

SYRIA: FLASH UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

16 February 2017

This update provides a summary of recent displacement, along with developments from the **UNHCR co-led Sector/Clusters of Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Shelter/Non Food Items (SNFI) and Protection.**

CCCM CLUSTER KEY DISPLACEMENT STATISTICS (AS OF 31 JANUARY 2017)

- **557,090** displacements recorded since 1 February 2016 from affected areas of northern and southern Syria:
 - **545,910** displacements from affected areas of northern Syria, including Aleppo (339,824), Hama (93,635), Idleb (76,460), Ar-Raqqa (19,487), Homs (7,894), Al-Hassakeh (5,080), Deir-Ez-Zor (2,222), Lattakia (1,308) governorates, northern Syria. This includes **30,990** new displacements recorded in January alone, with the majority from Aleppo Governorate.
 - **11,180** displacements from affected areas of Damascus and Rural Damascus, south-western Syria.

CONTEXTUAL DEVELOPMENTS¹

- A spokesperson for the United Nations Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, said that the UN-sponsored peace talks will resume on 23 February in Geneva, a few days later than previously planned.
- In northern Syria, intense fighting has been reported this week in Idleb Governorate between two extremist opposition groups. Fighting is also still ongoing around Al-Bab (Aleppo Governorate). The UN estimates that up to 10,000 civilians may still remain in Al-Bab city, facing increasingly difficult conditions.
- The CCCM Cluster in northern Syria has recorded 35,895 displacements (see map attached) from Al-Bab sub-district (Aleppo Governorate) between 1 January and 14 February 2017. Of these, 25,826 displacements have been recorded since the beginning of February.
- The Secretary-General's spokesperson in New York [said](#) that the UN was concerned about the increase in fighting this week in and around Dar'a, southern Syria, which has resulted in the displacement of an estimated 9,000 men, women and children so far.
- Civilians besieged in the four towns of Madaya and Zabadani (Rural Damascus), and Foah and Kafraya (Idleb Governorate) are facing daily violence and lack access to essential services, including food and medical care. In a [statement](#), the UN called on all parties to allow immediate humanitarian access to more than 60,000 civilians under the so-called 'Four Towns' Agreement.
- On 12 February, an inter-agency cross-line convoy delivered multi-sectoral emergency assistance for 107,500 people in Ar-Rastan (northern Homs Governorate).

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

- The Jordan Hub is responding to the displacement from Dar'a in southern Syria. Partners anticipate that a majority of the current population of Dar'a al Balad district (estimated to be around 25,000 people) will be displaced to the farms south of Dar'a city and to the villages to the southeast of Dar'a.
- The proximity of the fighting to the Ramtha border crossing with Jordan has resulted in increased insecurity at the border crossing, which in turn has affected humanitarian access. This week, all inter-agency cross-border convoys from Jordan to southern Syria were suspended due to security concerns.
- Partners are drafting a response plan for Ar-Raqqa that outlines humanitarian scenarios, activities and response capacities to meet the needs of approximately 400,000 people over a 90 day period.

¹ Some displacement statistics mentioned under "Contextual Developments" may not be reflected in the above section as they are in the process of being triangulated by established population tracking mechanisms.

UNHCR CO-LED SECTOR/CLUSTER UPDATES

Protection

- The Protection Cluster in northern Syria has submitted its priorities for the first standard allocation of the Humanitarian Fund in 2017, focusing on hard-to-reach areas and areas with significant gaps, and with a particular focus on the Ar-Raqqa situation.
- Following the recent escalation of fighting in Dar'a in southern Syria, Protection Sector members will continue to provide services where security permits. This week, community protection monitors were able to conduct a partial assessment in the affected areas, but efforts were suspended for security reasons.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

- The CCCM Cluster has analysed IDP displacements in northern Syria, including scenarios for displacements from Ar-Raqqa and the current situation in Idlib Governorate. The Cluster also continues to monitor the situation and displacement from Al-Bab closely, and further updates will be shared once more information becomes available.
- Partners reviewed the CCCM Cluster priorities for the Humanitarian Fund and stock contingencies, and the following priorities were identified: installation, repair and maintenance of site infrastructures; improvement of shelters in IDP sites; creation of formal management structures in IDP sites; training of camp management on accountability standards and measures.
- One Cluster member has completed the replacement and insulation a total of 3,103 tents in Idlib Governorate. Once the project is completed, a total of 6,000 tents will have been replaced and insulated.
- The CCCM Cluster launched a new online dashboard displaying the living conditions in IDP sites in northern Syria. The dashboard covers 250 sites hosting a total of 330,000 individuals and can be found at the following address: <https://unhcr-xborder-turkey.github.io/ISIMM/>

Shelter/Non-Food Items (SNFI)

- Since the beginning of recent emergency response in Aleppo city, partners have assisted 151,425 people (30,285 families) in the newly accessible areas with NFIs. In the past week, around 24,250 people were reached with NFIs. In addition, shelter partners have completed the structural assessment in Masaken Hanano neighbourhood, and assessments for the rehabilitation of three schools in Aleppo city started this week.
- In southern Syria, the SNFI Sector met to discuss response planning for the situation in Dar'a. The Sector was able to preposition sufficient NFI stocks to meet current emergency needs. Shelter remains a gap in the response, and Sector partners are working to identify emergency shelter solutions. There are currently 200 tents and 300 shelter kits that are being prioritized for populations with no other shelter options.

