WFP News Video

3, December 3, 2013

World Food Programme Reaching Millions Inside Syria But, Many Areas Cut Off By Fighting

WFP Video
Damascus and surrounding areas, Syria
Shot: 2-3 December 2013
TRT: 2:10

Shot list:
:00-:13
GV's Damascus
Shot: 3Dec. 2013

:13-:36
WFP food distribution, Damascus
Close to 430,000 people receive WFP food assistance in Damascus, mainly women and children who are internally displaced from various governorates in Syria.
Shot: 2Dec2013

:39-01:02
Damascus
SOT Matthew Hollingsworth, WFP Syria Country Director(English)
“This month we’ve mange to dispatch enough food to feed in excess of 3 million people to 13 out of the 14 provinces in the country, There is at least one province we are unable to get to at all because of fighting that stops us using the roots to get there. Of course there’s also are many other places, villages, towns, small communities that are cut off but we take every single opportunity to reach them”
Shot: 2Dec. 2013

01:02-01:40
Mobile nutrition clinic, Sehnaya, (rural Damascus)
Children from internally displaced families from Eastern Ghouta and Darayya tested and treated for malnutrition. 600 children receive WFP supplementary feeding from this particular mobile clinic. High levels of malnutrition are being reported especially among
families fleeing conflict areas. WFP plans to reach 300,000 children with supplementary feeding. So far we have been able to provide nutrition support to over 100,000 children under 2 in Syria.
Shot: 2Dec2013

01:40 -02:10
Al Tanaya village in Adraa (rural Damascus)
Fatma, a mother of two, has been displaced in this area for over a year. WFP supplies her and her family with monthly rations of pasta, cooking oil, sugar, canned beans, bulghar wheat flour and rice.
Shot: 3Dec2013

ENDS

WFP Syria Crisis
3 December 2013

- WFP dispatched enough food to feed over 3.4 million people inside Syria in November -- mainly to internally-displaced families in 13 governorates and have reached 8 more locations, previously inaccessible in recent months.

- WFP has recently managed to deliver food aid to 8 communities that had been previously cut off. However, we are concerned about the fate of many Syrians still trapped in conflict zones throughout the country, including around Damascus and in Al Hassakeh, where some areas have been without food assistance for six consecutive months.

- WFP aims to reach 4 million people inside Syria every month -- as well as providing assistance for nearly 1.5 million refugees in neighbouring countries.

- The Syria response is WFP’s largest and most complex emergency worldwide. WFP needs to raise US$40 million every week to meet the food needs of people affected by the Syrian conflict.

WFP Syria in numbers:

- People WFP plans to reach in Syria in Dec: 4 million
- WFP dispatched food in the November distribution cycle to: 3.4 million
- Syrian refugees registered/awaiting registration (UNHCR): nearly 2.3 million
- Of whom, refugees who received WFP assistance in October: almost 1.3 million
- Weekly food assistance requirements for Syria and region: US$40 million
• In November, WFP faced severe access challenges in dispatching food to the northeast governorates and in particular to Al-Hassakeh due to heavy fighting cutting off transport routes, preventing trucks from delivering food to families in these areas.

• The closure of the Damascus-Homs Highway has also resulted in significant delays in sending food to Homs and Hama Governorates. WFP had to use alternate and longer routes to deliver food in hard-to-reach areas. In some cases, food trucks had to be re-routed over the Lebanese border and then back into Syria, to reach some of these areas.

• Intense fighting in the southwest of Quneitra governorate has displaced 10,000 people to the eastern and central areas of the governorate. WFP has delivered enough food to cover the needs of all these displaced families for one month.

• Despite significant challenges, WFP gained access over the last few weeks to 8 difficult to reach areas in November mainly in rural Homs and Deraa.

• **Malnutrition:** WFP is providing specialized nutrition products (Plumpy’doz and Nutributter) to 100,000 vulnerable children under age 2, each month in Syria. The Northeast is of particular concern – there were high rates of malnutrition among children there even before the conflict erupted.

WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. Last year, WFP reached more than 97 million people in 80 countries with food assistance. Follow us on Twitter @wfp_media

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