

## OCHA Syria | Flash Update #11

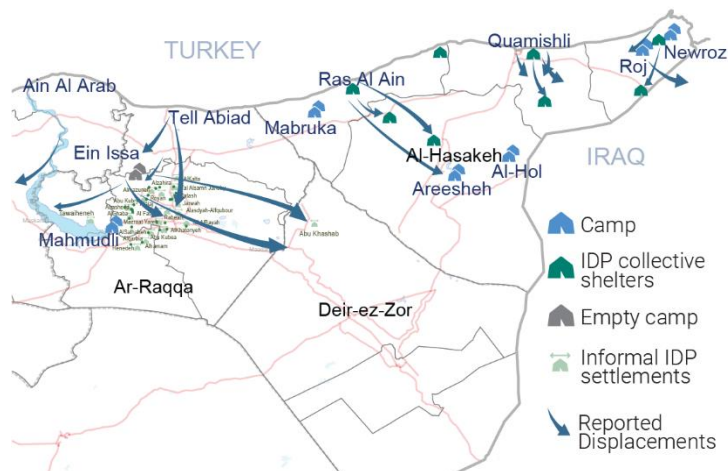
Humanitarian impact of the military operation in northeastern Syria  
29-31 October 2019



*\*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. Despite this, clashes continued between the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) and Syrian National Army (SNA) close to the M4 highway between Ain al-Arab and Ein Issa, as well as in southern Ras al-Ain displacing around 11,340 individuals from villages in Tal Tamr towards Al-Hasakeh city.
- Several civilian casualties occurred as a result of vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIED) in SDF and SNA-held areas including Al-Hasakeh city, Afrin and northern Aleppo. On 2 November, a VBIED in Tal Abyad reportedly killed 14 people and injured 20, many of them civilians.
- On 29 October, hostilities again damaged Alouk water station. Despite a number of attempts, repair and maintenance teams have been unable to reach the station due to fighting in the area and no water has been pumped to Al-Hasakeh city from Alouk since then. Around 460,000 people in Al-Hasakeh city and surrounding areas are dependent on the station for their water supply.
- Ongoing hostilities have damaged civilian infrastructure. Education partners report that 20 schools in Ras al-Ain were destroyed out of 150 schools in the district.
- Since the start of the crisis on 9 October, there has been an approximate 20 per cent increase in food prices in Al-Hasakeh governorate with traders indicating the increase is due to many supply routes being affected, constricting supply to markets.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) with support from partners has completed an Emergency Immunization Campaign in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Aleppo governorates, vaccinating 8,477 children under 5 years in Ain al-Arab and Manbij districts.
- To date, 108,514 people, including some 45,575 children and 27,130 women of reproductive age, remain displaced from Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Aleppo governorates; 106,605 people returned to their places of origin. More than 40 per cent of those returning have returned to areas now under the control of Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) in Tal Abyad, Ein Issa, and Suluk sub-districts in Ar-Raqqa governorate.
- Over 13,000 Syrians have entered Iraq through informal crossing points; 74 per cent are women and children.



### Contextual developments

Despite recent agreements between parties in northeast Syria pointing to a cessation of hostilities, and the SDFs' announcement on 27 October accepting the terms of the Sochi agreement, localized fighting continued. Heavy clashes were reported between SDF and SNA forces in southern Ras al-Ain, with the SNA advancing towards Tal Tamr, displacing several thousands. Hostilities were also reported north of Ein Issa, and in Asadeh and Mabrouka. On 1 November the first joint Russian-Turkish ground patrols took place close to Darbasiyeh at a depth of seven kms (4 miles) as indicating that the terms of the Sochi agreement continue to be implemented.

### 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. 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 31 October, a total of 215,119 population movements were recorded: 108,514 people remain displaced from Al-Hasakeh (83,650), Ar-Raqqa (18,088) and Aleppo (6,776) governorates, while 106,605 people have returned to their areas of origin in Al-Hasakeh (50,000), Ar-Raqqa (46,500) and Aleppo (10,105) governorates.

Of those displaced, 91,721 are residing in host communities in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates; the remaining 16,793 (3,697 families) are being accommodated in 79 active collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh (78) and Ar-Raqqa (one) 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 51,200 children of learning opportunities.

