

North-East Syria Flash Update #12

05-18th January 2020



Situation Overview

[To date, 70,590 people, including 17,648 women of reproductive age (WRA), remain displaced from North-East Syria (NES), to Al-Hassakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Aleppo governorates. Displaced people have, in the majority, found shelter in local communities but also in informal settlements and collective shelters. In recent weeks, three new informal IDP settlements have been established: Tweineh (hosting an estimated 4,120 people), Tal-Samen (estimated 20 people) and Daham (estimated 1,800 people). There are 77 shelters in Al-Hassakeh Governorate. An estimated 129,041 displaced people are reported to have returned to their places of origin. Of these, 118,936 have returned to Al-Hassakeh and Ar-Raqqa, including: 18,200 to Qamishli, 7,625 to Tal Tamer, 8,425 to Al-Malikeyyeh, 42,869 to Ras Al Ain and 41,817 to Tal Abyad in Ar-Raqqa. In Aleppo 10,105 have returned, mainly to Menbij.[1] With the continued drastic drops in temperatures, women and girls are adversely affected by the cold weather and dire needs for NFIs that will protect them from the weather continue to persist.]

Immediate Response

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

During the period of 05-18th January 2020:

- UNFPA provided a range of GBV services including: GBV Case Management, Psycho-social Support (PSS), GBV awareness raising, vocational trainings, recreational activities, referral to more specialized services such as mental health, and more physically severe cases. Immediate response GBV services are integrated with reproductive health (RH) services through mobile teams and RH Clinics and through integrated RH/GBV mobile teams (MTs) to the newly displaced people including referral to existing services in the camps and shelters.
- GBV services were provided to **7347 beneficiaries**.
- UNFPA has continued the provision of comprehensive GBV services through **6 Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS)**[2] in NES: 1 Emergency WGSS in Al-Hol Camp and 1 in Areesha Camp, 1 WGSS in Al-Hassakeh City, 1 WGSS in Qamishli and 2 WGSSs in Raqqa (Ar-Raqqa and Tabqa cities) Governorate. Furthermore, UNFPA operates **6 mobile teams**: 3 cover Areesha Camp, Al-Hol Camp and Tabqqa City, 1 covers Al-Hassakeh City and 2 cover the collective shelters.
- In Areesha Camp, UNFPA reached **433 beneficiaries**.
- In Raqqa WGSS, UNFPA reached **2522 beneficiaries**.
- In Al-Hol camp, UNFPA reached **2887 beneficiaries**.
- In several shelters in Rural Al-Hassakeh, UNFPA reached **1505 beneficiaries**.

[1] [UNOCHA Syria NES Displacement](#)

[2] WGSS provide a range of GBV services including: GBV Case Management, Psycho-social Support (PSS), GBV awareness raising, vocational trainings, recreational activities, referral to more specialized services such as mental health, and more physically severe cases. The WGSS serve newly displaced women and adolescent girls as well as the people in the host communities.

Reproductive Health (RH)

During the period of 05th -18th January 2020:

- UNFPA and its implementing partners continued the provision of RH services including: pregnancy care, family planning, infectious diseases treatment and care, pediatric, primary health care, PSS, and referral services for **5374 individuals** in 45 shelters (39 shelters in Al-Hassakeh City and 6 shelters in Rural Hassakeh, Tal Tamer) in addition to 23 villages in the rural areas of Al-Hassakeh (10 in Rural Tal-Tamer and 13 in Abdul Aziz Mountain), Ar-Raqqa City (Tabqa and Jurinia).
- UNFPA has continued provision of ante-natal care (ANC), post-natal care (PNC), family planning (FP), treatment of reproductive tract infections (RTIs) and urinary tract infections(UTIs), pediatric, primary health care (PHC) and referral services, in addition to deliveries. In Areesha Camp, UNFPA reached **520 WRA**, out of which 159 are pregnant.
- In Mahmoudi Camp, UNFPA reached **172 WRA**, out of which 55 are pregnant.
- In TweiHina Camp, UNFPA reached **239 WRA**, out of which 84 are pregnant.
- The relocation of people from Mabrouka camp to Areesha camp has put pressure on the UNFPA RH clinic in Areesha Camp since there is a population of 8,475 that need to have access to SRH services.
- From the 9th of October 2019 until the 18th of January 2020, UNFPA supported **40 deliveries**: 29 normal deliveries and 11 C-Sections.
- RH static clinics: **15**.

