

### OVERVIEW

North East Syria (NES) remains one of the most complex operating environments in Syria due to a combination of ongoing hostilities, weather-related hazards and population movements. Currently, 1.65 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in NES – 14 percent of the overall total. As of April 2019, NES is hosting 604,853 IDPs, including 133,675 in 57 camps, collective shelters, and last resort sites. Between January 2018 and April 2019, approximately 479,174 IDPs have spontaneously returned to their areas of origin in Al Hassakeh (22,530), Ar Raqqa (139,260) and Deir ez Zor (317,384) – two-thirds of those returning to Ar Raqqa during this period returned to the capital city itself. An assessment conducted in Ar Raqqa in February 2019 identified that critical needs remain in healthcare, water and sanitation, non-food items, shelter, electricity, livelihoods opportunities as well as protection – with mine risk education and clearance identified as of particular concern given extensive explosive hazard contamination. Since the beginning of May a series of fires have broken out across NES destroying thousands of hectares of arable land. Currently, the food security sector is carrying out its annual Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CSFAM) which is expected to capture the impact of these incidents. In the meantime, humanitarian actors are monitoring a number of indicators, including market prices and purchasing power, to determine what strategies are required to mitigate/respond to any resulting humanitarian needs. Given the nature and severity of needs across the NES, steps are being made to scale up the humanitarian response through all possible means. Currently, plans are underway to establish a UN hub in Deir-ez-Zor governorate to support affected people in Deir-ez-Zor city and Al Mayadin, Abu Kamal, Hajin, and Surat sub-districts, as well as open a guest house in Tabqa, Ar Raqqa to facilitate additional and lengthier missions to affected communities and camps in this governorate.



**861k** PEOPLE IN ACUTE NEED



**1.65M** PEOPLE IN NEED



**605k**

Total IDPs (as of April 2019)



**479k**

Total Spontaneous IDP Returnees (Jan 2018 -April 2019)



