

# **WFP Syria** Situation Report #6

World Food Programme



#### **4.9 million people assisted** June 2021 (based on dispatches)



Gender and Age Marker

WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP)

2021 Syrian Arab Republic	Overall requirement: USD 4.2 billion		
Humanitarian Response Plan	WFP share: USD 1.27 billion		
WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirement (July 2021 – December 2021)	<b>USD 472.8 m</b> As of 21 June 2021		
WFP Syria 2019-2021 Interim Country Strategic Plan (November 2018)			
Interim Country Strategic Plan Revision 04 (April 2020)			



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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 4.8 million people across all activities in Syria in June.
- Food prices decreased in May across Syria for the second consecutive month, according to the latest WFP <u>data</u>, linked to a strengthening and stabilization of the value of the Syrian pound on the informal exchange market.
- Following a slight improvement, the food security situation in Syria deteriorated again in June, highlighting a sustained worsening trend in the food security situation across the country, according to the latest WFP <u>data</u>.
- According to OCHA's first Euphrates Water Crisis & Drought Outlook analysis, Syria currently ranks seventh on a global risk index of 191 countries most at risk of a "humanitarian or natural disaster event that could overwhelm response capacity".

# **Situation Update**

# **Economic situation**

- Food prices decreased across Syria for the second consecutive month, according to the latest <u>WFP Syria</u> <u>Market Price Watch Bulletin</u> released in June, linked to a strengthening and stabilization of the value of the Syrian pound on the informal exchange market.
- Food prices decreased by five percent from April to May 2021, reaching 167,842 Syrian pounds (SYP). This follows a two percent decrease from March to April 2021. However, food prices in Syria in May remained 69 percent higher than six months earlier and had increased by 197 percent year-on-year.

# **Food Security Situation**

 Following a slight improvement in April and May, the food security situation in Syria deteriorated again in June, highlighting a sustained worsening trend in the food security situation across the country, according to the latest WFP <u>data</u>. 43 percent of all households surveyed in June 2021 reported poor or borderline food consumption; a 16 percent increase month-onmonth (from May to June), and 26 percent year-onyear (from June 2020 to June 2021).

## **Drought and Euphrates Water Crisis**

- According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) first <u>Euphrates Water Crisis & Drought Outlook</u> analysis, Syria currently ranks seventh on a global risk index of 191 countries most at risk of a "humanitarian or natural disaster event that could overwhelm response capacity", partly due to the ongoing drought which is hindering adequate preparedness measures.
- Poor precipitation during the 2020/2021 winter season, as well as the months critical for crop development (January-April), have negatively impacted several governorates in the north-east, with Al-Hasakeh governorate typically noted as the breadbasket of the country, particularly affected. However, all governorates of the country are currently experiencing significantly below average rainfall, with WFP beneficiaries from other areas, including agriculturally dependent areas of southern Syria, such as Rural Damascus governorate, reporting dry weather negatively impacting crop yields.

# **COVID-19 Pandemic**

• Approximately 69,559 COVID-19 cases and 3,346 deaths have been confirmed across all areas of Syria as of 30 June. This includes 25,515 cases and 1,876 deaths in government-controlled areas, 25,534 cases and 707 deaths in north-western Syria, and 18,510 cases and 763 deaths in north-eastern Syria.

## North-Western Syria

- The security situation in north-western Syria deteriorated significantly in June, with an uptick in violence, including ground clashes and shelling, reported from multiple areas of southern Idlib governorate.
- As a result of the recent uptick in hostilities in northwestern Syria, the Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CCCM) Cluster recorded close to 44,000 displacement movements from Ehsem, Ariha and Idlib areas of Idlib governorate towards safer areas over the month of June. This represents a noticeable increase of 76 percent compared May (25,000 displacements).

## North-eastern Syria

• The security situation in Al-Hasakeh governorate remained volatile in June. Continued fighting between the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) and Turkish forces has led to the full closure of the main water pump station in Allouk town in the north-eastern countryside of Al-Hasakeh in June. Allouk water station supplies water to more than one million people in AlHasakeh city and its surroundings.

