

## OCHA Syria | Flash Update #10

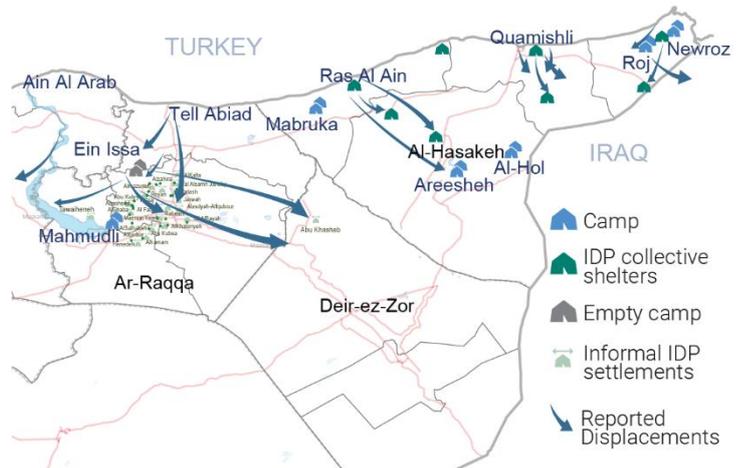
Humanitarian impact of the military operation in northeastern Syria  
26-28 October 2019



*\*This update is compiled with inputs from different sources, reflecting developments as they unfold and/or as they are reported to OCHA Syria. The situation on the ground is fluid and volatile. While striving to be as comprehensive as possible, information in this update, especially with regards to numbers of displaced people and civilian casualties, is susceptible to revisions as further information becomes available.*

### Highlights

- On 29 October, the 150-hour period referred to in the 22 October Memorandum of Understanding ended; this followed an announcement on 27 October that Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) were re-deploying away from the Turkish-Syrian border to be replaced by Government of Syria (GoS) border guards.
- In southern Ras al-Ain, heavy clashes between Turkish-affiliated armed forces and the SDF continue, with fighting also taking place in north-west Manbij as well as Ein Issa. Localized incidents using improvised explosive devices also occurred in Suluk and Ras al-Ain during the reporting period. Clashes were also reported in other areas.
- On 26 October SARC conducted a cross-line mission to Alouk water station to rotate the maintenance team deployed to monitor the station. Two subsequent missions (on 27 and 29 October) were aborted due to insecurity on the road. Ongoing maintenance is essential to maintain functionality of the water system servicing 400,000 people in Hasakeh city.
- To date, 105,574 people, including around 44,340 children and 26,400 women of reproductive age, remain displaced from Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Aleppo governorates; 96,855 people returned to their places of origin. Forty per cent of those returning have returned to areas now under the control of Turkish Armed Forces in Tal Abyad, Ein Issa, and Suluk sub-districts in Ar-Raqqa governorate.
- More than 12,000 Syrian refugees have entered Iraq through informal crossing points; the influx has overwhelmed the capacity of the recently-opened Bardarash camp. More than 800 people are now being accommodated at Gawilan transit site.
- On 27 October, the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria launched a Syrian Humanitarian Fund (SHF) reserve allocation of US \$15 million to support partners responding to the crisis.



### Contextual developments

Despite recent agreements between parties in northeast Syria pointing to a cessation of hostilities in the area, and the SDFs' announcement on 27 October to accept the terms of the Sochi agreement, localized fighting continued. Heavy clashes were reported between the Syrian National Army (SNA) and SDF/GoS forces in southern Ras al-Ain. The SNA is reportedly advancing towards Tal Tamr where GoS forces are present. Advances along the M4 continue. While no major population movements or casualties were reported as a result, these developments continue to create anxiety among civilians and negatively impacts humanitarian access.

### Humanitarian impact

Despite challenges, humanitarian partners continue to assist people in need where access is possible. The priority remains supporting those newly displaced in collective shelters and in host communities; maintaining support to displaced people in camps and informal settlements/sites; and delivering essential services such as water and health.

Partners are scaling up assistance in response, with the Food Security Sector planning to providing blanket food rations for up to 580,000 people in Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates in October. Essential services such as health and water are being provided. Winterization efforts have begun with distributions completed at Mahmoudli and Al Roj camps.

## Population movements

As of 28 October, a total of 202,429 population movements were recorded: 105,574 people remain displaced from Al-Hasakeh (73,210), Ar-Raqqa (25,588) and Aleppo governorates (6,776), while 96,855 people returned to their areas of origin in Al-Hasakeh (47,750), Ar-Raqqa (39,000) and Aleppo (10,105) governorates.

Of those displaced, 90,446 are residing in host communities in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates; the remaining 15,128 (3,315 families) are being accommodated in 70 active collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh (69) and Ar-Raqqa (1) governorates. Twenty-six collective shelters previously hosting displaced populations in Ras al-Ain (16), Al-Hasakeh (8) and Al-Malikeyyeh (2) are now empty. Almost all active collective shelters are schools, depriving at least 30,000 children of learning opportunities.