**134**

Total # of humanitarian partners



**57**

Total # of Camps and Informal Settlements

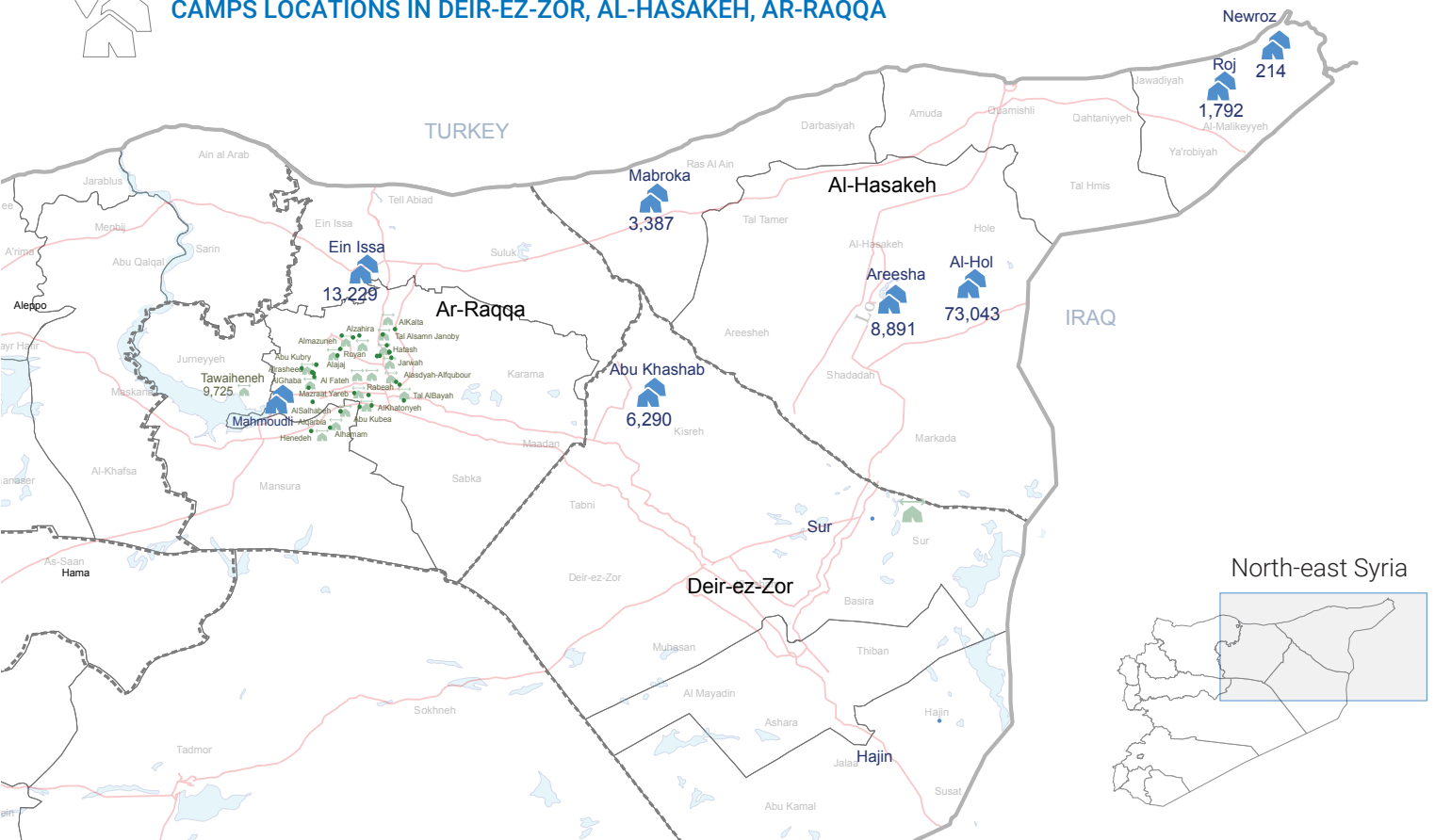


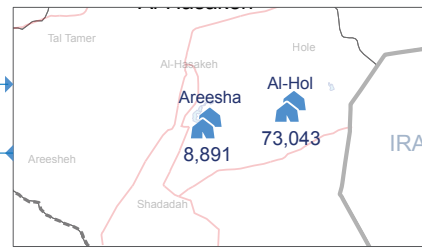
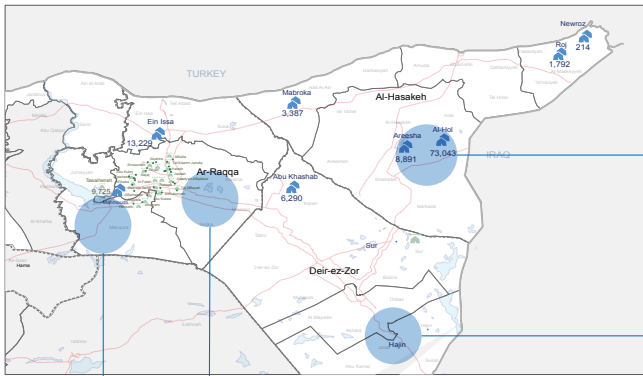
**133k**

Total # of IDPs residing in camps and informal settlements



### CAMPS LOCATIONS IN DEIR-EZ-ZOR, AL-HASAKEH, AR-RAQQA





### Areesha Camp, Al Hasakeh

As of 13 May, the camp population stands at 8,891 people (approx. 1,812 households). Heavy rains over the winter period have caused extensive damage to the camp, with 75 per cent of the site affected by flooding by March (representing 80 per cent living space of the population), including key infrastructure, such as communal spaces, toilets and other facilities. While 987 flood-affected families have already been temporarily relocated to land nearby, in mid-May the Governor approved a plan to relocate residents to a new site close by. Currently, sectors are assessing the suitability of this land – which is able to accommodate 92 per cent of the current camp population – before preparatory work begins. Site preparation is expected to take at least six months to complete before relocation begins. In the meantime, partners are continuing to provide WASH, Health, food, protection, education and shelter/NFIs, to the IDPs in their current location. According to Camp Administration, a number of families are expected to leave the camp over the coming months with 120 individuals having registered to return in the last two weeks alone.

