



World Food Programme

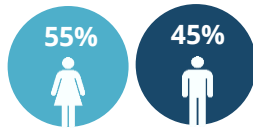
WFP Syria Situation Report #3

March 2022



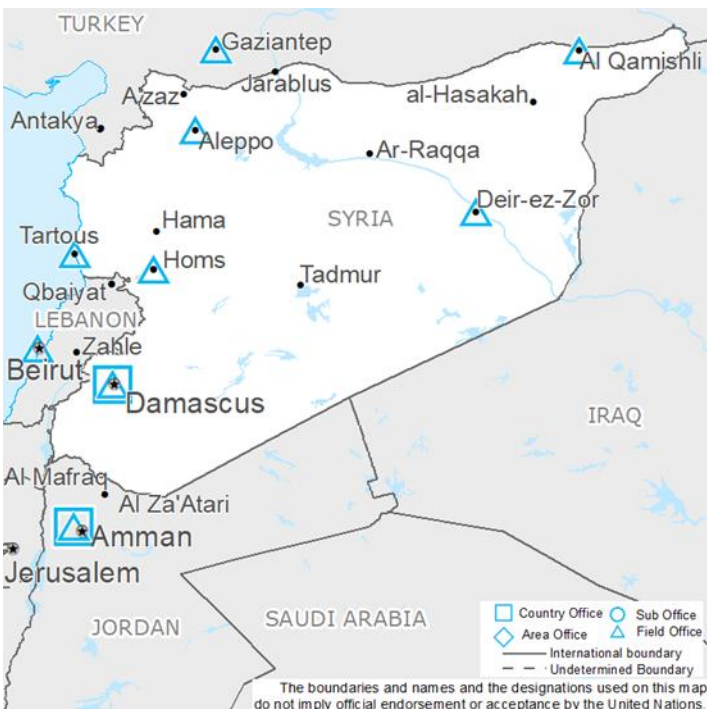
5.8 million people assisted

March 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 <i>(April – September 2022)</i> WFP Syria 2022-2023 Interim Country Strategic Plan <i>(November 2021)</i>	US\$ 515.2 m



The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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Further information: www1.wfp.org/countries/syrian-arab-republic

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 5.8 million people across all activities in Syria in March.
- WFP finalized the rehabilitation work of Dar'a Al Balad bakery, which is the second bakery in Dar'a governorate, southern Syria to be rehabilitated by WFP.
- WFP began incorporating mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening as part of its nutrition support to pregnant and lactating women and girls programme to increase early identification and treatment of acute malnutrition.
- WFP is also supporting in the implementation of a Nutrition Assessment for School-aged children (6-12 years of age) within public schools. This is the first time the group's nutritional status has ever been assessed, and is critical to understanding their nutritional status and the impact that the 11-year long crisis has had on the children born during the crisis.

Situation Update

Humanitarian and Food Security situation

- The crisis in Syria marked its eleventh anniversary on 15 March. As the crisis enters its twelfth year, the United Nations Secretary General [emphasised](#) that the destruction of basic infrastructure has deepened the economic crisis, pushing humanitarian needs to their highest levels since the conflict began. Millions of internally displaced and refugees struggle to survive in the most difficult circumstances.
- In February 2022, more than half of interviewed households (52 percent) reported poor or borderline food consumption in Syria according to the latest [WFP data](#) released in March.
- Additionally, the continued erosion of purchasing power and unstable livelihood sources pushed many Syrian households to incur more debt. During February 2022, 72 percent of surveyed households across Syria reported having bought food on credit due to lack of

food and or money to buy food. Purchasing food on credit was much more common among internally displaced people (IDPs) and returnee households compared to residents.

- Approximately 14 percent of surveyed households across Syria reported taking children of the mandatory education age out of school, to have them engage in income generating activities and contribute to the household's income. This coping mechanism deprives youth of education and exposes them to other safety and protection issues

North-Eastern Syria

- The full and partial lockdowns imposed by Kurdish authorities in north-eastern Syria following the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) attack on Ghweiran prison in southern Al-Hasakeh city were lifted. As part of the emergency response, WFP provided general food baskets to IDP returnees and the host community in Ghweiran neighbourhood to reach over 45,000 people in the neighbourhood by the end of March.

WFP Operations

- WFP dispatched food and nutrition assistance sufficient for an estimated 5.7 million people across all activities in Syria in March. Additionally, US\$ 3.4 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) was distributed to 175,700 WFP beneficiaries.

