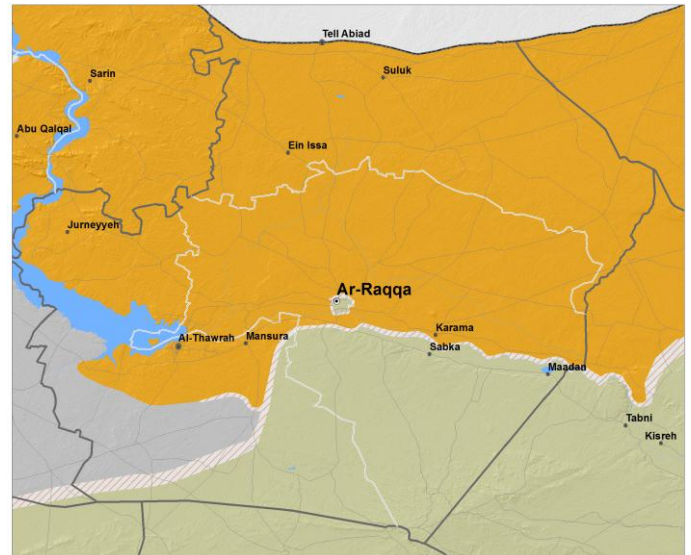




This report is produced by the OCHA Syria Crisis offices with the contribution of all sectors in the hubs and at Whole of Syria level. It covers the period from 1-30 June 2017. The next report will be issued on or around 15 July.

## Highlights

- Displacements from and within Ar-Raqqa governorate continued due to fighting and heavy airstrikes. An estimated 190,081 people have been displaced since 1 April, including nearly 20,000 since 1 June.
- As of end June, an estimated 30,000-50,000 people remain inside Raqqa city, which remains difficult to verify due to the situation on the ground.
- As of 27 June, Ar-Raqqa city is entirely surrounded by SDF forces with no official exit routes. 100 to 200 families are reportedly taking high risks to be exit the city across conflict lines.
- Increasing displacement from Deir-Ez-Zor prompted a request by the Kurdish Self-Administration to the UN to open a new site in Al-Hassakeh for people fleeing the area. 400 families have arrived so far.
- The overall protection situation for civilians remains of high concern. Civilians remain trapped by fighting in urban areas, with ISIL reportedly placing heavy restrictions on civilians attempting to flee the area. Despite continuous advocacy efforts, freedom of movement for IDPs remains a key protection concern, and with the presence of unexploded ordnance is also a serious concern.



**19,889**

people displaced from 1 June – 23 June (190,081 during 1 April – 23 June)



**243,055**

people reached with food assistance from 1 - 30 June



**over 10,000**

children benefited from nutrition supplies



**over 6,000**

hygiene kits distributed between 1 - 30 June



## Situation Overview

### Ar-Raqqa Governorate

Since the offensive began in Ar-Raqqa city, heavy clashes, shelling, and airstrikes have resulted in significant civilian casualties and injuries as tens of thousands of people fled Ar-Raqqa city. During the reporting period, the humanitarian situation deteriorated inside Ar-Raqqa city as the Syrian Defense Forces (SDF) closed in on the city after seizing control of the Al-Qadisiya district. Initial reports indicate that as of 27 June, the SDF encircled the city after securing control of the southern area of the city on the north bank of the Euphrates river.

Civilians casualties were reported during June. On 26 June, unconfirmed reports indicated that airstrikes in and around Ar-Raqqa city resulted in the death of three civilians. On 27 June, airstrikes resulted in the death of one civilian and the injury of others in Ar-Raqqa city. unexploded ordnance in and around Ar-Raqqa city continued pose a threat to civilians. On 29 June, one civilian from Deir-Ez-Zor city was reportedly killed in airstrikes in Al-Raqqa city. For example, one civilian was killed and several others were injured by a landmine in the eastern countryside of Al-Raqqa on 27 June. On 30 June, two civilians were injured due to a landmine explosion inside Ar-Raqqa city.

As a result of on-going military operations, the humanitarian situation has significantly deteriorated in Ar-Raqqa city. Access to clean drinking water continues to be severely limited. Residents continue to depend on water from the Euphrates River that is unfit for consumption, exposing people to the risk of water-borne diseases. Since the start of the military operations in Ar-Raqqa city, approximately 27 civilians have been killed and dozens more wounded at

the Euphrates while attempting to fetch water. Despite the danger, people continue to go to the site as it is their only remaining source of drinking water. Scarcity of food and medicine continued to be reported. Markets and bakeries remained closed in Ar-Raqqa city for over 20 days, further limiting access to food and basic necessities.

Residents continue to attempt to flee the city using smugglers on unsafe roads through damaged bridges located in the east and west of the city, although ISIL is reportedly preventing civilians from leaving. People are no longer attempting to cross the river to flee the city. Those who managed to leave usually end up in SDF-controlled areas in Karama camp or farms in the north of the city. An estimated 100 to 200 families are reportedly managing to exit the city every day.

On June 28, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, issued a statement expressing concern for the protection of civilians remaining in Ar-Raqqa city as the SDF offensive to retake the city from ISIS continued. Air and ground strikes on the city have killed at least 173 civilians since 1 June, according to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The High Commissioner called on all parties involved in the offensive, including international forces, to review their operations to ensure full compliance with international law, implement prompt and effective investigations into reports of civilian casualties, and establish measures to allow civilians who wish to flee the fighting to do so safely. The statement also highlighted concern regarding reports of violations and abuses by the SDF in areas under its control, such as Al Thawrah, also known as Tabqa city, including looting, abductions, arbitrary detentions during screening processes, and the recruitment of children.

### Deir-ez-Zor Governorate

Throughout the reporting period, the Government of Syria and allied forces continued to make advances into Deir-ez-Zor governorate from southern Homs governorate. Airstrikes continued against ISIS-held areas along the Euphrates River southeast of Deir-ez-Zor.

