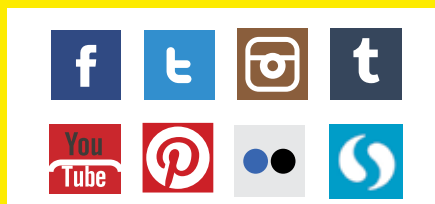


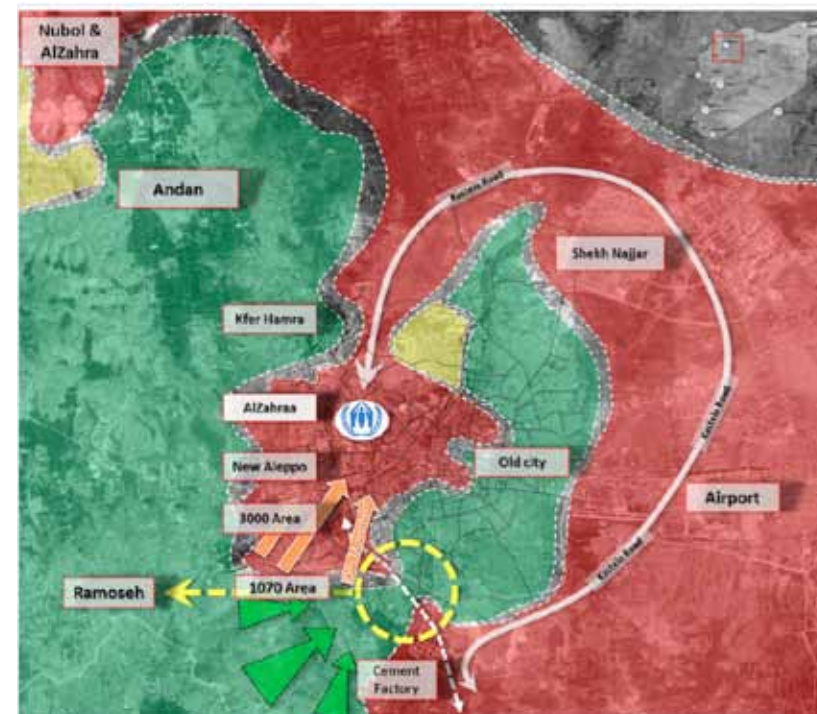
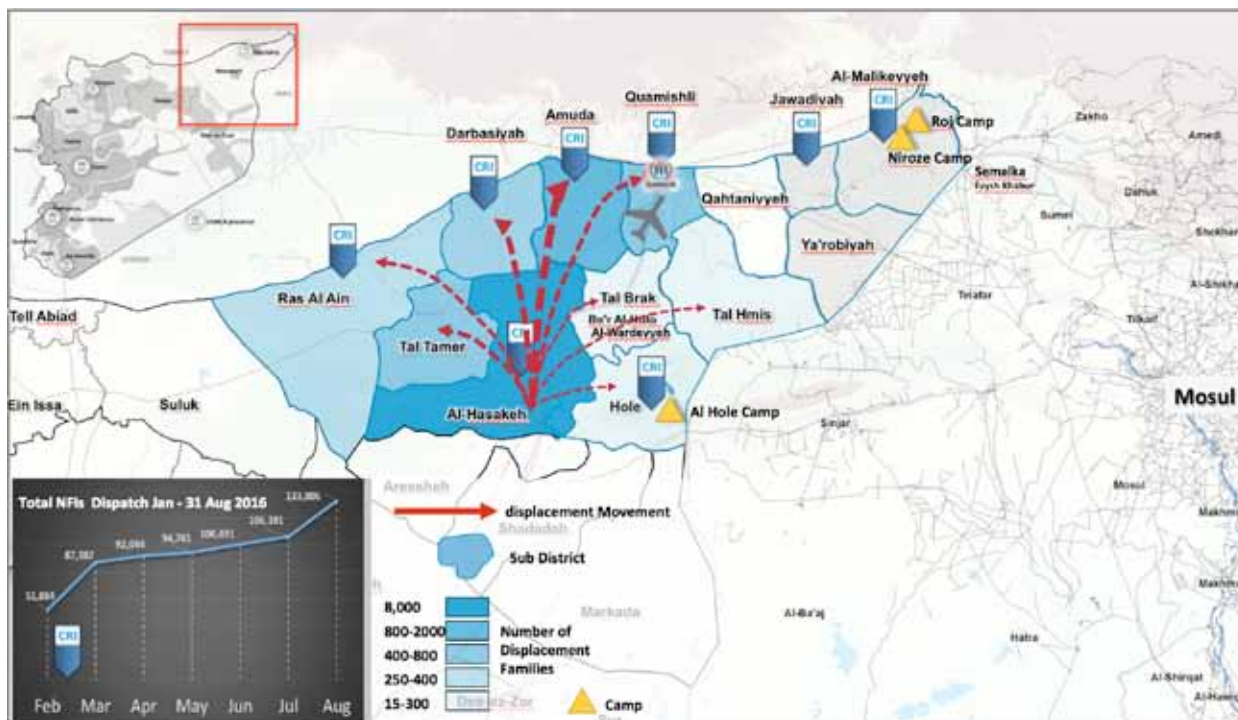
UNHCR Responds To Mass Displacement in Hassakeh and Aleppo

