

WFP Syria

North-Western Syria Emergency Situation Report #4

16 July 2019

Situation Update

- Violence continues to escalate across northwestern Syria due to ongoing fighting between government and non-state armed group forces.
 Large scale population movements and casualties continued to be reported as a result of the recent surge in conflict.
- Airstrikes and shelling have had severe impact on civilian infrastructure across north-western Syria, including schools, markets, IDP settlements and health care facilities. Two water stations in Basida and Ma'arrat An Nu'man, serving thousands of people, were reportedly targeted and damaged over the past weeks.
- On 10 July, air strikes reportedly targeted several health facilities in Idlib governorate, including a hospital in Ma'arrat An Nu'man; one of the major referral centres for civilian victims in Syria's north-west. UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, in a <u>statement</u>, strongly condemned the airstrikes impacting civilians and civilian infrastructure, including medical facilities in northwestern Syria.
- Tensions in western Aleppo countryside have had an impact on the government-controlled city of Aleppo on 14 July, where seven rockets reportedly targeted the city, resulting in casualties among civilians. The rockets landed approximately three km south-west of the UN Hub in Aleppo city. No direct impact on UN operations and staff was reported and all UN staff were confirmed safe and accounted for.
- At least 330,000 people from northern Hama and southern Idlib governorates were displaced over the past two and half months, heading towards northern Idlib and Aleppo governorates. Many of these people have been displaced multiple times.

WFP Response

 WFP and its cooperating partners continued the provision of emergency food assistance to

In Numbers

330,000 people displaced since 01 May¹

233,000 people reached with WFP emergency food assistance since 01 May

933,000 people targeted for WFP General Food Assistance in June

Highlights

- The security situation in north-western Syria continues to deteriorate as fighting between Syrian government forces and non-state armed groups continues in full force.
- Since 1 May, WFP has provided life-saving emergency food assistance to more than 233,000 people across north-western Syria.
- WFP increased the number of people targeted for General Food Assistance (GFA) in north-western Syria to a new total of 933,000 people in July.





 $^{^{1}}$ As per the latest CCCM displacement update of 27 May 2019. Note that this figure includes secondary displacements.

displaced population across north-western Syria and have so far distributed ready-to-eat rations (RTEs) to more than 233,000 people since 1 May.

- General Food Assistance (GFA) from Turkey to affected populations across the north-west is ongoing, providing 1,900 kcal food rations to a new target of 933,000 people based on the results of the beneficiary selection exercise implemented in June. A total of 35,000 people in the hard-to-reach district of Afrin, Aleppo governorate are included in the new caseload.
- On 2 -3 July, WFP was able to deliver food assistance to some 15,000 people in Sinjar, Ma'arrat An Nu'man district, Idlib (a UN classified hard-to reach area) for the first time. Beneficiaries were reached from inside Syria and WFP Staff were present during the distributions. Assessments were undertaken to identify needs and prepare for regular monthly distribution.
- Widespread violence and hostilities continue to hinder the provision of humanitarian assistance across the north-west. On 12 July, WFP activities in Ehsem sub-district of Idlib governorate were temporarily suspended due to a deterioration in the security situation, with distributions resuming after two days. Similarly, increasing tensions in the south of Idlib governorate have led to a suspension of WFP distributions in southern Idlib until the situation allows again.
- WFP operations in northern Hama governorate remain at a halt due to ongoing hostilities, affecting distributions to some 7,000 people. WFP will resume distributions as soon as conditions allow.
- Given the surge in population in Dana sub-district, WFP is increasing its storage capacity in the areas surrounding Dana camp.

WFP Preparedness

- Should the situation in the north-west deteriorate further, WFP remains ready to respond to the growing humanitarian needs with strategic stocks of RTEs, food rations as well as nutrition supplies pre-positioned inside Idlib governorate, in other hubs inside Syria, as well as in Turkey as part of the inter-agency readiness plan currently in place for large-scale escalation of conflict in northwestern Syria.
- WFP currently has RTEs pre-positioned inside Syria in Idlib and Aleppo governorates, with additional stocks pre-positioned in Turkey ready to be dispatched into Syria via the cross-border operation. WFP is continuously replenishing its

stocks of RTEs in Turkey through already active procurement contracts.

Previous reports:

- WFP Syria North-Western Syria Emergency Situation Report #1 (03 June 2013)
- WFP Syria North-Western Syria Emergency Situation Report #2 (17 June 2013)
- WFP Syria North-Western Syria Emergency Situation Report #3 (30 June 2013)

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For more information: <u>www1.wfp.org/countries/syrian-arab-republic</u>

See also the WFP 2018 Annual Country Report

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