Beneficiaries Reached through RH and GBV in NES:

(Between 09th October 2019 and 18 th January 2020)

- **43,731 beneficiaries** reached with health services (RH, Paediatric & PHC).
- RH services were provided to **42,417 WRA** (10,904 out of them were pregnant).
- **Pediatric** services were provided to **1,052 children** due to dire health needs.
- Primary Health Care services were provided to **257 men** due to the dire health needs.
- **39,405 beneficiaries** reached with GBV services.
- RH\GBV integrated Mobile teams: **26**.
- Kits¹ distributed: **36,381**.
- Sanitary Napkin packs distributed: **22,686**.

Al-Hol Camp:

In Al-Hol camp, needs remain considerable and without a durable solution. Through its WGSS, UNFPA continues providing integrated RH/GBV services such as: PSS Counselling, literacy courses, and vocational training. Additionally, ante-natal and post-natal care, family planning, treatment of urinary-tract infections and RH services are provided through a maternity clinic which operates 24/7, in addition to 2 RH static clinics, 1 RH mobile medical team (MMT) and 1 RH/GBV MMT, 4 RH/GBV mobile teams, as well as a hospitainer. In coordination with UNICEF, literacy classes are being provided for women and girls in Al-Hol camp.

Additionally, UNFPA continues the provision of case management for young mothers in Al-Hol camp, with UNICEF referring to UNFPA-supported WGSS those who have been received in their child-friendly space and need SRH and/or GBV response services.

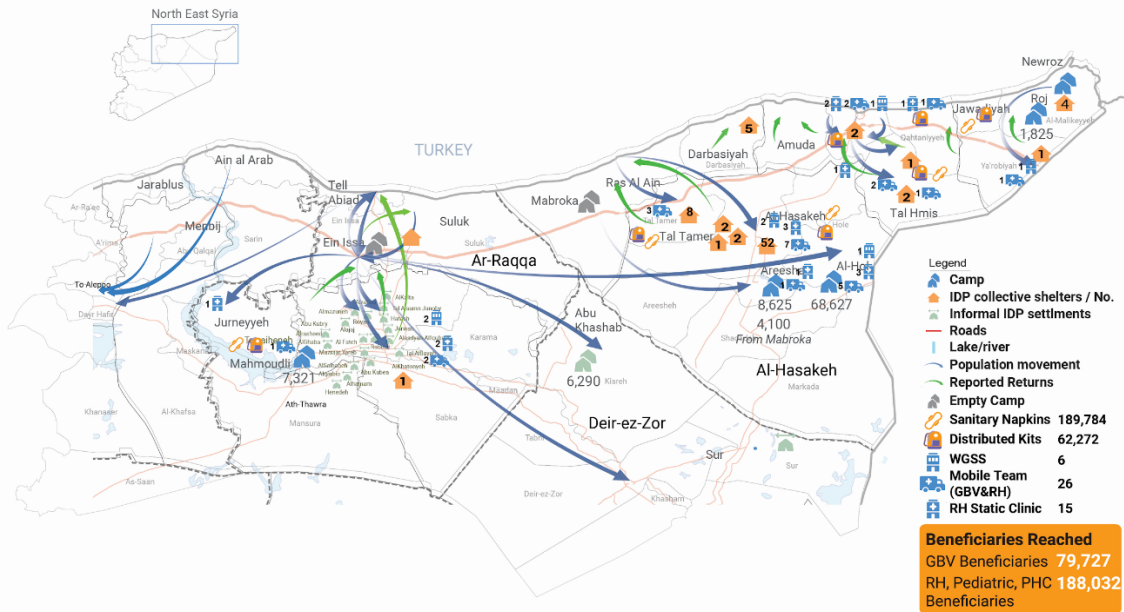
The UNFPA emergency WGSS currently only covers the needs in 'Phase 4' [4] while the RH/GBV mobile teams are providing awareness sessions and referral services in the same phase. GBV services are lacking in Phases 2, 5, 7 and 8, with the total number of people in those phases being more than 25,000.

