

North-west Syria

July - August 2022

In 2022, UNHCR has sent across the border over 77,000 core relief items kits and shelter materials to assist more than **385,000 individuals**.

UNHCR and its partners resumed activities after the renewal of the UN Security Council Resolution for the cross-border humanitarian response.

In 2022, through its partners, UNHCR has provided protection services, such as psychosocial support and referrals, to more than **230,000 individuals**.

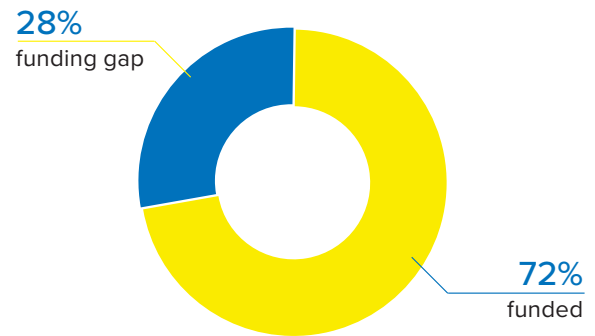
Humanitarian assistance trans-shipped in July 2022



Funding requirements for 2022

US\$ 18.2 million

requested for the UNHCR cross-border humanitarian response



as of 13 September 2022

Main objectives of the cross-border operation

Support the coordination of the cross-border humanitarian response through the Cluster system

Identify protection risks and assistance needs and inform the overall response

Provide protection services and emergency assistance with core relief items and shelter solutions

Build capacity of (local) humanitarian organizations

Fill critical gaps in the basic needs of IDPs where required and feasible

Situation overview

Around 4.1 million people in north-west Syria are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance; of these, 2.8 million are internally displaced persons (IDPs). New and protracted IDPs share the same urgent needs, in an area that has limited shelter options and where the fighting has caused the destruction of civilian infrastructure, including health facilities, schools, bakeries, and has disrupted the provision of basic services. With an increase in hostilities, with a deteriorating economic situation and with harsh weather conditions that have been severely damaging IDPs' shelter and properties, the population faces challenges in addressing their basic needs. New displacements continue to be tracked and, at the same time, weather and fire-related incidents continue to affect the displaced population.

The UN Security Council Resolution 2642 (2022) allowing for the cross-border humanitarian response was extended in July 2022.

While access to basic needs, particularly food, shelter, core relief items and protection, in the context of continuous displacement remains limited across the region, the humanitarian community is actively operating to deliver lifesaving assistance while ensuring the safety of the people.

Background

Following the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2165, UNHCR established its cross-border interventions from southern Türkiye in July 2014. From January to August 2022, through its own programme, UNHCR has partnerships with seven organizations – ACTED, MARAM, MUSUN, SEMA, SHAFAK, SRD and WATAN – to assist displaced people through the provision of core relief items (CRIs), shelter support, camp management and protection services. In addition, UNHCR is co-leading the Protection, Shelter/Non-Food Items (Shelter/NFI) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Clusters. All Clusters closely follow-up the humanitarian developments in the conflict affected areas in north-west Syria and contribute to emergency preparedness and response plans.

Response updates

UNHCR Programme

In the first half of 2022, in coordination with its partners and other humanitarian actors, UNHCR continued to provide basic assistance and protection services to IDPs and conflict-affected vulnerable host community members in north-west Syria under the cross-border operation from Gaziantep, Türkiye. The response served the urgent humanitarian needs of the population in the region, who has been severely affected by the ongoing hostilities, inadequate shelter conditions and a deteriorating economic situation. These critical interventions continued despite the limitation of having only one border crossing through which the humanitarian assistance is delivered.

Between July and August 2022, UNHCR's partners distributed 941 CRI kits to 4,700 conflict-affected and displaced households in Idlib Governorate. Meanwhile, around 900 individuals received shelter assistance (182 family tents).

Through one trans-shipment, UNHCR delivered to its partners 1,000 CRI kits and 300 tents to be distributed to some 6,500 conflict-affected and displaced people in Idlib.

UNHCR's protection partners conducted awareness

raising and psychosocial support sessions, identified cases and referred them to basic services in Idlib and Aleppo; such community-based protection interventions reached 45,383 people. Additionally, 1,765 displaced and vulnerable people received protection services such as awareness raising on civil status documentation and housing, land and properties, legal consultation and assistance.