## Southern Syria

• The situation in Dar'a governorate was tense and volatile in June, with tensions between the Syrian Government and 'reconciled' non-state armed groups reportedly escalating. Since 1 June, road access to Dar'a al-Balad has been restricted by authorities, citing security concerns, leaving only one accessible route to the area. As a result, WFP was unable to complete distribution to some 19,250 beneficiaries under the June cycle out of the planned 38,000 to be reached under the June distribution cycle. *NB. distribution was since completed on 16 July.* 

# **WFP Response**

- WFP dispatched humanitarian assistance sufficient for an estimated 4.9 million people across all activities in Syria in June.
- A total of USD 2.4 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) was distributed to 175,000 WFP beneficiaries across four activities: The GFA CBT pilot; School Feeding (support to out-of-school children); Malnutrition Prevention (support to pregnant and lactating women); and Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets.
- In response to COVID-19, and under agreement with UNFPA, CBT top-ups at a total value of USD 368,500 were distributed, allowing the households of the 65,800 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) assisted by WFP to purchase hygiene items (benefitting some 329,000 people).
- As part of the Health Sector-led response to COVID-19 in Syria, WFP, in cooperation WHO has so far provided food assistance to some 16,600 people in ten quarantine and ten isolation centres in Syria. The project is funded through the Syria Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF).

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

- In June, WFP dispatched GFA sufficient for some 4.8 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 28 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 50,700 people under its livelihoods, resilience and social safety-nets-projects across Rural Damascus, Dar'a, Quneitra, As-Sweida, Homs, Hama, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, Aleppo, Lattakia, Tartous and Deir Ezzor governorates.

#### **School Feeding Programme**

- WFP supported 51,100 out-of-school children with food vouchers in Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Dar'a, Al-Hasakeh, Quneitra, Deir Ezzor, Latakia, Tartous, Damascus and Rural Damascus.
- As an Education Sector partner, WFP continued in June the provision of food assistance to Syrian students coming from areas of Syria outside of government control, as well as from Lebanon, to sit for their national exams. A total of 6,000 students and their families in Aleppo, Hama, Deir Ezzor, Ar-Raqqa and Rural Damascus governorates received ready-to-eat rations and fortified date bars in June. WFP also covered the cost of bread for the students and shared with other UN agencies the cost of hot meals.

#### **Nutrition Programme**

- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 273,800 people. This includes 208,000 children and 65,800 PLWG who received CBT to purchase fresh food from WFP-contracted shops.
- WFP dispatched nutrition products sufficient for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 15,000 children and PLWG for one month.

# **Clusters and Common Services**

#### **Logistics Cluster**

- Facilitating the cross-border operation from Turkey, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster transshipped 1,160 Syrian trucks from Turkey in June. A total of 27,655 mt of Health, WASH, Food, Education and Shelter items were transshipped on behalf of WFP, IOM, UNHCR, WHO and UNICEF.
- In June, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the storage of 89.64 m<sup>3</sup> of newly received humanitarian goods in its storage facilities in Rural Damascus and Aleppo on behalf of UNFPA and PU.

# United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

 In June, UNHAS Syria completed 17 rotations on its two routes from Damascus to Qamishli and Aleppo, transporting 470 passengers and 3.99 mt of light cargo. Of the passengers transported on both routes, 34 percent were UN staff, and 66 percent were staff from national and international non-governmental organisations.

# **Resourcing Update**

• WFP requires USD 472.8 million to keep operations running at current levels through December 2021.

#### Contacts

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For further information, visit the <u>WFP Syria website</u>.

WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)						
	2021 Requirement (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirement (July 2021 - December 2021)	People Assisted (June 2021 dispatches)	Female	Male	
ICSP (January 2019 – December 2021)	1.27 billion	472.8 million	4,915,083			
Activity 1: General Food Assistance			4,845,515	2,665,033	2,180,482	
Activity 2: School Feeding			57,076	27,967	29,109	
Activity 3: Livelihoods and Resilience			50,675	27,871	22,804	
Activity 4: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			273,837	171,897	101,940	
Activity 5: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			14,955	8,823	6,132	