BRINGING HOPE TO VULNERABLE PEOPLE: Providing NFIs as life-saving items remains essential to ease the suffering of people with dire needs in hard-to-reach and besieged location.

The NFI Monthly is a monthly publication of the NFI Sector of Syria Hub which is led by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. This publication aims to provide an overview of humanitarian response of the sector inside Syria for each month. All information presented in this publication are from all NFI sector members with operational presence inside Syria. For more information, please contact the sector.

KEY POINTS

- In September, the humanitarian convoy to Urum al-Kubra (Big Orem), northwest of Aleppo city was attacked. According to several sources from UN agencies and ICRC more than 10 casualties were reported (including 6 truck drivers and SARC volunteers were killed) as they were unloading trucks carrying vital humanitarian aid. Most of the aid was destroyed. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Mr. Stephen O’Brien strongly condemned the attack that affected delivering humanitarian aid to vulnerable people in Big Orem area. He further emphasized that international humanitarian law plainly set out the basic responsibilities of warring parties to ensure the necessary protection of all humanitarian organizations, including personnel, facilities and other relief assets. Mr. O’Brien noted that despite very difficult and dangerous conditions, humanitarian aid organizations remain committed to continuing their work and reaching all those in need.

- NFI sector members managed to deliver relief items and NFI supplies for around 12,000 families (estimated 60,000 persons) in besieged city of Moadamiyeh in Rural Damascus governorate and to residents of Al-Waer and Talbiseh in Homs governorate.

- As winter is fast approaching, the sector Partners started distributing Winterization NFIs to make sure that the acute needs of the affected population are met to the highest extent possible. The total Winterization target of the sector members in 2016-2017 ts to reach around 22 million population in need in 12 governorates including hard-to-reach and besieged areas with funding requirement amounting to around 66 million USD. In September, NFI sector member has distributed 52,000 winter clothing kits and high thermal blankets benefiting around 200,000 individuals.

- This month, UNICEF’s summer program was completed and through their e-voucher system, they have reached around 27,860 vulnerable children (12,486 girls and 15,374 boys) living in urban areas. The agency plans to continue to expand this in governates of Damascus, Homs, Latakia, Tartous, and Quamishli. On the other hand, preparations are ongoing to reach more children during winter by using the same voucher modality which provides parents with more choices to respond to the specific needs of their children. Along with this, UNICEF has started to deliver winter kits in hard-to-reach areas through inter-agency convoys to ensure that children are protected against weather hazards. The agency distributed 5,000 kits in Al-Waer in Homs governorate and 3,090 kits in Madaya in Rural Damascus governorate.

KEY DIGITS

- **5.3 million people in need of NFI**
  - Estimate number of people in Syria in need of basic non-food items (39% of the estimated 13.5 million people in need of humanitarian support in 2016).
  - 39%

- **2.8 million people received at least 1 item**
  - Estimate number of people who received at least one NFI item from January to September 2016 (53% of the total 5.3 million people in need of NFI).
  - 53%

- **1.2 million people received more than 4 items**
  - Estimate people who were considered adequately served for receiving more than 4 NFI items from January to September 2016 (24% of the total 5.3 million people in need of NFI).
  - 24%

- **145 sub-districts reached**
  - Total number of sub-districts reached from January to September 2016 (53% of the total 272 sub-districts in Syria).
  - 53%

- **7.0 million NFI items distributed**
  - Total number of NFI items distributed from January to September 2016.

- **3.2 million stocked NFI items**
  - Estimate number of stocked NFI items from September to October 2016.
CRISIS BACKGROUND: The civil unrest in Syrian Arab Republic that started in March 2011 has transformed into a multi-sided armed conflict that displaced around 6.5 million people and forced around 4.2 million people out of the country to seek asylum. As per the Humanitarian Needs Overview in 2016, around 13.5 million people are in need of humanitarian support of which around 5.3 million people are desperate to receive emergency shelter, essential household items and other multi-sectorial assistance as they continue to struggle in insecure areas. The degree of resilience and positive coping mechanism of the affected population have reduced due to the protracted nature of the conflict. Purchasing power and the ability to provide for their basic household needs have decreased due to economic recession that left thousands of Syrian people unemployed and the prospect of accessing essential household items has also declined due to closure of essential service providers.

