In Numbers

4.9 million Refugees in the Region (Source: UNHCR)

2 million Assisted by WFP in February

Highlights

Overall food consumption in the region was found to be stable through 2016 4th quarter monitoring exercises, with 78 percent of households surveyed having ‘acceptable’ food consumption following WFP assistance.

In partnership with UN Women and the Royal Health Awareness Society, WFP expanded its Healthy Kitchen activity in refugee camps in Jordan. Syrian refugees, 50 percent women, have been recruited and are being trained to operate the kitchens.

The Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) progressed all across Turkey in full coordination and partnership with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies (MoFSP) and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC). Over a quarter of a million vulnerable refugees has received an ESSN payment by the end of February, 2017, marking a new milestone since the programme rolled out nationwide at the end of November 2016.

Situation Update

Supporting the future of Syria and the region - Brussels Conference Spring 2017

The humanitarian community will come together in Brussels, Belgium this spring, marking the one-year anniversary of the 2016 Supporting Syria and the Region conference in London. Brussels offers a chance to take stock of progress achieved against the outcomes of the London conference, while looking for areas to improve the impact of international aid especially in the domains of education and livelihoods (including job creation) for Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities. WFP continues to advocate for the role of food security as a foundation and enabler for achieving better outcomes in livelihood and education. Crucial is the continuation of the partnership-based approach that focuses on building joint programming from the design phase, harnessing the comparative advantages of various stakeholders, avoiding overlap in programmes and improving cost-efficiency and accountability. Vital for achieving these outcomes is a continuation of the exemplary pledges from donors witnessed in London last year, and an increase in multi-year, flexible funding that allows for longer-term planning.
Political Update
The escalation of conflict in southern Syria, particularly north of Jordan’s Ramtha border, suspended the delivery of cross-border humanitarian assistance in February. Alternate options are being discussed to supply United Nation warehouses located east and west of Dara’a.

On 16 February, the Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) in Turkey conducted an information session for UN agencies and NGOs on the DGMM registration verification exercise. The exercise, the first of this kind in Turkey, aims to update and obtain missing information for registered Syrian refugees, and to identify, record and refer persons with specific needs. UNHCR is supporting DGMM in designing and carrying out the exercise. The outcome will provide the Government of Turkey, UNHCR, WFP and other appropriate stakeholders with updated data that can be used to design evidence-based programmes for targeted assistance, as well as identify and assist persons with specific needs.

Following a surge in attacks by the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL), all UN missions to eastern Mosul in Iraq were put on temporary hold. The United Nations Department of Safety and Security permitted access on 19 February, following an assessment of the situation. Areas where Syrian refugees are residing in camps are currently secure.

Inflation in Egypt continues to negatively affect the cost of the minimum expenditure food basket for Syrian refugees.

Food Security Outcome Trends of Syrian Refugees (2016 Quarter 4)

Based on Post-distribution Monitoring data collected in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt in Quarter 4 (October – December 2016).

Over the reporting period (October – December 2016) 2,224 beneficiary and 1,128 non-beneficiary households were surveyed across the region hosting Syrian refugees to measure the food security outcomes of WFP assistance. Overall food consumption in the region was stable compared to the previous quarter: 78 percent of households surveyed had ‘acceptable’ food consumption scores following WFP assistance.

Jordan and Lebanon continue to have the highest proportion of beneficiaries in the ‘poor’ or ‘borderline’ food consumption groups. Food consumption in Turkey, Iraq and Egypt were stable compared to the previous quarter.

In Lebanon, acceptable food consumption improved by 6 percentage points. Beneficiaries with ‘acceptable’ food consumption in Jordan, however, declined by 23 percentage points; non-beneficiaries saw a decline of 37 percentage points. Further analysis on how and why this may have happened is ongoing. One reason may be the data collection method: remote post distribution monitoring was conducted in the 4th quarter, whereas data was collected face-to-face during the previous three quarters. Other external factors may also have influenced results. The Jordan country office is examining the issue further.

Following the large scale-up in WFP assistance to vulnerable populations in Turkey, post-distribution monitoring shows those residing in camps and off-camps have similar food consumption. This is a very positive finding given the rapid, ongoing scale-up for off-camp refugees, and is likely the result of regular WFP assistance at the planned values. However, those residing off-camp were three times more likely than those living in camps to use credit for purchases, borrow money, or sell household assets to buy food.

WFP Response

Lebanon: In February, WFP reached 759,414 people: 690,644 Syrian refugees, 15,975 Palestinian refugees from Syria, and 52,795 vulnerable Lebanese through the Government of Lebanon’s National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP).

