



WFP Syria

North-Eastern Syria Emergency Situation Report #6

29 October 2019

In Numbers

106,000 people internally displaced

12,000 people displaced through cross-border to Iraq

308,210 people reached with WFP emergency food assistance

580,000 people targeted for WFP general food assistance in October

Highlights

- The situation in north-eastern Syria continues to be unpredictable. However, return movement has been reported to the areas of tension, despite continuing reports of sporadic population displacement.
- Displacement across the border to northern Iraq continues, and as of 28 October, more than 12,000 people have now fled into northern Iraq according to UNHCR. Some 11,750 Syrian refugees were assisted upon arrival into northern Iraq Kurdistan Region.
- WFP has so far reached 308,210 people with emergency food assistance, including 139,810 people in Al-Hasakeh and 168,400 people in Ar-Raqqa governorate.



WFP food distribution in Al-Hasakeh city
Photo © WFP/Al-Mawadah Cooperating Partner

Situation Update

- On 27 October, a statement from the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) announced that they would pull their forces away from the Turkish-Syrian border and they would be replaced by border guards of the Government of Syria. However, at the time of reporting, clashes continue to be reported within the “safe zone” between multiple actors.
- According to OCHA as of 29 October, 106,000 people remain displaced from Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Aleppo; 96,855 people have returned to their place of origin.
- Moreover, 340 IDPs moved from their Al-Hasakeh host community to a collective shelter in the same city. These IDPs are from Ras Al Ain and displaced to Al-Hasakeh at the start of the conflict. At this time there are 70 collective shelters across the two governorates.
- The Kurdish Self Administration announced they would start building a new camp in northwest Al-Hasakeh city that is large enough to support up to 13,000 IDPs from the Turkish operation.
- Neworuz camp, which was closed has now re-opened and 30 families arrived on 27 October with another 30 expected in the coming days according to the

International Rescue Committee (IRC). Most of the arrivals were previously in collective shelters in Mabada. IRC will respond with ready-to-eat (RTEs) parcels and WFP will then provide general food assistance.

- The strategic M4 highway connecting Aleppo and eastern Syria remains closed. WFP and its transporters are still using the alternate supply routes to reach the affected areas. However, the opening of a bridge in Deir Ezzor to cross the Euphrates river was announced as open for vehicle traffic. The bridge is located 13 km south-east of the UN Hub in Deir Ez-Zor and may be considered as an additional transport route while M4 route is closed.
- UNHCR indicates that as of 28 October, 12,000 Syrian refugees have crossed the Syrian-Iraqi border, thus marking acceleration of population movement across the border from north-eastern Syria to Iraq. WFP Iraq has so far assisted some 11,750 Syrian refugees since 09 October.

WFP Response

- WFP continues its response to the recently displaced population and to the communities hosting IDPs and has as of 28 October assisted close to 308,210 people with food assistance across Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates, including some 103,945 people assisted with ready-to-eat (RTE) rations to cover food needs over the first days of displacement, as well as 204,265 people provided with general food assistance (GFA) food baskets sufficient to last one month.
- In the coming week, WFP is planning a second round of assistance to the collective shelters with either RTEs or GFA. This will be undertaken close coordination with UNHCR, ICRC and local partners (SARC and NGOs). When cooking facilities are available, GFA will be prioritized for distribution.
- Distributions at Al Roj and Al Areesha camps have been completed, while they are still ongoing in Al Hol camp including the Annex, albeit at a slower pace. Distributions in the Annex were suspended on 28 October due to security concerns and have since resumed.

Assessments

- Market assessments undertaken by WFP's Vulnerability Analysis Mapping (VAM) team in October noted increases in food prices of up to 30 percent across Al-Hasakeh governorate for pulses, bulgur, wheat flour and pasta.
- Additionally, in Ar-Raqqa governorate diesel and butane gas prices have increased significantly (38 percent and 15 percent respectively) largely due to the closure of the M4.
- While not always available, bread prices have remained constant at the government subsidised prices of SYP

50/bundle in Al-Hasakeh and SYP 85/bundle in Ar-Raqqa city

WFP Preparedness

- WFP continues to liaise with the Food Security Sector to identify any food assistance gaps and stands ready to further scale up its operations in north-eastern Syria as, when, and where needed.
- WFP currently has GFA food rations sufficient for 361,680 people, and RTEs sufficient for 113,815 people either in stock or in transit to north-eastern Syria.

Clusters and Common Services

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster continues to provide logistics coordination and information management to identify gaps and bottlenecks and avoid a duplication of efforts, as well as facilitating access to storage, and land transport from Qamishli warehouses to final destination.
- An additional two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) are currently being erected to increase available storage space; completion is anticipated within 7-10 days and access will be facilitated through the Logistics Cluster.
- From 23-27 October, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the reception of 62 m³ of humanitarian cargo at the Qamishli warehouse.

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For more information:

- [WFP Syria](#) on WFP.org
- [Syria Logistics Cluster](#) (led by WFP)
- [Syria Food Security Sector](#) (co-led by WFP)

