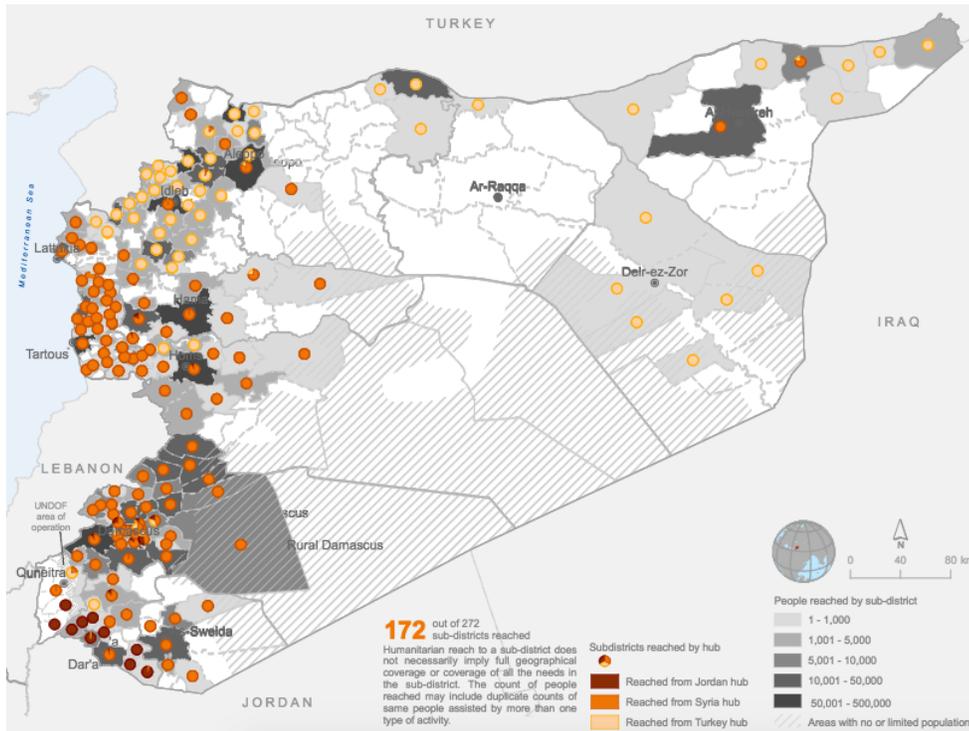




Whole of Syria Protection Response: Who We Are July 2016

Across Syria, the Protection Sector is working to improve the protection context of millions of people who face protection threats. In 2016, the protection sector aims to provide 10.9 million services to people all across Syria affected by the conflict. The protection sector welcomes new partners and actors who support programming in Syria to help those in need. The following document introduces briefly who we are and key contacts.

The Whole of Syria response has three main operational response centres, in *Amman*, *Damascus* and *Gaziantep*. Damascus operations support 5 sub-national response centres. Between these hubs, the specialist areas of protection including *child protection*,



GBV and *mine action* provide assistance to 172 sub-districts¹ in Syria.

The protection sector would welcome you to reach out to sector and hub coordinators to engage in coordination, operational and training support. The Whole of Syria protection sector can be contacted through Jason Hepps (hepps@unhcr.org) and Lisa Monaghan (lisa.monaghan@nrc.no).

Whole of Syria Response Hubs

Amman Protection Working Group (PWG)

The Amman Hub, Protection Working group comprises General Protection, Child Protection and GBV. There are currently 27 active members that meet on a monthly basis alternating between coordination and technical thematic discussions. Currently the WG is in the process rolling out the Basic Minimum Package for Protection, Child Protection and GBV as well as standardizing key messaging across partners. The PWG is currently conducting assessments on Civil Documentation and have previously

