



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Food assistance for 70,000 people reaches rural Aleppo for the first time in almost a year
- Following challenges since late 2013, access to Ar-Raqqa improves
- WFP and TRC expand the e-Food Card Programme to cover 220,000 beneficiaries in Turkey
- Vulnerability assessment of Syrian refugees begins in Lebanon
- WFP begins distribution of SuperCereal Plus in Jordan's Azraq camp



## ***Almost 3.9 million beneficiaries receive food assistance during April cycle***

Food distributions under the April cycle concluded on 20 May, reaching almost 3.9 million beneficiaries or 91 percent of the plan. While WFP was consistently able to meet its target in most of the country, severe access constraints continued to disrupt planned activities in the north-east of the country over the April cycle. In Deir-ez-Zor, only a limited quantity of rations reached the governorate, fulfilling less than 10 percent of the plan, while Ar-Raqqa received none of its planned allocation. No food was dispatched to Al-Hasakeh in April, but distributions of rations delivered from Turkey or previously airlifted from Iraq between February and March continued. Of the quantities distributed during the April cycle in Al-Hasakeh, approximately 77 percent reached beneficiaries living in areas which fell outside government control, including hotspot locations such as Ras



WFP/Hussam Al-Saleh

Al-Ein, Derbassiyeh, Al-Shaddadeh, Al-Hol, Tal Tamer, Tal Hamis, Amouda and Tal Brak.

Rations which could not be dispatched to hard-to-reach areas were redirected to governorates where partners reported a surge in humanitarian needs. As a result, Idleb, Homs, Hama and Quneitra, where intense fighting and significant population displacement have been taking place over the past several weeks, received assistance above planned levels.

## ***May dispatch cycle concludes amidst significant transport delays***

Distribution of rations dispatched as part of the May cycle is currently underway. Although assistance was delivered to all 14 Syrian governorates, WFP was only able to dispatch assistance for just over 3.2 million people in May-- 14 percent less than the previous cycle and a 20 percent decrease from March. The progressive decline in the dispatch rate was mainly due to teething troubles in the implementation of a new transport facilitation mechanism introduced by the Government at the end of April. In May, delays concerned mainly dispatches originating from the warehouses in Damascus. Coupled with intensified fighting in Kisweh, this prevented access to storage facilities in Rural Damascus for some days, resulting in deliveries being particularly low in the southern governorates of Dar'a, Damascus and Rural Damascus. Whilst some improvements have been made in streamlining the new procedures, WFP is still incurring delays dispatching food, particularly from warehouses in Lattakia and Safita.

## ***June dispatch cycle opens with significant gains in Ar-Raqqa***

Amidst transport delays, the June cycle opened with notable advancements in delivering assistance to the opposition-held governorate of Ar-Raqqa, where deliveries have been challenging and intermittent since the last quarter of 2013. From 4 - 9 June, WFP trucks safely handed over more than 21,600 family food rations to partners in Ar-Raqqa city, providing enough assistance for over 108,000 people in need. This amounts to approximately 38 percent of the dispatch plan for the governorate, almost a 10 percent increase compared to what achieved in May over the full cycle.

## ***WFP assistance for 70,000 people reaches opposition-controlled areas in rural Aleppo***

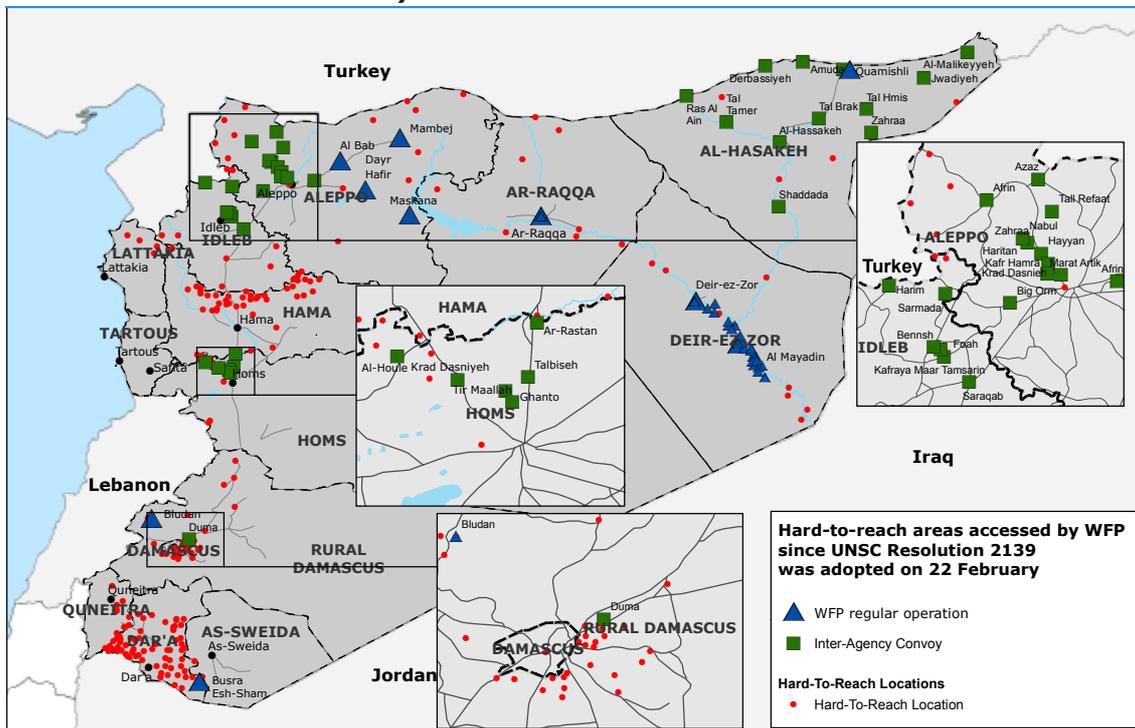
Following dispatches for almost 30,000 people in eastern rural Aleppo on 27 May, a WFP-led inter-agency convoy delivered further food assistance for over 26,000 to Orem and surrounding villages in western rural areas of the governorate.

