

WFP Syria Situation Report #10

October 2022

World Food Programme



5.5 million people assisted* October 2022 (based on dispatches)





WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP)

2022 Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan	Overall requirement: US\$ 4.2 billion
	WFP share: US\$ 1.37 billion
WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirement (November 2022 – April 2023)	US\$ 858.4 m
WFP Syria 2022-2023 Interim Country Strategic Plan (November 2021)	



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In Numbers

12 million people food insecure

- 2.5 million severely food insecure
- 6.8 million people internally displaced

Highlights

- WFP dispatched humanitarian assistance sufficient for an estimated 5.5 million people across all activities in Syria in October.
- In September, the monthly average price of WFP's standard reference food basket increased by 2.5 percent compared to August 2022, reaching SYP 329,526 (≈USD 109).
- Across Syria, the 2022-2023 winter season is • anticipated to be one of the harshest considering the catastrophic fuel and electricity shortages,
- During a time when Syrians' ability to buy food is becoming even more stretched, WFP beneficiaries, except those in camp settings, are already receiving reduced food rations across Syria due to funding constraints.

Situation Update

Economic situation

- In September, the monthly average price of WFP's standard reference food basket¹ increased by 2.5 percent compared to August 2022, reaching SYP 329,526 (≈USD 109 at the official exchange rate of SYP 3,015/USD), according to the latest WFP Syria Market Price Watch Bulletin.
- Supply chain disruptions and uncertainties, especially for wheat and vegetable oil, partially stemming from the crisis in Ukraine, have contributed to the price surge. In addition, the depreciation of the local currency on the parallel market by 25 percent in 12 months has contributed to the food prices staying high. The price of the standard reference food basket was 40 percent higher than February 2022 (start of the Ukraine crisis) and 77 percent higher than the same time last year.
- Syrians are trapped in a downward cycle in accessing food that is continually becoming more expensive. In the face of relatively low local production impacted by scarce rainfall, Syria has become a food import dependent country. Food is becoming even more expensive to import due to a depreciating currency and higher costs of food and fuel. The war in Ukraine has

also exacerbated these price increases that were spurred earlier by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Winter snapshot

 Across Syria, the 2022-2023 winter season is <u>anticipated</u> to be one of the harshest considering the catastrophic fuel and electricity shortages, with approximately 6 million out of the 14.6 million people in need requiring winter assistance. This year, the coping capacity of Syrians have been further undermined by the continued deterioration of the socio-economic situation marred by the devaluation of the Syrian Pound, energy crisis which has led to severe rationing of electricity supply, fuel shortages, high fuel prices and increased costs of other essential commodities. WFP beneficiaries, except those in camp settings, are already receiving reduced food rations across Syria due to funding constraints.

Crossline Deliveries to North-west Syria

 The eighth cross-line convoy was completed on 22 October, going from government-controlled Aleppo city to opposition-controlled Sarmada city in north-western Syria. The convoy carried food rations and nutrition items to enable WFP to reach its monthly target. It also carried humanitarian assistance for other UN agencies. On 29 October, WFP completed distributions of these items, reaching 38,125 beneficiaries in 54 locations in non-government-controlled areas of north-western Syria.

North-Western Syria

In October 2022, more than 12,000 displacements were recorded in north-west Syria, with departures principally occurring from Dana, Afrin, and Harim sub-districts, according to the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster. The main locations where displaced people arrived to included Dana, Maaret Tamsrin and Harim sub-districts. Reasons for new displacements were reported to be loss of income, reduced access to shelter/raise of rents, and Reduced access to humanitarian assistance. As of October 2022, 1.86 million people remain displaced in north-western Syria; 80 percent of them are women and children.

North-Eastern Syria

 Between 23 – 26 October, WFP's Country Director conducted a mission to Qamishli during which he visited Al Hol (Al-Hasakeh) and Abu Khashab (Deir Ezzor) camps. He also met with the governor of Al-Hasakeh and SARC Al-Hasakeh team.

Southern Syria

• WFP food dispatches to Dar'a governorate were suspended between 13 - 19 October, due to insecurity

following an operation by the Syrian Government forces against Islamic State (IS) sleeper cells in Jasim town in the western countryside of Dar'a governorate. These delays impacted some 111,750 people in the governorate. The situation stabilized in early November and movements in and out of Jasim returned to normal.