The ongoing fighting in Aleppo has resulted in significant movement of civilians. Thousands of people fled their homes in west Aleppo, mainly from the 1070 project and Tishrin, with many displaced for a second or third time. Some are staying with host families in other parts of the city while thousands are camped out in mosques, public gardens or on the streets. UNHCR and its partner supported more than 11,000 IDPs with CRIs and continue to register and assess new families and report to the UNHCR office to meet needs from emergency stock. Psycho-social support is being provided on the spot by the outreach volunteers who are visiting the collective shelters. This situation continues to create very difficult conditions for UNHCR staff and their families inside in the city. On 22 August UNHCR staff temporarily relocated to the UN Hub in the Shabaa Halab Hotel as an interim precautionary measure due to the danger of collateral damage to the main UNHCR office.



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Moreover, in Hassakeh city a significant displacement of 13,000 families/65,000 individuals took place to the city's suburbs as well as Amuda, Derbasiah and Qamishly city due to heavy clashes which erupted on 17 August resulting in many casualties and injuries. An agreement between the two parties was reached at Qamishly airport on 23 August but the situation remains volatile.

As a response UNHCR and its partner Ihsan quickly assessed the available shelters in Qamishly city in terms of number of IDPs already hosted and the capacity for hosting new IDPs. As all available shelters were full, the team contacted the local authorities for permission to open new temporary shelters, which was granted. Since the beginning of the influx of families on 20 August, the Ihsan team identified all arriving families physically. The team also identified the families who are in urgent need of shelter in the Ihsan centre and provided transportation to the shelters. Also, the team received families at the Siyahy Bus Garage and assisted them with shelter referrals and transportation in case of need. In addition UNHCR and partners released blankets, sleeping mats, mattresses, plastic sheets, jerry cans and kitchen sets for thousands of IDPs spread throughout Qamishly, Derbasia, Amuda and Ras Al Ein. Access to Hassakeh City remains restricted due to the prevailing security situation, however since the ceasefire, most of the 65,000 freshly displaced people have returned. The total remaining IDPs in affected areas of the Hassakeh Governorate is nearly 55,500 including 49,000 displaced earlier since February 2016. UNHCR and its partners are continuing to respond.

UNHCR Responds Rapidly to Civilians Evacuated from Daraya

On 25 August 2016, UNHCR received confirmation from operational partners that a truce was reached between the Government of Syria (GOS) and the Non State Armed Groups (NSAGs) in Daraya, Rural Damascus. Under the terms of the truce the combatants there were transferred to the Idlib Governorate and the civilians were relocated to accommodation built by UNHCR IDPs, each consisting of two rooms, a toilet and a kitchen, in the Al Herjalleh Village in Rural Damascus. On the 26 and 28 of August, UNHCR participated in two Interagency Convoys (IA) there to check on protection and other needs of the IDPs. During these missions UNHCR distributed the following:

- 850** Solar lamps
- 850** Rechargeable fans
- 3,000** Sleeping mats
- 3,300** Mattresses
- 2,000** blankets
- 800** Kitchen sets
- 2,000** Jerry cans
- 1,000** Plastic sheets

In addition, UNHCR is following up on a number of protection issues, including lack of documentation, the establishment of a community centre and the provision of a number of child friendly spaces.



