

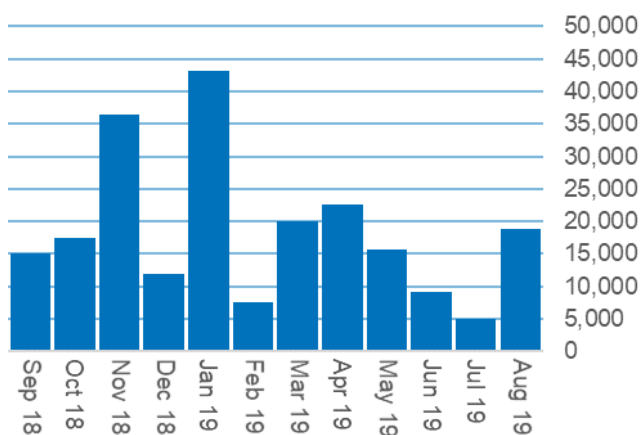
North-west Syria

August 2019

Through its partners, in 2019, UNHCR has assisted **26,040 households** (**132,740 individuals**) with core relief items and shelter material.

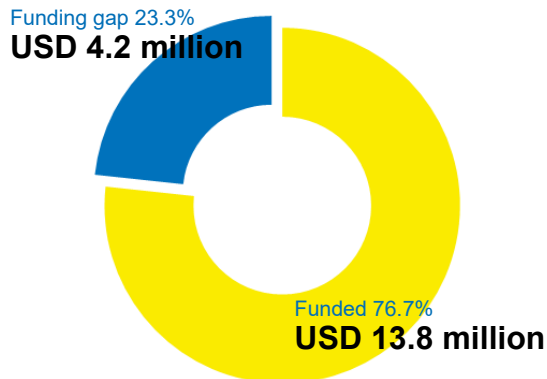
UNHCR has sent **146 trucks** across the border in 2019, carrying humanitarian supplies like blankets, hygiene kits, mattresses and tents.

In 2019, through its partners, UNHCR has reached **106,095 individuals** with protection services, such as information dissemination and referrals.



Number of **individuals reached** per month by UNHCR programme partners with core relief items and shelter material

FUNDING AS OF AUGUST 2019



Main objectives

1. Support the coordination of the cross-border humanitarian response through the Cluster system
2. Identify protection risks and assistance needs and inform the overall response
3. Provide protection services and emergency assistance with core relief items and shelter material.
4. Build capacity of (local) humanitarian organizations
5. Fill critical gaps in the basic needs of IDPs where required and feasible

Major developments

In 2019, escalating hostilities between the Government of Syria and non-state armed groups are affecting hundreds of thousands of people in north-west Syria. Intense violence that started in the last days of April and is continuing unabated has caused high numbers of casualties, destruction of civilian infrastructure and disruption in the provision of basic services in Idlib. As a result of this most recent offensive, the humanitarian situation is deteriorating; since May, more than half a million people have been displaced, some multiple times, from southern Idlib and northern Hama and the majority of the displaced are concentrating in northern Idlib, close to the Turkish border, in areas that are now densely-populated.

In the beginning of the year, the situation was aggravated by heavy rains and floods in northern Syria at the end of December and beginning of January, and again in March. Major developments had taken place in north-west Syria already in 2018 and more than 688,000 people were newly displaced within non-state armed group controlled areas.

A Readiness and Response Plan for north-west Syria is still in play and outlines the planned response to the cross-border team in Turkey.

Background

Following the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2165, UNHCR established its cross-border activities from southern Turkey in July 2014. In 2019, through its own programme, UNHCR has partnerships with six organizations - IRC, ACTED-REACH, WATAN, Bir Dunya Çocuk Derneği (Children of One World), SHAFAK and NRC - to assist displaced people by providing core relief items (CRIs), shelter support, and protection services. In addition, UNHCR is leading the Protection, Shelter/NFI (SNFI) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Clusters. All Clusters closely follow the humanitarian developments in the conflict areas in north-west Syria and contribute to emergency preparedness plans accordingly.

