



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Syria Country Brief February 2020

In Numbers



4.3 m people assisted
in February 2020 (based on dispatches)

55,644 mt of food assistance delivered

US\$ 2.4 m in cash-based transfers made

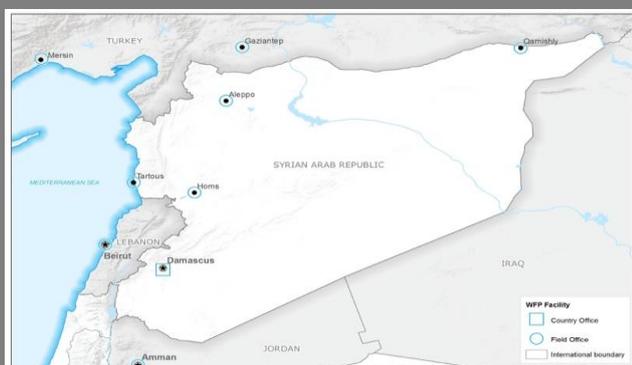
US\$ 184 m six-month net funding requirement (March – August 2020)

Operational Context

The conflict in Syria has entered its ninth year, taking a devastating toll on the lives of the Syrian people. The largest displacement crisis since World War II, some 6.1 million Syrians are internally displaced and 5.6 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 7.9 million people unable to meet their food needs and a further 1.9 million people at risk of food insecurity, according to the nationwide Food Security/Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment conducted by WFP in 2019.

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**

2019 Human Development Index:
154 out of 189

Income Level: **Low-income**

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

Operational Updates

- In February, WFP dispatched food and nutrition commodities sufficient for an estimated 4.3 million people across its activities in Syria.
- WFP dispatched general food assistance (GFA) sufficient for some 3.9 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, 15 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas not accessible from inside Syria, including Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates.
- The security situation in north-western Syria continued to deteriorate in February. Some 375,000 people were displaced across north-western Syria in February, according to the UNHCR-led Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster. Children made up the majority of the displaced. In response, WFP reached some 509,000 recently displaced people with ready-to-eat rations. In addition, revised assistance guidelines allowed WFP to reach close to 1.2 million people with general food assistance in February, the highest number of people ever reached in a single month in the north-west.
- In southern, Syria, the security situation remained highly unpredictable, as tensions between pro-government actors and non-state armed groups continued to escalate, impacting WFP's direct access to one location in Dar'a city, where plans are underway to rehabilitate a bakery. On 19 February, two Oxfam staff members were killed, and on 29 February clashes erupted between government forces and non-state armed groups in the city of An-Sanamayn; the first clashes since 2018.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019–2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Available Contributions
1.72 bn	317 m
2020 Requirement	Six-month Net Funding Requirement March 2020 – August 2020
984.9 m	184 m

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.

- WFP dispatched food assistance sufficient for some 1.3 million people across the southern governorates of Dar'a, Damascus, Rural Damascus, As-Sweida, and Quneitra in February.

Monitoring

- In February, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 594 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 234 checklists, equivalent to 39 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

- The Security Council resolution which authorises the cross-border operation (Resolution 2504 (2020)) expires on 10 July 2020. The cross-border operation is critical for the United Nations to adequately assist millions of civilians in need of humanitarian assistance in Syria's north-west.
- While conflict lines are shifting, humanitarian access to distribute humanitarian assistance, assess needs and monitor operations remains a challenge. The United Nations continues to call on all parties to facilitate unconditional, unimpeded and sustained access to all people in need throughout the country.

Donors

The largest donors to WFP Syria in 2020 ranked by contributions: Germany, Canada, Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).