INTRODUCTION
Throughout 2016, civilians continued to bear the brunt of a conflict marked by unparalleled suffering, destruction and disregard for human life. Protracted fighting and mass displacement remained the dominant features of Syria’s humanitarian landscape and contributed to further deterioration the overall humanitarian situation in Syria.

Fierce fighting in Aleppo, Deir-ez-Zor, Idleb, Ar-Raqqa, Rural Damascus, Al-Hasakeh, Homs, Hama governorates resulted in over two million population movements, causing particular humanitarian hardship and protection needs. In contravention of the Security Council’s demands and obligations under IHL to lift the sieges, to end indiscriminate targeting of civilians and civilian objects and to provide rapid, safe, unhindered, unconditional and sustained access to all people in need, warring parties continued to block access and impose constraints.

The situation remained particularly devastating for around 640,000 people living in besieged areas in 2016 and around four million people in need in hard-to-reach locations. Out of these, around 1.3 million lived in areas controlled by ISIL, where grave violations of human rights continued to be reported and where humanitarian access persistently declined.

By the end of 2016, some 13.5 million people continue to require humanitarian assistance, including 4.72 million people trapped in besieged and hard-to-reach areas. As the crisis persists, entering its seventh year, humanitarian needs continue to deepen and the resilience capacities of households and communities is increasingly compromised. In this climate, millions of families will continue to depend on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs.

POPULATION MOVEMENTS 2016
- 2M IDP movements recorded in 52% of communities across Syria
- 1M IDPs in last resort settlements/camps

Most affected governorates: Aleppo, Deir-ez-Zor, Idleb, Ar-Raqqa, Rural Damascus, Al-Hasakeh, Homs, Hama

2016 HRP PLANNING FIGURES
- 13.5M PEOPLE IN NEED
- 8.7M PEOPLE WITH ACUTE NEED
- 6M CHILDREN IN NEED
- 6.7M NUMBER OF FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE INCREASED 6% FROM 6.3M IN SEPTEMBER 2015
- 4.72M PEOPLE IN NEED IN BESIEGED AND HARD-TO-REACH LOCATIONS AS OF JANUARY 2017
- 0.64M PEOPLE IN NEED IN BESIEGED LOCATIONS AS OF JANUARY 2017

2016 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS
- 13.5M PEOPLE TARGETED
- 11.2M (CUMULATIVE) PEOPLE REACHED
- 6.2M (MONTHLY)
- 231 OF 270 SUB-DISTRICTS REACHED
**HRP 2016 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

1. Support saving lives, alleviate suffering and increase access to humanitarian response for vulnerable people and those with specific needs.

2. Enhance protection by promoting respect for international law, IHL, and HRL through quality principled assistance, services, and advocacy.

3. Support the resilience of affected local communities, households, and individuals within the humanitarian response by protecting and restoring livelihoods and enabling access to essential services and rehabilitation of socio-economic infrastructure.

**2016 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

The 2016 HRP aimed to assist up to 13.5 million people estimated to be in need of some form of humanitarian assistance. Throughout 2016 humanitarian partners within Syria and across its borders reached an estimated 11.2 million people in need. Of these, 6.2 million were reached on average. Priority was given to the delivery of life-saving assistance to those most in need, particularly in besieged and hard-to-reach areas; people living in areas in high severity of need; those impacted by ongoing hostilities, IDPs, children, and Palestine refugees.

Despite widespread challenges, 2016 saw an expansion of the previous year’s efforts in terms of numbers of people reached and areas covered, both in direct assistance and service delivery. Early recovery activities also saw a sharp increase in capacities and programs deployed during the year. On average, sectors achieved 80 per cent of their planned targets (this includes a mix of direct assistance to households, services provided as well as estimated people in catchment areas benefiting from support to service delivery).

**HIGHLIGHT OF ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Protection**
- 6.9M protection interventions provided in 227 sub-districts.
- Over 3.5M reached people with general protection services and over 2M with psychosocial support initiatives.

**Food Security/Agriculture**
- An average of 5.8M reached people every month with food assistance, and 1M people with one-off emergency food assistance.
- Nearly 2.7M people benefitted from agriculture and livelihood activities.

