



World Food Programme



ONE FUTURE
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WFP Syria Situation Report #12

December 2016

In Numbers

13.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance

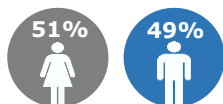
6.3 million people internally displaced

9 million people in need of food assistance

Highlights

- WFP provided food assistance for 3.5 million people in 13 of the 14 governorates
- Government forces took control of eastern Aleppo city, resulting in the displacement of more than 120,000 people.
- Funding is urgently needed for the new PRRO in order to avoid any gaps in coverage.

3.5 million people assisted
December 2016



GENDER MARKER 1 EMOP 200339

Global Humanitarian Funding

Overall: USD 3.19 billion
WFP share: USD 660 million

WFP 6-month Net Funding Requirements (January –June 2017)

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation USD 253 million

Logistics and ETC Cluster USD 5.4 million

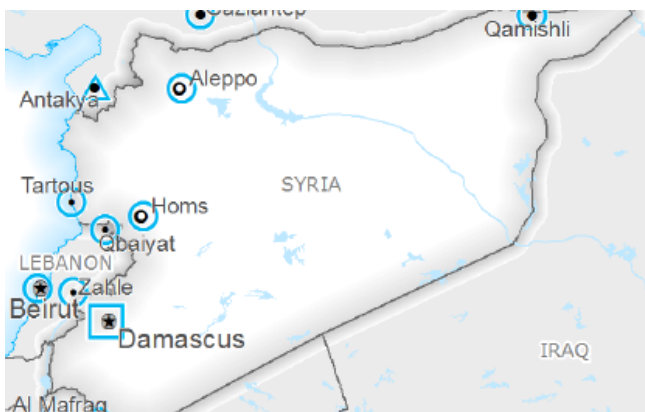


Photo: Displaced children carry cooked meals provided by a local charity in the Al-Mashatiyeh neighbourhood of eastern Aleppo city, where UN and partners are distributing key relief items. ©UNHCR/Bassem Diab

Situation Update

- Heavy fighting was reported across several parts of Syria in the month of December, resulting in the displacement of more than 135,000 people during just one month. In Aleppo, government forces took full control of the city after it had been divided since 2012, while at the same time ISIL recaptured the ancient city of Palmyra. By the end of the month, the Syrian government and armed opposition groups reached an agreement for a nationwide ceasefire, excluding ISIL and other extremist groups. The ceasefire – the third in 2016 – came into effect at midnight 30 December, but has to date not led to a complete cessation of hostilities throughout the country.

Aleppo City

- Eastern Aleppo city (EAC) came under full control of the Syrian government on 22 December following the evacuation of an estimated 36,000 people from the city to opposition-held areas in western rural Aleppo and Idlib governorate. Prior to the evacuation, government forces had launched a major military operation against formerly opposition held areas in EAC in early December, which triggered the displacement of 90,000 people. People sought refuge across the city in both eastern and western neighborhoods, resulting in an alarming humanitarian situation due to the large number of displaced civilians in combination with freezing temperatures.
- In response, WFP’s office in Aleppo rapidly mobilized ready-to eat rations and monthly food parcels, providing assistance for 39,000 people by early January. In order to ensure a rapid and comprehensive response, WFP established seven new food distribution points in EAC covering 30

neighborhoods in cooperation with partners on the ground. Furthermore, WFP provided bulk food for two communal kitchens to provide 20,000 people with two hot meals per day, as well as bread for more than 50,000 people on a daily basis. The people who were evacuated to Idleb and western rural Aleppo governorate received ready-to-eat rations through WFP's cross-border partners operating from Turkey.

Foah and Kefraya, Idleb governorate

- Furthermore, as part of the evacuation deal in Aleppo city, more than 1,300 people were evacuated from the besieged towns of Foah and Kefraya in Idleb governorate. These people were initially moved to temporary IDP centres in Aleppo, from where most of them moved on to Tartous, Homs and Lattakia. All the evacuees were assisted by WFP's partners.

Palmyra, Homs governorate

- The ancient city of Palmyra and its surrounding areas were recaptured by ISIL forces during the first half of December, resulting in the displacement of more than 3,300 people. Most people sought refuge in Homs city, while others stayed in nearby safer areas. In response, WFP provided food assistance for almost 2,800 people while the remaining IDPs received assistance from other humanitarian actors. Previously, Palmyra was under ISIL control between May 2015 and March 2016.

