

SYRIA: FLASH UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

6 December 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 28 NOVEMBER 2017)¹

- **1,240,626** displacements recorded by the CCCM Cluster **in the last 12 months** from affected areas of northern and southern Syria:
 - **1,235,636** displacements from affected areas of northern Syria, including Ar-Raqqa (320,448), Aleppo (301,945), Deir-Ez-Zor (240,201), Hama (191,092), Idlib (81,988), Homs (51,220), Al-Hassakeh (13,727), Lattakia (1,558) governorates, northern Syria. This includes 11,660 new displacements recorded so far in November 2017, with the majority (7,195) displaced from Deir-Ez-Zor Governorate.
 - **33,457** displacements from affected areas of Damascus, Rural Damascus, Sweida and Dar'a, south-western Syria.

CONTEXTUAL DEVELOPMENTS

- The UN is [deeply concerned](#) for the well-being and protection of civilians in Ar-Raqqa city and surrounding areas, where an estimated 34,000 people have reportedly returned. There continue to be reports of explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices resulting in civilian casualties daily. On 1 and 2 December, 11 people were reportedly killed and many injured by landmines. In total so far, there were at least 200 civilian casualties reported due to improvised explosive devices. Ar-Raqqa city also urgently requires food, water and other assistance, and the UN is concerned about the possibility of disease spreading. Humanitarian partners remain unable to access the city until the clearing of mines and other unexploded ordnance is completed.
- The UN continues to be [concerned](#) by the recent escalation in hostilities in eastern Ghouta and Damascus city. On 30 November, the UN appealed for the urgent medical evacuation of 500 medical cases, including 167 children, from eastern Ghouta, where 400,000 people remain besieged.
- On 3 December, the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) [reportedly](#) captured the last remaining areas of Deir-Ez-Zor's eastern countryside from extremist groups.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

- On 28 November, UNHCR represented SNFI and Protection Sectors (Jordan Hub) by participating in an advocacy visit to the Jordan-Syria border crossing at Ramtha, led by the UN RC/HC together with the Government of Jordan and highlighting the nature and importance of the assistance provided through cross-border assistance to a delegation of EU member state embassies. On behalf of the SNFI and Protection Working Groups, UNHCR provided an update on achievements by members of these sectors.

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

- From January to October 2017, the [Whole of Syria Protection Sector](#) conducted 5.7 million interventions in 1,730 communities in 227 out of 272 sub-districts in Syria through one or more of its prevention/risk mitigation, response or capacity building activities. Around 2.15 million individuals were reached by Protection partners with at least one intervention. Protection interventions include awareness raising, risk education, individual and group psychosocial support, protection monitoring, case management, referrals to other services, material/cash assistance, capacity building of humanitarian partners and frontline responders and others. Many of the interventions are implemented through community centres, schools, child friendly spaces, women safe spaces, or using outreach volunteers.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

- The [IDP Sites Integrated Monitoring Matrix \(ISIMM\)](#) for October was finalized and shared with Cluster members. As of October, there were 381,905 IDPs in sites in northern Syria. The CCCM Cluster coordinated multi-sectoral life-saving assistance for 365,465 IDPs residing in 351 IDP sites. The Cluster assessed that the following needs of IDPs in sites were covered: water (89% covered), waste removal (86%), sanitation (84%), shelter (67%), food (50%), and NFI (44%). A total of 37 member organizations contributed to the October ISIMM.
- Since 1 October, the CCCM Cluster has been tracking large movements of IDPs from northern Hama into southern Idlib Governorate. These displacements were caused by an increase in military clashes, particularly in As-Saan, Hamra and Oqeirbat sub-districts of Hama Governorate. The main destination for displaced families is Sanjar, followed by Ma'arrat An Nu'man and Saraqab sub-districts. Cluster member agencies are providing assistance to households arriving in these locations. A total of 65,024 displacements were recorded between 1 October and 26 November (see attached map). The CCCM Cluster continues to follow the situation closely and will share updates as more information becomes available.
- The CCCM Cluster continues to share updates with member agencies on displacements in northern Syria, and particularly from Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates. The number of displacements from Deir-Ez-Zor Governorate in the last five months has reached 228,554 individuals, out of which 79,923 individuals were displaced to Aleppo Governorate, 49,879 within Deir-Ez-Zor, 39,636 to Ar-Raqqa, 26,680 to Idlib, and 32,254 to Al-Hassakeh. The largest displacements from Deir-Ez-Zor Governorate were recorded from September-November 2017.
- From Ar-Raqqa Governorate, the CCCM Cluster recorded a total of around 330,900 since November 2016, the beginning of military operations to retake Ar-Raqqa city. Of these, 92,501 displacements have been recorded in the last five months, including 53,543 displacements within Ar-Raqqa Governorate, 24,239 to Aleppo, 12,023 to Idlib, 2,451 to Deir-Ez-Zor and the rest to Al-Hassakeh.

Shelter/Non-Food Items (SNFI)

- As of 30 November, the Whole of Syria SNFI Sector covered 1.5 million people with [winter assistance](#) out of the total target of 2.8 million people. The winter response is currently 41 per cent funded, with a gap of USD 68.8 million. Winter assistance includes high-thermal blankets, winter clothing, plastic sheeting, mattresses, kitchen sets, heaters and shelter kits.

Syrian Arab Republic: IDP arrivals from northern Hama, October-November 23, 2017



61,464*

Reported displacements
(October-November 23, 2017)

* Displacements from As-Saan, Hamra and Oqeirbat subdistricts of Hama governorate. Of some may represent secondary displacement. Arrows shown in the map do not reflect actual routes but only the places of origin and destination. 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.

