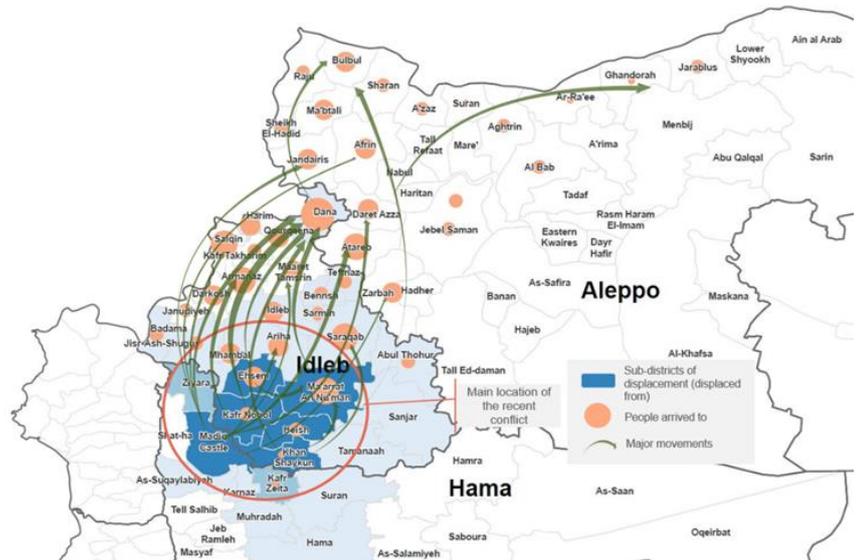


### HIGHLIGHTS

- High levels of violence continued in northwest Syria in the last two weeks and is putting civilians at risk and impeding the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Hundreds of people have died as the result of the escalation in violence since the end of April, including several humanitarian workers.
- Humanitarian response is ongoing with hundreds of thousands of people receiving critical assistance essential for their survival. Violence in areas directly affected by conflict is driving displacement into densely-populated areas, putting a strain on service delivery for humanitarian actors. A joint assessment is currently being finalized that will provide an overview of needs in the most affected areas.
- Civilian infrastructure, including humanitarian facilities, continues to be damaged or destroyed in the violence. In the last two weeks, at least four medical facilities have been impacted by the violence, with several other unconfirmed reports, as well as a water station serving over 80,000 people, and several schools, IDP settlements, markets and bakeries.



Source: CCCM Cluster  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

as well as a water station serving over 80,000 people, and several schools, IDP settlements, markets and bakeries.



### SITUATION OVERVIEW

The conflict in northwest Syria is exacting a heavy toll on civilians as the hostilities in the Idlib de-escalation zone between the Government of Syria (GoS) and allied forces and non-state armed groups (NSAGs) continue. Heightened levels of violence have continued unabated for more than two months, displacing hundreds of thousands of people, disrupting the provision of basic services, and killing and injuring large numbers of civilians.

The humanitarian impact of airstrikes and shelling on civilians, particularly those reported to be taking place in densely-populated areas, continues to compound an already dire humanitarian situation. Local sources are reporting that hundreds of civilians, including women and children, have been killed due to airstrikes and shelling and many others have been

injured, with unconfirmed reports of over 150 deaths in the last two weeks alone. This included one humanitarian health worker who was attending to civilians injured in a hospital. On July 9, an airstrike was reported to impact an unregistered IDP camp in Eastern Deir town in Idlib governorate, killing two women and two children. At least 330,000 people have been displaced in the violence in the last two and a half months, with localized reports of more occurring.

Civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals and IDP settlements, have been damaged or rendered inoperable across northern Hama and Idlib Governorates. This has led to the interruption or discontinuation of critical services to people in these locations. On 6 July, the water station in Basida in the south of Idlib Governorate was damaged by airstrikes and ceased operating. It is estimated that the network supported by the water station served over 80,000 people. A car bomb in Afrin city on 11 July killed at least ten people and injured many more, and impacted buildings around it, including an NGO office. Airstrikes in Kafr Nobol on 5 July reportedly destroyed or damaged vital civilian infrastructure and housing, including two hospitals that have reportedly been damaged and put out of service. One of the hospitals was impacted on 5 July and provided an average of 4,290 medical outpatient consultations, 400 inpatients and 265 major surgeries per month. On 10 July, the Ma'arrat An Nu'man National Hospital was reportedly impacted by airstrikes, while 250 people were inside, including 70 patients and 48 children and infants. No casualties were reported but the facility had to be evacuated. The facility served a monthly average of 14,976 medical outpatient consultations, 1,526 hospital admissions, 673 major surgeries, and 3,688 minor surgeries. Information on the location of both these hospitals had been provided to parties to the conflict as part of the humanitarian notification system (or "deconfliction") to help prevent such incidents. Also on July 10, airstrikes were reported to have impacted a hospital in Jisr-Ash-Shughur city, with reports of civilians killed or injured during the hostilities. Overall, at least four health facilities have been impacted in the past two weeks, with reports of several other incidents having been received. Since the escalation of the conflict in late April, at least 35 incidents involving health facilities or personnel have been recorded, and some 50 incidents involving schools. In addition to health facilities, in the past two weeks, reports have been received of five schools, three IDP settlements, two bakeries, two markets, one water station, and one mosque being impacted by the ongoing violence.

