The Nutrition Sector reached 1,450,823 girls, boys and pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) in need from January to June 2018 with curative and preventive nutrition services. This includes 672,234 girls and boys under-five and PLW screened for acute malnutrition, 16,739 girls and boys under 5 years and 8,308 PLWs were identified and treated. Additionally, 677,097 girls and boys under-five and 95,561 PLWs received micronutrients supplementation and 329,330 PLWs were counselled on infant and young child feeding.

Operational Presence 227 sub-districts communities 1,274

Reach by access status (Besieged, HR, Accessible)
- 2% 30,047 reached in 18 besieged communities
- 11% 162,087 reached in 151 hard to reach communities
- 87% 1,257,959 reached in 1,105 Accessible communities

Response Modality (cash/in kind/service)
- Service 76% in kind 20%
- Cash 4%

Funding status (as of Jun 2018) in million $
- 42.5 Gap
- 70.7 Us$ Requested
- 28.2 (40%) Received

Whole of Syria: Nutrition Sector Snapshot January – June 2018

WOS KEY SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS - QUARTER 2

South and South-Central
On 17 June 2018 hostilities in south-west Syria triggered high levels of displacement and led to rapid systematic territorial gains by the Government of Syria (GoS). The Jordan hub nutrition sector contributed to the Southern Syria Operational Response Plan, targeting 40,500 people in need of nutrition services. However, there were serious constraints to deliver aid namely due to security, access, and supply chain challenges.

From the Damascus hub, mobile medical teams run by Daraa and Rural Damascus DoH provided preventive and curative nutrition services including provision of micronutrients for children US and Pregnant and Lactating women and treating malnourished cases. Nutrition supplies were prepositioned for the response in EG and South prior and during the escalation. Despite the delivery to the central warehouses in Rural Damascus, Darar and Quneitra; nutrition supplies were also delivered directly to collective shelters and functional PHC centers inside EG (Duma, Saqba, Arbin and Ein Tarma) and in Dar’a (Busra Esh Shamm Health district) to support the diagnostic and treatment services. Several meetings took place with SARC and DoH of Rural Damascus, Darar, As-Sweida and Quneitra to discuss cooperation mechanisms on the ground as well as to identify any needs.

The nutrition sector in Tartous took the initiative to develop a ToR for the IYCF technical group in consultation with nutrition actors and nutrition coordinator at the national level. Objectives of the IYCF technical working group are to coordinate implementation of IYCF activities to ensure coherent, and streamlined IYCF program implementation in the coastal area, and to provide technical support for updating IYCF policy and guidelines for Syria, including technical inputs for sex-disaggregated data and analysis.

Hama and Homs
From the Damascus hub, the DoH- Idlib with support from UNICEF conducted community based counselling sessions and raised awareness on the importance of exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding, reaching 97 pregnant and lactating women in newly accessible areas in Idlib. Emphasis was placed on prevention of malnutrition by providing supplementary food and multi-micronutrients to children and their mothers across Sinjar and Abu Al-Tohour sub-districts. To this end, over 221 children and pregnant and lactating women were screened and provided with complementary and lipid-based supplementary food. IDPs heading from Idlib towards Hama were reached by four mobile primary health care units operated by the department of health in the areas of Saweq, Jbreen, Mardes and Souran.

The nutrition cluster in Gaziantep continued to work with health cluster on integration opportunities and met with the reproductive health technical working group to include and scale up IYCF in the reproductive health strategy. Both sectors are finalizing a joint nutrition manual for community health workers in North Syria led by WHO with participation of both health and nutrition partners.

After the brilliant success of the 2017 IYCF campaign, the Gaziantep nutrition cluster decided to repeat the campaign for 2018, targeting 200 communities. The launch began 29 May, which was divided into two rounds, finishing on 7 of June. The campaign included the delivery of other curative and preventive nutrition activities including screening and referral for malnutrition, multiple micronutrient supplementation, IYCF awareness sessions, and 1-1 individual IYCF counselling. In total, 8,060 children were screened for malnutrition using MUAC, 151 children were found with MAM and 35 children with SAM. Out of 4,889 PLW screened for malnutrition, 155 cases were found and received treatment. Micronutrient tablets were distributed to 7,974 PLW and micronutrient powders was delivered to 7,592 children 6-59 months. 16,196 IYCF leaflets with key messages were distributed to the community.

