



World Food Programme

WFP Syria Situation Report #12

December 2021



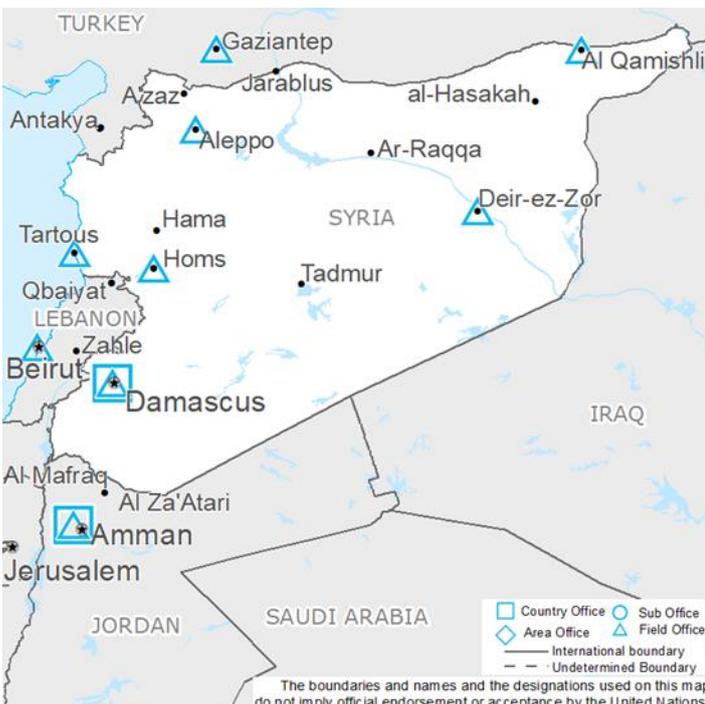
5.6 million people assisted

December 2021 (based on dispatches)



WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP)

2021 Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan	Overall requirement: US\$ 4.2 billion
	WFP share: US\$ 1.27 billion
WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirement (January–June 2022)	US\$ 365.8 m
WFP Syria 2019-2021 Interim Country Strategic Plan (November 2018)	
Interim Country Strategic Plan Revision 04 (April 2020)	



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 December.
- Food prices have reached a new record high for the fourth consecutive month in December. Food prices are now 97 percent higher compared to the same time last year.
- Close to half of surveyed Syrian households reported poor or borderline food consumption in December 2021. This was the third highest level recorded in 2021.
- On 10 December, the second cross-line WFP convoy successfully transported into Idlib governorate dry food rations sufficient for 43,500 food insecure people for one month. WFP also directly distributed food and nutrition items mainly composed of commodities previously delivered through cross-line modality.
- In north-western Syria, heavy rains have resulted in partial or total destruction of more than 4,900 tents in 210 internally displaced people (IDP) sites, affecting 57,750 individuals since the beginning of December, according to the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM).

Situation Update

Food security situation

- Household food consumption in December remained at the same critical levels reached in November 2021, according to the latest [WFP data](#). Close to half of households surveyed (49 percent) reported inadequate food consumption in December 2021. This was the third highest level recorded in 2021, and represents a ten-percentage point worsening compared to the previous year. The continued deterioration is largely induced by a decade of conflict, the ongoing economic decline, hyperinflation and fuel shortages.
- Furthermore, insufficient consumption of protein-rich foods continued to prevail in Syria. In December 2021, approximately 62 percent of surveyed households

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nationwide indicated consuming animal-source protein less than twice a week. This trend was more evident among households with poor or borderline food consumption, as they reported consuming animal-source protein less than once a week.

Economic situation

- Food prices reached a new record high for the fourth consecutive month in December, according to the latest [WFP Syria Market Price Watch Bulletin](#). In December 2021, the nationwide average price of the WFP standard reference food basket increased by three percent compared to November, reaching SYP 220,112 (USD 88.04 at the official exchange rate of SYP 2,500/USD). Food prices are now 33 percent higher than six months ago, and 97 percent higher compared to the same time last year.
- On 11 December, the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection increased the price of subsidised benzene (octane 90) by 47 percent. In line with the recent increases in prices, the government on 15 December issued two legislative decrees, raising the salaries and wages of civil servants and military personnel by 30 percent, as well as pensions for retirees by 25 percent. The last salary increase in Syria was announced in July 2021 and the one before was in November 2019.

