

# **Child Protection in Syria**

January - June 2025

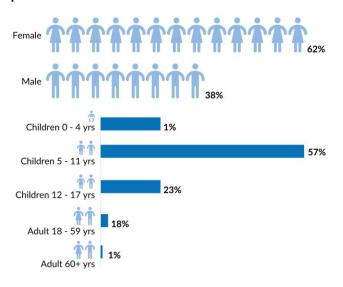
45,199

children and caregivers benefited from awarenessraising sessions 2,259

children benefited from case management services 61

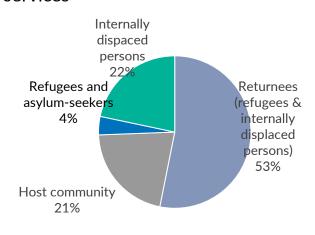
child protection community-based structures supported

**47,458** persons included in child protection services

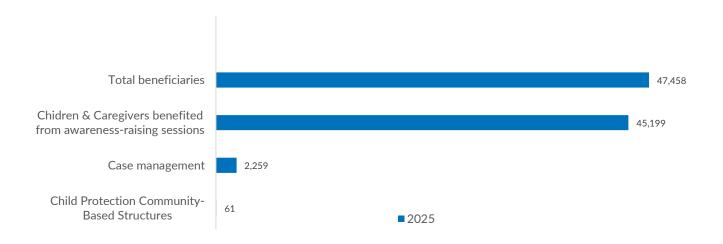


## **Population groups**

benefiting from child protection services



**♀** 14 Governorates | **♣** 69 Community Centres | **▶** 15 Partners



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#### Case management

UNHCR's approach to child protection aims to engage with children to protect them from harm and ensure that case managers make inclusive decisions together with the children and their caretakers in the children's best interests. This is done through working closely with families and communities to address child protection concerns and identify solutions.

By the end of June 2025, 65% of the children who received case management services were returnees, either refugee returnees or internally displaced returnees. The main protection risks faced by children were child labour, child neglect, and violence against children.

During the first half of 2025, a total of 2,259 children received individual case management services. The services included sessions with the children and their caretakers to assess their needs and risks, referrals to specialized service providers (such as education classes, medical services, psychosocial support, and livelihood opportunities for caregivers) where needed, and follow-up plans of action with caregivers and other stakeholders. The plans of action included interventions with teachers and employers, medical and general in-kind assistance, and childfriendly space activities. The case management services holistically address child protection concerns and respond to the needs by coordinating required assistance in line with the best interests of the child.



### **Mareness-raising**

Awareness-raising is a fundamental component of UNHCR's child protection strategy, as it enhances the community awareness of protection risks faced by children, as well as identifies abusive behaviour towards children. Awareness-raising aims to initiate behavioural change within communities against the normalization of child abuse, recognize and respect the rights of children, empower communities to respond to child protection concerns and inform caregivers as well as communities in general about the available child protection services.

During the first half of 2025, UNHCR and its partners conducted awareness-raising sessions reaching 45,199 persons (35,902 children and 9,297 caregivers). The sessions were conducted on various topics including the rights of children, violence against children, harmful effects of dropping out of school, child recruitment, child neglect, mine risk education, child labour, and parenting skills.



#### Community engagement

The establishment of child protection community-based structures is an important first step in enabling the community to protect and support its children. During the first half of 2025, 61 structures were maintained and supported including children's clubs and child welfare committees, as part of enhancing community engagement and ownership of child protection.

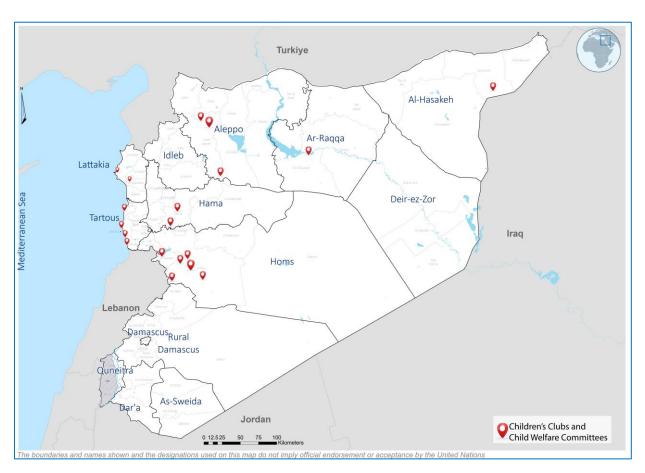
Children's clubs bring together children (6-18 years) of the community and they play an active role in child protection within schools and communities. The clubs advocate for children's rights, identify and report on child protection concerns in the communities, share information with children on how to access child protection services, provide peer support to the children within their schools and communities, and raise awareness among the children on issues related to their rights through debates and role playing.

Child welfare committees are composed of members of the communities (such as teachers, social workers, and community leaders) who are responsible for identifying specific child

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protection issues and trends within the communities. They also advocate for, and provide appropriate support to, children facing risks through community engagement. In addition, they raise awareness on children's rights, child protection issues, and services available for children.



# Capacity Building

Building the capacity of partner staff is a shared responsibility between UNHCR and the partners. By the end of June 2025, a total of 14 partner staff and community structures received training on the basics of child protection. Further trainings are planned during the second half of 2025 to address capacity needs on various child protection interventions.

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