Response

In September 2019, 10 Protection Cluster members provided emergency response services for civilians recently displaced from Northern Hama and Southern Idlib due to the ongoing hostilities. Cluster members provided 17,522 protection services to IDPs and affected host community members in 72 communities within 16 sub-districts in Idlib and Aleppo reaching 7,575 individuals (2,398 girls, 1,603 boys, 2,594 women, and 980 men). Cluster members also referred individuals to other services. GBV SC members were able to provide 4,836 specialized GBV services in 86 communities/neighborhoods across northwest Syria. They were also able to reach 16,089 women, girls, boys, and men with GBV prevention and empowerment activities. In addition, 67 GBV and other humanitarian actors were trained on different GBV related topics. The GBV Capacity Building Taskforce for northwest Syria chaired by the GBV SC conducted a 3-day Training of Trainers in Aleppo, Azaz on GBV Basics, SoPs and risk mitigation. The GBV SC also organized three GBV case discussions both in Turkey and Syria benefitting 30 GBV staff. In addition, the GBV SC has developed and shared referral pathways for 11 districts with signatories of the GBV SC SoPs.

In September 2019, the escalation of hostilities decreased, CPSC members more specifically 48 organizations in 37 sub-districts in all across North West Syria. Additionally, partners were able to reach 50,944 community members in awareness raising as efforts to prevent and respond to child protection issues. These included family separation and violence against children amongst other. Structured, sustained child protection programmes including psychosocial support, reached 10,660 girls and 10,100 boys. Children’s psychosocial wellbeing continues to be of high concern in North West with increasing numbers of children presenting signs of psychosocial distress including an increase in aggressive behavior. With this intervention it is expected that girls and boys coping skills and resilience are strengthened.

Two thousand six hundred forty-four parents and caregivers (1,803 women and 841 men) were engaged in parenting programmes along this reporting period. Similarly, Parenting Programmes have strengthened parents and primary caregivers' skills and resources to care and protect for their children under severely overstretched communities' capacities. Additionally, specialized services continued through case management and reached 280 girls and 378 boys. Case Management plays a central role in facilitating individual child protection assessments, monitoring of cases and referral. Multiple displacement along the month of September.

The CP SC members continued to engage and train child protection teams and communities both females and males at different levels on basics of child protection in line with the Child Protection Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Action. Building on earlier efforts, in September 2019; 539 women and 439 men across different communities in North west Syria were trained.

In this reporting period, there was a plan to work on a child protection rapid need assessment on the impact of displacement on children, the assessment will be focused on the top 3 districts receiving of displaced people.

Additionally, the CPSC finalize the consultation with the members to prioritize the Task forces topics that we need to focus on, and send the call of membership to the CPSC members with the selection criteria.

Gap

Activities and projects aimed at persons with disabilities and older persons remain limited. Response services of these at-risk groups should address their specific needs. In order to adequately address this, GBV actors should seek funding to build staff capacity in providing specific psychological first aid, psychosocial support, and case management for persons with disabilities and older persons. Furthermore, GBV actors should review protocols, guidelines and organizational procedures to address the needs of these two affected populations.

As the conflict tempo is increasing in areas of NWS, the CP partners are ready to provide PFA, PSS and emergency case management services, there is a need to step up partners’ capacity to provide interim care in emergencies and early response for children with disabilities. Multiple displacements continue to further strain already stretched protection capacities of families and here we need to focus on the voluntary segregation where the CPSC member reported many cases of voluntary separation because of lack of basic services like education and shelter.

In their turn, child protection teams work is hindered as child protection interventions require continued access, predictability and continuity which is hard to ensure in populations on the move, except for the fact that many organizations report the suspension of their activities because of the accessibility problem.