



©UNICEF/2019. Fahad, 1, being screened for malnutrition using a MUAC (Middle Upper Arm Circumference) tape in a school-turned-shelter in Al-Hasakeh city, northeast Syria.

NORTH EAST SYRIA RESPONSE SITUATION REPORT

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Situation report # 10- 27 October 2019

Highlights

- According to the latest reports from UN OCHA, as of 23 October, the movement of 200,465 people were recorded since 9 October. Of these, 139,265 people remain displaced from Al- Hasakeh (86,921), Ar-Raqqa (35,463) and Aleppo governorates (16,881), while 61,200 people have returned to their areas of origin in Al-Hasakeh (32,200) and Ar-Raqqa (29,000) governorates.
- As of 27 October 2019, 11,664 Syrian refugees (including approximately 5,700 children) have entered Dohuk, in north-western Iraq.
- On 27 October, the Syrian Humanitarian Fund was launched with a reserve allocation of US \$15 million to support partners in Syria responding to the NES crisis.
- UNICEF and partners have provided polio and measles vaccinations for approximately 230,000 children under the age of five in Al-Hasakeh governorate, including in collective shelters and camps such as Al-Hol and Areesha between 13 and 17 October.

Humanitarian Situation

- A new bridge across the Euphrates river was opened on 27 October for vehicle traffic. It is located 13 kms south-east of the UN Hub in Deir ez Zor and may be used to facilitate humanitarian responses and other operations.
- According to data from OCHA as of 23 October, around 14,000 people are being accommodated in 69 active collective shelters in Al-Hasakeh (68) and Ar-Raqqa (1) governorate.
- Local authorities reported on 22 October that Hasakeh City has no further capacity to absorb additional displaced people and requested support to establish a new camp close to Hasakeh City.
- On 24 October, the 14 remaining families (83 individuals) in Mabrouka camp, Al-Hasakeh governorate were relocated to Areesha camp by SARC and protection partners.
- The Bardarash camp in Iraq has rapidly filled up to capacity by refugees from the NES: the Gawilan Camp in Dohuk has been identified for hosting new refugee influx. The Gawilan camp is already operational and is

currently housing over 8,000 Syrian refugees who have been there since 2013. A new section of Gawilan camp has been established which can accommodate up to 1,588 new refugee families and, to date, 346 new Syrian refugees have occupied that section.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

- UNICEF support to the displaced communities in NES continues to focus on life saving needs, including water trucking, distribution of hygiene kits and hygiene promotion activities and installation of emergency sanitation facilities.
- From the onset of the crisis to date UNICEF through its partners have distributed 6,858 hygiene kits in Hasakeh, Raqqa and Tel Tamar in NES benefiting 35,220 IDPs in. In Bardarash camp in Iraq UNICEF and partners have reached 2000 families with hygiene kits. UNICEF continues providing emergency water supply (through water trucking and installation of water tanks) to 9,000 people. UNICEF also continues to provide cleaning services of WASH facilities in 48 IDP shelters in Hasakeh benefiting 7,000 IDPs. Plans are currently under way to improve WASH conditions in both Mahmoudli and Areesha camps to cover the additional IDP case load.
- UNICEF Partners continue to provide WASH services in Al-Hol camp for 65,500 IDPs and refugees despite the challenges and complexity of operating in the current situation. UNICEF is supporting water trucking (400m³ per day), latrine cleaning, garbage collection, dislodging of sewerage, at the same time operating the two Reverse Osmosis (RO) water units in Hole camp. Construction of sewerage networks in phase 5 is progressing, almost 40 per cent is completed. Installation of additional 105 latrine units and showers are also completed.

