Situation Update (including security)

**Situation in North-Western Syria**
- There is high concern about the humanitarian situation and potential consequences of further escalation in Idlib governorate. Inter-agency humanitarian preparedness planning for Idlib and surrounding areas is ongoing. WFP, in coordination with the Food Security Sector, is working between its hubs in Gaziantep/Turkey, in Aleppo, Homs, and Tartous to ensure immediate and sufficient emergency assistance. Overall, WFP has enough stock to assist one million people through cross-border and regular deliveries from inside Syria as required, provided additional funding is received.

**Situation in North-Eastern Syria**
- In August, recent military operations in north-eastern Deir Ezzor governorate to drive out the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) from the area forced 8,230 people to flee to safer villages. In early September, WFP distributed enough RTEs for 8,250 people.
- Following recent developments and in close cooperation with the Food Security Sector, WFP is increasing its food allocation for Deir Ezzor and Ar-Raqqa governorates. From September, WFP will target an additional 30,000 food insecure people in Deir Ezzor bringing the total to 130,000 people. In Ar-Raqqa city, an additional 25,000 people will be targeted, bringing the total to 175,000 people in Ar-Raqqa governorate.

**Situation in southern Syria**
- WFP continued to respond to persistent needs in southern Syria’s As-Sweida, Dar’a and Quneitra governorates following the escalated violence in June/July 2018. Since July, WFP has been able to distribute food assistance for 395,600 people in 38 locations through single and inter-agency convoys from Damascus, together with its partner Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) and a local NGO.
- Assistance includes family food rations, wheat flour,
ready-to-eat (RTE) rations, and nutrition supplies for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition.

Situation in Eastern Ghouta in Rural Damascus

- An estimated 200,000 people remain inside Eastern Ghouta while some 7,484 people remain in displacement sites. In August, WFP provided 37,755 people with one-month worth family food rations in Eastern Ghouta: on 8 August, WFP reached 2,755 people in Harasta through regular deliveries. On 9 August, WFP also took part in an inter-agency convoy to Arbin and Zamalka, delivering food rations and wheat flour for 35,000 people, in addition to nutrition supplies for the treatment and prevention of malnutrition children.

WFP’s Response

- Under the August cycle, WFP delivered food assistance for 2.92 million people in all 14 governorates, achieving 95 percent of the monthly plan.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 19 percent of the total WFP food assistance dispatched. The food delivered meets the needs of 549,015 people in areas inaccessible from inside Syria in Aleppo, Idlib and Hama governorates.
- Moreover, WFP dispatched food assistance for 197,370 people in 31 locations across hard-to-reach areas in Rural Damascus, Dar’a, Deir Ezzor, Homs, Quneitra, Aleppo, and Ar-Raqqa and governorates.
- In August, WFP provided assistance via one cross-line inter-agency convoy to the hard-to-reach areas of Arbin and Zamalka in Rural Damascus governorate, delivering 7,000 food rations sufficient for 35,000 people.

Livelihood and Resilience Projects

- WFP is currently implementing seven livelihood projects, benefiting 27,170 people in nine governorates across the country. Projects cover various areas including vocational skills training, kitchen gardens, poultry, farming, and food processing.

School Meals Programme

- The School Meals Programme begins early September. The 2018-2019 academic year starts earlier than previous years to increase the number of school days and to allow children to catch up on classes. No dispatches were undertaken during the month of August due to the summer closure of schools.
- In the 2018-2019 academic year, WFP aims to reach 650,000 children with fortified date bars during school days in 13 governorates of Syria. Additionally, WFP will continue its fresh school meals project for 10,000 children in Aleppo, providing a sandwich and a piece of fruit or vegetable. WFP encourages return to learning among out-of-school children with food assistance through cash-based transfers.

Nutrition Assistance

- In August, WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 121,400 children in Rural Damascus, Damascus, Tartous, Quneitra, Dar’a, Homs, Hama, Al-Hasakeh, Deir Ezzor, Idlib, Aleppo and Ar-Raqqa governorates, through the cross-border operation from Turkey as well as regular deliveries from inside Syria.
- WFP also delivered nutrition supplies for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition to Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition centres and mobile clinics in Al-Hasakeh and Rural Damascus governorates. The supplies are sufficient to meet the needs of 358 children and pregnant and nursing women for a period of three months. Low dispatches can be attributed to a pipeline break in nutrition supplies for the cross-border Turkey operation, stocks are expected in Turkey in September.
- Moreover, 24,850 pregnant and nursing women received nutrition support through cash-based transfers to purchase fresh food, including dairy products, meat, fruits and vegetables, from WFP-contracted shops in Lattakia, Homs, Hama, Rural Damascus, Damascus, Tartous and Aleppo governorates.

Supply Chain

- In August, WFP moved a total of 34,200 mt of various food commodities from its seven storage facilities to 52 cooperating partners across all 14 governorates. Commodities were delivered under various activities and included food rations and ready-to-eat rations, fortified wheat flour, nutrition supplies, date bars, and yeast.

Clusters and Common Services

Food Security and Agriculture Sector

- The Food Security Sector for the Whole of Syria with Syria and south-Turkey hub are actively coordinating preparedness plans for Idlib.
- The sector also consolidated its sub-district level needs, response and gaps for Deir Ezzor governorate, by allocating resources between WFP and north-east Syria based NGOs to ensure effective coverage based on access.

Logistics Cluster

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster continued to facilitate coordination services, information management and logistic support to the humanitarian community in Syria and provided logistics services to eight partners in August. This includes land transport of humanitarian supplies to Deir Ezzor and Al-Hasakeh governorates in addition to Eastern Ghouta on a no-cost basis.
- The Logistics Cluster also stored 2,384 m³ of newly received humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Homs, Lattakia and Rural Damascus on behalf of UNFPA.
- In addition, a total of 795 m³ of logistics, protection and WASH cargo was transported via land inside Syria on behalf of IMC, UNFPA and WFP.

Resourcing Update

- WFP is currently providing food assistance to 3 million people instead of the envisioned 4 million people due limited funding. At present, allocated
contributions only cover 55% of planned WFP activities inside Syria. WFP urgently needs funds to continue providing food assistance to those most in need and requires USD 232.9 million to keep operations running through February 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WFP’s Activities</th>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Net Funding Requirements (September 2018 – February 2019) (in USD)</th>
<th>People Assisted (August 2018)</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) (Jan – Dec 2018)</td>
<td>792 million</td>
<td>232.9 million</td>
<td>2,923,515*</td>
<td>1,607,933</td>
<td>1,315,582</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Food Assistance</td>
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<td>2,923,515</td>
<td>1,607,933</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Meals Programme</td>
<td></td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Out-of-School Children**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition - Prevention of Acute Malnutrition</td>
<td></td>
<td>121,400</td>
<td>61,914</td>
<td>59,486</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition Support for Pregnant and Nursing Women (Cash-Based Transfers)</td>
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<td>24,850</td>
<td>22,987</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition - Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,075</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>545</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Livelihood Activities</td>
<td></td>
<td>27,170</td>
<td>14,944</td>
<td>12,227</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The total beneficiary figure includes beneficiaries of all activities as there is almost a complete overlap between activities.

** The School Meals and out-of-school children programmes were not implemented in August due to school’s closure over the summer.

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