General Food Assistance (GFA) Programme

- In March, WFP dispatched GFA sufficient for some 5.7 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 27 percent of the total WFP general food assistance dispatched. This includes food rations for some 1.45 million people areas of Idlib and Aleppo governorate inaccessible from inside Syria.

Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets

- Under the Farm-to-Bread Value chain which aims to revitalise bread production from the wheat production stage to the bread production stage in areas of high food insecurity, WFP finalized the rehabilitation work of Dar'a Al Balad bakery. An estimated 60,000 number of people will now have access to affordable bread, a staple in the Syrian diet.
- WFP reached some 8,250 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 March, WFP reached some 470,600 children with fortified date bars in 1,360 schools across the country. WFP also distributed fortified date bars to 4,035 children receiving non-formal education in IDP camps in north-eastern Syria.
- The fresh meals programme reached 33,200 children in Aleppo in March 2021.
- WFP also supported 40,140 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

- In 2021, operational data from community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) centers identified a sharp increase in trends of acute malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs) compared to children. This data mirrors trends identified in a previous nutrition SMART survey undertaken in 2019, which appear to reflect this deterioration as a consequence of the economic downturn.
- Consequently, as of January 2022, WFP Syria began incorporating mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening as part of its nutrition support to PLWG programme (NSP) to increase early identification and treatment of acute malnutrition. All PLWGs accessing nutrition support distribution centers are screened, and if they are identified to have acute malnutrition, they are referred to the nearby CMAM center for an in-depth analysis and provision of required treatment.
- Between January and February 2022, some 7,500 PLWGs were screened, of which 531 were referred to CMAM centers for further analysis. Enrolment in the CMAM programme will not impact the beneficiaries' enrolment in the PLWG programme, and beneficiaries will be provided with more comprehensive support.
- WFP is also supporting in the implementation of a Nutrition Assessment for School-aged children (6-12 years of age) within public schools across government-held areas in Syria. This is the first time the group's nutritional status has ever been assessed, and is critical to understanding their nutritional status and the impact that the 11-year long crisis has had on the children born during the crisis. Based on the findings, WFP would be able to reevaluate the assistance currently provided to school children and better tailor it to address their needs.
- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 178,200 children (6-23 months old) and Pregnant and

Lactating Women and Girls (PLWG). This includes some 64,600 PLWG who received CBT to purchase fresh food from WFP-contracted shops.

- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 4,500 children and PLWG for one month.

Clusters and Common Services

Food Security Sector

- The Food Security Sector reached 7 million people with regular food baskets and another 2.5 million people with bread and flour distribution in January. In addition, at least 337,362 people were reached with emergency response through ready to eat rations, cooked meals, and emergency food baskets. Cumulatively, at least 234,389 beneficiaries have been reached with livelihoods in 2022.

Logistics Cluster

- Facilitating the cross-border operation from Turkey, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster transhipped 756 Syrian trucks from Turkey in March through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing. A total of 16,290 mt of Food Security, Shelter, Health and WASH sector items were transhipped on behalf of WFP, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO.
- In March, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the storage of 3,149 m³ of humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Aleppo, Homs, Rural Damascus and Qamishli on behalf of COOPI, OXFAM, UNDP, WHO, NRC and UNFPA.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- In March, the WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) continued to provide internet connectivity services to over 350 humanitarians from 11 UN agencies, and security communications services to 660 users from 14 UN agencies across eight sites in Syria and Gaziantep to support the response.

- ETC communications services in the humanitarian hubs in Homs, Tartous, and Deir Ez-Zor were enhanced. A total of five humanitarian hubs are scheduled to undergo the same ETC maintenance and enhancement activities.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- In March, UNHAS Syria completed 18 rotations on its two routes from Damascus to Qamishli and Aleppo, transporting 431 passengers and 2.63 mt of light cargo.

Resourcing Update

- WFP requires US\$ 515.2 million to keep operations running at current levels through September 2022.

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For further information, visit the [WFP Syria website](#).

WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (2022-2023)

	2022 Requirement (in US\$)	6-Month Net Funding Requirement (April 2022 – September 2022)	People Assisted (March 2022 dispatches)	Female	Male
ICSP (January 2019 – December 2021)	1.37 billion	515.2 million	5,779,876		
Activity 1: General Food Assistance			5,675,277	2,896,094	2,779,183
Activity 2: School Feeding			470,596	230,592	240,004
Activity 3: Livelihoods and Resilience			8,250	4,201	4,040
Activity 4: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			178,209	122,530	55,679
Activity 5: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			4,460	2,431	2,029