The standard food basket is a group of essential food commodities. In Syria, the food basket is set at a group of dry goods providing 2,060 kcal a day for a family of five for a month. The basket includes 37 kg bread, 19 kg rice, 19 kg lentils, 5 kg of sugar, and 7 litres of vegetable oil.

In Numbers

- **12.4 million** people food insecure
- **1.3 million** severely food insecure
- **6.8 million** people internally displaced

**Highlights**

- WFP dispatched humanitarian assistance sufficient for an estimated 5.4 million people across all activities in Syria in October.
- The humanitarian situation in Syria continues to deteriorate. The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs to Security Council: Ninety percent of the population now living below the poverty line; Expansion of early recovery programmes must be central in the international community’s efforts to address needs in a sustainable way.
- The food security situation has reached its worst level in a year and food prices have reached a new record high for the second consecutive month in a row.
- WFP resumed in October its field missions to Dar’a governorate, following an almost two-month interruption in field visits to the governorate due to the increase in hostilities.
- Following the start of the school year, WFP launched the first cycle of in-school distributions across Syria and the first cycle of e-voucher assistance to out of school children.

**Situation Update**

**Humanitarian Situation in Syria**

- The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator briefed the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Syria on 27 October. He indicated that with over 90 per cent of the population now living below the poverty line, many people are forced to make very difficult choices to survive, and so face a greater risk of exploitation. He also shared that a surging resurgence of COVID-19 cases and an impending winter will compound hardship for millions of Syrians.
- He advocated that an expansion of early recovery programmes must be central in the international community's efforts to address needs in a sustainable way.
Economic situation

- October 2021 marked the highest ever recorded monthly average reference food basket price since WFP started price monitoring in 2013, with food prices reaching a new record high for the second consecutive month, according to the latest WFP Syria Market Price Watch Bulletin. In October, the nationwide average price of the WFP standard reference food basket increased by nine percent compared to September 2021, reaching SYP 202,231 (USD 81 at the official exchange rate of SYP 2,500/USD). Food prices are now 15 percent higher than six months ago, and 128 percent higher compared to the same time last year.
- The increase is mainly attributed to the ongoing fuel shortage countrywide, as well as to worldwide commodity prices which have increased by 30 percent compared to the same time last year.

Food security situation

- The food security situation reached its worst level in a year in October 2021, according to the latest WFP data. More than half of households surveyed (52 percent) reported inadequate food consumption, up by 11 percent since September 2021 and by six percent compared to October 2020. The continued deterioration is largely induced by a decade of conflict and the ongoing economic decline compounded by a crippling fuel shortage, economic sanctions, and the continued financial crisis in Lebanon.

Southern Syria

- WFP resumed in October its field missions to Dar’a governorate, following an almost two-month interruption in field visits to the governorate due to the increase in hostilities. Overall, WFP reaches approximately 450,000 people a month across Dar’a.

North-Western Syria

- In October, the UNHCR-led Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster tracked 19,940 new displacements of people and 2,540 return movements, due mainly to economic opportunities or in search of better services. More than 3,000 people left the Ehsem sub-district. Ariha, Dana and Afrin sub-districts each received around 1,500 people. Newly arrived people say their main needs are cash support, food, and shelter.

WFP Operations

- WFP dispatched food and nutrition assistance sufficient for an estimated 5.4 million people across all activities in Syria in October. US$ 1.9 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) was distributed to 117,137 WFP beneficiaries.

General Food Assistance (GFA) Programme

- In October, WFP dispatched GFA sufficient for some 5.3 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 25 percent of the total WFP general food assistance dispatched. This includes food rations for some 1.3 million people areas of Idlib and Aleppo governorate inaccessible from inside Syria.

Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets

- WFP reached some 14,100 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 Feeding Programme

- In October, WFP launched the first cycle of fortified date bar distributions in all governorates, reaching some 392,000 children in 1,396 schools.
- WFP also launched the first cycle of e-voucher assistance to out of school children, reaching 10,120 children in Al Hasakeh, Aleppo, Damascus, Dar’a, Deir Ezzor, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Qunaitra, Rural Damascus and Tartous governorates.
- The fresh meals programme reached 30,900 children in Aleppo in October 2021.

Nutrition Programme

- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 239,200 children (6-23 months old) and Pregnant and Lactating Women and Girls (PLWG). This includes some 61,500 PLWG who received CBT to purchase fresh food from WFP-contracted shops.
- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 4,400 children and PLWG for one month.

Clusters and Common Services

Logistics Cluster

- Facilitating the cross-border operation from Turkey, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster transshipped 1,020 Syrian trucks from Turkey in October through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing. A total of 23,135 mt of Food Security, Education, Health, WASH and Shelter items were transshipped on behalf of WFP, IOM, UNHCR, WHO and UNICEF.
- In October, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the storage of 2,663 m³ of humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Aleppo, Homs, Rural Damascus and Qamishli on behalf of FAO, OXFAM, PUI, UNDP, WHO, NRC, ICRC and UNFPA.
**Food Security Sector**
- The WFP-led Food Security Sector reached at least 5.3 million people with regular food baskets and an additional 1.6 million people with bread and flour distribution in September. In addition, at least 97,000 people were reached with emergency response through ready to eat rations, cooked meals & emergency food baskets. Cumulatively, at least 1.7 million beneficiaries have been reached with livelihoods interventions since the beginning of the year across various activities with support provided to enhance self-reliance of affected households. This included the protection and building of productive assets as well as the restoration or creation of income-generating opportunities to save and sustain lives.

**United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)**
- In October, UNHAS Syria completed 17 rotations on its two routes from Damascus to Qamishli and Aleppo, transporting 438 passengers and 4.9 mt of light cargo. Of the passengers transported on both routes, 55 percent were UN staff, and 45 percent were staff from national and international non-governmental organisations.

**Resourcing Update**
- WFP requires US$ 479.9 million to keep operations running at current levels through April 2022.

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**WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 Requirement (in US$)</th>
<th>6-Month Net Funding Requirement (November 2021 – April 2022)</th>
<th>People Assisted (October 2021 dispatches)</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
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<td>ICSP (January 2019 – December 2021)</td>
<td>1.27 billion</td>
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<td>Activity 1: General Food Assistance</td>
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<td>5,254,865</td>
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<td>Activity 2: School Feeding</td>
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<td>433,020</td>
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<td>Activity 4: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition</td>
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<td>239,242</td>
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<td>Activity 5: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</td>
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<td>4,425</td>
<td>2,611</td>
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**Contacts**
- **WFP Representative and Country Director**
  Sean O’Brien
- **Operational Information Management Officers**
  Dani Barbara (dani.barbara@wfp.org)
  Anis Nasr (anis.nasr@wfp.org)
- **Logistics Cluster Coordinator**
  Christophe Morard (christophe.morard@wfp.org)
- **Food Security Sector Coordinator**
  Mohie Alwahsh (mohie.alwahsh@wfp.org)
- **Emergency Telecommunications Cluster Coordinator**
  Elizabeth Millership (elizabeth.millership@wfp.org)

_For further information, visit the WFP Syria website._