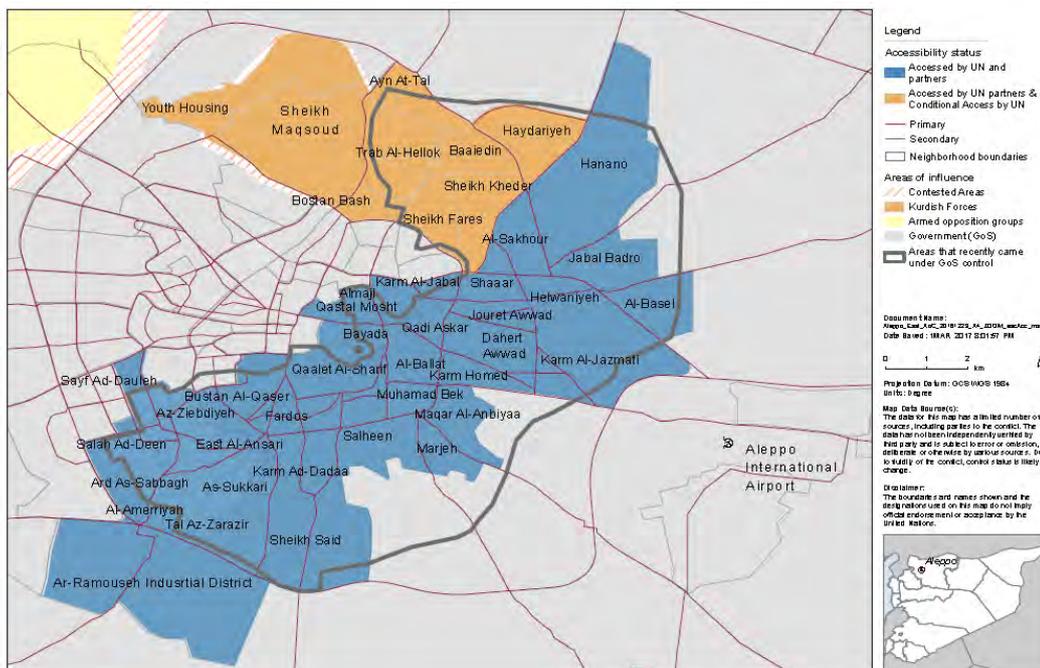




This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 9 March – 22 April 2017.

Highlights

- As per the most recent assessment, some 153,012 individuals have been registered in the newly accessible neighborhoods, while 48,173 people originally from former eastern Aleppo still reside with relatives and acquaintances in the western parts of Aleppo city.
- A total of 17,033 people have been registered in areas under the control of Kurdish forces, and 5,077 remain in Jibreen collective shelter.
- While the UN now has accessed all parts of Aleppo city and enjoys regular access to most, the UN only has conditional access to the areas of Aleppo city under the control of Kurdish forces. These parts of town are mostly accessed through UN partners. However, on 2 April, the UN were able to conduct an inter-agency needs assessment mission.
- On 23 March, MoFA communicated to the UN its decision to remove the Aleppo-based Al Talouf and Al Ihsan NGOs from the list of national NGOs authorized to cooperate with UN agencies. This decision could have wide-reaching implications on programming activities, noting that UN agencies in Aleppo have 37 ongoing projects with these two charities covering seven sectors, including health, shelter, protection and WASH, , providing vital support to hundreds of thousands of people in Aleppo.



153,012

people have been registered in the newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city



5,077

IDPs are registered in Jibreen collective shelter



146,001

IDPs across Aleppo city benefitted from NFIs distributed by several actors



21

deaths and 37 injuries related to ERWs, UXOs, IEDs, and landmines reported in Aleppo city in March



Situational Overview

Throughout the past few months, the security situation in Aleppo city remained comparatively calm, and formerly displaced families continue to return to the newly accessible areas of Aleppo city. To date, a total of 153,012 individuals have been officially registered in these neighbourhoods. Many of the returnees continue to live in at best partially damaged houses, and all areas still require a proper, systematic structural assessment to be carried out. Collective shelters remain overcrowded, host families are over-burdened and IDPs are struggling to find suitable shelter. Most of the newly accessible neighborhoods are heavily damaged and lack functioning infrastructure and basic services.

Explosive remnants of war (ERW), unexploded ordnances (UXO), improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and landmines continue to pose threats to civilians and have led to 21 deaths and 37 war injuries city in March 2017 according to DoH statistics.

During the month of March, 10,535 household visits across 41 neighborhoods showed that children represent approximately half of the population of the assessed households, and high instances of child labor were recorded. High numbers of female-headed households were recorded in the southern neighborhoods of Aleppo, and the largest number of persons with disabilities was detected in the north-eastern parts of the city. Many cases related to civil documentation issues continue to be identified.

