



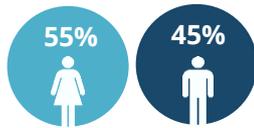
WFP Syria Situation Report #12

December 2020



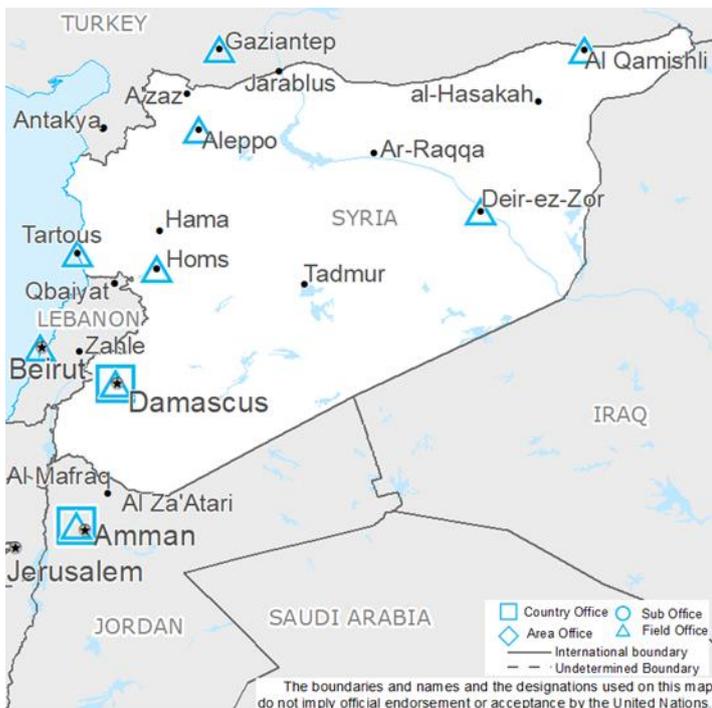
5 million people assisted

December 2020 (based on dispatches)



WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP)

<p>2020 Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan</p>	<p>Overall requirement: USD 3.82 billion</p>
	<p>WFP share: USD 1.07 billion</p>
<p>WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirement (January 2021 – June 2021)</p> <p>WFP Syria 2019-2020 Interim Country Strategic Plan (November 2018)</p> <p>Interim Country Strategic Plan Revision 03 (December 2020)</p>	<p>USD 365.6 m As of 08 January 2021</p>



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Further information: www1.wfp.org/countries/syrian-arab-republic

In Numbers

6.7 million people internally displaced

9.3 million people food insecure

2.2 million people at risk of food insecurity

Highlights

- WFP dispatched assistance for 5 million people across all activities in Syria in December.
- Food prices in Syria continue to soar in December, increasing by 13 percent from November. Food prices have increased by 236 percent year-on-year and are now 29 times higher than the five-year pre-crisis average.
- WFP completes rehabilitation works at two bakeries in Aleppo and Dar'a governorates, benefiting some 90,000 people.
- As a winterization measure, WFP started distributing a double ready-to-eat-ration (RTE) for the families in north-western Syria that have been confirmed vulnerable by WFP but could not be included in the regular WFP caseload due to funding constraints.

Situation Update

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

- As of end December, approximately 39,499 COVID-19 cases and 1,203 deaths had been confirmed across all areas of Syria. This includes 11,344 cases and 711 deaths reported in government-controlled areas as of 31 December; 20,131 cases and 221 deaths reported in north-western Syria as of 30 December, and 8,024 cases and 271 deaths reported in north-eastern Syria as of 30 December.
- In north-eastern Syria, Kurdish authorities extended the partial lockdown imposed across all Kurdish-held areas (including Qamishli city, where WFP's field office is located) until 19 January 2021, due to an increase in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases reported in the areas. WFP activities in the areas are continuing normally, taking all necessary precautions in line with the country office-developed COVID-19 mitigation measures and standard operating procedures.

Economic Situation

- Food prices in Syria continue to soar in December, according to the latest WFP data released in January 2021. The nationwide average price of the WFP standard reference food basket increased by 13 percent from November, reaching SYP 111,676. This is the highest level recorded since WFP started collecting food price data in Syria in 2013.
- The increase in food prices in December is mainly led by the depreciation of the Syrian pound in the informal market as well as the price increase of key food-items. Further, renewed fuel shortages across Syria further contributed to the food basket price increase.
- Food prices were in December 33 percent higher than just six months ago, and 236 percent higher than in December 2019. Food prices are now 29 times higher than the five-year pre-crisis average.
- The Central Bureau of Statistics of Syria reported an average inflation rate of 200 percent in 2020 compared to 2019, with goods inflation reaching 300 percent.