Following this breakthrough, which saw WFP food enter these areas for the first time in almost a year, an additional 2,700 family food rations for 13,500 people then reached Orem on 6 June through WFP regular deliveries. Overall, this assistance amounts to 20 percent of the monthly dispatch plan for rural Aleppo, approved by the Syrian authorities on 22 May, which envisages provision of assistance to 340,000 people in northern, eastern and western rural areas of the governorate under opposition control. According to the plan, a further 460,000 beneficiaries will be targeted in western and eastern neighbourhoods of the city.

### **WFP delivers food and yeast to hard-to-reach areas of rural Homs**

A UN inter-agency mission reached Al-Rastan, Akrad Desniyeh and Ein Naser on 28 May, delivering much-needed food, health and shelter supplies to civilians in the area. The mission included 20 WFP trucks carrying 12,100 family food rations and 5 mt of yeast, which will provide sufficient support to 60,500 people for one month. Access to Ar-Rastan and surrounding villages has been restricted since June 2013. WFP last delivered food to this area in November 2013, when assistance for 35,000 people was provided through an inter-agency convoy.

**Hard-to-reach areas inside Syria – 11 June 2014**



### **WFP signs MoU with Ministry of Education for July launch of school-feeding programme**

WFP and the Syrian Ministry of Education signed an MoU on 26 May for a school feeding programme scheduled to start in July, in partnership with the Ministry and UNICEF. The programme will initially target vulnerable districts of Rural Damascus and Tartous, with plans to extend interventions to critical areas of Al-Hasakeh and Aleppo. Aimed at improving enrolment and attendance rates while contributing to the food security of school-aged children, the programme will be implemented in close collaboration with UNICEF to ensure a holistic approach to improving access to quality education. The MoU will be reviewed at the end of 2014.

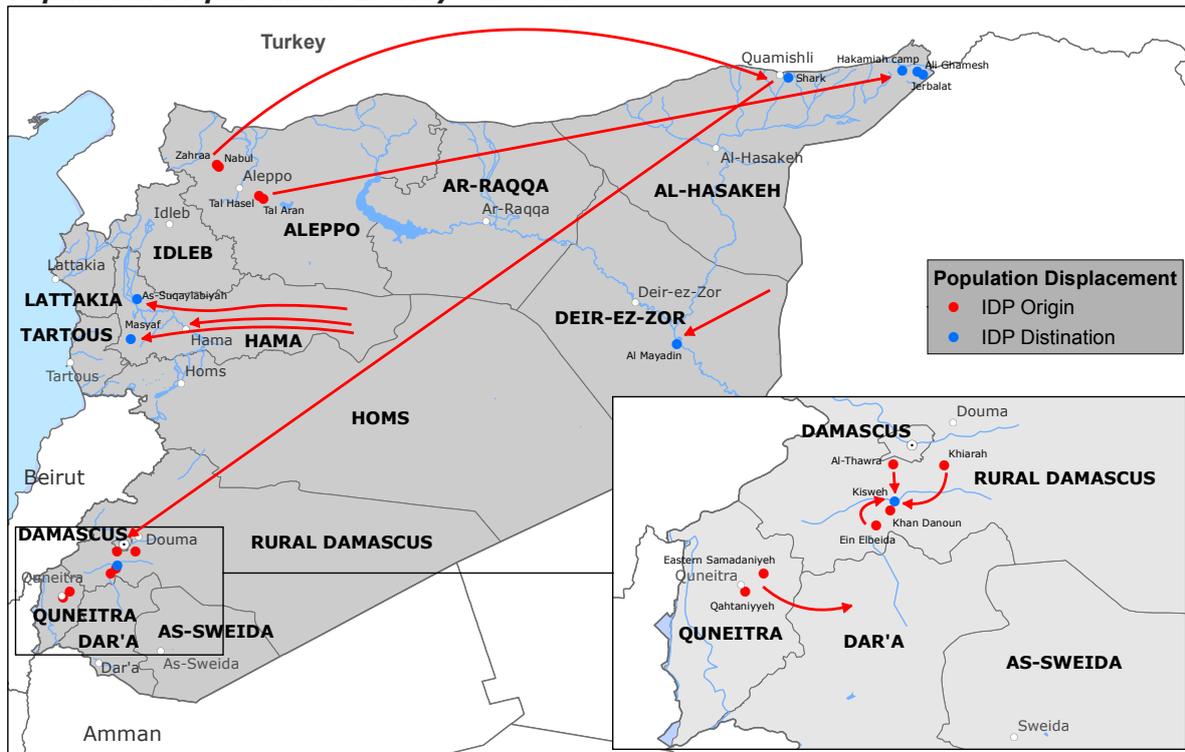
### **WFP redirects assistance to meet increased needs in Rural Damascus, Idleb and Hama**

An escalation of fighting in Rural Damascus villages of Khan Danoun, Khiarah, Al-Thawra and Ein Al-Baid forced 10,000 people to flee to the nearby village of Kisweh and surrounding areas. As a result, WFP redirected 2,000 family rations to its cooperating partner in the area in order to provide assistance to the newly displaced families.

