



**World Food
Programme**

**Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial**

**Programa
Mundial de
Alimentos**

**برنامج الأغذية
العالمي**

WFP News Video

Location: Syria Deir Ezzor, Palmyra, Damascus

Shot: 13, 14, 16 February 2018

TRT:02:34

SHOTS LIST

:00-:10

Palmyra

Shot 13 Feb 2018

UN convoy on the road to Deir Ezzor, crossing Palmyra

:10-:33

Deir Ezzor

Shot 13/14 Feb 2018

“Deir Ezzor Welcomes You” sign, war damaged buildings.

:33-:39

Deir Ezzor

Shot 14 Feb 2018

Ali, father of two makes a living rummaging for scraps to sell on the market to feed his family

:39-:53

Deir Ezzor

Shot 14 Feb 2018

SOT (Arabic) Ali:

“We share the food and money we bring amongst ourselves. During the siege we [parents] would not eat in order to feed our children. Now things are much better thank God.”

:53-01:04

Deir Ezzor

Shot 14 Feb 2018

War damaged buildings, muddy roads

01:0401:24

Damascus

Shot 16 Feb 2018

SOT (Eng) Abdirahman Meygag, WFP Syria Deputy Director

“We assisted the people in Deir Ezzor through our airdrop operations in the past year and a half. Since the roads are now accessible, we intend to beef-up our programs and deliver more assistance to Deir Ezzor city and the governorate



01:24-01:38

Syrian airspace over Deir Ezzor

Shot August 2017

WFP Ilyushin IL-76 flying over Syria

High altitude airdrop, from 16,500 feet high, over besieged parts of Deir Ezzor city.

WFP ran a high-altitude airdrop operation from April 2016 to August 2017, which dropped food and humanitarian assistance to cover the needs of 93,000 people trapped in Deir Ezzor. After demining road access is now possible, WFP and other UN agencies can truck in assistance on a regular basis via the Damascus – Homs – Palmyra – Deir Ezzor route.

01:38-01:45

Deir Ezzor

Shot August 2017

Syrian Arab Red Crescent staff collecting the airdropped food and other assistance from the drop zone

01:45-02:01

Wadi street, Deir Ezzor

Shot 13 Feb 2018

food market

The only market, serving more than 100,000 people in the city. The street is 1.5 kilometres long and is modestly stocked with food, produce and other goods that traders bring in from Damascus.

02:01-02:16

SOT (Arabic) Bayan, 12 years old.

She lived in Deir Ezzor city during the siege.

“We were living under shelling and very little food, electricity and water.”

Q: How did you find food to eat?

“We would receive food rations from the Syrian Arab Red Crescent that my mom would then cook for us to eat”

02:16-02:34

Deir Ezzor

Shot 13 Feb 2018

WFP staff visiting family assessing the food needs of the family

Sisters eating

END

For 17 months (April 2016 until August 2017) the World Food Programme ran an airdrop operation on behalf of the entire UN in Syria. Airdrops were a lifeline for the people trapped inside Deir Ezzor City.

Following the lifting of the 31/2 year long siege by ISIS, this week WFP went on a milestone mission to the city to document the effects of three and half years of living under siege. This is the first mission for any UN personnel since mid-2014 when the entire governorate became inaccessible.

The city now has more than 100,000 people living in it. About 80 percent of the city is destroyed-especially the eastern parts where ISIS fighters were in control. People inside the city are either returnees (those who managed to get out during the siege) or residents who remained inside and received food via WFP airdrops. Unemployment is high in the city and governorate. While many are public servants their meagre salaries cannot sustain them especially that almost everyone is now renting, having lost their homes in the ISIS shelling and coalition airstrikes. There are many others who have no jobs and make a living selling scraps.

Humanitarian conditions in the city:

Infrastructure is nearly completely destroyed, particularly the central part of town and the eastern side of the city where ISIS was in control. Most people are living in congested locations in the western part of the city such as Qosour, Jora neighbourhood and Wadi street where the marketplace is located and extends for 1.5 km. The areas completely destroyed are in the central part of the city but more to the eastern side, mainly Jbelila hood where Cinema Fo'ad Street is located. This street was controlled by ISIS and was heavily shelled by the US-led coalition.

-
- **WFP is concerned about the upsurge in violence and the tremendous suffering of people trapped in the besieged Eastern Ghouta enclave in Rural Damascus, in Idlib governorate in northwest Syria, and in Afrin district in Aleppo.**
Airstrikes and shelling have destroyed buildings, killing hundreds in Eastern Ghouta and Idlib, and displacing more than a quarter of a million people. In Afrin, WFP can only assist those who managed to flee.
- **Nearing its eighth year, the Syrian Conflict has left millions impoverished and hungry. Ever more people risk food insecurity. Alarming numbers are still facing acute hunger.**
Some 6.5 million people in Syria are now food insecure. At the same time, 4 million people are at risk of becoming so, twice as many as a year ago.



- **WFP is having to make tough choices because of limited funding. This means prioritizing the most vulnerable, who would go hungry without food assistance.**
As of January, WFP was providing food assistance to 3 million people, down from 4 million in August due to lower than expected funding forecasts. WFP has communicated its reduction plans to partners who distribute the food.
- **WFP urgently needs funds to continue providing food assistance to those most in need.**
We require US\$ 159 million just to keep operations running, even at reduced rates, through July.
- **The single greatest priority must be an end to this conflict which has raged for nearly eight years, claiming lives and pushing ever more people into hunger and misery.**
- **WFP appeals to all parties to protect civilians, respect humanitarian principles and allow for the safe delivery of food to families in need, no matter where they are.**
- **Raging violence in besieged and hard-to-reach areas has paralysed the UN's response and WFP's ability to reach those who desperately need help. But our call for a cessation of hostilities has fallen on deaf ears and the human toll is appalling.**

WFP Syria Crisis in Numbers:

- *People in need of humanitarian assistance* **13.1 million**
- *People facing food insecurity* **6.5 million**
- *People at risk of becoming food-insecure* **4 million**
- *Internally displaced people (IDPs)* **6.1 million**
- *People living in hard-to-reach and besieged areas* **2.9 million**
- *People living in nine besieged locations* **417,500**
- *People living in extreme poverty* **7 out of 10**
- *Increase in basic food prices compared to pre-crisis period* **800%**
- *Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in region* **5.48 million**
- *People in Syria who received WFP food in January* **2.4 million**
- *Funding required by WFP until July 2018 for caseload of 4 m people* **US\$159 million**
- # # #

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. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in around 80 countries.



Follow us on Twitter @wfp_media

For more information, please contact:

Marwa Awad, WFP/Damascus, Tel. +963 958 882 900

Dina El-Kassaby, WFP/Cairo, Mob. +2010 15218882

**Abeer Etefa, WFP/Cairo, Tel. +202 2528 1730 ext. 2600, Mob. +20
1066634352**

**Jane Howard, WFP/Rome, Tel. +39 06 65132321, Mob. +39 346
7600521**

Bettina Luescher, WFP/Geneva, Tel. Mob. + 41-79-842-8057

**Francis Mwanza, WFP/London, Tel. +44 20 72409001, Mob. +44 7968
008474**

**Steve Taravella, WFP/New York, Tel. +1-646-5566909, Mob. +1-202-
770-5993**