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. Successive shocks in the form of the global COVID-19 pandemic, unabated economic decline, fuel and food crises, and most recently the cholera outbreak, have played a significant role in the deterioration of the humanitarian situation. As of late 2021, 12 million people, 55 percent of the population, are 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.

Operational Updates

• In November, WFP delivered food and nutrition assistance to 5.7 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates through its general food assistance (GFA), school feeding, nutrition, livelihoods, resilience, and social safety nets activities. 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 ninth cross-line convoy was completed on 30 November, going from government-controlled Aleppo city to opposition-controlled Sarmada city in north-western Syria. The convoy carried food rations and nutrition items to enable WFP to reach its monthly target. It also carried humanitarian assistance for other UN agencies. On 26 November, WFP completed distributions of the November round of these items, reaching 38,280 beneficiaries in 54 locations in non-government-controlled areas of north-western Syria.

• In October, the monthly average price of WFP’s standard reference food basket increased by 8.5 percent compared to September 2022, reaching SYP 357,593 (≈USD 118 at the official exchange rate of SYP 3,015/USD), according to the latest WFP Syria Market Price Watch Bulletin. Three years ago, October 2019, SYP 25,000, nearly one-fifteenth of the October 2022 cost, bought the same standard food basket.

• On 30 November, heavy rains caused significant damage to areas of agricultural fields in Deir Ezzor governorate of north-eastern Syria. The Director of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform stated that the heavy rains reached about 23 mm in some areas, which led to floods and torrents and caused significant damage to some areas planted with wheat, barley, and winter vegetables.

In Numbers

5.7 m people assisted in November 2022 (based on dispatches)

33,488 mt of food assistance distributed

US$ 4.1 m cash-based transfers made

US$ 784.4 m six months (December 2022 – May 2023) net funding requirements

In Numbers

Population: 21.7 million

Income Level: Low-income

2019 Human Development Index: 151 out of 188

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

Country Brief November 2022

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Photo Caption: Jadd in third grade, receiving a freshly made sandwich within fresh meals activity in Aleppo city.
©WFP/ Zuha Akkash
### WFP Country Strategy

#### Interim Country Strategic Plan (2022-2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Percentage Funded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.87 billion</td>
<td>768 million</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2022 Requirements (in USD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (December 2022–May 2023)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.37 billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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 3: 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.

### Monitoring

- Implementation of the sixth round of the Food Security Assessment (FSA) across government-held areas and the Food Security and Livelihood Assessment (FSLA) in non-government held areas is ongoing. Data collection for the FSLA commenced on 29 September for the off-camp and camp was completed and analyzed in November.
- Following the visit of WFP Goodwill Ambassador George Strombolopolous to Aleppo city in September, which aimed at engendering support for the advocacy and fundraising of WFP’s operations in Syria, a media campaign was launched on 12 November. Content gathered during the mission has been published on WFP and the Goodwill Ambassador’s social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

### Challenges

- WFP requires USD 784.4 million through May 2023 to implement the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) for Syria.

### Updates from the field: 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence

- On 24 October, the Gender team in collaboration with Partnership team at the WFP Country Office participated in a webinar organized by the Regional Bureau on gender in Field Level Agreements (FLA). The Gender team has conveyed its experience from Syria and the progress made in incorporating gender principles in FLA templates and other partners’ assessment and evaluation documents.
- WFP Syria is actively participating in the 16 Days of Activism campaign against gender-based violence. A launching event took place in country office and different activities are ongoing within the different field offices.

### Donors

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