**Health**
- Supported/carried out 18.3M medical procedures and distributed 12.3M treatment courses. Around 299,300 children reached with immunization campaigns.

**Camp Coordination & Camp Management**
- 431,000 IDPs reached with continuous multi-sector assistance in planned camps, informal tented settlements, transit camps, and collective centers in five governorates.

**Early Recovery & Livelihoods**
- Over 2.6M people reached with livelihoods assistance.

**Education**
- Around 4.2M children and youth reached with formal and non-formal education services.
- Nearly 500,000 children reached with alternative learning modalities.

**Nutrition**
- 3.4M children and pregnant lactating women reached with essential nutrition services.

**WASH**
- 13.1M people reached with direct humanitarian WASH assistance. 16.4M people were reached with improved access to water and sanitation (catchment area).

**Logistics**
- Nearly 19,000m³ of Food, WASH, Health, Nutrition, Shelter and Education supplies airlifted from Damascus to Qamishli on behalf of nine humanitarian organizations.
- Facilitated the free-to-user transport of over 62,000m³ of relief items in the framework of the inter-agency humanitarian convoys.
Despite being confronted with an unpredictable and often volatile operating environment, humanitarian partners reached a combined 11.2 million people in Syria with multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance over the course 2016. Of these, 6.2 million were reached consistently with some form of humanitarian assistance every month.

This consistent reach was only possible thanks to the complementarities between the various response modalities (cross-border, cross-line, air drops and regular programmes) and actors, which enabled humanitarian partners to remain flexible and adapt in the face of a challenging and fluid operating environment.

*The sectors included are Food Security and Livelihoods, NFI/Shelter, CCCM, Nutrition, Education, Early Recovery and Livelihoods, and Protection.

**WHOLE OF SYRIA RESPONSE**

Reach of people in need by response modality*

METHODOLOGY:

Delivery trends against people in need is estimated on a subdistrict level by calculating the monthly average of the percentage people reached against people in need. People Reached are the number of people provided with multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance (Food Security and Livelihoods, NFI/Shelter, CCCM, and Nutrition) per month; taking account the highest sector at sub-district level.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Delivery trends by severity of needs

The 2016 response prioritized areas of high severity of need – where 8.7 million people are in need and the bulk of assistance was provided - whilst attempting to reach as many people in need as possible in as much of the Syrian territory as access would allow. Maintaining a broad reach across all areas in the country was considered significant given the fluidity of the situation; the overwhelming scale of needs across the country and to promote protection by presence.

Out of the overall response, 67 per cent was targeted to people in need living in sub-districts categorized as having either critical (5), severe (4) or major (3) needs. Of these, 25 per cent of people reached were in sub-districts with severe to critical problems (categories 4-5). These remained limited mostly due to access constraints. 42 per cent of people reached were in sub-districts with major to severe problems (categories 3-4), followed by 31 per cent in sub-districts with moderate to major problems (categories 2-3). Only 2 per cent were in sub districts with low severity.

Reach to besieged and hard-to-reach areas

Despite various challenges, 2016 saw a significant increase in the level of assistance reaching people in besieged and hard-to-reach locations. On average, around 846,000 (16.9 per cent) people were reached in hard-to-reach and besieged areas on a monthly basis with multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance through the combined efforts of the cross-line, cross-border, and airdrop operations. Of which, around 288,000 (44.5 per cent) people were reached in besieged locations and 558,000 people (12.8 per cent) were reached in hard-to-reach areas. Moreover, each month, thousands of people receive health, education, and protection services, which are not accounted for in the calculation. However, delivery of supplies remained highly inconsistent and sustained programming was often difficult or impossible. Consistent, sustained delivery of supplies and service delivery is crucial to providing sufficient support to people in need in these areas.

Outcome monitoring

Access remained a key constraint throughout the year to the delivery of much needed sustained assistance to people most in need, particularly in besieged and hard-to-reach locations. As the crisis persists, humanitarian needs continue to surpass the ability of humanitarian actors to respond. This, combined with difficulties in monitoring key protection, mortality, morbidity indicators, hampers our collective ability to measure the overall outcomes of humanitarian interventions. The food security sector initiated an outcome monitoring system in 2016 in view of monitoring impact across four outcome indicators. Results revealed that while food insecurity rates did not improve, they were generally maintained. Coping mechanism strategies, however, deteriorated. Malnutrition rates also remained stable, except in localized (mostly besieged) locations. The delivery of multi-antigen catch-up campaigns also contributed to reducing excess morbidity and mortality. In general, it is estimated that the combination of response efforts under the 2016 HRP have helped alleviate some needs and have contributed to the mitigation of the further deterioration of the main humanitarian indicators.

