

SUMMARY OF HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN END OF YEAR REPORT

JAN-DEC 2017

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Throughout 2017, hostilities continued to result in widespread needs, localized mass displacement and extensive destruction of civilian infrastructure. High levels of civilian casualties continued to be reported, with hostilities continuing to have severe consequences on the protection of civilians with ongoing reports of civilian casualties as well as restricted access to humanitarian assistance and services.

Despite a reduction in the level of hostilities in some parts of the country, with some 800,000 estimated spontaneous returns during 2017, intense military operations in other parts generated mass displacement. 2.9 million IDP movements were recorded over the year, almost 900,000 more than in 2016. At the same time, an estimated 6.1 million Syrians are long-term IDPs.

By the end of 2017, some 13.1 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance, including 5.6 million in acute need. The needs of 2.9 million people in UN-declared hard-to-reach areas, including 417,566 people in nine UN-declared besieged locations, remained particularly acute, with their situation exacerbated by indiscriminate attacks and restrictions on freedom of movement.



PHOTO: OCHA/Ghalia Seifo

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

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1 Save Lives
 Provide life-saving humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people with emphasis on those in areas with high severity of needs.
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2 Enhance Protection
 Enhance the prevention and mitigation of protection risks, and respond to protection needs through supporting the protective environment in Syria, by promoting international law, IHL, IHRL and through quality, principled assistance.
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3 Increase resilience and access to services
 Increase the resilience of affected communities by improving access to livelihood opportunities and basic services, especially amongst the most vulnerable households and communities.



PEOPLE IN NEED (HNO 2017)

13.5 million*



PEOPLE TARGETED (HRP 2017)

9 million direct assistance
 12.8 million service delivery



COMMUNITIES REACHED AT LEAST ONCE IN 2017

4,193 out of 5,622



PEOPLE IN ACUTE NEED (HNO 2017)

5.7 million



PEOPLE REACHED (MONTHLY AVERAGE IN 2017)

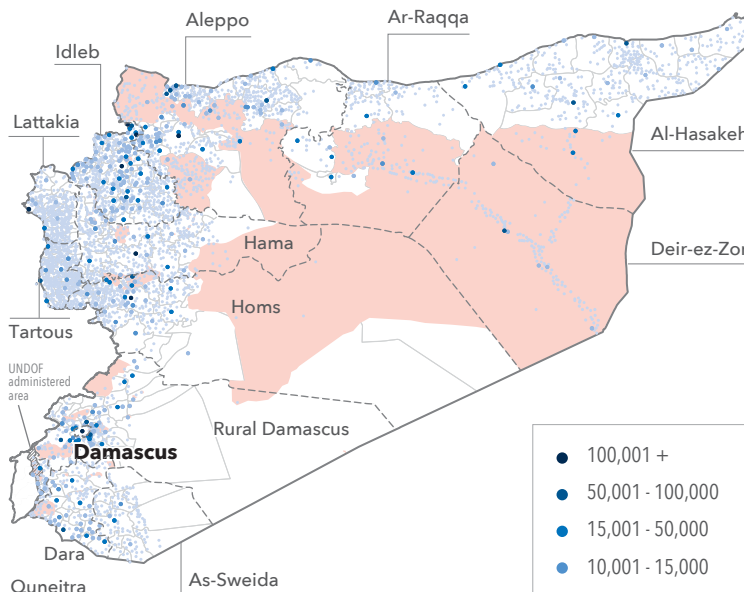
7.8 million
 3.5 million people reached in areas of high severity of need



TOTAL NUMBER OF IDP MOVEMENTS IN 2017

2.9 million

PEOPLE REACHED WITH HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES IN 2017 (MONTHLY AVERAGE)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Hard-to-reach areas (as of 19 Dec 2017)

ANALYSIS

Humanitarian partners provided humanitarian life-saving and life-sustaining assistance and services to a monthly average of 7.8 million people during 2017. Despite numerous challenges, humanitarian organisations were able to reach people in need across Syria at scale under a Whole of Syria approach that utilized a combination of regular programming, cross-line and cross-border to deliver assistance and provide basic services.

