Inter-agency convoys delivered with UN participation

PEOPLE REACHED*
820,200 Net**
2,301,243 Cumulative***

HTR AREAS
490,000

BESIEGED
330,200

CONVOYS
55

AIRSTOPS
285

AIRDROPS
141

In 50 convoys a UN team was part of the mission. Convoys to Foah/Kafraya (2), Yarmuk (1), YBB (1), Duma (1) only included UN supplies.

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Inter-agency convoys aborted

PEOPLE NOT REACHED
128,200

HTR AREAS
60,000

BESIEGED
68,200

CONVOYS
5

A total of 5 convoys, with supplies for almost 128,200 people in need, were aborted after receiving all the necessary approvals to proceed, most often due to obstructions at checkpoints and insecurity along the route and in the mission area. While 50,000 people couldn't be reached in Al-Waer, the remaining 78,200 in the other locations were reached later in the same week.

*Number of people in besieged and HTR locations that have been provided with multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance including food for at least one month in 2017.

**Net reach: number of people reached, one or more times, with humanitarian assistance, including food for at least one month.

***Cumulative: quantity of humanitarian assistance delivered to an area, as measured by the number of beneficiaries, during 2017.
A total of 172 UN requests to deliver life-saving assistance through inter-agency convoys with UN participation were submitted in 2017 to reach 44 different locations. Nearly half of the locations were besieged at the time of the request. In comparison, in 2016, the UN submitted 258 requests to reach 60 locations, 52 per cent in besieged locations and in 2015 the UN submitted 153 requests to reach 56 locations.

In 2017, 47 of the 172 UN IA convoy requests (27.3 per cent) were approved by the Syrian Government in full or with a higher number of targeted beneficiaries. While the approval rate was higher than in 2015, when 24 requests of 153 were approved in full (15.5 per cent), it was lower than in 2016 when 117 requests were approved in full out of 258 (45.3 per cent). Requests in 2017 were submitted under two systems: in the first quarter, from January to March, monthly plans were submitted to deliver convoys with humanitarian assistance to people in need. Since April, inter-agency convoy plans were developed with partners on a two-month basis, according to a two-step approval process. Also, the implementation period of the October-November plan was extended until the end of 2017 in agreement with all partners.

UN Inter-agency (IA) convoy plan requests

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Responses to UN inter-agency convoy requests

<table>
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<th>Month</th>
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Syrian Arab Republic: 2017 UN Inter-Agency Operations in Review

UN Requests status (monthly)

Fifty-five inter-agency convoys with UN participation, 13 implemented only by the UN and SARC, were completed during 2017, compared to the 99 convoys with UN participation that were completed in 2016. Lack of predictable access prevented the implementation of 107 (69 per cent) of the approved requests due to administrative, security and operational constraints.

Number of people targeted, approved, reached (in thousands)

With the submission of the two-month plan starting in April-May, the UN requested access to a larger population than what had been requested by the Syrian government on a monthly basis to account for the longer implementation period. In August-September, the approved number of targeted beneficiaries exceeded those requested. However, access did not improve in this period.

In 2017, the UN and partners have successfully delivered multi-sectoral assistance through inter-agency operations to over 820,000 people in need in besieged and hard-to-reach locations, compared to 1.2 million in 2016 and 527,665 reached in 2015. The number of people in besieged areas decreased from 974,080 at the end of 2016 to 417,566 at the end of 2017. The total population reached in 2017, however, varied widely month-to-month due to continued access constraints, including insecurity, further reductions in number of approved beneficiaries, additional requirements for downstream approvals and delays with administrative procedures, even in months when a higher number of requested beneficiaries in the plan was approved. On average, in 2017, only 27.5 per cent of the requested targeted people in need received assistance. A total of 345,970 people, cumulatively, were not reached because 20 out of 55 convoys were implemented for numbers lower than those initially approved. Almost 60 per cent of those who were not reached were in locations in East Ghouta.

Gridlocked active convoys

Needs met by other modalities
Restrictions on number of beneficiaries
Aid restrictions
Disagreement of the parties

Removed health items

- Inter-agency emergency kit (Emergency kit, lehk 2011 kit, suppl.3-renewable, lehk 2011 kit, basic unit, lehk basic, lehk 2006 kit, basic unit and lehk 2011, kit, suppl.1-medicines) Burn kit (Burn kit)
- Surgical sets (Surgical supply kit, major surgical set, minor surgical kit)
- Midwifery kit (Midwifery kit, 2-equipment, midwifery kit, 3-renewable, midwifery kit, 3-renewable)
- Reproductive kit (Dignity kits + rh kit 2a - 2b)
- Trauma kit (Trauma kit b, Italian emergency trauma kit a)
- Pneumonia kit (Pneumonia kit)
- Diarrhoea kit (Diarrhoea disease set packing)
- Family doctor kit (Family doctor’s practice kit)
- Resuscitation kit (Resuscitation kit basic)
- Surgical supplies
- Anaesthetics
- Medicines to treat mental health conditions
- Medicines to treat neurological conditions
- Medicines to treat respiratory diseases
In every month of 2017, cross-line inter-agency operations with UN participation reached thousands of people in need in besieged and hard-to-reach locations. Access constraints, particularly insecurity and administrative requirements prevented the full implementation of inter-agency convoy plans. During the months of January, May, June, August, September and December, no convoys took place for 15 continuous days or more. For January alone, there were 23 days without approvals to implement a single convoy.

141 airdrops over besieged areas of Deir-ez-Zor city were completed to reach 93,500 people. Airdrops were operated for almost regular intervals until they ended at the beginning of September when the road was reopened and land delivery of humanitarian assistance resumed. At peak capacity, WFP conducted up to two rotations per day.

Forty per cent of the 2017 inter-agency convoys with UN participation were dispatched to besieged areas. The total number of people reached on a monthly basis remained a fraction of the total approved and requested, reaching 26 per cent less people in besieged areas than in 2016.

The sectors were covered by the UN or other participating organizations. Protection staff of the sector and its sub-sectors, Child Protection and GBV, conducted protection observations in all 50 accompanied convoys, sometimes distributing risk-education material.