

# SYRIA: FLASH UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

9 May 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 30 APRIL 2018)<sup>1</sup>

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- **1,461,920** displacements recorded by the CCCM Cluster in the last 12 months from affected areas of northern and southern Syria:
  - **1,373,850** displacements from affected areas of northern Syria, including Idleb (397,046), Hama (254,153), Deir-Ez-Zor (251,790), Ar-Raqqa (226,631), Aleppo (152,538), Homs (31,948), Al-Hassakeh (13,470), Lattakia (1,540) governorates, northern Syria. This also includes some 44,700 displacements under verification. Around 16,500 displacements were recorded in April 2018, primarily from Aleppo and Idleb governorates.
  - **88,070** displacements from affected areas of Damascus, Rural Damascus, Sweida and Dar'a, south-western Syria, to northern Syria. This includes some 67,200 cross-line displacements from eastern Ghouta to northern Syria between 13 March and 30 April.

## CONTEXTUAL DEVELOPMENTS

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- According to [media reports](#), yesterday (8 May) a first large convoy of buses carrying an estimated 3,200 opposition fighters and their families from northern rural Homs reached Al Bab, in opposition-held areas of Aleppo Governorate. The evacuation follows an agreement reportedly reached on 2 May.
- On 7 May, more than 1,300 people, the majority of them women and children, were [reportedly](#) evacuated from Yalda, Babila, and Beit Sahm (southern Damascus) towards northern rural Aleppo Governorate. Over 8,000 people are reported to have been evacuated from these areas of southern Damascus since 4 May.
- A UN spokesperson [said](#) that the UN and partners stood ready to deliver humanitarian assistance through an inter-agency convoy to people in need in Yalda, Babila and Beit Sahm, as well as to Yarmouk, as soon as security conditions allowed and access was granted.

## UNHCR CO-LED SECTOR/CLUSTER UPDATES

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### Protection

#### Response to displacement from Afrin:

- **Syria Hub:** Protection actors from Aleppo are working to expand their services in rural areas and in IDP sites. Three partners are operational in Nubul and Zahraa, while five partners are operating in Tel Refaat and surrounding areas through mobile activities. In Shaba and Fafin IDP sites, two protection actors are already providing mobile services, and an additional two partners are expected to begin activities as the demand for services increases. Existing services remain available in Aleppo city through facilities in several neighbourhoods hosting IDPs from Afrin.
- In **Nubul and Zahraa**, over 17,000 children and 400 adults were reached with recreational activities and psychosocial support since 20 January. Other services provided included risk education, awareness-raising

<sup>1</sup> 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.

on prevention of family separation, and case management and referrals. In **Tal Refaat and surrounding villages**, more than 2,300 interventions have been provided for persons in need, including psychosocial interventions, risk awareness and sensitisation on protection topics, as well as targeted material support to individuals with specific needs. Almost 2,700 children have been reached with recreational and psychosocial activities. In addition, the gender-based violence (GBV) response has been extended to some of the newly established IDP sites, including **Fafin and Shaba**, with mobile teams in the areas offering integrated GBV and reproductive health services, psychosocial support, and distribution of dignity kits.

#### **North-east Aleppo response:**

- **Turkey Hub:** The Protection Cluster, Child Protection, GBV, and Mine Action Sub-Clusters members expanded their emergency service provision to A'zaz, Al Bab, Jarablus, Afrin, and Jabal Saman districts. From 21 April to 7 May, seven Cluster members provided 3,772 protection interventions to IDPs from eastern Ghouta and affected host community members, providing services in both temporary reception sites and in 14 communities, reaching 2,725 individuals. In line with the Cluster's emergency response package, the main services provided included psychological first aid, psychosocial support, and mine risk education.

#### **Idleb response:**

- **Turkey Hub:** Between 1-7 May, 11 Cluster members provided 2,462 protection interventions in 11 sub-districts serving 19 communities in Idleb and western rural Aleppo, reaching 1,593 individuals.

### **Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)**

#### **Response to displacement from eastern Ghouta:**

- **Turkey Hub:** From 13 March to 30 April, the CCCM Cluster tracked the arrival of 67,224 IDPs from eastern Ghouta towards Idleb, western Aleppo, and northern Hama governorates. Of these, 13,145 IDPs were received in CCCM reception centres in Maaret Elekhwani (Idleb), Mezanaz, Al Bab and A'zaz (Aleppo). Other large arrivals were tracked in Ariha, Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Maaret Tamsrin (Idleb) and Atareb, Albil and Daret Azza communities (Aleppo).

#### **Response and availabilities in north-west Syria:**

- **Turkey Hub:** A total of 1,988 IDPs are currently being hosted in the A'zaz reception centre, 342 in the Al Bab reception centre, 723 in the Mezanaz reception centre, and 382 in the Maaret Elekhwani reception centre. The capacity of these four reception centres is expected to increase to host up to 9,100 individuals with the establishment of additional rubble halls. All needs are currently being covered across these centres. Recent arrivals have been directed mainly towards northern Aleppo Governorate (particularly Al Bab, Jarablus and A'zaz sub-districts). Previously displaced individuals in Idleb and surrounding areas have been leaving the reception centres for other shelters, particularly in Daret Azza, Jandairis (Aleppo Governorate) and Idleb sub-districts. Available shelter in sites and other locations remains extremely limited. The available shelter space in north-west Syria was mapped out based on a collaboration between the CCCM and SNFI Clusters, and an online shelter availability dashboard is available [here](#). Planned and current available spaces for potential new IDP arrivals is estimated at around 34,000 individuals.
- **Turkey Hub:** The [IDP Sites Integrated Monitoring Matrix \(ISIMM\) for March 2018](#) was finalized. The CCCM Cluster coordinated multi-sectoral life-saving assistance for 375,103 IDPs residing in 337 IDP sites across northern Syria. One new IDP site in Dana sub-district (Idleb Governorate) was added to the CCCM database. The Cluster assessed that the following needs of IDPs in sites were covered in March: water, waste removal and sanitation (87%), shelter (78%), NFI (77%), and food (63%).

### **Shelter/Non-Food Items (SNFI)**

- **Turkey Hub:** So far in 2018, the SNFI Cluster has reached 861,664 individuals with assistance in northern Syria. This includes nearly 166,000 individuals reached in April 2018 with core NFI distributions, shelter rehabilitation, transitional shelter assistance, provision of emergency shelter, and seasonal shelter and NFI assistance. An interactive dashboard of the Cluster's activities is available [here](#).