Of those returning to Al-Hasakeh governorate, almost half (22,050) have returned to Ras al-Ain district, including 12,700 to Darbasiyah sub-district. Reports that some IDPs originating from Ras al-Ein are reluctant to return without security guarantees, as well as Turkish affiliated forces denying IDPs the right to return to places of origin and IDPs at checkpoints having had their personal civil documentation confiscated have been received but not yet verified. On 27 October, a limited number of male IDPs from Ras al-Ain were able to conduct a 24-hour 'go and see' visit to the area to check on their properties and belongings.

On 24 October, Camp Administration reopened Newroz camp close to the Iraq border. Currently, 25 IDP families are staying in the camp having arrived from collective shelters in Mabada on 27 October. Needs assessments are ongoing. In a meeting with the Self Administration on 29 October, the UN requested that all requests for support to establish a new camp in Tweina, 15 km to the east of Hasakeh, be referred to the Governor first. Light site preparation works (ground-levelling) have, however, reportedly been completed already by Self Administration.

## Areesha

Following the relocation of 4,100 individuals (833 households) from Mabrouka camp on 20 October, Areesha camp remains severely overcrowded. New-arrival IDPs have settled in the extension area created to decongest the existing camp hosting residents relocated earlier in 2019 due to severe flooding. Neither of these two sections of the camp are prone to flooding, however there is no land available to expand the camp further. Given this, focus has been placed on facilitating returns to areas of origin that many IDPs (among them Mabrouka and Areesha caseloads) have already expressed willingness for. A return trip to Deir-ez-Zor is scheduled for 30 October for at least 100 households.

## Stocks and supply lines

Parts of the strategic M4 highway remain closed. As a result, aid transportation is being done through alternate routes, however road conditions do not allow for the same volume of supplies to be transported. The M4 highway therefore remains a key strategic route for the transportation of humanitarian commodities. Prior to recent events, an estimated average of 235 trucks each month used this highway to resupply Northeast Syria. Urgent arrangements for safe passage along the M4 are needed.

Stocks of food and medicine are in place to meet many of the immediate needs, along with the necessary pipelines to move aid and referral pathways to move people who need care facilitation.

## Sector Response

*\*With information available at the time of reporting, i.e. inputs not fully capturing all planned and ongoing response, nor all needs and gaps, on the ground.*



### Needs and gaps

- The 29 October deadline will cause further uncertainty and anxiety for the civilian population affected by this crisis. The possibility of further displacement cannot be ruled out. Many of those displaced in collective shelters and host communities will likely remain – whether this is for a short or longer period will depend on the implementation of the agreement after the 150-hour deadline passes.
- During the reporting period, displacement due to clashes was reported from Darbasiyah and surrounding villages, as well as Ras al-Ain toward Hasakeh. Due to the security situation, protection partners have been unable to assess and respond in Ras al-Ain, Ein Issa and Tal Abyad. Partners formerly present in these locations have diverted programs and resources to respond to the protection needs of newly displaced populations in Tal Tamr, Al-Hasakeh, Areesha camp, Mahmoudli camp, Raqqa city and surrounding areas.

- Newroz camp was reopened by camp administration on 24 October. 25 IDP families from Mabada collective shelters arrived and are now staying in the camp. Protection partners continue to advocate for any movement to be informed and voluntary in line with humanitarian principles.
- Overcrowding in Areesha camp remains a serious protection concern and is exacerbating protection, health and sanitation risks while posing implementation challenges for all actors.
- In the collective shelters, spread of disease due to overcrowding and limited WASH facilities is a concern; there are also ongoing GBV risks due to the lack of electricity in some shelters and common WASH facilities, making women and girls more vulnerable to sexual violence and other varied forms of GBV. Other needs include food for infants and dignity kits. Uncertain prospects for return remains a major concern for the displaced population.
- In Raqqa, advocacy for unimpeded access for humanitarian actors and solutions continues for the 27 unaccompanied children in an interim center managed by local authorities.
- It remains imperative that civilians are protected from direct attacks and the effects of hostilities and are allowed to move in safety and voluntarily to safe places, with special protection afforded to children, including those formerly and/or allegedly associated with armed forces or armed groups (CAFAAG).

