

Format for Information Note of IR-EMOP Project Document

TO: David Kaatrud, Director of Emergencies, ODE	DATE: 18 December 2012
FROM: Muhannad Hadi, Regional Emergency Coordinator for Syria Crisis, Amman	PAGE 1 OF 4 (Information Note- 2 pages; EMOP Budget- 2 pages)
CC: Amir Abdulla, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer	

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE EMERGENCY OPERATION SYRIA EMOP 200536 – Emergency Food Assistance for People Affected by Intensification of Civil Unrest

PART 1: INFORMATION NOTE

NATURE OF EMERGENCY:

Location: Damascus City, Syria

Cause: Air Strike / Shellings hit the centre of Yarmouk¹ and other densely populated areas of Damascus City. The incidents took place on 16th and 17th December 2012.

Effects: Widespread, rapid population movement to urban areas of Damascus and rural Damascus seeking refuge in relatives' homes, schools, mosques and public spaces. People left the camp / their homes carrying nothing, only their children.

Total numbers affected and in need of emergency food aid:

There are an estimated 1.4 million people living in Yarmouk district alone. Following the incidents, thousands of families have decided to move in search of safety.

Based on initial indications received from the field, provision of immediate assistance to 25,000 families is recommended.

WFP IR EMOP:

Justification for an immediate response, expected impact:

The IR EMOP is prepared based on the assumption that in the next few weeks, there will be tens of thousands of displaced people moving around Damascus, squatting in open areas and public buildings for days or weeks at a time. SARC and local charities are doing everything possible to assist, but are exhausted and calling for urgent help, particularly with food, blankets, kitchen and hygiene kits.

¹ Yarmouk is a 2.11 square kilometres (district of the city of Damascus, populated by Palestinians, with hospitals and schools. It is located 8 kilometres from the center of Damascus. Yarmouk is an "unofficial" refugee camp; it is home to the largest Palestinian refugee community in Syria.

WFP needs to urgently assist the affected IDPs with life-saving ready-to-eat foods as the majority are settling in areas with no access to cooking facilities. Moreover, even if any minimum cooking facilities are available, all forms of cooking fuel are currently difficult to find. A similar composition of food basket as ICRC's ready-to-eat-packages is recommended.

WFP's assistance will help the beneficiaries to survive / cope with the difficult circumstances, at least for several days, until they are able to return to their homes or find alternative settlement. WFP will continue to monitor and assess the situation.

Duration of assistance (maximum three months):

As soon as possible for 3 months.

Number of beneficiaries and location:

25,000 food parcels (125,000 beneficiaries) in different locations in Damascus city

Food basket composition and ration levels:

As previously stated, a similar composition as ICRC's current ready-to-eat packages will be considered. The exact basket will be determined by the availability of the in-country supply. In principle it will include items that require no cooking, such as canned beans, canned mixed vegetables, canned hommos (chickpeas paste), canned meat or fish, za'tar (local herbs), olive oil, toasts, biscuits, cheese and juice. If possible, bread will be included if a supplier from Lebanon could be identified.

The ration is intended to last for a week to 10 days.

Total food aid requirements (mt):

Approx 582 mt food

Mode of implementation:

Distribution through SARC and local charities in Damascus.

PART 2: EMOP BUDGET (attached)

Total EMOP budget is attached as Annex 1.
(Use standard EMOP Project Budget Plan Format)

PART 3: EMOP APPROVAL

- 1) IRA funding is available to cover EMOP budget

Chief, RMBB: [Name & Signature], Date: --/--/----

2) EMOP is approved

Country Director, [Country]: [Name & Signature], Date: --/--/----

or

Regional Director, OD@: [Name & Signature], Date: --/--/----

or

Director of Emergencies: [Name & Signature], Date: --/--/----

Annex 1 – Budget Summary