On 23 March, MoFA communicated to the UN its decision to remove Aleppo-based Al Ta'alouf NGO and Al Ihsan NGO from the list of national NGOs authorized to cooperate with UN agencies. This decision would have wide-reaching implications noting that UN agencies in Aleppo have 37 ongoing projects covering seven sectors, including health, shelter, protection and WASH with these two charities, providing vital support to hundreds of thousands of people.

Humanitarian Response in Aleppo city



Shelter and NFIs

Needs

- On 12 March, some 50 families (312 individuals) reached Jibreen industrial halls over a span of seven days from different villages in eastern rural Aleppo, mainly from Albab, Dair Hafer, Tedef, Bzaa, Sukarieha, Kaser Albriehj, Aum Khrezeh Khafsa, Babiri, Maskana, Mktala. Additionally, ten families left Jibreen to be hosted by extended family members in Aleppo city. On 22 March, about 250 families (1,200 individuals) reached Mahalej.
- Conditions in the Mahalej transitional shelter have improved but it still is not a permanent shelter. Concerns remain, as reports emerged that some IDPs' documents were lost during the governmental scanning process in Mahalej or during the armed clashes.
- Aleppo has massive shelter needs in most of its neighborhoods, which impact IDPs, returnees and the non-displaced alike, although needs vary. Collective shelters are overcrowded, host families are over-burdened and IDPs are struggling to find suitable shelter. Most of the newly accessible neighborhoods are heavily damaged and lack functioning infrastructure and basic services. Furthermore, neighborhoods in the eastern outskirts are not easily accessible, and surrounded by empty areas. Some neighborhoods that were only moderately affected offer more conducive conditions for the return of IDPs as they benefit from nearby operational markets, existing transport and operational infrastructure. Return movements continue to occur on a small scale in most of the newly accessible neighborhoods, and are foreseen to gradually increase, if the situation allows for it.
- Jebreen zones 1 and 2 are currently hosting 5,275 IDPs. Nevertheless, the future of the collective shelter is still uncertain, and it remains to be seen whether it will be closed or maintained for the short to mid-term.
- The IDP population from the newly accessible parts of Aleppo residing in the western part of town seems to be decreasing according to the latest registration numbers (45,850 individuals). Nevertheless, modalities still have to be identified to support all IDPs staying in sub-standard shelters or with host families.
- A total of 141,493 individuals have been registered as having moved back to newly accessible neighborhoods. These neighborhoods are, according to the Governorate's plan, priority areas for emergency and durable rehabilitations, including Masaken Hanano (10,555 individuals), Qadi Askar and Al Kalaseh (15,829 individuals). The three other focus neighbourhoods (included in MoLA's list) are Bustan Al-Qaseer, Saif Ad-Dawlah and Az-Ziebdiyah. For the time being the sector is prioritizing Hanano for quick IDPs-related interventions, and Saif Ad-Dawlah and Az-Ziebdiyah for emergency and durable support.

- The Governorate is cleaning the main streets leading to these neighborhoods, while UNDP and UNHCR are waiting for the main access roads to be cleared in order to be able to remove debris from the priority neighborhoods.
- To date, no structural assessment has been carried out in any of these neighborhoods, but a joint “pilot assessment” has been launched in Masaken Hanano and will open the way to assess all neighborhoods.
- Most areas such as Masaken Hanano, Meshateeh, Tareek Bab, Shaar, Qaterji and others are accessible for needs assessments. Around 20,000 households were assessed and registered through UNHCR implementing partners. Assessment visits to the areas show high needs for water and electricity provision and different NFIs, as most of the returnees found their houses empty upon their return.