## Response

- Protection partners continue to support and respond through static and mobile community centers in Malikeyeh, Tal Hamis and Qamishli, including: awareness raising and psychosocial support (PSS); child protection; GBV support and case management; informal education; assistance for persons with specific needs; legal assistance; and specialized services for children and women/girls.
  - So far 1,214 IDP families (5,500 individuals) in 37 collective shelters in Hasakeh (23), Mabada (5), Malikeyeh (3), Tal Hamis (2), Tal Tamr (3) and Raqqa (1) have been reached with different protection, child protection and GBV activities including psychological first aid, psycho-social support (PSS), recreational activities for children, fast-tracking for assistance and other support for persons with special needs, legal interventions, etc.
  - Protection partners continue legal awareness sessions and counselling for IDPs. On one day during the reporting period, 144 IDP families hosted in three collective shelters in Hasakeh were supported and 46 cases were identified for further legal support to obtain ID and civil documentation: 14 for birth registration, 14 for national IDs, nine cases of marriage documentation; and nine cases of family booklets. IDPS are being assisted with issuance of documents and certificates.
  - The Ras al-Ain Civil Registry office has been temporarily relocated to Hasakeh and will soon be stationed in Tal Tamr. Partners are providing technical support to enable the resumption of civil registry services to IDPs from Ras al-Ain as soon as possible. Planning is under way for additional technical support for registry offices in Hasakeh city, Deir-ez-Zor, Al Hol, Ber Al Hulo, Tal Tamr, Shaddadeh, Markada and Areesha.
  - In Mabada, protection partners are conducting recreational activities for children in the Almohditha collective shelter; PSS and SGBV awareness sessions and case management are also taking place in Altahrir collective shelter; and two community led initiatives in Shahid Ayoub and Al Mohditha collective shelters where community kitchens were provided.
  - PSS group counselling continues in Mathloutha collective shelter, Tel Hamis. Child protection activities are ongoing in Mabada and Hasakeh including structured and sustained PSS so far reaching 3,200 children and 655 adults in 21 shelters in addition to 460 children and 242 caregivers in one center in rural Ar-Raqqa.
  - GBV partners continue providing GBV services integrated with reproductive health services through mobile teams and a reproductive health clinic so far reaching beneficiaries in 25 shelters in Hasakeh city and Mabada in addition to Tal Tamr and its rural areas. Through Women and Girls' Safe Spaces (WGSS), GBV monitoring teams have intensified efforts in the distribution of dignity/hygiene kits for the most vulnerable and affected women and girls. So far GBV partners have distributed 7,415 GBV protection kits and 5,736 sanitary napkins to beneficiaries. 42,670 protection kits and 169,000 sanitary napkins are being delivered to Al-Hasakeh city to target IDPs in local communities and Qamishli to reach IDPs in shelters and in local communities in the eastern and southern countryside of Qamishli.
  - Comprehensive protection needs assessments in collective shelters across Al-Hasakeh are ongoing, with 23 shelters assessed so far. Protection partners are providing on-the-spot guidance and support, including identification of unaccompanied and separated children and referrals.
  - In Areesha camp, with the assistance of protection partners, sorting and organizing of personal documents to the former Mabrouka population is being finalized. Camp administration announced that IDP return trips will resume soon for both the Areesha and Mabrouka population. So far 100 IDP families from Mabrouka have registered to return to Deir-ez-Zor, with registration ongoing. Protection partners continue working to ensure families wanting to return receive their personal documentation back.
  - Protection, child protection and GBV activities are ongoing in all camps. Protection partners continue to advocate for the return of confiscated personal identification documentation and freedom of movement out of camps to locations of choice. In Mahmoudli, camp administration has returned personal documents to 50

IDP families with some of them departing the camp towards their place of origin in Deir-ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. Camp administration, along with protection partners, are in the process of returning personal documents for 300 families over the coming days.

- In host communities across sub-districts in Al-Hasakeh, Al-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates, protection partners are carrying out regular consultations and response for affected people through mobile teams (protection, CP and GBV) and outreach volunteers to understand needs and to conduct rapid needs assessments, identify persons with specific needs, awareness, and conduct case management and referrals.
- In Ar-Raqqa city and rural Ar-Raqqa, 2,279 children and 883 adults have been reached by CP partners including PSS and awareness raising sessions. Assessments, referrals and individual follow up is ongoing by protection partners. Specialized GBV personnel have been deployed to Al-Hasakeh city and Tal Tamr to provide services per needs on the ground through mobile teams.
- In Qamishli city 2,000 child IDPs and 2,300 local children and 1,064 adults have been reached through PSS activities.
- In Deir-ez-Zor, CP partners are supporting four child friendly spaces and have four mobile teams supporting 1,304 children.
- GBV partners are currently providing GBV services through a mobile team in the Al-Amieria area. GBV partners have reached 10,971 beneficiaries through 5 WGSS and 23 RH/GBV integrated mobile teams in Qamishli, Tal Tamr, Hasakeh city, Darbasiyah, Mabada, Areesha, Amieria, Tabqa, Jurniah, Raqqa city and Deir-ez-Zor city.



