

WFP News Video

Syria Crisis

Location: Syria, Jordan, Lebanon

TRT 2:46

00:00-00:27 Zaatari refugee camp, Jordan Shot 31 August 2012
Camp distributes over 35,000 hotmeals to Syrians mainly from Deraa and Homs
Various of the camp
People receiving hot meals from WFP

00:27-00:50 Zaatari refugee camp, Jordan Shot 31 August 2012
Amel and her brother eating WFP hot meals,
she her family arrived the night before to the camp, from Deraa

00:50-01:01 Zaatari refugee camp, Jordan Shot 31 August 2012
Various of the camp

01:01-01:19 Aarsal, Lebanon Shot 5th September 2012
Over 25,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon are receiving WFP food vouchers
Syrian refugees getting food in a local shop using WFP voucher

01:19-01:28 Balabek, Lebanon Shot 4th September 2012
Um Ahmed arrived in Balabek with her family of 17 from Zabadani (rural Damascus)
Um Ahmed preparing food

01:28-01:42 Balabek, Lebanon Shot 4th September 2012
SOT Um Ahmed (Arabic)
“with 17 of us living in one house how are we supposed to sleep? we don’t have clothes, how are the men going to dress? I don’t complain, I thank god “

01:42-01:53 Tripoli, Lebanon Shot 6 September 2012
WFP food distribution, people receive rice, pasta, canned meat, canned fish .
From next month people will get vouchers to use in local food shops.

01:53 -02:24 Tripoli, Lebanon Shot 6 September 2012
SOR Abeer Etefa WFP Spokesperson (English)
“the humanitarian needs and especially the food needs for Syrians inside their country as well as the ones fleeing to the neighbouring countries are growing. WFP is responding to this emergency by providing assistance to more than a million and a half Syrians inside their country as well as also providing food assistance to the ones who have fled to neighbouring countries in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq, through vouchers, through in kind food distributions or hot meals as the situation would require”

02:24-02:46 Tripoli, Lebanon Shot 6 September 2012
Refugees receiving WFP food

World Food Programme (WFP) Regional Response – Syrian Refugees 7 September 2012

- **WFP is scaling up its operations to reach 1.5 million people in Syria this month with food assistance. Humanitarian needs – especially food – are growing, as large numbers of Syrians flee their homes.**
- **As thousands more Syrians pour into neighbouring countries, WFP is responding to cover the food needs of refugees in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey with food distributions, hot meals and an innovative programme of food vouchers.**

Jordan

WFP is providing close to 35,000 hot meals on a daily basis to Syrian refugees in **Zaatari refugee camp** in Mafraq Governorate in Jordan and an average of 3,500 hot meals in King Abdullah Park transit center. WFP also provides welcome packages of ready-to-eat food for new arrivals at Zaatari. WFP and UNHCR are working together to set up kitchen facilities for refugees at Zaatari camp and WFP will provide food rations as soon as cooking facilities are put in place.

Elsewhere in the country, WFP is providing food and introducing a food voucher system targeting more than 35,000 refugees **living with host communities** in Irbid, Zarqa, Mafraq, Karak and Amman, with plans to reach 70,000 by the end of the year.

Lebanon

In Lebanon, WFP is providing assistance for more than 33,000 Syrian refugees in the North, including in the town of Tripoli, and in the Bekaa Valley either through family food packages or through vouchers. Ultimately, all beneficiaries will receive **food vouchers** and, working with partners, WFP aims to reach up to 40,000 people by December. Twenty-five selected shops in the northern Akkar district are now accepting WFP food vouchers. Shop assessments are also on-going in the Tripoli area for a voucher programme.

A rapid assessment conducted in April showed the vast majority of Syrians in Lebanon are dependent on external forms of support to meet their food needs. They are already resorting, for example, to reducing the number of meals, reducing portions or buying food on credit. Almost 75 percent of the Syrian refugees in Lebanon are women and children.

Background to WFP's 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. More than 246,000 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.**
- A six-month food voucher operation began in July, targeting 67,000 people and aiming to reach 120,000 people by December throughout the region. In September the voucher system is being extended to help an additional **30,000 Syrian refugees in Turkey.**
- The food vouchers can be redeemed against a list of items including fresh produce such as dairy products (cheese, milk, yogurt) and eggs, which are not normally included in food rations. WFP often uses vouchers when food is available in the market but people do not have enough money to buy it.
- The voucher system is an innovative way to ensure beneficiaries can buy their own food from local shops. They will have the freedom to choose the commodities they want and need as and when they wish. Vouchers also help boost local economy.
- 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, WFP is facing a funding shortfall of close to US\$11.5 million for its operations in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.**

WFP Operations Inside Syria

- Number of people WFP aims to reach in Syria in distributions beginning in September: **1.5 million**
- Number of food beneficiaries in Syria reached in July round of distributions: **821,100**
- Earlier this week (3 Sept), two truckloads of WFP food successfully entered the city of Aleppo and provided food for people sheltering in schools. More than 64,000 people are reported to be taking shelter in public buildings in Aleppo city and about 200,000 in the surrounding area of Rural Aleppo.
- 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.

- 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.