North-Western Syria

- On 10 December, WFP completed a second crossline convoy from Aleppo to WFP's warehouse in Sarmada, Idlib, north-western Syria. The convoy transported dry food rations for some 43,500 people. Furthermore, the convoy carried non-food items on behalf of WHO, UNICEF, and UNFPA including female dignity kits, printed sensitization materials, sanitary napkins, diapers, hygiene kits, micro-nutrient products, education materials and mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) measurement bands.
- Further, on 28 December, WFP successfully completed distributions of food and nutrition items mainly composed of commodities previously delivered cross-line into north-western Syria, reaching some 42,790 people in 53 locations.
- Heavy rains and inadequate infrastructure make displacement camps vulnerable to floods. Three quarters of the sites do not have rainwater drainage. More than half a million people live in sites which flooded last year. As of 22 December, heavy rains have resulted in partial or total destruction of more than 4,900 tents in 210 IDP sites, affecting 57,750 individuals since the beginning of December, according to the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM).

North-Eastern Syria

- Shelling on Abu Rasin and surrounding villages, in Al-Hasakeh governorate, was reported in December, forcing more than 1,000 families to move at night to other villages and return to their houses in the daytime. Some 175 people are reportedly permanently displaced from the western part of Abu-Rasin where the shelling is reportedly more intensive.
- Following an inter-agency assessment, international NGOs started the distribution of food and non-food items to 10,000 affected people among those internally displaced and the host community. WFP is already providing monthly food assistance in the area and will prioritize the affected families for general food distributions.

Southern Syria

- As-Sweida governorate witnessed increased security incidents in December. To ensure the safety and security of staff and beneficiaries, WFP had to suspend food distributions for 7,300 people for two days in December, and cancel four monitoring visits to the governorate. Activities resumed following the de-escalation of tensions. Further, WFP is currently assessing all the security procedures related to the upcoming missions to As-Sweida to ensure WFP staff safety.

WFP Operations

- WFP dispatched food and nutrition assistance sufficient for an estimated 5.6 million people across all activities in Syria in December. Additionally, US\$ 2.7 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) was distributed to 131,000 WFP beneficiaries.

General Food Assistance (GFA) Programme

- In December, WFP dispatched GFA sufficient for some 5.4 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 24 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 67,400 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 December, WFP reached some 412,200 children with fortified date bars in 1,430 schools across the country.
- The fresh meals programme reached 29,500 children in Aleppo in November 2021.

- WFP also supported 24,700 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 378,750 children (6-23 months old) and Pregnant and Lactating Women and Girls (PLWG). This includes some 68,850 PLWG who received CBT to purchase fresh food from WFP-contracted shops.
- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 18,200 children and PLWG for one month.

Clusters and Common Services

Logistics Cluster

- Facilitating the cross-border operation from Turkey, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster transhipped 713 Syrian trucks from Turkey in December through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing. A total of 16,160 mt of Food Security, Health and Shelter items were transhipped on behalf of WFP, IOM, UNHCR, WHO and UNICEF.
- In December, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the storage of 4,160 m³ of humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Aleppo, Homs, Rural Damascus and Qamishli on behalf of COOPI, FAO, OXFAM, UNDP, WHO, NRC and UNFPA.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- In December, the WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) continued to provide internet connectivity services to over 300 humanitarians from 11 UN agencies, and security communications services to 660 users from across 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 enhanced via an upgraded microwave link and a newly installed power back-up system to ensure consistent connectivity for humanitarians. Further improvements are ongoing.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- In December, UNHAS Syria completed 16 rotations on its two routes from Damascus to Qamishli and Aleppo, transporting 470 passengers and 2.2 mt of light cargo. Further, UNHAS in December completed one medical evacuation from Qamishli to Damascus.

Resourcing Update

- WFP requires US\$ 365.8 million to keep operations running at current levels through June 2022.

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

WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)

	2021 Requirement (in US\$)	6-Month Net Funding Requirement (January 2021 – June 2022)	People Assisted (December 2021 dispatches)	Female	Male
ICSP (January 2019 – December 2021)	1.27 billion	365.8 million	5,552,976		
Activity 1: General Food Assistance			5,390,235	2,964,629	2,425,606
Activity 2: School Feeding			431,205	211,290	219,915
Activity 3: Livelihoods and Resilience			67,395	37,067	30,328
Activity 4: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			447,606	262,019	185,588
Activity 5: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			18,210	10,744	7,466