WFP Operations

• WFP dispatched food and nutrition assistance sufficient for an estimated 5.5 million people across all activities in Syria in October. Additionally, US\$ 3.6 million in cashbased transfers (CBT) was distributed to some 226,200 WFP beneficiaries.

General Food Assistance (GFA) Programme

- In October, WFP distributed GFA sufficient for some 5.3 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates including food delivered through the cross-border operation from Türkiye to areas of Idlib and western rural Aleppo governorates not accessible from inside Syria.
- The October dispatch cycle was extended into November to reach all beneficiaries.

Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets

 WFP reached some 6,300 people under its livelihoods, resilience, and social safety-nets-projects by providing kitchen gardens, food processing units, and thyme cultivation assistance across many governorates in Syria.

School Meals Programme

- On 2 October, WFP launched the fresh school meals project in Rural Damascus and Damascus. This is the first such initiative in southern and central Syria for children attending public primary schools. The aim is to diversify meals, improve nutrition and incentivize families to send their children to school. The project is also targeting children with disabilities in social care centers. Moreover, the kitchen where the meals are prepared supports women-headed households by providing an opportunity to secure and dignified livelihood.
- In October, WFP reached some 356,200 children with fortified date bars in some 1,600 schools across the country.
- The fresh meals programme reached 43,900 children in schools of Aleppo and Rural Damascus, in addition to 500 children in social care centres.
- WFP also supported more than 9,800 out of school children with food vouchers in Al Hasakeh, Aleppo, Damascus, Dar'a, Deir Ezzor, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Quneitra, Rural Damascus and Tartous governorates.

Nutrition Programme

- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies, reaching some 251,600 children (6-23 months old) and Pregnant and Lactating Women and Girls (PLWG). This includes more than 59,000 PLWG who received CBT to purchase fresh food from WFPcontracted shops.
- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for more than 8,300 children and PLWG for one month.

Clusters and Common Services

Food Security Sector

 The Food Security Sector reached 5.5 million people with regular food baskets and another 2.1 million people with bread and flour distribution in September. In addition, some 71,700 people were reached with emergency response through ready-to-eat rations, cooked meals, and emergency food baskets. Cumulatively, at least 1.46 million beneficiaries have been reached with livelihoods interventions since the beginning of the year across various activities with support provided to enhance selfreliance of affected households by protecting and building productive assets and restoring or creating income generating opportunities to save and sustain lives.

Logistics Cluster

- Facilitating the cross-border operation from Türkiye, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster transhipped 566 Syrian trucks carrying 13,447 mt of humanitarian relief items from Türkiye in October through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing.
- The Logistics Cluster provided storage services for the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in the common storage facility in Qamishly, with a total of 118 m³ of WASH supplies.
- A new online dashboard is now available to allow partner organizations to access in real-time all key figures and trends related to cross-border operation. The dashboard

is updated on a weekly basis and can be accessed through this <u>link</u>.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- A team from WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) with support of WFP's Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergencies and Support Team (FITTEST), successfully delivered a technical Information and Communications Technology (ICT) training in Dubai from 10 to 14 October to 15 participants from six UN agencies.
- The ETC and WFP fleet personnel completed the dismantling of very high frequency (VHF) systems and vehicle tracking system (VTS) from three unused armoured vehicles (AVs) and re-installed them in new pre-wired AVs.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

 In October, UNHAS Syria completed 17 flights on its two routes from Damascus to Qamishli and Aleppo, transporting 480 passengers and 1.83 mt of light cargo.

Resourcing Update

• WFP requires US\$ 858.4 million through April 2023 to implement the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) for Syria.

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For further information, visit the <u>WFP Syria website</u>.

WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (2022-2023)						
	2022 Requirement (in US\$)	6-Month Net Funding Requirement (November 2022 – April 2023)	People Assisted (October 2022 dispatches)	Female	Male	
ICSP (January 2019 – December 2021)	1.37 billion	858.4 million				
Activity 1: General Food Assistance			5,302,632	2,705,933	2,596,699	
Activity 2: School Feeding			410,405	201,098	209,307	
Activity 3: Livelihoods and Resilience			6,314	3,222	3,092	
Activity 4: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			251,562	157,217	94,345	
Activity 5: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			8,335	4,542	3,793	

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