Civilian casualty due to airstrikes was reported during the period. On 28 June, local media sources reported that at least 40 people were killed, including five children and two women, following airstrikes on Dablan town in the southern countryside of Deir Ez-Zor governorate. In addition, airstrikes on Sur town reportedly resulted in five people killed.

The UN continues to provide basic food, nutrition, NFI, WASH and medical supplies to people in need in besieged parts of Deir-ez-Zor city through WFP-led airdrops. However, continued clashes may jeopardize the delivery of humanitarian aid should landing sites for airdrops become unsafe. Civilians continue to be subjected to violence and limited access to humanitarian aid and basic services, especially medical care.

Twenty-two (24) cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type-2 (cVDPV2) have been confirmed in Syria —22 cases are from Al Mayadin district, Deir-ez-Zor governorate, and 2 case from Ar-Raqqa district, Raqqa governorate. The most recent case had onset of paralysis on 28 May. In response to the outbreak, the Syrian Ministry of Health together with WHO, UNICEF and other health actors are planning to conduct two immunization rounds in Deir Ez-Zor with monovalent oral polio vaccine type-2 (mOPV2), targeting 328,000 children under five years of age. Inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) will be used in the second round targeting 114,500 children aged between 2-24 months. The first round is expected to commence by 8 July.

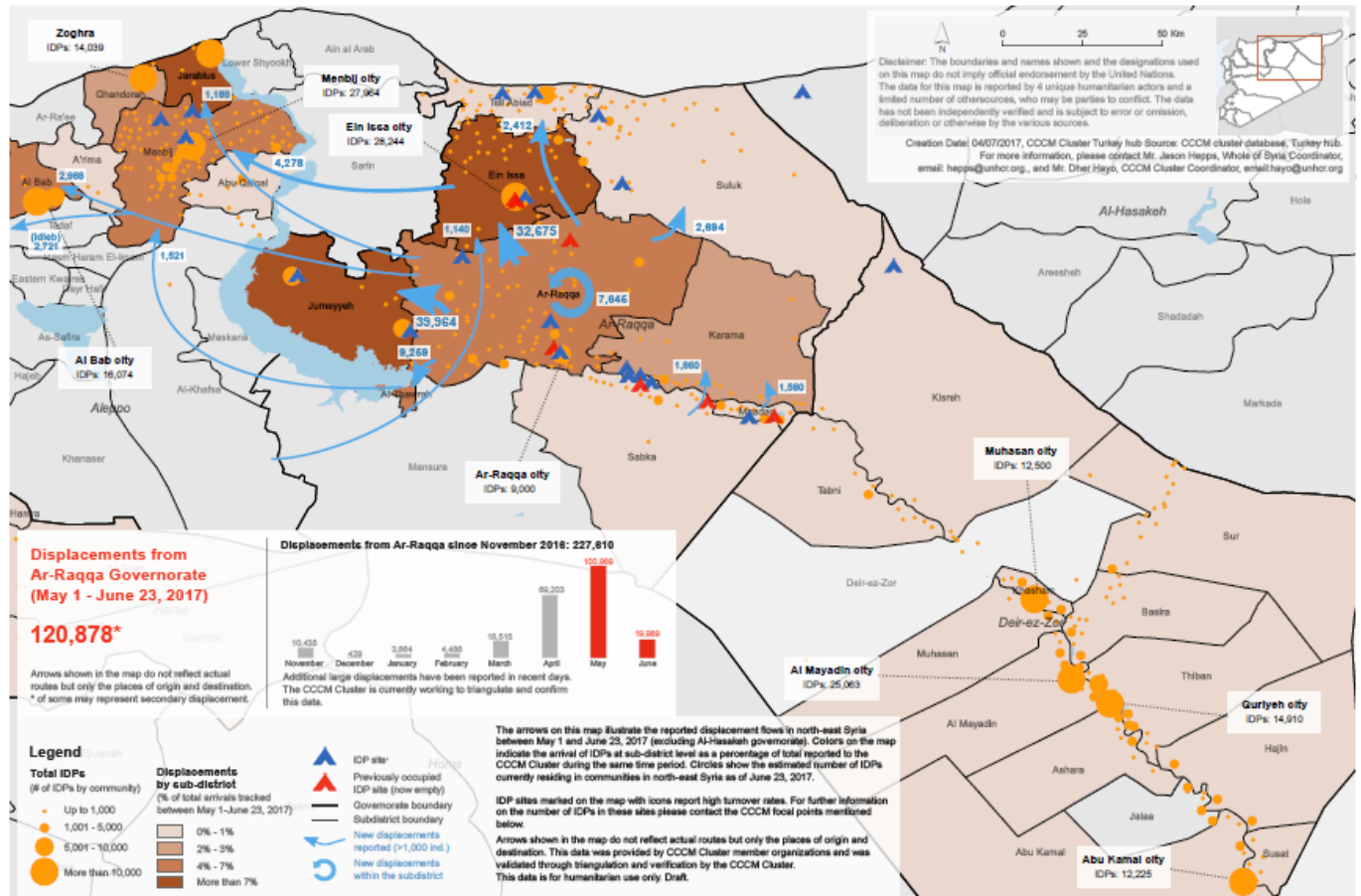
## Displacement trends

Displacements from and within Ar-Raqqa governorate continue due to fighting and intense airstrikes. The total number of displaced people from Ar-Raqqa tracked by the CCCM cluster since 1 June has reached 19,889 individuals, many who have been displaced more than once. Of these, 16,298 displacements occurred within Ar-Raqqa governorate, 2,768 individuals were displaced to Aleppo, 324 to Idlib, and 499 to Deir-ez-Zor. To date, the total number of internally displaced people tracked since the onset of the Ar-Raqqa offensive in November 2016 is 227,610, including 190,081 since 1 April.

Arrivals are being registered daily in Ein Eissa (approx. 100-150 IDPs daily from Ar-Raqqa (50 per cent), rural eastern Aleppo (40 per cent), and rural western Deir-ez-Zor (10 per cent) and Mabrouka sites (approx. 150-200 IDPs daily). In these sites, services still need to be improved to meet the specific needs of women, children, the elderly and persons with medical conditions. Over the last week, a vast majority of new IDPs (95%) in Ein Issa reportedly arrived with limited personal belongings given their arduous journey out of the city to the camp (via fishing boats). Some families are arriving to the camp on foot as they cannot afford to rent a car.