The damage and destruction of vital civilian infrastructure is, potentially, in breach of international humanitarian law (IHL). The impact on infrastructure used to deliver basic services, coupled with the precarious overall security situation, hampers the provision of humanitarian services to people in need across northwest Syria, and in many cases. To avoid humanitarian activities being impacted by conflict, OCHA provides – with the consent of partners – the locations of facilities or planned movements to parties to the conflict through a humanitarian notification (or "deconfliction") mechanism. With this information, parties to the conflict can avoid impacting these locations with military activity. If these facilities are impacted by violence, the parties to the conflict are notified and an investigation into the incident is requested. Several such incidents have occurred since the recent upsurge in violence at the end of April.

## FUNDING

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The inter-cluster coordination group, responsible for the technical aspects of coordinating the response, has identified funding priorities for the coming months. These include the need for additional food resources, water and sanitation priorities, shelter challenges, emergency education activities, as well as other urgent needs to address. These needs are being validated through needs assessments, which will also help identify additional priorities. Donors have been informed of the priorities already identified. Specific geographic areas have also been identified that require more support. The Turkey Humanitarian Fund for Syria may provide additional funding for the response based on the findings of an inter-cluster needs assessment that is currently being finalized. Forward planning is being carried out, including funding needs, for potential food insecurity due to the burning of crops, winterization in advance of the cold months, and similar issues.

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

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Humanitarian response efforts continue to be challenging due to the insecurity and large-scale displacement taking place within a short time period. The ability of humanitarian organizations to respond has been compromised by the violence, as some staff are displaced themselves, infrastructure to deliver services has been damaged or destroyed and movement is perceived to be dangerous due to shelling and airstrikes.

Additionally, as the conflict continues, the vulnerability of the affected population increases. Many of these people have been displaced multiple times, with reports of individuals displacing as many as ten times. The impact of these shocks compounds their vulnerability and reduces effective coping strategies. Additionally, families who have been able to cope are required to expend their resources to support others. Without a timely intervention to support all affected people, those who are supporting others also risk becoming more vulnerable.

An inter-cluster needs assessment in the areas that have received the highest number of displaced people has been conducted and the data is being consolidated. This will be used to identify key gaps and priorities for response and funding.

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### Needs:

- From May 1 to June 13, the CCCM Cluster triangulated 330,000 individual displacements in 1,523 unique locations in northern Aleppo and Idlib Governorates. Updated figures are being tabulated.
- Including secondary displacements, total displacements in May were 305,253 individuals and in June (until June 13) 22,283 individuals.
- Displacement to IDP sites (formal, informal and reception centres) has totaled 111,330 individuals with the rest in host communities or in open areas.

### Response:

- 10,526 tents were planned to be distributed in 172 locations in Idlib and Aleppo as a response for the current emergency. Of these, 8,204 tents have been distributed/installed as of July 4 while the installation of the remaining 2,322 tents is ongoing.

## Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

### Needs:

- Provision of first line response through emergency food assistance Ready-to-Eat rations (RTEs), cooked meals, cash support to displaced people for first two-four weeks to displaced households.
- Integration of vulnerable food insecure households into targeted monthly food assistance, once displaced households have settled and have been assessed;
- Provision of appropriate life-saving livelihoods support to affected communities and households by increasing agricultural production, support to small scale food production, protection of productive assets, and restoring or creating income-generating activities to prevent negative or irreversible coping mechanisms need to be considered after initial displacement waves and to support host communities.