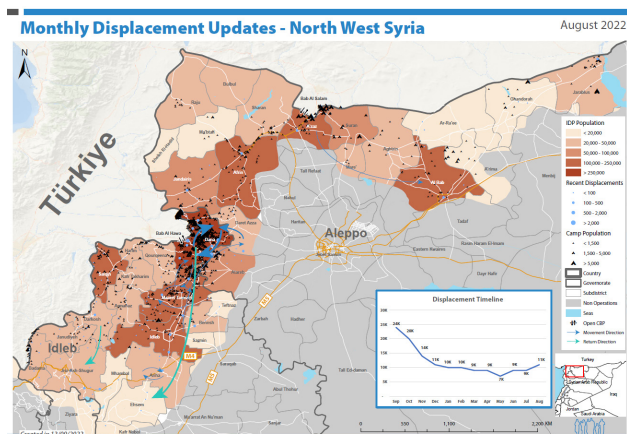
Distributions of core relief items. ©WATAN

CCCM Cluster

The Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, led by UNHCR and co-led by Global Communities, coordinates the efforts of 68 member organizations providing cross border assistance in north-west Syria. Activities focus on coordinating and monitoring the Cluster members to cover the multi-sectoral needs in 1,421 IDP sites that host 1,821,300 IDPs / 347,209 families (as of August) and, on behalf of the humanitarian community, track IDP movements. Some 73,500 IDPs are persons with specific needs, while 79% are women and children. Most sites are concentrated in the Dana sub-district. Most of these sites are self-settled and lack camp management systems. To identify gaps and facilitate the coordination of multi-sectoral services, the Cluster is prioritizing monitoring and collecting information as part of its coordination response, which is particularly important in the implementation of the humanitarian response.

Every month, the Cluster reached IDP sites and their populations with activities ranging from camp management to community mobilization, site assessment and risk mitigation, care and maintenance to key facilities and infrastructure, capacity building, as well as fire mitigation and awareness campaigns.

The Cluster recorded close to 20,000 displacements during July and August 2022. Displacements were principally from Dana, Daret Azza and Idlib with the main locations of arrival including Dana, Maaret Tamsrin and Jisr-Ash-Shugur. Some individuals may have been exposed to multiple displacements and reasons for moving vary. A third of the newly displaced indicated shelter as one of their priority needs. During the same period, over 6,000 IDPs were reported as having returned to their place of origin in north-west Syria.



Map produced by the CCCM Cluster.

Shelter/NFI Cluster

The Shelter/NFI Cluster, co-led by UNHCR and CARE, is coordinating the efforts of some 75 member organizations in the Cross-Border operation who are implementing shelter and/or NFI activities. The Cluster addresses shelter and NFI needs of vulnerable people by providing in-kind assistance, as well as cash and voucher assistance.

Cluster members continue to actively respond to the needs of the newly displaced population, as well as protracted IDPs in north-west Syria. During July and August 2022, more than 14,000 individuals received

NFI assistance in the form of core NFI kits and kitchen sets. Shelter needs of over 56,000 people were addressed during the same period, including the provision of emergency shelter, shelter rehabilitation, transitional shelters and infrastructure improvements in IDP sites.

The Cluster keeps advocating for better and safer shelter options and an integrated multi-sector approach to site planning and infrastructure improvements, in order to improve the living conditions of IDPs in self-settled sites.

Protection Cluster

The Protection Cluster (co-led by UNHCR and IRC) brings together 60 member organizations, which include actors of the three Sub-Clusters: Child Protection (led by UNICEF and World Vision), Gender Based Violence (led by UNFPA and Global Communities) and Humanitarian Mine Action (led by UNMAS and Halo Trust). The Cluster also convenes regularly the Protection Monitoring Task Force (led by UNHCR and Shafak) and a Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Technical Working Group (co-led by UNHCR and NRC), as well as a Technical Working Group on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (ITWG, co-led by UNHCR and Humanity and Inclusion). The Cluster continues to prioritize the provision of lifesaving emergency protection services to newly displaced populations and to deliver specialized protection services to communities and individuals in need and at risk, including using outreach capacity and mobile teams.

During July, Cluster members provided 360,961 protection interventions to IDPs and affected host community members in Aleppo and Idlib governorates. Displaced and vulnerable people received protection services such as awareness raising on civil status documentation and housing, land and properties, legal consultation and assistance but also psychological first aid, integrated/comprehensive case management services, community-based protection initiatives and referrals to other services.

A Protection Monitoring Task Force members conducted 774 Key Informant Interviews in 140 communities in 8 districts of Aleppo and Idlib Governorates. A variety of protection related issues, such access to humanitarian assistance, child protection issues, access to civil documentation, witnessing any new displacement or arrival of returnee and access to healthcare, education, but also GBV and freedom of movement, were addressed.

UNHCR is grateful for the support of:

Belgium | Denmark | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America | CERF | Private donors