*Number of people provided with multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance (Food Security and Livelihoods, NFI/Shelter, CCCM, and Nutrition) for at least one month from January to December 2016. The figure reflects the highest number of beneficiaries reached by a single sector at the community level based on 4W sectoral reports.
Inter-agency cross-line convoys

Inter-agency cross-line convoys played a significant role in reaching people in besieged and hard-to-reach communities. 131 convoys with multi-sectoral assistance were successfully completed to 1.3 million people in need (net) throughout the year, compared to 487,665 (net) in 2015.

The total population reached in 2016, however, varied widely between months, due to continued access constraints, including insecurity and administrative restrictions. Despite the efforts made, only 27 per cent of the targeted beneficiaries were reached.

While these efforts reached all 18 besieged locations at least once for the first time since the beginning of the crisis, the trend of approvals decreased sharply by the end of the year.

*This shows the status of Besieged/Hard-to-reach areas in Syria as of Nov 2016. In the subsequent classification published by the UN Secretary-General in January 2017, the following locations were removed from the besieged list: Eastern Aleppo, Hajar Al Aswad and Madamiyet Elsham.

**Total figures in 2016**

- **People Reached**: 3,340,190 (Cumulative) 1,293,750 (net)
- **Hards-To-Reach**: 819,100
- **Besieged**: 419,650
- **Priority Cross-Line Convoys**: 57,000
- **Inter-Agency Cross-Line Convoys**: 131
- **Airlifts**: 248
- **Airlifts**: 168
A further $852 million were also allocated to humanitarian projects for Syria in 2016 but reported outside of the HRP. Sector reporting on reach and achievements includes - in many cases - results obtained with this additional funding outside of the plan.

People reached against sector targets do not always correlate with percentage funding. This is because targets tend to refer to populations in need of an array of services, often in a sustained manner, and it is on this basis that funding requirements are calculated, whereas reach may refer to beneficiaries who have received at least one service or distribution during the reporting period. Therefore, limited funding may still enable sectors to partially assist a large percentage of their target.

Critical, “enabling” sectors also facilitate and underpin the work undertaken which other humanitarian sectors carry out. Notably, at the time of reporting, the Emergency Telecommunication sector remains 100% underfunded, the Logistics sector remains 50% underfunded, and the Coordination and Common Services sector remains 75% underfunded.

Average monthly food basket assistance and cumulative emergency food rations annually respectively.

Medical procedures is an aggregate indicator that includes consultations (OPD consultations at PHC and hospital), referral cases, mental health consultations, trauma cases, persons with disabilities supported and deliveries by Skilled Birth Attendant (SBA).

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KEY CHALLENGES

Access and insecurity, as well as constraints on movement of people and humanitarian workers, remain the main challenges to reaching people across Syria and in maintaining and scaling up operations for all sectors.

Especially for those seeking to support people in hard-to-reach and besieged areas, the operating environment remains unpredictable and volatile.

Lack of funding remains a limiting factor to the scaling up of operations for sectors and for long-term predictable provision of humanitarian supplies to people in need across the country.

Constant movement of IDPs due to changing security situations and conflict lines, have also made efforts to reach people in need more complex.

Information and evidence generation in besieged and hard-to-reach areas remains another key challenge for some sectors, rendering programming difficult.

Departure of big numbers of workforce, particularly in the health and education sectors, continue to affect Syria’s public health and education profile and hamper the sectors’ capacity to deliver.

Ongoing events in northern Iraq and the continued influx of Iraqi refugees have further exacerbated challenges of access and aid delivery in Syria’s northeastern governorate of Al-Hasakeh.

Limited geographical sector reach, availability of specialized capacity as well as the number and availability of local partners remain challenges for some sectors to scale up activities.

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