### Response:

- The Food Security Cluster continues to coordinate emergency response through a dedicated online group, an online emergency tracker tool and ad hoc cluster meetings.
- Since May partners have provided emergency food assistance to newly displaced households and re-programmed their interventions.
- First line response is provided through distribution of RTEs, dry rations of mainly canned food sufficient on average for one week for a family of 5, repeated as per needs; provision of cooked meals; and distribution of emergency multi-purpose cash grants (MPCG) of 120 – 130 USD per household that includes coverage of food needs.
- In June and July, after first line response with emergency food assistance, partners have been assessing and verifying newly displaced people to include vulnerable households in second line response with regular monthly food rations (in-kind, voucher or cash).
- In light of the ongoing deterioration of the conflict and in line with the humanitarian readiness plan, the FSL cluster lead remains ready to respond to the growing humanitarian needs. Over 20,000 RTEs have been prepositioned in Syria, which is sufficient for approximately 100,000 people. In both Syria and Turkey, around 54,000 RTE kits have been prepositioned, sufficient for almost 270,000 people.
- The FSL cluster lead has received four rub halls (210 m<sup>2</sup> each) in order to increase storage capacity in and around the camps in northern Idlib and to mitigate storage challenges in order to ensure continuity of operations.
- In June, the FSL cluster lead and its partners provided 9,572 RTEs to families that fled from violence in southern Idlib, northern Hama, and western Aleppo, covering approximately 47,860 people. In May and June combined, 46,656 RTEs were provided to displaced families, equaling 233,280 people.
- In June, the FSL cluster lead and its partners distributed food rations to an additional 29,000 displaced households in the Dana camps in Idlib Governorate, increasing its total caseload from 700,000 to 823,000 people.
- In July, the FSL cluster lead will target more than 186,000 households with general food assistance reaching over 925,000 people in northwest Syria (Idlib and Aleppo Governorates). This figure also includes the take-over of

approximately 7,000 households in Afrin, which will cover the gap that has come into existence with the conclusion of some projects in food assistance to the district after June.

- For July and August only, the FSL cluster lead has increased the nutritional value of food rations from 1,550 kilocalories to 1,900 kilocalories.
- From June until 8 July, NGO partners continued to provide emergency response:
  - 6 partners distributed 20,930 emergency food baskets (one-off) to reach 110,283 people
  - 5 partners distributed 7,577 MPCGs to assist 38,332 people
  - 9 partners distributed 7,812 RTEs to assist 41,595 people
- Food assistance response in Salqin sub-district increased in June and July, with 29,000 people reached in July.
- Figures of people reached with emergency response (RTEs) in Dana sub-district decreased in June and July since displaced households have been included in General Food Assistance receiving regular food rations.
- In coordination with the CCCM Cluster, the Food Security Cluster has coordinated food assistance response to newly established and newly expanded IDP sites.
- A food security partner is providing cooked meals to reception centers (1,054 in Maret Al Ekhwan reception center, 1,375 in Mezanaz reception center, 53 in Azaz reception center) and 4,398 to displaced families in five open field locations.
- Based on the REACH June Market Price Monitoring Data assessment, prices of food component of single minimum expenditure baskets in northwest Syria slightly decreased to 42,699 Syrian pounds from 46,846 Syrian pounds in May, with prices in Dana sub-district remaining above the median. Displacement movements have affected price trends as observed from the previous months, increasing prices in host areas and decreasing them in areas seeing a departure of civilians.
- 32,979 households (24,692 males and 8,287 females) were provided assistance to vaccinate 978,364 chickens to protect smallholder chicken flocks against Newcastle disease. The remaining 87,021 households will be targeted by the end of July.
- The food security sector expects to reach an increased number of people with monthly food rations in July, given that the cluster lead increased its General Food Assistance caseload for July to 925,000 people while the main NGO partners will reach 300,000 people.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- After the first line response to address immediate food needs of newly displaced people in May, the Food Security Cluster's strategy is to respond to mid-term life-sustaining food needs with the distribution of food assistance (monthly food rations through the most appropriate modality: in-kind, voucher or cash) for two to three months while proceeding with assessing vulnerabilities of displaced households. Assessed food insecure households shall be supported with regular food assistance as per the Food Security Sector's guidelines.
- In June the FSL Cluster has met with its main operational partners to avoid a pipeline break of food supplies and to discuss targeting of newly displaced households in regular programming since several partners have exhausted their emergency stocks and are in the process of re-stocking.
- Overlaying the food security response to the reported number of displaced, low response and gaps in assistance continue to be reported in the sub-districts of Darkosh, Saraqab, Janudiyeh, Zarbah, Harim and in the districts of Afrin, Azaz, and Al Bab.
- Displaced people are moving with their essential items, including livestock, which has created the need for animal fodder, vaccination and proper treatment and re-stocking to provide micronutrients and protein-rich foods.
- The Food Security Cluster is coordinating an assessment on fire and crops burning in northwest Syria. The ongoing Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission will identify damages to affected farmland and crops.



