

WFP NEWS VIDEO

CRANES DELIVER LIFE-SAVING ASSISTANCE TO SYRIANS STRANDED AT SYRIA-JORDAN BORDER

Location: Rukban, the berm, Jordanian Syrian border

Shot on 3-4 August 2016

TRT: 02:15

SHOTLIST

Shot on 4 August 2016

:00-:05

WFP used cranes to lower crates of relief items from the Jordanian side of the border

View from the crane's arm of the 2 sides of the berm, on the left side the Syrian community and tribal leaders receive the relief supplies.

:05-:28

Shot on 4 August 2016

Delivery of food by 2 cranes, the food included staples like rice, lentils and dates.

Syrian community and tribal leaders receiving the food and other relief items, Hygiene kits from UNICEF and Bread from IOM

:28-:48

Shot on 4 August 2016

SOT (English) Shada Moghraby, WFP Jordan Spokesperson

“The World Food Programme was able to successfully deliver life-saving food for over 75,000 Syrians stranded in the Hadalat and Rukban areas that lies on Jordan North Eastern border in to Syria, we were able to also deliver hygiene kits provided by UNICEF and bread from the IOM.”

:48-:57

Shot on 4 August 2016

Makeshift shelters along the border area

:57-01:03

Shot 3 August 2016

WFP food Trucks arriving in Rukban

01:03-01:35

Shot on 4 August 2016

trucks arriving at the berm, crane lifting relief items.

01:35-01:57

Shot on 4 August 2016

SOT (English) Mageed Yahia, WFP Jordan Country Director

“As you can see this is the first time that we use the cranes, and this was the only way that we could do the distribution given that there is no access, we could no cross to the other side nor the population can cross to this side, so we came up with this idea that we could drop the food in there and then monitor the distribution from the Jordanian side.

01:57-02:03

Shot on 4 August 2016

Food distribution on the Syrian side

02:03-02:15

Shot on 4 August 2016

Syrian side of the border

Syrian people at the distribution site.

NEWS RELEASE

WFP News Release

5 August 2016

CRANES DELIVER LIFE-SAVING ASSISTANCE TO SYRIANS STRANDED AT JORDANIAN BORDER AREAS

AMMAN – Syrians stranded at the border with Jordan received this week much-needed food and other supplies in a unique operation that saw the aid hoisted by crane across the closed frontier.

In a first delivery of humanitarian assistance since the border was sealed in June, food provided by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), bread from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNICEF hygiene kits were lifted from the Jordanian side by 70-metre-high cranes and lowered into encampments for the displaced in the Syrian desert.

More than 75,000 people seeking to escape the conflict in Syria are living in an area of earthen embankments between the two countries known as the “berm”.

“Most are women, children and the elderly – many of them sick or wounded – who have no access to food or medicine. They are living in tents, enduring temperatures of more than 50 degrees Celsius,” said Mageed Yahia, WFP Representative and Country Director in Jordan. “This unconventional operation was designed to give them at least temporary relief.”

Jordan sealed the area following an attack in June on Jordanian military personnel. Before the border closure, UN agencies and aid organizations regularly delivered supplies from the Jordanian side to people stranded in no man's land.

The 650 metric tons of aid was delivered to two locations, Rukban and Hadalat, over three days.

“We are very grateful for the support of the Jordanian government and the Jordan Armed Forces – Arab Army to make this happen,” said Yahia. “It is a one-off distribution but we are working on reaching a longer term solution to the needs of the tens of thousands of people in the area.”

It was the first time WFP used cranes to deliver relief items. Community and tribal leaders were trained to organise and carry out the distributions. Drones flying overhead monitored the operation to ensure it was conducted in an orderly fashion.

The berm operation was made possible by a contribution from The Kingdom of the Netherlands which funded half of the food delivered by crane.

Prior to the June suspension of humanitarian activities in the area, and since March this year, WFP was regularly delivering food parcels thanks to contributions from the European Commission's humanitarian aid department (ECHO), Germany and the Republic of Korea.

The success of the operation was a result of joint UN efforts led by the World Food Programme, involving support from the Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator in Jordan and the Embassy of the United States of America in Amman.

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Hi-res photos available here:

<https://www.yousendit.com/download/cUJWUXV2YWIwVWxwdmNUQw>

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.

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END