



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

With the crisis now approaching its tenth year, humanitarian needs are expected to remain high in 2020. This is due to ongoing insecurity, multiple displacements, spontaneous returns, lost livelihoods and productive assets, high prices and limited economic opportunities.

Objectives

FAO is working with partners in the Food Security Sector to:

- Restore and strengthen productive assets and create livelihood opportunities for the targeted populations to contribute to the overall food production and food availability.
- Support self-reliance of affected households by protecting and building productive assets and restoring or creating income-generating opportunities to save and sustain lives.
- Improve communities' capacity to sustain household livelihoods by improving linkages with value chain through the rehabilitation/building of productive infrastructure as well as supporting services, early warning and disaster risk reduction systems.
- Strengthen coordination of the Food Security Sector.

Activities



Increase agricultural production and support livelihoods

agricultural inputs | family farming (vegetable and poultry) | technical capacity building | livestock support (small ruminant restocking and feed provision) | emergency animal health | veterinary trainings | vocational trainings | income-generating activities | basic irrigation infrastructure



Strengthen food security coordination

contingency/preparedness plans | assessments | analysis | monitoring | joint programming | capacity building and technical assistance | disaster risk reduction | information and early warning systems



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The Syrian Arab Republic

Humanitarian Response Plan 2020



to assist

11.6 million people



FAO requires

USD 151 million



period

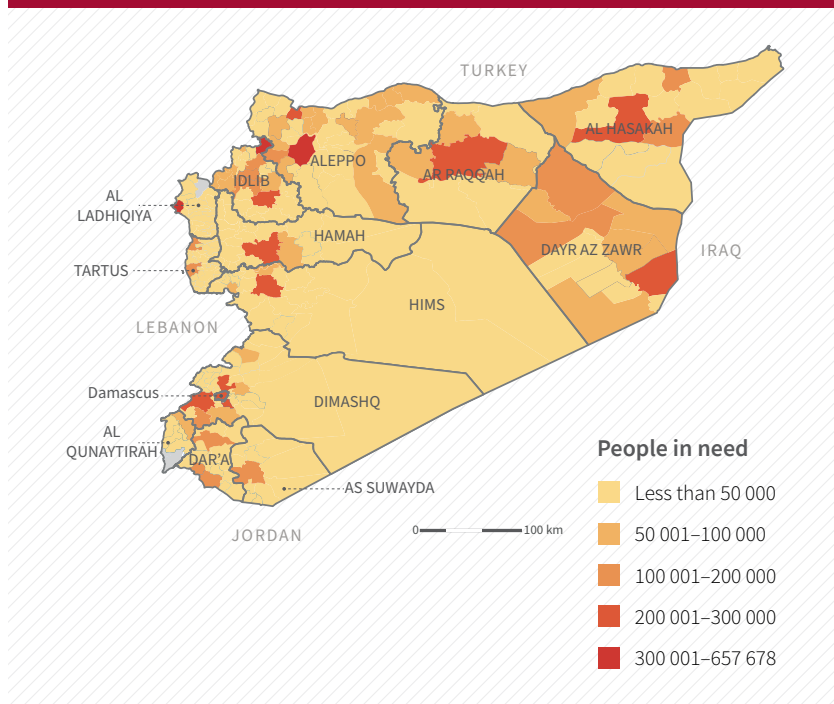
January–December 2020

With protracted crisis driving consistently high levels of food insecurity, vulnerable households require multifaceted support to safeguard their livelihoods.



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Food insecure people in need by sub-district (2020)



Source: Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2020. Conforms to UN Syrian Arab Republic map, April 2012.

Situation analysis



7.9 million people in severe acute food insecurity



1.9 million people are risk of food insecurity



6.1 million people internally displaced*



65 percent of household income is spent on food



57 percent of food-insecure people adopt negative coping strategies

Impact on food security

Food insecurity is persistent in the Syrian Arab Republic due to conflict, displacement, loss or lack of livelihoods, reduced production capacity and economic sanctions. These correlated factors have limited physical access to food and drastically increased fuel and food prices, contributing to reduced purchasing power and continuous livelihood depletion for those most vulnerable, including host community, returnee and displaced populations.

Due to ongoing military operation, 1.17 million people are food insecure or at risk of food insecurity in the northeast region, which is home to some of the country's major wheat producing areas. Floods, fires and plant diseases and pests have affected approximately 17 percent of grazing areas and 216 000 ha of farmland planted with wheat and other staple crops. In 2019, a successful vaccination campaign in northwest Syrian Arab Republic averted a resurgence of chicken-killing Newcastle disease and outbreaks of lumpy skin disease. As the agriculture sector produces food for more than half of the Syrian population, any production

disruptions in the northeast and setbacks in gains achieved in the northwest will be profound.

Supporting agricultural livelihoods and value chains should be at the forefront of actions to increase the self-reliance and resilience of Syrians. Urgent actions are needed to ensure that vulnerable households receive seasonal inputs to produce and contribute to domestic production requirements. Building and protecting assets, specifically for pastoralists, will remain crucial to restoring and creating livelihood opportunities. Productive, accessible assets will allow households to reduce use of negative coping mechanisms in order to meet their daily needs. The cost of non-support will not only result in continued increase in numbers of people who are food insecure, but also increase social tensions and pressure on urban areas and natural resources. Timely support to agriculture-based livelihoods will be crucial going forward to improving overall food security and nutrition.

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