UNHCR Programme

UNHCR and its partners continued to provide assistance and protection services to (newly) displaced people and conflict-affected vulnerable host community members in north-west Syria under the cross-border operation from Gaziantep, Turkey. Five transshipments of 1,000 emergency NFI kits and 2,300 tents were organized through the Reyhanli-Bab Al Hawa border crossings with 13 trucks on 1, 8, 20 and 29 August. In August, **15,728 displaced people** were assisted with **988 emergency NFI kits and 1,798 tents** in Idleb and Aleppo Governorates. Since the start of the most recent offensive in northern Hama and southern Idleb, **57,568 people** have been assisted with emergency shelter and core-relief items by UNHCR and its partners (1 May-31 August).

UNHCR's protection partners conducted awareness raising and psychosocial support (PSS) sessions, identified cases and referred them to basic services in Idleb and Aleppo Governorates; such **community-based protection interventions reached 6,314 people**. In addition, 4,701 displaced and vulnerable people received protection services such as awareness raising on civil status documentation and housing, land and properties, legal counselling and assistance, case management and referrals. The displacement and protection monitoring initiatives proved to be essential during the large-scale displacements, providing ad-hoc updates and conducting rapid needs assessment, and the latest reports are published on the websites of the CCCM and Protection Clusters.



CCCM Cluster

The CCCM Cluster coordinates the efforts of **35 active member organizations** providing cross-border assistance in north-west Syria. Activities focus on coordinating the joint efforts of the Cluster members to cover the multi-sectoral needs in **358 IDP sites** hosting **600,225 IDPs / 113,852 families in north-west Syria** (as of July 2019) and, on behalf of the humanitarian community, track IDP movements and coordinating the provision of multi-sectoral assistance in IDP settlements.

In August, **147,341 individuals were displaced** from southern Idleb and northern Hama and moved to different communities in Aleppo and Idleb Governorates, mainly Dana and Atareb sub-districts. The CCCM Cluster tracked that, between 31 July and 27 August, of a total of 130,788 individuals displaced, 27,584 individuals were displaced to IDP sites and 103,428 individuals were displaced to out of IDP sites. In total, between 1 May and 31 August, **652,773 people were displaced**, 188,756 of whom to IDP sites and 464,017 out of IDP sites.