Partners were generally able to maintain and expand basic service delivery and increase efforts to preserve or restore livelihoods, helping to mitigate protection risks linked to protracted displacement, deteriorating living conditions and the exhaustion of positive coping mechanisms. Assistance to people in the most acute need and facing either catastrophic, critical or severe problems was prioritized. However significant gaps in the response remained

due to access obstacles as well as funding and operational capacity limitations.

UN and partners reached a monthly average of 1.4 million of the 2.9 million people living in UN-declared besieged and hard-to-reach areas. However, on average 77.6 per cent of people living in UN-declared besieged areas and 61.7 per cent of those living in hard-to-reach areas were not reached each month with any form of assistance due to access restrictions that impacted all delivery modalities.

Access restrictions and difficulties associated with the monitoring of mortality and morbidity indicators have continued to hamper efforts to establish a comprehensive understanding of the overall outcomes of humanitarian interventions in Syria. The Food Security sector conducted two rounds of Outcome Indicators Monitoring which enabled a follow-up of the food security status of assisted households.

PEOPLE TARGETED/REACHED BY SECTOR (UP TO DECEMBER 2017)

Sector	People in need (as per 2017 HNO)	Reached (Jan-Dec 2017)	Targeted (2017 HRP)	% Reach against target	% Reach against PiN	% Funded against requested (as per FTS)
CCCM (IDPs tracked)	6.3M	2.5M	0.45M	100%	39%	25%
Early Recovery & Livelihoods	13.8M	4.9M	5.5M	90%	36%	15%
Education	6.1M	2.8M	4.6M	61%	46%	45%
Food Security: Food Assistance	9M	5.3M*	7M**	75%	NA	44%
Food Security: Livelihoods/ Agriculture		3.3M	5.1M	64%	NA	
NFI	5.8M	2.4M	4.9M	48%	41%	27%
Nutrition	4.4M	2.6M	2.6M	99%	60%	22%
Shelter	4.3M	0.95M	0.74M	100%	22%	27%
WASH***	8.2M	5M	8.2M	61%	61%	40%
Health: Medical Interventions****	12.8M	2.24M monthly average	NA	NA	NA	35%
Protection: Interventions*****	13.5M	7.3M	9.7M	75%	NA	21%

* Average food baskets and cumulative emergency food rations

** The sector targets the estimated 7 million food-insecure people (HNO 2017) and an additional projected 1 million people from the caseload of emergency response (based on needs) to shift from short-term support to longer-term regular assistance until needed.

*** Estimated number of individuals benefitting from access to improved lifesaving / emergency WASH facilities and services; HRP only.

**** Given the challenges the sector faces in measuring individual beneficiaries, the indicator for the number of medical procedures is used as an aggregate indicator that serves as a proxy measure for overall progress in health service delivery in Syria (medical procedures are an aggregate indicator that includes outpatient consultations at primary health care units and hospitals, a number of referral cases, mental health consultations, trauma cases, persons with disabilities supported and deliveries by a skilled birth attendant).

***** Protection figures represent the total number of distinct protection interventions conducted through the sector's prevention, response and capacity building activities. The figures in this product include achievements from child protection (CP), gender-based violence (GBV) and mine action areas of responsibilities (AoRs).

HIGHLIGHT OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2017



PROTECTION

7.3 million protection interventions provided in 238 sub-districts through preventive/ risk mitigation, responsive, environment/ capacity building activities in all through preventive/ risk mitigation, responsive, environment/ capacity building activities.



FOOD SECURITY

An average of **5.3 million** people reached every month with food assistance, and **5.5 million** people with one-off emergency food assistance.



SHELTER / NFI

956,000 people in need assisted with shelter assistance.



WASH

5 million people reached with direct humanitarian WASH assistance.



EDUCATION

Almost **2.5 million** children and youth were reached through formal and non-formal education services



NUTRITION

Over **1 million** girls and boys under five, received lipid-based nutrient supplements (LNS) or high-energy biscuits, while almost **1.9 million** girls and boys under five and PLWs received micronutrient supplementation.

