

# WFP Syria Situation Report #1 January 2022

World Food Programme



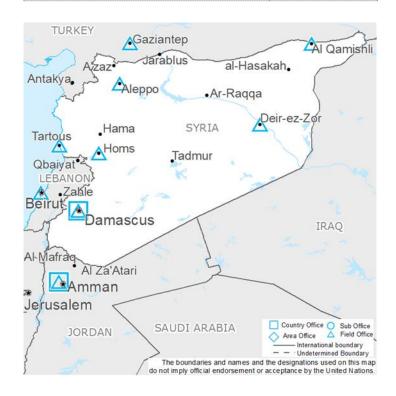
**5.6 million people assisted** January 2022 (based on dispatches)



Gender

WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP)

<u>2022 Syrian Arab Republic</u> <u>Humanitarian Response Plan</u>	Overall requirement: US\$ 4.2 billion		
	WFP share: US\$ 1.37 billion		
WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirement (February– July 2022)	US\$ 445.0 m		
WFP Syria 2022-2023 Interim Country Strategic Plan (November 2021)			



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# **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 5.6 million people across all activities in Syria in January.
- January 2022 marked a new record high of the monthly average reference food basket price since WFP started price monitoring in 2013. Food prices were 34 percent higher than six months ago, and 86 percent higher compared to the same time last year.
- 11 January marked the start of the second six months of the UN Security Council authorized cross-border delivery of humanitarian aid. Cross border aid is delivered from Turkey into northwestern Syria through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing.
- At least 45,000 people were displaced due to clashes between Islamic State (IS) militants and Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) following an attack by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) on a prison in north-eastern Syria. WFP provided emergency food assistance to newly displaced people in response, reaching 12,800 people.

# **Situation Update**

### **Economic situation**

- In January, the monthly average price of WFP's standard reference food basket increased by two percent compared to December 2021, according to the latest <u>WFP Syria Market Price Watch Bulletin</u>. In January the nationwide average reference food basket price reached SYP 225,398 (USD 90 at the official exchange rate of SYP 2,500/USD), marking a new record high for the fifth consecutive month since WFP started price monitoring in 2013. Food prices in January were 34 percent higher than six months ago, and 86 percent higher compared to the same time last year.
- Moreover, the national average non-skilled labour wage, representing construction, off-loading and agricultural labour, was recorded at SYP 9,557/day (USD 3.80) in January 2022.

 In January 2022, the Syrian pound's informal exchange rate weakened by 1 percent, reaching SYP 3,586/USD.
 Compared to one year ago, the Syrian pound has depreciated by 19 percent. The official exchange rate and the UN operational rate remains at SYP 2,500/USD.

#### North-Western Syria

- 11 January marked the start of the second six months of UN Security Council <u>Resolution 2585 (2021)</u>, authorizing the continued cross-border delivery of humanitarian assistance from Turkey into north-western Syria, through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing.
- The UN cross-border operation has been complemented by two WFP cross-line convoys in late 2021, providing assistance from government-held parts of Syria. Food and nutrition items from both deliveries were successfully distributed, with the second round of distributions completed on 24 January, reaching some 42,640 people in 51 locations.
- Severe winter weather conditions across north-western Syria continued to impact tens of thousands of IDPs over January, with at least 293 displacement sites impacted between 18-27 January 2022. According to the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster, 939 tents were reported destroyed and 9,570 tents damaged, affecting more than 57,000 IDPs. In response, WFP has since 1 December distributed ready to-eat rations (RTEs) for winterizations to some 293,400 people in the north-west.

