



## Highlights

### ◆ Shelter

- 61,694 individuals have benefitted from the shelter response in 2014 so far including the ongoing maintenance in UNRWA shelters for Palestinian refugees.
- While shelter sector partners recognize that shelter response in 2014 is likely to be scaled down due to the increased volatility of the operational environment as well as funding and accessibility constraints, they are confident that planned commitments will be fulfilled by the end of the year.

### ◆ NFI

- Since the beginning of the year, more than 3,706,941 beneficiaries have been supported with a total of 11,485,326 NFIs (15.5 items per family in average).
- The NFIs dispatch has been reduced significantly since April 2014 as the sector agencies continue to face tremendous challenges with the newly introduced procedures in dispatching NFIs from their warehouses to the partners for distribution as well as in importing NFIs into the country.
- Following the Security Council Resolution (SCR) 2165, a cross-border relief operation took place through Turkey (Bab Al-Salam border crossing) and another one took place on 6 August from Jordan (Ramtha crossing point).

## Sector Strategy and Objectives

### ◆ Shelter

- Develop shelter response options and variations in emergency contexts.
- Develop alternative shelter options to enhance outreach and efficiency while maintaining the current shelter response options of collective shelter rehabilitation and private shelter upgrade.
- Strive to eliminate administrative hurdles for project identification, planning and implementation and adopt smooth and efficient procedures, yet maintain transparency and accountability.
- Efficiently link with other sectors, in particular WASH and Protection to comprehensively cover needs beyond shelter and to actively address concerns of beneficiaries' safety, security and well-being.

### ◆ NFI

- Increase provision of appropriate life-saving emergency services and relief supplies for the affected people in Syria.
- Ensure adequate levels of preparedness to respond to further emerging humanitarian needs.

To this end, the following strategies are followed:

- Focus on newly displaced population and host communities.
- Procure/stockpile standard NFIs to enable urgent distributions.
- Follow a decentralized approach for agencies to be closer to beneficiaries, to enhance rapid response, outreach and monitoring capacity and to have more flexibility if the security situation worsens.
- Build capacities of local partners involved in the distribution process in particular the main partner SARC.

## Context and Response

### ◆ Shelter

- There are different types of shelter solutions selected by the displaced population such as renting, being hosted by relatives or settling collectively whether in public or in private buildings. The shelter sector works currently on improving the physical conditions of the shared shelters through various types of interventions as they are in a dire need of such response.
- The Shelter response in Syria takes place in a highly regulated environment, with limited capacity of implementing partners and strong government involvement. While this provides government endorsement and support of shelter activities, it also entails formal requirements and lengthy procedures to engage in concrete response activities.
- The shelter sector is striving to develop more efficient response options. This concerns modalities for implementation, as well as appropriate variations for timely response in emergencies.

### ◆ NFI

- IDPs are typically compelled to leave behind many of their assets. This heightens their vulnerability and exposure to a range of risks. Host communities and displaced persons have resorted to negative coping mechanisms such as children's drop out from school, consuming low quality and quantity of food, residing in crowded and unclean shelters, begging, child labor and many other risky income-generating activities.

## Challenges

### ◆ Shelter

- Inaccessibility to some areas due to the increased volatility in the political environment and power shifts, hence the whole operational context. By its nature, shelter response is location-bound; therefore it is difficult to adjust in case of changing conditions on the planned intervention areas. Consequently, planning, for assumed emergencies as well as with regard to recovery and sustainability proves to be extremely challenging.
- Cumbersome administrative requirements for current available shelter response options.
- Funding shortfall and donors' reluctance to invest in shelter response within Syria.
- The frequently changing conditions including the security situation require considerable monitoring capacity and high flexibility to adjust interventions.

### ◆ NFI

- Security concerns for humanitarian personnel hindering the delivery of emergency assistance to those who are in need.
- Shifting lines of crisis, numerous checkpoints, bureaucratic procedures and proliferation of armed groups preventing the delivery of timely, needs-based humanitarian assistance within Syria.
- Limited number of NGOs permitted to operate in Syria as well as their limited operational capacity.
- Insufficient profiling and disaggregated data on the displaced population and host communities hampering effective planning and advocacy.
- Unilateral economic and financial sanctions impeding procurement of essential humanitarian supplies from outside Syria.
- Newly introduced procedure for the dispatch of relief items within the country as well as for importing them into the country delaying the assistance delivery.

## Coordinators:

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# Needs, response and gaps

## Shelter

Shelter needs may differ based on target groups; hence response needs change accordingly. Up to present, only IDPs in government-controlled areas are served with shelter response through collective shelter rehabilitation and private shelter upgrade. Future shelter response is to take place in the framework of the national response and recovery plan aiming at providing response for specific groups, needs and areas. At the same time, shelter response has to address possible emergency situations, as well as recovery oriented perspectives, and every possible intermediate context.

