Highlights

- Official reports shared by UN OCHA give the displacement figures as being at least 165,000 people including an estimated 70,000 children. Of those displaced, around 8,000 people are being hosted in 48 collective shelters across eight sub-districts of Al-Hassakeh Governorate, with one known collective shelter in Al Raqqa governorate (though partners are still collecting additional information). The majority are residing in surrounding host communities.

- On 19 October, after successful deconfliction facilitated by UN OCHA, the Syrian Arab Red Cross (SARC) with a local technical team were able to reach the Allok Pumping Station. Fuel provided by UNICEF (16,000 litres) was delivered and the team conducted light maintenance to the existing three generators and tested them to check their capacity and readiness as a backup, should there be power outage to the station.

- With recent access to Ain Alarab Town through the Aleppo Directorate of Health (DoH), UNICEF has supported supplies for a vaccinations campaign in the location. Over a three-day period, the DoH has reached 5,133 children under 5 years with Polio vaccination and 40 children under one year with routine immunization: the campaign is on-going to reach the largest possible number of children in the area.

Humanitarian Situation

- Partners on the ground have reported some 16,250 people/3,250 households (HH) being displaced from Northern Aleppo towards Menbij area.

- According to UNHCR updates released on 19 October, close to 26,600 HHs remain in five camps across North East Syria (Al Hol, Areesha, Mabrouka, Al Roj and Mahmoudli). Efforts to evacuate the 14HHs (83 individuals) who are still in Mabrouka are underway.

Iraq

- As of 20 October 2019, 4,068 new Syrian refugees (including approximately 1,709 children) fleeing the conflict in northeast Syria (NES) entered via Sahela border point to Dohuk, north-western Iraq. The new arrivals are mainly women, children and elderly, from Kobani, Amuda, Qamishli.

Humanitarian Coordination & Planning

- Coordination of the Iraqi response is being led from the KRG Ministry of Interior through the Joint Crisis Coordination Center (JCC). The JCC has developed a Humanitarian Contingency plan for the influx of Syrian
Refuges to the Kurdistan Region dated 10 October 2019. At the governorate level in Duhok, the Board of Relief and Humanitarian Affairs (BRHA) is the coordinating government agency working directly with the UN agencies, partners and NGOs, while in Erbil and Sulaymaniyyah governorates the Erbil Joint Crisis Coordination Center (EJCC) is the coordinating government body working directly with partners. UNHCR is leading the response among UN agencies and partners on the ground in collaboration with the government coordination bodies.

**Summary Analysis of Programme Response**

**WASH**

- UNICEF continues to support internally displaced persons (IDPs) in collective shelters in Al Hassakeh and Al Raqqa governorates with lifesaving interventions such as distribution of family hygiene kits, water treatment chemicals (Aquatabs) at point of use, water trucking and installation of emergency latrines. These activities have been expanded to reach the additional caseloads in camps such as Areesha and Mahmoudli that have received IDPs relocated from camps directly affected by the hostilities.

- A significant number of the IDPs who fled from areas of conflict are currently living with host communities in different sites, which is an additional burden on the existing water and sanitation infrastructure in these locations. UNICEF continues to work closely with the water authority to support more responsive urban WASH interventions to meet the emerging needs and gaps. These interventions include the rehabilitation of water networks in Hassakeh and Tel Tamer cities including their surrounding rural communities that are hosting IDPs. UNICEF technical teams are currently engaged in assessing the status of water and sewerage networks along with the capacity and functionality of pumping stations in these locations. The purpose of these technical assessments is to reduce any current and future leakages in the networks and to increase the efficiency and pumping capacity of water stations.

- Between 17 and 19 October, a UNICEF partner distributed 106 hygiene kits in Hasakeh and Ar Raqqa governorates covering the needs of close to 670 people. Another partner conducted a WASH needs assessment in 19 Hassakeh collective centres hosting a total number of 2901 IDPs. The response will start on 21 October.

**Allok station Update:**

- On 19 October, after successful deconfliction facilitated by UN OCHA, the Syrian Arab Red Cross (SARC) with a local technical team were able to reach the Allok Pumping Station. Fuel provided by UNICEF (16,000 litres) was delivered and the team conducted light maintenance to the existing 3 generators and tested them to check their capacity and readiness as a backup, should there be power outage to the station.

- Allok water pumping station is served by 30 boreholes, 15 of which are currently functional. The remaining 15 boreholes, though functional, cannot be reached due to the proximity of some armed groups in the area.

- The water from Allok pumping station feeds Tal Tamer City and its surrounding villages in addition to the main water reservoir in Hammer water station, which then acts as a booster by gravity feed to Al Hassakeh City. To date, this reservoir is not filled due to the high consumption level of water in Tal Tamer and the surrounding villages. The water reaching Al Hassakeh City is thus only from Hemme water treatment plant that is fed directly from the Eastern part Hemme Dam, insufficient for long term needs.

- If deconfliction remains effective, with no further damage to the power line, the technical teams will continue to access Allok water station and pump adequate quantities of water to serve the affected population in Hassakeh Town.

**Iraq**

- UNICEF’s support has included the provision of WASH supplies, including family and baby hygiene kits, as well as technical support for the re-establishment of WASH services in Bardarash camp in Dohuk. The population living in Bardarash camp currently has access to 50 liters of clean water per person per day.

**Health and Nutrition**

- As UNICEF continues to support the displacement in NES, efforts have been made to scale up services to meet the needs of the estimated 70,000 displaced children. Since the start of the current crisis, UNICEF through its NGO partners, has reached 5,493 women and children through mobile teams in 30 collective centres in Al Hassakeh governorate. To support the IDPs in the host community, UNICEF is working with the local NGOs to
provide curative and preventive services through their fixed centres. Health promotion on maternal & child health (MCH) - including immunization, hygiene promotion and Integrated Young Child Feeding (IYCF) - critical messages and services are provided to women and children in these fixed centres. In parallel to this, UNICEF continues to build and strengthen the capacity of the Directorate of Health (DoH) in the affected governorates to provide services to the communities, through supplies to the DoH and support from mobile teams as needed.

