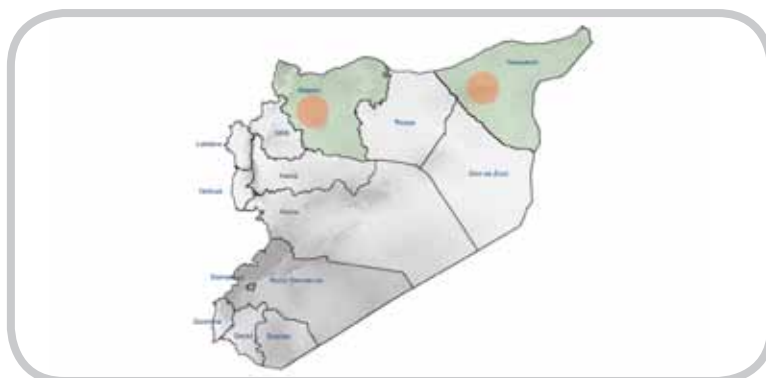


## UNHCR Responds to Fresh Displacement of Families from Southern Rural Aleppo and Hassakeh



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In the past few weeks UNHCR has responded to fresh displacement in both the Hassakeh and Aleppo governorates. On 31 October, clashes started in the northern Abdulazeez Mountains in the Hassakeh governorate causing the displacement of 10,000 individuals from 15 villages to nearby villages in Tel Tamer. In response UNHCR established and trained an identification team with the Assyrian charity and the host community. So far nearly 5,000 individuals have been identified with an additional 2,000 individuals currently being identified. In addition, it is estimated that 1,000 people are living outdoors and according to the communication with the self-administration authorities, plans are now in place to shelter them in a new camp in Ras Al Ain. On 09 November, UNHCR started CRI distribution in Ras Al Ain and so far has assisted over 1,000 IDPs. On 10 November distribution through the Assyrian charity in Tal Tamer began which so far has assisted 405 IDPs.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Displacement in Hassakeh and Aleppo – UNHCR Responds.
- Community Based Initiative in Qamishly
- SGBV Training in Sweida Changing Lives



### 'Fresh Displacement, Changing Dynamics- UNHCR Responds'

UNHCR Syria 2015  
Mid-Year Report

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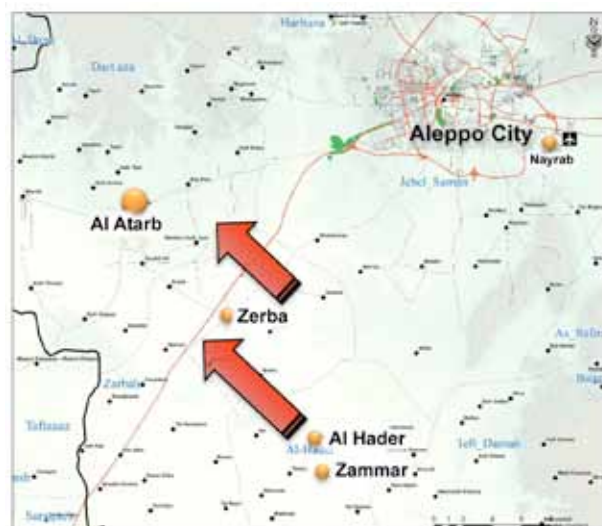


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In addition, 5,500 individuals who had fled from southern rural Aleppo particularly Al Wdehi, Hader, Zerba and Zammar were registered in the Al Atareb district of western rural Aleppo. A further 1,000 individuals reached Jibreen village and 400 individuals reached Nayrab village from southern rural Aleppo. UNHCR in cooperation with SARC urgently responded with the distribution of core relief items to the displaced people including mattresses, blankets, plastic sheets, sleeping mats, kitchen sets and jerry cans.



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## UNHCR Supports “A little bit of Warmth” Community-based initiative in Qamishly

This week the first community-based initiative (CBI) entitled ‘a little bit of warmth’ was completed at the Helko shelter in Qamishly. With the support of UNHCR and Al Ihsan social workers, the families there sealed all open doors and windows with durable, resistant and water-proof plastic sheeting. Prior to the initiative, the building lacked windows and doors leaving families without privacy or warmth. UNHCR provided all needed tools such as plastic sheets, nails, wooden frames and hammers. Men and women from different ages participated in the initiative creating a better warmer environment for the eighty displaced individuals residing there as well as protection from the coming winter.



©UNHCR / Qamishly 2015



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The Community-based initiatives (CBI) programme which is supported by UNHCR encourages affected communities to design and implement, in a participatory manner, direct impact initiatives to improve their living conditions. It encourages them to implement natural- support solutions to meet their own needs in a participatory manner while recognizing their capacities and skills. The CBIs in the past have included self-managed kindergartens, community garbage management systems, clean-up campaigns, collective food conservation initiatives, improvement of living conditions in collective shelters, peer support groups, home schooling, recreational activities for children and many other initiatives.



## Gender Based Violence Course Changing Attitudes in Sweida



Domestic violence remains the most widely reported issue faced by women and children in Syria. Due to conflict related stress, financial strains and the lack of long-term solutions, children in Syria most often suffer the consequences of these difficulties.

Loujain is a 28 year-old woman from Homs who fled the conflict three years ago to the Sweida governorate with her husband and three children. As her husband lost his job, she struggled hard to support her family working as a bread seller. Loujain when doing school work with her son Saad becomes frustrated and shouts at him and sometimes even beats him when he does not know the answer. Recently she noticed that now he always looks scared and if she talks to him he starts blinking and crying even if he did not do anything. When Loujain heard about a gender-based violence course supported by UNHCR and organized by its implementing partner, GOPA she was very keen to enroll. During discussions with the trainer in the course, she began to understand the reason behind her behavior and subsequently her son's fear and tension. As she says "When I was a child I did not pursue my education and I deeply regret it, so this is why I am strict with Saad, because I want him to succeed at school. However, the fact that I always shout at him and punish him when he makes mistakes has affected his behavior, especially as he has already gone through difficult times during our displacement".

After the course, Loujain has become patient with Saad spending more time coaching him and being more tolerant when he makes mistakes. She has already started to recognize his positive response. "Our life is not easy, we pay most of what we get to cover the rent of our house. My husband is passive which made me more aggressive with my children. However, I realized that I had to change my attitude and I am already seeing positive results", Loujain says. She thanks UNHCR and GOPA for their support and is very enthusiastic about attending other similar courses in the future.

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