

SYRIA: FLASH UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

4 January 2018

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 26 DECEMBER 2017)¹

- **1,225,613** displacements recorded by the CCCM Cluster **in the last 12 months** from affected areas of northern and southern Syria:
 - **1,194,829** displacements from affected areas of northern Syria, including Ar-Raqqa (320,019), Aleppo (265,291), Deir-Ez-Zor (241,329), Hama (216,422), Idleb (99,879), Homs (36,581), Al-Hassakeh (13,727), Lattakia (1,581) governorates, northern Syria. This includes around 15,200 new displacements recorded so far in December 2017 from Hama Governorate.
 - **30,784** displacements from affected areas of Damascus, Rural Damascus, Sweida and Dar'a, south-western Syria.

CONTEXTUAL DEVELOPMENTS

- The United Nations and partners are [deeply concerned](#) about the protection of tens of thousands of civilians in north-east Hama and southern Idleb governorates following increased hostilities which have reportedly resulted in civilian deaths, injuries and displacement. The UN and partners are coordinating the humanitarian response in the area through cross-border operations from Turkey. Priority needs include shelter, food, medical supplies, water and sanitation.
- The UN expressed [concern](#) over a recent string of attacks on healthcare facilities in Syria. On 31 December, a local hospital in Idleb Governorate was reportedly damaged by an airstrike, while on 30 December a medical warehouse belonging to an international NGO was reportedly damaged.
- On 29 December, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) [concluded the evacuation](#) of 29 civilians in urgent need of medical assistance from the besieged area of eastern Ghouta, near Damascus. Fighting and airstrikes in eastern Ghouta meanwhile continue, with recent reports of civilian casualties.

UNHCR CO-LED SECTOR/CLUSTER UPDATES

Protection

- The Protection Cluster (Turkey Hub) released its latest [response snapshot](#). In November, the Cluster held two operational working group meetings to support and strengthen field-level coordination for the ongoing responses in eastern Ghouta (Damascus) and north-east Aleppo Governorate. Seven members of the Protection Monitoring Task Force conducted 1,059 key informant interviews in 119 communities, covering 39 sub-districts, 16 districts, in seven governorates (Aleppo, Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Idleb). In total from January to November 2017, the Cluster reached over 31,000 people through

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.

awareness raising session on protection risk mitigation, and 168 communities with protection monitoring. In addition, nearly 167,000 girls and boys were engaged in structured, sustained child protection programmes, including psychosocial support.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

- The CCCM Cluster (Turkey Hub) continues to share updates with member agencies on displacements in northern Syria, and particularly from northern Hama and southern Idleb governorates. From 1 November to 24 December 2017, the CCCM Cluster reported 60,310 displacements from As-Saan, Hamra and Oqeirbat sub-districts of Hama Governorate, and Tamanaah and Sanjar sub-districts of Idleb Governorate (see attached map). Nineteen informal IDP sites hosting more than 6,000 IDPs were evacuated due to fighting in the area. The majority of the IDPs moved towards Sanjar district in Idleb Governorate, and around 40,000 IDPs reached existing informal IDPs sites and surrounding areas in this district. The CCCM Cluster established a taskforce to respond to the needs of those in IDP sites. The taskforce is composed of nine active member organizations able to access and provide assistance in Sanjar sub-district.
- The [IDP Sites Integrated Monitoring Matrix \(ISIMM\) for November](#) was finalized. As of November, there were 379,408 IDPs in sites in northern Syria. The CCCM Cluster coordinated multi-sectoral life-saving assistance for 360,734 IDPs residing in 359 IDP sites. The Cluster assessed that the following needs of IDPs in sites were covered: water (88%), waste removal (85%), sanitation (83%), shelter (65%), food (66%), and NFI (42%). A total of 30 member organizations contributed to the November version of ISIMM.

Shelter/Non-Food Items (SNFI)

- In response to the new displacements from northern Hama and southern Idleb governorates, the SNFI Cluster (Turkey Hub) requested one partner for an urgent trans-shipment of 1,200 NFI emergency kits, which are currently pre-positioned in two warehouses inside Syria. Furthermore, one Cluster member diverted part of the winterization stock to assist new IDP arrivals in Sanjar (Idleb Governorate). According to a Multi-sectorial Rapid Need Assessment conducted by a partner, the top SNFI needs of new IDPs are winter clothing and fuel. In addition, the SNFI Cluster submitted a request to a Cluster member for support to provide NFI emergency assistance to 20,000 individuals through its emergency stock.
- The Shelter Sector (Syria Hub) issued its [monthly update for November](#). From January to November 2017, Sector partners assisted a total of 383,455 people with different shelter interventions, including emergency settlement, emergency shelter distributions, emergency repair or rehabilitation of private shelters, and seasonal winter shelter assistance.
- The NFI Sector (Syria Hub) issued its [monthly update for November](#). In November, two members collectively assisted around 52,000 people with NFIs in areas of north-east Syria. The total number of NFIs distributed from January to November is 5.8 million.