## Health

#### Needs:

- With the displacement of approximately 330,000 individuals, there is increased demand for health services in northern Idlib and a pressing need to reach every person with much needed healthcare.
- The data shows that individuals are arriving at sub-districts such as Darkosh, Salqin, Harim and Qourqeena close to the Turkish border, where the few primary health care centers that are available are stretched.

#### Response:

- Health Cluster partners have deployed more than ten mobile clinics to provide primary healthcare services for displaced people in the arrival areas. Each mobile clinic, consisting of a doctor, a midwife, a nurse and a community health worker, offers services for child health, nutrition, communicable and non-communicable diseases, maternal and newborn health, and is equipped with essential medicines and medical devices. Mobile units rotate across several communities for internally displaced people, ensuring the provision of basic health care services and coordinating the referral and transportation of patients to other health facilities whenever this is required. Each of these mobile clinics provides between 1,500 and 1,800 consultations per month.
- To support the delivery of health care in this volatile security context, cluster partners support surgical units. These are mobile units, set up in various locations for primary surgical interventions and stabilization prior to referrals to the closest hospital. Through these units, cluster partners can offer emergency care to patients that are physically too far away from hospitals or are inaccessible due to insecurity. Of these units, two have been set up close to Sarmada and Atmeh, specifically for the needs of the internally displaced, while another three remain in the southern Idlib countryside. The location of the clinics varies according to the conflict situation and the community needs. The units are supported by 13 ambulances as part of the referral network.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- As part of the ongoing response to the massive population displacement, the Syria Immunization Group has continued to provide routine immunization to children, including to the newly displaced. Due to the ongoing conflict, the work of two routine immunization centers has been suspended and one is no longer accessible. However, through the remaining over 95 centers, thousands of Syrian children are protected against polio, measles, diphtheria and other childhood diseases. In the areas with large numbers of displaced people, social mobilizers are deployed to inform newly arrived populations about the available immunization services and centers so that the most vulnerable children don't miss out on the routine vaccines. In addition to the increase risk from vaccine preventable outbreaks such as polio and measles, the leishmaniasis outbreak continues to be a further high risk to the population displaced.
- Damage and destruction of health facilities remains a key barrier to providing adequate health care in northwest Syria. At least four health facilities have reportedly been impacted in the past two weeks, including hospitals in Kafr Nobol, Jisr Ash Shugur, and Ma'arrat An Nu'man. Reports of further incidents have been received. Since the escalation of the conflict in late April, at least 35 incidents involving health facilities or personnel have been recorded.

## Protection

### Needs:

- The continued shelling and airstrikes in northwest Syria, particularly in civilian areas using indiscriminate weapons, puts the lives of women, men, girls and boys at risk every day and has significantly impacted their psychosocial well-being with reportedly high levels of trauma. Safety and security concerns severely restrict the freedom of movement while damage to basic infrastructure in many areas prevents access to essential services. This exacerbates the vulnerability of communities, making the provision of humanitarian assistance in areas receiving high number of IDPs very critical.
- Multiple displacements and the lack of access to basic services further exacerbate individual and community needs, increasing risks for death, injuries, disabilities, gender-based violence (GBV) and trauma, particularly among children. Additional displacements further strain already-stretched coping mechanisms of individuals and families, leading to desperate and risky decision-making thereby increasing protection threats, such as exploitation, child labor, early marriage and children associating with armed groups.
- The lack of basic services coupled with multiple displacements have severely impacted communities and families' ability to cope and protect their most vulnerable, including children, at a time when needs are critically increasing. Needs and priorities on the ground outweigh partners' capacity. Protection of civilians, particularly children from the conflict is a paramount priority.
- There is a continuous need to integrate newly arrived IDPs and affected persons into existing humanitarian programming. This requires sustained funding for continuity and scaling up of life-saving protection, child protection, GBV and mine action services that address both immediate and medium-to-longer-term needs.
- Caregivers are barely able to care for their children, demonstrating extreme levels of distress, leading to physical abuse of their children and, in extreme cases, abandonment of their children. A significant number of unaccompanied and separated children have been identified. Unaccompanied and separated children need safe interim care, but such services remain extremely limited except for ad-hoc, unsustainable arrangements.
- Approximately 80,000 women and girls of reproductive age are in need of dignity kits (DKs), of which the existing stock can only serve an estimated 35,000, leaving an approximate 45,000 displaced women and girls with no access

to dignity kits. The DKs have essential life-saving items for women and girls of reproductive age such as menstrual pad sets, female underwear, cover and flash lights. Funds are needed to immediately cover for this gap.