Similarly in Idleb, an additional 15,000 rations were allocated to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent local branch to respond to reportedly heightened humanitarian needs resulting from intensified conflict in the villages of Janodiyah, Yakobiah and Badama, in the northern rural areas of the governorate.

In Hama, clashes continue to ravage the eastern rural areas of the province, pushing an estimated 20,000 people to seek safety in Hama city as well as in northwestern villages of Msiaf and Sqilbie over the reporting period alone. With humanitarian needs increasing, WFP redirected an additional 10,000 rations during the May cycle to partners operating in the governorate.

### Population Displacement 28 May - 10 June



### **Worsening humanitarian conditions reported in the northeast**

For over a month, violent clashes have been taking place in eastern rural areas of Deir-ez-Zor, fuelling significant population displacement towards relatively safer areas in the south. Latest reports indicate that 125,000 people have fled so far to Al-Mayadeen and surrounding villages. Partners reported encountering several challenges in registering and assessing the needs of newly displaced families, as insecurity is severely restricting movement in the governorate. As humanitarian needs escalate, WFP remains unable to deliver assistance to the governorate at the planned scale, posing significant constraints to providing assistance to those in need.

A sustained influx of families escaping the siege in Nobol and Zahra in rural Aleppo continue to make their way to Al-Hasakeh. Over the reporting period, 15 new families waiting to board flights to Damascus from Quamishli airport were assisted by WFP with ready-to-eat rations. Elsewhere in Al-Hasakeh, hundreds of IDPs temporarily settled in various villages in Al-Malekeyyeh district, including in the newly established Hakamiah camp near the border, and are awaiting permission to cross into Iraq. WFP is preparing to dispatch ready-to-eat rations for 760 people in the area, a delivery has been hampered by neighbouring communities also in need of assistance. This is a reflection of the necessity to increase WFP operations in the governorate, which are currently constrained by the amount of food WFP can bring through the Nusaybeen border crossing.

### **New assessment planned to determine current food security situation**

At the request of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, FAO and WFP are expected to conduct a joint Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission during the second half of June. The assessment mission will help determine the impact of drought conditions and conflict on food production, as well as on the food security of vulnerable households. With food insecurity levels in the country are expected to have increased over the past six months, food sector partners are planning a food security needs assessment to follow shortly, providing an update on the number of people in need of food assistance while guiding future response planning.

Data collection for a Rapid Nutrition Assessment of IDPs concluded on 6 June in 13 governorates. No assessment took place in Ar-Raqqa as volatile security conditions prevented access. Data entry is currently being finalised by the Ministry of Health and a report of the findings is expected to be shared sometime in late June/early July.

# LEBANON

## OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

**Refugees registered and awaiting registration\*:**  
1,093,069

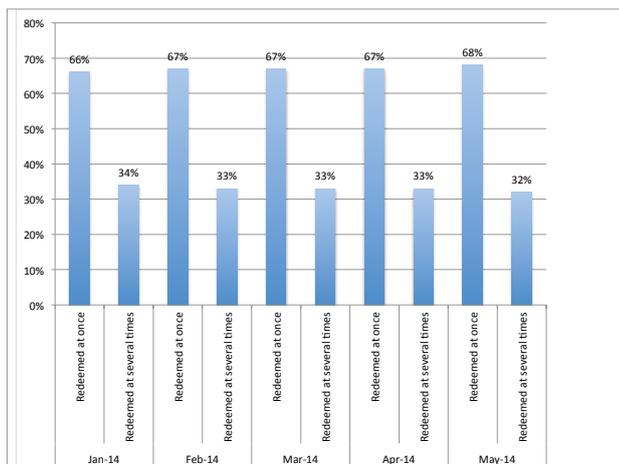
**Reached in May:** 744,488  
(715,210 vouchers; 29,278 parcels)

**Plan for June:** 813,589  
(770,333 vouchers; 43,256 parcels)

\*UNHCR registration figures

\*\*Operational planning figures are based on UNHCR manifest where WFP targets approximately 70% of the caseload

Reconciliation of figures ongoing



## Evolving needs and WFP Operations

Through its cooperating partners, WFP achieved 94 percent of its operational plan for May, reaching over 744,000 beneficiaries through e-cards and food parcels. Of this figure, the majority of beneficiaries (96 percent) were reached through the e-card modality.

Through the technical expertise of the partner bank, WFP has been analysing spending patterns of its beneficiaries over time, using data collected from shop interviews and household visits. Research shows that most households use the entire value of the e-card at once to buy dry goods and staple items, and use other sources of cash to buy additional items throughout the month as necessary.

