



**World Food
Programme**

**Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial**

**Programa
Mundial de
Alimentos**

**برنامج الأغذية
العالمي**

WFP Media Advisory

24 September 2012

Video of WFP Food Distribution in Homs, Syria

ROME –New video shows WFP food reaching families living in Homs, Syria

WFP News Video Shotlist

TRT 2:24

Shot: Homs, Syria 17/18SEP2012

Footage shows:

:00-:47

GV's destruction, street scenes

:47-1:24

Syrian Red Crescent delivering WFP food to families still living in Homs

1:24-1:34

SOT Muhannad HADI, Country Director, WFP Syria

“This is one of the areas in Homs that sustained allot of damage. WFP provides food assistance to those who still live and will provide more assistance to the people who decide to return”

1:34-2:24

Food aid to 1800 displaced people living in a public school

ENDS

WFP Operations in Homs

- WFP is providing food assistance to over 223,000 people this month through its implementing partner the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and a local NGO – El Bir Association for Charity.
- WFP is prioritizing assistance to internally displaced people in public shelters mainly mosques, churches, schools as well as families displaced from one part of the governorate to another area taking refuge with relatives and friends.

- Communities provide cooked meals to internally displaced people in public shelters using WFP dry rations.

WFP Operations in Syria

- The humanitarian needs – especially food – are growing, as large numbers of Syrians flee their homes. The security situation continues to deteriorate in Rural Damascus and remains very tense in Aleppo, with many people seeking shelter in public buildings.
- WFP is scaling up its operations to reach 1.5 million people in Syria with food assistance in the coming month. WFP is prioritizing food distributions to internally displaced people; many have been displaced twice, such as people from Homs who fled to Aleppo and then had to leave Aleppo when fighting intensified in the city.
- A joint rapid food security assessment published in June by WFP, FAO and the Syrian government found that around 1.5 million people need urgent food assistance over the next 3 to 6 months, especially in areas that have seen the greatest conflict and displacement. Close to one million people need crop and livestock assistance such as seeds, food for animals, fuel and repair of irrigation pumps.
- In areas where fighting is taking place, food prices are reported to have almost doubled. In other areas, the already high food prices have further increased by at least 20 percent in governorates visited by WFP staff. A shortage of cooking gas was also observed. It is being sold on the black market at about a 400 percent mark-up.
- The price of wheat continues to rise but bread is still widely available. While temporary bread shortages have been reported in areas where clashes are taking place, this is mostly due to shortages of fuel rather than flour shortages.
- WFP's Syria emergency operation for 1.5 million people is at a cost of US\$136 million. More than US\$78 million has already been contributed by donors including UN-CERF, the US, the European Commission, Canada, Australia, UK, Finland, Ireland, Netherlands, Germany, France, Russia and Kuwait,
- Operations still face a funding shortfall of about US\$58 million.

Regional Refugee Response

- WFP's Regional Emergency Operation to cover the food needs of vulnerable Syrians who have fled to neighbouring countries was officially launched at the beginning of July 2012.
- About 250,000 Syrians have registered with UNHCR, or are awaiting registration in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Joint needs assessments in these countries showed that food was a top priority need.
- WFP teams in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey are using food vouchers to respond to the needs of vulnerable Syrians who fled to these countries.

- A six-month food voucher operation began in July, targeting 67,000 people and aiming to reach 120,000 people by December. In September the voucher system is being extended to help an additional 30,000 Syrian refugees in Turkey.
- The revised Regional Response Plan, prepared by the humanitarian community as a whole, requested funds for approximately US\$193 million, of which US\$34 million was to support WFP activities in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Turkey. For its regional response operation, WFP is facing a shortfall of close to US\$11.5 million for the 4 neighbouring countries.

Previously release footage shows WFP assistance to Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon can be downloaded from these links:

Syrian Refugees in Jordan and Lebanon: 07-09-12

<https://rcpt.yousendit.com/1694838675/d3343f7c8f5ce898e1e07c1bbd573b67>

Syrian refugees in Lebanon: 28-06-12

<https://rcpt.yousendit.com/1579976597/c8b5d4624ea01758937abe59c4c645b9>

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. Each year, on average, WFP feeds more than 90 million people in more than 70 countries.

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