This methodological note complements the Quality of Humanitarian Access Analysis in Syria, first published on 17 September 2019.

The Syria access framework for Syria consists of six maps:

1. A map of Syria illustrating the access dynamics across all response modalities, underscoring the complementarity of response modalities;
2. A map of Syria illustrating the access dynamics for UN and NGO partners registered with the Government of Syria and operating from 10 hubs across the country;
3. A map of northwest Syria illustrating the access dynamics for cross-border humanitarian assistance;
4. A map of north east Syria illustrating the access dynamics for cross-border humanitarian assistance;
5. A map illustrating the locations of people who are in need of humanitarian assistance, and the severity of those needs, using the inter-sector severity scale;
6. A map illustrating the complementarity of response modalities to access people in need across all areas of control;

The color gradation on the first four maps corresponds to three levels of access:

1. Higher quality of access (but still subject to access constraints);
2. Moderate quality of access (increased access constraints);
3. Lower quality of access (significant access constraints);

In the current context, humanitarian actors continue to experience significant access constraints throughout Syria due to the security situation and bureaucratic impediments. The categories used are for purposes of showing comparative levels of access.

The levels of access are determined by a scoring system based on four indicators selected by hubs. All indicators use quantitative data sources; scoring is then adjusted by expert review. Common typology of indicators is used, though indicators use different data sources as appropriate to the context (see table).