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UNHCR Syria Supports the #WithRefugees Campaign

UNHCR believes now is the time to show world leaders that the international public stands #WithRefugees. As part of this important campaign UNHCR offices throughout Syria on the 25 August organized a number of activities in support of this campaign. We are asking you to stand with us by signing this petition to send a message to governments that they must work together and do their fair share for refugees. The #WithRefugees petition will be delivered to UN headquarters in New York ahead of the UN General Assembly on September 19. The petition asks governments to:

- Ensure every refugee child gets an education.
- Ensure every refugee family has somewhere safe to live.
- Ensure every refugee can work or learn new skills to make a positive contribution to their community.



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Please add your name to the petition to show that the world stands #WithRefugees.

withrefugees.org



UNHCR Supporting Children's Clubs: the First of their Kind in Syria

Children are affected the most in armed conflicts as they are at particular risk of violence, exploitation, abuse as well as separation from families in a volatile situation. The Child Protection structures of UNHCR and its partners began with the initiation of two voluntary bodies; the Child Protection Clubs and a Child Welfare Committee where adults have a key role in the protection of their own children.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, UNHCR, its partner Première Urgence (PU) and students established Child Protection Clubs in three schools, one in Damascus (Al Midan) and two in Rural Damascus (Al Kisweh and Sehnaya). Fifteen children were elected by other students ranging in age from 11 to 17 years old to lead and enhance the protection of children in these schools and throughout the areas where they live. The Children's Clubs are managed by children and adolescents and are targeting all children inside schools including, host community, IDP and refugee children. They aim to share children's challenges and obstacles faced in the community or inside the school with the UNHCR team as well as submit ideas to improve the school's environment. This empowers children and prepares them to become responsible members of their communities and future leaders.

Since their inception these clubs have suggested and been involved in many projects such as decorating school walls with paintings, planting the surrounding areas and cleaning the schools. Following the elections of the Children's Club members UNHCR organized a training session on Child Protection concepts which has enabled these children to look at how they can incorporate measures for the prevention of violence against children and an accurate response as well as becoming familiar on the Convention of the Rights of Children.

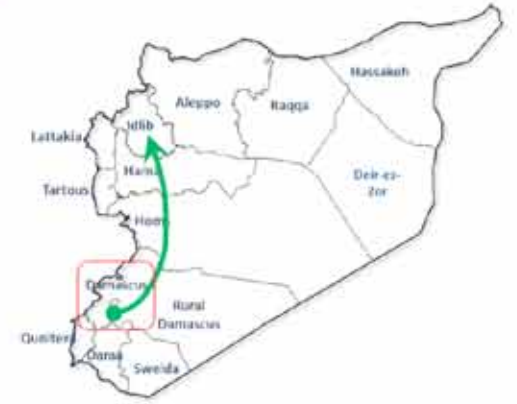
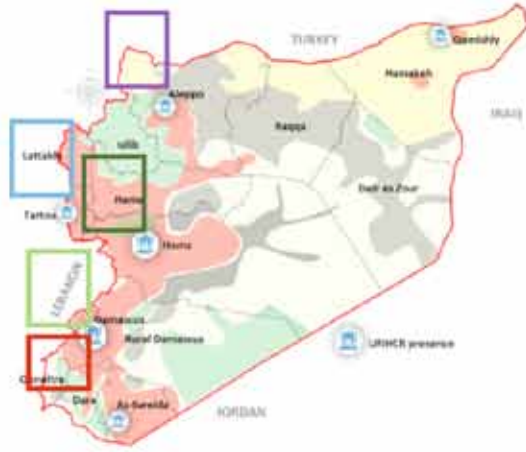
UNHCR, in coordination with its partners are currently implementing these clubs in Tartous, Lattakia, Sweida, Homs, Hama and Aleppo. So far since the beginning of the year 17 Child Protection Clubs have been established. UNHCR, together with its partners in different governorates, aims to expand this structure to other areas where the needs and risks are high.