North-Western Syria

- The security situation in north-western Syria remained volatile in December, with several reports of artillery shelling and rocket attacks targeting areas around the frontlines of southern Idlib governorate.
- As a winterization measure, WFP is distributing a double ready-to-eat-ration (RTE) for the families in north-western Syria that have been confirmed vulnerable through WFP assessment conducted using the beneficiary selection tool but could not be included in the regular WFP caseload due to funding constraints. The double RTE-distributions commenced in December and will continue for three months. In December, some 18,800 people received RTEs.
- Under the December cycle, WFP distributed GFA to 4.7 million people and reached 284,277 children aged 6-23 months with nutrition support in north-western Syria.

Southern Syria

- In Dar'a governorate, bakery rehabilitation works in the town of Dar'a Al-Balad have been finalized and the bakery is set to open to the public on 17 January. The project was conducted in cooperation with Première Urgence Internationale. The bakery will now be able to provide fresh bread to some 40,000 people each day.

Northern Syria

- WFP finalized rehabilitation works at one bakery in the Qadi Askar neighbourhood of eastern Aleppo city in December. The Qadi Askar neighbourhood is located in

the eastern part of Aleppo city, and was under the control of non-state armed groups until late 2016. The bakery is now operational, providing fresh bread to around 50,000 people each day.

WFP Response

- WFP dispatched humanitarian assistance sufficient for an estimated 5 million people across all activities in Syria in December.
- A total of USD 2.8 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) was distributed to 141,800 WFP beneficiaries across four activities: General Food Assistance (GFA-CBT pilot); School Feeding (support to out-of-school children); Malnutrition Prevention (support to pregnant and lactating women); and Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets.
- In response to COVID-19, and under agreement with UNFPA, CBT top-ups at a total value of USD 854,200 were distributed, allowing the households of the 76,630 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) assisted by WFP to purchase hygiene items (benefitting some 383,150 people).
- As part of the Health Sector-led response to COVID-19 in Syria, WFP, in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) had by the end of December provided food assistance to some 13,950 people in ten quarantine and nine isolation centres in Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Latakia, Tartous, and Rural Damascus governorates. The project is funded through the Syria Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF).

General Food Assistance (GFA) Programme

- In December, WFP dispatched GFA sufficient for some 4.7 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 29 percent of the total WFP general food assistance dispatched. This includes food rations for some 1.36 million people areas of Idlib and Aleppo governorate inaccessible from inside Syria.
- Working with UNICEF, soap is included in all WFP GFA food rations.

Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets

- WFP reached some 61,000 people under its livelihoods, resilience and social safety-nets-projects across Rural Damascus, Dar'a, Quneitra, As-Sweida, Homs, Hama, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, Aleppo, Latakia, Tartous and Deir Ezzor governorates.
- As part of the COVID-10 response, WFP continue to make hygiene items available to beneficiaries of the Livelihoods and Resilience programme receiving CBT.

School Feeding Programme

- In December, WFP assisted 481,200 children with in-school provision of fortified snacks.
- WFP reached some 29,500 school children with fresh meals in Aleppo city in December.
- WFP supported 22,618 out-of-school children with food vouchers in Damascus, Rural Damascus, Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Al-Hasakeh, Lattakia and Tartous. The registration process for new out-of-school students in the UNICEF-supported “Curriculum B” accelerated learning programme is still ongoing, and newly enrolled children will start receiving assistance starting next month.

Nutrition Programme

- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 284,300 children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). This includes 76,300 PLWG who received nutrition support through CBT to purchase fresh food from WFP-contracted shops.
- WFP dispatched nutrition products sufficient for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 2,850 children and PLWG for one month.

Clusters and Common Services

Logistics Cluster

- Facilitating the cross-border operation from Turkey, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster transshipped 930 Syrian trucks from Turkey in December. A total of 18,433 mt of Health, WASH, Education, Protection and Shelter items were transshipped on behalf of WFP, IOM, UNHCR, UNFPA, WHO and UNICEF.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- In December, UNHAS Syria completed ten rotations on the Damascus-Qamishli-Damascus-route, transporting 199 passengers and 4.9 mt of light cargo. Of the passengers transported, 64 percent were UN staff, and 36 percent were staff from national and international non-governmental organisations.

Resourcing Update

- WFP requires USD 365.6 million to keep operations running at current levels through June 2021.

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For further information, visit the [WFP Syria website](#).

WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

	2020 Requirement (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirement (January 2021 - June 2021)	People Assisted (December 2020 dispatches)	Female	Male
ICSP (January 2019 – December 2020)	1.07 billion	365.6 million	4,960,306		
Activity 1: General Food Assistance			4,712,630	2,591,947	2,120,684
Activity 2: School Feeding			533,339	261,336	272,003
Activity 3: Livelihoods and Resilience			60,950	33,523	27,428
Activity 4: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			284,277	182,352	101,925
Activity 5: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			2,855	1,684	1,171