#### North-Eestern Syria

- On 20 January, Islamic State of the Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militants attacked Ghweran prison in southern Al-Hasakeh city, to free some of the 5,000 IS fighters held at the facility. This led to six-day clashes with the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) who manage the facility. Some prisoners escaped and many fighters on both sides were killed.
- Following the attacks, Kurdish authorities imposed a total lockdown in Al-Hasakeh city, and a partial lock down over the entire SDF-held until 30 January, restricting all movements, including for humanitarins. As a result, WFP's GFA and nutrition assistance in Al-Hol and Areesha camps was suspended in late January, and cash-voucher activities in Al-Hasakeh have been disrupted.
- Up to 45,000 people were displaced from their homes in southern Al-Hasakeh city to other neighbourhoods in the city. Some people sheltered with family or friends, while others were hosted in six collective shelters that were opened in the Syrian Government-held areas. As of now, most of the 45,000 originally displaced have returned to their homes after the hostilities subsided

returned to their homes after the hostilities subsided WFP Syria Situation Report #1 January 2021 and all shelters are closed now except one accommodating about 100 people. Some people also remain displaced in host communities. In response, WFP's partners provided emergency food assistance to some 12,800 displaced people.

#### Southern Syria

• The situation in Dar'a Al Balad, Dar'a governorate, was relatively calm in January. WFP's cooperating partner is distributing RTEs to returnee families in Dar'a Al Balad, reaching 27,175 people in December and 24,000 people in January. January distributions will continue to reach an additional 5,000 people.

### **WFP Operations**

 WFP dispatched food and nutrition assistance sufficient for an estimated 5.6 million people across all activities in Syria in January. Additionally, US\$ 3.1 million in cashbased transfers (CBT) was distributed to 156,000 WFP beneficiaries.

#### **General Food Assistance (GFA) Programme**

- In January, WFP dispatched GFA sufficient for some 5.5 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates.
- Due to the security situation in Al-Hasakeh governorate and the related lockdown, WFP was not able to complete January dispatches to Al-Hol camp in January. The January cycle has been extended into February to reach all beneficiaries.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 27 percent of the total WFP general food assistance dispatched. This includes food rations for some 1.5 million people areas of Idlib and Aleppo governorate inaccessible from inside Syria.

#### Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets

• WFP reached some 25,000 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 January, WFP reached some 445,700 children with fortified date bars in 1,430 schools across the country.
- The fresh meals programme reached 34,000 children in Aleppo in January 2021.
- WFP also supported 32,300 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 of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 202,700 children (6-23 months old) and Pregnant and

Lactating Women and Girls (PLWG). This includes some 69,350 PLWG who received CBT to purchase fresh food from WFP-contracted shops.

• WFP dispatched nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 22,700 children and PLWG for one month.

# **Clusters and Common Services**

#### **Food Security Sector**

• The Food Security Sector reached 6.7 million people with regular food baskets and another 2.6 million people with bread and flour distribution in December. In addition, at least 197,469 people were reached with emergency response through ready to eat rations, cooked meals, and emergency food baskets. Cumulatively, at least 3 million beneficiaries have been reached with livelihoods interventions in 2021.

#### **Logistics Cluster**

- Facilitating the cross-border operation from Turkey, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster transshipped 548 Syrian trucks from Turkey in January through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing. A total of 13,635 mt of Food Security, Shelter and Health sector items were transhipped on behalf of WFP, IOM, UNHCR and WHO.
- In January, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the storage of 3,754 m<sup>3</sup> 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 January, 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 internet services in the humanitarian hub in Deir Ezzor were further improved by the activation of a back-up fibre link through an alternative internet service provider.

#### **United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)**

• In January, UNHAS Syria completed 16 rotations on its two routes from Damascus to Qamishli and Aleppo, transporting 359 passengers and 1.56 mt of light cargo. Further, UNHAS in January completed two medical evacuations from Qamishli to Damascus.

# **Resourcing Update**

• WFP requires US\$ 445.0 million to keep operations running at current levels through July 2022.

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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 (Febryary 2022 – July 2022)	People Assisted (January 2022 dispatches)	Female	Male	
ICSP (January 2019 – December 2021)	1.37 billion	445.0 million	5,621,194			
Activity 1: General Food Assistance			5,495,690	2,804,451	2,691,239	
Activity 2: School Feeding			445,733	218,409	227,324	
Activity 3: Livelihoods and Resilience			25,000	12,758	12,243	
Activity 4: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			202,738	137,377	65,361	
Activity 5: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			22,715	12,379	10,336	