



13 FEBRUARY 2016

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- At least 50,000 people have reportedly been displaced since 31 January as a result of the ongoing intense fighting in Aleppo governorate. Eighty per cent are reported to be children and women.
- Based on estimates of 300,000 people in eastern Aleppo city, approximately 129,000 children at risk of being cut off from essential supplies and services.
- Water supply to Aleppo governorate continues to be cut off, since 16 January.
- UN High Commissioner for Human Rights says “shocking violations and abuses are committed every day” during escalation of hostilities.
- Fuel shortage is affecting health facilities and other infrastructure that depends on generators, in Aleppo, Idleb and Lattakia governorates.
- UNICEF has dispatched family hygiene kits to meet the needs of at least 100,000 displaced and affected people in Afrin, Azaz, Orem and western rural Aleppo and Idleb.
- Water trucking to 4,000 people (800 families) in Hamein camp and 3,000 people (600 families) in A'zaz city has started as of 5 February.
- Health and nutrition supplies were deployed for prepositioning in key hospitals and PHCs in eastern Aleppo and PHCs. Health kits and nutritional supplies were also deployed to other locations with displaced communities serving Azzaz, Afrin and rural Idleb (50,000 people).
- A 7-truck UNICEF/SARC convoy reached the previously hard-to-reach towns of Nubul and Zahra with supplies for 30,000 people including 20,000 children.
- In Deraa, as of 11 February humanitarian organizations are reporting up to 70,000 IDPs, following intensified attacks on Sheikh Meskine, Abtaa, Nawa, Da'el and surrounding areas. The vast majority of the IDPs are women and children. This is the largest displacement in several months in the area.
- In Deraa governorate, UNICEF has provided emergency health kits for 35,000 people to 6 local clinics and distributed family hygiene kits for 45,000 people.

Humanitarian Developments

Aleppo

At least 50,000 people have reportedly been displaced since January 31 as a result of the ongoing intense fighting and advancement of Government of Syria forces and its allies in the northern Aleppo governorate. The Camp Coordination and Management (CCCM) reported that:

- 15,000 newly displaced people are accommodated in camps at the Syrian border with Turkey, close to Bab Al-Salameh. They are joining a caseload of up to 50,000 IDPs who were already in the camps.

Affected Population in numbers

Aleppo

2,800,000

of total estimated population in need in Aleppo governorate

50,000

estimated population displaced due to recent developments

36,000

of displaced populations to the north of Aleppo (9,000 to Azaz and 15,000 in two camps at Bab Al-Salameh)

About 30,000

of people from Nubul and Zahraa

Deraa

615,603

of total estimated population in need in Deraa governorate

Up to 70,000

estimated population displaced due to recent developments

Source: OCHA

- 9,000 people took refuge in Azaz town.
- 3,000 people are reportedly displaced in Afrin town.
- 3,000 have fled to western rural Aleppo
- An unknown number of displaced people have continued to Idleb seeking to cross into Turkey through Bab Al-Hawa
- 5,600 people from Lattakia have been admitted to Turkey via the Guvecci and Arfali crossing points and are being accommodated in the Suruc and Guvecci camps as well as in the host communities.
- Health assessments have shown that 80 per cent of the displaced people are women and children.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights released a statement pointing to shocking violations and abuses being committed on a daily basis. Reports also point to child casualties as a result of ongoing military operations, and at least three health clinics destroyed. UNICEF is also concerned about separation of children from families as they flee the violence.

The border crossing into Kilis province is reportedly closed to all movement except severe medical cases and humanitarian convoys. UNICEF and partners inside Turkey are pre-positioning supplies in Kilis to enable rapid response should refugees be allowed to cross into Turkish territory. While humanitarian organizations are responding to the needs of those displaced in Afrin and Azaz districts, ongoing clashes are making access to populations in need increasingly difficult.

UNICEF was able to reach the villages of Nubul and Zahra, where an estimated 30,000 people who have been hard-to-reach for the past three years.

UNICEF and partners are prioritizing preparation for delivery of critical humanitarian assistance into eastern Aleppo city. Based on an estimated 300,000 people inside this area, it is likely that there 129,000 children at risk of being cut off from essential supplies and services if humanitarian assistance is not allowed into the city.

Aleppo governorate remains cut off from water since 16 January when supply from Al Khafseh water treatment facility on the Euphrates River was deliberately cut off, affecting over 2 million people.

Deraa

Several IDP families around Tal Shihab are reportedly without shelter and the overall hosting capacity in the western area is reaching its limit.

Sanitation and winter items also appear to be high priority given the number of IDPs not hosted by communities or in communal shelters.

Clinics have started reporting lack of medical items, in particular surgical items, orthopaedic and anaesthetic items. Several clinics are reportedly affected by the strikes and NGOs report constraints in sending medical supplies.

UNICEF Humanitarian Response

Aleppo

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH);

In the western part of Aleppo city, UNICEF continues to scale up its water trucking operation, currently supplying 5 million litres of water per day, sufficient to meet the needs of over 330,000 people.