Afrin
Comprehensive lifesaving nutrition services including MUAC screening and treatment of acute malnutrition, were provided to 5,645 children less than 5 years old with 43 of them identified as moderately malnourished MAM (0.7%) and 13 as severely malnourished SAM (0.2%). 2335 PLWs were screened for acute malnutrition; 35 of them were moderately malnourished MAM (1.5%). Treatment was provided through 2 fixed OTPs/SFPs and 2 mobile OTPs/SFPs. Almost 41,400 children under 59 months and PLWs were reached with preventive nutrition supplies including IYBF, fortified spread and MNPs.

Promotion of the WHO recommended IYCF practices through awareness sessions reached 16,736 women of child bearing age. Capacity building of health workers, community volunteers and outreach workers on nutrition interventions was carried out either through trainings or orientation on CCM/IYCF. 30 HWs are currently working in Afrin Nutrition response.

North East
WHO admitted 199 SAM children with complications into 20 stabilization centers. A new stabilization center in Al Hassakeh was opened.
Whole of Syria: Nutrition Sector Snapshot  
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**Response Plans and Activities - Quarter 2**

**Assessments and Surveillance:**

The nutrition surveillance in South Syria was in progress in Q2 2018. Surveillance was conducted by EWARN in 17

**Nutrition surveillance activities took place in 3 health facilities in Ath-Thawra (western Ar-Raqq):**

During June 2018, 100% (102,102) of the reporting health facilities across 5 Governorates provided nutritional surveillance data, and 100% of reporting health facilities submitted their reports on time. The total number of detected malnourished cases across the 5 governorates was 1,690 out of 31,568 measured children (60% less than 2 years of age). The cases were classified as follows: 1,157 MAM (3.67%) and 533 SAM (1.69%) including 5 bilateral pitting oedema cases as a result of malnutrition. The GAM prevalence was (5.35%). Pregnant and lactating women MUAC Screening continued in 64 health facilities in the same 5 governorates with 5,547 PLW screened (2,687 pregnant and 2860 lactating women). Two hundred and seventeen (3.9%) PLW were classified as malnourished and referred for treatment.

**Afrin Assessment:**

Following the decision to conduct a multi-sectoral rapid needs assessment, the Turkey hub nutrition sector contributed towards a joint assessment questionnaire. This questionnaire mainstreamed early nutrition recovery and included questions on sex, age, and disability data. The standard methodology for a rapid needs assessment was used. The results highlighted a number of concerns regarding the humanitarian situation across a range of sectors - food security and livelihoods, WASH, health, nutrition, education, shelter and NFIs. Critical gaps requiring prioritization include provision of basic services, an operating/functional market, and lack of public institutions, which have all been affected by displacement. Nutrition-specific findings revealed lack of all nutrition services throughout Afrin, lack of food, and poor infant and young child feeding practices.

**Capacity Development:**

Inside North West Syria, a total of 228 health staff were trained on CMAM and 197 staff trained on infant and young child feeding.

From the Syria hub, a series of nutrition capacity building activities took place on a national scale in 14 governorates including Idleb, Homs, Dara'a, and Quneitra. In total, 708 frontline health workers were trained on Infant and Young Child Feeding, 437 on Community Based Management of Acute Malnutrition.

**WHO conducted 12 training sessions for 300 health personnel on nutrition surveillance, Baby Friendly hospitals, severe acute malnutrition treatment in hospitals in different governorates including new locations in Ar Raqq and Deir ez-Zor.**

**Upcoming Events Including Assessments**

The Turkey hub plans to roll out a series of CMAM and IYCF trainings to other sectors as part of an integration plan, with 2 trainings inside Turkey and 2 trainings in Syria. The second round of the IYCF campaign is planned for August 2018.

The nutrition sector in the North East plans to improve the data sharing and capacity enhancement of NES partners of nutrition activities with placement of nutrition facilitator at field level.

The Jordan hub nutrition sector is currently on stand-by.