UNHCR Continues to Deliver Assistance throughout Syria

- On 03 August, UNHCR reached the Daraa governorate with core relief items including mainly baby and adult diapers as well as sanitary napkins to around 2,000 individuals.
- On 03 August Dahiet Harasta in Rural Damascus also received core relief items for 5,000 individuals/1,000 families including mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets and plastic sheets.
- On 03 August in Aleppo, UNHCR managed to deliver humanitarian aid to the Sryan neighbourhood for 3,000 individuals/600 families and to New Aleppo for around 5,000 individuals/ 1,000 families.
- On 06 August, CRIs were delivered to IDPs in the Sayf Al Dawla, Salaheddine and Al Hamadaniyeh neighbourhoods in Aleppo city for around 1,500 individuals/300 families.
- On 13 August Homs city received core relief items for 1,750 individuals/350 families, while New Aleppo and other areas in Aleppo city received assistance for 3,750 individuals/750 families and 3,250/650 families respectively.
- Also on 13 August, UNHCR delivered humanitarian aid to Safita for 1,250 individuals/250 families and to Dreikish to 1,250 individuals/250 families. Both locations are in the Tartous governorate.
- On 23 August, through an inter-agency mission, UNHCR managed to provide assistance to the besieged Al Waer in Homs that consists of eight areas and is located in north western side of Homs city. UNHCR delivered 1,500 plastic sheets and the other organizations distributed food, flour and medicines.
- On 25 August, UNHCR participated in the second stage of an inter-agency convoy and delivered humanitarian assistance to 40,000 people in Al Waer in Homs Governorate. The delivery completed assistance for 75,000 people in the besieged neighbourhood following a first convoy on 23 August. During this mission UNHCR carried out protection assessment and monitoring activities.
- On 26 August after being informed of the truce between GoS and Non State Armed Groups (NSAGs) in Daraya and the subsequent evacuation, UNHCR participated in a UN assessment team to Daraya to observe the ongoing activities, highlight important issues to the Syrian government and ensure protection of the civilians coming out of Daraya. The relocation process continued for two days and approximately 550 civilians moved to Herjalleh.
- On the 26 and 28 of August, UNHCR participated in two Interagency Convoys (IA) to Al Herjalleh Village in Rural Damascus to check on protection and other needs of the IDPs evacuated from Daraya. During these missions UNHCR distributed solar lamps, rechargeable fans, sleeping mats, mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and plastic sheets for 4,000 people.
- On 29 August, UNHCR participated in an IA convoy to East Harasta in Rural Damascus contributing solar lamps, rechargeable fans, blankets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and plastic sheets for over 10,000 people
- On 29 August, Al Dar Al Kabira in Homs was reached through an inter-agency convoy through which UNHCR delivered 2,700 solar lamps.
- On all these missions, in addition to delivering aid, UNHCR conducted protection monitoring in the visited locations.





World Humanitarian Day 2016

“World Humanitarian Day is an annual reminder of the need to act to alleviate the suffering. It is also an occasion to honour the humanitarian workers and volunteers toiling on the frontlines of crises. I pay tribute to these dedicated women and men who brave danger to help others at far greater risk.”

UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon



UNHCR Syria Representative, Head of SARC Abdul-Rahman Al-Attar and UN RC/HC Yacoub al-Helo celebrating WRD

In 2008, the United Nations General Assembly designated 19 August as World Humanitarian Day (WHD) in honour of the 22 UN staff, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SSRG) to Iraq Sergio Vieira de Mello, who lost their lives in the bombing of the UN Headquarters in Baghdad in 2003. World Humanitarian Day is celebrated worldwide and remembers humanitarian personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty and recognizes the critical work being done to help millions of people in need throughout the world.

To mark WHD at the UNHCR headquarters in Geneva the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi led staff in observing one minute's silence to remember UN colleagues who have given their lives in the service of humanity. He then laid a floral wreath at the staff memorial for the 50 staff members UNHCR has lost since 1964. In an address to staff, Grandi said World Humanitarian Day was a "fitting occasion" to remember those who "went through the supreme sacrifice." First and foremost, we must draw inspiration from the courage of our fallen colleagues. But we must also acknowledge that today, more than ever, humanitarian workers are targeted and continue to die," he said.

