
Syria Regional Operational Update

Presentation to the

WFP Executive Board

2013 Third Quarter Operational Briefing

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Syria EMOP 200339

Operation:	October 2011 – December 2013
Total Budget:	US\$ 593.8 million (BR11)
Beneficiaries targeted:	3 million per month (scaling up to 4 million by end 2013)
Food requirement:	449,000 metric tons

Syria Regional EMOP 200433

Operation:	July 2012 – December 2013
Total Budget:	US\$ 693.4 million (BR10)
Beneficiaries targeted:	2 million per month (scaling up to 2.6 million by end 2013)
Voucher requirements:	US\$ 510.3 million
Food requirement:	43,000 metric tons

Activities

Syria EMOP 200339

- Distribution of emergency food rations to growing numbers of food insecure and vulnerable families in conflict affected areas throughout Syria – targeting 3 million beneficiaries until September, and 4 million between October and December.
- Fortified Wheat Flour has been added to the food basket for a planned 70 percent of total caseload.
- Supplementary Feeding for high risk/vulnerable children (currently 100,000 are targeted until September, and 200,000 from October to December).

Regional EMOP 200433

- Distribution of emergency food rations (in-kind, vouchers, school feeding) to growing numbers of food insecure and vulnerable families who have fled the conflict to countries in the region – targeting 2,554,820 by the end of 2013.
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Implementation - Syria EMOP 200339

WFP continues to distribute emergency food parcels through SARC; in addition, 23 vetted local NGO partners have received food to reach most affected Syrians in all 14 Governorates of Syria

WFP Offices/coverage (05 September):

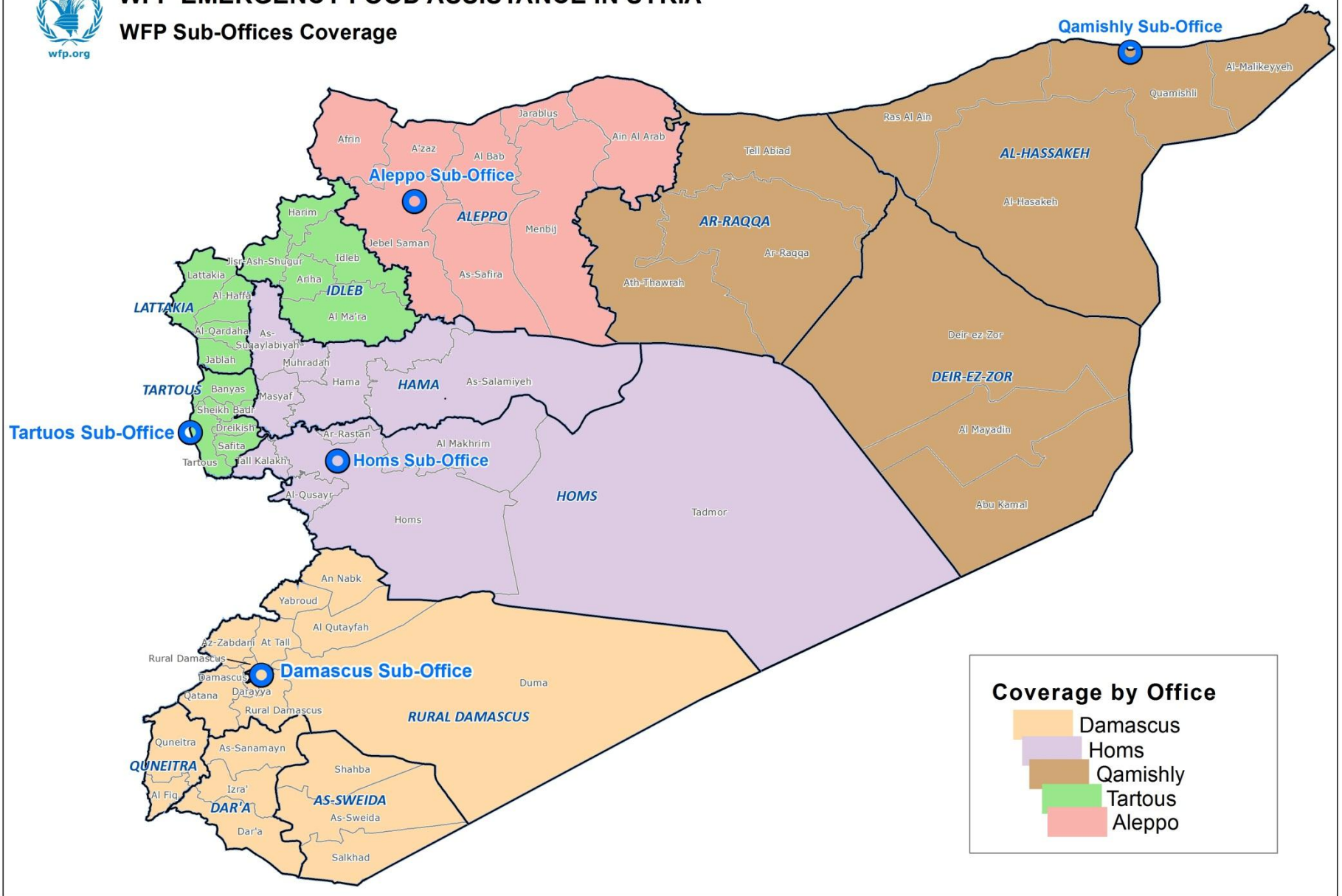
- **Damascus CO:** covers Damascus, Rural Damascus, Dara'a, Quneitra and Sweida;
- **Tartous SO:** covers Tartous, Lattakia, Aleppo, Idleb
- **Qamishli SO:** covers Al-Hassakeh, Deir-ez-Zor, Ar-Raqqa
- **Homs SO:** covers Homs and Hama.