Response

- Sector members responded to the needs of the returnees through their partners and sub-partners by providing NFIs. In March 2017, UNHCR assisted 108,286 IDPs (21,835 families) in different locations of the newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city, and IOM covered 37,715 beneficiaries through the provision of 20,505 NFIs, such as mattresses, high thermal blankets, diapers, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, jerry cans, plastic sheets, sleeping mats, winter clothing kits, solar lamps, sleeping bags, thermal underwear, rubber boots, and carpets. Emergency stocks are continuously replenished to be able to respond to any influx.
- In Jebreen zones 1 and 2, DRC is planning to rehabilitate 24 units.
- IOM has completed the distribution of 500 shelter kits in Al Fardos, Marjeh and Al Sukkari. IOM with their partner is installing 200 shelter kits in Al-Slehein and Karm Al-Dada.
- UNHCR/SARC have completed their assessment in Hanano, and are preparing to install 500 shelter kits for 500 IDP families. Additionally, UNHCR is planning to install an extra 200 kits in locations still to be defined. Medair is planning to install 650 shelter kits in Karm al-Jazmati and/or Tareeq Al Bab. UNHCR/AI Talouf have completed the partitioning of six mosques in Al Hamdanieh with shelter kits (Al-Baraa, Al-Hassan, Al-Imam Al-Nawawi, Al-Saiedeh Zainab, Al-Mustafa, Al-Farouq).
- In preparation for the families coming from Foah and Kafraya as part of the four towns evacuations, UNHCR/SARC have installed 1,750 shelter kits in Mahalej for 2,000 families.
- DRC has completed the rehabilitation of 176 rooms with durable materials, in four private buildings in Al Shekh Taha, benefiting some 880 IDPs. UNHCR/SIF have selected 100 apartments to be rehabilitated with durable shelter interventions, in Midan, Salah Aldeen and Jabreha. The project has been approved by the Governorate and MoLA, and SIF is launching the technical assessment. Al-Ihsan plans the rehabilitation of 18 apartments with durable shelter interventions in Bustan Al Kasr, Al Mashhad, Zebdieh, Salah Al Deen, Al Katerji and Tareek Al Bab. UN Habitat is planning to rehabilitate 150 damaged houses in Al-Kallaseh. UNHCR is planning to rehabilitate 400 houses in Al-Ansari Mashhad, Az-Ziebdiyeh, Ashrafiyeh, Bustan Al-Qaser, Kallaseh, Khaldiyyeh, Seif Adalwleh, Midan, Qadi Askar. ADRA is planning to rehabilitate 100 houses in Khaldiyyeh. PU is planning to rehabilitate 200 houses in Al-Khaldiya, Al-Midan, Al-Ashrafya, Al-Slymania, Neil-street, Al-Jabria. GOPA is planning to rehabilitate 300 houses in Midan and locations still to be identified, Rescate is planning to rehabilitate 490 houses, SSSD 450 houses; and Oxfam 350 houses.
- An expert panel discussion took place in April with the governorate, municipalities, city council, directorates, ICRC/SARC, partners and the three sectors of Shelter, WASH and Early Recovery to gather the necessary information in order to define the list of priority neighborhoods for rehabilitation activities.
- The shelter sector is launching, through local partners, rapid pre-structural assessments in four priority neighborhoods (Seif Adalwleh, Sulayman Albhalabe, Midan, Jabreah) to identify ‘green’ buildings where interventions can be started quickly.

- A workshop in coordination with the Governorate, Shelter, WASH and Early Recovery sectors was organized at the end of March, to draft a joint pilot multi-sector response plan in three priority neighbourhoods (Sayfe Aldawla, Az Zebdyeh, Al Ansari Mashahd).

Gaps and constraints

- The decision by GoS authorities to discontinue UN partnerships with Al Ihsan and Al-Talouf NGO will have a negative effect on the sector's operational capacity to respond to IDP needs.



Protection

General context

- The Protection Sector continued to provide services to the population in need, the displaced and resident population of West Aleppo, and continued to enhance the response to the returning population to the newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city.
- **Needs identification through field visits coordinated by UNHCR to newly accessible neighborhoods in Aleppo highlighted some important dynamics and aspects of the population composition relevant to protection partners and to the response of the Protection Sector in favor of persons with specific needs.** During the month of March, some 10,535 households, representing 42,160 persons, were visited across 41 neighborhoods. Findings showed that children represented approximately half of the population of the assessed households, with a significantly higher percentage of children in households in central and southern neighborhoods, where elevated rates of child labor were also recorded. In parallel, the southern neighborhoods of Aleppo stood out for the high numbers of female-headed household as well as older persons detected. In the north-eastern parts of the city, the highest levels of persons with disabilities were recorded. In both eastern and north-eastern sectors, greater needs in relation to civil documentation issues were identified. Key findings will be presented in the next Protection Working Group meeting and circulated to partners across the sector with a view to engage and coordinate response activities.
- **The analysis of the priority needs emerging from field consultations contributed also to informing the response of the Sector in the Aleppo Micro-plan issued and endorsed by the HCT.** The Sector plans interventions (a) to establish new static and accessible facilities to provide comprehensive protection services (e.g. Community Centers, Child Friendly Spaces Women and Girls Safe Spaces); (b) to expand mobile services for better outreach (e.g. Outreach Volunteers, Mobile Teams, Mobile GBV and Reproductive Health services); (c) to expand information dissemination on available services providers as well as to raise awareness on numerous protection-related topics, notably risk education, legal awareness, GBV and child protection; (d) to support local-level community-based organizations and initiatives with a protection impact on the situation of persons with specific needs; (e) to promote capacity-building initiatives and technical support to protection service providers including State institutions (e.g. Civil Registrars; Department for Social Affairs).
- **In parallel, initiatives to strengthen the coordination and the referral have been undertaken by sector partners.** Based on inputs from various Sector Partners, UNICEF consolidated a Social Service Map in Aleppo (including health, nutrition, protection, livelihood, education food and NFIs distribution), which was presented to all Protection Sector partners. The document will allow partners to inform persons of concern about existing services, and refer individuals to the available service better responding to their needs. The service map will also allow UNICEF and UNHCR partners to set up a referral and improved cases management system for cases requiring more specific protection interventions and follow-up.
- **A recent inter-agency mission to Sheikh Maqsoud and eight other Kurdish-controlled neighborhoods in Aleppo city (estimated population 12,500 households) identified multiple protection concerns.** The majority of children are not enrolled in school and the need for psychosocial support targeting children was identified as a key priority. Childbirths are recorded by Kurdish authorities but no official documentation is