## Annual vulnerability assessment of Syrian refugees

Data collection for the 2014 inter-agency Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) began in early June and will remain a key priority for WFP over the coming month. Following the 2013 assessment, data gathered from the 2014 VASyR will be used to analyse the coping strategies of refugees, in order to monitor and better understand the level of vulnerability among Syrian refugees and to re-evaluate targeting criteria for assistance. As of 10

June, 1,750 randomly selected households were visited; focus groups on priorities, needs, assistance and protection issues will be conducted next week across the country. The data collected will be shared with new and existing cooperating partners on a daily basis for quality supervision and to allow for a more collaborative process.

## Targeting and verification of urgent cases begins

The interim verification exercise, which allows for the re-inclusion of urgent excluded cases encountered during field visits, started during the reporting period. Excluded cases are those who, based on vulnerability criteria, do not receive WFP food assistance. Thus far, WFP has received 159 cases referred by UNHCR, of which 51 were re-included. This interim exercise will be in place until a new comprehensive targeting and review system, currently being developed by WFP and UNHCR through the inter-agency Targeting Task Force, is implemented.

## WFP PREPARES FOR DONATION OF DATES FROM SAUDI ARABIA

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has donated 390 mt of dates to WFP in Lebanon, expected to arrive in late June. The dates will be distributed among newly arrived Syrian refugees as part of the food parcel assistance as well as among the Syrian refugees in informal tented settlements and collective shelters. Dates will also be distributed to vulnerable Syrians, Lebanese and Palestinians participating in meals served in communal kitchens during Ramadan. To date, WFP has received four proposals from partners interested in distributing the shipments of dates, which will be reviewed for possible field level agreements.



WFP/Laure Chadraoui

## OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

**Registered refugees\***: 597,328  
**Reached in May**: 542,917  
 In Camps: 88,220  
 Refugees in communities: 454,697  
**Plan for June\*\***: 546,981

\*UNHCR registration figures

\*\*Planned figures are based on UNHCR manifest which is subject to some inflation due to incomplete departure information and other variables. UNHCR is currently working to address this through the ongoing reregistration process

Reconciliation of figures ongoing.

### WFP starts distribution of SuperCereal Plus in Azraq camp

In cooperation with ACTED on 5 June, WFP held its first blanket distribution of SuperCereal Plus in Azraq camp, reaching 456 children in addition to eight individuals diagnosed with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) by International Medical Corps. Supplied to children under five, SuperCereal Plus is an age-appropriate food ration providing supplementary and nutritious calories to young and weaning children. Save the Children Jordan also distributes the commodity in Al Za'atri camp as part of a larger nutrition programme to provide age-appropriate food for children, and to treat children, pregnant women and nursing mothers with MAM.

### Fewer refugees in Azraq lowers WFP beneficiary targets

Since the opening of the camp in late April, 8,000 individuals have arrived in Azraq. However, likely due to the harsh desert conditions, many have since left the camp informally. While initial assistance plans aimed to reach 6,800 refugees in Azraq based on the UNHCR manifest, WFP assisted 4,000 individuals by distributing new arrival vouchers, which can be redeemed in the camp supermarket on the same day. In addition to these vouchers, WFP, through partner ACTED, began the third regular voucher cycle on 9 June, with plans to reach 7,050 individuals. WFP intends to transition from paper vouchers to e-cards in Azraq and Al Za'atri camps, and is conducting a technical assessment with its partner bank, Jordan Ahli Bank, and Middle East Payment Services to determine the feasibility of installing landlines for point-of-service card swiping machines.



WFP/Dina Elkassaby

### Re-verification of Al Za'atri refugee population allows for better planning

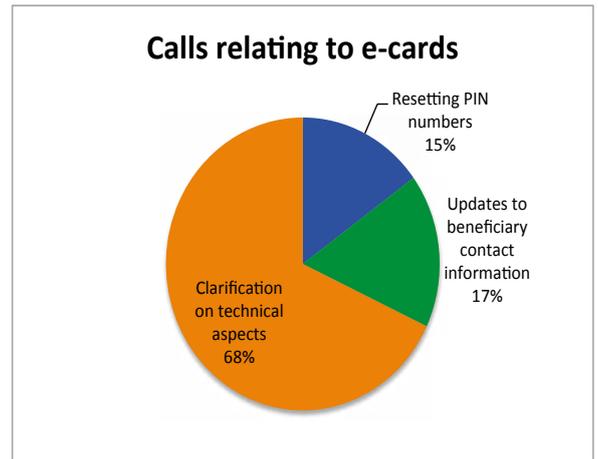
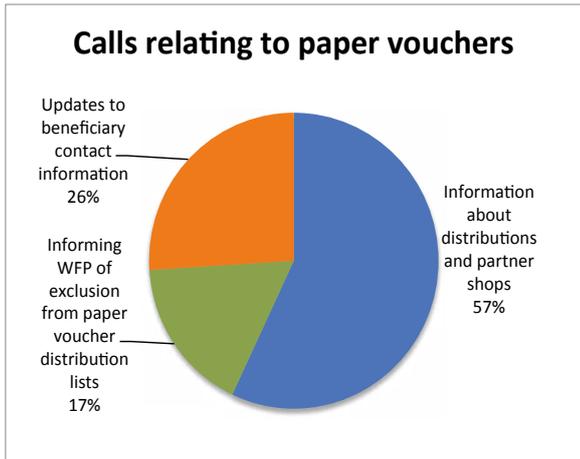
On 21 May, UNHCR concluded the main phase of a retina scan re-verification exercise in Al Za'atri camp. The data collection from this exercise estimates the camp population to be 85,000 – 95,000 Syrian refugees. As a result, WFP plans to reach 84,000 refugees during the first voucher distribution cycle of June.