- As a minimum, in order to sustain the ongoing protection emergency response for the duration of six months starting from middle of August, the Protection Cluster and Sub-Clusters would need an estimated \$2,450,000 USD. This will ensure the continuous support for the protection emergency response focal points (\$1.7 million USD) and the support for three new emergency protection focal points which are currently responding to the emergency with no dedicated funds (\$750,000 USD). Moreover, scaling up of protection services to respond to the influx of newly displaced IDPs will require additional funding.
- The Protection Cluster recalls that all parties to the conflict have obligations to protect civilians under international humanitarian law, human rights law, and criminal law. The Protection Cluster (Turkey) urges parties to the conflict to immediately cease hostilities, allow civilians to move securely and voluntarily to safe places, to allow civilians safe and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance, and to ensure the safety of humanitarian aid workers, assets and supplies.

#### Response:

- From 25 June to 8 July 2019, 14 Protection Cluster members provided emergency response services for civilians recently displaced from northern Hama and southern Idleb. Cluster members provided 9,739 protection services to IDPs and affected host community members in 69 communities within 22 sub-districts in Idleb and Aleppo reaching 4,981 individuals (1,395 girls, 1,556 boys, 1,502 women, and 528 men). The main services protection actors provided are as follows:
  - Psychological First Aid (PFA)
  - Psychosocial Support (PSS)
  - Dignity kits distribution
  - Explosive hazard risk education
- Cluster members also referred individuals to essential services in addition to specialized services. The Protection Cluster has initiated a Rapid Protection Assessment and the report will be ready by mid-July.
- GBV Sub-Cluster members continued to provide GBV specialized services through static Women and Girl Safe Spaces as well GBV prevention and empowerment activities. Outreach teams provided awareness sessions, group and individual counseling, psychological first aid, and referrals. In addition, four members distributed 3,895 dignity kits (DKs) in nine sub-districts across Idleb and Aleppo as part of the protection emergency response in those areas that are hosting significant numbers of newly displaced women and girls.
- Child protection partners are disseminating child protection awareness messages that included prevention of family separation and violence. Case management has been difficult to implement since multiple displacements prevent child protection actors from the continuity, access and predictability that such protection interventions require. Psychosocial support and recreation activities have continued to be delivered aiming at strengthening girls and boys coping mechanisms and resilience. Assessments from the field on recently displaced communities report high levels of distress and trauma particularly on children. Child protection partners continued to strive to deliver with very limited resources within the scope of their programs in this reporting period.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Between 24 June and 20 July, one cluster member reported the closure of a protection static and mobile service point due to active conflict in Teftnaz sub-district in Idleb Governorate. This suspension affected the direct implementation of 811 protection interventions and served an area of almost 80,000 people.
- In total, since 29 April, 24 Protection Cluster and Sub-Cluster members reported the suspension/closure of programming due to the increase in conflict activity in southern Idleb, Aleppo and Hama. In total, 20 static service points were suspended or closed, including mobile outreach services, which include community centers, women and girls' safe spaces, child-friendly spaces, and health facilities. In addition four mobile risk education and contamination impact survey teams are currently non-operational. Four members in Madiq Castle, Ehsem, Heish and Kafr Nobol sub-districts reporting direct impact, damage or destruction to their facilities from indiscriminate airstrikes and shelling.
- If large-scale displacement takes place due to conflict in Idleb or western rural Aleppo, the Cluster expects significant disruption to the ongoing protection service delivery. Even with existing emergency response capacity and resources, the pattern and scale of the conflict may render response limited. Continued advocacy by the humanitarian leadership, donors and member states with all parties to the conflict must reinforce their obligations under international humanitarian law, particularly their obligations to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure.
- Lack of multi-sectoral response hinders the delivery of protection services. Protection actors report challenges in the provision of PFA, PSS and referrals when these services are not accompanied with other basic services to meet IDPs' needs.
- The recent intensification of violence and hostilities adds yet another layer of complications. Lack of access for survey and clearance puts the lives of the displaced population at risk. Further, it is estimated that the number of survivors of

explosive hazards incidents due to the escalation has increased and the ability to provide immediate response services is limited.

## Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

### Needs:

- The Shelter/NFI cluster and a cluster member conducted an assessment in northwest Syria in order to have a better understanding of the needs. The data will be available in the coming week.
- Dana remains the sub-district with the largest number of new IDPs. Despite the fact that 24 organizations have reported activities in this sub-district, the number of people reached (38,788) remains low compared to the number of displacements in May and June. Cluster members keep reporting shelter and NFI needs in most of the sub-districts.

### Response:

- 31 SNFI cluster partners have reported SNFI activities (completed and planned) to respond to the ongoing emergency since the beginning of May.
- The partners have already assisted 115,447 individuals with NFI kits and plan to reach 93,172 additional people in need in the coming weeks.
- The shelter response is underfunded, and less than 15,000 individuals have been assisted with shelter kits or tents. However, the cluster members reported that they are planning to assist more than 22,000 people in need with shelter support in the coming weeks. 57% of people assisted with emergency shelter support are in Dana.
- The Contingency Stock of NFIs has been replenished with 7,500 NFI kits, however the tent stock is about to be depleted. There are only 1,048 tents left in the contingency stocks whereas cluster members are requesting more than 2,800 tents. 6,750 tents have been procured but only 1,000 would be available in the coming weeks.
- Due to the lack of tents, the number of tents and NFI kits per request had to be reduced, although the review board had been flexible during the last two months to speed up the response. However, due to the lack of stock, organizations cannot request more than 500 tents/NFI kits per request until the tent stock is replenished.
- In terms of shelter rehabilitation (apartment, houses, collective centers) the SNFI cluster members planned to rehabilitate around 16,000 shelter units in the coming months.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Several organizations reported lack of funding to get new tents or NFIs and therefore can only rely on the contingency stock. However, the tent stock is almost depleted.
- The cluster and the review board are also concerned about depleting the contingency stock in responding to the remaining needs, as this would leave no stock at all in case of another large-scale displacement. The purpose of the contingency stock was to be used as a last resort.
- Funding is required to replenish the contingency stock and the stock of NGOs in order to assist the new IDPs and to be prepared for another potential large-scale displacement.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

### Needs:

- WASH needs are constantly increasing with increased displacement.
- A rough needs assessment explains the requirement to provide comprehensive WASH services and supplies to at least 100,000 IDPs in camps and informal settlements and to 110,000 IDPs accommodated within host communities. WASH supplies such as water trucking, water storage tanks, water purifying agents, jerry cans and hygiene kits are in high demand, apart from the need to augment water supply and sanitation services and the increased need for the management of water supply and sanitation services.
- Apart from supplies and services, there is a clear need to build technical and management capacity of cluster partners to enhance their ability to respond in a timely and maintaining agreed standards.

### Response:

- At least 23 WASH cluster partners have reached out to 220,547 displaced people. About 121,000 IDPs arriving at 342 camps and informal settlements are receiving some form of WASH assistance through additional water trucking, new community latrines, increased solid waste management, and supply of water purifying agents and hygiene kits. There is a need to enhance comprehensive WASH services and supplies.

- Communal latrines and showers are under construction and water tanks are being installed in camps and informal settlements that are receiving additional IDPs. Only 100,000 IDPs accommodated within host communities received some form of WASH services and supplies, especially water purification agents, jerry cans and hygiene kits.
- Cluster members are collaborating with other cluster members to reach out to the most vulnerable people with supplies and services.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- WASH Cluster partners are constantly facing challenges in providing supplies and services to the displaced people along the displaced routes, because of the wide geographical spread and continuous movement of IDPs.
- The cluster partners have continued to suspend their operations in several locations in north Hama and south Idlib due to security issues.
- The cluster partners responding to the situation are looking for additional resources to enhance much needed WASH supplies and services, such as to procure hygiene kits, carry out water trucking, build new latrines and maintain existing latrines, and support solid waste management.
- After almost three months of response, there is a need to focus on mid-term to longer interventions as IDPs have settled.
- Increase support to ongoing WASH programs, especially in camps and informal settlements where IDPs took shelter as they will be part of the ongoing service/support.

## GENERAL COORDINATION

The Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, responsible for the technical aspects of coordinating the response, are working to improve the provision of accurate and timely information on the availability and locations of humanitarian services to affected people, through an inter-cluster program of focal points in the field that will link with existing local efforts to coordinate and share information. In addition, the inter-cluster needs assessment and existing information on needs and gaps are and will be used to respond. Efforts are also being made to integrate local level coordination with coordination being undertaken by the formal coordination system.

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