



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Syria Country Brief May 2022



## In Numbers

5.4 m people assisted



in May 2022 (based on dispatches as of 9 June\*)

33,296 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 4 m cash-based transfers made

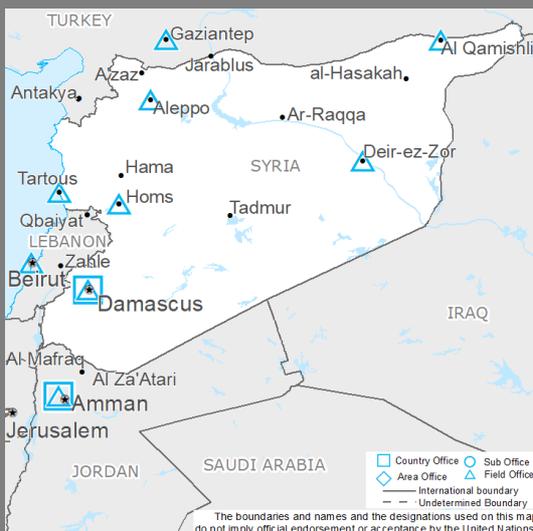
US\$ 698.4 m six months (June – November 2022)  
net funding requirements

## Operational Context

The Syrian Arab Republic has faced a prolonged crisis since 2011, which has caused severe damage to the country's economic and social fabric. Protracted crisis, economic collapse and the impacts of the coronavirus disease pandemic in the past two years further exposed the Syrian people to food insecurity and eroded their livelihoods. As of late 2021, 12 million people, 55 percent of the population, were food insecure.

Since 2011, WFP has been providing food, nutrition and livelihoods assistance to crisis-affected Syrian families in the country. WFP has been active in Syria since 1964.

The new 2022–2023 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP), which came into effect in January 2022, is aimed at responding to the growing food and nutrition needs, the severe deterioration of livelihoods and resilience, and the collapse of food systems. Under the new ICSP, WFP will continue its large-scale provision of unconditional food assistance, refocus its education and nutrition activities and expand its activities aimed at strengthening livelihoods, boosting household resilience and restoring food systems.



Population: 21.1 million

2019 Human Development Index:  
151 out of 188

Income Level: Low-income

Chronic malnutrition: 553,000 children  
between 6-59 months

## Operational Updates

- In May, WFP delivered food and nutrition assistance to 5.4 million people across its general food assistance (GFA), school feeding, nutrition, livelihoods, resilience and social safety nets activities in Syria.
- WFP dispatched GFA to some 5.37 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates. Of this, 26 percent was delivered through the cross-border operation from Turkey to areas of Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates not accessible from inside Syria.
- On 16 May, WFP successfully completed the fourth crossline convoy from Aleppo to WFP's warehouse in Sarmada, Idlib, north-western Syria. The convoy transported 13,200 dry food rations. The convoy consisted of 14 trucks and proceeded without incident. During the last week of May, WFP distributed these items reaching 36,500 beneficiaries in 54 locations in opposition-controlled areas of north-western Syria.
- WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) released the "[Hunger Hotspots](#)" early warnings on acute food insecurity-update covering the June-September 2022 outlook period. The report lists Syria among the hotspots with deteriorating critical conditions and as one of the countries of very high concern: In Syria, a significant number of additional people are at risk of falling into food insecurity in the outlook period, due to the dilapidated economic situation resulting from over a decade of conflict and western sanctions, increasing food prices and expected below-average domestic cereal production.
- In May 2022, the United Nations Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme for Syria (HNAP) conducted the second Population Assessment for 2022. According to the assessment, the current population in Syria stands at 21.1 million as of May 2022. Of these, some 6.7

\* Numbers are subject to change as May dispatch cycle has been extended to reach all beneficiaries.

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Photo Caption: A beneficiary holding her SCOPE card that she uses to redeem her CBT assistance from WFP contracted retailers.  
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## Interim Country Strategic Plan (2022-2023)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Percentage Funded
<b>2.87 billion</b>	<b>390.9 million</b>	<b>13.6 %</b>
2022 Requirements (in USD)	2022 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June – November 2022)
<b>1.37 billion</b>	<b>390.9 million</b>	<b>698.4 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food-insecure populations affected by the crisis, including host communities, internally displaced persons and returnees across all governorates in the Syrian Arab Republic, meet their basic food and nutrition needs all year round.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

#### Activities:

1. Unconditional resource transfers to food-insecure households.
2. Provide meals and cash-based transfers to school-age boys and girls attending formal and non-formal education centres.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food-insecure communities in targeted areas are able to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year thanks to resilient livelihoods and restored access to basic services.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

#### Activities:

3. Support diversified and sustainable livelihoods and food systems at the household, community and national levels.
4. Provide technical assistance to strengthen national social safety nets.

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Nutritionally vulnerable groups across the Syrian Arab Republic, especially boys, girls and pregnant and lactating women, have access to malnutrition prevention and treatment services throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

#### Activities provide:

5. Nutrition assistance to prevent chronic and acute malnutrition.
6. Nutrition assistance to treat moderate acute malnutrition.

### 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 are enabled to assist crisis-affected populations all year long.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

#### Activities provide:

7. Common logistics services to humanitarian partners.
8. Common emergency telecommunications services to humanitarian partners.
9. Humanitarian air services to humanitarian partners.
10. On-demand technical assistance and support services to humanitarian partners.
11. On-demand cash-based transfer services to humanitarian partners.

million, 32 percent of the total, are internally displaced persons (IDPs). This is slightly up from the 6.6 million IDPs identified in 2021 and includes an estimated 1.5 million people currently residing in camps. The remaining 5.1 million IDPs live in residential locations.

- In May 2022, the United Nations Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme for Syria (HNAP) conducted the second Population Assessment for 2022. According to the assessment, the current population in Syria stands at 21.1 million as of May 2022. Of these, some 6.7 million, 32 percent of the total, are internally displaced persons (IDPs). This is slightly up from the 6.6 million IDPs identified in 2021 and includes an estimated 1.5 million people currently residing in camps. The remaining 5.1 million IDPs live in residential locations.
- In April, the nationwide average reference food basket price reached SYP 321,994 (USD 114.4 at the official exchange rate of SYP 2,814/USD), marking a new record high for the eighth consecutive month since WFP started price monitoring in 2013, according to the latest WFP [data](#) released in May. Food prices in April were 37 percent higher than in February (Pre-Ukraine crisis), 59 percent higher than six months ago, and 86 percent higher compared to the same time last year.

## Monitoring

- In May, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 1,483 on-site monitoring (OSM) visits across all 14 governorates to monitor GFA distributions, bread distributions, livelihoods activities, nutrition activities, cash-based transfer (CBT) redemptions and warehouses. Around 16 percent of the OSM visits were conducted directly by WFP monitors or jointly with TPM. The remaining visits were conducted by TPMs in areas not accessible by WFP staff.

## Challenges

- WFP requires USD 698.4 million to sustain operations through November 2022.

## Donors

**The largest donors to WFP Syria so far in 2022 ranked by contributions:** Germany, USA, Canada, European Commission and the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund.