Based on various needs assessments inside Syria, the estimated people in need of shelter in Syria is around 4.2 million of which 1.9 million are with acute shelter needs. This will serve as the planning figure for the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan.

The shelter interventions continue to be implemented by the sector partners in Aleppo City. In September, Norwegian Red Cross has started the shelter kit installation for 204 houses in partnership with SARC. IOM also installed shelter kits with SARC in four neighborhoods namely, Sakhir, Salah-Ad-Din, Shaar, and the Bab-Road. On the other hand, MSJM has received the government approval to rehabilitate 100 apartments in Hanano neighborhood.

Sector partners namely GOPA, SSSD, STD and UNHCR continue to provide free legal services / consultations in seven neighborhoods in Aleppo City to help ease the procedure of processing and acquiring property ownership - related documents.

On 25th of September, the sector organized a one-day workshop with all partners and governorate representatives to understand the shelter and infrastructure needs, priorities and related challenges in different geographical areas in Syria to inform the ongoing sector strategy revision.

Some sector partners participated in the Whole of Syria Coordination Meeting in Beirut, Lebanon on the 19th of September. They were given the chance to share their feedback on the HNO key findings as well as ideas and inputs for the development of the 2018 sector strategy.

On 26th Sept, Protection Risk Analysis training for sector partners was organized by OCHA separately in Arabic and English.

Shelter and infrastructure works have been carried out by UNHCR at transit sites in northeast Syria. In September, UNHCR installed road lighting and communal kitchens and carried out site preparation works for reception area. These works will benefit ultimately around 15,000 individuals. At the same time, UNHCR has developed plan to have an extension to Ein Issa camp.
**CRISIS BACKGROUND:** The crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic that started in March 2011 has transformed into a complex emergency that has displaced around 6.3 million people and forced around 4.8 million people out of the country to seek asylum. As per the 2017 Humanitarian Needs Overview, around 13.5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance of which around 4.3 million people are desperate to receive adequate shelter support and other multi-sectorial assistance as they continue to struggle in an unsafe and uncertain environment. Due to the protracted nature of the hostilities, many of both displaced and host communities become more vulnerable and their ability to cope and find safe and durable shelter solutions have been greatly affected. The humanitarian community has been challenged to both provide emergency and life-saving shelter solutions while building back community cohesion and resilience through provision of sustainable shelter assistance.

**GAPS AND CHALLENGES**

- In Aleppo, lack of property ownership documentation affects the ability of population to avail shelter support;
- Continued reports of remnants of war in rural areas of Aleppo governorate prevent some displaced persons from returning to their homes;
- Lack of financial resources to rehabilitate damaged houses in places of origin such as Aleppo continue to discourage the return of IDPs;
- Limited access to hard-to-reach areas and lack of long-term presence impede the provision of proper shelter support;
- In most cases, available shelters are not enough to accommodate newly displaced persons;
- The operational capacity of the sector is insufficient to meet the needs.

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**PARTNER IN FOCUS**

Rebuild Syria Reconstruction Program (RSRP) is a humanitarian program implemented in Syria under the umbrella of the Rebuild and Relief International (RRI).

RRI works to promote and protect the rights of all Iraqi and Syrian people, regardless of their race, religion, nationality or political convictions. This will be achieved by acting as an independent and courageous spokesman for their rights nationally and internationally, providing humanitarian assistance in emergency situations, and working together with UN organizations to coordinate international aid and protection.

RRI started to work in Syria in June 2017 particularly in Aleppo, Ar Raqqa, and Rural Damascus governorates. Working closely with the Syria Trust for Development (STD), their main shelter project is the shelter rehabilitation in Suluk sub-district in Ar Raqqa. They have also been working on other project proposals related to infrastructure rehabilitation, owner-oriented rehabilitation, private and public shelter support, settlement, and shelter materials distribution.

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