## SAUDI DATES ARRIVE FOR DISTRIBUTION

After receiving more dates from Saudi Arabia, WFP signed a field level agreement with the Jordanian Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO) for date distribution among Syrians and Jordanians in need across the country. Beneficiaries will be selected based on the JHCO's internal database for each target population. The dates are intended to last families through the holy month of Ramadan and to provide a culturally significant commodity to break one's fast. Of the 1,000 mt donation, 400 mt have been delivered to the JHCO warehouse in Mafraq and 350 mt to the warehouse in Amman, with the remaining 250 mt expected to arrive in the coming weeks.

### Supporting beneficiaries' use of e-cards

Throughout May, 2,625 calls were made to the voucher hotline, 75 percent of which were regarding e-cards, while others concerned paper vouchers or issues with registration. All registration queries were referred to UNHCR for processing. All other inquiries are addressed by hotline attendants or referred to the appropriate WFP staff.



### WFP reinforces its commitment to protection

As part of its commitment to the protection of refugees, WFP will use its distribution points and voucher partner shops as information-sharing venues to communicate key messages on gender-based violence and child protection through posters, hats, shirts, pamphlets and business cards containing the contact information of organisations that can help with specific protection issues. WFP's efforts are part of 'Amani', an inter-agency campaign (Arabic for wishes or hopes). WFP is also conducting protection training for field staff to ensure they have the necessary awareness of protection issues commonly encountered during their day-to-day engagement with beneficiaries.

# TURKEY

## OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

**Registered refugees\*:** 774,635

**Reached in May:** 197,630

**Plan for May:** 200,000 people in camps

\* Emergency and Disaster Management Presidency of Turkey (AFAD) registration numbers

Reconciliation of figures ongoing.

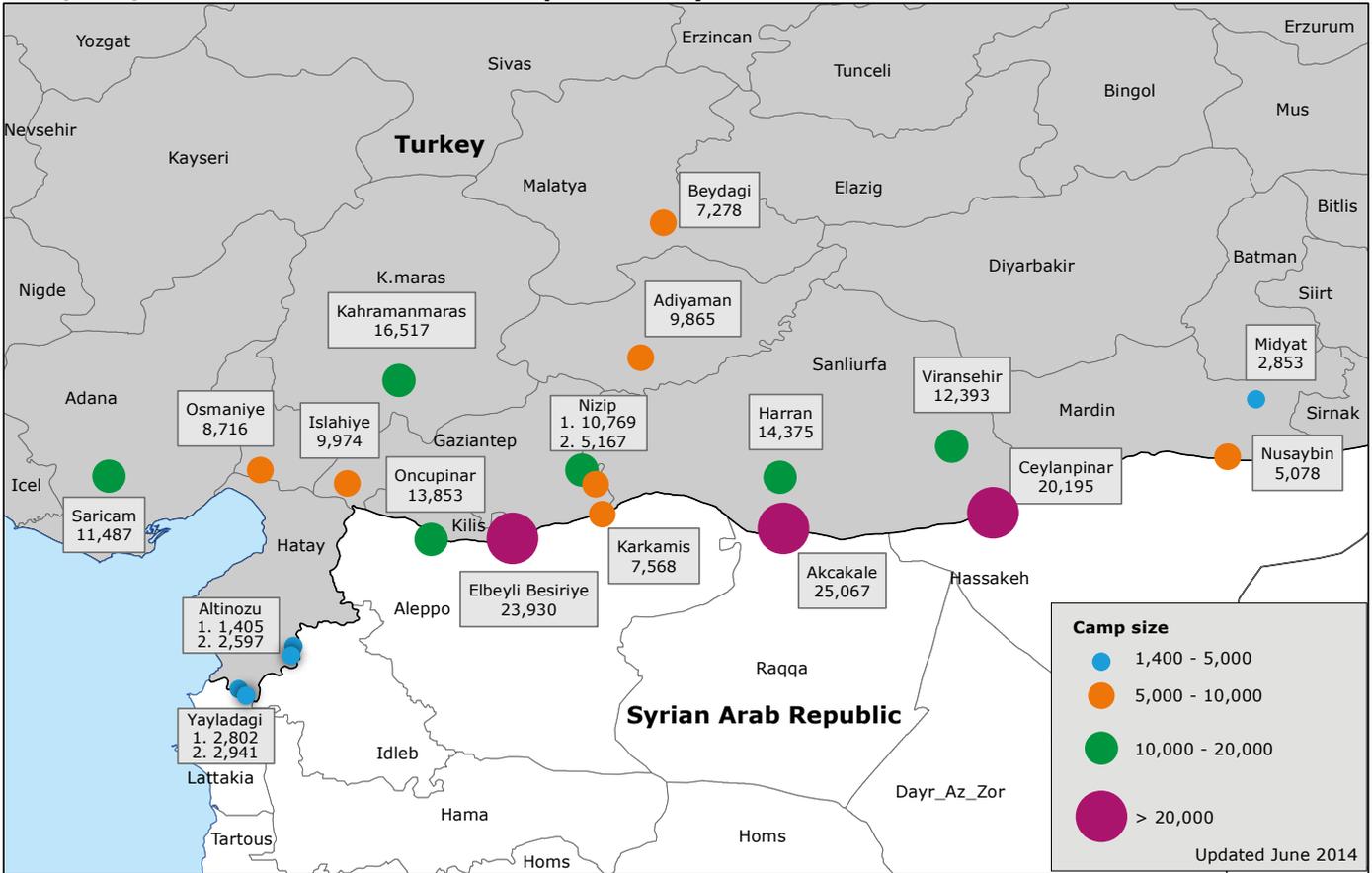
Violence in Syria continues to engender sizable influxes of Syrians into border areas in Syria and increased number of Syrians crossing over into Turkey. Such influxes pose challenges for Turkish authorities, who continue to admit Syrians requesting accommodation into camps, many of which are already near full capacity, while others move to urban centres or join friends or relatives who previously arrived in Turkey.