Following the arrival of Kurdish forces in Al-Thawrah, the number of displacements to the city increased to 10,229 in June. This figure, which might include some returns from families previously displaced during the battle in the city, could increase in coming weeks as clashes continue in Ar-Raqqa city and Government of Syria forces advance in south-west Mansura.

Increasing displacement from Deir-Ez-Zor is also being reported. A request was made by the Kurdish Self-Administration to the UN to open new sites to host people attempting to flee the area.



## Assessments

OCHA conducted three missions during the week to Mabrouka, Aresheeh (Bahra) and Al Hole camps. All camps are used as transit sites for IDPs fleeing insecure areas in Deir-ez-Zor, Raqqa and areas south of Hassakeh governorates:

As of 3 July, according to the Al Hole camp management, 500 IDPs live in the camp with the majority originating from Deir-ez-Zor governorate. In June 2017, the camp received 35 families or 132 IDPs, while 400 IDPs left the camp just before Eid Al Fitr who were sponsored by their relatives through sponsorships.

As of 4 July, Mabrouka camp hosts 1,700 people who are waiting for approval from the SA to allow them to leave the camp.

As of 27 June, the newly established Bahra camp in the Aresheeh sub-district hosted 400 families. UN agencies are supporting the IDPs at the location with humanitarian assistance.



## Response

Following the reopening of land access reaching Qamishli (with commercial trucks from Damascus, Homs, and Aleppo hubs) in mid-June, 31 trucks (WFP, UNHCR) reached Qamishli to date. Regular road transport to resupply the Qamishli hub is planned to continue in the coming months.

As a result of the reopening of the land access, the airlift operation managed by the Logistics Cluster was phased out. The last airlift occurred on 24 June 2017. If land access to Qamishli becomes interrupted again in the future, the Logistics Cluster through WFP will revisit the air bridge option.

# Humanitarian response



## Protection (covering 1-30 June)

### Key developments and needs

Living conditions in the city are increasingly harsh, with insufficient water, food, electricity and medical supplies available.

According to information provided by IDPs consulted in the various transit sites, it is increasingly difficult to leave Ar-Raqqa city for a variety of reasons:

- increasingly limited escape routes and severe restrictions put in place by ISIL, with reported retaliatory measures taken against those who attempt to flee;
- active conflict has encircled the city from all sides;
- contamination of explosive hazards along exit routes and the risk of being caught in the line of fire given the presence of fighters from both sides.
- Incidents of airstrikes endangering civilians trying to flee conflict zones have been reported, calling for restraint and precaution from parties to the conflict.

Meanwhile, increasing smuggling fees -which now reportedly vary between 75,000 and 150,000 SYP per person- are asked for people wishing to exit the city towards Kurdish controlled areas. Protection actors continue to observe IDPs arriving to camps with limited personal belongings, sometimes on foot as they could not afford renting means of transportation. The loss or lack of documents is a recurrent issue, both due to the swift flight from areas of origin, as well as due to the delays in restitution of the documents after confiscation at checkpoints, a situation that protection actors have actively tried to address throughout these last months.

According to reports received from the sites, it is believed that men stay behind to protect housing and properties from possible looting and other damages. Fear of recruitment, and concerns on arrest or detention at checkpoints are additional deterrents. Reportedly, while information on the situation within Raqqa is largely unavailable, the recruitment of male in fighting age occurs in the areas under the control of the Kurdish-led forces. The phenomenon seems to be largely favored by the economic needs of the population deprived of all sources of income. Another factor is believed to be the tribal affiliation of the recruited individuals, exhorted to join the ranks when tribal leaders agree to support the military effort against ISIL. Information has also emerged on the possible decision of the governing local entities to declare military services compulsory. Protection actors have also reported cases of recruitment of children in combat roles especially in Ein Issa and surrounding areas, including girls.

During the reporting period, displacement from Raqqa continued, with daily arrivals registered at Mabrouka and Ein Issa sites. Spontaneous settlements emerged and receded depending on the evolution of the security situation and advances of SDF. At the same time, return movements have also been reported to areas regained from ISIL by the Kurdish forces, particularly towards Tabqa, or from the spontaneous settlements of Karama to villages of origin south of the Euphrates river that have been recently vacated by ISIS. In the latter case, the risks for the civilian population are still believed to be substantial, as those areas are located dangerously close to the front line. In late June, increasing displacement has been reported from Deir-Ez-Zor Governorate towards the north to Hassakeh Governorate, prompting a request of support from the Kurdish Self-Administration to open a new site north of Shadadeh (South of Hassakeh city). The Bahra site, located some 35 km from Hassakeh, receives limited assistance from the humanitarian community so far, pending discussions on the situation of freedom of movement granted to the displaced population. The site has seen displacement from several villages around the besieged city of Deir-Ez-Zor. The journey for these displaced families was reportedly extremely difficult, due to smugglers charging even higher sums than from Raqqa (100,000 to 250,000 SYP), many used improvised means of transportation including arriving on foot to checkpoints manned by Kurdish forces before being brought to the site with buses and charged for the journey.

In this context, freedom of movement remained a key concern despite advocacy conducted by protection partners at different levels. Protection actors continued to play a major role in supporting the identification of cases in need of evacuation from sites, or to facilitate exit for IDPs that – according to the specific administrative rules – could leave the sites without the need for a sponsorship (e.g. persons flying to Damascus). Seemingly, protection actors have continued to facilitate the retrieval and the restitution of confiscated identification documents, sensitising the population on the importance of not leaving the sites without getting their personal documentation back.