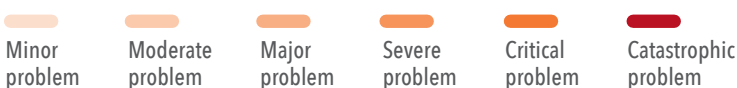


HEALTH

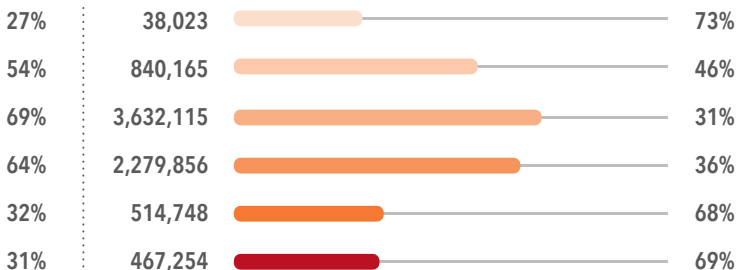
Supported/carried out **26.9 million** medical procedures distributed **12.1 million** treatment courses
360,324 children reached with immunization campaigns.

PEOPLE IN NEED REACHED/NOT REACHED IN 2017 BY SEVERITY SCALE (MONTHLY AVERAGE)

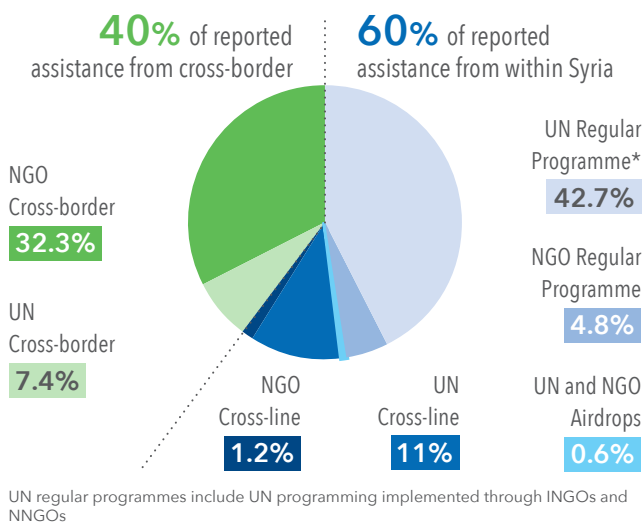
Severity Scale



People in Need reached



HUMANITARIAN DELIVERIES IN 2017 (MONTHLY AVERAGE)



KEY

GAPS



Approximately **70 per cent** of people facing catastrophic and critical problems were not reached each month. Many of these people live in UN-declared besieged and hard-to-reach areas.



Implementation of light **rehabilitation projects** across sectors remained limited.



Only **229,000** people, or **25 per cent** of the overall target, were reached through activities aimed at supporting the restoration of disrupted **livelihoods** and thereby contributing to greater resilience.



The departure of a large number of workers, particularly in the **health and education** sectors, continues to undermine public health and education services.



Significant gaps remain in the availability and quality of specialized **protection services**. In some areas, including where prolonged and intense hostilities such as **northeast Syria**, protection presence and expertise needs to be reinforced.



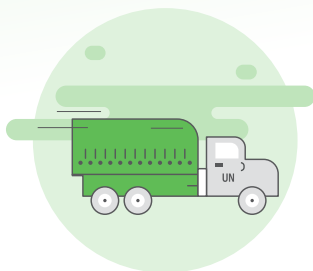
Limited absorption capacity in already heavily populated **IDP camps in northeast and northwest Syria** has hampered the ability of humanitarian partners to provide shelter, protection and basic services to new arrivals who have been displaced as a result of hostilities.



A lack of **comprehensive needs assessments** due to access restrictions and increasing complexity in implementation.