In Syria the all UN agencies and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) came together to celebrate World Humanitarian Day at the Conference Hall at Damascus University with several theatrical, artistic and musical shows. Speeches were made by the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) in Syria Yacoub al-Helo and the head of SARC, Abdul-Rahman Al-Attar hailing the role of all humanitarians working in Syria to provide assistance and aid to the needy families all over the country. In addition the UN RC/HC stressed that the UN will continue its support to humanitarian efforts in Syria, affirming determination to go ahead with this work despite all challenges and risks.



Humanitarians coming together to Celebrate

Robin Loses his Business in Homs and Revives It in Tartous

Robin Al Khoury is a displaced young man from Homs who had been working in a laundry business for two years before he moved with his family to Tartous due to the conflict. When Robin arrived, he had almost nothing, however, livelihood assistance was offered to him by UNHCR and its partner GOPA. He is now renting a place and just started a laundry business. "I have selected a location near a sewing shop in a commercial area in the city of Tartous so that I can benefit from the tailor's clients and network", said Robin. Once Robin did the soft opening of the laundry in August, he immediately began to receive many orders, so many in fact, that he had to recruit an assistant who is also displaced, in order to be able to meet the customers' needs. "I'm really grateful to UNHCR and GOPA for their support, I can now generate income, work in the field that I love and provide an opportunity for another displaced person", mentions Robin with a smile on his face.

UNHCR, through its livelihoods support such as startup grants, small business loans and livelihood kits helps refugees, returnees and internally displaced people tap into their potential. Investing in livelihood activities helps reduce the costs associated with the provision of aid and protection as well as ensuring that displaced people contribute to local economies as well as creating self-reliance to live with dignity and create a future for themselves and their families.



UNHCR Syria Launches New Website

On 17 August, UNHCR Syria launched its new electronic website, devoted to its humanitarian response to the Syrian crisis. The new website's primary objective is to strengthen UNHCR's identity and maintain the overall coherence and balance of its communications on the human element of this crisis and UNHCR's response and activities.

The new website which was launched by UNHCR Syria's deputy Representative Abdul Karim Ghoull illuminates UNHCR as a leader in the Protection sector providing psycho-social support, legal aid, gender-based violence referrals, child protection services, community based initiatives as well as awareness raising sessions on various issues.

The new website which is very user friendly also focuses on UNHCR Syria response in the areas of Shelter and NFIs as well as Health and Education. It also highlights the joint efforts with its partners including national and international nongovernmental organizations and community-based local organizations to reach out to some five million individuals, bringing much needed assistance.

The new website can be accessed at:

www.unhcr.org/sy



Further Reading

UUN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Syria - Emergency Shelter Sector Factsheet, July 2016, available at:

<http://www.refworld.org/docid/578e42c14.html>

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Syria - Emergency NFI Sector Factsheet, July 2016, available at:

<http://reliefweb.int/node/1673021>

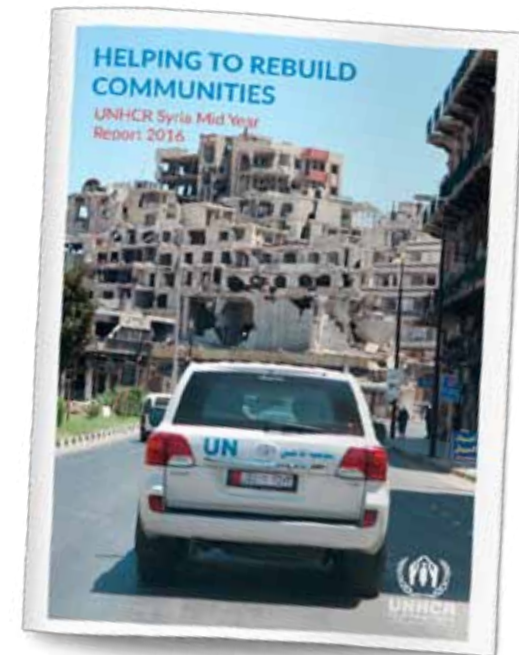
UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Syria IDP Operations: 2016. Valid as of August 31/08/2016, available at:

<http://www.refworld.org/docid/57c6c94b4.html>

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Helping to Save Lives and Rebuild Communities Mid Year Report 2016

available at:

<http://www.refworld.org/docid/57c6dccc4.html>



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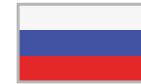
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