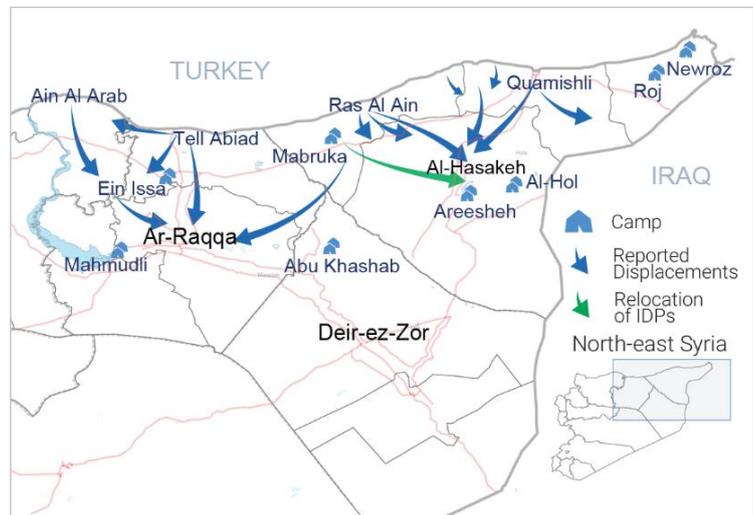


**This update is compiled with inputs from different sources, reflecting developments as they unfold and/or as they are reported to OCHA Syria. The situation on the ground is fluid and volatile. While striving to be as comprehensive as possible, information in this update, especially with regards to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

Highlights

- As of late 13 October, ongoing airstrikes and ground attacks were reported in multiple locations as the military operation towards Tell Abiad and in Ras Al Ain cities continued. Conflicting reports emerged regarding control of Ras al-Ain city.
- Grave concerns remain for the population in the Ein Issa camp which hosts approximately 13,000 civilians due to ongoing hostilities and shelling in the vicinity of the camp as Turkish Armed Forces advances. Reports indicate that a number of IDPs have fled the camp, however most residents remain. The United Nations is calling for immediate protection of the camp, alongside guarantees of safe and unhindered passage for the IDPs to leave for Ar-Raqqa city or other areas of choice. The hospital in Ein Issa town closed as of late evening of 12 October.
- Further to previous reports on the evacuation of the Mabruka camp, some 19 families remain. During the morning of 13 October, a truck rented by IDPs to leave Mabruka hit a landmine before reaching the camp, wounding the driver. As a result, the trucks were unable to reach the camp to transfer people out. The United Nations is calling for immediate protection of the camp and guarantees of safe passage.
- Further to previous reports on the critical water situation due to damage to the power line of the Allouk water station, an agreement with all parties was reached for a repair mission to take place. Interim solutions to the water supply were also being explored.
- On 12 October, the Tishreen-Mabruka power line was hit by shelling. Information on the potential impact on civilians is being ascertained. The Euphrates-Mabruka power line is now providing electricity to the entire Al-Hasakeh province.
- Significant further displacements continue being reported. An estimated 150,000-160,000 population movements have to date been recorded. Reports of further movements continue.
- Humanitarian partners continue mobilizing response efforts at the estimated 33 collective shelters in Ar-Raqqa city (1 shelter), Al-Hasakeh city (14 shelters), and Al Tamr (18 shelters).
- Reports indicated that the M4 road – a critical and strategic highway linking Menbij, Tal Tamer and Al-Hasakeh – is cut off at different locations. This could affect the supply line of humanitarian goods to the area.
- The United Nations and its humanitarian partners are increasingly concerned about the security of their staff present on the ground as explosions and shelling in Quamishli continue. INGOs have been forced to evacuate staff from the area and relocate some of their operations to safer areas in Al-Hasakeh away from the border and closer to areas hosting IDP arrivals.



Situation overview

As of 13 October, airstrikes, heavy artillery shelling and ground incursions reportedly took place in multiple locations. By 12 October, Turkish forces reportedly took control of the surrounding suburbs/outskirts of both Tell Abiad and Ras Al Ain cities, with a significant number of villages under Turkish control in rural Tell Abiad and north rural Ar-Raqqa. In the early hours of 12 October, an offensive was reportedly launched in the Mabruka area, 30 kilometers west of Ras al-Ain. Armed clashes between the Syrian National Army and YPG forces occurred at Aywah and Al-Fawar villages on the M4 road, 55 kilometers east of Ein Essa town, north rural Ar-Raqqa. Parts of the M4 road were cut off in different locations. The SDF imposed a curfew in Al Tabqa city, Mansoura and Al Jurniyah towns in western rural

Ar-Raqqa city. In the morning of 13 October, Suluk and Ein Issa towns were taken over by Turkish forces and allies and by the afternoon they had reportedly taken control of the whole of Tell Abiad city.

Shelling in Quamishli city continued over the last three days with numerous explosions leading to civilian casualties and injuries. A number of shells reportedly landed close to a United Nations guesthouse and some 700 meters away from the United Nations hub.

Humanitarian impact

The full humanitarian impact of the current military operation remains difficult to ascertain given the volatile situation. At the time of reporting, an estimated 150,000-160,000 population movements were reported, and additional reports of people on the move continue to be received. As such, the true number displaced may be higher. Most displacements took place from Ras Al Ain and Tell Abiad. Some families are moving several times seeking safety.

Most of the displaced have sought shelter with relatives, friends, or with the local community. People continue to arrive in collective shelters – with over 3,396 people identified to date in 33 collective shelters across Al-Hasakeh, Tal Tamer and Ar-Raqqa. Three shelters were identified in Maabada town and are hosting some 70 families. Most IDPs seek to move on to alternative accommodation a few days after arrivals in shelters. As such, numbers continue to fluctuate. Those arriving at the collective centers are registered by local NGOs running the centres to receive assistance. Humanitarian actors are increasing their assistance including protection services, food, non-food items and drinking water. Humanitarian partners continue assessing both locations and needs of the newly arrived people.

Situation at Ein Issa and Mabruka IDP camps

Early on 13 October, information was received about artillery shelling hitting several areas close to Ein Issa camp. The camp hosts some 13,000 IDPs. An unspecified number of people from the camp may have fled. Reportedly, the camp administration left the camp and their premises caught fire. Most IDPs did not wish to depart the camp without their identification cards. Sorting and distribution of identification cards of camp residents – usually kept by camp administration - was reportedly taking place throughout the day. Protection partners reported that 27 unaccompanied minors at the camp were safely evacuated to Ar-Raqqa. Latest information at the time of reporting indicate that there was ongoing fighting at Khaldiyeh village, 2 kilometers away from the camp and then as close as 500 meters from the camp. The United Nations is calling on all parties to ensure that people are protected and allowed to leave safely.

The hospital in Ein Issa town closed as of late evening of 12 October.

The evacuation of Mabruka camp's residents – some 5,033 people – began at midday on 11 October. By midday 12 October almost all residents had been transferred to Areesheh camp, already hosting some 8,600 people. The evacuation was initiated due to security concerns as mortars reportedly landed close to the camp on 10 October. Early 13 October, 19 households, mainly women and children, were unable to safely depart the camp due to current ongoing hostilities and shelling in the area with one shell reportedly exploding in the camp itself. The United Nations is calling for a cessation of hostilities to allow for the safe passage of IDPs out of the camp to areas of destination or choice.

Impact on civilian infrastructure

As of the evening of 12 October, an old water pumping station in Al-Hasakeh was being reactivated to alleviate the water situation in the city and its surroundings as a temporary measure. The Al-Hasakeh west dam lake water was also being treated for pumping into Al-Hasakeh city. The west dam lake water source could potentially cover the needs of Al-Hasakeh city for about two months. Currently, the available sterilization and treatment materials will last a few days only – WASH partners are reviewing the stocks and capacity to respond. Partners have trucked a total of 695 cubic meters of drinking water to the city center of Al-Hasakeh and twelve tanks were also installed; additional support with ten domestic small water pumps is expected to be provided tomorrow. As of 13 October, technical teams were on standby to access the Allouk water station to repair the power line to restore water supply to the area, servicing over 400,000 people. Permissions have been sought to enable the repairs.

Reportedly, the Tishreen-Mabruka power line was hit by shelling on 12 October. While information is being gathered with regards to potential impact on civilians, the Euphrates-Mabruka power line is now supplying electricity to the entire Al-Hasakeh province.

Markets, schools and clinics in Ras al-Ain have closed since 9 October, and a curfew remains in place. The National Hospital has been closed since 9 October, along with three private hospitals as medical staff were moved to Tal Tamer town and/or Al-Hasakeh city to treat emergency cases.

The National Hospital in Tell Abiad town has been closed since 11 October. Water and electricity in the town remains unavailable, and people are reportedly experiencing food shortages as bakeries remain closed. Following a temporary two-day closure, Quamishli airport reopened and health partners airlifted vaccines and medical supplies.

Additional reports received on 12 October appeared to indicate reduced water flows is affecting the hydro-electric dams in Tabqa and Tishrine,

In Turkey, authorities announced that education activities are suspended for three days in areas close to the border in Sanliurfa and Mardin municipalities.

Humanitarian response and coordination

Humanitarian teams continue to conduct needs assessments in areas where displaced people arrive to identify priority needs and respond. Humanitarian partners continue to implement humanitarian activities and programming across accessible areas, and are mobilizing to respond to the emerging needs.

As many NGOs operating in the northeast have their main bases in proximity of the affected areas, most have had to immediately suspend activities in those areas. In areas such as Ar-Raqqa city, Deir-Ez-Zor and Tabqa, many activities continue, including the provision of essential services, such as health, bread distribution and water trucking, and restoring water stations. At all camps in these areas, essential activities also continue, although specialized services have been affected and referral capacity has been reduced. There are limited activities in border areas (life-saving health only in Tell Abiad and Ras al-Ain), and primarily emergency response in Al-Hasakeh. On 10 and 11 October, NGOs operating in northeast Syria resumed activities wherever possible as well as assisting the new arrivals. Humanitarian partners are doing everything possible to minimize disruptions.

The United Nations continues to work with all counterparts on the ground to facilitate the humanitarian response. All parties in the area in the area have committed to facilitate and provide all the necessary support to the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to continue implementing the humanitarian and emergency response.

Safety and security of humanitarian workers

The United Nations and its humanitarian partners are increasingly concerned about the safety and security of hundreds of staff. There are an estimated 113 humanitarian partners operating in the area from within Syria. In addition, 30 INGOs are conducting cross-border operations in the northeast. The United Nations has 134 staff [124 national staff and 10 international staff in Quamishli]. Currently, 16 out of 25 NGOs maintain international staff in northeast Syria, albeit with reductions to essential staff. The total number of international staff has reduced to 119, from normal levels of 384 and down from the 200 previously reported. Notably, of the nine NGOs that have evacuated staff, eight are continuing operations remotely. Three NGOs will be increasing, rather than reducing, staffing by early next week – this is primarily due to the return of essential staff and additional medical support staff. There has been an increase in the movement of international staff towards Tel Tamer and Al-Hasakeh as the focus is shifting towards expanding emergency response. NGOs are considering possible access options, for example to enable access to nearby collective centres at Tal Tamer and Al-Hasakeh, as well as to increase coordination with local authorities and local NGOs in the area given the proximity to the locations that IDPs have been reaching.

The United Nations maintains its restrictions on movement for its staff, given security concerns. Humanitarian partners continue to operate in most areas not affected by ongoing hostilities.

Humanitarian actors are committed to stay and deliver as much as possible for people in need, requiring all parties to ensure both aid workers, and all civilians, are protected.

Sector Response

**With information available at the time of reporting, i.e. inputs not fully capturing all planned and ongoing response, or gaps, on the ground.*



Needs and gaps

- Immediate protection needs identified include civil documentation (IDPs have left homes without documents and other belongings), family separation, psychological first aid/PSS, dignity kits and support to persons with specific needs including elderly and persons with disabilities and serious medical conditions.
- Protection partners are continuing assessments in communal shelters in Al-Hasakeh, Tal Tamer and Ar-Raqqa. Many families have reportedly settled with the host communities and their needs are also being assessed.
- Child protection partners are continuing rapid child protection assessments in the communal shelters in Al Hasakeh city.
- Partners continue to monitor and document the children for further assistance through case management.

Response

- Protection partners evacuated 27 unaccompanied children from Ein Issa to Raqqa. Interim care arrangements are in place and longer-term arrangements are being agreed with child protection partners.
- Gender-based violence (GBV) partners are dispatching protection kits, female dignity kits, male dignity kits, adolescent kits, PLW kits and sanitary materials.
- Protection partners continue to support community centres – both static and mobile across all IDP sites.
- Similar efforts are being deployed in host communities receiving IDPs. Support provided includes awareness, psychosocial support; child protection; GBV support and case management, informal education, assistance for persons with specific needs, legal assistance); specialised services for children and women/girls are also provided. In addition, protection partners are carrying out regular consultations with affected people through.
- Mobile teams (child protection and GBV) outreach volunteers (ORVs) to understand the protection needs in IDP hosting areas and conduct rapid needs assessments, identification of persons with specific needs, case management and referrals.
- All protection, child protection and GBV actors have mobilized to receive and provide protection services to the IDPs relocated from Mabruka camp to Areesheh. There are some concerns of voluntariness of the relocation, IDP were not able to move to the locations of their choice, take all their belongings and retrieve their identification documents.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs and gaps

- Continued advocacy for both safe access to the Allouk water system and protection of water supply infrastructure.
- Enhance water trucking, along with water quality monitoring/surveillance measures, to meet the anticipated water supply deficit.
- The WASH Sector, actively working with the authorities, continues to explore other technically feasible alternative options to address the water deficit in Al-Hasakeh city.