Of those returning to Ar-Raqqa governorate, 60 per cent (28,000 individuals) have returned to Tal Abyad sub-district; the remaining 18,500 have returned to Ein Issa and Suluk sub-districts, all areas under TAF control. On 29 October, an estimated 250 families returned to Ras al-Ain, although only women, children and elderly have returned for the time being, with men still undertaking 'go and see' visits only.

In recent days, return procedures from camps were accelerated, presumably as part of efforts to decongest existing sites. On 31 October, Camp Administration reported that 625 IDPs (103 families) in Areesha camp, including 543 IDPs (93 families) relocated from Mabrouka camp, were preparing to return to places of origin in Deir-ez-Zor governorate. On 1 November, Self Administration (SA) reportedly opened a camp in Tweina, 15km to the east of Al-Hasakeh; the site is currently hosting around 200 people (40 families) displaced from Tal Tamr in large tents. The SA reportedly intends to open another camp in Tel Samen, close to Ein Issa in Ar-Raqqa governorate to host 1,600 IDP families currently residing in informal settlements in Ar-Raqqa city. The UN is advocating to all parties that camps should only be considered as a last resort and that durable solutions for IDPs be sought instead.

People continue to arrive into Iraq (13,378 total as of 1 November), albeit at a slightly reduced rate. On 30 October, 400 Syrians reportedly returned to Syria due to freedom of movement concerns in Bardarash camp.

## Al Hol

In Al Hol, the first camp coordination meeting in a month took place on 29 October, although just over a third of partners typically present attended. Due to the fluid situation, Camp Administration advised that all leave permits, camp visits and returns were temporarily suspended; no timeframe was provided for when they would resume. The reduction in partners in Al Hol has negatively impacted the replacement of tents over the past few weeks with only 2,300 replaced to date. Camp management were requested to accelerate the process given it has been ongoing for three months and to complete it before the onset of harsher weather, expected in December. Health services have also been impacted by recent developments, however 14 out of 18 static medical points are now operational and all hospitals have resumed surgical procedures. Excepting emergency cases, Camp Administration has suspended all medical referrals to Damascus and specialist facilities elsewhere.

## Alouk Water Station

On 29 October, hostilities again damaged the Darbasiyeh electricity supply line to Alouk water station. Despite a number of attempts, hostilities have prevented teams from reaching the station to carry out essential repairs and/or connect boreholes to generators. Alternative methods of water supply now being used. Two sector partners are currently undertaking emergency water trucking (distributing approx. 700m<sup>3</sup>/day) to affected populations in Al-Hasakeh city. Water is also being supplied to Al-Hasakeh from the Al-Himme water treatment plant, although this also requires rehabilitation. To date, six cross-line missions took place to Alouk to rotate repair and maintenance teams. Safe passage remains essential to service and maintain the station but has been unable to be guaranteed due to fighting concentrated close by. Advocacy is ongoing at the highest levels to deconflict the site and establish an agreement to allow safe and sustained access for the technical teams to keep the system running.

## Stocks and supply lines

Parts of the strategic M4 highway remain closed with ongoing hostilities along parts of the route. As a result, aid transportation is occurring through alternate routes, although these do not allow for the same volume of supplies. 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 (NES). Urgent arrangements for safe passage along the M4 are needed.

## 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

- New displacement has occurred between Ras al-Ain and Tal Tamr, including from Alahras, Alamiriyah, Abu Rasian, Um Alkhair, Dahr Alarab, Almahmoudiya and other villages due to clashes. From these areas, 524 individuals (129 families) arrived in Hasakeh and are accommodated in collective shelters. Reportedly, displacement continues from Tal Tamr toward Al-Hasakeh.
- Newroz camp was reopened by Camp Administration. 25 IDP families from Mabada collective shelters and Malikeyeh host community 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 continues to exacerbate protection, health and sanitation risks while posing challenges for all actors to provide services.
- 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 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 Ar-Raqqa, advocacy for unimpeded access for humanitarian actors and solutions is ongoing for the 27 unaccompanied children in an interim center managed by local authorities.
- **The UN continues to call for the protection of civilians from direct attacks and the effects of hostilities; are allowed to move in safety and voluntarily to safe places, with special protection afforded to children, including those formerly and or allegedly to be associated with armed forces or armed groups (CAFAAG).**