- Despite the support from UNICEF in NES, access to some locations remains problematic due to ongoing hostilities. Services in Ras Al-Ein city and Mabrouka camp, in Al Hassakeh Governate, have stopped as well as in Ein Issa camp in Al Raqqa Governorate. Some 20,000 women and children in these locations are potentially at risk of not getting services as a direct impact of the hostilities, though most have moved to safer locations and alternative camps.
- In Hassakeh City and its surrounding rural areas, mobile teams supported by UNICEF continue to conduct “MUAC screening” (Middle Upper Arm Circumference) for children under 5 (US) and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW). From the onset of the response, 690 children have been screened with three identified as having Moderate Actuate Malnutrition (MAM) being referred for treatment
- Of the 1,946 primary health care consultations for women and children in the collective centres in Hasakeh city and its surrounding rural areas, the top three causes of morbidity for children US were common cold, diarrhoea and skin diseases.
- The Integrated Young Child Feeding (IYCF) campaigns, offering both individual and group counselling, continues in the same locations supported by C4D partners in Al Hasakeh governorate. UNICEF partners have reached 2819 women with children under 5 years in 17 collective centres.

Iraq

- The Directorate of Health in Dohuk, through UNICEF support, is providing polio and measles vaccinations for all children under 15 years of age at Sahela border point as refugees enter the country.

Child Protection

- UNICEF and partners continue provision of needed services targeting IDPs, the most vulnerable groups and affected population in the collective shelters and surrounding host communities in Al Hassakeh and Al Raqqa Governorates. Efforts continue to support the pre-existing case load in the NES region including the children in the five camps with minor program disruptions being experienced Ras Al Ein.
- In Al Hassakeh Governorate, UNICEF partners started Child Protection activities including structured and sustained Psycho Social Support (PSS) for 115 children at 5 shelters (schools, mosque) in Maabada. In another shelter in Tal Aid, 168 children and 25 mothers, are being reached through PSS and parenting programs. In the third shelter named Khwetalet Akrad, the number of beneficiaries is 240 children and 46 mothers reached through PSS, parenting and awareness activities
- In Hassakeh City, another Child Protection partner conducted a needs assessment and commenced PSS, mine risk education awareness and case management services reaching 1593 children and an additional 23 unaccompanied and separated children in 9 shelters.
- In Al Raqqa Governorate 2,100 children, 350 adults and 460 families benefitted from Child Protection activities. All beneficiaries live in host communities
- In Qamishli town and rural Hassakah, 2,144 displaced children and 1,801 children from the host community and 1064 adults and 280 families were benefitted from Child Protection services including structured PSS, parenting and awareness programmes.

Iraq

- Through UNICEF support, the Directorate of Labour and Social Affairs department in Dohuk has deployed social workers to the Bardarash camp, who are responding to urgent child protection cases and providing psychosocial support. In addition, UNICEF is supporting a mobile child protection team at the Sahel border (from 21 October) to provide psychosocial support and respond to urgent child protection cases. To date, nine unaccompanied children have been recorded at the Sahel border, with six of these cases already reunited with their families, two cases have had their family traced and are awaiting reunification and 1 case is still being followed up
Education

- UNICEF is ensuring continuation of education activities in Al Hol and Areesha Camps in collaboration with partners. Due to the disruption of activities in Mabrouka camp, where learning facilities were looted, more than 850 learners were relocated with their families to Areesha camp and UNICEF is facilitating their inclusion in the existing learning centres. Tent-to-tent visits results show that around 500 children are willing to join the learning centres in Areesha, therefore additional tents, pending facilitation letter approval, will be fixed to expand the current learning centres, with support of teachers who were relocated from Mabrouka Camp.
- Learning facilities in the two learning centres in Ain Issa Camp providing educational services to more than 1,100 learners were looted preventing their relocation other camps where they could be used.

Iraq

- UNICEF’s education team has conducted an assessment of the situation and education needs in Bardarash Camp and is currently preparing plans to open schools in the camp through coordination with the Ministry and Directorate of Education in Dohuk.

NFI / Children winter clothing

- UNICEF partners in Hasakah city continue distribution of winter kits to children. To date 2,390 children in 17 collective shelters have been reached. Distribution will continue in the coming days to other locations in Rural Hassakeh.

Supply and Logistics

- Critical support in the delivery of supplies was made possible from Damascus to front-line national NGO partners through existing pre-positioning as well as direct delivery modalities using different Long-Term Agreements (LTAs) in place for both goods and services. Over 30 of the LTAs in place address emergency response needs in WASH, related NFIs and services (family hygiene kits, lady sanitary napkins, water tanks, prefab latrines/showers etc.), as well as items such as winter clothing and learning materials. In addition to the dispatches from Damascus, supplies for health and nutrition, education and WASH were delivered from prepositioned emergency stock in the Qamishli warehouse to main NGO partners operating in Al Hassakeh Governorate.

Constraints

- Challenges with getting approvals and security related access constraints were challenges to the smooth delivery of supplies, as well as the need to use alternative routes in poor conditions to reach Al Hassakeh Governorate.

Who to contact for further information:

Fran Equiza
Representative
+963938887755
equiza@unicef.org
UNICEF Syria

Alessandra Dentice
Deputy Representative
+963938222210
dentice@unicef.org
UNICEF Syria

Melinda Young
Senior Emergency Advisor
+962795135290
meyoung@unicef.org
MENARO Amman