Little progress seems to have been made by local authorities in improving communication to the population on the security screening. Though this system is being justified on security grounds, it is still bound to due process particularly in cases of detention, as well as on the so-called “sponsorship” system. While the waves of incoming and



outgoing population were relatively fluid in the middle-longer term, there were several instances of people detained at sites for longer periods of time. During the Eid holidays, departures from Ein Issa camp were stopped over security reasons and the absence of local authorities. While arrivals were still registered, no one was reportedly allowed to exit, leading to a temporary increase in the camp population. Fast tracking procedures for persons with specific needs still is not properly formalized and relied on the presence of protection partners collecting information on cases across the sites and bringing them to the attention of the respective camp administration. A more recent effort from the Kurdish administration in Hassakeh to formalize the criteria of the sponsorship system to be implemented in Bahra camp, and to stipulate conditions for possible exemption for certain categories of individuals, still appeared to be inadequately detailed and highly restrictive. Comments are being provided by protection actors to support local level advocacy.

### Response

Amidst challenging logistic and resources' constraints, during the month in review, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA continued to expand their direct presence in the major sites (Ein Eissa, Mabrouka) and in the surrounding areas of Tal Abyad, Ras-EI\_Ein, while working through local partners in more remote locations such as Karama, Al Journeh, Tabqa and – more recently – Bahra site. NGO protection partners, though regular monitoring in transit sites, have continued to identify and report concerns related to living conditions, in particular regarding access to food, WASH facilities and Shelter.

Accompanying its activities of NFI distribution and structural improvement of sites, UNHCR and its national partner continued to guarantee a steady presence in Mabrouka and Ein Eissa sites and surrounding communities, consulting with affected populations, identifying cases in need of assistance or justifying to be signaled to the camp administration (for medical evacuation or exit from the sites based on their destination), as well as identifying cases with specific needs such as separated/ unaccompanied children, single mothers, older persons. Referrals of identified cases to specialized services remained complex, due to the limited presence of expert partners on the ground and the temporary stay of IDPs in the transit sites. Protection by presence on the sites remained critical to facilitate solutions and support the exit of the most vulnerable cases. Throughout the month of June, UNHCR protection staff also worked to ensure that identity documents confiscated at the various checkpoints were swiftly sorted and properly given back to the individuals before their departure from the transit sites to avoid their exposure to further risks during displacement and en route to their final destination. Awareness and sensitization initiatives with IDP families on the importance of not leaving the camp without their identity documents were recurrently carried out. During the month of June, UNICEF and local partners reported to have completed the provision of equipment to Child-Friendly Spaces (CFSS) in Tal Abyad, Ein Issa, Mabrouka site and Suluk sub-district, with teams providing psycho-social support and recreational activities. Activities were also expanded to provide much needed mine risk education to displaced children and communities, particularly in light of the high levels of contamination and physical risks while in displacement, in transit or once returning to areas of origin. An NGO partner provided risk education to a total of 517 beneficiaries in Ein Issa camp for the month of June (including 170 boys, 160 girls, 87 men and 100 women).

Through Child Friendly Spaces or mobile teams, both UNICEF and UNFPA expanded their outreach to provide psychosocial support to the affected population. The trauma caused by the flight, the anxiety generated by procedures of sponsorship and the situation in transit sites call for basic and more structured PSS interventions. In addition, the trauma of survivors of explosive hazard incidents was another need to be addressed and protection partners have provided Psychological First Aid to victims of such incidents.

To enhance the safety and dignity of women and girls, which was highlighted as a gap, UNFPA and partners have been engaged in repeated distributions of sanitary napkins and dignity kits. During the month of June, some 30,800 sanitary napkins have been provided in Tal Abyad/Ein Eissa, Mabrouka and Hassakeh sites, as well as some 4,500 dignity kits in Ein Eissa, Karama and Hassakeh. In addition, and in coordination with a local UNFPA partner, a mobile team organized awareness sessions in Ras-EI-Ein. Topics addressed covered early marriage and its health and psychological adverse consequences; marital distress and its psychological and health effects and violence against women.

Advocacy with authorities on freedom of movement has been pursued by the Protection Sector at multiple levels, focusing on the necessity to consider protection-sensitive measures in the routine process of security screening as well as promoting a right-based approach in the current regime of restricted movements through the “sponsorship system”. The recent request submitted by the self-administration to the humanitarian community to support the new site of Bahra (Hassakeh Governorate) was met with a request to establish clear rules supporting the freedom of movement of the displaced population arriving to this site. This dialogue is ongoing.

### Gaps and challenges

Despite the achievements in terms expanded presence, several challenges continue to hinder the improvement of the protection environment for displaced and conflict-affected people in north-eastern parts of Syria as well as the capacity to respond. Those factors include the size of the area to cover; the multitude of spontaneous settlements

and sites, sometimes located dangerously close to the frontlines; the limited number and expertise of protection actors on the ground; and foremost the reduced freedom of movement for those displaced, extending their period of permanence in the sites and determining additional humanitarian needs.

## Food Security and Agriculture (covering 1-30 June)

The food security response in June reflects partner's response to assessed areas where food was reported to be a need. In total throughout June 2017, the FSS through its partners from Syria or Cross-Border Hubs have distributed various types of food assistance (food baskets, ready to eat rations, bread) to an estimated 243,055 beneficiaries across the North-East Syria Region affected by the ongoing Ar-Raqqa displacements. Assistance has reached IDPs located in the governorates of Ar-Raqqa, Aleppo, Al-Hasakeh and Deir-ez-Zor.

Overall, during the reporting period, approximately 2,000 RTERs covering food needs for 5 days for a family of 5 were distributed to 10,000 beneficiaries. 600 RTERs covering food needs for 7 days for a family of 6 were distributed to 3,600 beneficiaries. 1,359 RTERs covering food needs for 10 days for a family of 6 were distributed to 8,154 beneficiaries. 5,672 Food Rations covering food needs for 10 days for a family of 6 were distributed to 34,032 beneficiaries. 36,521 Regular Food Baskets covering food needs for a month for a family of 5 were distributed to 182,605 beneficiaries. A total of 157,080 loaves of bread were also distributed and benefitting an average of 2,647 beneficiaries per day.

