

What is the situation?



Coverage for the diphtheria/ tetanus/ pertussis-containing (DTP) vaccine, the marker for vaccination coverage, dropped from **99 per cent** in 2008 to **60 per cent** in 2022 ²



27 health facilities were **destroyed**, **214** health facilities partially destroyed, and sensitive medical devices damaged because of the **earthquakes in February 2023** ⁴



173,345 cumulative cholera cases reported by end August 2023. 105 associated deaths, case fatality rate of 0.06 per cent ³



48 per cent of the health centres are fully functioning, **21 per cent** partially functioning and **31 per cent** non-functioning ¹

What are our priorities?



Facilitate continued access to comprehensive, integrated essential health and nutrition services on primary health care level (including immunization), focusing on vulnerable communities.

Repair the damaged health infrastructure and replace damaged medical equipment.

Strengthen and expand referral pathways across all levels of health care.

Strengthen surveillance systems for prevention, early detection, investigation, and response to disease outbreaks.

¹ WHO HerAMS Annual Report 2020

² Syrian Arab Republic, Ministry of Health, 2019

³ Whole Of Syria Cholera Outbreak Situation Report No. 19 Issued 20 Sep. 2023

⁴ Earthquake response in Syria, Humanitarian Situation Report No. 9 UNICEF

What are we doing?



Rehabilitating health facilities.



Equipping health centres with medical supplies.



Strengthening routine immunization programmes through health system strengthening and following up on children who have never been vaccinated.



Providing medical consultations to children and women through fixed clinics and mobile medical teams run by local NGOs.

What are our targets for 2023?



742,880 children under 1 year of age receiving three doses of DTP-containing vaccine



2.4 million children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities



1 million children vaccinated against polio

What are the gaps?

The **health** programme is **42 per cent funded** leaving around **500,000 children** and **250,000 women** without essential health services. An estimated **US\$2.5 million** dollars per year is needed to procure vaccines essential to immunize children in Syria.