Warehouses/packing centers: WFP has 5 warehouses throughout the country, used subject to security; and 4 packing centres (one Tartous, one Lattakia, two Damascus). Direct delivery to SARC where needed.



WFP EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE IN SYRIA

WFP Sub-Offices Coverage



Implementation - Regional EMOP 200433

- WFP continues to provide food and vouchers to support Syrian refugees in host communities throughout Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt; and refugees living in refugee camps in Iraq and Jordan through local and international NGOs, as well as in Turkey through the Turkish Red Crescent.

WFP Offices/coverage (05 September):

- **Lebanon:** Beirut CO, Zahle SO, Qobayyat SO and South SO
 - **Jordan:** Amman CO, Mafraq SO (incl. Ramtha, al-Zaatri)
 - **Iraq:** Baghdad CO, Erbil Area Office and Dohuk Field Office
 - **Turkey:** Ankara CO with staff based in Gaziantep and Hatay
 - **Egypt:** Cairo CO
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Key operational constraints- Syria EMOP (cont'd)

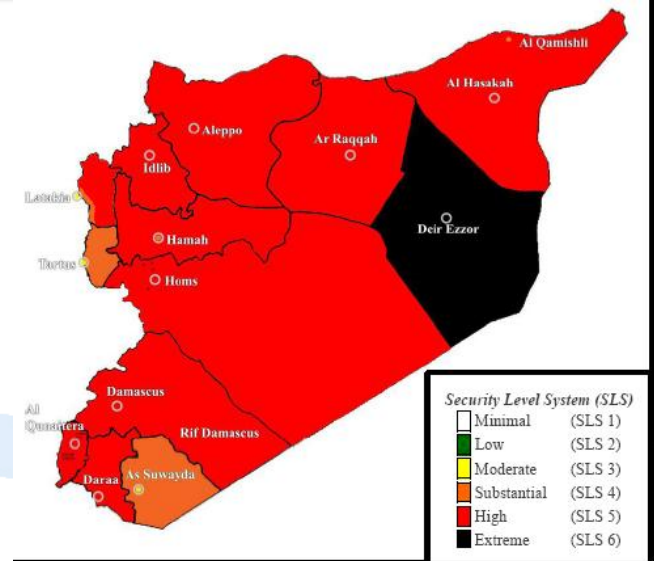
1. Deteriorating Security

- The volatile security situation has led to fluid front lines and frequent changes in the control of areas (government and non-government forces);
- 14 Governorates are assisted by WFP, under the following security outlook:

- **Extreme (Level 6):** Deir-ez-Zor City and Governorate
- **High Risk (Level 5):** Damascus City and Governorates
- **Substantial Risk (Level 4):** Hama City, Qamishli City, 2 Governorates and coastal road area between Tartous and Lattakia
- **Moderate Risk (Level 3):** Cities of Sweida, Tartous, and Lattakia

➤ Impact on WFP operations:

- Food losses
- Higher transport costs
- Destruction of WFP assets
- Reduced access for WFP Staff
- Disruption of overland transport
- Higher Reliance on local partners



Key operational constraints- Syria EMOP

2. Access Constraints

- Access constraints continue to be particularly pronounced in Al-Hassakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, Aleppo and Idleb, compromising both the dispatch and distribution of food.

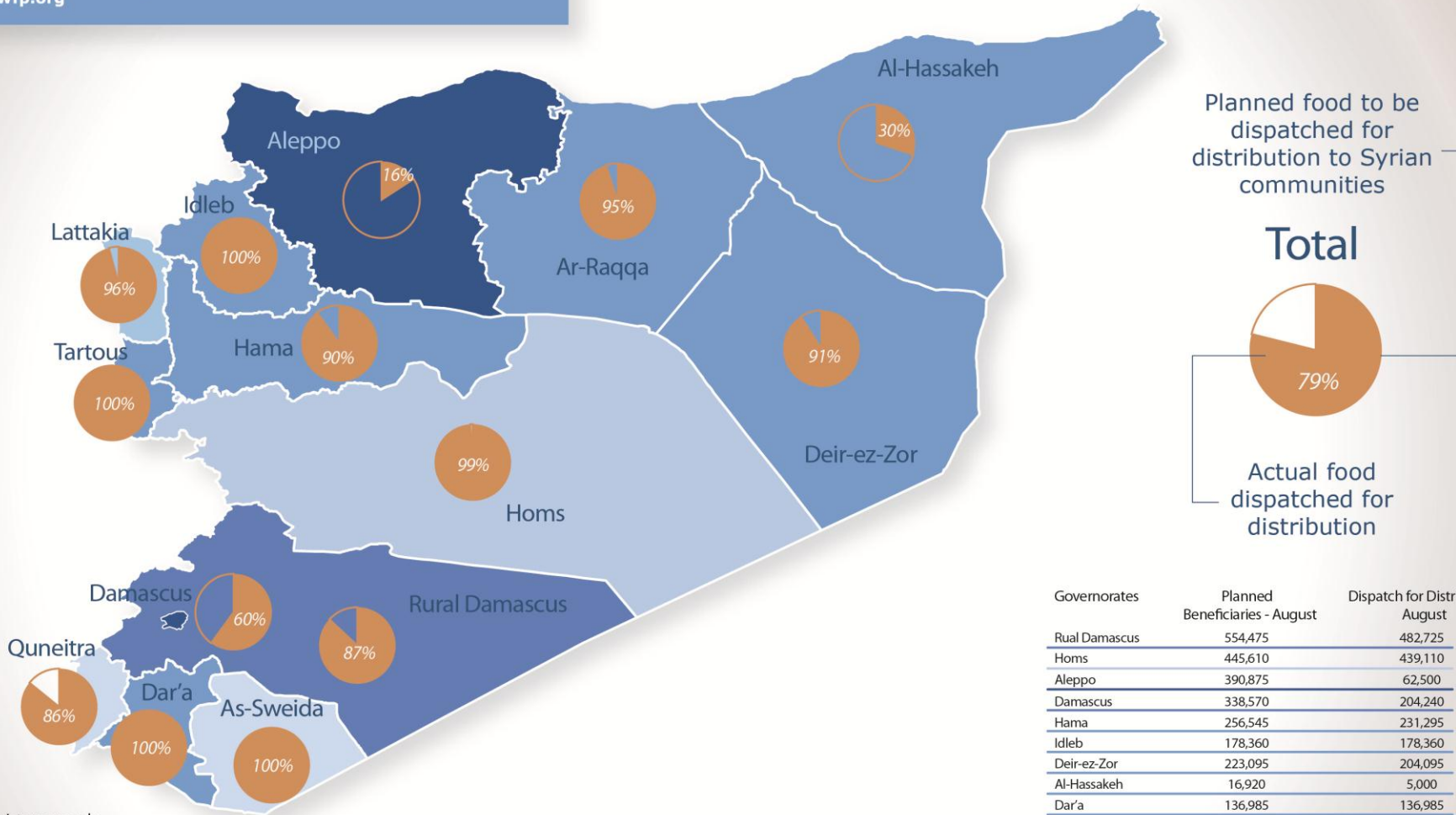
3. Limited capacity/access of current partners, especially SARC, necessitates further diversification:

- WFP is using partners in addition to SARC, at present WFP is partnering with a total of 23 NGO partners.
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Syria Crisis Response

WFP Food Assistance
Dispatched For Distribution

as of 5 September 2013



Food Assistance needs

- ≥ 500,000
- ≥ 300,000 – 500,000
- ≥ 100,000 – 300,000
- ≥ 50,000 – 100,000
- ≥ 50,000

Governorates	Planned Beneficiaries - August	Dispatch for Distribution August
Rual Damascus	554,475	482,725
Homs	445,610	439,110
Aleppo	390,875	62,500
Damascus	338,570	204,240
Hama	256,545	231,295
Idleb	178,360	178,360
Deir-ez-Zor	223,095	204,095
Al-Hassakeh	16,920	5,000
Dar'a	136,985	136,985
Al-Raqqa	116,240	110,000
Tartous	137,000	137,000
Lattakia	113,285	108,565
As-Sweida	26,145	26,145
Quneitra	65,895	56,500
Total	3,000,000	2,382,520

Key operational constraints- Regional EMOP

Insecurity and political instability

Lebanon:

- Many of the areas in which WFP regularly operates are now inherently unstable with serious breaches of security occurring regularly and unpredictably. As a result, WFP staff are frequently required to alter, delay, suspend or even cancel activities. Monitoring activities have been especially affected.

Egypt:

- WFP temporarily paused operations in August to ensure the safety of beneficiaries, as violent events were occurring near distribution sites.
 - WFP has since resumed August distributions, which are continuing in early September.
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SYRIA CRISIS

Beneficiaries Reached in the Region - August 2013



JORDAN

Vouchers 302,781
School Feeding 3,216*
General Food Distribution 114,892
Total 417,673



LEBANON

Vouchers 529,020
General Food Distribution 21,035
Total 550,055



IRAQ

Vouchers 59,915
School Feeding 3,229**
General Food Distribution 16,535
Total 76,450



TURKEY

Vouchers 113,439

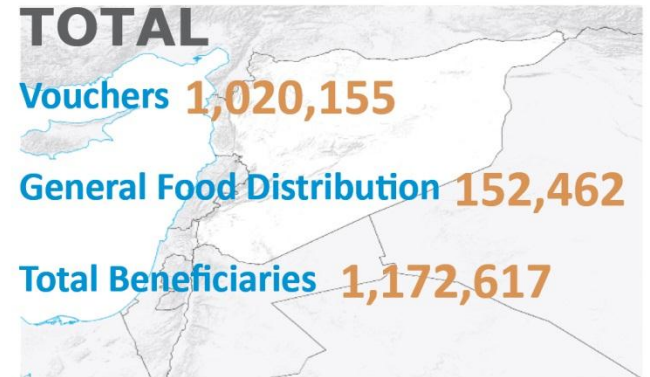


EGYPT

Vouchers 15,000

TOTAL

Vouchers 1,020,155
General Food Distribution 152,462
Total Beneficiaries 1,172,617