issued. As most children are born with the help of midwives (community volunteers) rather than in hospitals, birth notifications are not issued, thus complicating their future registration by the competent Syrian authorities. Most families are in fact reported to face civil documentation-related issues but cannot resolve them due to a combination of a lack of services on the ground, restricted freedom of movement due to checkpoints, lack of financial resources for administrative fees and fines, as well as the reluctance of male residents to be likely exposed to military conscription. The effects of the crisis have resulted in serious disruptions to household compositions. The mission detected some 57 known unaccompanied and separated children, an estimated 40-45% of households headed by women or children in Sheikh Maqsoud, and an estimated 70% of households headed by women in the other eight neighborhoods. Aside from mine risk education activities, no other protection services or activities are currently available in these neighborhoods as access has been an issue until recently. Depending on regular access, both UNICEF and UNHCR plan to expand protection services through local NGO partners focusing on child protection, psychosocial support, legal support and community mobilization activities.

- **Protection Sector partners reacted to the recent arrival in Mahalej of around 1,000 individuals recently displaced from Der Hafer.** UNICEF and child protection actors estimate that around 300 of the new arrivals are children and among them, four were identified as UASC. Consulted women expressed concerns about the military conscription, which deprives the family of the main resource to provide income and support the family. In this context, UNICEF partners responded timely with child protection services, through risk education, psychosocial support, awareness activities.
- **The effect of the hostilities continues to represent a threat to the protection of the civilian population in Aleppo, and particularly children.** On 23 March 2017, two separate mortar attacks in the Hamdanieh neighborhood killed five children. In the first incident two girls (9 and 12-year-old) were reportedly hit by a mortar in the playground of the Abdulfattah Baath School, which is partially used as a temporary accommodation for IDPs. In a second incident on the same day, three siblings (a 9-year-old boy and his 7 and 9-year-old sisters) were reportedly killed by a mortar while on a street near to the school. The Protection Sector remains concerned by the use of explosive weapons with wide impact in densely populated areas. This includes weapons such as mortars, firing to a location without a direct line of visibility to the target and often not guided to hit a specific target, making them indiscriminate.

Response

- During the period under review, protection sector partners continued to deliver protection services to girls, boys, women and men through the continuation of their programs.
- **Amongst the comprehensive protection activities, largely carried out by UNHCR and partners in the context of community centres and connected outreach initiatives:**
 - 12,678 individuals benefitted from awareness raising on various topics, including information on available services, on psychosocial well-being, on legal issues (largely civil documentation);
 - 3,042 persons benefitted from individual legal counseling and assistance, largely on civil-documentation related procedures;
 - Almost 4,000 individuals were provided with psychosocial support through PFA interventions, structured individual counseling as well as group sessions, both in the context of Community Centers and through outreach activities; 271 individuals received more comprehensive case-management follow-up.
 - Some 788 individuals with specific needs received targeted material assistance in the context of activities promoted by the Community Centers, including rehabilitation materials for persons with disabilities, and vocational kits to start micro-businesses as a form of support to family resilience;

- Other forms of psycho-social and economic support, including recreational initiatives, informal education and vocational training were offered to some 22,500 individuals.
- **Child Protection actors, largely through partnership with UNICEF and UNHCR provided the following response:**
 - 8,982 people were reached through a variety of awareness raising sessions on child protection topics, community events and activity days for children and parents;
 - 7,132 individuals benefited from the roll out of the risk education program in schools and communities and one risk education capacity building activity was undertaken;
 - Some 2,200 children were reached with child protection and psychosocial support services with structured and sustained interventions, through static centers and mobile teams;
 - 257 children had case files opened as in need for a more comprehensive and articulated case-management response;
 - 219 people (90 men, 129 women) received training on a variety of child protection issues, including community based interventions, foundations on child protection and on specialized child protection services.
- **A specific GBV response was addressed largely to women and girls, through static and mobile initiatives by UNFPA and UNHCR partners.** Initiatives included the UNFPA-supported Syrian Family Planning Association (SFPA) running one static clinic, 3 mobile teams and one Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS); SARC, running one PSS mobile team and 4 static clinics; and UNHCR-supported Community Centres. In this context:
 - 4,453 individuals benefitted from GBV-oriented awareness raising initiatives;
 - 1,280 women and girls at risk received psycho-social support (structured and PFA) including through SFPA mobile teams and SARC mobile clinics in various neighborhoods of Aleppo;
 - The needs of 447 women and girls at risk, including GBV survivors, were addressed through more comprehensive case management. In addition, 82 cases were referred to receive legal assistance.