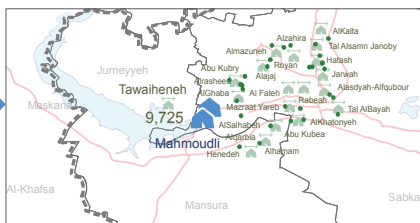
### Al Hol Camp, Al Hasakeh

As of 19 June, the population of Al Hol is just over 73,000 with almost 65,000 individuals arriving since the beginning of December. The vast majority of the camp population are women and children (91%), with around 67% under the age of 18. While influxes have significantly reduced since mid-March, actors continue to scale up their response with some 35 organizations now operating in the camp delivering up to 50 services. Needs nevertheless remain critical across a number of sectors, particularly WASH and protection, where there is a constant need to maintain and upgrade existing facilities, such as latrines and water tanks, to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, as well as to identify additional water sources (due to limited water availability) and provide more specialized protection services such as family tracing and reunification. With the onset of summer there has been an increased incidence of acute diarrhea in the camp as well as a slight increase in acute malnutrition, however overall emergency thresholds in the camp have not been breached and remain within sphere standards. As of early June, three field hospitals have been established and are providing in-patient support to 100 people. The relocation of residents from Phase 7 to Phases 6 and 8 is also ongoing with around 600 Syrian families relocated as of 12 June. Despite the recent departure of 740 Syrian IDPs to Tabqa in Ar-Raqqa, as well as an increase in the number of third country nationals being repatriated by their countries of origin, a gap of approximately 3,000 shelter plots is expected to remain.

### Ar-Raqqa City

The total population of Raqqa city is estimated to be between 140,000 individuals. An increase in spontaneous returns to the city has been reported from a couple of hundreds in 2017 to 93,000 in Jan -2018Apr 2019. Despite a number of security incidents and high levels of ERW contamination, the overall security environment has improved. As a result, humanitarian activities have been scaled up gradually over the last year. Nevertheless, access to and affordability of basic services remains insufficient. Access to the water network, for instance, remains low in some neighborhoods,

while there are widespread challenges related to the city's sewage infrastructure with increased reports of visible accumulation of solid waste. Issues related to water quality also remain widely reported across all areas. Bakery capacity and bread affordability is also reported as an issue in at least half of all neighborhoods, attributed to a reduction in flour availability, reducing the capacity of public bakeries to produce sufficient bread quantities. The prevalence of child labour as a barrier to education has more than doubled from last year, while the proportion of intermediary and secondary school-aged children attending school remains below 50% in the majority of neighborhoods. Moving forward, interventions aimed at increasing self-sufficiency by addressing challenges related to affordability and access to livelihoods should be prioritized.



### Al Mahmoudli Camp, Ar Raqqa

Relocation of 1,680 households from Twaiheneh informal settlement to Mahmoudli camp will commence on 24 June. Following the relocation, it is expected that around 400 households will remain in Twaiheneh – a location where limited facilities and services are currently being provided. Humanitarian partners are in the process of completing a comprehensive mapping to determine what assistance is being planned for both locations to minimize duplication and ensure that critical gaps are filled. Messaging to the communities on the relocation process and planned assistance in both locations is also being finalised. Overall, it is expected that relocation will take around a month to complete.

### Hajin, Deir-ez-Zour

The humanitarian situation in south-east Deir ez-Zor remains dire, particularly in the towns and villages along the eastern side of the Euphrates from Basira to Hajin. It is estimated that about 150,000 people in need live in these villages. Thousands of displaced people live in informal settlements and in damaged and/or unfinished buildings. Many sites are at risk of flooding and many families lack adequate shelter and access to health care and safe water, particularly in southern districts and communities along the Euphrates River. On 4 April the Government of Syria approved a joint UN/SARC inter-agency convoy to Hajin targeting 50,000 people. The UN team is working with SARC and partners to prepare deployment. It is a complex mission due to security and logistical challenges.