



# WFP SYRIA EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## Situation Report 2

29 October 2024

Displaced families at crossing the Jdeidet Yabous border with Lebanon ©WFP/Issam Al Saleh

### Highlights

- An estimated 460,000 people have already crossed into Syria since the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon started on 23 September, with the number expected to rise as the situation continues to worsen. The majority of those crossing into Syria are being hosted by families and communities that already face high levels of food insecurity, and economic hardship.
- So far, WFP has reached over 236,000 Lebanese and Syrians with food at the borders (date bars and fresh meals) and within communities and host centers (hot meals, ready-to-eat (RTE), and regular food rations).
- WFP's emergency response is aligned to the Inter-Agency [plan](#). In addition to its regular programme, WFP requires US\$54.4 million in new funding to reach 480,000 people until the end of March 2025. WFP is currently diverting in-country food rations earmarked for its regular programme, for this new response.

### IN NUMBERS



**236,000 people**  
assisted since 23 September



**US\$ 54.4 million**  
needed to reach 480,000 people until the end of March 2025



**957.89 mt** of food distributed including date bars, ready-to-eat rations, and regular food rations.



**37,768 fresh and hot meals**  
provided

- **Targeted airstrikes have also impaired two of the five official border crossings between Lebanon and Syria** (Jdeidet Yabous, Rural Damascus governorate; Joussieh, Homs governorate). This is expected to further disrupt the crossings, making it difficult for people to enter Syria, with more people forced to seek riskier alternatives.
- The influx of displaced persons continues to increase. **To date, an estimated 460,000 people have crossed into Syria**, of which 71 percent are Syrian nationals. Over 60 percent of new arrivals are under the age of 18 ([UNHCR](#)).
- Most displaced individuals continue to be hosted in Syria by communities and families that already had high levels of food insecurity. This situation intensifies the emergency and early recovery needs of the Syrian population and could heighten tensions, impacting social cohesion.

### WFP RESPONSE

- The emergency response, which benefits from WFP's historical footprint and access capabilities, has adapted to evolving needs, and has increasingly shifted from the borders to the homes of Syrian families. Beyond immediate humanitarian assistance, people seek livelihood support to help with integration and increased self-reliance.
- To date, WFP provided food assistance to over **236,000 new arrivals from Lebanon at the borders, and inside Syria** across Rural Damascus, Dar'a, Homs, Aleppo, Tartous, Latakia, Ar-Raqqa, Deir Ezzor and Idlib governorates.

### SITUATION UPDATE

- **The security situation in Syria remains fragile**, worsened by the ongoing hostilities in Gaza and Lebanon. Targeted airstrikes have increased in past weeks across Syria, including in Damascus, with a number of strikes targeting sites in close proximity to UN offices, including WFP premises. Tensions have also escalated in the northern and eastern parts of the country.

- **At the borders:** WFP provides fortified date bars across the five main crossing points, as well as fresh meals at the Jdeidet Yabous border crossing in Rural Damascus. To date, 117,500 people have been reached.
- **In host centres and communities:** WFP distributes hot meals, ready-to-eat and regular food rations so far reaching 118,500 people across Rural Damascus, Lattakia, Hama, Homs, Tartous, Lattakia, Idlib, Deir Ezzor and Ar-Raqqa governorates.

## Supply Chain

- **WFP has distributed 955 mt of food**, including 2,477 RTE rations, 19,614 food rations, and 110,060 date bars across Syria since 23 September.
- **WFP has a stock of approximately 200,000 food rations in-country**, enough to feed 1 million people for one month. In addition, WFP has 10,354 RTE rations covering the needs of over 50,000 people for five days.
- WFP is diverting these food commodities from its regular programmes and as such **requires additional funding to replenish this stock.**

## ASSESSMENTS AND MONITORING

- WFP is conducting multiple rapid needs assessments in host communities and centres to expedite the identification process of displaced Lebanese and Syrians in need.
- WFP continues to monitor all food distributions at critical points of displacement. To streamline the response, two emergency monitoring tools have been developed: one to track the distribution of food rations, RTE rations, hot meals, date bars, and fresh meals, and another to focus on collective kitchens. So far, WFP monitoring teams have completed 113 surveys at borders, collective shelters, hosted communities, and kitchens.

## ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

- The WFP call center number is prominently displayed at all major entry points, guiding displaced individuals to WFP assistance. Additionally, all WFP RTE and food ration packages include leaflets with the same information.
- Key messages and Q&As are being developed to support WFP's helpline team and field staff to address key questions on WFP's response. These will include information on available humanitarian services, guidance on accessing services, and mapping UNHCR community centres and SARC branches. Additionally, messages on hygiene practices and optimal food storage methods within hosting centres will be provided.

## CLUSTERS AND COMMON SERVICES

### Food Security Cluster

- The Food Security Sector has been engaged since the onset of the emergency, coordinating the response amongst the partners at border crossings and final destination points - both at national and sub-national levels. The sector closely coordinates with partners to maximize the available resources, ensure complementarity, and avoid assistance overlaps.

### Logistics Cluster

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster continues to support the emergency response and appealed for USD 2.5 million through the Inter-Agency Appeal to procure fuel to support the needs of partners responding to the crisis for six-month period. So far, the Cluster was instrumental in providing 20,000 litres of diesel to partners to support the response.

## VOICES FROM THE FIELD

*Um Ali, a Lebanese woman from Tayrharfa village in southern Lebanon arrived in Syria on 25 September after three days of travel and multiple previous displacements within Lebanon.*

*Like many others, the war came upon her so quickly that she left in a rush not knowing where to go, nor when she would return.*

*Alongside seven other family members, including her frail and sick husband, Um Ali entered Syria with just a few pieces of clothing and meagre savings.*

*Having found safety in Tartous, Um Ali and her family are among thousands of Lebanese who have sought refuge in Syria and are receiving food assistance from WFP.*

*Being able to cook for her family has brought some comfort during this stressful period: "We just received a cooking kit and food" she said, "I feel a sense of comfort now because I can cook for my family."*

*Though her situation remains uncertain, Um Ali focuses on keeping her family safe and together. For now, she takes it day by day, grateful for the support she has received as she tries to stabilize their lives amid the chaos.*