Turkey has been dealing with a drought that began at the end of 2013 and is causing major difficulties for agricultural producers. The drought, in conjunction with high temperatures, has severely decreased the yield of various nuts, fruits, vegetables and grains. Moreover, the hail storms that affected the mid-west of the country in the past months also caused serious damage to fruit and vegetable, cereal and sunflower farms. It is likely that Turkey will have to import wheat, barley and other staple commodities in order to meet domestic demand and the prices of food are expected to increase in the coming months.

### WFP extends its e-Food Card Programme to two additional camps

WFP and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) extended the e-Food Card Programme to Viransehir (5,000 people) and Nusaybin (12,500) camps at the beginning of June. With this expansion, WFP is now operational in 21 camps in Turkey and covering the needs of 220,000 Syrians on a monthly basis — **meeting 100 percent of the caseload for which the Government requested assistance**. The programme continues to be implemented through the cost-sharing modality with the Emergency and Disaster Management Presidency of Turkey (AFAD), whereby WFP contributes 60 Turkish liras (roughly equivalent to US\$30) per person each month for food purchases and AFAD supplements with 25 Turkish liras for food and non-food items.

### WFP/TRC/AFAD Food Assistance in Camps in Turkey



### WFP and TRC monitoring - looking to contract more shops

Monitoring visits to Altınözü, Boynuyoğun, Osmaniye, Adana and Yayladağı-1&2 camps found the prices of fresh produce to be reasonable, with the prices of dry goods noticeably stable. Visits also revealed that beneficiaries were found to spend the majority of their food entitlement purchasing bread, vegetables, dairy products and eggs.

Despite positive developments in some areas, high prices in contracted shops continue to pose challenges to the programme. WFP and TRC monitors continue to advocate with all stakeholders for fair market prices in all participating markets. As a broader response to the monopoly that camp shops hold over beneficiary spending, WFP and TRC with the encouragement of AFAD are actively looking to contract more shops outside the camps to foster greater market competition and to encourage the provision of high quality commodities and services at lower prices.



WFP/Kathleen Inglis

## OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

**Refugees registered and awaiting registration\*:** 225,409  
**Reached in May:** 107,297  
**Plan for June:** 111,000

\* UNHCR registration figures

\*\*Operational planning figures are based on UNHCR manifest Reconciliation of figures ongoing.

### WFP assistance reaches all Syrian refugees in camps

Monthly voucher distributions in Domiz camp targeting 76,000 Syrian refugees took place from 4-22 May. A total 73,652 beneficiaries were assisted, injecting over US\$2.2 million into the local economy. WFP also completed all in-kind food distributions for the month of May, reaching 33,654 people with individual food parcels weighing 16.29 kg. In total, a similar number of beneficiaries were reached last month as the border has remained closed.

### Supply chain in shops meets programme demands

Monitoring visits during the reporting period showed that food items were regularly available and restocked during the redemption period in partner shops. Shops are monitored regularly by WFP and government agencies to ensure that prices are not inflated and expired commodities are not sold. As part of its shop monitoring, WFP also looks at non-participating WFP shops inside Domiz camp as a point of price comparison. It was observed that the prices of some staple commodities were cheaper in the camp, as shops are run by refugees who do not pay overhead costs such as land, electricity or water fees. These shops also lacked adequate, and often costly, storage facilities for perishable items, which are mandated by WFP for its participating shops.

### Cooperating partners help ensure additional support for vulnerable refugees

With help from cooperating partners ACTED and INTERSOS, WFP is ensuring that support is provided to people with special needs during in-kind food distributions. Cash for work teams from the two NGOs and other volunteers organized in consultation with relevant camp management and refugee representatives ensure that vulnerable people are given priority during distributions and provided with assistance to carry food parcels to their tents. This includes special assistance to people with disabilities, pregnant women, nursing mothers, female headed households and unaccompanied minors. Separate queues for women and men are also in place in all camps, taking into consideration cultural sensitivities.

In keeping with WFP's commitment to ensure accountability to affected populations, hotlines are operational in Domiz camp and all camps in Erbil where beneficiaries, authorities and other humanitarian partners can convey any concerns regarding WFP assistance.

