



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP TÜRKİYE

COUNTRY BRIEF

April 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- During Ramadan, WFP piloted a ready-to-eat pouch distribution for some 3,055 refugees in four refugee camps—Adana, Elazığ, Nizip, and İslahiye—as well as 5,670 Syrian returnees at two border crossings in Hatay and Kilis. Produced by a contracted supplier using wheat donated by Türkiye, 28,080 pouches were provided, containing bulgur with chickpeas and vegetables (in boxes containing 20 pouches each).
- WFP signed a data-sharing agreement with the International Organization for Migration to include 1,490 earthquake-affected refugees residing in urban areas who relocated from the Yildirimtepe Container City in Hatay following its closure in its cash-for-food programme, helping them cover part of their food expenses.

IN NUMBERS



34,947 people assisted in March 2026



49%
Male



51%
Female



USD 3.1M (April – September 2026) net funding requirements

Photo Caption & Credit: WFP staff are distributing ready-to-eat pouches for Ramadan in Adana camp hosting over 2,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees. ©WFP/Ahmet Fakioglu

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- The Republic of Türkiye is an upper-middle-income country with well-established institutions, infrastructure and public services. Although Türkiye has made progress in reducing poverty and improving food and nutrition security, persisting high inflation, rapid currency depreciation and loss of purchasing power have compounded humanitarian needs, with the impact most severe in the 2023 earthquake-affected provinces that host over 40 percent of Türkiye's refugee population.
- Even after the political transition in Syria, Türkiye continues to host 2.5 million refugees, mostly Syrians. While most live within host communities, about 5,500 of the most vulnerable remain in government-run camps.
- Refugee households face increasing strain owing to rising food costs and often adopt negative coping strategies. Households headed by women and those with persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected due to limited opportunities to work.
- Current regional escalation and shipping disruptions are increasing economic pressure on the country, raising oil and input costs, while freight, insurance, and container shortages slow logistics and delay deliveries.
- WFP Türkiye's [Country Strategic Plan](#) (2023-2026) aims to assist vulnerable refugees to meet their food needs and provide capacity support to local institutions in earthquake-affected provinces to revitalize food value chains through strategic investments. WFP also provides enabling services to humanitarian and development partners.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Refugees border food distribution

In March, WFP's border food distribution with the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) supported 11,760 Syrian returnees at two border gates in Hatay and Kilis. Each beneficiary received a snack kit—consisting of a cheese sandwich, fruit, a sesame bar, a cereal bar and water—while each household received a box containing 20 ready-to-eat (RTE) meal pouches. Distribution of the snack kits was paused on 13 March due to TRC's internal procurement disruptions; however, the distribution of RTE boxes continued uninterrupted. This assistance is provided as a one-off temporary transit support to provide an immediate food buffer while returnee households reconnect with family networks, access local markets or register for additional assistance, where available in Syria.

Cash-for-food support to earthquake-affected refugees in urban areas

In February, WFP and Support to Life (STL) provided cash transfers of TRY 1,000 (USD 22.6) per person to 18,336 earthquake-affected refugees living in urban areas. The assistance helps support refugees in meeting their food needs during their transition and integration into urban areas while offsetting part of the rising living expenses in a region still recovering from the impacts of the earthquakes.

E-voucher assistance to in-camp refugees

WFP and TRC continue e-voucher assistance to 2,333 Syrian and 1,508 Ukrainian refugees in Adana, Elazig and Gaziantep (Islahiye) camps to help meet their food needs, reaching 3,841 people in total. Beneficiaries received TRY 1,050 (USD 23.8) per person in line with the EU-funded Complementary Social Safety Net provided by the Government of Türkiye to assist the most vulnerable refugees. The e-vouchers can be redeemed at camp markets.

Earthquake recovery support

WFP's fresh fruit and vegetable value chain project in the Samandag district of Hatay continues to make progress. In partnership with the DOGAKA Development Agency and Samandag Municipality, WFP is constructing a cold storage facility to enable local farmers to store their produce for longer, reduce post-harvest losses, and secure better prices. Once completed, the facility will be accessible to farmers from all Hatay districts. Structural works are now complete, including installation of the cooling system,

walls, fire exit and main doors, electrical wiring, product entry area and external fire extinguisher room. While the final pricing of the facility will be confirmed in April, the public tariff is expected to be at least 20 percent lower than prevailing market prices.

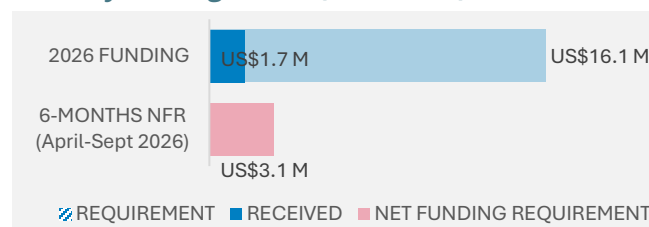
Monitoring

Following the expansion of WFP's cash-for-food assistance for earthquake-affected refugees, implemented in partnership with STL, baseline monitoring was conducted to establish a reference for post-distribution monitoring. The results confirm a highly vulnerable population and validate the need to scale up WFP assistance.

- *Structural barriers to self-reliance remain severe:* Educational attainment among household heads is low, with only 10 percent completing high school or higher, while 93 percent report no Turkish language proficiency. Livelihood opportunities are limited, with 67 percent relying on unskilled casual labour, and 29 percent reporting no income. Overall, more than half of households are in debt, and only 34 percent can meet their essential needs.
- *Households headed by women are disproportionately affected:* Over half report no income, and only 9 percent participate in wage labour, highlighting acute economic exclusion and heightened protection risks.
- *Food security is sustained through negative coping strategies:* While nearly all households are classified as food insecure, acceptable food consumption levels are maintained through borrowing and other unsustainable strategies.
- *Coping capacity is exhausted:* All households reported using consumption-based coping strategies, and 98 percent are engaged in livelihood coping such as debt accumulation, depletion of savings, and reduced non-food spending. In the most severe cases, some households headed by women have withdrawn children from school, an indication of severe levels of distress.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026)



Donors

Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Republic of Türkiye, United States of America.