In Numbers

3.5 m people assisted in June 2019

46,764 mt of food assistance delivered

US$ 2.4 m in cash-based transfers made

US$ 178.8 m six-month net funding requirement (August 2019 – January 2020)

Operational Context

The conflict in Syria has entered its eighth year, taking a devastating toll on the lives of the Syrian people. The largest displacement crisis since World War II, some 6.2 million Syrians are internally displaced and 5.7 million are registered as refugees outside of the country.

Soaring food and fuel prices, stagnant salaries, loss of livelihoods and reduced food production have led to widespread food insecurity across the country. There are 6.5 million people unable to meet their food needs and a further 2.5 million people at risk of food insecurity, according to the 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview. While 2018 has seen a significant change in conflict lines, some 1.2 million people in need remain in hard-to-reach areas with irregular access, leaving them particularly exposed to food insecurity.

Since 2011, WFP has been providing food, nutrition and livelihoods assistance to conflict-affected Syrian families in the country. WFP has been active in Syria since 1964.

Population: 18 million

2018 Human Development Index: 155 out of 188

Income Level: Low-income

Chronic malnutrition: 81,700 of children between 6-59 months

Operational Updates

- In June, WFP delivered General Food Assistance (GFA) for 3.5 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, 23 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas not accessible from inside Syria, including Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates. WFP delivered food assistance to some 320,000 people in 69 locations across Syria, defined by the United Nations as hard-to-reach.

- Fighting across north-western Syria continued unabated, with heavy shelling, airstrikes and clashes reported in areas of northern Hama, southern Idlib and western Aleppo governorates. The recent escalation in conflict has so far displaced some 330,000 people, mainly towards northern Idlib and Aleppo governorates. WFP continued its emergency food assistance, providing more than 233,000 people with ready-to-eat rations (RTEs) since 1 May. In June, WFP scaled up the GFA provided across the north-west and targeted 823,000 people, an 18 percent increase from May 2019. Given the growing needs among the population, a further scale-up is planned for July to provide 1,900 kcal per person/day food rations.

- Based on the results of a beneficiary selection tool exercise implemented by WFP to assess the current 823,000 beneficiaries targeted under the GFA programme and to identify additional eligible beneficiaries across the north-west, WFP will increase the target to cover 933,000 beneficiaries in July.

- Should the situation in the north-west deteriorate further, WFP remains ready to respond with strategic stocks of RTEs, food rations as well as nutrition supplies pre-positioned inside Idlib governorate, in other hubs inside Syria, as well as in Turkey.

- WFP and FAO, in cooperation with Syria’s Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (MAAR), conducted their annual Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) from 9 June to 4 July.
**WFP Country Strategy**

### Interim Requirement Strategic Plan (2019–2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.39 bn</td>
<td>398.2 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>737.8 m</td>
<td>178.8 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food insecure populations affected by the crisis, including host communities, IDPs and returnees, in all governorates, have access to life-saving food to meet their basic food needs all year round.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

**Activities:**
- Provision of general food assistance in the form of regular in-kind monthly food rations and ready-to-eat rations in the initial phase of displacement.
- Provision of school feeding for pre- and primary school children in regular schools and CBT to out-of-school children enrolled in informal education or alternate learning opportunities.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food insecure families in urban and rural areas affected by the crisis are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and increase their self-reliance throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**
- Provision of livelihood support through household- and communal-level asset creation through food assistance for assets (FFA) activities and enhanced human capital through food assistance for training (FFT).

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Nutritionally vulnerable groups, especially children and pregnant and lactating women and girls, across the Syrian Arab Republic have reduced levels of malnutrition throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**
- Prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in children aged 6–23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls.
- Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls.

### Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Humanitarian partners across the Syrian Arab Republic benefit from augmented logistics and emergency telecommunications capacity and services, enabling them to provide humanitarian assistance throughout the crisis.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

**Activities:**
- Provide coordination, information management, capacity development and shared logistics services to sector partners that face logistics gaps.
- Provide shared ICT services, emergency telecommunications coordination and information technology (IT) emergency preparedness training to humanitarian organizations in common operational areas.
- Provide technical assistance and support services to humanitarian partners.

The mission assessed the country's food production levels for the 2018/19 agricultural season and reviewed the food security situation in 10 out of Syria’s 14 governorates. The full CFSAM report will be released in September.

- Across Ar-Raqqā, Deir Ezzor and Al-Hasakah governorates, some 37,000 hectares have been affected by fires. Fires across the country can be attributed to a number of possible causes, including high-temperature levels, deliberate acts, accidental events, or as a result of projectiles or landmines. Preliminary findings from the annual CFSAM, conducted by WFP and FAO, suggest that the recent fires have had little impact on crop production on a national scale; however, the ramifications on the livelihoods of individual farmers could be serious.
- In June, WFP and its partner, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, conducted a joint rapid needs assessment in 12 locations across Dar’a and Quneitra governorates. Following the assessment, WFP will now implement a three-month transitional Emergency Food Assistance programme in the newly accessible areas of Dar’a and Quneitra.
- Since late March, some 15,600 people have left the Rukban settlement and arrived in Homs governorate, 37 percent of the total pre-outflux settlement population of 41,700. WFP, through the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, provides assistance through RTEs to all arrivals at the collective shelters.

### Monitoring

- In June, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 320 on-site monitoring (OSM) checklists across all 14 governorates to monitor GFA distributions, bread distributions, school feeding activities, livelihood activities, nutrition activities, cash-based transfer redemptions and warehouses.
- Of the OSM checklists conducted, WFP monitors conducted 78 checklists, equivalent to 24 percent direct WFP monitoring coverage. The rest of the monitoring checklists were conducted by TPMs in areas not accessible to WFP staff due to the security situation, lack of approvals or temporary logistical constraints.

### Challenges

- While conflict lines are shifting, humanitarian access to distribute relief assistance, assess needs and monitor remains a challenge, particularly in hard-to-reach areas. The United Nations continues to call on all parties to facilitate unconditional, unimpeded and sustained access to all people in need throughout the country.
- WFP Syria continues to implement its activities at a reduced level in line with available and projected funding. Additional and timely funding is needed due to the long procurement lead time of up to four months.

### Donors

The largest donors to WFP Syria in 2019 ranked by contributions: Germany, European Commission, Canada, Japan, Kuwait.