GAPS AND CHALLENGES

- Widespread insecurity, challenging physical access and rigorous bureaucratic procedures and approval limit provision of adequate and regular humanitarian assistance especially to those who have been trapped in besieged and hard-to-reach areas;
- Absence of age and gender disaggregated information of population in need unable the sector to accommodate and target specific needs;
- Logistical constraints especially during inter-agency convoy such as, road blockage, presence of checkpoints, and presence of threats continue to hamper rapid distribution;
- Lack of actual data on distribution recipients prevent the sector to better measure the actual reached and served beneficiaries;
- Limited and irregular monitoring of distribution due to insecurity and sensitivities compromise the ability of the sector to assess the impact of its assistance and better inform future planning;
- Absence of clear and effective feedback mechanism from population in need due to information gathering sensitivities unable the sector to better determine the efficacy of its effort;
- Lack of income generating activities to provide the necessary financial means continues to hamper access to basic household items among the most vulnerable population in need;
- Diminishing active participation among sector members affects coordination and the overall sectorial reach;
- Inexact coordination structure impacts the level of efficiency in coordinating sectorial response for inter-agency convoys.
- Lack of reliable consolidated information for inter-agency convoy reach affects the sector’s ability to determine the extent and impact of its convoy contribution

PARTNER IN FOCUS

Danish Refugee Council

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is a humanitarian, non-governmental, non-profit organization founded in 1956 that works in more than 30 countries throughout the world.

DRC fulfils its mandate by providing direct assistance to conflict-affected populations – refugees, internally displaced people (IDPs) and host communities in the conflict areas of the world; and by advocating on behalf of conflict-affected populations internationally, and in Denmark, on the basis of humanitarian principles and the Human Rights Declaration.

Within the Syrian Arab Republic, the Danish Refugee Council has responded to the Iraqi refugee crisis since 2008. In 2012 DRC expanded its mandate to assist Syrian IDPs in its main areas of operation: Rural Damascus/Damasus, Homs, Hama, Dara’a and Aleppo. Aside from these areas, DRC addresses emergency needs, as they arise, in other areas throughout Syria. DRC’s emergency response focuses on provision of NFIs and communal shelter rehabilitation with a strong WASH component.

Since 2014 DRC has distributed 2.4 million NFIs covering 1.5 million people in need across Syria.

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**SYRIA: NFI WINTERIZATION PLAN**

**TOTAL PEOPLE IN NEED (PIN) TARGETED**
2,381,392
TOTAL PIN TARGETED
(secure & unsecured funding)

**TOTAL WINTERIZATION ITEMS PLANNED**
1,535,892

**BREAKDOWN OF TARGET PIN OF WINTER ITEMS PER AGENCY**
- **UNHCR**: 815,000
- **UNICEF**: 689,500
- **IOM**: 512,000
- **UNRWA**: 114,892

**BREAKDOWN OF TARGET PIN OF WINTER ITEMS PER TYPE AND GOVERNORATE**

**LEGEND**
- Total Targeted People In Need (PIN) per governorate
- Estimate no. of target PIN
- Winter Kits / Winter Clothes
- Winter Kit (Winter Clothes)
- High Thermal Blankets
- Plastic Mat
- Children Boots

**NOTE**: Content of winterization kit per agency varies.

IOM (cotton underwear long sleeve with long pants, wool gloves, wool hat, wool scarf, wool socks)
UNHCR (sweater, underwear, baby clothing set, high thermal blanket, plastic sheet, sleeping bag, jackets)
UNICEF (children winter clothes)

**Data Sources**: NFI Winterization Plan from August to September 2016
OCHA PIN as of 2016

**Disclaimer**: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Humanitarian reach to sub-district does not imply full geographic coverage of all the needs in the sub-district. Information visualized on this map is not to be considered complete.

**Creation Date**: 20 October 2016
Data Sources: NFI Winterization Plan from August to September 2016
OCHA PIN as of 2016
SYRIA: NFI 2-MONTH DISTRIBUTION PLAN

Reporting Period: September - October 2016

SUMMARY

838,915
TARGET NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES (PERSONS) FOR IN-KIND DISTRIBUTION FROM SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2016 BY NFI SECTOR SYRIA HUB

BREAKDOWN OF BENEFICIARIES OF 2-MONTH PLAN DISTRIBUTION PER STATUS

- Ongoing: 57,450
- Planned: 781,465

BREAKDOWN OF BENEFICIARIES OF 2-MONTH PLAN DISTRIBUTION PER AGENCY

- IOM: 36,500
- UNHCR: 745,715
- PUI: 56,700

NOTE: This two month distribution plan is only tentative as factors such as access and security have impact in the actual plan implementation.

LEGEND

- 18,550 - 40,000
- 40,001 - 150,000
- 150,001 - 250,000
- 250,001 - 500,000
- 500,001 - 1,500,000

Number of beneficiaries (persons)

Data Sources: NFI Sector 2-Month Distribution Plan September - October 2016, OCHA PiN as of 2016

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