



On 11 October 2019 in the Syrian Arab Republic, women and children are transported on the back of a truck as families displaced from Ras Al-ain arrive in Tal Tamer, 75km southeast Ras of Al-ain, having fled escalating violence

NORTH EAST SYRIA RESPONSE SITUATION REPORT

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Situation report # 4- 14 October 2019

Highlights

- On 13 October, the Kurdish Self Administration (KSA)/SDF announced an agreement with the Government of Syria (GoS). According to the agreement the Syrian Arab Army (SAA) would deploy along the entire length of the border with Turkey. This deployment is aimed to assist the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in countering the Turkish forces. As a direct result of this agreement the SAA was deployed to Al-Tabqa and Ain Issa towns in rural Raqqa and established presence in Tal Tamer in rural Hasakeh
- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has signalled that Turkish troops and their Syrian opposition allies are ready to launch an assault on the Syrian-Kurdish held city of Manbij. Erdogan told reporters on 14 October “We are about to implement our decision on Manbij.”
- After the deployment of SAA in Tel Tamer and surrounding areas, some cross-border WASH partners have reportedly evacuated international staff and suspended their activities including water trucking to eight locations. Total water trucking volume which has now been suspended was 45m³ per day, intended for 2,500 people. UNICEF will begin trucking water on 15 October to meet the gap in these locations.
- A polio campaign started on 13 October in accessible camps and the collective shelters in Hasakeh City through the Directorate of Health.

Humanitarian Situation

- The full humanitarian impact of the current military operations remains difficult to ascertain in light of the fluidity of the situation. At the time of reporting, it is estimated that between 150,000 and 160,000 people have been displaced. Population movements continue, some unreported, such that the true number is likely higher.
- The recent political and conflict developments have affected all partners operating in NES, including those from cross-border. While many national partners remain operational, with the US announcement of troop withdrawal in Northeast Syria and of the agreement between Government of Syria and SDF, International NGOs collectively agreed to withdraw all international staff and for most to temporarily suspend operations.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

No update.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

- UNICEF partners in Hasakeh City have delivered 95,000 litres of water to the collective shelters.
- UNICEF supported the installation of additional 9 water tanks with a capacity of 1,000 litres each in the collective shelters in Hasakeh City.
- As result of deconfliction efforts, technical teams from the Department of Water and the Directorate of Electricity accessed Alhok water pumping station on 14 October. The technical teams have assessed the situation but information on the exact level of damage or needs was not available at the time of reporting.
- Al Himme water pumping station continues to pump 24,000m³ of water per day to the target population of Hasakah City covering about 30 per cent of daily demand.
- To increase water availability in Hasakeh city, Oxfam has confirmed the availability 36 water tanks of varying capacity from 11m³ to 95m³ in their warehouse in Damascus. UNICEF is coordinating with SARC the delivery of these to Hasakeh city.
- UNICEF through its partners distributed 30 cleaning kits and 74 hygiene kits to internally displaced people (IDPs) in collective shelters in Hasakeh City.
- To support the 5,000 individuals who were relocated to Aressha Camp from Mabrouka Camp, UNICEF and partners are constructing 72 latrines and installing 18 water tanks each with a capacity of 2,000 litres.
- One Cross Border partner has completed the distribution of 100 Hygiene kits to 402 people in Maabada, Al-Malikeyyeh sub district and the distribution of 350 Hygiene kits in Tal Tamer sub district and 350 hygiene kits in Hasakeh city to an estimated 3,500 people.

Health and Nutrition

- On 14 October, UNICEF partners in Aressha and Al Hol Camps provided health and nutrition services to 837 women and children under 5 years.
- In Hasakeh City, mobile teams supported by UNICEF conducted MUAC screening for 117 children under 5 and eight pregnant and lactating women. Treatment was initiated for one child identified as having severe acute malnutrition.
- On 14 October, the mobile teams also provided 206 primary health care consultations for women and children in the collective centres in Hasakeh city.
- Over 1,760 children in collective shelters were reached with multiple items including 55 cartons of HEB 70 multiple micronutrient sachets 100 plumpy doz.

Education

- The learning centre in Areesha Camp accommodating 1,500 children is unable to meet the needs of the 900 self-learning students who relocated from Mabrouka camp recently. UNICEF and partners will assess the requirements needed to accommodate the additional caseload in a new facility. In the meantime, the students will be able join the existing school in Mabrouka, despite it being overstretched itself. Accommodating the additional caseload appropriately is complicated as existing Areesha students are already learning in multiple shifts.
- 12 schools (with an enrolment of approx. 10,000 children) located in Ghweran neighbourhood of Hasakeh city have been using a curriculum not accredited by the GoS while under KSA administration. The Directorate of Education has reached an agreement with the Kurdish authorities to ensure that the schools continue to function and will move to use of accredited GoS curriculum in the next few days.

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