### Response

- Protection partners are providing a four-pronged response across community centers and Women and Girls' Safe Spaces, collective shelters, in host communities and in camps, as follows:
  - 49 needs assessments have been carried out in collective shelters to identify persons with specific needs; additional assessments are taking place in host communities.
  - 8,705 IDPs in 50 collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh, Tal Tamr, Tal Hamis, Qamishli, and Malikeyeh have been supported through different protection activities, including recreational activities for children, GBV prevention sessions, PSEA sessions, PSS, case management and general/medical in-kind assistance for persons with special protection needs. Outreach to IDPs has also occurred, including provision of wheelchairs for persons with disabilities.
  - Legal awareness sessions and counselling for IDPs has continued, including assistance with issuance of documents and certificates.
  - The Ras al-Ain Civil Registry office has been temporarily relocated to Al-Hasakeh and will soon be stationed in Tal Tamr. Protection partners are providing technical support to enable resumption of civil registry services to IDPs from Ras al-Ain. Additional technical support for registry offices in Al-Hasakeh city, Deir-ez-Zor, Al Hol, Ber Al Hulo, Tal Tamr, Shaddadeh, Markada, and Areesha is also planned
  - In Mahmoudli camp, camp administration has returned personal documents to 50 IDP families with some departing to their place of origin. Approximately another 200 families are expected to be returned personal documents over the coming days.
  - In Areesha camp, with the assistance of protection partners, sorting and organizing of personal documents to the former Mabrouka population is being finalized. Following suspension of departures, the first return trip to Deir-ez-Zor, occurred for 623 individuals (103 families), the majority from Mabrouka camp. Protection partners continue to ensure families wanting to return receive their personal documentation back and are given MRE and family separation prevention awareness.
  - In Ar-Raqqa city and rural Ar-Raqqa, CP partners have reached 2,279 children and 883 adults with assistance including PSS and awareness raising sessions. Assessments, referrals and individual follow up is ongoing. Specialized GBV personnel in mobile teams have been deployed to Al-Hasakeh city and Tal Tamr to provide services per needs.
  - In Qamishli city 2,000 child IDPs and 2,300 local children and 1,064 adults and 280 families were reached through PSS activities.
  - In Deir-ez-Zor, CP partners are supporting four child friendly spaces and have four mobile teams supporting 1,610 children.

- GBV partners have reached 11,644 beneficiaries through 5 WGSS, 23 RH/GBV integrated mobile teams in Qamishli, Tal Tamr, Al-Hasakeh city, Darbasiyeh, Mabada, Areesha, Ameria, Tabqa, Jurniah, Ar-Raqqa city and Deir-ez-Zor city.
- GBV partners have distributed 8,391 GBV protection kits and 6,432 sanitary napkins. 42,670 protection kits and 169,000 sanitary napkins are being delivered to Al-Hasakeh city to target IDPs in local communities and to Qamishli to reach IDPs in shelters and in local communities in the eastern and southern countryside of Qamishli.
- Mobile teams are operating in collective shelters and host communities in Tal Tamr and Ras al-Ain, Al Malikeyyeh, Mahmouda, Darbasiyeh, and Al Arabia, Ar-Raqqa, while static facilities are operating in Ar-Raqqa city, as well as rural areas in Ein Issa, Tal Abyad and Suluk. Other areas being identified.
- Protection sector mapping of ongoing activities in all NES governorates has been completed and is available in a stand-alone document.



## Food Security & Agriculture

### Needs and gaps

- Most agricultural traders have told Food Security sector partners that due to the current situation they will be unable to provide all required for the planting season. Moreover, a high number of program beneficiaries 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, including increases in fuel prices and challenges in access to water.
- 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 – Ar-Raqqa – Al-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 continue, however the caseload 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 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, although UN and INGO partners continue efforts to reach/re-start regular programming in these locations, with at least half of INGO partners resuming work in both locations.

### Response

- As of 31 October, 418,523 people (85,390 families) including host community populations were reached with some form of food assistance:<sup>1</sup>
  - One partner has reached 83,720 IDPs (16,744 households) with Ready to Eat (RTE) rations and date bars, 20,225 IDPs (4,045 households) with RTEs, in addition to 277,365 people (55,473 households) in host communities experiencing high levels of displacement. A total of 2,140 kg of bread has been distributed to IDPs in 35 collective centers to date.
- 24,390 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 Al-Hasakeh and Mabada reaching 6,394 people (1,226 families) daily.
- Three INGOs have carried out a rapid assessment in Ar-Raqqa city.
- Coordination between NES FSS and Iraq FSC is ongoing. Current reports indicate that the Sahela dn Walidiya border crossing continues to be used by people crossing into Iraqi Kurdistan. Those crossing the border continue to receive hot meals from a national NGO, before they are moved to Bardarash Camp, where people are registered. The registration and security screening takes place a few days later, after which the refugees are either free to stay in the camp or to move out with no restrictions. In-camp refugees are provided daily hot meals by BCF while new arrivals receive RTEs from one partner. As of 26 October, the total number of refugees who have entered Duhok is estimated at 11,664 individuals.

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

## Capacity

- 70,000 general food rations in stock for immediate response will be used to support IDPs living in collective centers or urban locations, with a further 30,000 general food rations in pipeline.
- 44,000 RTEs are in pipeline to respond to displaced families living in collective centers or urban locations.
- Due to 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 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 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). Capacity at Qamishli hospitals remains inadequate. Needs for Manbij Hospital are currently unclear, as well as the overall health situation in affected areas, including the functionality of hospitals.
- 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.
- 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. Currently, only two mobile health teams are covering the collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh city; additional reinforcements are urgently required.
- There are insufficient reproductive health (RH) clinics, particularly in Ras al-Ain. A number of displaced women are suffering from Reproductive and Urinary Tract Infections (RTIs/UTIs), while the majority of pregnant women are under the age of 20. Additional RH resources are required in Areesha camp.
- The health sector in Syria has a financial gap of almost US \$6.7 million.

## Response

- More than 202,000 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 partner has contracted two hospitals to receive emergency referrals while another UN system member is supporting RH referrals.
- Since 10 October, health sector partners in Syria have reached more than 71,938 affected people with some form of health assistance:
  - 14,373 patients have been reached by mobile clinics in Al-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.
  - 5,002 patients received medical consultations and related treatments in Abu Khashab camp in addition to 433 MHPSS services.
  - 9,678 patients in Ar-Raqqa benefited from medical consultations, including in rural areas such as Maddan, Al-Kasrat and Al-Karama.
  - 6,222 primary health care services were provided through health facilities in Al-Hasakeh city and rural areas.
- Emergency immunization activities are ongoing by MOH in Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, and Aleppo (Manbij and Ain al-Arab). However, DOH vaccination teams are currently covering collective shelters via MMTs and host communities by fixed health facilities, with no door-to-door.
- Mobile teams in two IDP camps in Manbij delivered 2,159 health services and 184 MHPSS services in the reporting period.
- RH 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: 18,476 medical services including medical consultations, medications, trauma care and secondary health care and 837 MHPSS services. On 27 October surgical interventions resumed in all field hospitals. Two Damascus-based partners are providing health services in the annex.

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

- Mahmoudli: 2,470 IDPs benefited from health services, including RH, and 500 households received family dignity kits from a partner.
- Areesha: 3,662 IDPs obtained health services including pediatric, gynecological and internal health care.
- Newroz: 83 new IDPs received RH and female dignity kits. There are plans to increase the response should more IDPs arrive.
- Al Roj: health actors currently have no access from inside Syria.
- Mabrouka: of the 84 individuals previously stranded in Mabrouka camp, four women were pregnant and two of them have since given birth supported by a partner. In addition, five trauma cases were referred to UN-supported hospitals for further treatment.
- Health partners finalized the assessment of 48 collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh governorate, with results to be ready within a week.
- On 30 October, a shipment of 3.131 tonnes reached the Ar-Raqqa DOH, the first shipment in five years to reach Debsi Afnan.
- Overall, across the NES, one partner is providing services through 25 mobile teams, 16 static clinics, a field hospital and maternity clinic in Al Hol camp and five WGSS and another through eight medical points, five community centers, eight medical mobile teams, two primary health care centers and two contracted hospitals. Two other partners are providing health and nutrition services through 12 medical points and 15 medical mobile teams, in addition to three medical points, one PHC center and 14 contracted specialized doctors respectively.