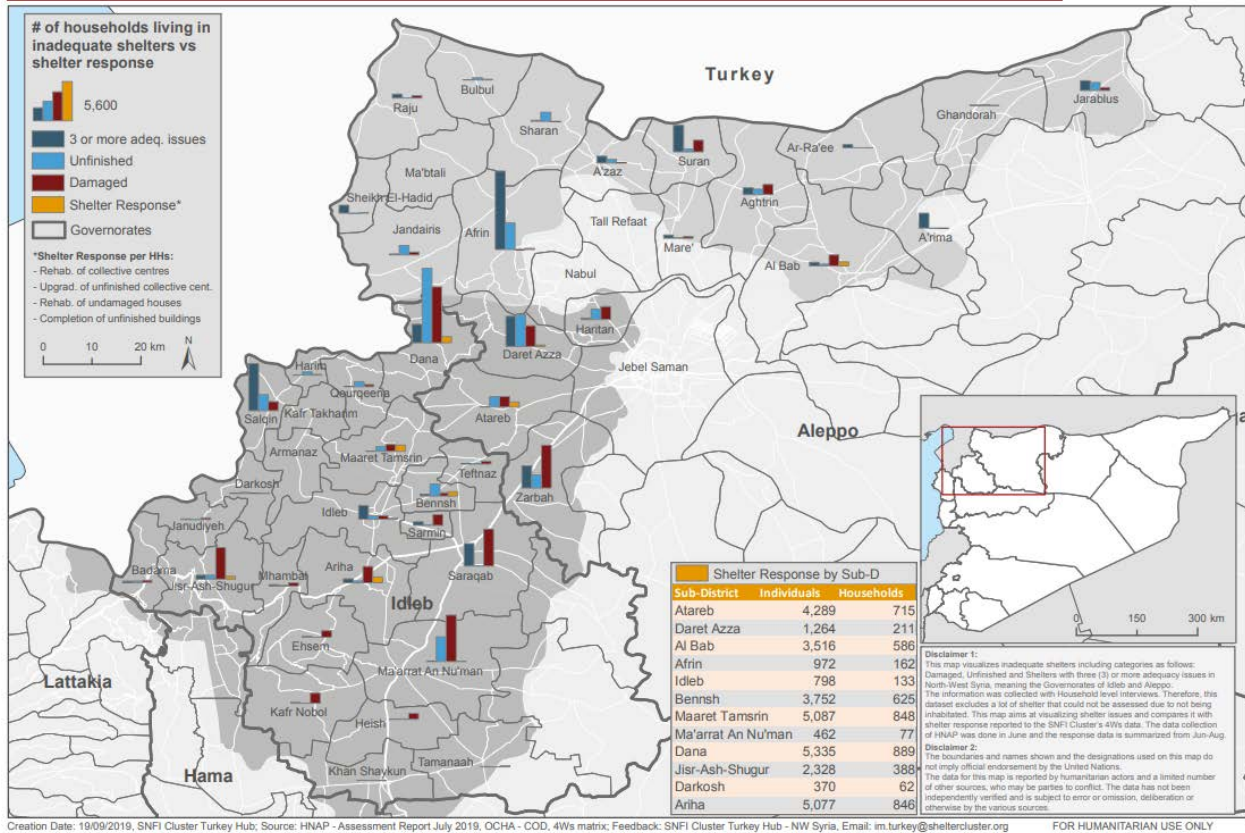


Shelter/NFI Cluster

The SNFI Cluster is led by UNHCR, coordinating the efforts of **40 active member organizations** in the cross-border operation. The Cluster addresses emergency shelter and NFI needs by providing in-kind assistance as well as cash or voucher assistance. It promotes household and community resilience. The Cluster also raises awareness and provides technical guidance on housing, land and property rights relevant for humanitarian shelter activities.

The Cluster, in collaboration with the CCCM Cluster and its active members, responded to the affected populations with distributions of tents and NFIs. Overall, as part of both regular and emergency response, SNFI Cluster members reached **120,700 individuals**, with 71 per cent being **NFI assistance** and 29 per cent **shelter assistance**, including tents, shelter kits and rehabilitation of housing units. Some 530,000 people would need support to repair or rehabilitate the shelters they are living in, including 300,000 individuals living in damaged or unfinished buildings.

The Cluster also conducted a Winterization After Action Review in order to evaluate the impact and timeliness of the response. Plans to reach 1,140,000 people in need of winter assistance have been made; with the funding secured, Cluster members will be able to reach 600,000 people.



Creation Date: 18/09/2019, SNFI Cluster Turkey Hub. Source: HNAP - Assessment Report July 2019, OCHA - COD, 4Ws matrix; Feedback: SNFI Cluster Turkey Hub - NW Syria. Email: im.turkey@sheltercluster.org FOR HUMANITARIAN USE ONLY



Protection Cluster

The Protection Cluster (co-led by UNHCR and IRC) brings together **68 active members**, which include actors of the three Sub-Clusters: Child Protection (co-led by UNICEF and World Vision), Gender Based Violence (co-led by UNFPA and Global Communities) and Humanitarian Mine Action (led by UNMAS). The Cluster also convenes the Protection Monitoring Task Force (co-led by UNHCR and IRC) and a Housing, Land and Property Technical Working Group (co-led by UNHCR and NRC) on a regular basis. The Cluster continues to prioritize the provision of lifesaving emergency response services to newly displaced populations and to expand specialized protection services through a wider geographic coverage and outreach capacity, including through mobile teams. In addition, the Cluster seeks to inform the overall response through protection monitoring, while also supporting capacity building with humanitarian actors to strengthen information and advocacy on protection concerns, and Do No Harm efforts.

In August, Cluster and Sub-Cluster members provided **133,804 interventions** to IDPs and affected host community members in **328 communities** in **five governorates** (Idleb, Aleppo, Hama, As-Sweida and Ar-Raqqa). The main services were: psychological first aid for 1,297 girls, 1,034 boys, 678 women and 479 men; legal awareness raising sessions focusing on housing, land and properties and/or civil status documentation for 610 girls, 224 boys, 2,450 women and 1,134 men; integrated/comprehensive case management services for 114 girls, 127 boys, 472 women and 98 men; and referrals to other services for 241 girls, 235 boys, 471 women and 265 men. Sub-Cluster members also provided a range of specialized child protection and GBV services, as well as risk education to communities in northern Syria.

The **Protection Monitoring Task Force** members conducted **806 interviews** with key informants (**491 male** and **315 female**) in **115 communities**, **23 Sub-districts** in Idleb and Aleppo Governorates.

External and Donor Relations

Thanks to UNHCR's donors for supporting the humanitarian response in north-west Syria:

United States of America | Turkey Humanitarian Fund