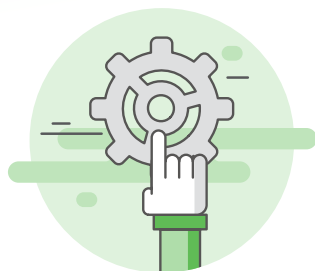
KEY

CHALLENGES



ACCESS

- High intensity hostilities and explosive hazard contamination continues to present a significant obstacle to humanitarian access and freedom of movement for the population to access services.
- Denial of authorization to operate, the delay in providing facilitation letters and the removal of critical medical supplies has limited the quantity and quality of supplies delivered through cross-line inter-agency convoys. In 2017 only 27 per cent (275,571) of those people targeted under the UN inter-agency convoy plans were actually reached between January to December.
- Border closures and/or restrictions on the shipment of supplies from neighboring countries presents a periodic challenge, while challenges in obtaining registrations or work permits from neighboring countries have resulted in programme suspensions.
- Interference in the humanitarian response, including the detention of humanitarian staff, the occupation of humanitarian warehouse or compounds and administrative requirements undermine an effective, timely and principled response.



OPERATIONAL CAPACITY

- Constraints on staff movements have limited capacity-building support to Syrian local staff and partners, undermining progress towards more quality service provision.
- The difficulties faced by Syrian NGOs in accessing direct funding has limited their ability to scale-up assistance and contributed to gaps in the response.
- Limited capacity in areas including cash-based programming, resilience and early recovery, shelter rehabilitation and specialized protection interventions (including technical HLP capacity) constitutes an obstacle to scaling up and diversifying services across Syria through quality programming.

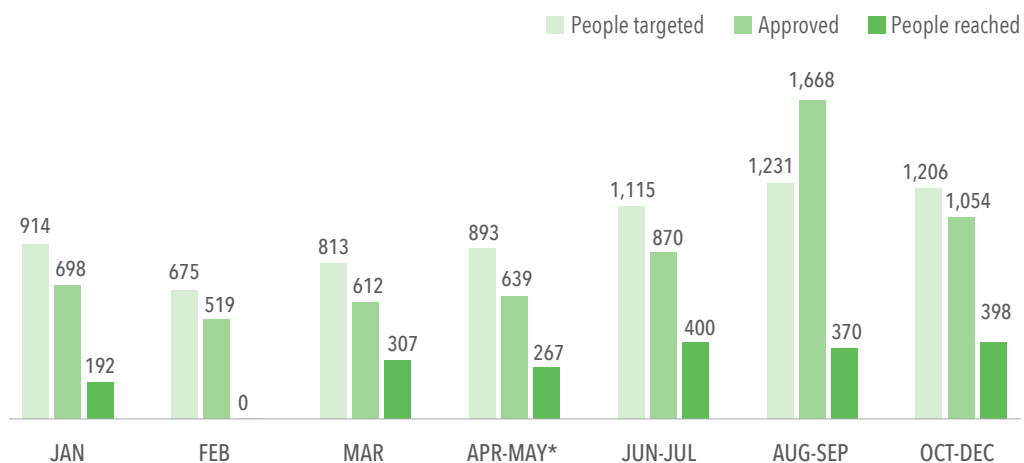
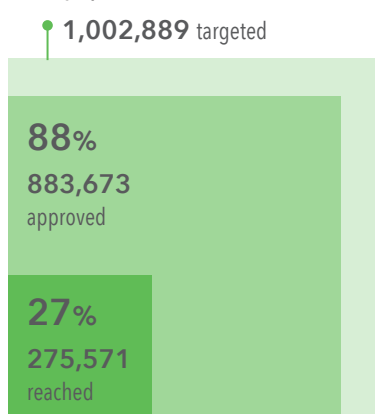


FUNDING

- Only 51.6 per cent of the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan was funded (as per FTS reported funding), in some cases leading to interruptions in the delivery of humanitarian life-saving emergency assistance and precluding the ability of partners to rapidly scale up the provision of assistance to people in need.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE TARGETED, APPROVED, AND REACHED THROUGH UN INTER-AGENCY CONVOYS

Average requests per UN inter-agency convoys plans Jan-Dec 2017



*Announcement of de-escalation areas

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Kristele Younes
Head of OCHA Syria,
younes4@un.org

Sarah Muscroft
Head of OCHA Jordan,
muscroft@un.org

Trond Jensen
Head of OCHA Turkey,
jensen8@un.org

Ivo Freijsen
Head of OCHA Regional Office for the Syria Crisis,
freijsen@un.org

For more information, please visit
www.unocha.org/syria www.reliefweb.int