



World Food Programme



ONE FUTURE #ZEROHUNGER



WFP Syria

Situation Report # 1

January 2018

In Numbers

13.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance*

6.1 million people internally displaced

10.5 million people in need of food assistance

**According to the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)*

Highlights

- WFP dispatched food for 2.38 million people in 11 of the 14 governorates under the January cycle, achieving 81 percent of the operational plan.
- In response to population displacement in Idleb governorate, WFP provided emergency food assistance for over 120,000 people who fled the fighting.
- The United Nations provided humanitarian assistance for 50,000 people in Rukban at the Syrian-Jordanian borders after the Jordanian authorities approved a one-time delivery.

Situation Update

Peace Conference in Sochi, Russia

- A Syrian peace conference was held in Sochi, Russia on 30 January, bringing together 1,500 participants who agreed to set up a committee to rewrite the constitution. The conference was boycotted by the leadership of the Syrian opposition, while the United States, the United Kingdom and France refused to endorse it. The United Nations special envoy to Syria, Staffan de Mistura, attended the conference and was tasked with developing the criteria for the selection of the constitutional committee members. The committee will include the Government and the opposition and will "draft a constitutional reform as a contribution to the political settlement under the United Nations auspices in accordance with Security Council Resolution 2254."

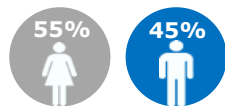
Situation in North-Eastern Syria

- The United Nations humanitarian operations in north-eastern Syria were suspended between 7 January and early February as disagreements between the Government of Syria and the Kurdish Self-Administration (KSA) resurfaced regarding under whose authority NGOs should be operating in the north-east governorates. Consequently, WFP was unable to dispatch food for more than 300,000 people in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir Ezzor governorates.

Security Situation in Southern Syria

- In late January, tension escalated in southern Syria as ISIL-affiliated armed groups started to deploy fighters for an offensive against non-state armed groups in south-western Dar'a. The tension resulted in the closure of the main supply route connecting north-western Dar'a and Quneitra with south Dar'a. However, an alternative route for humanitarian deliveries was identified, but with a lower capacity due to the condition of the road. WFP now has ready-to-eat rations, sufficient for 63,000 people, prepositioned in southern Dar'a which can be used to

2.38 Million
People assisted
January 2018



GENDER MARKER **2A** TICSP

Global Humanitarian Funding*

Overall: USD*

WFP share: USD 792,163,289

WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirements** (February-July 2018)

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) (Jan-Dec 2018)

USD 114 million

* The 2018 HRP is currently being finalized
**Due to the lengthy lead time, shortfalls in the coming three months cannot be addressed by new contributions.



Photo: ©WFP / Safaa al Khateeb
Caption: Distribution of ready-to-eat rations to Afrin IDPs in Aleppo City.

respond to population displacement.

Security Situation in North West Syria

- In north-west Syria, the situation drastically deteriorated as fighting between government forces and non-state armed groups escalated in south and south-east rural Idleb and south-west rural Aleppo, forcing about 272,000 people to flee into central and north-west Idleb since mid-December 2017. Government forces took control of tens of villages in east Idleb. In response, WFP provided ready-to-eat rations for over 120,000 people.
- In north-west Aleppo, Turkish forces launched a military offensive known as "Operation Olive Branch" on 20 January against the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) in Afrin. The offensive is said to have initially triggered the displacement of 15,000 to 30,000 people within Afrin and caused the loss of numerous lives and damaged civilian infrastructure. In anticipation of population displacements to other areas within Aleppo or to Idleb governorate, WFP prepositioned 28,000 ready-to-eat rations in Aleppo City, A'zaz in north Aleppo, and Idleb governorate, enough for 140,000 people.

Delivery of Humanitarian Assistance to Rukban, Syrian-Jordanian borders

- In early January, the United Nations provided humanitarian assistance for 50,000 people in Rukban at the Syrian-Jordanian borders (berm) after the Jordanian authorities agreed to allow for a one-time delivery from the Jordanian side. Prior to this delivery, WFP and other United Nations agencies in Damascus requested approval to conduct inter-agency convoys from inside Syria to the Berm but no approvals were received. However, the discussions are ongoing, as the people at the berm are highly vulnerable and will require assistance.