Resilience and livelihoods projects were not carried out in February due to breaks in the funding pipeline. The school meals activity recommenced in late February, following administrative delays and operational challenges.

WFP Lebanon is exploring partnerships at the national level to inform the development of the 2017 livelihoods programmes. Potential partners include the Lebanese American University’s Institute on Women’s Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW) and the Resource Centre for Gender Equality (ABAAD).

Turkey: In February, 41,478 refugee families (259,022 people) received ESSN payments. Under the ESSN, WFP, TRC, MOSP and ECHO are partnering to deliver unrestricted cash assistance of 100 Turkish Lira (USD 36). In 2017, WFP aims to assist one million refugees in Turkey under the ESSN program. All refugees (not only Syrians) are eligible to apply for ESSN assistance. Since the start of the ESSN roll-out in November 2016, WFP field staff monitored 74 of 81 provinces covering 298 districts. WFP visited 283 Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundation offices and 14 TRC Service Centres. ESSN partners continue working closely together to address issues arising. For example, solutions are being fine-tuned to ensure that vulnerable refugees can register with the necessary government databases, a prerequisite to their ESSN application.

In parallel, 216,640 off-camp refugees received 100 Turkish Lira (USD 36) to help them cover their basic needs and avoid a break in assistance while they apply for the ESSN. 143,170 Syrian refugees living inside 11 camps in the south-east of Turkey
received 50 Turkish Liras (USD 18) per person per month to be spent on food, complemented by assistance provided by the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD).

Off-camp refugees still receiving WFP assistance received SMS to remind them that this assistance will end and that they should apply for the ESSN.

The ESSN Facebook page is functional. It will be advertised in the sensitization material to be printed and via SMS as part of a wider awareness-raising campaign for the ESSN.

In collaboration with the TRC, collection of ESSN Pre-Assistance baseline (PAB) data was initiated with telephone interviews to approximately 1,000 households identified as eligible for ESSN assistance. Once data collection is completed, another set of interviews for ineligible households will be conducted. The PAB will serve as a reference point to evaluate the ESSN outcomes for the mid-term review and end-of-project implementation.

In February, the first focus group discussion took place with Syrian refugees who received ESSN assistance, with separate male and female groups. The discussion helped the team to identify refugees’ problems, demographic and socioeconomic status, and to get direct feedback from the groups about ESSN assistance.

Egypt: WFP reached 75,650 refugees in February (72,840 Syrian refugees and 2,810 Palestinian refugees from Syria).

As a result of the current funding situation, the voucher value was reduced in the implementation plan from USD 24.2 to USD 15.9 (EGP 300) to cover first quarter requirements.

Iraque: WFP assisted 54,203 Syrians in nine refugee camps, of whom 1,018 people received unrestricted cash.

Since the start of the regional emergency operation, USD 2.6 billion has been injected into local economies in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt and Turkey, through the voucher transfer value and local procurement.

Please see last page for detailed figures on the operation during the reporting period.

Resourcing Update

Funding for the Regional PRROs is covered through June for inside Syria (albeit at slightly reduced basket till April) and through July for the general food assistance through CBT in the region (shortfalls start in August in Lebanon and Jordan, in September in Egypt and Iraq). Turkey is fully covered until the end of 2017. This is based on confirmed contributions and solid forecasts, against which WFP has advanced funding to avert immediate pipeline breaks.

To ensure continued assistance through the next six months (April-September), WFP needs an additional USD 351 million in new contributions; USD 230 million for inside Syria and USD 121 million for the region.

Syria Crisis Regional Response wfp.org/syria.info
Beneficiary Story:

Ahmad is a 35-year-old Jordanian from the southern governorate of Ma’an, Jordan. He currently lives with his wife and five children in a tent located in the small village of Giza. A month ago, Ahmad who lost his job as a guard, was struggling to find work against a grinding economic crisis that left hundreds of thousands of people jobless. As a result, the young father was unable to enrol his children in schools or purchase sufficient food to alleviate their hunger. “I tried so hard but could not find any job that would enable me to support my family,” he told WFP.

However, things took a turn for the better when Ahmad was selected to participate in WFP food assistance-for-assets activity in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. After enrolling in the project which provided him with four months of extensive training on tree planting, the young father was employed by the Ministry of Agriculture as a regular employee. The Ministry was so impressed with his performance that they recruited him to train new participants on tree planting under the very same project. “As soon as I had a regular income, my first priority was to put food on the table and buy school supplies and clothes for my children so that they could go to school,” he said. “The skills and knowledge I gained through this training have not only allowed me to meet my family’s basic needs but also to share my knowledge with people from my neighbourhood.” Ahmad is now hoping to save enough money in the next year to move out of his tent and rent a flat.