### Capacity

- A partner dispatched 39 tons of medical supplies and equipment to Tal Tamr, Al-Hasakeh and Qamishli hospitals as well as to the Department of Health in Al-Hasakeh, SARC and four national NGOs. Shipments are also in the process of being dispatched to Al-Tabqa and Ar-Raqqa national hospitals and Areesha camp.
- A partner airlifted two shipments to the Qamishli warehouse, totaling 34 tonnes.
- 10,782 family dignity kits, 55,000 sanitary napkins, 1,000 adolescent kits and 2,100 male dignity kits have arrived in Qamishli from a 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; 117 sentinel sites are active in NES: 64 in Al-Hasakeh, 48 in Ar-Raqqa and seven in North Aleppo, Manbij and Ain Al-Arab. Nine rapid response teams affiliated to DOH Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Aleppo to follow up on communicable disease alerts
- A partner plans to distribute chlorine tablets to shelters.



### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

#### Needs and gaps

- Insecurity and access, particularly in the area around the Alouk boreholes, are two of the main challenges to delivering a comprehensive response regarding water supply.
- At Alouk water supply station:
  - On 29 October, hostilities damaged the Darbasiyeh supply line rendering the station dependent on generators.
  - 22 out of 34 boreholes are not functioning.
  - Of these, 18 boreholes need to be connected to the functional electricity supply line coming from Darbasiyeh (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 Al-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

- With Alouk water station no longer pumping water to Al-Hasakeh city, two sector partners are undertaking emergency water trucking (distributing approx. 700m<sup>3</sup>/day) to affected populations.

- One Damascus/Qamishli WASH sector partner has initiated the procurement process for the rehabilitation of the water treatment system at Al-Himme water treatment plant.
- Water trucking /Al-Hasakeh city: A total of 165 m<sup>3</sup> has been delivered for an estimated 2,000 families in the following neighborhoods: Qudat Street, President's roundabout street and Hibbo Lands.
- Al Hol Camp: through emergency water trucking, one Damascus/Qamishli-based sector partner delivers approximately 450m<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 well. As an emergency response measure and as a last resort, a Damascus/Qamishli WASH partner has initiated desludging intervention for a period of two weeks.
- Areesha camp: One Damascus/Qamishli-based sector partner provides, on average, 203m<sup>3</sup> of drinking water per day<sup>3</sup> to the resident population (which also includes the additional population of Mabrouka camp).
- Mahmoudli camp: In response to the new arrivals from Ein Issa camp, the construction of 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, and supported by a Damascus/Qamishli based sector partner is ongoing.
- Al Roj Camp: based on gaps identified, the construction of a sewerage network in the expansion area, and installation of latrines and showers, is ongoing with support from a Damascus/Qamishli-based WASH partner.
- Water quality monitoring is also ongoing across all camps to detect contamination and ensure continued safe access to water as per the following:
  - Al-Hozemee, Abu Suleiman and Shomooka (samples tested on 27 October): 3 water samples were collected and sent to the laboratory for bacterial analysis. The results were negative.
  - Eight shelters (three in Twoinah, eight Al-Hasakeh city): eight samples collected on 28 October - one sample from each shelter. All were potable.
  - Water source in Al Essakan and Hammad well (samples collected on 28 October): both are potable.
- In collective shelters, Damascus / Qamishli WASH sector partners have delivered:
  - 502 family hygiene kits (and 281 baby diapers) in IDP shelters in nine centers in Al-Hasakeh, benefiting an estimated 4,920 individuals in Walid Nofel, Nasira unfinished building, unfinished building in Eastern Nashwa, Tal Sinan, Tal Taweel, Maysaloon Tel Tamer, Al Baath center, and Al-Mjarjar mosque and Abdul Azeez mountain schools.
  - Water Supply (trucking) – a total of 276m<sup>3</sup> delivered to five IDP shelters and host communities (namely Sife Al Dawla, Naif Al Salem, Sife Al Dawla host community, Tel Tamr Shameeyh and Tel Hamam village), benefiting 787 families (or 2,853 individuals).
  - Installed 28 latrine doors and 28 showers in 4 IDP shelters (namely Abd Al Aziz Al Rashed, Ahmad Mekhleef, Halima Al Saadiyeh and Khashman Al Mohdatha) benefiting 320 IDPs.
- As in the last report, and 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. 20,340 hygiene kits are available and the procurement of an additional 52,083 kits is in progress. As in the last report, 60,000 bars (125g/bar) of soap, 4,700 garbage bags, 9,656 cleaning tools and 8,000 jerrycans (10 liters each, foldable), 36 water storage tanks (various large capacities) are available, as is an additional 505 latrine kits, 15,000 shampoo (anti-lice).
- 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