Gaps and constraints

- The recent Government suspension of the activities of some local NGOs working in partnership with numerous humanitarian actors is of high concern for the Protection Sector, due to the volume of the activities already implemented and planned by those NGOs, including in the management of Community Centers, in Child Protection and GBV activities and in the specialized offer of legal counseling. These developments, if not redressed, may have negative repercussions on the protection response in the short and long term.
- While initiatives of protection services mapping are undertaken, constant information sharing and coordination amongst sector partners continues to be of utmost importance while activities are being expanded to capitalize on coverage and avoid overlapping. Dialogue and participation in field-based protection coordination fora by all partners providing or planning to provide protection services in Aleppo remain highly necessary and are encouraged.



Food and Agriculture

Response

Ready to Eat Rations in the newly accessible neighborhoods:

- In March, WFP distributed 3,296 ready-to-eat parcels sufficient for 16,480 beneficiaries who are either returnees to the newly accessible neighborhoods, or still remain displaced from those neighborhoods.
- WFP also distributed 2,000 ready-to-eat parcels to IDPs from Deir Hafer, Khafseh and the eastern countryside who recently moved to Safira village because of the ongoing fighting.

Food Rations in the newly accessible neighborhoods:

- A total of 150,730 people have been registered as returnees to the newly accessible neighborhoods and are expected to be included in the regular general food distribution. Neighborhoods covered under food ration distributions in the newly accessible neighborhoods so far are Bustan Al Basha through SARC, Tareq Al-Bab, Al-Qaterji, Sukkari and Zebdiyeh, reaching more than 50,000 people in March.
- The Monastery of Saint James distributed 5,000 Food rations in eastern rural Aleppo during March.

Hot Meals:

- Communal kitchens provided hot meals for 40,000 individuals across Aleppo city. This includes the field kitchen of the Monastery of Saint James the Mutilated which provided 5,000 hot meals in a variety of locations, including eastern rural Aleppo, Jibrin, Sfira and Skhaoor, Alard Alhmara in the newly accessible areas of Aleppo city. As most partners are transitioning into regular programming activities, this activity will be reduced in terms of number of people being reached.

Bread assistance:

- In March, bread distribution by WFP covered an average of 525,625 people with bread bundles:
 - Newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city: 31,825 bread bundles for 159,125 people daily.
 - Remaining parts of Aleppo city: 34,600 bread bundles for 346,000 people every two days.
 - Jibreen: 2,000 bread bundles for 10,000 people daily.
 - Sheikh Maqsood: 2,100 bread bundles for 10,500 people daily.
- In addition, the Monastery of Saint James distributed bread bundles reaching 5,000 families in Aleppo countryside.

Livelihoods:

- With support from the Syrian Humanitarian Fund, FAO will support the capacity building of 2,000 vulnerable households in mushroom production and processing; capacity building for 150 vulnerable households in integrated fish and vegetable/herbs production, and capacity building for beehive maintenance and honey production through support for local service providers and 500 vulnerable households.
- WFP and Ahl Al-Kheir Charity Association started a Vocational Skills Training which will provide training, tool kits and food assistance to 324 women. Training will provide courses to enable 324 women to tailor, sew clothes and do needlework. The trainees will receive food rations for the six-month duration of the training on condition that they attend at least 80 per cent of the training sessions.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs

- The Aleppo Drinking Water system and sources have been assessed to be without significant damage, and all critical stations (Al Khafse, Sulaiman Alhalabi, Bab Alnerab and Tishreen) are in a technically functional status. However, given the limited access to power supply from the national grid, water is currently being pumped and delivered to the entire city of Aleppo by using backup power generators with high fuel cost. At the same time, 180,000 people living in new accessible areas of Aleppo city are still suffering from limited access to water supply due to damage of the water networks. Limited quantity of water (3.5 million liters) are being provided through emergency water trucking services from temporary water storage tanks installed in various returnee and IDP neighborhoods. Similarly, sewage networks in the newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city need quick repair and rehabilitation to bring them into operational condition.