### INTERSOS begins distributing WFP food

INTERSOS, WFP's new cooperating partner, conducted its first in-kind food distributions this month in Basirma and Qushtapa camps. WFP field monitors assisted and monitored distributions in both camps, which had previously been conducted by ACTED. In total, over 11,300 people were assisted in the two camps with individual food parcels.

Governorate	Camp	Beneficiaries reached in May
Anbar	Al Obaidi Camp	1,672
Dohuk	Akre	1,671
	Bajet Qandela	176
	Domiz	73,652
	Gawilan	2,283
Erbil	Basirma	3,570
	Darashakran	7,754
	Kawergosk	9,083
	Qushtapa	4,658
Suleimaniyah	Arbat	2,778
<b>Total:</b>		<b>107,297</b>

## OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

**Registered refugees\*:** 137,679

**Reached in May:** 110,225

**Plan for June\*\*:** 112,920

\* UNHCR data:

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=8>

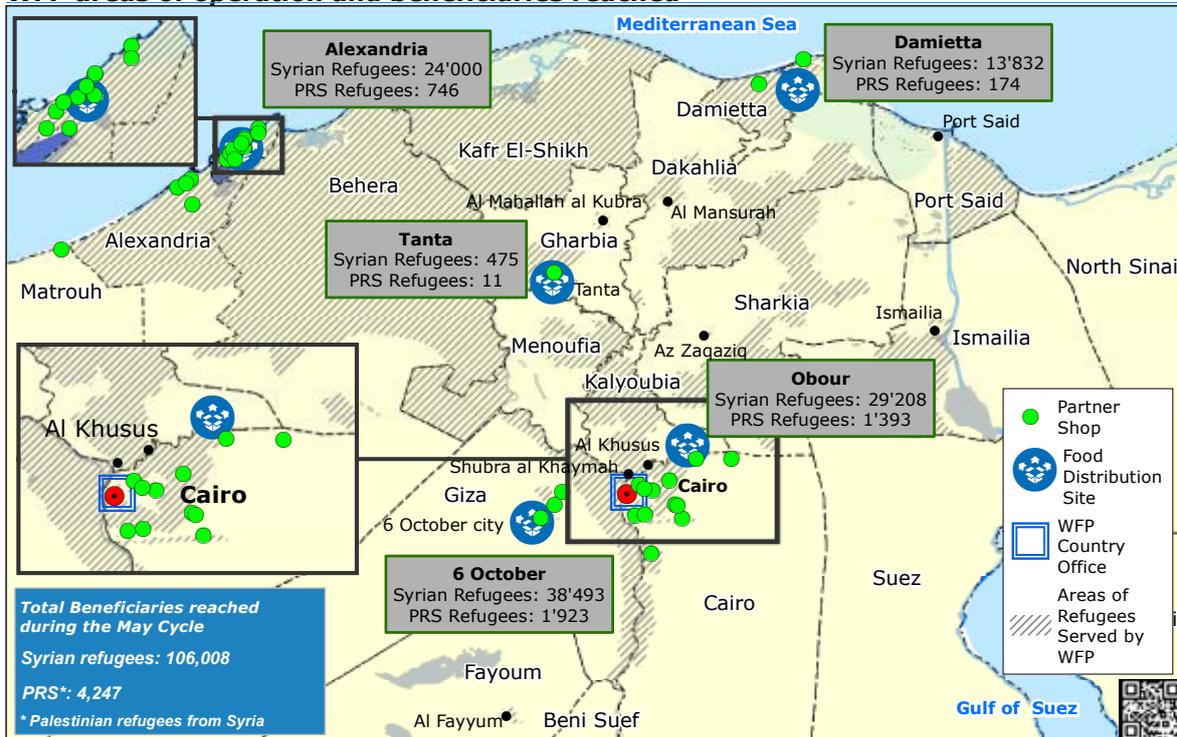
\*\*Operational planning figures are based on UNHCR and UNWRA manifest.

Reconciliation of figures ongoing.

WFP concluded its May distribution cycle on 22 May, completing the distributions earlier than planned due to country-wide presidential elections. Beneficiaries were able to redeem their vouchers in 34 shops across Egypt, over half of all beneficiaries were assisted through WFP e-cards redeemable at Carrefour branches of greater Cairo. On 3 June, a general internet failure among several service providers in Cairo left some beneficiaries reportedly unable to spend their e-cards in Carrefour shops. Since 3 June was the last redemption day for e-cards in greater Cairo, WFP extended the redemption period for two additional days until 5 June.

Overall, initial distribution figures indicate that WFP reached over 110,000 beneficiaries through the May cycle, including over 4,200 Palestinian refugees from Syria. Preparations for the June food assistance cycle are ongoing with plans to begin distributions on 15 June in order to finish distributions before the start of the Holy Month of Ramadan.