- 25 families have arrived to Newroz camp; families have been provided basic NFIs.
- Partners have highlighted the areas south of the river in Ar-Raqqa, east of Deir-ez-Zor, and Ras al-Ain as areas with critical gaps.

<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.

## Response

- Shelter and NFI partners have reached 136,174 individuals (29,026 families) with core and winter NFIs. Prior to 9 October, sector partners had provided extensive support and reached over 820,000 people in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates with NFIs between 1 January and 30 September 2019.
- Winter distributions have already reached 65,600 individuals (15,911 families) or more than two-thirds 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 Al-Hasakeh, Mabada and Qamishli and Tal Tamr. To date, an estimated 70,574 individuals (13,115 families) have received assistance, including over 7,316 children with specific winter clothing kits. It is estimated partners have reached 70 per cent of those recorded to be displaced across 112 locations of Al-Hasakeh, Malikeyyeh and Qamishli sub-districts.
- Partners have completed basic shelter repairs in 25 shelters benefitting an estimated 5,799 individuals (1,339 families); work is ongoing in another three shelters for 118 families and repairs are planned for another 29 collective shelters for 1,356 families.

## Capacity

- Currently organizations from both Damascus and cross-border have approximately enough full NFI kits for 18,000 families; some additional items e.g. blankets are available.
- Four organizations have confirmed their ability to cover heaters, fuel and fuel jerry cans in Al Hol, Areesha, Mahmoudli, and Roj as well as the three informal settlements in Abu Khashab, Manbij and Twainah.

## Education

### Needs & gaps

- According to initial rapid assessments, most children in Ras al-Ain are not attending schools, and only a small percentage of children are attending school in Qamishli and Tal Tamr. Reports received indicate that 20 schools in Ras al-Ain were destroyed out of 150 schools in the district.
- Approximately 108,143 children in Al-Hasakeh governorate were attending school (KSA controlled) prior to the crisis while only 77,282 are currently attending, leaving a large number out-of-school (around 29 per cent).
- 2,708 teachers who were teaching in the affected areas in Al-Hasakeh were also displaced.
- In Tal Abyad, Ar-Raqqa governorate, 426 schools under KSA control are no longer functional resulting in disruption of learning activities for 51,200 children. The majority of the affected students from these schools are living in the host community and are unable to attend schools there.

### 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.
- Six tents equipped with furniture, stationary and learning material were installed for temporary learning centres for the education response in Mahmoudli camp. To date, 497 children are attending a self-learning program. Coordination is still underway to explore whether expansion of Qamishli sub-sector partners is needed to provide education services for a large number of children for whom learning has been disrupted. Damascus/Qamishli partners had no previous interventions in Mahmoudli camp.
- Tent-to-tent visits is ongoing to mobilize children and parents in Areesha and Mahmoudli Camps to re-enrol in the temporary learning space. However, the teams are facing challenges to motivate both the parents and students due to psychosocial distress from the multiple displacement.
- Recreational activities are being provided in close collaboration between Child Protection and Education teams to around 3,000 children who are not able to attend school in 50 collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh.

### 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 Programme) in the shelters. So far, education partners have faced challenges in providing education to school-aged children in shelters.
- Seven partners in Aleppo sub-sector are ready to respond to needs of 10,000 school-age affected children from Manbij.





