SITUATION UPDATE

APRIL 2016

SYRIA CRISIS REGIONAL RESPONSE

HIGHLIGHTS

- Thanks to generous contributions following the London Conference, extremely vulnerable refugees across the region continued to receive the full voucher value.

- WFP’s Vision 2020 initiative is underway: WFP will continue life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable, while shifting focus to longer term resilience and recovery, including sustainable livelihoods.

- WFP reaches Deir Ezzor city for the first time in two years with airdrops of dry food supplies for 20,000 families. Further, 746,000 people in besieged and hard-to-reach areas received food assistance.

- WFP has signed an agreement with UNDP to undertake a Joint Employment Opportunity Assessment. The assessment is underway to better identify market demands at regional, national, and sub-national levels in the six countries affected by the crisis.
**Situation Update:**

**Syria**

**Aleppo Governorate**

At least 40,000 people have been on the move during the last three weeks of April and have been forced to seek refuge in A’zaz and surrounding IDP settlements due to clashes between ISIL and armed opposition groups. In response, WFP partners provided assistance to 20,000 newly displaced people by distributing almost 4,000 food rations.

UN deliveries through Bab Al-Salam (BAS), the only access route to the A’zaz area, were temporarily suspended in April due to security tension in proximity of the border. WFP had completed all planned deliveries for April cycle prior to the suspension.

**Al-Hasakeh Governorate**

Deliveries of humanitarian supplies are being severely affected by the continued access interruption through border crossing points in the governorate. WFP continues to prioritize limited stocks of ready-to-eat rations to respond to the most urgent food needs amongst newly displaced families.

**Jordan**

The situation at the border crossing points remains critical, with the number of people increased to an estimated 52,000 as of 5 May. The total number of registered asylum seekers at the Berm is 36,981. WFP started distributing ready-to-eat-food parcels on 5 March, including fresh foods and bread.

**Lebanon**

The 2015 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) in Lebanon shows a continued deterioration of the food security situation among refugees across the country compared to 2014. WFP is engaging in ongoing targeting exercises to increase its reach to vulnerable populations.

**Iraq**

Political tension in Iraq continues to escalate, stemming from Prime Minister Haidar al-Abadi’s decision to reshuffle the cabinet to tackle corruption. Anti-government protesters temporarily ended their mass demonstration in Baghdad’s International Zone on 1 May, a day after breaking into parliament and storming into the Green Zone.

**Turkey**

WFP is working closely with its implementing partner the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) to significantly expand assistance to vulnerable Syrians with a view to support up to 735,000 people in 2016. The increase is in line with projections in the Regional Resilience Response Plan (3RP) and the Government of Turkey’s expectations.

**Egypt**

With the current inflation in Egypt minimizing purchasing power of voucher values, a dynamic system was introduced in the whole region. The system will monitor those currently receiving assistance and those that have been excluded based on a vulnerability criteria, in order to show the changes in their food security status.

**WFP Response:**

**Syria**

In April, WFP delivered food assistance for 3.9 million people in 13 of the 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, more than 748,000 people in areas suffering from access constraints in Aleppo, Idlib, and Dar’a, were reached through cross-border deliveries from Turkey and Jordan.

In April, WFP reached 17 hard-to-reach and besieged locations in Homs, Aleppo, Idlib, and Rural Damascus governorates through a series of inter-agency convoys, providing life-saving food assistance for 364,500 people in urgent need of food assistance.

On 10 April, in coordination with Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), WFP successfully launched its airdrop operation into the besieged government held areas of Deir Ezzor City. In April, WFP completed 18 airdrop rotations delivering life-saving food assistance, almost 312 metric tons of food commodities, for the first time since March 2014. In light of the dire humanitarian situation caused by the continued besiegement, the food commodities were immediately used to provide partial food rations for all 20,000 families (approximately 100,000 people).
In April, WFP assisted approximately 523,000 people through e-cards and paper voucher in camps and host communities.

At the Berm in April, WFP reached 35,410 beneficiaries through ready-to-eat food parcels, bread distribution, and fresh fruits and vegetables.

In April, WFP assisted around 615,000 people through e-cards and school feeding.

WFP continued its provision of technical assistance to the Government of Lebanon in turn providing food assistance through e-cards to 5,075 vulnerable Lebanese households (27,208 beneficiaries).