Syrian Arab Republic (Northern Governorates): Northern Hama displacements in Idleb governorate as of December 28, 2017

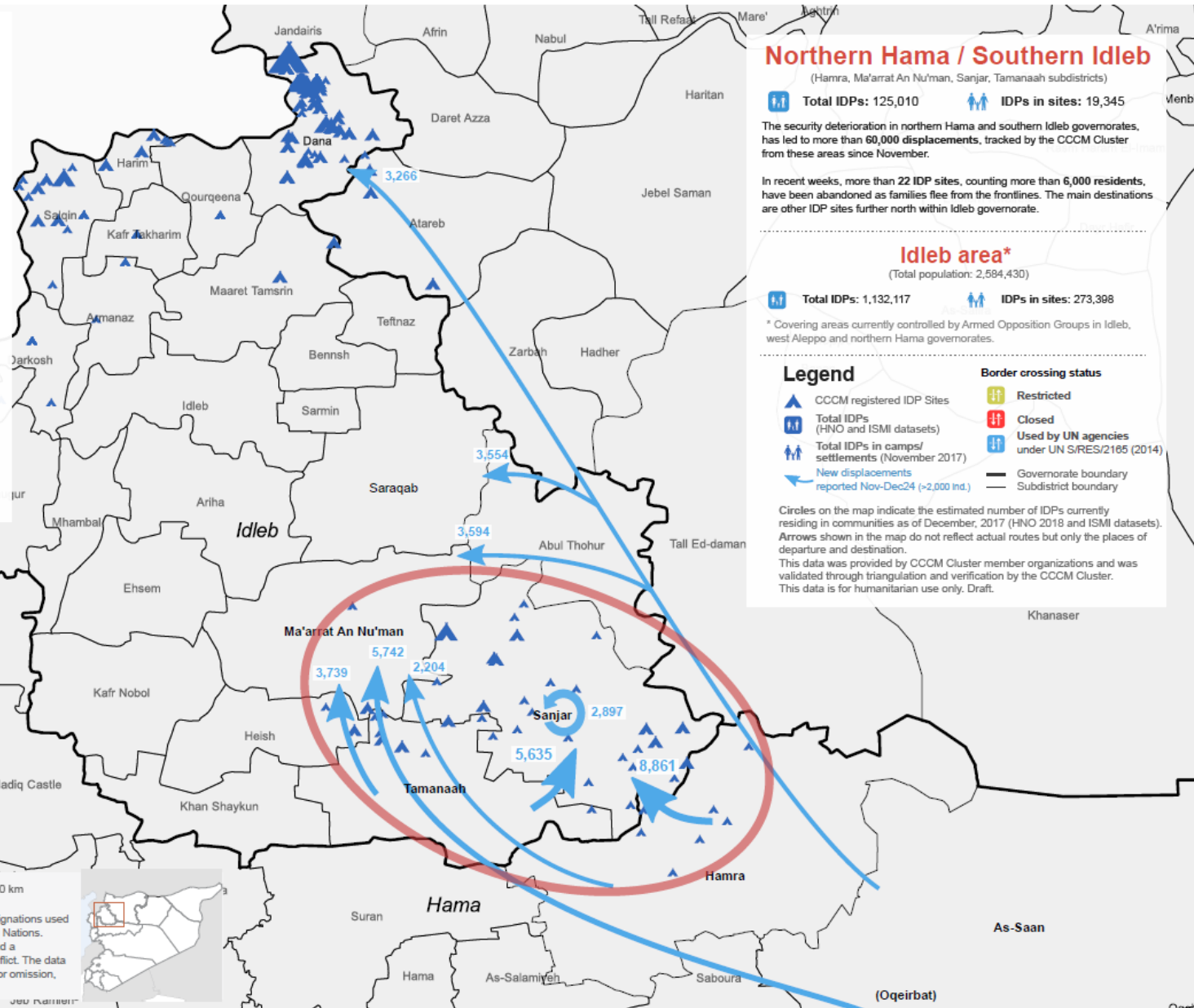
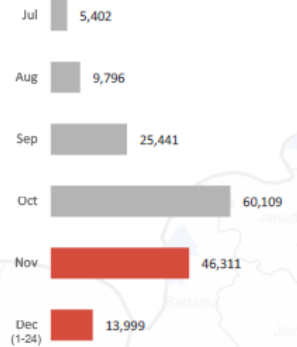


60,310*

Reported displacements
(November-December 24, 2017)

* Displacements from As-Saan, Hamra and Oqeirat subdistricts of Hama governorate, and Tamanaah and Sanjar subdistricts of Idleb governorate. Of some may represent secondary displacement.

Tracked displacements by month



Northern Hama / Southern Idleb

(Hamra, Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Sanjar, Tamanaah subdistricts)

Total IDPs: 125,010 IDPs in sites: 19,345

The security deterioration in northern Hama and southern Idleb governorates, has led to more than 60,000 displacements, tracked by the CCCM Cluster from these areas since November.

In recent weeks, more than 22 IDP sites, counting more than 6,000 residents, have been abandoned as families flee from the frontlines. The main destinations are other IDP sites further north within Idleb governorate.

Idleb area*

(Total population: 2,584,430)

Total IDPs: 1,132,117 IDPs in sites: 273,398

* Covering areas currently controlled by Armed Opposition Groups in Idleb, west Aleppo and northern Hama governorates.

Legend

- CCCM registered IDP Sites
- Total IDPs (HNO and ISMI datasets)
- Total IDPs in camps/settlements (November 2017)
- New displacements reported Nov-Dec24 (>2,000 ind.)
- Border crossing status:
 - Restricted
 - Closed
 - Used by UN agencies under UN S/RES/2185 (2014)
- Governorate boundary
- Subdistrict boundary

Circles on the map indicate the estimated number of IDPs currently residing in communities as of December, 2017 (HNO 2018 and ISMI datasets). Arrows shown in the map do not reflect actual routes but only the places of departure 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.

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 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