Monitoring

Syria

- **The extent of WFP monitoring coverage is variable**, in line with shifting patterns of active conflict and access on the ground, and can change from month to month.
 - Since January 2012, a total of **122 final distribution points (FDPs)** located in **all 14 of Syria's governorates** have been visited by WFP monitoring staff. As of August 2013, direct monitoring activities are possible in **eight governorates: Al-Hasakeh, Hama, Homs, Tartous, Lattakia, Damascus, Rural Damascus and Sweida.**
 - Cross-line convoys (in many cases inter-agency) have allowed WFP to reach communities and monitor implementation in otherwise isolated locations.
 - Subject to security and other access conditions, WFP already continually seeks to **extend the reach and regularity of its programme monitoring** in Syria, including – a remote monitoring system whereby a **third party entity is outsourced responsibilities** in areas where WFP staff may not be present.
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Monitoring

Regional countries

- **Performance monitoring processes** for food and voucher distributions and the recently launched school feeding activities have been strengthened and further harmonized between countries under the regional EMOP.
 - **Key outcome and output indicators** have been incorporated into a shared and revised M&E plan, as well as increasingly standardized data-collection tools - such as distribution and counterpart reports and post-distribution monitoring forms.
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Current Regional Operational Priorities

Jordan

- The transition from in-kind food assistance to vouchers in Al Za'atri Camp started in September.
- The opening of Azraq refugee camp, with a capacity for 110,000 refugees, in mid-September.

Lebanon

- A limited launch of the e-card followed by a gradual country-wide roll-out.
- The introduction of targeting to prioritise assistance to those most in need.

Egypt

- The transition from paper vouchers to e-vouchers.

Iraq

- The provision of food assistance to the recent influx of over 50,000 refugees into Iraq.

Turkey

- Expanding the E-food Card programme to cover more camps, currently 14 out of 20 camps use the card.
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Pipeline update

Regional (EMOP 200443)

Requirement (from September to December 2013 – BR 11): US\$ 300 million
Available (from September to December 2013): US\$ 131 million
Shortfall: US\$ 169 million (56 percent shortfall)

Syria (EMOP 200339)

Requirement (from September to December 2013 – BR 10): US\$ 201 million
Available (from September to December 2013): US\$ 194 million
Shortfall: US\$ 7 million (3 percent shortfall)

Resource mobilisation

Top Ten Confirmed Contributions to Syria EMOP 200339 in 2013

Multilateral US\$ 9.9 million

UN CERF US\$ 3 million

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT (US\$ million)*</u>
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USA	141.2
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UK	42.4
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Canada	25.6
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ECHO	20.3
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Germany	17.2
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Kuwait	11.0
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Australia	4.5
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Switzerland	2.2
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Finland	1.4
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Belgium	1.3
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*as of 10 September 2013

Resource mobilisation

Top Ten Confirmed Contributions to Regional EMOP 200443 in 2013

Multilateral US\$ 19.4 million

UN CERF US\$ 0.3 million

DONOR **AMOUNT (US\$ million)***

USA 144.1

UK 13.8

Kuwait 31.0

Canada 23.0

Germany 14.6

ECHO 8.6

Denmark 8.4

France 6.7

Japan 6.0

Switzerland 2.1

*as of 10 September 2013

Critical Risks in Syria and Neighbouring Countries

Contextual Risks:

- Conflict limits WFP from accessing and operating in Syria and parts of Lebanon
- Collateral threats from non-conventional weapons
- Collateral and direct threats to UN staff and facilities
- The number of people in need may rapidly escalate and require a humanitarian response much greater than current plans provide for inside and outside Syria.
- Spill-over into neighbouring countries may affect role of WFP support offices and host governments.
- Volatility of commodity, fuel and shipping prices
- Challenging funding environment due to operational complexity

Programmatic Risks:

- Inability to undertake accurate or regular needs assessments.
- Implementing partners' capacity is severely stretched.
- Regular WFP beneficiary contact monitoring constrained in some areas.
- Disrupted access to warehouses and extended delivery points (EDPs).
- Logistical access routes constrained due to border closures
- Shrinking humanitarian space while humanitarian needs are escalating.
- Lack of adequate competitive cooperative partners and retailers for new transfer modalities (Vouchers)

Institutional Risks:

- Reputational risk to WFP such as allegations in social media and elsewhere of food diversion by armed groups, resale of WFP food, lack of monitoring, favouring one side or another.
 - Deteriorating infrastructure hampers internal business processes (through unreliable ICT connectivity and deteriorating banking facilities and systems)
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Risks

Mitigation measures

Conflict limits WFP operations in Syria.