In the eastern part of the city, access remains constrained. Consequently, people are predominantly relying on contaminated wells for their domestic and drinking water leading to serious health risks. UNICEF is preparing to start water trucking into eastern Aleppo using existing agreements. UNICEF is preparing to send 100 water tanks and 50 generators for installation in eastern Aleppo as soon as access is possible. This will supply power to the existing wells serving at least 150,000 people.

Through its cross border operation, UNICEF has dispatched family hygiene kits to meet the needs of at least 100,000 displaced and affected people in Afrin, Azaz, Orem and western rural Aleppo and Idleb. Through cross-border support, water trucking to 800 families in Haramain camp and 600 families in A'zaz city has started as of 5 February. In addition, 98,400 people in Habal Samaan and Azzaz will benefit from distribution of WASH supplies including family hygiene kits, water containers and chlorine tablets.

Health and Nutrition

Using the existing emergency stocks in Aleppo, UNICEF delivered vaccines and fridges through the Directorate of Health to health facilities in Nubul and Zahraa.

The UNICEF response in the coming week will prioritise the delivery of health and nutrition supplies to meet the needs of 220,000 people including children, pregnant and lactating women in Nubul, Zahraa, Orem, Afrin, Azaz, western rural Aleppo and eastern Aleppo city. Supplies include high energy biscuits, fortified spread (plumpy doze), IEHK complete sets to the health facilities, therapeutic spread to treat malnutrition, diarrhoea disease sets, and midwifery kits.

To prepare for potentially greater access challenges into eastern Aleppo city, health and nutrition supplies were deployed for prepositioning in key hospitals and PHCs –10 health kits (covering 100,000 people for 3 months). In addition, 8 health kits were also deployed to other locations with displaced communities serving Azzaz (30,000 people), Afrin (10,000 people) and rural Idlib (50,000 people). Nutritional supplies were also deployed to Aleppo (covering 163,000 people in Jabal Saman, Azzaz and Afrin).

Other Non-food Items

Due to the poor shelter and prevailing winter conditions in the region, UNICEF is working to send 50,000 children winter kits to Nubbul, Zahraa, Orem, Azaz, Afrin and Eastern Aleppo. 18,000 families will benefit from blankets and winter kits for children in Azzaz and Jabal Samaan.

Education

Schools and education have been disrupted due to the ongoing military operations and the displacement of tens of thousands of people. Schools inside eastern Aleppo are particularly affected. UNICEF is assessing the situation in different locations to plan for appropriate support including provision of school supplies and relevant non formal education.

Hard-to-Reach Areas

On 10 February, a 7-truck UNICEF/SARC convoy reached Nubul and Zahra carrying WASH supplies for 20,000 people, health supplies for 30,000 people and nutrition supplies for 20,000 children and pregnant and lactating women. The two towns have been hard-to-reach for more than three years with limited humanitarian access.

Deraa

Education

UNICEF and partners have sent education supplies for 8,800 children (4 ECD kits, 95 recreation kits and 220 school in a box). UNICEF is looking to provide additional non formal education, potentially using also the self-learning curriculum.

Health

UNICEF has provided emergency health kits for 35,000 people to 6 local clinics. UNICEF is planning to send additional kits in the coming days including midwifery and obstetric surgical kits.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

UNICEF distributed family hygiene kits for 45,000 people and baby kits for 3,000 children and prepositioned another 3,000 people. UNICEF also provided 3,500 testers for water quality. Water quality assurance and surveillance services are ongoing. Additional WASH supplies, sanitation blocks, bladders and water services are in pipeline for another 20,000 people.

Other Non-food Items

UNICEF provided 2,100 children clothing kits and has in pipeline another 12,500 kits.

Child Protection

UNICEF and partners are providing community based child protection and psychosocial support (PSS) in the south western corner of Deraa reaching 10,000 children with structured PSS and about 37,000 with unstructured PSS. UNICEF and partners are now planning to expand to other IDP locations and to include Risk Education activities given the large amount of unexploded ordnance.

Turkey

In Turkey, family hygiene kits to meet the needs of over 4,000 people have been distributed to the new arrivals in Guvecci camp in Hatay Province, and a mobile child-friendly space is being deployed to the camp in cooperation with the Turkish Red Crescent Society.

UNICEF field teams are in close contact with the Turkish authorities in Kilis to support the Government's contingency planning measures in case of the admission of new refugees from northern Aleppo governorate. Stocks of essential items including family and child hygiene kits and high-energy biscuits have been prepositioned in the area, and UNICEF is prepared to provide psycho-social support and any other protection response required for children upon arrival.

Who to contact for further information:

Genevieve Boutin
Syria Crisis Coordinator
UNICEF MENA Regional Office
Mobile: +962 (0) 79 683 5058
Email: gboutin@unicef.org

Juliette Touma
Communication Specialist
UNICEF MENA Regional Office
Mobile: +962 (0) 79 867 4628
Email: jtouma@unicef.org