## Food Security & Agriculture

### Needs and gaps

- A number of farmers have been displaced from Tal Abyad and Ras al-Ain, disrupting the planting season and possibly impacting production. Farmers in Al-Hasakeh governorate have been particularly affected with the suspension of agriculture and livestock programming by 10 NES INGO partners, impacting the livelihoods of an estimated 8,500 people across Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates.
- Most agricultural traders have told Food Security sector partners that due to the current situation they will not be able to provide all the inputs required for the planting season. Moreover, a high number of beneficiaries that partners were targeting are within the 30km 'safe zone'. Farmers in Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor will also likely be affected by an increase in production costs with an expected increase in fuel prices in addition to challenges in access to water.
- Since the start of the crisis on 9 October, there has been an approximately 20 per cent increase in food prices in Al-Hasakeh governorate with traders indicating that the increase is due to many supply routes being affected, constricting supply to markets. Weekly market price assessments have been put in place to monitor markets. Lack of fresh food has been reported in some markets. The main route partners are using for transporting stocks is currently is the Al Abyad route (Karama – Raqqa – Hasakeh) instead of the M4 main highway.
- While one UN partner has a wide geographical footprint across Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates, figures are reflective of humanitarian assistance provided since 11 October. Regular distributions are ongoing, however the caseload of regular response has increased. As is standard in times of sudden onset emergencies, the response to the recent emergency has been through blanket assistance. Figures provided are also therefore inclusive of host community members also impacted by large scale IDP movement. The overall response so far is estimated at 22 per cent in Hasakeh and 43 per cent in Ar-Raqqa, based upon the Food Security Sector Mid-Year Review PIN and IDP caseload in each of the governorates; the total emergency/ IDP response is at 64 per cent in Hasakeh and 63 per cent in Ar-Raqqa – using only emergency distributions against the against the IDP population. Efforts are ongoing to ensure that all affected communities are reached and receive assistance as per need despite the absence of beneficiary lists. In the meantime, access to Manbij and Ain al-Arab/Kobani in Aleppo governorate remains limited and challenging, with numbers of IDPs in Manbij estimated at 6,725, though still unconfirmed in Ain al-Arab/ Kobani. Both UN and INGO partners continue efforts to reach/re-start regular programming in these locations, with at least half of INGO partners originally working in these areas already resuming work in both locations.

### Response

- As of 27 October, a total of 333,615 people (66,787 HH) including host community populations were reached with some form of food assistance:<sup>1</sup>
  - One UN partner has reached 90,080 displaced people (18,016 households) with Ready to Eat (RTE) rations and date bars, 13,895 displaced people (2,779 households) with RTEs, in addition to 182,770 people (36,554 households) in host communities experiencing a high levels of displacement. A total of 2140 kg of bread has been distributed to IDPs in 35 collective centers to date.

<sup>1</sup> This includes Ready to Eat (RTE) Rations, Date bars, General Food Baskets (GFR).

- 22,755 people have received RTEs/RTEs and date bars distributed by six NES INGO food security partners in Al-Malikeyyeh, Qahtaniyyeh, Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Qamishli, Mabada, Tal Hamis and Al-Malikeyyeh and Areesha camp as well as collective centers and host communities.
- One INGO continues to provide bread in 35 collective centers in Hasakeh and Mabada reaching 6,394 people (1,226 HH) daily.
- One INGO has carried out a rapid assessment in Raqqa city.
- Coordination between NES FSS and Iraq FSC is ongoing. It is reported that the Sahela dn Walidiya border crossing is being used by people to cross into Iraqi Kurdistan. Those crossing the border are receiving hot meals from a national NGO, Barzani Charity Foundation before being moved to Bardarash camp by IOM, where people are registered and provided with UNHCR documentation and RTEs from WFP. As of October 21, some 36,659 hot meals have been provided.

### Capacity

- A total 70,000 general food rations in stock for immediate response will be used to support displaced families living in collective centres or urban locations.
- 30,000 general food rations are in pipeline to respond to displaced families living in collective centers or urban locations.
- 44,000 RTEs are in pipeline to respond to displaced families living in collective centers or urban locations.
- In light of challenges reported around the functionality of Hawalas, the NES Cash Working Group is updating the mapping of Hawalas functionality in NES every other day to assess the INGOs access to liquidity and subsequent capacity to support activities in the coming period. So far four Hawala companies have confirmed ongoing operations in NES, with limited to no liquidity issues reported (although this varies from one company to another). Some Hawala vendors have flagged challenges related to the quantity of money being moved through them and the risk of increased scrutiny from authorities. In addition, some INGOs have reported interruptions to their emergency voucher programming, with Hawala systems not always equipped to work at the scale and speed to reimburse vendors (who are reluctant to wait a week for payment when shifting such large quantities of stocks).<sup>2</sup>



### Needs and gaps

- There are a limited number of qualified personnel for health, particularly specialized staff for trauma surgery (surgeons, nurses and anesthetists). Tal Tamr hospital is reportedly overwhelmed with patients referred to Hasakeh and Qamishli hospitals whose capacity is also inadequate. Needs for Manbij Hospital are currently unclear.
- Health service delivery is also limited due to low capacity. Most health facilities are only partially functioning. The inability of NES INGOs to implement programs as per plan will also likely lead to further gaps in healthcare delivery.
- More Trauma Stabilization Points and referral pathways are needed given that ambulances are being diverted to the frontlines and a number of primary health care centers and hospitals have closed. Support in availing additional ambulances is an emergency response priority.
- Increased access to essential health care services for IDPs, including disease surveillance is a top priority, particularly those in collective centers and over-burdened host communities.
- Health care service provision has reduced in Al Hol with only 12 static health facilities (from 18) and five mobile teams (from nine) currently providing primary health care services with minimal health staff on the ground.
- Funding: the health sector in Syria has a financial gap of almost US \$6.7 million.