## Nutrition

### Needs and gaps

- In Al Hol camp, a 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 centre in Phase 1 meaning that all SAM cases with complications now need to be transferred to Al-Hasakeh city. 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). A partner, while 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 NES 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

- Partners have reached approximately 15,128 individuals (3,235 families) residing in 70 shelters in Al-Hasakeh city and nearest rural areas. These families are currently served by Damascus/Qamishli-based partners.
- Up to 30 October, 1,753 children under 5 (U5) were screened for malnutrition using MUAC tapes; one SAM case with complications, two SAM cases without complications and eight MAM cases were detected and provided with treatment. Moreover, 646 PLW were screened for malnutrition using MUAC tape; nine MAM cases were detected and were provided with treatment. 2,456 children benefitted from plumpy doz (fortified spreads), and 2,404 children benefitted from HEB. 324 PLW received IYCF individual counselling and 94 received group counselling.
- In the camps, the following support has been provided:
  - Areesha: 1,094 U5 children were screened for malnutrition using MUAC tapes. No SAM case with complications, two SAM cases without complications and 12 MAM cases were detected and treated accordingly. Moreover, 709 PLW were screened for malnutrition using MUAC tape and one MAM case was detected and provided with treatment. 189 children benefitted from plumpy doz (fortified spreads), and 244 children benefitted from HEB. 735 PLW received IYCF individual counselling and 30 received group counselling.
  - Al Hol: 1,026 U5 children were screened for malnutrition using MUAC tapes. 21 SAM cases with complications, eight SAM cases without complications and 23 MAM cases were detected and were provided with treatment. Moreover, 153 PLW were also screened for malnutrition using MUAC tape and three MAM cases were detected and treated. 108 children benefitted from plumpy doz (fortified spreads), and 198 children benefitted from HEB. 105 PLW received IYCF individual counselling and 22 received group counselling.
- In Ar-Raqqa city and rural Ar-Raqqa: 583 U5 children were screened for malnutrition using MUAC tapes. One SAM case with complications, no SAM without complications and 15 MAM cases were detected and treated accordingly. Moreover, 546 PLW were also screened for malnutrition using MUAC tapes and 2 MAM cases were detected and treated. No distribution of nutrition items was carried out due to restrictions in road transfer from Al-Hasakeh to Ar-Raqqa city. 668 PLW received IYCF individual counselling and 49 received group counselling.
- In Deir-ez-Zor: 899 U5 children were screened for malnutrition using MUAC tapes. No SAM cases with complications, no SAM cases without complications and 2 MAM cases were detected and treated accordingly. Moreover, 1075 PLW were also screened for malnutrition using MUAC tapes and one MAM case was and treated. 324 children benefitted from plumpy doz (fortified spreads), and 548 children benefitted from HEB. 978 PLW received IYCF individual counseling and 21 received group counselling.
- Ain al-Arab: On 27 October DOH with support from UNICEF launched SNIDs. DOH has access to rural Ain Alarab but not to the city as the city is still reported unsafe. The reach during the first two days for the U5 children was as follows: Polio 345, IPV 206, MR 51 and MMR 220 children. In total, 732 door-to-door visits were conducted for community mobilization and reached by awareness raising sessions. Community leaders and influencers were involved in the community mobilization and more achievement are expected regarding the reach in the coming three remaining days. Vit-A supplementation was done along with measles vaccination reaching 271 U5 children.
- Manbij: On 27 October, DOH with support from UNICEF launched SNIDs in the previously unreachable villages. The reach during the first two days for the U5 children was as follows: Polio 2114, IPV 1062, MR 178 and MMR 933 children. In total, 3,147 door-to-door visits were conducted for community mobilization and reached by awareness raising sessions. Community leaders and influencers were involved in the community mobilization and more achievements are expected regarding the reach in the remaining three days. Vit-A supplementation was done along with measles vaccination reaching 1,111 U5 children.



## 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 needs, expanded storage capacity is needed for the prepositioning of humanitarian relief items.
- Additional funding is required to support the scale-up of activities in both the northeast and northwest.

### Response

- From 28-30 October, three logistics partners dispatched a total of 495 m<sup>3</sup> of relief items for transport from Qamishli.
- The 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 destinations and storage services.
- A gap-analysis is currently being compiled based on partner input. Accordingly, and 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. The two MSUs will offer partners additional storage space of approximately 1,200 m<sup>3</sup>. Completion is anticipated by the first week of November, and access will be facilitated through the Logistics Cluster.
- A partner is supporting humanitarian organisations with road transport to Ar-Raqqa on a cost recovery basis.

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