¹ As of May 2016, please see Syrian Arab Republic: Whole of Syria Protection Sector response snapshot for 2016

undertaken assessments on GBV in southern Syria. IRC, supported by UNHCR is currently undertaking a protection mainstreaming initiative. UNHCR is funding an operational IDP tracking mechanism to be owned by the Protection WG, based on the CCCM model in the north. The PWG coordinator's are active members of the Inter Sector Working Group, increasing potential for inter-sectoral programming and considerations of protection across other sectors. Child Protection AOR is working across hubs on a capacity gap assessment of child protection workers and GBV AOR are currently focused on rolling out the training on the IASC Guidelines for Integrating GBV interventions in humanitarian actions. For further information or support, the group is led by UNHCR (Julie Steiger) and co-Led by IRC (Jacky Parry) and can be reached through the following emails: Steiger@unhcr.org; Jacqueline.Parry@rescue.org. GBV is led by Ephraim Kimani (ekimani@unicef.org) and Child Protection is led by Susan Andrew (sandrew@unicef.org).

Protection and Community Services Sector (PCSS) - Damascus

The Protection and Community Services Sector (PCSS) brings together protection and community services actors inside Syria to ensure effective coordination of the response to the protection needs of the persons affected by the crisis, avoid duplication, share best practices and develop strategies and joint responses to address protection challenges. The Sector provides advice to the HC and the HCT on protection advocacy and interventions, and assists other Sectors to mainstream protection principles and standards in their humanitarian response. The PCSS, led by UNHCR, has 17 members including UN agencies, NNGOs and INGOs. It has two sub-working groups: CP led by UNICEF with 17 members, and GBV led by UNFPA with 19 members. Along with the work towards achieving the 2016 HRP general and specific protection objectives, sector members are addressing four key areas to respond to existing challenges: compilation of relevant legal dispositions as they relate to IDP Guiding Principles, to identify areas of convergence and foster dialogue on legal matters for the protection of the persons affected by the crisis; mapping of existing services by Sector members, the review of existing pathways to increase safe access, and of cross-referral mechanisms with State services; support to local authorities to provide protection responses in cases of sudden displacement, particularly in areas where Sector members do not have a permanent presence; and mainstreaming of protection across the humanitarian response and support protection coordination mechanisms at sub-national level. As of May 2016, 41 Sector members and their partners had provided 1,755,000 interventions in 116 sub-districts of Syria

For further information, or support, the group is led by Pablo Zapata who can be reached on zapata@unhcr.org. For child protection, Bee Khan is the lead (kbkhan@unicef.org) and Rania Alahmer leads the GBV sector (alahmer@unfpa.org).

Syria Protection Cluster (Turkey) - Gaziantep

The Syria Protection Cluster (Turkey) is made up of the Protection Cluster as well as three Sub-Clusters: Child Protection, GBV and Mine Action. Currently there are 60 organizations participating in the Cluster and Sub-Clusters: 24 international NGOs, 26 Syrian NGOs, six UN agencies and four observers. The Cluster meets twice a month, with the Sub-Clusters meeting once a month. In addition to the regular Cluster meetings, there are two task forces that meet on a monthly basis - the protection-monitoring task force, which focuses on harmonizing tools and standards for protection monitoring to develop a more formal protection monitoring network and an advocacy task force, which defines the advocacy priorities and the strategy for the Cluster. In the future, there will likely be a work-stream on civil documentation.



There are currently three dedicated capacity development initiatives in the Cluster and Sub-Clusters. One is a joint UNHCR/IRC project focusing on operational protection mainstreaming for six partners across three sectors as well as a case management and referrals mentorship project with partners of the GBV and CP Sub-Clusters. Further, the Cluster developed a three-pronged capacity development strategy for protection actors, which includes protection in practice training of trainers, induction trainings for new protection actors and newly recruited staff of humanitarian partners, and mentorship on protection topics such as IHL, HLP etc., for partners. The GBV Sub-Cluster has just launched its capacity building initiative includes a training of trainers, learning sessions, and ongoing coaching as well as technical support and it is currently involving 13 members of the GBV SC.