### Response

- More than 200,000 people have been affected by the crisis and need medical/surgical interventions at the average rate of 1-2 consultations per person per year. One UN partner has contracted two hospitals to receive emergency referrals while another UN agency is supporting RH referrals.
- Since 10 October, health sector partners in Syria have reached more than 56,099 affected people with some form of health assistance:
  - A total of 10,050 patients have been reached by mobile clinics in Hasakeh and Tal Tamr collective shelters; 1,502 children and women have received essential health services in collective shelters and other areas in the NES. 560 households in collective shelters in Mabada, Al-Jawadia and Qamishli neighborhoods received family dignity kits from one UN partner. Seven mobile medical units run by Damascus-based partners are providing health services in collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh in addition to one run by NES INGOs.

<sup>2</sup> NES Cash Working Group Preliminary Analysis, Joint Rapid Assessment of Markets (JRAM), 24 October 2019

- 4,428 patients received medical consultations and related treatments in Abu Khashab camp in addition to 307 MHPSS services.
- 8,053 patients in Ar-Raqqa benefited from medical consultations, including in rural areas such as Maddan, Al-Kasrat and Al-Karama.
- 5,417 primary health care services were provided through health facilities in Hasakeh city and rural areas.
- Mobile teams in two IDP camps in Manbij delivered 1,441 health services and 117 MHPSS services in the reporting period.
- Reproductive Health services, including primary health care and pediatrics, reached 7,135 IDP women, of whom 2,033 are pregnant.
- In the camps, the following support was provided:
  - Al Hol: 15,145 medical services including medical consultations, medications, trauma care and secondary health care and 536 MHPSS services. On 27 October surgical interventions resumed in all field hospitals.
  - Mahmoudli: 1,676 IDPs benefited from health services, including reproductive health and 500 households received family dignity kits from a UN partner.
  - Areesha: 2,672 IDPs accessed and obtained health services including pediatric, gynecological and internal health care.
  - Al Roj: health actors currently have no access from inside Syria.
  - Mabruka: of the 84 individuals previously stranded in Mabruka camp, four women were pregnant and two of them have since given birth supported by a UN partner. In addition, five trauma cases were referred to UN-supported hospitals for further treatment.
- 47 collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh governorate were assessed by health sector partners; data entry and analysis is ongoing.

### Capacity

- One UN partner dispatched 39 tons of medical supplies and equipment to Tal Tamr, Hasakeh and Qamishli hospitals as well as to the Department of Health in Hasakeh, SARC and four national NGOs. Shipments are also in the process of being dispatched to Al-Tabqa and Raqqa national hospitals and Areesha camp.
- 10,782 family dignity kits, 55,000 sanitary napkins, 1,000 adolescent kits and 2,100 male dignity kits have arrived in Qamishli from one UN partner; another has dispatched 176 pediatric kits to Qamishli from Damascus.
- Security remains a concern for shipment routes within NES.
- Dispatch of newly received medicines and medical supplies is hindered by access/security and lack of official approvals.
- Plans exist to scale up the EWARS reporting approach across NES and to increase the number of reporting points.



### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

#### Needs and gaps

- Insecurity and access, particularly in the area around the location of the Alouk boreholes are two of the main challenges to delivering a comprehensive response as relates to water supply.
- Alouk water supply station:
  - 22 out of 34 boreholes are not functioning.
  - Of these, 18 boreholes need to be connected to the functional electricity supply line coming from Dar-basiyah (five of these also need to be repaired), while four high-yielding boreholes located inside the station do not have submersible pumps installed and need to be equipped.
  - Even with repairs and connections to the electricity grid, teams will need to be regularly positioned at the station to perform regular maintenance.
- The water treatment plant at Al Himme needs rehabilitation (in response to the turbid / “yellowish” water earlier reported through the water supply system in Hasakeh city).
- The WASH sector in Syria has identified immediate gaps of US \$13.7 million to maintain the current response until the end of the year.

#### Response

- While Alouk water station is back in operation and supplying water to Al-Hasakeh city, only 12 of the 34 boreholes are currently functioning (providing about 60 per cent of the total volume produced pre-crisis). To supplement the Alouk water supply, a sector partner continues to undertake emergency water trucking (distributing approx. 650m<sup>3</sup>/day) in four neighborhoods of Al-Hasakeh (i.e. Ghweran, Al Nashweh, Al Liliah and Al Zohore) targeting approximately 77,510 individuals.

