



World Food Programme



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# WFP Syria

## Situation Report #10

October 2017

### 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

\*The Humanitarian Needs Overview 2018 is currently being finalised, and figures will be updated accordingly.

### Highlights

- WFP delivered food assistance for 3.56 million people in all 14 governorates in Syria.
- WFP took part in five inter-agency convoys, delivering food assistance for about 200,000 people in hard-to-reach and besieged locations.
- As part of the convoys, WFP reached Kafr Batna and Saqba in Eastern Ghouta for the first time since June 2016.
- WFP provided emergency food assistance to 93,000 newly displaced people from Deir Ezzor to date.

### Situation Update

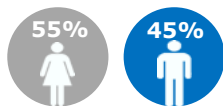
#### Response in North-Eastern Syria

- The security situation in Deir Ezzor governorate remains of great concern as fighting between government forces and Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) continued. Some 250,000 people were reportedly displaced in the governorate in October alone. The affected people sought refuge in other locations within Deir Ezzor and in Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqqa governorates. Many remain cut off from humanitarian assistance due to ISIL presence and continued fighting. Since late August, WFP has so far provided emergency food assistance in the form of ready-to-eat (RTE) rations for about 93,000 people from Deir Ezzor in IDP camps in Al-Hasakeh, northern Ar-Raqqqa; and Deir Ezzor governorates. Of these, 66,200 people were assisted during October alone.
- On 17 October, the Syrian Democratic Forces gained full control of Ar-Raqqqa City, following months of intense fighting. WFP, together with humanitarian partners, stands ready to resume assistance inside the city, once access becomes available. About 1,500 civilians were evacuated from the city and arrived in the Ein Issa IDP camp in northern Ar-Raqqqa governorate, where they received WFP's RTE rations. WFP already provides food assistance for up to 185,000 people on a monthly basis in the governorate and in IDP camps across the border in Deir Ezzor governorate.

#### Security Situation in Idleb Governorate

- Fighting in northern Syria has forced WFP in several instances to suspend its activities. At the beginning of the month, fighting in Jishr Ash-Shugur in western Idleb caused the displacement of thousands of people within the area and forced WFP's partners to temporarily suspend the operation for three days. A relapse in fighting was also reported in southern and eastern Idleb, delaying food distributions for almost

**3.56 million** People assisted October 2017



GENDER MARKER **2A** PRRO 200988

#### Global Humanitarian Funding

**Overall: USD 3,407,792,269**

**WFP share: USD 797,579,193**

#### WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirements (November 2017 – April 2018)

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO 200988)

**USD 180.5 million**

Logistics and ETC Cluster (SO 200788)\*

\* Net funding requirements until the end of 2017



Photo: ©WFP / Hussam al Saleh  
Caption: WFP is expanding its the school meals programme, and is reaching new schools in southern Syria through its cross-border operation from Jordan since October.

10,000 people by several days.

- In spite of the very volatile security situation in the governorate, IDPs continued to arrive from other conflict hotspots, such as southeast rural Hama and Deir Ezzor. During October, WFP provided RTEs to 35,000 displaced persons from Deir Ezzor, Ar-Raqqa, Hama and Idleb governorates through its cross-border operation from Turkey. WFP maintained stocks of RTE rations which can be used to respond quickly to new displacements.

### Population Displacement in Southern Syria

- In the second half of October, the security situation in Quneitra and western parts of Dar'a governorate severely deteriorated due to an escalation in fighting between ISIL-affiliated groups and armed opposition groups. This forced WFP to temporarily suspend food distributions in the area for two weeks. At the same time, insecurity also spread to eastern Dar'a, affecting the main road normally used for WFP's cross-border operations from Jordan. By early November, operations returned back to normal.

### WFP's Response

- In October, WFP delivered food assistance for 3.56 million people in all 14 Syrian governorates; 22 percent of the food assistance was delivered through the cross-border operations from Jordan and Turkey and inter-agency convoys to besieged and hard-to-reach areas.
- Through the cross-border operations, WFP dispatched food for more than 570,000 people living in opposition-held areas in Aleppo, Hama, Idleb, Quneitra and Dar'a governorates, accounting for 16 percent of the total deliveries in October.
- WFP took part in five cross-line inter-agency convoys, delivering food assistance and nutrition supplies for 199,000 people in 13 hard-to-reach and besieged locations in Homs, Damascus and Rural Damascus governorates.
- As part of the convoys, WFP reached the areas of Kafr Batna and Saqba in the besieged area of Eastern Ghouta for the first time since June 2016, delivering food and nutrition assistance for 40,000 people. [WFP's rapid food security and market assessment](#) found a dire food security situation in Kafr Batna, with people resorting to severe coping strategies.



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- Under its nutrition interventions, WFP dispatched specialised nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition for 137,728 children aged 6-23 months across the country through regular, cross-border and cross-line deliveries. In addition, WFP assisted 1,531 children aged 6-59 months, and pregnant and nursing women with specialised nutrition products to treat moderate acute malnutrition through regular and cross-line deliveries.
- Furthermore, WFP continued to provide nutrition support to pregnant and nursing women to improve the dietary diversity, as their food intake has a direct impact on the first 1,000 vital days of their child's life. In October, 14,609 pregnant and nursing women received cash-based nutrition support, which they can use to purchase fresh food, including dairy

products, meat, fruits and vegetables, from 22 designated retailers in Lattakia, Tartous, Homs, Rural Damascus and Aleppo governorates.

