

SYRIA: FLASH UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

14 September 2017

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

KEY DISPLACEMENT STATISTICS (AS OF 5 SEPTEMBER 2017)¹

- **974,255** displacements recorded by the CCCM Cluster **in the last 12 months** from affected areas of northern and southern Syria:
 - **936,668** displacements from affected areas of northern Syria, including Aleppo (341,191), Ar-Raqqa (301,163), Hama (179,164), Idleb (42,410), Homs (35,288), Deir-Ez-Zor (24,038), Al-Hassakeh (11,873), Latakia (1,541) governorates, northern Syria. This includes around **75,400** new displacements recorded in August and the first week of September 2017 alone, with the majority from Ar-Raqqa Governorate.
 - **37,587** displacements from affected areas of Damascus, Rural Damascus, Sweida and Dar'a, south-western Syria. This includes around **380** new displacements recorded in August 2017.

CONTEXTUAL DEVELOPMENTS

- The next round of talks in Astana, Kazakhstan, is being held on 14 and 15 September. One of the priorities for the upcoming talks is reportedly to establish the borders of a de-escalation area in Idleb Governorate in northern Syria.
- Intense fighting continues between Syrian Government forces and extremist groups in Deir-Ez-Zor city in north-eastern Syria, and on 5 September Government forces reportedly broke the siege on the city. According to [media reports](#), activists continue to report civilian casualties due to airstrikes along the Euphrates River near Deir-Ez-Zor city.
- The United Nations estimates that 93,000 civilians were living under siege in Deir-Ez-Zor city. Until now, the only method of delivering humanitarian assistance was through high altitude airdrops. With the opening of the road from Damascus to Deir-Ez-Zor, the option of overland humanitarian convoys is being discussed.
- On 7 September, the UN, Red Cross and Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) delivered humanitarian assistance, including food, medicine and water and sanitation for 7,000 people in the besieged towns of Foah and Kafraya (Idleb Governorate, besieged by armed opposition groups), as well as 2,000 people besieged in Yarmouk camp (an area of Damascus, besieged by Syrian Government forces and armed opposition groups).
- Since the beginning of the year, UN and partners have delivered multi-sectoral assistance through inter-agency operations reaching over 750,000 people in besieged and hard-to-reach areas.

¹ Some displacement statistics mentioned in other sections of this report may not be reflected in the "Key Displacement Statistics" 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 the Turkey Hub released its latest response snapshot (available [here](#)). As of 31 July 2017, 44 Protection Cluster members provided over 180,000 interventions across 11 governorates in Syria. Over 20,600 people were reached through awareness raising sessions on protection risk mitigation and 168 communities were reached with protection monitoring. In addition, 66,900 beneficiaries were reached with women and girls empowerment and gender-based violence (GBV) activities and 33 communities have at least one type of specialized GBV services provider. Nearly 107,300 girls and boys are engaging in structured, sustained child protection programmes, including psychosocial support. Access limitations continue to be a significant challenges, however, and protection partners have noted the very limited presence of protection actors in Jarablus and Al Bab (Aleppo Governorate) as one of the current gaps in the response.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

- The CCCM Cluster has received reports of a cross-line displacement from Oqeirbat sub-district (Hama Governorate) into areas held by armed opposition groups in northern Hama and Idleb governorates. Since 1 July 2017, the Cluster has already tracked 12,144 displacements from Oqeirbat into Idleb, Aleppo and Hama governorates. Of these, 2,850 displacements took place since 1 September 2017. The CCCM Cluster continues to follow the situation closely and will share updates with member agencies once more information becomes available.
- The CCCM Cluster continues to share updates with member agencies on displacements in northern Syria, and particularly in Ar-Raqqa and Idleb governorates. The total number of displacements from Ar-Raqqa Governorate since 1 April 2017 has reached 263,496 individuals, out of which 206,788 individuals were displaced inside Ar-Raqqa Governorate itself, while 37,828 individuals were displaced to Aleppo, 12,124 to Idleb, 6,679 to Deir-ez-Zor and 77 to Hama.
- In Idleb Governorate, a total of 167,177 displacements have been recorded since 1 April 2017, including 63,752 displacements from Hama Governorate, 33,956 from within Idleb, 18,134 from Aleppo, 14,787 from Damascus, 12,124 from Ar-Raqqa, 10,282 from Homs, 6,048 from Rural Damascus, 3,380 from Lebanon (Arsal displacements), 3,197 from Deir-ez-Zor and 17 from Dar'a.
- Partners in the CCCM Cluster have revised their priorities for the second allocation of the Humanitarian Pooled Fund (HPF) to focus on winter assistance, with an overall appeal of USD 4.5 million. The CCCM Cluster has requested all member agencies to share information concerning their winter assistance plans.

Shelter/Non-Food Items (SNFI)

- Partners in the SNFI Cluster in the Turkey Hub are responding to the increased displacement from Oqeirbat (Hama Governorate). Some of the IDPs that arrived at a reception center in Marat Al Ekhwan (Idleb Governorate) are being provided with assistance and one partner is distributing NFI kits.
- The SNFI Cluster in the Turkey Hub made a request of USD 8 million to the second allocation of the Humanitarian Pooled Fund (HPF), of which USD 2 million are planned to be allocated for shelter winter activities.
- NFI partners in Syria continue to respond to those displaced from Ar-Raqqa in the north-east of the country. Two partners in the Cluster reported reaching over 32,300 beneficiaries in August 2017 with NFIs including summer clothes, hygiene kits and jerry cans.