The challenge of lack of provision of services in these Phases is due to insufficient space as a result of overcrowding. Furthermore, lack of skilled personnel is an additional challenge.

The emergency WGSS in Al-Hol camp had to be closed for 2 days for repair and maintenance due to the damage caused by the heavy rains. After repair, the WGSS is now active and receiving beneficiaries again.

189,463 beneficiaries reached (between 13 March 2019 and 18th January 2020):

- **2** RH/GBV integrated mobile teams.
- **2** GBV mobile teams.
- **1** emergency WGSS.
- **1** RH Mobile Team.
- **2** RH Static Clinic.
- **1** Normal Delivery Clinic.
- **1** Hospitainer.
- **23,330 kits** distributed.
- **164,457 Sanitary Napkins** distributed.



Challenges:

- **As a result of non-renewal of Yarubiya border crossing and with the new UNSCR 2504 (2020), an immediate scale up in provision of services and supplies in NES is required.** Limited available capacities in NES needs to be urgently addressed. Length of approval processes for shipments of supplies and equipment to the NES will need to be closely monitored in order to assess actual capacity to deliver.
- Limited capacity of humanitarian actors in mainstreaming GBV interventions in humanitarian response and in provision of specialised GBV services (see in “Next in the Response”).
- In Areesha camp, the WGSS will need to be relocated due to the influx of IDPs from Mabrouka camp as well as the relocation of IDPs after the last flooding (see in “Next in the Response”).

[4] [UNFPA Service Delivery Map](#)

Next in the Response:

- Capacity development of humanitarian actors on integrating GBV risk mitigation in humanitarian interventions in NES is being discussed with sectors. UNFPA is currently in the process of preparing GBV mainstreaming sessions to be conducted targeting: WASH, Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Protection / Child Protection and Health sectors.
- Rapid assessment of GBV response capacity is expected to commence in February 2020.
- Distribution of **35,000 sanitary napkins** to 20,944 women and adolescent girls is planned to start the week of 20-24th January 2020.
- 22 trucks containing: **138,470 Sanitary Napkins, 20,687 Winterized Protection Dignity Kits, 7,446 Male Dignity Kits, 898 Pregnant and Lactating Women Kits, 454 Adolescent Dignity Kits, 10,782 Blankets, 10,782 Scarfs and 2,000 Flash Lights** will be dispatched in the next 10 days to NES.
- With the next shipment, UNFPA is in the process of sending to NES **27 RH Kits, serving up to 12,000 women.**
- UNFPA is in the process of submitting a request for the shipment of Reproductive health (RH) kits from Damascus to Al Hassakeh governorate, anticipating a facilitated action to avoid any gap in the supply of RH kits due to non-renewal of Yarubiya crossing.
- UNFPA plans to add one new mobile team under one of its implementing partners to respond to the needs in the collective shelters in NES.
- UNFPA, in coordination with UNICEF, is currently developing a capacity development plan for IPs to enhance quality of service.
- Cursory information indicates that there are approximately 21,000 persons with disabilities in Al-Hassakeh. UNFPA is currently cooperating with UNDP to put in place a referral mechanism in order to effectively refer persons with disabilities to the UNDP-supported disability projects
- In response to awareness-raising on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), in Al-Hol, UNFPA through its IP, will keep PSEA awareness sessions in place within the camp, including in the departure areas.
- In Al-Hol camp, UNFPA is planning to increase community volunteers for better implementation and provision of comprehensive GBV services. In order to allocate community volunteers, more resources are required.
- In response to the need to relocate the WGSS in Areesha camp, UNFPA is currently discussing with camp management to identify a new and more suitable location which is forecast to take place within 1 month.

Immediate Needs:

The UNFPA funding gap for NES (including Al-Hol Camp) immediate needs until end of March 2020:

Kits: 5,500,000USD

Services: 1,055,000USD

Total 6,555,000 USD