Response

- UNICEF continued its support to the Aleppo Water Authority with fuel supply in order to operate over eleven deep boreholes using generators as back-up power supply, and carry out daily water trucking of up to 5 million liters/ day to cover the increasing needs in the most vulnerable locations. Most locations are located in the newly accessible neighborhoods in Aleppo city which receive over 2.5 million liters/day, supplying 225 schools in Aleppo city, 25 IDP shelters and six villages in eastern rural Aleppo.
- People living in the Alsukari, Sief ALdawla, Zebdia and Bustan Alkasr, and Jabl adro areas benefitted from improved access to water supply through the installation of storage tanks in various capacities (5 nos 45m³ and 75m³, 4 nos-5m³, 100nos-2m³), and 25 generators mostly in the newly accessible neighborhoods. UNICEF also continued the distribution of family hygiene kits to 650 IDP families and soap to 1,200 families who recently arrived from Foah and Kafraya. UNICEF has also completed hygiene promotion interventions in three IDP shelters in Aleppo city and in the newly accessible Alsukari neighborhood in collaboration with Ahl Alkhir NGO.
- On the resilience front, UNICEF supported the procurement of a new 2,000 KVA generator, rehabilitation of the 2,000 KVA Gen set in Sulaiman Alhalabi pumping station, the pumping station at Abu Sfita and Tal Aran in southern rural Aleppo, and the repair of the 800mm damaged water pipeline in the Jisr Alhaj area. Furthermore, UNICEF also supported the rehabilitation of WASH facilities in 20 schools (benefiting 34,000 children) ongoing in Alhaidaria, Katerji, Mshatia, Jalloum and Sief Aldwlaed in Aleppo, including hygiene promotion.
- PU, through SARC, continued water trucking at 500 m³/day in the Ashrafieh surroundings, Jibreen collective shelter and schools in the concerned newly accessible neighborhoods with the installation of 50 tanks of 5 m³ and 400 water tanks of 500 liters. In addition, UNICEF is supporting the installation of 13 prefab units (six toilets each) in eleven schools in the newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo, anticipating to benefit over 7,000 children.
- Similarly, ACF has also continued water trucking at 450 m³/day in the newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city, along with the installation of 70 tanks of a 5 m³ capacity in Bustan Alkaser, Alkalase, Fardous and Karm Aldudu. Likewise, IOM is supporting the procurement of 500 H/Hs water network T- connections to rehabilitate 500 buildings in newly accessible neighborhoods.
- The WASH sector had reached over 811,700 people through resilience programming (repair of pumping and water system and solid and sewage waste management) and over 654,000 people with hygiene supplies and WASH services by the end of March 2017.



Response:

- Essential health services continue to be provided by health sector partners in collective shelters, IDP locations, and neighborhoods with high numbers of newly returned, through running agreements with eight NNGOs. In addition, health services were provided through the supported seven mobile clinics.
- Although military actions in the city have decrease, explosive remnants of war (ERW), unexploded ordnances (UXO), improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and landmines can be considered health hazards in Aleppo, and have led several times to severe injuries and deaths. DoH statistics registered 37 war injuries and 21 war deaths in Aleppo city in March 2017.
- Eleven functional DoH ambulances, seven SARC ambulances, and two MoHE ambulances address the need for a referral system in the city. Moreover, seven mobile clinics support the provision of health services in IDP locations and the newly accessible neighborhoods.
- During the reporting period, a primary health conference was conducted in coordination with MoH, WHO, UNICEF, and UNFPA. Additionally, a health sector sub-national coordination meeting was held, with a focus to submit the PHC rehabilitation plan.
- Three primary healthcare centers were rehabilitated in the newly accessible neighborhoods of Al-Fardous, Al-Zebdeyeh, and Jeb Al-Qubeh, and two DoH primary healthcare centers were rehabilitated in Saif Al-Dawla and Hanano neighborhoods. The centers are already open for business.
- The rehabilitation of the pediatric ward at the University Hospital is in its final stage and will be activated soon.
- The number of beneficiaries of the medical points (PHC) in six community centers and two supported dispensaries in Aleppo is 13,921, and some 8,618 people benefitted from SARC public health centers. Additionally, 86 people benefitted from secondary and tertiary health care at NNGOs hospitals. Also, 467 people benefitted from health awareness programmes on NNGOs health premises.
- Reproductive health services were provided through national partners in Aleppo city and reached 8,657 beneficiaries through SARC and SFPA static clinics and medical mobile teams. In addition, 17,294 women and girls of reproductive age received services from MoH primary healthcare and normal delivery centers. Services provided included pregnancy care, antenatal care, postnatal care, normal delivery, consultation and treatment, family planning basic services, emergency obstetric care and psycho-social support.
- The health sector, in coordination with the WASH sector, is ensuring sufficient water supply for health facilities, as well as adequate water quality.
- The EWARS reporting sentinel sites in Aleppo is 134 Ss. Aleppo governorate has 23 surveillance centers which continue to detect, report and refer malnutrition cases.
- Polio national immunization days were conducted in Aleppo from 12-16 March, reaching 99 per cent of the targeted 271,037 children under five years old in all Aleppo health districts. Low coverage was reported in Dier Hafer (18 per cent), Afrin (68 per cent), and Al-Bab (79 per cent).
- The health sector supported the government-led initiative encompassing Aleppo's Directorate of Environment, Directorate of Water Resources, Directorate of Health and Drinking Water Establishment aiming to sample and test water quality in groundwater wells used by the local inhabitants for drinking water purposes. The pilot project is currently ongoing in the fourth health district.
- A work plan for strengthening the communicable diseases control programs in Aleppo is under development.