Area of distribution	Number of beneficiaries	Type and quantity of assistance	Notes
<b>Ar-Raqqa Governorate</b>			
Ein Issa cotton factory IDP transit camp and surrounding areas	10,014 beneficiaries	1,600 RTERs & 69 FRs (2 INGOs)	covering food need for 5-10 days for a family of 5 covering food needs for one month for a family of 5
	35,500 beneficiaries	7,100 FRs (WFP)	
Tell Abiad sub-district	17,500 beneficiaries.	3,500 FRs (WFP)	covering food needs for one month for a family of 5
Suluk sub-district	7,500 beneficiaries.	1,500 FRs (WFP)	covering food needs for one month for a family of 5
Karama sub-district	65,000 beneficiaries	13,000 FRs (WFP)	covering food needs for one month for a family of 5
Hamrat camp	10,000 beneficiaries	2,000 RTERs (WFP)	covering the food needs of 5 for 5 days
Jurniyeh sub-district	2,160 beneficiaries	360 FRs (INGO)	covering food needs for 10 days for a family of 6
Jurniyeh and Mahmoudly	27,500 beneficiaries	5,500 FRs (WFP)	covering food needs for one month for a family of 5
Tabqa/Ath-Thawrah sub-district	12,330 beneficiaries	2,055 FRs (INGO)	covering food needs for 10 days for a family of 6 covering food needs for a family of 6 for 10 days covering food needs for one month for a family of 5
	2,154 beneficiaries	359 RTERs (INGO)	
	12,500 beneficiaries	2,500 FRs (WFP)	
Ar-Raqqa	8,316 beneficiaries	1,386 FRs (INGO)	covering food needs for 10 days for a family of 6
Ar-Raqqa (Kalta)	9,762 beneficiaries.	1,627 FRs (INGO)	
<b>Hassakeh Governorate</b>			
Mabrouka camp	2,647 beneficiaries per day	157,080 loaves of bread (INGO)	covering food needs for one month for a family of 5
	2,105 beneficiaries	421 FRs (WFP)	
<b>Aleppo Governorate</b>			
Membij	648 beneficiaries	108 FRs (INGO)	covering food needs between 10 days for a family of 6
Ain Al Arab sub district (Sarin)	402 beneficiaries	67 FRs (INGO)	covering food needs for 10 days for a family of 6
<b>Deir-ez-Zor Governorate</b>			
Kisreh sub-district	15,000 beneficiaries.	3,000 FRs (WFP)	covering food needs for one month for a family of 5

## July Plan

For the month of July, WFP plans an allocation of 37,100 FRs sufficient to reach 185,500 people in Ar-Raqqa to cover their food needs for one month. Additionally, each FR will have a 15kg bag of wheat flour as part of the ration. The planned caseloads are outlined below:

- Ar-Raqqa governorate: Ein Issa (5,100 FRs), Jurneyyeh (5,000 FRs), Ar-Raqqa (4,500 FRs), Taqba (5,000 FRs), Mansoura (2,000 FRs), Karama (7,500 FRs), Suluk (1,500 FRs), Tal Abiad (2,500 FRs) and Mabrouka (1,000 FRs)
  - Deir-ez-Zor governorate: Abo-Khashab (3,000 FRs)
- Additionally, WFP has prepositioned 10,000 RTERs (sufficient for 50,000 people) that will be distributed across the affected area based on needs. An additional 5,000 RTERs (sufficient for 25,000 people) are in the pipeline for further complementing the response in case of additional needs.
  - One INGO plans to distribute 2,991 RTERs and 2,400 regular FRs in Ar-Raqqa governorate. The assistance for RTERs to be provided is for a family of 6 for 10 days sufficient to assist 17,946 people and FRs through regular distribution will assist 14,400 people for a period of 30 days for a family of 6.
  - Another INGO has pre-positioned 1,500 RTERs (sufficient for 9000 people) for across Raqqa which will be distributed as per needs. This partner also has 15,000 family food baskets for 10 days that are currently in stock (sufficient for 90,000 people). Additionally, 10,000 family food baskets in pipeline for July (sufficient for 60,000 people). Potentially also food vouchers for upto 2500 families (15,000 people) in Taqba.
  - One INGO also has planned biweekly distributions of 21 tons of GFD to the Camp Management in Ein Essa. It also has Cash for Work activities for 25 IDPs working in the communal kitchens, 35 IDPs for waste collection and 30 IDPs for cleaning toilets.
  - One INGO also prepositioned 3,000 RTERs (sufficient for 18,000 people) for Ein Essa camp, surrounding areas and Mabrouka if necessary.

WFP's plan for Ar-Raqqa for July is an allocation of 37,100 FRs sufficient to reach 185,500 people and cover their food needs for one month.

## Gaps

The July plan shows that the sector will be able to address some of the gaps identified in June in relation to flour and geographical areas (such as inclusion of Mansoura farms). The plans -as submitted by partners – are sufficient to meet the projected caseload, but efforts will be pursued to respond to new potential areas where needs might be identified such as the Bahra/Ariha camp in Shadadeh sub-district of Hasakah, hosting IDPs from Deir Ez Zor.

Bakeries have been assessed in some parts of Ar-Raqqa by an INGO, which shows clear gaps in inputs, yeast and flour resulting in an insufficient production of bread. Partners including WFP and INGOs have the necessary expertise and experience to do bakery rehabilitation and are in process of planning such interventions. Donors are also requested to expedite funding requests from sector partners to engage in these activities.

Additionally, challenges that partners face in access and delivery - if not addressed - will continue to pose a problem to reach affected populations. These challenges include delays in issuing facilitation letters, insecurity, the very large presence of IEDs/ERWs and UXOs, the fluid and transitory nature of IDP movements in camps and the lack of formal registration which pose a challenge for tracking assistance adequately.



## Nutrition (covering 1-30 June)

### Key Developments

A team of nutrition sector coordinators and a UNICEF nutrition specialist visited Ein Issa and Mabrouka camps in northern Raqqa governorate and Al Hole camp in Hassakeh to assess the overall nutritional situation and response to date. Acute malnutrition was not seen from rapid screenings made during the mission but signs of chronic malnutrition and sub-optimal feeding practices were widely seen.

