

WFP Syria

Situation Report # 11

November 2016

In Numbers

13.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance

6.3 million people internally displaced

9 million people in need of food assistance

Highlights

- WFP provided food assistance for 3.9 million people in 13 of the 14 governorates
- More than 40,000 people were displaced from eastern Aleppo city following a large-scale government offensive
- WFP’s Executive Board approved PRRO 200988, which will replace the current EMOP starting in January 2017
- USD 95 million is urgently needed in order to cover the most immediate expenses until March 2017.

3.9 million people assisted
November 2016



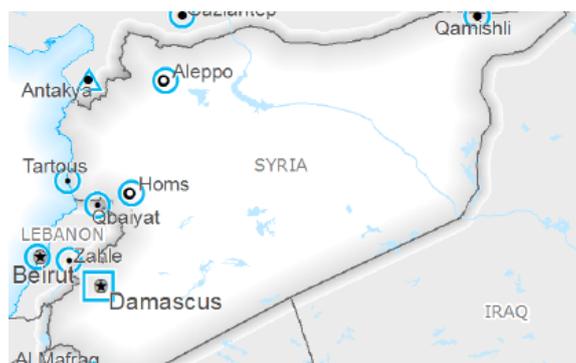
GENDER MARKER 1 EMOP 200123

Global Humanitarian Funding	Overall: USD 3.19 billion WFP share: USD 660 million
------------------------------------	---

WFP 6-month Net Funding Requirements (January –June 2017)

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation*	USD 268 million
Logistics and ETC Cluster**	USD 6.6 million
Airdrop Deliveries to Deir Ezzor***	USD 8.9 million

*The new PRRO will be launched in January 2017
 ** The special operation for the logistics and ETC clusters has been extended until December 2017
 *** The special operation for the airdrop deliveries is in place until 31 December 2016



Situation Update

Aleppo City

- The humanitarian situation in the northern city of Aleppo continued to deteriorate during the reporting period, reaching catastrophic levels by the beginning of December. With winter arriving, tens of thousands of people were displaced as a result of a government offensive on eastern Aleppo city (EAC), while all food rations that remained in the besieged parts of the city were depleted.
- With food prices of the last remaining food items increasing to levels unaffordable to most families, people were resorting to destructive measures in order to cope with the situation, such as selling or trading their last remaining assets for some basic food items. At the same time, shelling continued unabatedly, resulting in hundreds of deaths and widespread destruction.
- Towards the end of November, Syrian government forces launched a large-scale offensive on EAC through an increased military campaign, taking control of more than 95 percent of the besieged part of the city by early-December. This triggered massive population displacement, with almost 40,000 people displaced.
- Thousands of people from the north eastern neighbourhoods arrived in an IDP centre in the government-controlled area of Jibrin in eastern rural Aleppo, different parts of western Aleppo city, as well as the Kurdish controlled neighbourhood of Sheik Maqsoud. Others were displaced within EAC itself, where an estimated unconfirmed number of 100,000 people remain. As the situation is currently unfolding, numbers change frequently.

- With winter arriving and falling temperatures, thousands of people are staying in unfinished buildings and informal settlements and do not have the financial means to provide for their own food. As the UN is working together with SARC, local partners and relevant authorities to improve the shelter conditions, WFP is providing food assistance to the newly displaced population.
- WFP provided bulk food, such as lentils, pasta and tomato paste, to support a communal kitchen in Jibrin to provide two hot meals and bread for 11,500 people per day. Furthermore, WFP provided ready-to-eat rations, bread, and nutrition supplies for 22,000 people in western Aleppo city while assistance for 11,000 people was delivered to the Kurdish controlled neighborhood of Sheik Maqsoud.
- Meanwhile, heavy shelling on government-controlled parts of the city resulted in the deaths of hundreds of people and the destruction of civilian infrastructure. Despite the volatile security situation on the ground, food distributions are continuing as planned and in November, more than 500,000 people received assistance.

Aleppo, Idleb and Lattakia Governorates

- Government and opposition forces continued to fight in the rural parts of Aleppo and Idleb governorates during the reporting period, leading to thousands of newly displaced civilians who sought refuge in safer areas of the country.
- In response, WFP and its partners conducted rapid needs assessments in order to assist the newly displaced population. More than 2,800 people received assistance in Harim and Jisr Al-Shughur in northern Idleb governorate, while another 2,500 people were assisted in Lattakia governorate.
- Moreover, in anticipation of further escalation of violence and consequent population displacement, food assistance for 41,000 people was prepositioned in northern rural Idleb and Aleppo governorates in order to allow WFP to rapidly respond to the needs of the population.