- Support to MHPSS services has been provided through 2,406 consultations in MHPSS advanced center, 62 patients received assistance through the MH mobile clinic. A total of 178 patients have received consultations in the Al-Razi psychiatric clinic.
- Three MH-PSS projects were launched with three NNGOs, which support individual-focused counseling for gender-based violence survivors, psychological and social support group sessions, psychological and social support individual sessions, self-help sessions, vocational activities that can reduce psychological distress and encourage a meaningful life, and reproductive consultations for women.
- Dispatched 1,000 bottles of permethrin, five pneumonia kit B and one pneumonia kit A through a national partner as an emergency response to the Menbij area.
- Ten shipments were dispatched and delivered to DoH, and public hospitals, mental health hospitals, the school health department, SARC, and seven local NGOs.
- A total of 55 patient beds were delivered to four non-governmental facilities, SARC, and the mental health hospital. A portable X-ray machine was delivered to the Syrian society against TB. A total of 266 health professionals, health workers, and volunteers from NNGOs and the DoH were trained in MHPSS, trauma, PHC, and the nutrition fields. A total of 42,076 patients were provided with healthcare services through 15 public health centers in Aleppo and rural oAleppo supported by ICRC, DRC, and UNFPA. A total of 4,106 children were provided with healthcare services in the SARC pediatric hospital. A total of 5,665 patients were provided with healthcare services through mobile medical teams and two MHUs and awareness teams. A total of 2,691 children were provided with supplementary nutrients and high-energy biscuits in a malnutrition therapy center which is supported by ICRC, UNICEF, and WFP. A total of 116 patients were provided by mobility aids by ICRC.
- A new maternal health unit supported by IFRC has been opened in Aleppo.



Nutrition

Needs

- Two of the sector partners (UNICEF and Medair) secured SHF funding of around US\$ 650,000 to support the revitalization of essential nutrition services in the newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city. The two projects will contribute to the re-establishment of nutrition services through the Directorate of Health and other implementing partners.

Response

- Nutrition surveillance and monitoring of the nutrition situation in Aleppo governorate is ongoing through 20 nutrition surveillance centers run by the DoH with the support of WHO. A total of three centers have been newly established in newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city, namely Al Zebdyah, Saif Al Dawlah and Al Fardo. There are an additional 17 health centers in Aleppo city. The surveillance centers are also providing treatment services to acutely malnourished children and women.
- Preventive and therapeutic nutritional support continues to be provided by implementing partners, including DoH and SARC with the support of UNICEF, WFP and WHO, to children and women in the governorate, including those in the newly accessible neighborhoods of Aleppo city. During the month of March over 11,000 children and women were reached of which 106 were treated for acute malnutrition.
- Since the beginning of 2017, some 126,000 children and women in Aleppo governorate received nutrition services, such as nutrient supplements, through the blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP), micronutrients, screening and treatment for malnutrition and the promotion of optimal maternal and child feeding practices. Of these, around 43,000 from the newly accessible neighborhood of Aleppo city were reached through various modalities, including mobile nutrition teams, fixed centers and through a network of outreach volunteers supported by UNICEF, WFP and WHO.

- During the reporting period, more than 14,000 children under five, pregnant women and lactating mothers were screened in Aleppo Governorate. Of whom, 374 (273 children and 101 Pregnant and Lactating Woman) were identified with acute malnutrition who are enrolled in treatment centers. Since January 2017, 84,000 children under five, pregnant women and lactating mothers were screened in Aleppo Governorate. Of whom around 1,100 (861 children and 231 PLW) were identified with acute malnutrition who received specialized treatment accordingly. The numbers of acutely malnourished cases are expected to increase as active case finding and screenings are underway in eastern Aleppo neighborhoods.
- The sector is in the process of exploring possibilities of undertaking a sectoral assessment in Eastern Aleppo City to update the nutrition situation of children and women.
- Preparations are underway to establish nutrition centers through the Aleppo SHF funding by UNICEF and Medair to expand coverage of nutrition services to host community and those returning IDPs to east Aleppo.
- Key Nutrition sector partners (WHO, WFP and UNICEF) replenished stocks of essential supplies in Aleppo with adequate preventive and treatment supply items.

Education

Response:

- During March 2017, more than 33,390 children were reached in Aleppo with multiple education interventions. In addition, some 10,968 children benefited from the rehabilitation of 150 classrooms in eight schools in Aleppo. Around 14,730 children benefitted from basic education.

Early Recovery

Needs:

- Assess the electricity situation with special focus on the newly accessible neighborhoods, so that interventions can be accurately planned.
- Main street lighting, equipment for solid waste management and debris collection, and the rehabilitation of basic and social infrastructure are urgently needed to pave the way for livelihood support interventions in areas such as Ramousseh, Arqub, Kallaseh and Shekh Najjar industrial cities.

