



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



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The Syrian Arab Republic

Humanitarian Response Plan 2018



to assist

2.3 million people



FAO requires

USD 120 million



period

January – December 2018

As the crisis protracts in the Syrian Arab Republic, without immediate support, households in rural communities are no longer able to make a living through agriculture alone – their main source of income.

Now in its seventh year, the conflict has taken an even more devastating toll on the agriculture sector. In 2018, it is estimated that at least 1.5 million Syrians will be newly displaced, while around 1 million internally displaced people are expected to return to their communities of origin.

Objectives

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

- Improve the food security of assessed food-insecure people through emergency life-saving and regular life sustaining food assistance.
- Support the life-saving livelihoods of affected households by increasing agricultural production, protecting and building productive assets and restoring or creating income-generating opportunities.
- Improve the capacity to deliver essential services for improved linkages with value chain through the rehabilitation/building of productive infrastructure as well as supporting services, early warning and disaster risk reduction systems.

Activities



Increase agricultural and livestock production

crop and vegetable production | tools | livestock restocking | animal feed | vaccination of livestock | income-generating activities



Increase household food production

rebuild irrigation canals | repair water distribution points



Strengthen the effectiveness and quality of the Whole of Syria response (including all hubs) based on evidence

capacity building

Situation analysis



6.5 million people
food insecure and face a large food
consumption gap

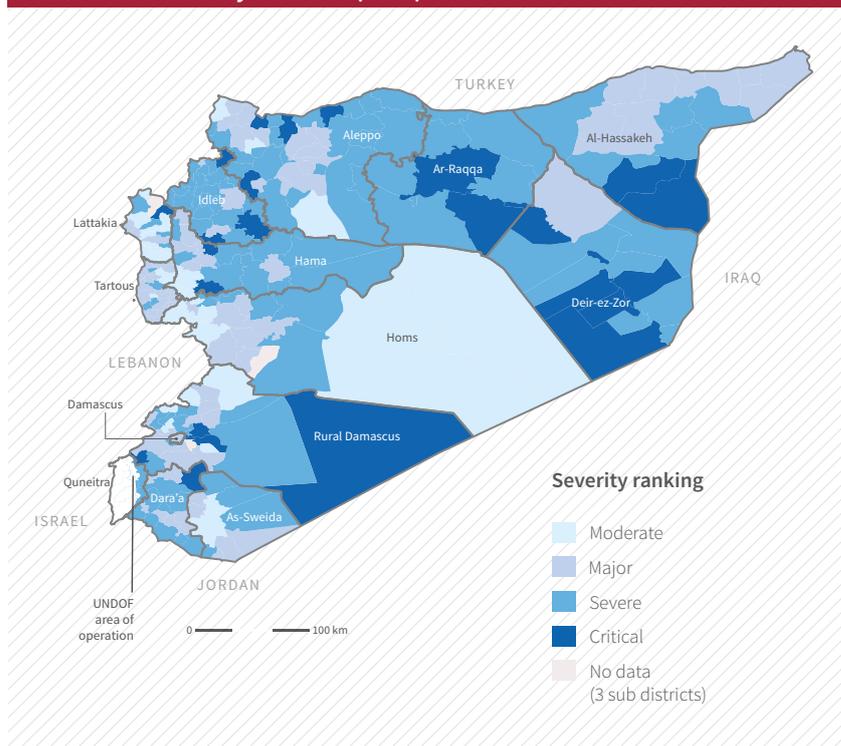


4 million people
at risk of food insecurity



6.1 million IDPs

Acute food insecurity situation (2018)



Source: 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview, OCHA

Impact on food security

Since the start of the Syrian crisis, the agriculture sector has been significantly impacted, particularly by a sharp decline in crop production. The loss of cultivated land, displacement and damage to agricultural infrastructure and services further impacted the sector.

In the last seven years, vulnerable households have experienced an erosion of coping mechanisms, scarce livelihood opportunities and limited agricultural recovery. Such coping mechanisms are not only negative and unsustainable but, once exhausted, prompt people to resort to increasingly exploitative and hazardous activities.

The lack or high cost of farming inputs and fuel as well as severe and drastic decimation of livestock population could further increase the reliance on food assistance by a majority of the population in 2018. Access to a diversified diet will remain an important need to improve the nutritional status of the acutely food insecure. Therefore, timely agricultural interventions, particularly livelihood protection initiatives, cannot be an afterthought. Coordinated efforts to save agricultural livelihoods is a fundamental part of saving and sustaining lives.

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