As for Ahmad’s family, his wife Muna says that ever since her husband participated in the project he became a different man: “Ahmad was always tense around the house because he felt helpless and that he was failing his children. Now he’s much more relaxed and always finds time to help me around the house and play with the children.”

The FFA activity was implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture in all governorates of Jordan. Participants receive direct cash assistance to the value of USD 14 per household against each day of attendance. The purpose of the activity, which targeted 1,500 beneficiaries, was to provide economic opportunities for Jordanians vulnerable to food insecurity in rural areas in the field of tree planting and pruning, forestry, irrigation, and dairy production. The activities were identified and implemented by Ministry of Agriculture based on the country priorities with the support and oversight of WFP throughout the entire process.

Contacts

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRRO200987 TOTAL (Jan 2017-Dec 2018)</th>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>6 Months* Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>People Assisted (February 2017)</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
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*April-September 2017

Syria Crisis Regional Response wfp.org/syriainfo
## Fighting Hunger Worldwide

Money Injected in Syria and the Region

- **USD 2.8 billion**

### Partners in Syria
- **4.9 million Refugees in the Region**

### Partners in the Region
- **50 Partners in Syria**
- **25 Partners in the Region**

### LIVELIHOODS AND RESILIENCE - 10,580 reached in Syria, 6,435 reached in the region

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<tr>
<td><strong>656,170</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2,910,281</strong></td>
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<td><strong>531,999</strong></td>
<td><strong>759,414</strong></td>
<td><strong>619,810</strong></td>
<td><strong>75,650</strong></td>
<td><strong>54,203</strong></td>
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<td>Cash Based Transfers - using E-cards</td>
<td>Cash Based Transfers - using E-cards and paper vouchers</td>
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<td><strong>USD 746 m</strong></td>
<td><strong>USD 921 m</strong></td>
<td><strong>USD 698 m</strong></td>
<td><strong>USD 129 m</strong></td>
<td><strong>USD 89 m</strong></td>
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### Syrian in communities
- **6,300,000**

### Syrian refugees in camps
- **3,542,070**

### Palestinian refugees from Syria
- **759,414**

### Vulnerable Lebanese
- **75,650**

### IDPs/Registered Refugees
- **5,583,146**

### Assisted beneficiaries
- **5,583,146**

### Planned assisted figures only cover food assistance activities.

### Includes local food procurements, CBT transfers and other expenditures since the start of operation.

### Due to fluctuation of the exchange rate, USD values are approximations only.

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**NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED IN SYRIA**

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**NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED IN THE REGION**

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**SYRIA +5 REGIONAL RESPONSE UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2017 DISTRIBUTIONS**

- **Government of Turkey provides another USD 14 on a separate card to meet complementary food and non-food needs inside camps.**
- **The harmonization of the entitlement replaces the previous tiered approach.**
- **Due to fluctuation of the exchange rate, USD values are approximations only.**

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**Planned**

- **USD 2.8 billion**

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**Syria**

- **IDPs/Registered Refugees: 6,300,000**
- **Assisted Beneficiaries: 3,542,070**
- **Money Injected in Local Economies: USD 252 m**

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**Lebanon**

- **IDPs/Registered Refugees: 1,011,366**
- **Assisted Beneficiaries: 759,414**
- **Money Injected in Local Economies: USD 921 m**

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**Jordan**

- **IDPs/Registered Refugees: 656,170**
- **Assisted Beneficiaries: 531,999**
- **Money Injected in Local Economies: USD 746 m**

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**Turkey**

- **IDPs/Registered Refugees: 2,910,281**
- **Assisted Beneficiaries: 619,810**
- **Money Injected in Local Economies: USD 698 m**

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**Egypt**

- **IDPs/Registered Refugees: 117,591**
- **Assisted Beneficiaries: 75,650**
- **Money Injected in Local Economies: USD 129 m**

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**Iraq**

- **IDPs/Registered Refugees: 233,224**
- **Assisted Beneficiaries: 54,203**
- **Money Injected in Local Economies: USD 89 m**

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**Assisted in Syria and the Region**

- **6,300,000 IDPs inside Syria**
- **5,583,146 Assisted in Syria and the Region**
- **4.9 million Refugees in the Region**