Sector partners have carried out a nutrition screening using the middle-upper-arm-circumference (MUAC) measurement in Mabrouka, Suluk and Karama camps. A MUAC screening conducted in Karama, Suluk and Mabrouka camps over the reporting period among children under five and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) indicated low acute malnutrition rates, with 8 of the 255 screened children suffering from moderate acute malnutrition and 2 with severe malnutrition, the proportion of the acutely malnourished children is 4.4%. Another MUAC screening in Al Hol among 164 children revealed that 4 children have acute malnutrition the proportion is 2.4%. While, out of 70 PLW screened, only 1 had acute malnutrition. All identified cases received nutrition treatment.

### Response Efforts

In close coordination with UNICEF and WFP, the sector developed a monthly response plan including regular visits to the camps and a distribution plan for preventive nutrition services to the IDP camps. In addition, the process of developing a mapping tool for the Raqqa response which is shared across hubs through the WoS nutrition cluster is ongoing. This tool will promote complementarity between the implementing partners as well as strengthening coordination between UN agencies, DoH and NGO partners.

Nutrition support provided to children under five and pregnant lactating in the IDP camps continued through the provision of preventive nutrition supplies, including multi micronutrients, high energy biscuits and fortified spread. UNICEF further provided therapeutic spread for the management of severe acute malnutrition to the Qamishli hospital.

During the reporting period, a UNICEF partner reached 2,520 children under five years with multiple micronutrient powders, 1,830 children with Plumpy doz, and 1,270 children with high-energy biscuits while 663 pregnant and lactating women were provided multiple micronutrient tablets. Also, with WFP support, 7,698 children benefited from the distribution of fortified spread along with Ready-to-Eat rations in Ein Issa camp. In addition, preventative nutrition supplies (141 carton Plumpy Doz) were distributed jointly with 21,061 food rations by WFP to IDPs in Ein Issa, Journyiah, Tabqa, Karama, Abo Khashab, Suluk, Tal Abyad and Mubrouka.

UNICEF, through the Department of Health (DoH), provided the Qamishli national hospital with 25 cartons of Plumpy nut to treat severe acute malnutrition (SAM) children admitted in the hospital, after the first phase of the treatment in the stabilization center. A further 25,000 sachets of Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) were provided to the same hospital for treatment of diarrhoea. So far, around 100 children identified with acute malnutrition received treatment, although subsequent follow up proved to be challenging given frequent movements of the population.

A cross border partner in Ein Issa has started nutrition activities for children under five years through screening and treatment of severe malnutrition which will complement already ongoing efforts.

### Key Gaps and Challenges

- Movements of IDPs in different directions including in and out of the camps like Ein Issa is making treatment of malnutrition and proper follow up of cases difficult. However, extensive efforts are being made to provide the required services.
- Distance and security still poses a challenge for partners to provide services to IDP children and women in some camps and certain areas, like Karama.
- Lack of registered partners is limiting the reach of nutrition program to a broader range of areas.
- Unpredictable funding is major issue in procurement of lifesaving supplies for timely response.
- Low capacity of the health and nutrition infrastructure and human resources is also major issue in providing service with no funding for revival for effective and responsive service.



## Health

### Situation

Access to health services in Ar Raqqa governorate remains of highest concerns in the situation of ongoing military campaign, massive displacement and disrupted public health care system. Few operational agencies are on the ground including WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and 5 cross-border actors operating directly or through national NGOs as implementing partners.

As of 4 July, twenty-four (24) cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type-2 (cVDPV2) have been confirmed in Syria. Twenty-two (22) cases are from Mayadeen district, Deir-ez-Zor governorate, and 2 cases from Raqqa and Tall Abyad districts, Raqqa governorate. The most recent case had onset of paralysis on 28 May. The monovalent type 2 vaccine (mOPV2) required for the outbreak response has been released and is currently in Damascus. First round of immunization expected to commence at latest by 8 July 2017.

The total number of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor governorate since the beginning of 2017 is 72. Raqqa governorate has reported 10 AFP cases (5 each from Raqqa and Tall Abyad) since the beginning of the year. In response to the isolation of VDPV2 from Raqqa governorate, the Syrian Ministry of Health in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF is considering adding the area to the outbreak response. This would increase the target population by almost 120,000 children under 5 years of age. Furthermore, there is an increasing number of suspected measles cases, a cross-border partner reported 50 suspected measles cases during the last four weeks in northern Raqqa.

### Response

Health partners continue to reinforce the capacity of public and private health facilities (including physical structures, human resources, and equipment/supplies) for health service delivery, including mobile medical units for emergency response and enhancing in IDP camps and spontaneous settlements. Cross-border partners have deployed teams



to Al Karama, Mabrouka camps, Al Hisha, Ein Issa, Talabyad, Turkman, and Kuramaz. Mobile expanded program of immunization (EPI) teams also operate in Tal Abyad, Ain Issa, Ain Issa camp, Kobane, Menbj, and Hazima. The out-patient department (OPD) in Ein Issa is providing approximately 200 consultations daily. The al Hisha mobile unit, operated by an INGO, provides an average of 160 consultations per day with respiratory tract infections (RTI), skin diseases and watery diarrhea being the most prevalent diseases.

WHO mobile medical teams, comprised of an internist, gynecologist, pediatrician, counsellor, midwife, and nurses, are operational in Ar Raqqa, Al Hassakeh, Al Karama camp, Al Hol camp, Tal Abyad, Ein Issa, old and New Aktan camp, Al Jarnyieh, and Menbij.

Health partners are responding in:

#### **Tal Abyad Hospital**

Health partners are providing all departmental support (drug, material, financial, technical support) full responsibility for Surgical & Trauma care with international surgical team and national team undergoing considerable trauma training and scaling up of the facility capacity, the surgical unit is performing an average of 50 major surgeries/month.

#### **Kobane Hospital**

Health partners are providing medical supplies and human resources including surgeon, anesthetist nurse, nurse activity manager, ER doctor, WASH specialist, work on mass casualty plan and provide technical capacity building strengthening to the medical staff, and construction of the out-patient department and a women/obstetric hospital in Kobane

#### **Menbj Hospital**

Health partners are providing support to emergency room and out-patient departments, labs, and referrals.