Health and Nutrition

- A targeted routine immunisation campaign will be implemented to cover the displaced communities in NES focusing on shelters and surrounding communities from the 27 October through the Ministry of Health (MoH) and partners. Children under five years will receive vaccines regardless of their immunization status. The vaccinations the children will be offered are Bivalent Oral Polio Vaccine (B-OPV) for children U5, Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) for children 3months to 5 years, measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) for children aged 1-5 years and Measles for children aged 7-12 months. All children between 7 months and 5 years who receive a measles vaccination will also get a vitamin A supplement.
- In common shelters of Hasakeh city and surrounding rural areas, UNICEF and partners between the 20th and 26th October reached 1,045 children under 15 and 389 women with outpatient consultations. The top 3 causes of morbidity in both under 5 yrs and over 5 yrs group were common cold, diarrhoea and skin diseases. During the same period, 4,400 children under five years were screened for acute malnutrition with two cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) identified and referred for needed follow up. During the reporting period UNICEF partners supported 469 children under 2 with fortified spreads, and 671 children under 5 received High Energy Biscuits (HEB)
- UNICEF is also supporting the Directorate of Health (DoH) in reaching communities that had been inaccessible for long period of time. In both Ain Alarab and Manbij districts, UNICEF is supporting the DoH in Sub-national immunization days (SNIDs) that started on 27 October and will last until 31 October 2019 targeting all children under 5 years in Ain Alarab (14,504 U5 children) while in Manbij only the defaulter children from previous campaign will be targeted (6,000 U5 children)
- Since the response started in Iraq, UNICEF and partners have reached 5,143 children with polio vaccination while 4,769 children were provided with measles vaccination

Child Protection

- UNICEF child protection partners continue provision of psychosocial support, specialized child protection services, raising awareness on mines risk and other child protection issues targeting IDPs, the most vulnerable groups and affected population in the collective shelters and surrounding host communities in Al Hasakeh and Al Raqqa Governorates.
- Across Al-Hasakeh Governorate UNICEF and partners are continuing with comprehensive protection needs assessments in collective shelters, with 23 sites assessed to date. Together with the assessments, mobile protection teams are providing on-spot guidance and support, including identification of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and case referral

- Psychological distress among recently displaced children and women has been largely observed. Lack of specialized mental health, counselling services and referral is still a major gap.

Education

- As per latest OCHA update, out of 69 collective shelters, 63 are schools which should be providing education services for some 30,000 children.
- To support these children who are living in the collective shelters, UNICEF and partners will distribute 50 recreational kits from 28 October aimed at reaching 4,500 children to ensure the implementation of recreational activities in the shelters. Activities will be facilitated by Child protection partners who are operational in the shelters
- UNICEF partners have moved learning activities from Ein Issa to Mahmoudli camp and set up 6 learning spaces in tents to accommodate 400 of the children who were relocated from Ein Issa camp. These tents are currently being equipped with furniture, stationary and learning material to initiate the catch-up classes for the affected children starting this week. Outreach campaigns targeting approximately 100 parents were conducted to re-enrol children in learning activities
- Initial assessment indicates that due to the suspension of activities by a partner, learning was disrupted for 1,500 children in the camp. UNICEF and partners are assessing the possibility to expand activities to cover education needs for all these children
- In Areesha camp, two additional tents were fixed to increase the existing capacity of the Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) to accommodate approximately 500 more children who are currently learning in triple shifts. As of 27 October, 418 children were enrolled, and they will be provided with “school in a bag” and stationary this week to support their learning.

NFI / Children winter clothing packages

- As part of its humanitarian social protection response, UNICEF has reached 6,242 children in 50 collective shelters and host communities with a full package of children winter clothing since the NES response started, since most of the families who fled the recent hostilities barely carried any personal belongings. Adequate clothing for children is essential to protect them from the cold weather and preserve their dignity. UNICEF continues to provide essential winter clothing kits to the affected children from the IDPs, returnees and host communities in the north-east Syria
- UNICEF is closely coordinating efforts with UNHCR in response through the NFI sector to avoid overlap in distribution, noting that UNHCR winterization kit are for the whole family member including children while UNICEF kits are specifically targeting children U15.

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