- One sector partner has completed the rehabilitation of three pumps at two water stations/borehole sites; being two systems rehabilitated in Tal Azan, and one in Nafasha.
- Since 10 October, it is estimated 457,000 individuals (in Hasakeh city and neighbouring towns, IDP camps, villages and collective shelters) have been reached with WASH assistance. Thus far, three UN agencies and five I/NGOs have delivered WASH services as follows:
  - Al Hol Camp: through emergency water trucking, one Damascus/Qamishli-based sector partner delivers approximately 400m<sup>3</sup> of drinking water per day on average to the 68,600 resident population. In addition, sector partners are undertaking latrine cleaning, garbage collection, and operating two reverse osmosis water units. Construction of a sewerage network (in phase 5) is progressing, with 40 per cent of planned works completed. The installation of additional 105 latrine units and showers has been completed. A total of 3,000 hygiene kits were also provided.
  - Areesha Camp: One Damascus/Qamishli-based sector partner provide, on average, 203m<sup>3</sup> of drinking water per day<sup>3</sup> to the resident population of this camp (which also includes the additional population of Mabrouka camp). Additionally, this sector partner continued supporting the collection and disposal of garbage in Areesha old site, along with maintenance of water tanks and desludging of filled septic tanks. 70 latrine units, showers and 70 water tanks with stands were installed during the reporting period.
  - Mahmoudli Camp: In response to the new arrivals from Ein Issa camp, a Damascus/Qamishli based sector partner is currently supporting the construction of latrines (26 units, each 4 doors), installation of 26 water tanks of 1m<sup>3</sup> each, 13 water tanks of 2m<sup>3</sup> each, provision of 26 garbage bins, construction of manholes (component of the sewage system) and sewage system improvements.
  - Al Roj Camp: based on gaps identified, a Damascus/Qamishli-based WASH partner has started the construction of a sewerage network in the expansion area and will also install latrines and showers. It is estimated this will be completed in 30 days.
- Water quality monitoring is also ongoing across all camps to detect contamination and ensure continued safe access to water as per the following:
  - Al-Roj camp (samples tested on 24 October): 20 water samples (10 tankers, 10 jerry cans) were tested. Among them, two jerry cans were contaminated (microbial).
  - Collective shelters on 26 October: 11 water samples (11 water tanks in 11 shelters (three shelters in Twoinah, eight in Al-Hasakeh city) were tested, with all samples free of contaminant (microbial).
  - Water sources in Al-Hozemee, Abu Sueiman and Shomooka (samples collected on 27 October): three samples were collected and sent for bacterial analysis and are currently awaiting lab results.
- In collective shelters, sector partners have delivered:
  - 984 family hygiene kits in IDP shelters eight centres in Hasakeh, benefiting an estimated 4,920 individuals in Suliman Allo/Goreen, Tyseer Khaled/Nashwa, Hamza Ib Abdulmotalb, Abi Obida Ibn Al Jarah, Talaa, Al Meshryfa and Um Hojera.
  - Water Supply (trucking) - total daily volume being delivered: 50m<sup>3</sup> is being undertaken to Tal Tamer host community and IDP shelters (namely Ghebesh village, Tel Nasri and Ghebesh collective shelters), benefiting 453 families (or 2,255 individuals).
  - Hygiene promotion (targeting children in collective shelters) conducted in six IDP shelters (Abo Alaswad Al Doubly, Abo Obaida Ben Al Jarah, Al Andalso, Ahmed Yassin, Bor Saeed and Hammoud Al Abdullah), reaching 298 children.
- A total of 38 shelters (see in Annex III) have been assessed by sector partners. All these shelters are in Hasakeh. Some of the key issues identified during the assessment are linked to insufficient potable water, lack of water for use, lack of garbage containers, lack of hygiene related items, latrines are not separated with no light and no water and a sewage flooding. Based on these findings, sector partners have initiated various response actions.
- For Aleppo, preparedness is in place for any possible displacement towards Government of Syria areas. Coordination is also ongoing with the Government to grant access to Manbij for assessment and response as soon as possible. WASH services such as water trucking, tanks installation, latrines installation, etc. are usually provided through either active Long-Term Agreements (LTAs) or Framework Agreements that two sector partners have in place as part of the preparedness.

### Capacity

- All Damascus-based Qamishli actors are operational on the ground. A total of 20,842 hygiene kits are available (4,722 in Qamishli, 6,120 in Hasakeh and Qamishli with partners and 10,000 in transit to Hasakeh). The procurement of an additional 52,083 kits is in progress. Additionally, 60,000 bars (125g/bar) of soap, 4,700 garbage bags, 9,656 cleaning tools and 8,000 jerricans (10 liters each, foldable) and 36 water storage tanks (various large capacities) are also available.

