



Syria Emergency NFI Sector Factsheet 2016 January and February

MAJOR ACHIVEMENTS

In 2015
3.75 million
Syrian IDPs & other
affected people reached

460,000
Palestine Refugees reached

11.8 million
NFIs distributed

47 cross-border convoys
took place pursuant to
UNSC Resolution 2165
providing NFIs for 468,750
individuals in the Daraa,
Quneitra, Hama, Idlib and
Aleppo governorates

KEY FIGURES

January 2016
People Reached:
324,154
CRIs Distributed:
598,363

February 2016
People Reached:
660,645
CRIs Distributed:
1,051,306

Background

Non-Food Items (NFIs) support remains a primary need for the crisis-affected population, with the estimation of 5.3 million people in need of this kind of support. Access to and availability of NFIs remain limited. A number of drivers, including the crisis, economic and financial measures imposed on Syria, economic decline and reduced availability of basic services have all contributed to the exacerbation of the humanitarian situation over the past year. Given the dynamics of the conflict in Syria, the movement of relief actors and access to those in need continue to be a major impediment to providing assistance. Proliferation of checkpoints, active frontlines, tactics of besiegement and insecurity prevent the delivery of assistance. Movement restrictions are more severe in urban areas and in areas experiencing frequent and high intensity conflict.

Since 2012, the NFI Sector member agencies have been responding to the needs of IDPs and conflict-affected persons. The sector has focused its efforts on hard-to-reach and underserved areas, and some successes have been noted such as the use of airlifts and new land routes for access to certain areas. These practices and lessons are being applied further in the response for 2016.

Response

- Respond to sudden emergencies, as well as provide more sustainable solutions by focusing on saving and sustaining lives through providing NFI kits, construction materials/tools, as well as addressing seasonal needs such as NFI winter kits.
- Ensure adequate and affective contingency planning in order to respond to the sudden-onset cyclical displacements. This includes maintaining stocks in key locations to address acute and chronic needs and enable a tailored flexible response.
- Formulate the Strategic Objectives: Support life sustainability of IDPs through NFI response at both levels; emergency level based on a set contingency plan, mainly through NFI distribution, and a sustainable level through cash-based interventions to support the resilience and early recovery of affected communities.
- Further emphasize coordination efforts, through creation and maintenance of an efficient coordination mechanism at all levels, within the sector, inter-sectors and inter-agency, in addition to continued interaction with other relevant parties such as governmental counterparts, SARC and ICRC. Coordination is also strengthened at the sub-national level by establishing local SWG, and extending to the regional coverage through WoS approach.
- Build capacity of actors responding to the humanitarian crisis in Syria, including NGOs and other stakeholders.

Gaps & Challenges

- Access to population in need especially in besieged and hard-to-reach areas.
- Timely delivery constrains related to/ mainly derived from: approval process, funding and/ or planning.
- Ensuring consistently coordinated, harmonized and as appropriate as possible assistance.
- Reliable information and credible assessments.
- Clear monitoring approach and reports.
- Complexity of and delays resulting from formal and administrative procedures for the provision of NFI assistance.
- Lack of data and/or access to/sharing of data based on needs.
- Lack of beneficiaries' database made available for actors leading to inability to properly monitor/ verify assistance delivery.
- Capacity (training needs, skills, knowledge) of local partners for distribution, assessment, application of "do no harm", protection mainstreaming and monitoring.

Human Interest

Non-Food Items: Saadah's Story

Saadah, a woman in her mid-fifties who fled Quneitra Governorate and sought refuge in Damascus three years ago. She has lost her only son due to the conflict and is always concerned about her daughter-in-law and grandchildren in the wake of a serious economic situation. "I want to do something to help my son's family, but I feel incapable and I fear for the future" Saadah says as her son's family is now left with no stable source of income.

Saadah and her daughter-in-law were just two of the beneficiaries who received winterization kits distributed in the community center of Al Midan neighborhood in Damascus where more than 1,000 families benefit from the distribution of these core relief items every month. These kits are comprised of winter clothing, high thermal blankets and plastic sheets. In some areas where displaced people live in skeleton or unfinished buildings, the winterized kit includes sleeping bags and shelter kits with partitions and insulation which help families secure and improve their temporary dwelling.

"I don't know what we could have done without the help of UNHCR and humanitarian organizations" added Saadah.



Saadah with her daughter-in-law
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Sector Leader

Partners of the NFI Sector



NFI SECTOR

Jan & Feb 2016

984,799 Beneficiaries of NFIs