Coordination and support structure in Jordan. Use of Cooperating Partners for monitoring.

In Syria, humanitarian space is shrinking while humanitarian needs are escalating.

Coordinating with UN and partners.

Logistical access routes for food & NFI transport constrained

Pre-positioning of supplies

Volatility of commodity, fuel and shipping prices.

Regional supplies arrangement.
Prepositioning of fuel.

Collateral threats from non-conventional weapons / Direct & Collateral threats from conventional weapons.

WFP has purchased and is deploying individual emergency protection and decontamination equipment to all personnel in Syria and to locations where there is a perceived risk of potential exposure to a deliberate release of chemicals. This does not mean that WFP intend to operate in a contaminated area, but that all possible steps have been taken to ensure that personnel suddenly exposed to such risk can evacuate in the safest possible manner.

Risks

Mitigation measures

The number of people in need may rapidly escalate and require a humanitarian response much greater than current plans provide for inside and outside Syria.

Increase the logistic support to Syria operation provided from outside (prepositioning and transport).

Establishment of a fuel depot.

Standby agreements with partners, shops and Food Parcels providers in neighboring countries.

Number of refugees leaving Syria continues to rise, overstressing regional host governments capacity and affecting WFP support offices.

Advocate for increased resources and support from UN and partners.

Challenging funding environment

Brief donors at all levels on operational constraints.

Enlist non-traditional support regionally.

Inability to undertake accurate or regular needs assessments.

Coordinate monitoring activities with diverse partners and beneficiaries.

Implementing partners' capacity is severely stretched.

Assisting capacity of partners while finding new ones.

Risks

Mitigation measures

Regular WFP beneficiary contact monitoring constrained in some areas.

Establishing contact points in no-go areas.
Use of third-party monitoring.

Disrupted access to warehouses and extended delivery points (EDPs).

Prepositioning supplies and establishing additional packaging facilities.

Lack of adequate competitive cooperative partners and retailers for new transfer modalities (Vouchers)

Constant evaluation of additional potential suppliers and exploring possibilities to build the capacity of smaller suppliers.

Reputational risk to WFP of implementing partner negative media portrayal.

Advocate for increased humanitarian access/international monitoring of the humanitarian response in Syria.
Advocate for increased access for INGO/NGOs to operate in Syria.

Deteriorating infrastructure hampers internal business processes (through unreliable ICT connectivity and deteriorating banking facilities and systems)

Establishment of regional support/ back-up office to provide key functions.

Residual Risks

Intensification of conflict

- Exposure to non-conventional weapon threats
- Resulting in further reductions to respond to humanitarian needs and to transport humanitarian assistance
- Lack of access for delivery and monitoring of humanitarian assistance
- New mass displacements to neighboring countries and their increased impact on the host communities

Expansion of conflict into neighbouring countries

- Jordan and Lebanon affected by the Syrian conflict
- Escalating tensions with host communities and spill-over of armed conflict
- Sensitive situation on the border with Turkey including the bordering Kurdish area of Syria

Limited number of implementing partners

- Restrictions on INGOs/NGOs able to operate
 - Lack of sufficient Cooperating Partners with experience & expertise in new modalities
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The way forward

- WFP will continue to provide food assistance to vulnerable Syrians in need, both in Syria and in the region.
 - Given the escalation of conflict in Syria, WFP is preparing for possible influxes of refugees into neighbouring countries.
 - WFP will continue to advocate for assistance to all vulnerable refugees, regardless of their location in camp or non-camp settings.
 - WFP will continue to transition towards vouchers and electronic vouchers in order to provide the most dignified, effective and efficient form of assistance to refugees.
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Thank You