Response:

UNDP:

- A total of 1,750 monthly emergency job opportunities were provided through infrastructure rehabilitation projects. Five new productive workshops (bringing the total to 13 workshops) created 1,200 job opportunities and 250 vocational training (VT) opportunities. Some 300 youths received vocational training skills.
- Some 80 garbage bins were manufactured, bringing the total to 420. Some 18,000 tons of solid waste were collected and removed from 22 neighborhoods. The New Aleppo dumpsite was rehabilitated and 15,000 m³ of accumulated solid waste have been removed.
- Some 500 liters of pesticides, and 500 kg of rodenticides were provided to municipalities.
- UNDP enabled the operation of 82 wells, the management of 28 water purification units, and the maintenance of 18 km of the water network and 45 km of sewage network. A total of 17 vehicles were provided to enable these works.
- Some 700 wheelchairs were provided to local partners (Al Ihssan, Maronite church, SARC, Yadan Biyad).
- A total of 59 job opportunities were created and 18 people received vocational training for the public work department.

- Some 90 volunteers were engaged in energy saving and hygiene awareness campaigns.
- UNDP enabled the rehabilitation of four schools in Alquds, Mikhael Kashour, Tiqaniat Alhassoub, Dalal Moghrabi.

UNHCR /Al Talouf:

- Vocational Training was provided to 420 individuals, four start-up small business grants were awarded, and 287 assessment visits were conducted to Seif Dawla, Alhazazeh, Alsukari, Aghior, Kasileh, Jaloom, Fardous, Marjeh, Zebdia and Ensari to identify shops in need of shutters and toolkits.

UNHCR/ Namaa:

- A total of 24 beneficiaries participated in basic financial training and five business grants were awarded, following 286 proposals and 41 assessment visits.
- The provision of support to women handcrafters (“creative hands”) was completed during March in Hanano.
- A total of 48 new beneficiaries attended a sewing training session to join the productive unit, 21 beneficiaries were linked with external sewing workshops, 13 beneficiaries were referred to the SGBV unit and a beneficiary’s child was referred to child protection unit within the Namaa Martini community center. In addition, assessment visits took place for electrician professionals to benefit from the livelihood toolkits program.

WFP:

- Vocational Training project in collaboration with Ahl Alkher NGO targeted 324 female trainees.

UNICEF:

- The number of potential beneficiaries of cash transfers increased to 4,600, and 2,922 children with complex disabilities were reached during the period, with caretakers receiving USD 80 per child for a period of two months.
- A total of 1,868 conflict-affected adolescents and youth were encouraged to implement their own initiatives aimed at creating social impact in their own communities, and 11,134 youth benefitted from community dialogue, volunteerism actions and sport for development activities.

Emergency Response (all UNDP)

- Some 120 workers collected 2,500 m³ of debris from Aghyol, Jaloum, Qarleq, and the old city main road. To date, 10,000 m³ have been removed from Bustan Al-Qaser. Some 450 workers collected and removed 6,000 m³ of solid waste from Hanano, Jibreen, Qadi Askar, Alshaar, Kalasa, Sayf Ad-Dauleh, Salah Ad-Deen.
- Some 50 workers carried out maintenance works of 12 km of the water network in Sayf Ad-Dauleh, Aghyol, Karm Al-Jazmati, Sakhour, Zebdia, Kady Askar, AlArqoub, Karm Altarrab, Almedan, benefitting some 45,000 people. Moreover, 50 workers repaired 65 garbage bins. A total of 14.5 km of the piped water network were repaired. UNDP supported the sewage company with 90 workers, vehicles, machinery and raw materials through which 30 of the 52 km of network were maintained.
- Some 450 new IDP workers joined UNDP workshops and ongoing rehabilitation projects (total 853). Laundry and clothing maintenance services were provided to 2,500 IDPs in Jibreen shelter.
- Some 65 wheelchairs were provided to PWDs in Hanano, Fardos, Salah Ad-Deen, Karm Myassar, Qadi Askar, Sayf Ad-Dauleh, Al-Ansari, and the old city.

Gaps and Constraints

- Assessments are currently taking place in Seif al-Dawleh, Ansari Mashhad and Zibdia to start a convergent pilot between sectors of Early Recovery, Shelter and Wash. The approval process remains time consuming.

Background on the crisis

Syria is one of the most complex and dynamic humanitarian crises in the world today. Since March 2011, over a quarter of a million Syrians have been killed and over one million have been injured. Half of all Syrians have been forced to leave their homes, and 6.3 million are internally displaced, making Syria the largest displacement crisis globally.

In 2016, an estimated 13.5 million people, including 6 million children, are in need of humanitarian assistance.

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