Wadi Barada area, Rural Damascus governorate

- The escalation of hostilities in the besieged area of Wadi Barada in Rural Damascus governorate in late December led to the displacement of some 6,000 people. Hostilities resulted in the partial destruction of the water plant in the area that provides Rural Damascus governorate and Damascus city with drinking water, causing severe water shortages in the affected areas. WFP and its partners are closely monitoring the situation and are conducting an assessment in order to provide assistance to the affected people.

South-western Dar'a governorate

- In the southern governorate of Dar'a, thousands of people were displaced from Barqa, Faqie and the Yarmouk valley in December due to fighting between government forces and opposition groups. In response, WFP provided ready-to-eat rations for more than 5,400 people who sought refuge in Tassil, Jlein, Saham El Golan, Quneitra, Mzeireb and Dar'a.

Al Hawl camp, Al Hasakeh governorate

- Almost 12,000 Iraqi refugees have sought refuge at Al-Hawl IDP camp in eastern Al-Hasakeh governorate to date, after Iraqi forces with the support of an international coalition launched a large-scale anti-ISIL offensive in October to regain control of the Iraqi city of Mosul. WFP has assisted almost 10,000 Iraqis in the camp, while the remaining people are being assisted by other humanitarian actors.

WFP Response

- WFP delivered food assistance for 3.5 million people in 13 of the 14 Syrian governorates in December, achieving 89 percent of the monthly plan. Approximately 22 percent of the assistance was delivered to high conflict areas across the country, including hard-to-reach and besieged areas, through cross-border, cross-line and air operations. Through cross-border deliveries from Turkey and Jordan, WFP provided assistance for 682,000 people living in opposition held areas in Aleppo, Idleb, Hama and Dar'a governorates.
- Furthermore, through only one inter-agency convoy to the besieged area of Khan Elshih in Rural Damascus, WFP delivered food assistance for 2,000 people as well as fortified date bars for 2,200 children. Additional food assistance was delivered by other humanitarian actors for another 5,000 people. This was the first time since 2012 that WFP was able to reach the area, which has been under a truce agreement since November 2016.
- The number of people that were reached through inter-agency convoys in December was substantially lower than previous months, mainly as a result of a lack of approvals as well as a volatile security situation on the ground.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP provided nutrition products for 178,000 children aged 6-59 months for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies through in-country and cross-border deliveries. Furthermore, WFP dispatched nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in 475 children in Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) centres in Homs and Lattakia governorate, sufficient for a period of three months.
- Through Cash-Based-Transfers (CBT), WFP enabled more than 12,000 pregnant and nursing mothers to purchase fresh food products at eight selected retailers in Homs and Lattakia governorates. Preparations continued during the month of December to expand the programme to Rural Damascus governorate; staff from two cooperating partners were trained on the implementation of the programme while WFP continued the search for additional retailers.
- The fortified school snacks programme provided date bars for more than 237,000 children in some 500 elementary schools across the country. Furthermore, following the launch of the pilot project for out-of-school-children (OOSC) in Homs and Lattakia governorates previous month, 393 children and their families received CBT assistance. By providing the OOSC with a CBT of USD 23, parents are encouraged to send their children back to UNICEF Curriculum B

supported schools, where children attend intensive classes to make up for missed schooling.

Livelihood and Resilience Projects

- WFP currently implements four different livelihood and resilience projects in six governorates across the country. Projects focus on improving the food security of beneficiaries by distributing agriculture inputs and providing trainings to provide beneficiaries the opportunity to establish long-term self-profitable businesses. This includes a beekeeping project to re-establish the beekeeping value-chain as well as a project that strengthens local food production and processing systems. Another project aims to rehabilitate bakeries that have been destroyed over the course of the conflict to improve access to bread for the targeted areas.
- During the reporting period, WFP distributed food assistance for 3,000 people across two different projects, while agriculture inputs and trainings were provided to the participants. Furthermore, inputs were provided to support the production line of the bakeries that are being rehabilitated.