Dar'a Governorate

- Thousands of people were displaced from areas in central rural Dar'a during the reporting period as a result of prolonged military activity that has been ongoing for months in the south of the country.
- Most of the people sought refuge in north-western Dar'a governorate, where thousands of other people have already sought safety over the past several months. As a result of the IDP increase in these areas, combined with the continuous fighting, food prices have significantly increased, while a lack of basic food commodities, medical supplies and regular electricity and telecommunication cuts make it increasingly difficult for the vulnerable population to cope with the situation.
- In response to the deteriorating humanitarian

situation, and to assist the newly displaced civilians, WFP provided ready-to-eat food assistance for some 5,900 people in north-western Dar'a through its cross-border operation from Jordan.

WFP Response

- WFP delivered food assistance for 3.9 million people in 13 of the 14 Syrian governorates in November, achieving 98 percent of the monthly plan. Approximately 27 percent of the assistance was delivered to high conflict areas across the country, including hard-to-reach and besieged areas, through cross-border, cross-line and air operations. Through cross-border deliveries from Turkey and Jordan, WFP provided assistance for 668,000 people living in opposition held areas in Aleppo, Idleb, Hama, Quneitra and Dar'a governorates.
- Furthermore, through three joint humanitarian cross-line convoys, WFP delivered food assistance and nutrition supplies for 167,500 people in hard to reach and besieged areas. This includes the delivery of food assistance for 107,500 people in the hard-to-reach town of Al-Rastan in northern rural Homs as well as assistance for 60,000 people in the besieged cities of Madaya, Zabadani (Rural Damascus governorate) and Foah and Kefraya (Idleb governorate) as part of the four towns agreement.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP provided nutrition products to 179,000 children aged 6-59 months for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies through in-country and cross-border deliveries. Furthermore, WFP dispatched nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 250 children in Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) centres in Rural Damascus governorate, sufficient for a period of three months. Nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 360 children were also delivered to Al-Rastan through an inter-agency convoy.
- Through Cash-Based-Transfers (CBT), WFP enabled more than 11,640 pregnant and nursing mothers to purchase fresh food products at selected retailers in Homs and Lattakia governorates.
- The fortified school snacks programme provided date bars for almost 314,000 children in some 500 elementary schools across seven governorates. Furthermore, the pilot project for out-of-school-children (OOSC) was officially launched in Homs and Lattakia governorates, where 74 children and their families received cash-based-transfers. By providing the OOSC with a CBT of USD 23, parents are encouraged to send their children back to UNICEF Curriculum B supported schools where children receive intensive classes to make up for missed schooling.



Supply Chain

- By the end of the reporting period, WFP had carried out 156 airdrop rotations to the besieged parts of Deir Ezzor city, delivering 2,864 mt of WFP food commodities as well as various supplies on behalf of other humanitarian actors since the operation was launched on 10 April.
- WFP has so far dropped sufficient quantities to provide three full monthly food rations to all people identified as in need of assistance. Current quantities airdropped are being used in support of a fourth round of distributions.
- In November, WFP conducted 10 airdrop rotations, compared to 19 rotations in October. WFP reduced the number of flights to allow for a proper assessment of the drop zone, evaluate the security situation and revise the food basket.
- Emergency airlifts to Al-Hasakeh governorate by the WFP-led Logistics Cluster also continued during the reporting period, completing 47 flights between Damascus and Qamishly in November. Through these airlifts, WFP dispatched food assistance for over 190,000 people in urban and rural areas in Al-Hasakeh governorate. Furthermore, these airlifts enabled WFP to preposition ready-to-eat food rations for some 125,000 people as an emergency stock in anticipation of a possible influx of refugees from Ar-Raqqa and Iraq in the wake of the ongoing anti-ISIL military campaign.

Approval of the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation for 2017 – 2018

- On 17 November, WFP's Executive Board approved the new protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO). Starting in January 2017, WFP will replace the current emergency operation (EMOP) with the PRRO and will provide assistance for 5.74 million people. The focus will remain on meeting the basic food needs of the most food-insecure through the provision of emergency food assistance, while gradually scaling up livelihood and resilience activities by taking into account the very volatile security situation in the country.