For further information, please contact the Protection Cluster Lead, Sarah Khan (UNHCR) and Co-Lead, Victoria Shepard (IRC) at khansar@unhcr.org and Victoria.Shepard@rescue.org. The Child Protection Sub-Cluster is led by Sam Sesay (UNICEF) sbsesay@unicef.org, the GBV Sub-Cluster is led by Margherita Maglietti (UNFPA) maglietti@unfpa.org and Pamela Di Camillo (Global Communities) pdicamillo@globalcommunities.org, and the Mine Action Sub-Cluster is led by Bríd Sheehan (UNMAS) bridsh@unops.org.

Whole of Syria Areas of Responsibility (Technical Expertise)

Child Protection AOR

There are over 50 child protection organisations working to provide services to children, their families and communities across Syria to support them cope with the impact of the conflict. The Child Protection AOR's work is driven by two operational priorities: i) stepping up the scale, diversity and quality of child protection programming at the community level in order to address some of key priority issues such as child recruitment and child labour; and ii) reaching the most vulnerable children in hard-to-reach and besieged locations with a basic package of child protection services. More specifically the focus is on: expanding community-based child protection interventions, including psychosocial support; providing child protection specialized services, such as case management and more systematic investment in capacity building of the child protection workforce. Advocacy and evidence generation underpin these initiatives.

Contact Information

Turkey CP Coordinator: Sam Sesay (sbsesay@unicef.org); Syria CP Coordinator: Bee Khan (bhkhan@unicef.org); Jordan and WOS Coordinator: Susan Andrew (sandrew@unicef.org); WOS IM Specialist: Muthu Kannusamy (mkkannusamy@unicef.org)

GBV AoR

There are 39 organizations responding to GBV needs in Syria. Specifically there are 17 in Gaziantep, 5 in Amman and 17 in Damascus. As of April 2016, 19,211 survivors accessed specialized GBV services, 134,845 beneficiaries were reached with prevention activities, 899 humanitarian actors were trained on GBV programming and GBV mainstreaming, and 74 women and girls safe spaces have been established. The focus of the GBV AoR in 2016 has been to expand the geographical reach of services

and increase the number of specialized GBV services. Mainstreaming GBV into other sectors is also a priority and the health and GBV sectors have worked closely together to expand the number of health facilities that provide clinical management of rape services. Localised referral pathways have been established in certain areas of the country.

Contact Information:

Gaziantep GBV Coordinators: Margherita Maglietti (UNFPA) maglietti@unfpa.org; Pamela Di Camello (Global Communities) pdicamillo@globalcommunities.org; Amman GBV Coordinator: Ephraim Karanja (UNFPA) ekimani@unfpa.org; Damascus GBV Coordinators: Rania Alahmer Alahmer@unfpa.org; WOS GBV Focal Point: Jennifer Miquel (UNFPA) miquel@unfpa.org

Mine Action AoR

The overall objective of the Mine Action sector is to reduce the impact of explosive hazards through clearance operations, risk education, victim assistance activities, and advocacy on the elimination of the use of explosive weapons in civilian areas and the use of cluster munitions. UNMAS coordinates the Mine Action Sub Cluster activities within Syria for refugees in neighbouring countries under a 'Whole of Syria' approach.

Risk education is underway across the country through mine action partners in communities as well as in schools run by the Ministry of Education. Non-technical survey (the first step in the process through which explosive hazards and casualties are recorded) is currently conducted in Idleb, Aleppo and Rural Damascus. Clearance is conducted in Idleb, Hama, and is expected to expand to Aleppo, Dar'a and Quneitra in the remaining half of 2016. The absence of qualified mine action operators within Syria along with the challenges inherent in the remote management of mine action activities dictates that the sector must take a phased approach and build up its capacity slowly. In 2016, the sector has already trained two teams to conduct cluster munitions clearance in Idleb and Aleppo; further teams will be trained this summer. If this pilot project is successful, UNMAS and its partners will expand training to include other items of explosive hazards and expand the capacity of existing clearance teams.

Contact Information

For further information contact WoS coordinator Sarah Marshall (sarahm@uops.org) and Turkey coordinator (bridsh@unops.org).