Response

- Al Himme water pumping station, with a pumping rate of 24,000m³ per day is operational and able to cover about 30 per cent of Al-Hasakeh daily demands (80,000 m³).
- To address the deficit in Al-Hasakeh, WASH partners trucked a total of 695 m³ liters of drinking water to the city center of Al-Hasakeh and 12 tanks were installed in Al-Hasakeh city.
- Emergency water trucking to IDP camps and villages is ongoing. Water trucking is hugely reliant on Allouk water supply, and its non-functionality presents a significant challenge to the sector.
- Based on an inter-agency assessment conducted on 10 October at the five collective shelters hosting IDPs in Al-Hasakeh city, one partners distributed an additional 90 hygiene kits.



Health

Needs and gaps

- Need to establish first aid points at nearest safe locations to receive the injured.
- Strengthen and coordinate referrals pathways among all active partners.
- Limited number of ambulances.
- Daily report through the health partners cell to ensure communication with Quamishli, Ar-Raqqa, Deir-Ez-Zor and Aleppo hubs on the dynamics of movement and stockpile.

- Possible cutting off of routes. As of 12 October, a number of private hospitals raised issues with regards to shortages of some supplies, unavailable on the local markets.
- Maintenance of the same quality of services at the camps.

Response

Public health services provision activities

- Health partners relocated the medical static points and medical mobile teams of Ras al-Ain and Mabruka camp into Tal Tamer city and Areesheh camp.

Vaccination

- A shipment of polio vaccines, among others, was airlifted on 10 October. Ministry of Health to be ready to send extra supplies depending on rate of consumption.
- The locations will be covered during the upcoming Polio campaign in October.

Outbreak preparedness for water-borne diseases

- A total of 56 community-cholera kits were pre-positioned at the Quamishli warehouse for the treatment of 5,600 moderate dehydration cases to cover the needs for two months.
- Some 57,800 oral rehydration solution, sufficient for 11,560 cases, were prepositioned at the Quamishli warehouse.

Hospitals capacity

- Expanding patients' access to secondary health care is critical. To date, two casualty cases from Tal Tamer hospital were referred for higher-level surgical care; three medical cases were referred to Al-Hikmah hospital in Al-Hasakeh from Ras Al Ain city; Kobani hospital has received more than 20 emergency cases since the start of the attack, the referred cases are mainly from Tell Abiad city and rural of Kobani (Ain Al Arab).
- Blood bank system are in place in Tal Tamer hospital.



Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

Needs and gaps

- The availability of available plots at camps is extremely limited – should there be additional movements to camps, there is a risk of overcrowding.
- Cooking gas and heating fuel is anticipated to be a need.

Response

- Core NFIs distributed to 14,520 INDs in three camps Mabruka, Ein Essa and Mahmoudli.
- Core NFIs distributed to 8,550 INDs in communal shelters in Al-Hasakeh and Tal Tamer.
- A shelter assessment is underway in the collective centres to determine the shelter needs.

Capacity

- Tents to respond to 4,750 households in Quamishli, with an additional 1,000 are being dispatched. An estimated 2,000 tents are in country, while another 4,960 in the pipeline. One partner has capacity to provide 500 tents to new arrivals from Mabruka to Areesheh.
- Emergency shelter kits can be used to support displaced families living in collective centres or urban locations – 1,000 are being dispatched.
- Core NFIs – additional 10,000 kits to be dispatched on 13 October.
- Some 11,550 winter clothing children kits are available, with distribution to start, and there is capacity to provide 4,000 households with winter cash.



Logistics

Needs and gaps

- Additional funding is required to ensure increased warehousing space for prepositioning of relief items in strategic locations as well as cargo transport, access and security permitting.
- Limited warehousing options currently available in Al-Hasakeh governorate.
- Long lead-times to deliver humanitarian supplies to North East Syria.
- The Logistics cluster is conducting regular Gaps and Needs Evaluations to identify potential gaps, bottlenecks and challenges with partners, as well as undertaking an internal review on available logistics resources and

capacities that could be made available (e.g. review of prepositioned stock; current warehouse capacity; supply routes).

Response

- Overall, logistics partners dispatched a total of 1,125 m³ of relief items for transport from Quamishli.
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the reception of 231 m³ of relief items at the Quamishli warehouse on behalf of one organisation.
- The Logistics Cluster is facilitating common road transport services from Quamishli warehouses to final destination to support partners operating in the northeast.
- To support partners overcome immediate warehousing challenges in the Al-Hasakeh governorate, the Logistics Cluster is continuing work with partners on identifying storage needs and logistics assets for rapid implementation.
- The Logistics Cluster is supporting with logistics coordination for responding partners through information sharing mechanisms.

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