<sup>3</sup> In compliance with one sector partner's request, data on volumes of water delivered through water trucking by this partner is not included.

- Three sector partners have either active LTAs or Framework Agreements for emergency water trucking, construction of emergency latrines and showers, installation of water tanks, operation and maintenance of WASH facilities and construction/desludging of septic pits. Specifically, and for one sector partner, the capacity and scope of the LTA can cover/scale up interventions in all three governorates very quickly to install critical facilities. In addition, partners have some capacities for emergency solid waste management and water quality monitoring.



## Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

### Needs and gaps

- Villages in Ya'aroubia and Tal Tamar in Al-Hasakeh have been highlighted as areas with gaps by local authorities. Partners have also been unable to reach Ar-Raqqa given insecurity along the M4 highway.
- An estimated 25 families have arrived to the reopened Newroz camp; needs assessments are in process.
- There is severe overcrowding in Areesha and there are limited options for expansion – relocation and related advocacy may be required with local authorities.
- It is still unconfirmed whether NES INGOs will be able to provide heaters and heating fuel for all camps over winter.

### Response

- In total, Shelter & NFI partners have reached 21,460 households (over 101,700 individuals) with core and winter NFIs. Prior to 9 October, sector partners had provided extensive support and had reached over 820,000 people in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates and with NFIs between 1 January and 30 September 2019.
- Winter distributions have already reached 11,420 Households/nearly 48,000 people or more than half of the population in Al Hol, Areesha, Ein Issa before it closed, Roj and Mahmoudli camps. This includes core NFIs for new arrivals. Distributions will cover an estimated 92,000 new arrivals and camp residents.
- NFI distributions are ongoing in urban areas and collective shelters to IDPs and host community in Hasakeh, Mabada, Qamishli and Tal Tamer. To date, an estimated 10,040 households or 53,700 individuals have received assistance, including over 6,242 children with specific winter clothing kits. Partners have reached an estimated 47 per cent of those recorded to be displaced across 112 locations of Hasakeh, Malikeyeh and Qamishli sub-districts.
- Partners have completed basic shelter repairs in 25 shelters benefitting an estimated 850 households, nearly 4,350 individuals; work is planned for another seven collective shelters with 1200 individuals.

### Capacity

- Currently organizations have approximately enough NFIs for 18,000 households; however, heaters and fuel are a gap and approvals will need to be secured in order to distribute fuel.
- Given the situation and shifts in control, there is a lack of clarity if INGOs previously operating in the NES through cross-border operations will be able to continue working or return to scale up response.



## Education

### Needs & gaps

- Currently, at least 65 schools in Al-Hasakeh are being utilized as shelters, depriving more than 30,000 students of education and adding to the already overstretched system. According to initial assessments, this includes 14,155 children and 1,029 teachers and educational personnel from the host community. Further assessments should inform if affected students and teachers have relocated to other areas. In total, it is estimated that over 86,000 children have had their education disrupted and over 5,000 teachers have been affected by recent events.
- In Mahmoudli camp, an initial assessment indicates that due to the suspension of some partner activities, learning has been disrupted for 1,500 children. Coordination is currently underway to explore whether expansion of Qamishli sub-sector partners is needed to provide education services for these children.
- Gaps in educational services provision in camps will be determined and clarified in the coming days in coordination among Whole of Syria – NES and Damascus hubs.

### Response

- More than 3,000 children are residing in collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates. No educational activities are possible to date due to lack of space, however 50 recreational kits will be provided by child protection partners in the coming days.
- Education partners continue to deliver services in camps as per the following:
  - Al Hol: Education activities in collaboration with partners are reaching around 3,000 children.

- Mahmoudli: Partners are establishing six learning spaces – equipped with furniture, stationary and learning material – in tents for 400 children relocated from Ein Issa camp to initiate catch-up learning. An outreach campaign targeting around 100 parents in tents to re-enrol children in learning activities was conducted.
- Areesha: Due to the closure of Mabrouka camp more than 850 learners were relocated with their families to Areesha camp. Two additional tents were fixed to enhance existing temporary learning space (TLS) capacity and to enrol around 500 additional children on triple shifts. As of 27 October, 418 children were enrolled; they will be provided with a school bag and stationary this week. More children are expected to enrol over the coming period and partners are mobilizing the parents and children through tent-to-tent visits. Based on the recent assessment, three more tents are needed as well as additional learning material (specifically for early grades learners) and stationary. Sector partners are exploring expansion of existing learning spaces and assessing the human resources available to conduct activities accordingly.
- Al Roj: to date, no Damascus/Qamishli-based partners are providing educational activities in this camp.
- Aleppo sub-sector partners are prepared to respond to a caseload of 10,000 school aged children from Manbij.

