



**World Food
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Alimentaire
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Alimentos**

**برنامج الأغذية
العالمي**

WFP News Video

WFP Concerned About Syrian Refugees As Harsh Winter Looms and Funding Dries Up

WFP News Video: Syria Crises

Marej Settlement

Bekaa, Lebanon

Shot: 25Nov2014

TRT: 02:22

Shotlist:

:00-:21

GV's Marej settlement

Marej, Lebanon

More than 1000 Syrian refugees live in this unofficial camp in unused agricultural fields in Lebanon around 15km from the border of Syria. Being unofficial, there is no infrastructure. There is no running water, electricity, or sewage. Two consecutive severe winter storms have just hit Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Iraq dumping heavy rain on Marej, turning it into a field of mud. At night it can go below freezing. The cold and lack of hygienic services has made many sick with colds and skin diseases.

:21-:36

GV's families in Marej settlement, Lebanon

Fadia and Fatmeh and their families are from Homs and live near each other in Marej. Fadia has 5 children, Fathmeh has 4 children. Their kids don't have warm clothing. Some don't have shoes.

:36-:50

SOT Fatmeh(Arabic)

Marej settlement, Lebanon

"Oh God, we are freezing to death. I don't have any blankets. A neighbor gave me a piece of foam for my baby to sleep on and another one on which 3 children sleep."

:50-:55

Marej settlement, Lebanon

girl walks through mud in Marej with books to an informal school established by a Syrian NGO.

:55-01:14

SOT Assia(Arabic)

Marej settlement, Lebanon

"These tents don't keep us warm. Even when lit the heaters don't keep us warm. And as you can see, there is mud. I have been in Lebanon for one year. I survive only thanks to the UN food vouchers. I don't get anything else."

01:14-01:31

Marej settlement, Lebanon

GV's Assia and her tent mates and family members. Assia is from Homs. Her husband was killed in the war in Syria. She lives in a tent in Marej with 3 other women and 16 children.

01:31-01:59

SOT Abeer Etefa (English)

Marej settlement, Lebanon

WFP Spokesperson

"Many of the refugees are not prepared for this winter. They are living in informal settlements like this one. Plastic sheeting...they are taking cover...trying to burn whatever they can so that they have fire at night to warm their kids. Its a very difficult situation. The World Food Programme is providing food assistance through vouchers to refugees in all neighboring countries but is also facing a difficult time with funding."

01:59-02:22

Marej settlement, Lebanon

Assia and her tent mates eat the only meal of the day: potatoes and bread.

ENDS

WFP Video News Release

26 November 2014

WFP CONCERNED ABOUT SYRIAN REFUGEES AS HARSH WINTER LOOMS AND FUNDING DRIES UP

Beirut – Displaced families in Syria and neighbouring countries are bracing for a harsh winter with Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq facing their first heavy winter storms this week. The following information accompanies video images recorded today in Lebanon:

- Vulnerable Syrians are in the eye of the storm, living in precarious conditions especially for those in flimsy shelters, refugee camps and informal settlements in Syria and neighbouring countries.
- In Lebanon, temperatures plummeted as the country was hit on Tuesday by a winter storm, expected to continue until Thursday. Temperatures dropped in some areas to -1 Celsius. Rainfall in Lebanon over the past two months has been markedly greater than during the same period last year. Over 1 million Syrian refugees in Lebanon are scattered across 1,700 localities across the country.

- For refugees, this is the fourth winter away from their homes since the crisis started in Syria. In the Kurdistan region of northern Iraq, winter has already arrived in Dohuk governorate. By December, temperatures can range from +5 degrees Celsius to minus 16 degrees Celsius in the mountains. Jordan also faced its first rainstorm this week with hundreds of thousands of refugees still living in the Zaatari and Al Azraq refugee camps.
- Over 3.2 million Syrians have registered, or are awaiting registration, with the UN Refugee agency (UNHCR) in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. WFP assists over 2 million of the most vulnerable refugees with food vouchers.
- WFP often uses vouchers to provide assistance where markets are functioning but people cannot afford to buy food. It provides people with more choice and they can buy fresh food such as fruit, vegetables and milk that are not normally included in conventional food rations.
- To date, through the voucher programme, WFP has injected close to US\$250 million into the local economies of neighbouring countries.
- Inside Syria, each month WFP plans to reach 4.25 million displaced Syrians with food rations that include rice, pasta, oil, pulses, lentils, sugar, salt, canned food and ready-to-eat food in communities without access to cooking facilities.
- The United States has confirmed an additional US\$125 million contribution to WFP's Syria response, including US\$55 million to help WFP provide food to over 4 million people living inside Syria and US\$70 million for assistance to over 2 million Syrian refugees.
- Nevertheless, WFP is struggling to meet the urgent food needs of the roughly 6 million displaced people inside Syria and in neighbouring countries. Operations are run on a hand-to-mouth basis, as funding is running out.
- WFP requires US\$35 million each week to feed those left hungry by the war in Syria and needs an immediate US\$64 million to meet the urgent food needs of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries during the month of December.
- Overall, the UN food agency needs US\$353 million for its Syria response over the next three months, including US\$92 million for its work inside Syria and US\$261 million to support refugees in neighbouring countries.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. In 2013, WFP assisted more than 80 million people in 75 countries.

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