Release of the Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission Report

- The latest Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) conducted by WFP and FAO was released in mid-November and illustrates record low food production in Syria.
- The CFSAM notes that wheat cultivation declined from an average 3.4 million mt of wheat harvested before the war to 1.5 million mt in 2016, a decrease of 55 percent. As a result of the declining wheat production, a shortfall of 838,000 mt of wheat is expected in 2016-2017 compared to national requirements.
- Furthermore, more than five years of conflict have had a profound impact on livestock. Syria used to be

an exporter of livestock, but herds and flocks have diminished since the beginning of the conflict. Poultry, representing the most affordable source of animal protein, has decreased by 60 percent.

- Overall, the resilience of farmers has been severely compromised due to the prolonged conflict. Production is hindered by insecurity that limits access to fields, but also the overall destruction and inadequate maintenance of fields play a significant role. Agricultural inputs such as fuel, seeds, fertilizers and spare parts are not available in sufficient quantities and are often too expensive. However, there are substantial regional differences amongst the governorates.

Clusters and Common Services



Food Security Sector

- The 2017 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) was released on 1 December following the endorsement of the Whole of Syria Strategic Steering Group and consultations with the Syrian Government. The total number of people in need of assistance remains at 13.5 million, while the number of food insecure people was reported by the Food Security and Agriculture Sector (the Sector) to be seven million with another two million at high risk of food insecurity.
- Furthermore, the Sector finalized its inputs for the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The Sector presented the needs, strategy and a summary of projects and targets to meet the identified and prioritized needs of the population that will feed into the HRP that will be released in December.



Logistics Cluster

- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster (the Cluster) continued to facilitate coordination services, information management and logistic support to the humanitarian community operating inside Syria. During the reporting period, the Cluster facilitated inter-agency humanitarian convoys, stored humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities and facilitated warehouse training management sessions for actors operating inside Syria and in Gaziantep.
- Furthermore, the Cluster continued to lead the airlift operation to Al-Hasakeh governorate and transported 1,602 mt of much needed humanitarian supplies on behalf of UN agencies as well as other humanitarian actors. The Cluster also transported six mt of inter-agency cargo on behalf of various humanitarian actors other than WFP to the besieged parts of Deir Ezzor city as part of WFP's airdrop operation.

Resourcing Update

- With the launch of the new PRRO approaching, WFP urgently requires additional funding in order to cover

the operational needs during the first months of 2017.

- Although WFP is very grateful to the donors who already made contributions, a 49 percent shortfall amounting to USD 95 million still exists to cover the needs until the end of March. An even greater shortfall exists until the end of June; USD 268 million, which represents 70 percent of the requirements.
- Given the 2-3 month procurement lead-time to have commodities in the country ready for distribution, food commodities bought with contributions received in December will not be ready for distribution before March.
- Consequently, WFP has already been forced to apply difficult measures for January and February in order to provide assistance to the vulnerable population with the limited funds available. This includes a reduction in the number of beneficiaries across all the different programme modalities, as well as a reduced food basket, during a time when needs are particularly high due to cold winter weather.

- Should contributions not materialize, WFP will be forced to apply even more critical measures, such as further reducing the number of beneficiaries or temporarily pausing certain programme modalities.
- WFP welcomes any form of contributions, but particularly welcomes contributions in the form of multi-year commitments. This enables WFP to satisfy critical needs while facilitating the move beyond short-term emergency planning cycles towards resilience-building programming.

Contacts

- WFP Representative and Country Director: Jakob Kern
- Reports Officer Syria: Rikke Kasse
rikke.kasse@wfp.org
- Food Security Cluster: Samantha Chattaraj
samantha.chattaraj@wfp.org
- Logistics Cluster: Alessandra Piccolo
alessandra.piccolo@wfp.org
- For further information, visit the Syria page on www.wfp.org/countries/Syria

WFP Operation						
	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)	People Assisted (November 2016)	Female	Male
EMOP 200339 (Nov 2011 – Dec 2016)	2 844 million	1 753 million	0	3 918 680	1 998 527	1 920 153
General Food Distribution				3 918 680	1 998 527	1 920 153
Cash Based Transfers (PLW)				11 646	11 646	0
Fortified School Snacks Programme				314 000	160 140	153 860
Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme				179 052	91 317	87 735
Targeted Treatment Programme				610	311	299