### Capacity

- Five National NGO partners are currently implementing and on standby to scale up the provision of education services should permission be given to implement the non-formal education (Self Learning Program) in the shelters. To date, education partners have faced challenges in providing education to school aged children in shelters. Discussions are underway to provide learning materials, stationary and recreational kits.



### Nutrition

#### Needs and gaps

- In Al Hol camp, one UN partner suspended services in phases 5 – 8 as well as the annex due to security concerns. One NES INGO has also suspended their Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP) in the annex and their stabilization center in Phase 1 meaning that all SAM cases with complications now need to be transferred to Hasakeh city for treatment. The absence of adequate ambulances poses a significant challenge with only the Kurdish Red Crescent authorized to transfer patients.
- Ongoing tension and security concerns among partners operating in Al Hol pose the biggest challenge to accessing nutrition clinics and other areas (primarily Phases 5 – 8 and the Annex). One UN partner, while present and continuing to implement activities in the camp, has seen its overall coverage decrease from around 90 to 50 per cent since the beginning of October. The annex reports the highest number of malnourished children, and with two actors – one Damascus-based and one cross-border – having suspended services there, this will have a significant negative impact on children's health moving forward.
- Mapping of sector activities across Northeast Syria is being undertaken by Damascus-based and NES INGO partners to inform next steps and to ensure a minimum continuity of services moving forward.
- Access to areas between Tal Abyad and Ras Al-Ain is not granted due to the security situation.

#### Response

- As of 26 October, Damascus/Qamishli-based partners have reached 2,465 families residing in 66 shelters in Hasakeh city and nearest rural areas in Hasakeh.
- Up to 26 October, a total of 1,166 children under 5 were screened for malnutrition using MUAC tapes, with no SAM cases reported and two MAM cases detected and treated accordingly. 469 children under 2 years received fortified spreads, and 671 children under 5 received HEB. 1,518 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were also screened for malnutrition using MUAC tape with no MAM or SAM cases were detected.
- In the four remaining formal camps, the following support has been provided (by Damascus/Qamishli-based actors):
  - In Al-Areesha camp: Mar Ephrem screened 354 children under 5 and 274 PLW for acute malnutrition. One case of SAM without complications and 9 cases of MAM among children less than 5 years were identified and given the treatment; 163 children and 4 PLW benefitted from HEB. 108 children benefitted from fortified spreads. 21 PLW received IYCF individual counselling and 512 PLW received group counselling.
  - In Al-Hol camp: 367 children under 5 were screened for acute malnutrition; 2 cases were identified as SAM with complications, and 5 cases were identified as SAM without complications in addition to 15 children identified as MAM cases. 30 PLW received IYCF individual counselling and 12 PLW received group counselling.
  - Raqqa city and rural: Mar Ephrem and Syria Al-Yamama conducted MUAC screening for 370 children under 5 and 352 PLW. 6 children less than 5 years were identified as MAM cases and were provided with treatment. 32 PLW received IYCF individual counselling and 412 PLW received group counselling.
  - Deir Ezzor: 607 children under 5 and 721 PLW were screened for acute malnutrition. No cases of SAM or MAM was identified. 216 children under 2 benefitted from fortified spreads, and 382 PLW benefitted from HEB. 10 PLW received IYCF individual counselling and 721 PLW received IYCF group counselling as.

- Aleppo: UNICEF is supporting the Directorate of Health in Sub-NIDs including Vitamin A to reach communities that were previously unreachable in both Ain Alarab and Manbij districts. This campaign started on 27 October and will last until 31 October targeting all children under 5 years in Ain Al Arab (14,504 U5 children); while in Manbij only the dropped-out children from the previous campaign will be targeted (6,000 U5 children).
- Aleppo Department of Health supported by two UN agencies are delivering polio and measles vaccines with Vitamin A for children under 5 years through 43 health workers and 37 local community mobilizers using mobile teams.



## Logistics

### Needs and gaps

- Storage capacity in Al-Hasakeh governorate, as well as transport capacity and access, remain the major logistics constraints.
- Due to increasing humanitarian needs, expanded storage capacity is needed for the prepositioning of humanitarian relief items.

### Response

- From 25-27 October, five logistics partners dispatched a total of 1,361m<sup>3</sup> of relief items for transport from Qamishli.
- The Logistics Cluster continues to provide logistics coordination and information management to identify gaps and bottlenecks and avoid duplication, as well as facilitating access to land transport from Qamishli warehouses to final destination and storage services. As a service provision sector, the cluster will continue to liaise with partners to ensure activities are tailored to fill logistical gaps and ensure the timely and effective delivery of assistance.
- To increase available storage capacity for the humanitarian community, two Mobile Storage Units are currently being erected in Qamishli; completion is anticipated within 7-10 days and access will be facilitated through the Logistics cluster.
- One UN partner is supporting humanitarian organisations with road transport to Ar-Raqqa on a cost recovery basis.

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