



World Food Programme

# WFP Syria Situation Report #1

January 2021



**4.8 million people assisted**

January 2021 (based on dispatches)



WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP)

<b>2021 Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan</b>	Overall requirement: USD 4.2 billion
	WFP share: USD 1.2 billion
<b>WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirement</b> (February 2021 – July 2021)	<b>USD 377.7 m</b> As of 22 January 2021
<a href="#">WFP Syria 2019-2020 Interim Country Strategic Plan</a> (November 2018)	
<a href="#">Interim Country Strategic Plan Revision 03</a> (December 2020)	

## In Numbers

**12.4 million** people food insecure

**1.3 million** severely food insecure

**6.7 million** people internally displaced

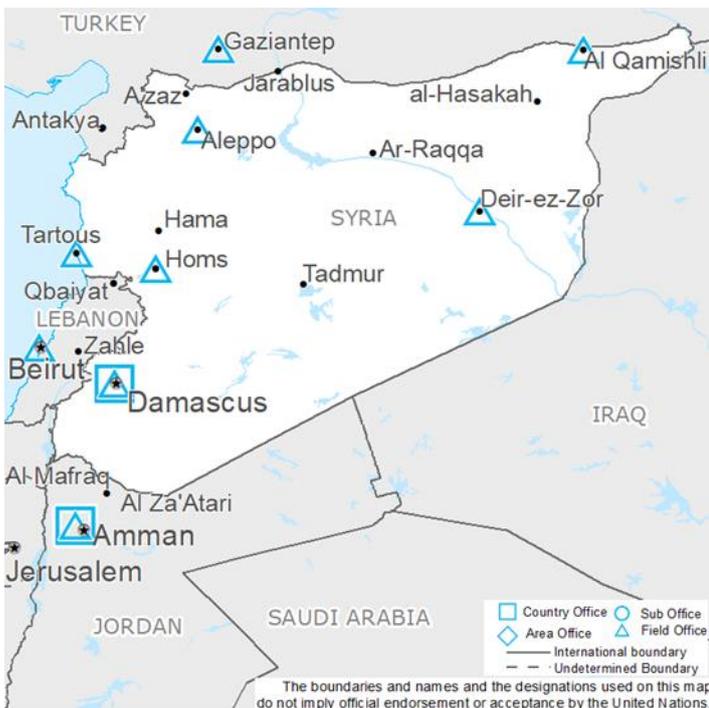
## Highlights

- A record 12.4 million people, 60 percent of the Syrian population, are now food insecure, according to the results of the nationwide food security assessment conducted in late 2020; by far the highest number ever recorded.
- The number of people food insecure has increased by 4.5 million people in just one year, with the number of people *severely* food insecure more than doubling.
- Floods caused by heavy rainfall severely impacted IDP sites in north-western Syria, with thousands of WFP beneficiaries affected. WFP provided ready-to-eat rations to some 8,500 affected people in January.
- At least two people were killed, and several others injured in two separate bomb explosions in Jandaris and Afrin cities of northern Aleppo governorate in early January.

## Situation Update

### Food Security Situation

- 12.4 million people, close to 60 percent of the total population of Syria, are currently assessed to be food insecure, according to the results of the nationwide food security and livelihoods assessment conducted by WFP and the Whole-of-Syria Food Security Sector over the fourth quarter of 2020.
- The assessment results reveal the worst food security situation ever seen in Syria, even during the peak of the crisis, with a staggering 57 percent (4.5 million people) increase in the prevalence of food insecurity since 2019.
- 1.3 million people were found to be *severely* food insecure; an increase of 124 percent year-on-year. An additional 1.8 million people were assessed to be at risk of falling into food insecurity.
- The deterioration seen is primarily the result of protracted conflict and mass population displacement that has eroded livelihoods and resilience,



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Further information: [www1.wfp.org/countries/syrian-arab-republic](http://www1.wfp.org/countries/syrian-arab-republic)

Photo: A child from north-western Syria with WFP-provided nutrition product. ©WFP's Cooperating Partner

compounded by a devastating economic crisis since 2019.

- In response to the findings, WFP is preparing to revise its [2019-2021 Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan](#) to increase the number of people targeted for food assistance in line with the increased needs. However, WFP will require significant additional funding to be able to scale-up the beneficiaries it is able to reach under its general food assistance programme.

### COVID-19 Pandemic

- As of end January, approximately 43,151 COVID-19 cases and 1,610 deaths had been confirmed across all areas of Syria. This includes 13,762 cases and 895 deaths reported in government-controlled areas; 20,939 cases and 426 deaths reported in north-western Syria, and 8,450 cases and 289 deaths reported in north-eastern Syria as of 27 January.

