing cholera outbreak in Syria is believed to be linked to the irrigation of crops with contaminated water, as well as people drinking from the Euphrates River. Cases were identified throughout Syria and mainly in the north and east. The outbreak is an indicator of severe water shortages.

Monitoring

- In September, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 976 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 21 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 811.1 million through March 2023 to implement the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) for Syria.

Updates from the field: WFP Goodwill Ambassador visit to Aleppo

- During the week of 18 September, WFP Goodwill Ambassador George Strombolopolous visited Aleppo along with WFP's Country Director. They visited WFP beneficiaries at their homes as well as WFP operations in the city, including schools receiving fresh meals for children, registration centres for pregnant and lactating women and girls, and general food assistance distribution points.

Donors

The largest donors to WFP Syria so far in 2022 ranked by contributions: USA, Germany, Canada, Japan and the European Commission.