## NFI

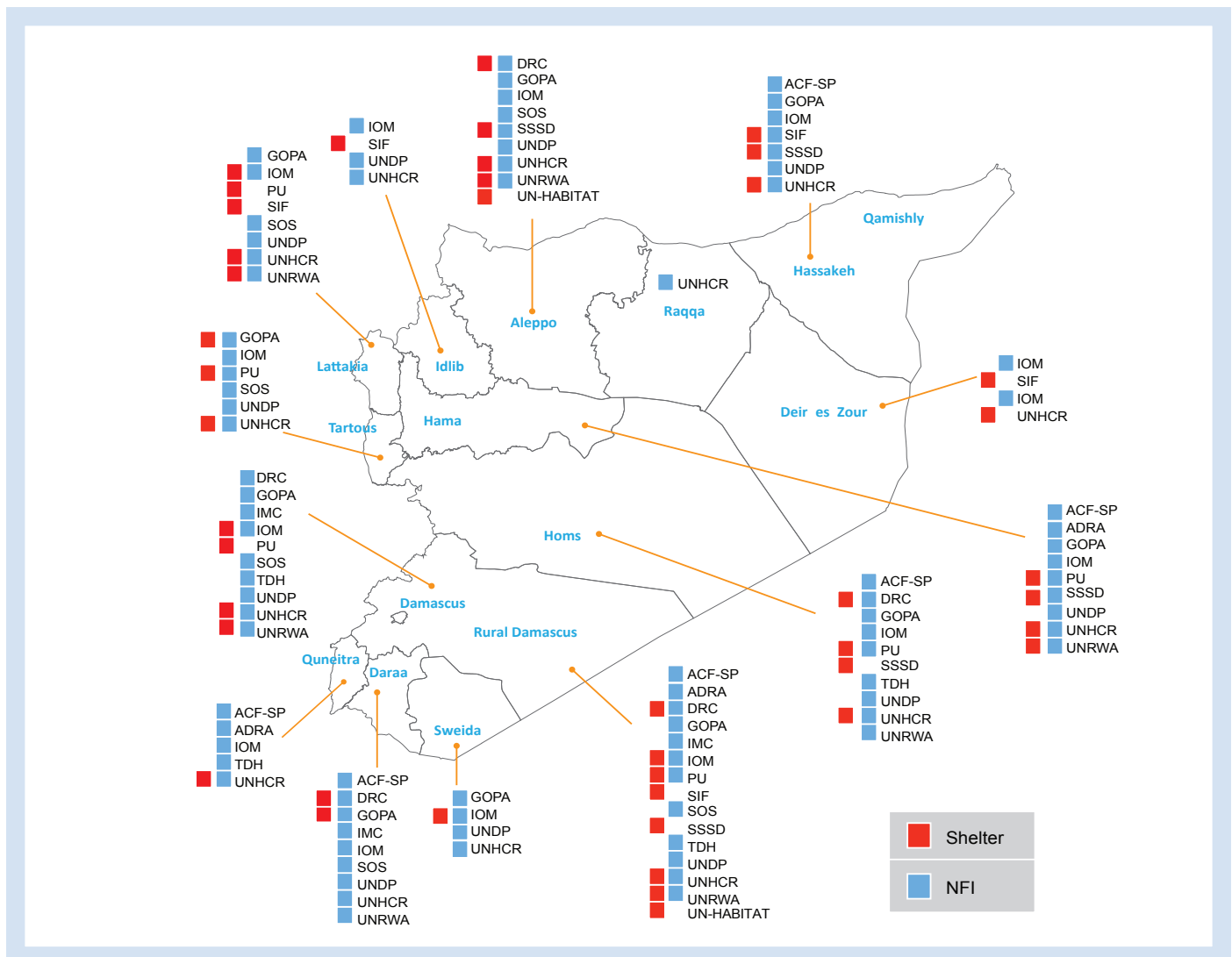
- The number of IDPs including those displaced multiple times over the year has increased significantly. The NFI sector agencies aim to support 4,680,000 people with NFIs in the course of 2014, which is less than half of the people in need of humanitarian assistance in the country.
- The NFI working group agreed on the comprehensive family packages, which contain mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, jerry cans, baby and elderly diapers, sanitary napkins and plastic sheets, etc. The agencies started procurement of the items to be distributed during winter, including high thermal blankets and winter clothes.
- Following the SCR 2165, cross-border relief assistance was delivered in July through the Bab Al-Salem crossing from Turkey and on the 6 August, through the Ramtha crossing in Jordan. This is expected to continue to complement the cross-line delivery in order to have access to people in hard-to-reach areas.

# Solutions

## Shelter

Shelter response options will be presented after endorsement of the revised Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan (SHARP) with elaboration of alternatives for emergency response, respectively efficient housing solutions in different contexts.

# Who is doing what where in Shelter and NFIs – till 6 August 2014



### Sector Leader



### Partners of the Shelter and NFI sector