### North-Western Syria

- At least two people were killed, and several others injured in two separate bomb explosions in Jandaris and Afrin cities of northern Aleppo governorate in early January. In response, the United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria, Mr. Imran Riza, and Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Syria Crisis, Mr. Muhannad Hadi, issued a statement, strongly condemning the attacks.
- Floods caused by heavy rainfall have severely impacted IDP sites in north-western Syria, with thousands of WFP beneficiaries affected. WFP and its cooperating partners are participating in the emergency response through the distribution of ready-to-eat rations (RTEs) to people affected by the floods and had assisted some 8,100 people by the end of January, with distributions ongoing.

### North-eastern Syria

- Tensions between government forces and the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in the Al-Hasakeh and Qamishli (Al-Hasakeh governorate) delayed the distribution of WFP food assistance for some 200,000 people in January. WFP extended the January cycle for ten days to complete distributions, following the receipt of necessary clearances.
- The security situation in Al-Hol camp continued to deteriorate in January. On 21 January, the United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator in Syria, Imran Riza, and Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Syria Crisis, Muhannad Hadi, [issued](#) a joint statement on the deteriorating situation. WFP operations in the camp are ongoing.

### Southern Syria

- On 12 January, the new WFP Country Director and Country Representative, Mr. Sean O'Brien, visited Tishreen bakery in the town of Dar'a Al-Balad (Dara'a governorate), which was rehabilitated in cooperation with Première Urgence Internationale under WFP's "Farm-to-Bread"- value chain/food system concept. The bakery now provides fresh bread to some 40,000 people each day.
- During the visit, the first batch of bread was tried with success. Furthermore, positive feedback and appreciation for the project was communicated to WFP by local community representatives.

### WFP Response

- WFP dispatched humanitarian assistance sufficient for an estimated 4.8 million people across all activities in Syria in January.
- A total of USD 2.9 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) was distributed to 129,000 WFP beneficiaries across four activities: The 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 844,800 were distributed, allowing the households of the 75,400 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) assisted by WFP to purchase hygiene items (benefitting some 377,200 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, Lattakia, Tartous, and Rural Damascus governorates. The project is funded through the Syria Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF).

### General Food Assistance (GFA) Programme

- In January, WFP dispatched GFA sufficient for some 4.6 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 28 percent of the total WFP general food assistance dispatched. This includes food rations for some 1.3 million people areas of Idlib and Aleppo governorate inaccessible from inside Syria.

### Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets

- WFP reached some 53,500 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, Lattakia, Tartous and Deir Ezzor governorates.

### School Feeding Programme

- WFP assisted 314,900 children with in-school provision of fortified snacks.
- WFP supported 33,300 out-of-school children with food vouchers in Damascus, Rural Damascus, Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Al-Hasakeh, Lattakia, Tartous, Dar'a, Quneitra and Deir Ezzor.

### Nutrition Programme

- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 143,900 children and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG). This includes 75,400 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 5,500 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 1,034 Syrian trucks from Turkey in January. A total of 21,640 mt of Health, WASH, food, and Shelter items were transshipped on behalf of WFP, IOM, UNHCR, UNFPA, WHO and FAO.

### United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- The first flight of the United National Humanitarian Air Service from Damascus to Aleppo took place on 18 January. Since its start, UNHAS has transported over 1,000 passengers on the first UNHAS route which

connects between Damascus and Qamishli (Al-Hasakeh governorate).

- In January, UNHAS Syria completed 15 rotations on the Damascus-Qamishli-Damascus-route as well as on the Damascus-Aleppo-Damascus-route, transporting 211 passengers and 4.8 mt of light cargo. Of the passengers transported, 58 percent were UN staff, and 42 percent were staff from national and international non-governmental organisations.

### Resourcing Update

- WFP requires USD 377.7 million to keep operations running at current levels through July 2021.

### Contacts

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

## WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)

	2021 Requirement (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirement (February 2021 - July 2021)	People Assisted (January 2021 dispatches)	Female	Male
<b>ICSP (January 2019 – December 2021)</b>	<b>1.16 billion</b>	<b>377.7 million</b>	<b>4,755,864</b>		
Activity 1: <b>General Food Assistance</b>			<b>4,629,990</b>	2,546,495	2,083,495
Activity 2: <b>School Feeding</b>			<b>348,159</b>	170,598	177,561
Activity 3: <b>Livelihoods and Resilience</b>			<b>53,500</b>	29,425	24,075
Activity 4: <b>Prevention of Acute Malnutrition</b>			<b>219,361</b>	148,835	70,526
Activity 5: <b>Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</b>			<b>5,485</b>	3,236	2,249