Syrian Arab Republic (Northern Governorates): Displacements from Al Bab - 1 January to 14 February, 2017

Number of cluster member organizations that provided input for this data is 38

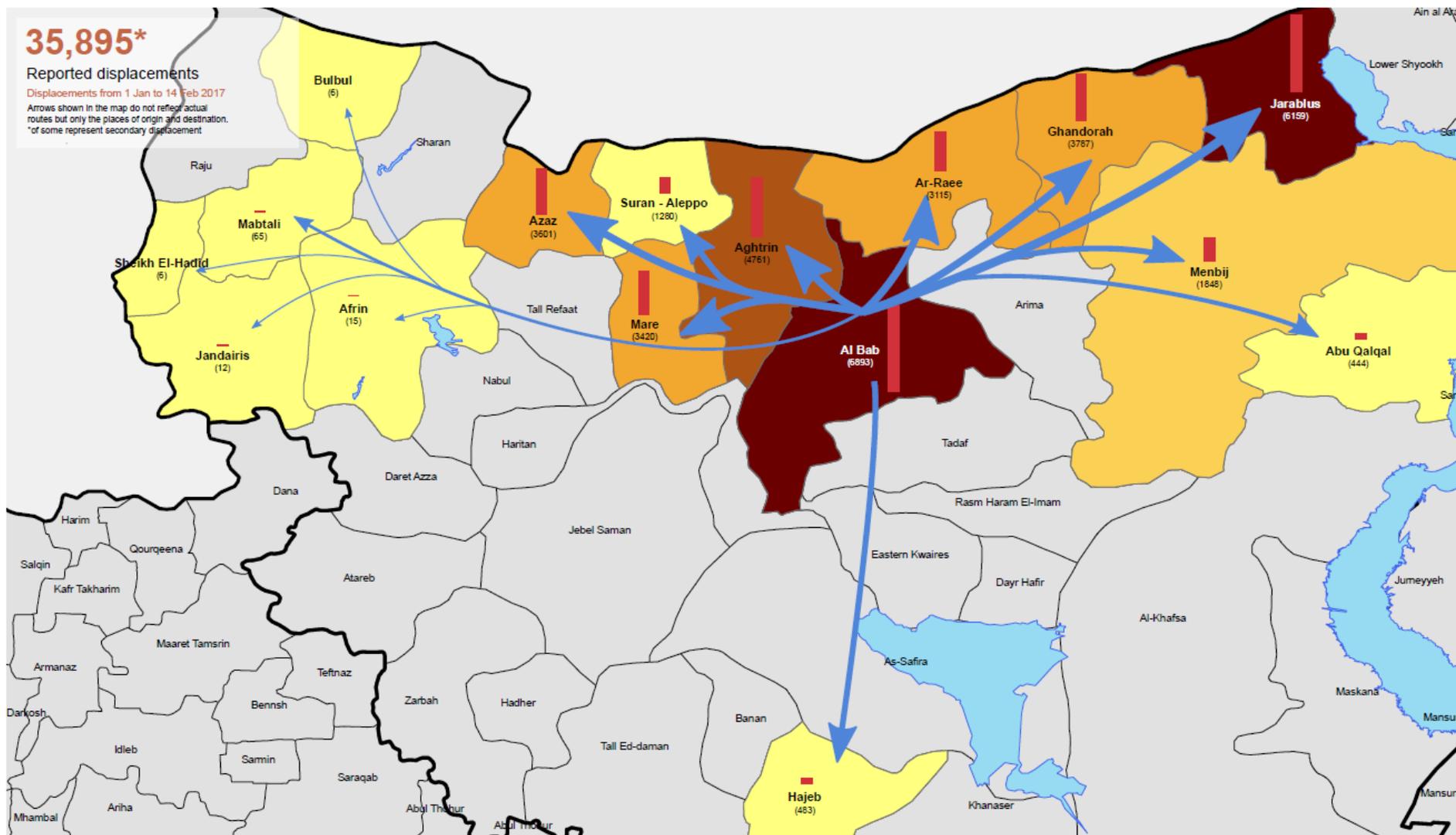


35,895*

Reported displacements

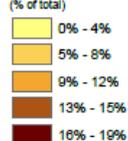
Displacements from 1 Jan to 14 Feb 2017

Arrows shown in the map do not reflect actual routes but only the places of origin and destination. *of some represent secondary displacement



Legend

Arrival of IDPs from Al Bab (% of total)



- Governorate boundary
- Subdistrict boundary
- Name**
(xxxx)
- Subdistrict name**
Total arrivals 1 Jan - 14 Feb
- New displacements reported from 01 Jan to 14 Feb, 2017

The arrows on this map illustrate the reported displacement flows from Al Bab subdistrict between January 1st and February 14th, 2017. The bar charts display the number of arrivals during this period. Colors on the map indicate the arrival of Al Bab IDPs as a percentage of total reported. This data was provided by CCCM Cluster member organizations and was validated through triangulation and verification by the CCCM Cluster. This data is for humanitarian use only. Draft (14/02/2017).

Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement by the United Nations. The data for this map is reported by 38 unique humanitarian actors and a limited number of other sources, who may be parties to conflict. The data has not been independently verified and is subject to error or omission, deliberation or otherwise by the various sources.

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