WFP's Response

- In January, WFP delivered food assistance for 2.38 million people in 11 of the 14 Syrian governorates, representing 81 percent of the monthly plan. January dispatches fell below planned levels due to the suspension of the humanitarian operations in north-eastern Syria and the lack of approvals to conduct inter-agency deliveries to besieged and hard-to-reach locations.
- Cross-border deliveries from Jordan and Turkey accounted for almost 30 percent of the total WFP food assistance dispatched, delivering food assistance for 705,890 people in opposition-held areas in Aleppo, Idleb, Hama, Quneitra, As-Sweida and Dar'a governorates, inaccessible from inside Syria.
- Total dispatches also included the delivery of food assistance for 68,450 people in four locations classified by United Nations as hard-to-reach in Aleppo, Hama, and Quneitra governorates. Dispatches to these locations were facilitated through both regular and the cross-border operations from Jordan and Turkey.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- Under its nutrition interventions, WFP dispatched specialised nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition for over 52,500 children aged 6-23 months across the country through regular

deliveries. Moreover, WFP assisted about 780 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing women with specialised nutrition products to treat moderate acute malnutrition through regular and cross-border deliveries.

- Furthermore, WFP continued to provide nutrition support to pregnant and nursing women to improve the dietary diversity. In January, more than 20,000 pregnant and nursing women received cash-based transfers (CBT), enabling them to purchase fresh food, including dairy products, meat, fruits and vegetables, from 31 designated retailers in Aleppo, Rural Damascus, Homs, Lattakia, Hama and Tartous governorates. WFP expanded this programme to Hama governorate, with an initial plan to reach about 800 beneficiaries.

School Meals Programme

- Under the School Meals programme, WFP dispatched about 2,260 mt of milk and fortified date bars, enough for 163,534 children attending schools in Aleppo, As-Sweida, Damascus, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Rural Damascus, Tartous governorates. During the 2017-18 school year, WFP is targeting up to 500,000 students in ten governorates.
- The cash-based support to out-of-school children (OOSC), which targets students under UNICEF's Curriculum B initiative, is currently implemented in Homs and Lattakia governorates. In January, a total of 1,271 students were reached in both governorates.

Livelihood and Resilience Projects

- WFP is currently implementing four livelihood projects, benefitting 43,870 people in nine governorates during January. These projects include support to household agricultural production and vocational skills training. The activities implemented in January were a continuation of activities carried out in 2017. Expansion for new activities is underway, but has faced some delays due to new procedures with regards to official approvals by the respective government offices.



Supply Chain

- As part of its efforts to enhance the procurement strategy and rely more on local procurement, WFP contracted a private local milling company inside Syria for a pilot production of fortified wheat flour. All approvals were obtained and a pilot to procure 2,000 mt is due to commence in February. If the pilot production is successful, WFP foresees that the milling company will be able to cover WFP's monthly requirements of fortified wheat flour by the end of 2018.

Clusters and Common Services



Food Security and Agriculture Sector

- The food security and agriculture sector (FSS) has completed consultation meetings with four line ministries on the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) strategy. Overall, the feedback on the sector strategy was positive. Line Ministries also highlighted various priority activities which partners should consider at the programme level. The HRP envelop stands at USD 1.27 billion.
- The food sector also facilitated discussions with the

Whole of Syria team to determine the areas for which food support will be needed through inter-agency convoys for March and April.

Logistics Cluster

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster continued to facilitate coordination services, information management and logistic support to the humanitarian community operating within Syria, providing logistics services to five partners during the reporting period.
- However, the Logistics Cluster could not facilitate any inter-agency humanitarian convoys to hard-to-reach and besieged areas due to a complete lack of official approvals.
- The Logistics Cluster also stored 2,506 m³ of newly received humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Aleppo, Tartous, Qamishly and Rural Damascus on behalf of International Medical Corps, OXFAM, UNFPA, and UNICEF.

Resourcing Update

- As of February, WFP is targeting more than 3 million

people through general food assistance every month. With the 3-4 months of lead-time to bring food into the country, shortfalls occurring during the next three months can no longer be averted. New contributions are needed in order to maintain the current level of assistance from June 2018 onwards. The shortfalls for the next six months (until end of July 2018) amount to USD 114 million. WFP requires an average of USD 60 million per month in order to reach 4 million people in Syria.

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WFP's Activities					
	Total Requirements (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (Feb-Jul 2018) (in USD)	People Assisted (January 2018)	Female	Male
Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) (Jan – Dec 2018)	792 million	114 million	2,384,690*	1,311,580	1,073,110
General Food Assistance			2,384,690	1,311,580	1,073,110
School Meals Programme			163,534	80,132	83,402
Out-of-School Children			1,271	623	648
Nutrition - Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			52,583	26,817	25,766
Nutrition Support for Pregnant and Nursing Women (Cash-Based Transfers)			20,062	20,062	-
Nutrition - Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			726	461	322
Livelihood Activities			43,870	24,129	19,742

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