Supply Chain

- By the end of the reporting period, WFP had carried out 168 airdrop rotations to the besieged parts of Deir Ezzor city, of which 12 airdrops were conducted in December, delivering 3,112 mt of WFP food commodities as well as various supplies on behalf of other humanitarian actors since the operation was launched on 10 April. WFP has so far dropped sufficient quantities to provide three full monthly food rations to all people identified as in need of assistance. Current quantities airdropped are being used in support of a fourth round of distributions.
- Emergency airlifts to Al-Hasakeh governorate by the WFP-led Logistics Cluster also continued during the reporting period, completing 54 airlifts during the month of December. The number of flights increased by 15 percent compared to the month of November as a second aircraft was deployed in order to increase the capacity to airlift humanitarian supplies. Since the operation was launched in July 2016, WFP has been able to dispatch food assistance for over 190,000 people in urban and rural areas in Al-Hasakeh governorate. Furthermore, these airlifts enabled WFP to preposition ready-to-eat food rations for some 125,000 people as an emergency stock in anticipation of a possible influx of displaced people from Ar-Raqqa and refugees from Iraq in the wake of the ongoing anti-ISIL military campaign.

Clusters and Common Services



Food Security Sector

- In December, the Sector continued to support partners as they rolled out the Outcome Monitoring Initiative. This initiative uses a harmonized tool on core indicators so that partners across hubs can measure the outcome of food assistance and livelihoods activities. A meeting for data analysis experts is planned for early January to conduct the actual data analysis and produce preliminary results.
- The food sector also led consultations with the technical line ministries on the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan, focusing on the sector's strategy and targets. The technical line ministries suggested several inputs to the strategy, which are currently under consideration by OCHA and the Humanitarian Coordinator.
- Furthermore, the sector continued to coordinate with partners in Aleppo in response to the recent population displacement. While the focus has been on the immediate response and the short-term preparedness plan in light of the increased population movements, there is now an urgent need to work with other sectors to put in place a medium-term response plan including early recovery activities.



Logistics Cluster

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster continued to provide coordination services, information management and logistics support to the humanitarian community operating within Syria. In December, the Logistics Cluster facilitated an inter-agency humanitarian convoy to one besieged location in Rural Damascus governorate. A total of 423 m³ of relief cargo was transported, including WASH, nutrition, education, shelter, food and health items.
- In addition, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the storage of 5,186 m³ of newly received humanitarian goods in common storage facilities in Qamishly in Al-Hasakeh, Tartous, Homs and Rural Damascus on behalf of six humanitarian agencies. Another 5,079 m³ of relief cargo, including shelter, health and education supplies, was transported by the cluster on behalf of four humanitarian agencies.
- Lastly, the Cluster facilitated 54 airlift rotations between Damascus and Qamishly, transporting 4,103 m³ of much needed humanitarian supplies on behalf of five humanitarian agencies, including WFP.

Resourcing Update

On 1 January, WFP replaced the Emergency Operation (EMOP), that had been in place since 2011, with a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO). Throughout the coming two years, WFP will provide assistance to 5.74 million people and shift from

humanitarian food assistance to recovery and livelihood activities.

- However, in order to do so, WFP urgently requires additional funding in order to cover the operational needs during the first months of the operation.
- Although WFP is very grateful to the donors who already made contributions, a 35 percent shortfall amounting to USD 67.6 million still exists to cover the needs until the end of March. An even greater shortfall exists until the end of June; USD 253 million, which represents 66 percent of the requirements.
- Given the 2-3 month procurement lead-time to have commodities in the country ready for distribution, food commodities bought with contributions received in January will not be ready for distribution before April.
- Consequently, WFP has already been forced to apply difficult measures for January and February in order

to provide assistance to the vulnerable population with the limited funds available. This includes a reduction in the number of beneficiaries across all the different programme modalities, as well as a reduced food basket, during a time when needs are particularly high due to cold winter weather.

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www.wfp.org/countries/Syria
<http://cdn.wfp.org/syriainfo/syria.html>

WFP Operation						
	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)	People Assisted (December 2016)	Female	Male
EMOP 200339 (Nov 2011 – Dec 2016)	2 844 million	1 753 million	0	3 542 685	1 806 769	1 735 916
General Food Distribution				3 542 685	1 806 769	1 735 916
Cash Based Transfers (PLW)				12 032	12 032	0
Fortified School Snacks Programme				237 097	120 919	116 178
Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme				178 162	90 863	87 299
Targeted Treatment Programme				475	242	233