#### **Advanced Medical Point (AMP) in Hazima**

Health partners are supporting the recently opened facility with staffing for operations 24 hours, 7 days a week. Partners are working to identify and establish similar AMPs in the peripheries of Raqqa to respond to increased health needs.

#### **Ambulance Network**

Health partners are supporting the referral cases among Ar Raqqa IDPs for advanced medical treatment in various private and public health facilities in Al Hassakeh or Raqqa governorate.

#### **Planned Response:**

- On 5-10 July there is a planned trauma technical mission to Qamishli in Al Hassakeh governorate to enhance trauma response plan by WHO and partners.
- WHO is in process of setting up and rolling out 50 mobile medical teams (or rapid response teams) throughout Ar Raqqa governorate to provide PHC, community and referral health services in the respective areas of coverage.
- WHO is in the process to dispatch on a priority basis 20 different types of standard health kits (a total of 532 kits) with 927 kits in the pipeline for north east Syria response.
- Coordination is ongoing between WHO Damascus and cross-border actors to facilitate provision of needed supplies to enable establishment of 3 trauma stabilization centers inside Ar Raqqa.
- Assessment is ongoing to provide Hassakeh hospital with technical and HR support and extend mobile teams coverage to Shadade.
- One new INGO is starting primary health care activities in August in Raqqa.
- Chemical preparedness: Completing personalize protective equipment (PPE) and atropine distribution plan with Ministry of Health (MoH) based on NE Syria needs.
- Strengthening referral hospital capacity (confirming chemical preparedness status of Al Razi hospital in Aleppo; starting health facility preparedness with other referral hospitals: Tal Abyad (Ar Raqqa), Al Qamishli (Al Hassakeh), Al Assad (Deir-ez-Zor).
- Information sessions planned to take place for all cross-border health actors in the end of July, more developed tools are shared with partners.
- The WoS health cluster is working on a comprehensive 4Ws for Ar-Raqqa reflecting 138 sites requiring health service support and coverage including: a) public health facilities, b) private health facilities, c) displaced areas.



#### **Response:**

Throughout the reporting period, WASH partners continued to respond to water and sanitation needs in various IDP locations:

### **Mabroka camp**

The population of Mabroka camp is currently estimated between 3,500 – 4,000 persons. Throughout the reporting period, water trucking provided 75m<sup>3</sup> each day of drinking water for camp residents. Regular cleaning of bathing facilities is operational in the camp. During the reporting period, 2,098 hygiene kits were distributed. Facilitators were present to monitor the distribution of these supplies in the camp.

Improvements to WASH infrastructure in the camp is ongoing. The construction of 100 concrete toilets and 100 concrete showers has commenced in the camp, in addition water storage capacity with 75 m3 capacity (25- 1m3 & 25-2 m3) will be installed. Furthermore, 25 public garbage bins were installed. A sewage system network covering 8km is also under construction.

### **Ein Issa camp**

The population of Ein Issa camp is currently estimated at 7,000 with anticipated increases. Water tankers deliver approximately 205m<sup>3</sup> of water per day. On average, the water network provides 300m<sup>3</sup> of water a day, or 40 litres of water per person per day. This is needed due to water provision of paid/cleaning of latrines in a Transit camp setting. An electric generator installed in Ein Issa Camp provides increased pumping capacity to the existing borehole in the camp, boosting daily provision to 390m<sup>3</sup> day when required. Paid cleaning of sanitation facilities continues and approximately 3,840 hygiene kits have been distributed.

The installation of 100 permanent toilets and 100 concrete showers has been initiated. In addition, water storage tanks with 75 m3 capacity and 25 public garbage bins. A sewage system network covering 8km is also under construction.

### **Al Kata camp**

Al Kata camp currently hosts 110 IDPs families, displaced in 6 schools and 2 mosques. During the reporting period, an estimated 20 water tanks (1 m<sup>3</sup>), 135 NFI kits, and 24 hygiene kits were distributed.

### **Karama**

The population of Karama is estimated between 40,000 – 50,000 persons. During the reporting period, 8,800 hygiene kits were distributed. Emergency water trucking continues at the rate of 600m<sup>3</sup> per day. Ten water tanks were installed, each with 5 m<sup>3</sup> capacity, and additional 15 additional tanks are being installed. An informal household assessment concluded that 80-90% IDPs have installed temporary latrines with their own efforts and maintaining and cleaning their latrines despite limited access to water supply and other external support.

### **Bahra Camp**

Bahra camp currently hosts 1,500 individuals, most of whom originate from Deir-ez-Zor. During the reporting period, 61 hygiene kits for 61 households have been distributed.

The Water Authority in Hassakeh recently received six water tanks and 4 water bladders. These supplies will be installed in IDP camps and settlements in both Hassakeh and Raqqa governorates to meet the immediate need of the temporary shelters installed in those governorates as part of Raqqa response.



## **Shelter and NFIs**

### **Response:**

NFI/shelter partners continued to provide support to IDPs in various sites/camps:

**Ain Issa Cotton Camp:** the population of Ein Issa camp is currently estimated at 7,000 with anticipated increases. UNHCR have installed 155 family tents and 3 big tents for reception centres.

**Mabrouka Camp:** UNHCR installed 4 big tents for use as reception centres; and distributed core NFI kits including blankets, sleeping mats, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets, jerry cans and solar lamps for 2,500 people. Partners report no major developments in Shelter / NFI in Mabrouka over the last month, but there is a continued concern that the number of people staying at the camp could slowly increase, and therefore that this needs to be monitored.

**Al Bahra Camp, Hassekeh:** This new camp has been set up by the self-administration, with a current population of 1500 people, and plans to scale up to 10,000. One S/NFI partner has started installing 200 tents this week, and plans to distribute 225 NFI Kits.