### WFP areas of operation and beneficiaries reached

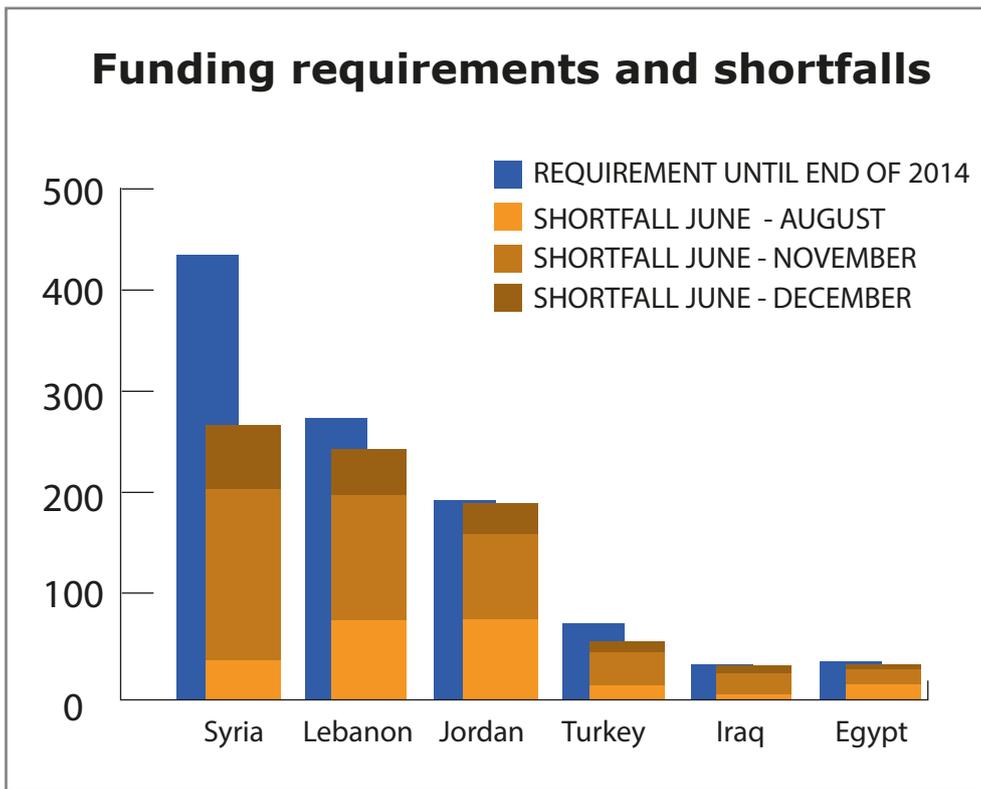


### World Bank report sharp rise in global prices of wheat and maize

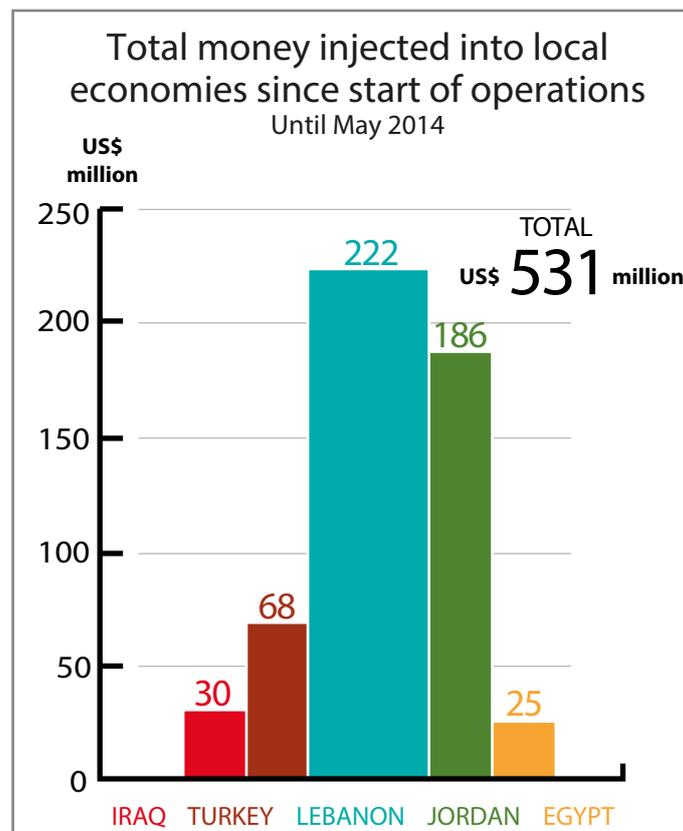
A recent report published by the World Bank, entitled The Food Price Watch, raises concerns over the increase in world food prices, which rose by an average of four percent during the first quarter of 2014. These increases present an end to the decline in food prices witnessed since August 2012. The increase was driven by soaring wheat and maize prices, which increased by 18 and 12 percent respectively. The report highlights the negative consequences of such price hikes on vulnerable people around the globe. In Egypt, however, the impact of increasing wheat prices, a staple of the Egyptian diet, are not expected to have a significant impact on vulnerable people as bread is subsidised by the Government. Hence, this increase will feed into rising food subsidy bills rather than reduced consumption. Nevertheless, food prices must continue to be closely monitored to predict further increases in international prices of other important food items.

# FUNDING AND SHORTFALLS

WFP currently needs **US\$230 million** to fund its operations in support of 4.25 million people in Syria and 2.47 million people in the neighbouring countries for the next three months (June – August 2014). Of this, US\$39 million is required to support operations in Syria, while US\$191 is required for operations in the region. A total of US\$835 million is still required to support operations until the end of the year.



# REGIONAL OPERATIONS OVERVIEW



WFP is grateful for the critical support provided by multilateral donors in response to the Syria crisis, as well as that of Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Denmark, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United States and private donors.



Donors are represented in alphabetical order.

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