

October 2025

WFP Syria External Situation Report

Cash Transfers in Syria to support farmers affected by drought-like conditions © WFP/ Manal Alkalaji

Highlights

- **Syria stands at a pivotal juncture offering new opportunities but facing enduring challenges.** While normalization and sanctions relief are underway, more than a decade of conflict has left public systems deeply weakened, demanding sustained international engagement to rebuild institutional and human capacity.
- **Despite funding challenges, WFP remains the largest humanitarian actor in Syria.** Today, WFP's scale, footprint, and access uniquely position it to support Syria's transition from relief to recovery and resilience through a dual-track approach that combines emergency food aid and early recovery interventions. Each month, WFP supports 3.5 million people of the most severely food insecure across Syria and stands ready to scale up operations as funding permits.
- **Until recovery takes hold, humanitarian assistance remains indispensable.** WFP requires USD 219 million over the next six months to sustain operations and prevent large-scale suspensions.

IN NUMBERS



6.3 million people reached in 2025,
Including a highest monthly reach of 3.5 million



219 million required to implement all activities for
the next six months. Without additional funds, WFP will be
forced to reduce assistance across all programmes in March 2026



Over half of the population is food insecure. Of these, nearly
3 million people are projected to be severely food insecure



7 million people remained displaced within Syria,
and **4 million** living as refugees in neighbouring countries.



3.1 million people – 1.9 million IDPs and 1.2 million
refugees returned to their areas of origin since 8 December 2024.

WFP RESPONSE

- **So far in 2025, WFP reached 6.3 million people¹ across the country,** with a highest monthly reach of 3.5 million people through a highly prioritized plan focused on those facing the most severe levels of food insecurity. This includes 1.2 million people receiving targeted emergency food assistance, 2 million people benefiting from daily fortified bread sold at subsidized price at hunger hotspots, and the remainder supported through livelihoods, school meals and nutrition programmes. Following the completion of the first phase of the subsidized bread programme, WFP plans to launch the second phase in December 2025.
- **WFP remains ready to respond to emergencies when they arise.** Since mid-July, WFP provided immediate food and nutrition support to more than 570,000 people² affected by the surge in violence in southern Syria with food and nutrition assistance, along with 5,500 mt of fortified wheat flour to bakeries for daily bread production. WFP now prepares to launch a second round of assistance across As-Sweida, targeting up to 525,000 people.

Following the immediate food assistance to 52,000 wildfire-affected people in Lattakia, WFP is working to scale up resilience-building efforts through water infrastructure and bakery rehabilitation to support recovery and strengthen community resilience.

- Simultaneously, **WFP is working closely with the Government to combine immediate relief with opportunities for families to rebuild their lives and their communities,** by investing in early recovery and livelihoods, and strengthening social safety nets. Building on its achievements since 2020 – including restoring water access to 50,000 hectares and rehabilitating 25 bakeries – WFP will continue its work to restore 29 additional bakeries and four silos by the end of 2026, while also leading collaborative efforts with Syrian authorities to rebuild the country's wheat flour fortification and salt iodization systems.

WFP also works closely with Syria authorities, UN partner agencies, and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) – including the World Bank – to strengthen social safety net systems. Syria's first nutrition-sensitive social protection programme (T-ANMU) was launched in October, providing cash transfers to 11,000 vulnerable

¹ Beneficiary numbers are estimates and may include overlaps; figures are subject to revision following end-of-year reconciliations.

² The total number of people supported through the emergency response has been adjusted downward following the removal of overlaps.

people; through T-ANMU, WFP is establishing the groundwork for a national 1,000-day programme aimed at safeguarding the human capital development of Syria's next generation. WFP also recently launched a six-month food and cash assistance to support 30,000 farmers' household impacted by drought-like conditions to build their resilience; part of this response is supported through a climate macro-insurance scheme. Through these interventions WFP rolled-out its first cash assistance transfers in Syria.

- **School meals** interventions in Syria are temporarily paused as WFP collaborates with the Ministry of Education to redesign the programme for this academic year, aiming to enhance long-term educational and health outcomes for Syria's children. A pilot initiative is being considered for December, targeting primary schools in parts of southern Syria.
- WFP continues to collaborate closely with UNHCR to support **vulnerable returnees**. WFP aims to extend its support and expand its geographical reach to areas with high concentrations of returnees for potential inclusion in WFP's targeted assistance programme, based on assessed needs and protection standards.
- The **2025 Food Security Assessment** is ongoing with preliminary results expected by end of year. The assessment is conducted in collaboration with the Syrian Planning and Statistics Commission and FAO.
- **WFP has established itself as a trusted partner of the Syrian Government** through strategic partnerships, including the subsidized bread project and strengthening food value chain with the Ministry of Economy and Industry, the macro insurance programme with the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, and the Food Security Assessment with the Planning and Statistical Commission, with additional partnerships planned.
- Contingent to sufficient funding, WFP is ready to expand targeted emergency food assistance to the most vulnerable - including returnees - and scale-up early recovery efforts, focusing on food value chains and agricultural livelihoods.

Supply Chain

- **WFP Syria's optimized supply corridors strategy ensures a continuous and cost-efficient delivery of commodities into Syria.** WFP is strengthening local procurement and expanding use of the Turkish corridor to reduce costs and improve supply chain efficiency, while securing access through Iraq as a contingency measure.
- **WFP maintains a robust logistics network**, with an average of 650 monthly truck movements via contracts with 21 transport companies, ensuring efficient food delivery to vulnerable populations across the country. WFP also has a network of over 280 WFP-contracted retailers, allowing beneficiaries to redeem their cash (CBT) assistance.

- **WFP leverages five WFP-contracted warehouses**, strategically located across five governorates to store supplies for emergencies. This network is also available for use by other humanitarian partners.

OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

- **Funding shortfalls amid rising humanitarian needs are severely constraining WFP's capacity** to respond to Syria's overlapping crises.
- **Economic fragility continues** despite recent wage increases, the minimum income still covers only one-third of household needs, underscoring the need for social protection and economic reform.
- **Environmental shocks**, including drought-like conditions and wildfires, threaten crops, livelihoods, and recovery prospects.
- **Liquidity and currency issues** persist. The UN has introduced a temporary mechanism enabling direct USD payments to maintain operational continuity.

FUNDING REQUIREMENT

- **WFP urgently needs USD 219 million until April 2026 to sustain all its activities.** Without a minimum of 162 million by January 2026, the food pipeline will break by March and WFP will be forced to halt both emergency food assistance and the bread subsidy project; nutrition interventions would also be at risk

CLUSTERS AND COMMON SERVICES

Food Security Sector (FSS)

The FSS continues its efforts to enhance coordination among partners across Syria. In 2025, the FSS has supported 2.1 million people with life-saving food assistance and over 400,000 people with livelihoods support.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

The ETC will cease operations by the end of December due to funding shortages, after which WFP is looking to continue providing telecommunications services to humanitarian partners on a cost-recovery basis.

Logistics Cluster

Following the normalization of commercial and trade relations between Türkiye and Syria, the Logistics Cluster will close the Reyhanlı hub on 1 December 2025, while WFP will continue technical and operational support to partners to ensure uninterrupted logistics assistance. Since the [July 2014 UN Security Council cross-border resolution](#), the cluster facilitated over 64,700 trucks transporting 748,668 mt of relief from Türkiye to northwest Syria; WFP accounts for 75 percent of these deliveries.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS)

UNHAS currently operates two weekly flights between Damascus and Aleppo, serving 72 humanitarian agencies in Syria. Operations are planned to expand to Qamishli and Deir Ezzor, contingent upon the reopening of their airports.