During April, the school meals activity continued for its second month. 10,000 Lebanese and Syrian primary pupils now receive a ready-to-eat snack four times a week.

WFP assisted around 45,000 Syrian refugees in camps using e-cards through the SCOPE platform. Cash pilot distributions continued in Akre, Dohuk governorate in March, with 850 Syrian refugees receiving unrestricted cash.

In April, 100,000 off-camp people received their WFP/TRC e-card, while WFP continued to support approximately 150,000 Syrians through its e-card programme in eleven camps in the south-east of Turkey.

The value of the entitlement for off-campus assisted people has been increased from 50TL to 62TL per month per person, i.e. the full value of the referential food basket in Turkey.

In April, WFP reached around 65,000 beneficiaries, including 2,947 Palestinian refugees from Syria.

An inter-agency vulnerability assessment began in Egypt on 26 April. The Egyptian Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR), aims to enhance targeting and support planning of food security interventions in 2016 and beyond, for both WFP and other partners.

**Partnerships:**

**New partnership with UNDP**

Under the Joint Employment Opportunity Assessment with UNDP, WFP will partner with other relevant entities, including private sector partners and government platforms, to assess market demand and create data platforms capable of providing ongoing market information to increase information responsiveness for WFP, its partners, and the private sector in Syria and the region.

The WFP emergency response is implemented through 34 partners, including the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), 21 local NGOs operating inside Syria, two international NGO (the Aga Khan Foundation and Action Contre la Faim) operating inside Syria, and ten INGO partners facilitating distribution of supplies delivered through cross-border missions.

Across the five regional countries for the refugee operation, WFP works with a number of strategic government partners and donors, international and local NGOs, sister agencies, financial agencies, and retail partners across the region to deliver assistance to those in need.
Funding overview

Following the generous pledges announced at the London Conference, which have not all been confirmed, WFP needs USD 171 million to fund activities through 2016. This includes funding required for WFP operations inside Syria for November and December 2016 (USD 107 million).

Finally, WFP is seeking an initial USD 15 million for start-up projects that would lay the foundation of longer-term resilience, under the Syria + 5 Vision 2020.

For further information contact:
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### Fighting Hunger Worldwide

**SYRIA +5 REGIONAL RESPONSE UPDATE - APRIL DISTRIBUTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>IDPs/ Registered Refugees</th>
<th>Targeted Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Assisted Beneficiaries</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Money Injected in Local Economies</th>
<th>Modalities Used</th>
<th>Cash Based Transfer Value (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SYRIA</td>
<td>6,500,000</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>3,893,595</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>USD 1.9 m</td>
<td>Family Food Basket, Supplementary feeding, Paper vouchers, School Feeding Snacks</td>
<td>Pregnant and lactating women 20*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEBANON</td>
<td>1,048,275</td>
<td>808,208</td>
<td>615,643</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>USD 633 m</td>
<td>Cash Based Transfers - using E-cards, School Feeding Snacks</td>
<td>Vulnerable 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JORDAN</td>
<td>642,868</td>
<td>570,000</td>
<td>559,044</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>USD 508 m</td>
<td>Cash Based Transfers - using E-cards, School Feeding Snacks</td>
<td>Vulnerable 14.1, Extremely Vulnerable 28.3 (Jordan Camps 28.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TURKEY</td>
<td>2,749,862</td>
<td>280,000</td>
<td>255,000</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>USD 161 m</td>
<td>Cash Based Transfers - using E-cards</td>
<td>Vulnerable 23.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGYPT</td>
<td>119,655</td>
<td>70,877</td>
<td>65,164</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>USD 60 m</td>
<td>Cash Based Transfers - using E-cards and paper vouchers</td>
<td>Vulnerable 24.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRAQ</td>
<td>246,123</td>
<td>71,500</td>
<td>45,893</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>USD 61 m</td>
<td>Cash Based Transfers using SCOPE Cash Pilot</td>
<td>Vulnerable 19, Extremely Vulnerable 28.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED IN SYRIA**

- **37 Partners in Syria**
- **USD 1.37 billion Money Injected in the Region**
- **29 Partners in the Region**

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED IN THE REGION**

- **6.5 million IDPs inside Syria**
- **5,434,339 Assisted in Syria and the Region**
- **4.8 million Refugees in the Region**