



# Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



The Syrian Arab Republic is enduring a protracted humanitarian crisis as a result of ten years of ongoing conflict and insecurity, displacements and damaged infrastructure. Furthermore, the deterioration of the economic situation, diminished incomes, high prices, the effects of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and wildfires worsened food insecurity in 2020.

## Objectives

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is working with partners in the Food Security Sector to:

- Restore and strengthen productive assets and create livelihood opportunities for the targeted populations to contribute to the overall food production and food availability.
- Support self-reliance of affected households by protecting and building productive assets and restoring or creating income-generating opportunities to save and sustain lives.
- Improve communities' capacity to sustain household livelihoods by improving linkages with value chains through the rehabilitation/building of productive infrastructure as well as supporting services, early warning and disaster risk reduction systems.
- Strengthen coordination of the Food Security Sector.

## Activities



### Increase agricultural production

cereal and legume seeds | vegetable packages | poultry packages | water infrastructure | sustainable water management



### Protect livestock assets

livestock feed | emergency animal health



### Support complementary livelihood activities

income-generating activities | agro-processing | cash-based transfers



### Strengthen food security coordination

data collection and analysis on food security, crop production and agricultural input markets | reporting | early warning systems

# Syrian Arab Republic

## Humanitarian Response Plan 2021



to assist

**12 million people**



FAO requires

**USD 170 million**



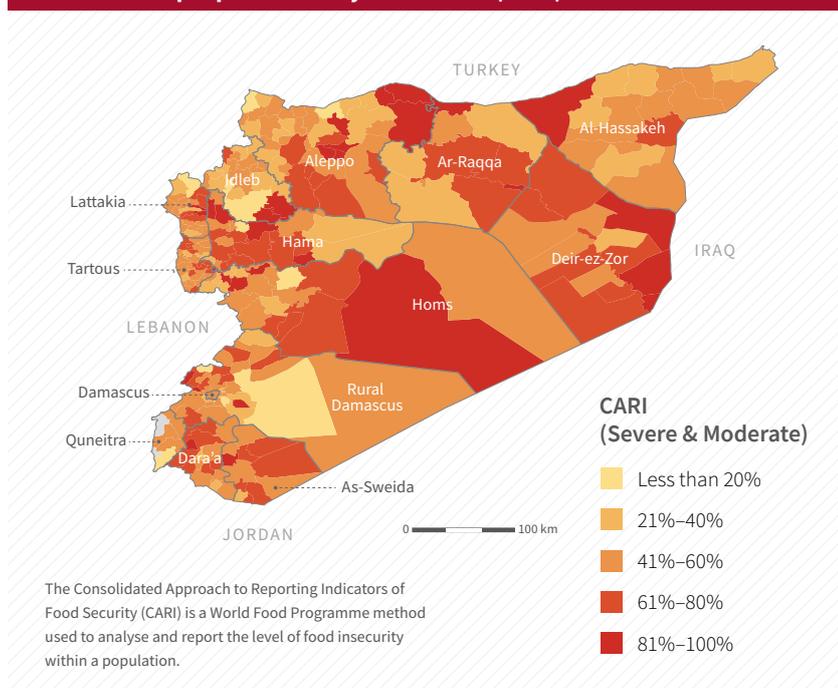
period

**January–December 2021**

To improve food security, it is essential to scale up crop and livestock production through increased agricultural support. Enabling vulnerable households to produce their own food is critical, as food prices remain high.



## Food insecure people in need by sub-district (2021)



Source: Food Security Cluster / Sector Whole of Syria and IMMAP. 2021. Syrian Arab Republic: Food insecurity prevalence 2021. Internal document. Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic.

## Situation analysis



**12.4 million** people food insecure and **1.8 million** people at risk of food insecurity and in need of food security assistance



**6.6 million** people internally displaced of whom **1.7 million** live in refugees camps



**50%** of Syrians spend at least **75%** of their income on food

## Impact on food security

The food security situation deteriorated in the Syrian Arab Republic in 2020, with the number of people facing acute food insecurity rising from 7.9 million in 2020 to a staggering 12.4 million (60 percent of the population) in 2021. This is the result of multiple shocks, including the protracted conflict and insecurity, mass displacement, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, fuel shortages, devastating wildfires and other climate-induced shocks. This has severely degraded livelihoods, and the depreciation of the Syrian currency has led to a significant loss in purchasing power and reduced the value of remittances.

A sharp increase in the cost of inputs and their limited availability on the market has threatened domestic crop production, and vulnerable farmers are not earning enough to recover their investments. This is limiting development in the agriculture sector, and if dependence on cereal imports grows further, particularly in the context of increasing prices, households will find it even more difficult to meet their food needs. In January 2021, the average price of the food basket was 222 percent higher than in January 2020.

The provision of agricultural and livestock inputs is vital to contribute to the development of the agriculture sector. Investing in and building the sector will provide an essential and sustainable source of livelihoods for rural populations, offering crisis-affected families the opportunity to recover and rebuild their lives. In addition, increased agricultural production will help families provide nutritionally-rich foods for themselves and expand local supplies, therefore reducing reliance on high-cost imports.

## Contact

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