### **Other locations**

INGOs based in NE Syria continue to focus primarily on areas outside the camps, including Menbij, Tell Abiad, Ein Issa, Tabqa and Karama, coordinating with the HAO and with the sector to ensure priority coverage and lack of duplication:

**Aleppo Governorate:** Cross-border actors from Turkey continue to assist Raqqa IDPs arriving in Aleppo through a combination of emergency response and regular programming, based on need and vulnerability criteria. This week Turkey-based partners assisted over 3,200 households in Al Bab and Aghtrin with core NFIs, jerry cans, hygiene kits and diapers.

**Raqqa Governorate:**

**Tabqa and Twayhina:** this week INGO partners distributed 1280 Core NFI and new arrival kits and over 2,200 hygiene kits in Tabqa / Twayhina assisting up to 6,000 individuals. This brings the total number of hygiene kits distributed in Tabqa in June to around 6,000 kits covering up to 30,000 individuals. One partner plans to distribute 2,000 infant kits including clothing and materials in Tabqa in the coming days. Twayhina is a transit site with families arriving and departing daily, partners are monitoring incoming HHs and providing assistance as needed. Al Karama: Plans are in place by UNHCR and IOM to distribute core NFIs and hygiene kits

**Overall gaps / constraints**

There is a funding gap for emergency shelter / tents for UNHCR. During June the number of local partners continues to be a constraint on UN agencies, while cross-border actors from Turkey are unable to operate in the main areas of displacement in Raqqa and Jarablus, but are focusing assistance on those IDPs who reach their areas of coverage.

Security and access considerations are the primary constraint on the response, limiting the ability of partners to reach displaced groups to conduct needs assessments and provide assistance in locations close to the front lines. This week there was a reported minor security incident at a distribution in Tabqa, highlighting the potential for problems. In addition to access, availability of supplies, materials and items is a major constraint on NES actors. Stocks of tents, materials and goods will need to continue to be procured and replenished but local procurement is limited as is the movement of goods into NE Syria either by road from Aleppo or cross-border from Iraq.

There are likely to be shelter gaps throughout the informal settlements and communities in the areas surrounding Raqqa and Ain Issa which are difficult to quantify given the fluid situation and the dispersed nature of displacement. Many IDPs are travelling with their own vehicles and basic shelter materials, so the response outside the camps includes light, flexible and adaptive solutions, such as the inclusion of plastic sheeting and other materials in NFI kits to supplement the IDPs own shelter materials; and the procurement of emergency tents to provide temporary, transportable solutions.

The sector will continue to assess and identify needs and gaps, and will rely on continued flexible and timely donor support in order to respond quickly to identified needs as they develop, within the current access and capacity constraints.



**Education** (covering 1-30 June)

**Response**

As part of multi-sectoral humanitarian response, UNICEF and the Al Birr wa Al Ihsan NGO have completed the first phase of education support to school age IDP/returnee children from April to June through the provision of school bags and stationery. A total of 26,660 school-age IDP/returnee children (13,076 boys 13,584 girls) have benefited from the support in the sub-districts of Tell Abiad, Suluk, Ein Issa, Jurneyyeh, and Al- Thawrah of Ar-Raqqa as well as Menbij of Aleppo. The partnership agreement is being renewed to continue responding to education needs of displaced/returnee school age children throughout 2017.

In anticipation of further displacement of population from Ar-Raqqa and Deir-Ez-Zor as well as possible resumption of formal education in newly accessible areas of Ar-Raqqa, UNICEF has prepositioned additional education supplies (school bags and stationery kits) in its warehouse in Qamishli. With additional quantity, the current stock can cover the needs of more than 60,000 school age children. In addition, an engineering team which consists of government and non-government education partners is standing by to conduct a technical assessment for light school building rehabilitation upon the approval from GoS Ministry of Education (MoE) in host communities of northern Ar-Raqqa and in newly accessible areas.

**Gaps**

Access to education opportunities is a primary concern for school age IDP children who consists of approximately 40% of the IDP population, whether they are in transit camps, in unofficial settlements, or hosted by communities. Those that come from ISIL areas, have already missed out formal education for almost 3 years since 2014. In

particular, children aged 6-9 never received formal education, therefore, it is anticipated that many of them cannot even read and write. The provision of non-formal education opportunities as well as the resumption of formal education are the most urgent education needs.

The limited number and capacity of education partners in Ar-Raqqa has posed a great challenge on the education sector in providing timely education support. The schools in host communities in northern Ar-Raqqa, which were resumed in the beginning of 2016, have little capacity to respond to education needs of IDP children, as GoS MoE can only provide limited technical or education material support to those schools due to access constraints. There has been a serious shortage of qualified and experienced teaching staff, as many of them have fled outside the governorate. The capacity of education partners in Al Hasakeh is also stretched against in the increasing humanitarian needs in the region, including in Ar-Raqqa.

In newly accessible areas such as Jurneyyeh or Al-Thawrah where some residents are returning home, much of public infrastructure including schools have been reportedly damaged, or used as a shelter or for other purposes including military purposes. It is still not clear whether GoS or Kurdish Self- Administration (KSA) will resume formal education. Education sector will closely monitor the situation in coming months particularly before the start of the 2017-2018 school year 2017-2018 in September 2017.



### Logistics (covering 1-25 June)

#### Response

Between 1 and 25 June, 42 airlifts were conducted delivering over 3,711 m<sup>3</sup> of critical humanitarian cargo to Qamishli. As a result of the resumption of land access to Qamishli, the Damascus-Qamishli air-bridge, which has been the only reliable mode of transport for the provision of much needed humanitarian assistance to the Al-Hassakeh governorate for almost a year, was phased out on 25 June. Should land access to Qamishli be interrupted again in the future, the Logistics Cluster through WFP will look at the option of resuming the air-bridge as required.

Following the approval from MOFA to deliver UN food and non-food supplies by road received on 8 June, WFP and UNHCR have already successfully sent trucks by road to Qamishli. Other UN agencies are also making preparations to deliver supplies by road to Qamishli.

#### Gaps and constraints

Delays have been experienced at some checkpoints on the way from Aleppo to Qamishli.

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