### School Meals Programme

- WFP dispatched fortified date bars for 55,249 children to schools in Aleppo, Dar'a, Quneitra and As-Sweida governorates. During the school year of 2017-18, WFP plans to target up to 500,000 students in UNICEF-supported schools in Aleppo, Rural Damascus, Damascus, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Quneitra, As-Sweida and Tartous governorates.
- For the first time since the start of its school meals programme in 2015, WFP was able to launch the programme through the cross-border operation from Jordan, reaching schools in new parts of Dar'a and Quneitra governorates. The cross-border project currently covers 8,200 students at 25 UNICEF-supported schools, which have been selected in areas with high concentration of displaced people and where enrolment and attendance indicators are low.
- As part of the cash-based assistance for out-of-school-children, a total of 699 children were assisted in Homs governorate. WFP is targeting children enrolled in UNICEF's accelerated remedial classes with a monthly transfer of USD 20.

### Livelihood and Resilience Projects

- Since the beginning of 2017, WFP has implemented 15 livelihood projects, benefitting more than 100,000 people. The projects include rehabilitation of bakeries, support to household agricultural production, beekeeping, as well as vocational skills training.
- WFP's livelihood projects aim at enhancing food security and resilience and are implemented in relatively stable areas of the country, in the governorates of Aleppo, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, Rural Damascus, Tartous, Al-Hasakeh and As-Sweida. This includes two projects implemented in opposition-controlled areas in Dar'a governorate, which are reached by WFP through its cross-border operation from Jordan.



### Supply Chain

- WFP continued to dispatch food assistance through the Aleppo-Menbij route. This route was opened for humanitarian deliveries in June this year, allowing WFP to phase out the airlift operation from Damascus to Qamishli in Al-Hasakeh governorate. During October, WFP delivered food rations, fortified wheat flour and nutrition supplies for 380,000 people in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir Ezzor governorates.

### Clusters and Common Services



### Food Security and Agriculture Sector

- The Sector is engaged in the preparation of the 2018 Humanitarian Project Cycle (HPC). Following the finalisation of the overall country situation analysis, the sector is working with partners to review projects submitted for the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The 2018 HRP indicates that an estimated 6.5 million people are classified as acutely food insecure, with another 4 million at risk of food insecurity.
- The Sector is coordinating a multi-hub response with

partners providing assistance to people displaced due to the ongoing military offensive in Ar-Raqqa and Deir Ezzor governorates. Key priorities include the provision of appropriate immediate response within 72 hours of displacement (in the form of RTE rations) and arrangements to provide support beyond the first two weeks of displacement through the provision of food rations depending on the availability of cooking facilities. The Sector regularly reviews its preparedness and response plan.



### Logistics Cluster

- In October, the Logistics Cluster facilitated seven inter-agency humanitarian convoys to hard-to-reach and besieged locations in Damascus, Homs and Rural Damascus governorates. Around 3,322 m<sup>3</sup> of relief cargo were transported, including food, education, nutrition, health, protection, shelter and WASH items in the framework of the inter-agency humanitarian convoys. In addition, 3 m<sup>3</sup> of health cargo were transported on behalf of UNFPA.
- The Logistics Cluster stored 1,569 m<sup>3</sup> of newly received humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Homs, Qamishly and Rural Damascus on behalf of ICRC, IMC, IOM, OXFAM, UNFPA, and UNICEF.
- The Logistics Cluster continued to facilitate logistics

coordination and information management to identify gaps and bottlenecks and avoid duplication of efforts, as well as land transport of humanitarian supplies to Qamishly at a no cost recovery basis.

### Resourcing Update

- WFP is grateful to the donors who have contributed to the current operation. However, due to funding shortfalls until the end of the year, WFP is reducing the number of people assisted under the General Food Assistance programme. WFP also urgently requires USD 180.5 million for its operation for the next six months. Given the supply chain lead times, contributions received by early November will ensure arrival of commodities for February distributions onwards.

### Contacts

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WFP Operation					
	Total Requirements (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)	People Assisted (October 2017)	Female	Male
<b>PRRO 200988</b> (Jan 2017 – Dec 2018)	1,719 million	180.5 million	<b>3,564,610</b>	1,960,536	1,604,075
General Food Assistance			<b>3,564,610</b>	1,960,536	1,604,075
School Meals Programme			<b>55,249</b>	27,072	28,177
Out-of-School Children			<b>699</b>	343	356
Nutrition - Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			<b>137,728</b>	70,237	67,483
Nutrition Support for Pregnant and Nursing Women (Cash-Based Transfers)			<b>14,609</b>	14,609	-
Nutrition - Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			<b>1,531</b>	903	631
Livelihood and Resilience Activities			<b>52,625</b>	28,944	23,681