



Syrian Crisis

United Nations Response



**A Weekly Update from the
UN Department of Public Information**

No. 206/19 July 2017

WHO sets up health care network in northern Syria to improve medical access for vulnerable people

The World Health Organization announced on 18 July the launching of an integrated primary health care (PHC) network to improve health services in northern Syria. Working with six Syrian health partners, WHO's office in Gaziantep, Turkey, is mapping communities and health services to organize the network. The new system will provide health services through 10 health facilities and improve access and coverage for vulnerable people. Covering a population of 70,000 people, the network will gradually expand to include other facilities and cover up to 180,000 people in the Saraqeb area of northern Syria, an area with the largest concentration of displaced people. "Since 2012, the existing health system in Idlib Governorate has suffered severely from the impact of the humanitarian crisis," says Mr Daniel Albrecht, WHO Technical Officer for Primary Health Care. Non-governmental organizations took the lead to provide health services in the region, but they themselves acknowledge that coordination has been a challenge".

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/turkey/news/news/2017/07/who-to-improve-health-care-in-northern-syria-with-integrated-network>

Nearly 7 million Syrians continue to be affected by food insecurity

In a joint report released on 18 July, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Food Programme said that food security in parts of Syria is slightly better than the same time last year due to an improved security situation and enhanced access to humanitarian assistance. However, the overall situation remains far worse than before the war, the two UN agencies warned. The report estimates that 6.9 million Syrians are food insecure while an additional 5.6 million people are likely to become food insecure without the regular food assistance they receive every month.

<http://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/special-report-faowfp-crop-and-food-security-assessment-mission-syrian-1>

UN concerned about safety of more than 30,000 civilians trapped in Raqqa

UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric told reporters on 17 July that the UN and the humanitarian community remain deeply concerned for the safety and protection of the estimated 30,000 to 50,000 civilians trapped in Raqqa. Heavy fighting continues to affect civilians, causing thousands to be displaced and scores of deaths and injuries, with conditions inside the city reported to be extremely dire. Elsewhere in Syria, he said that a humanitarian convoy reached nearly 89,000 people in the hard-to-reach areas of Al-Houla (in rural Homs) and Harbinafseh (in rural Hama) on 15 July. These people last received humanitarian assistance in April 2017.

<http://www.un.org/press/en/2017/db170717.doc.htm>

Seventh round of Intra-Syrian talks wrap up in Geneva

Speaking at a press conference on 15 July at the close of the latest round of intra-Syrian talks, Special Envoy Staffan de Mistura noted that incremental progress had been achieved during the consultations. "We have made, as we were expecting and hoping, incremental progress - no breakthrough, no breakdown, no one walking out", Mr. de Mistura told reporters. He noted that both the government and the opposition had been willing to outline how they are combatting UN-designated terrorist entities in Syria. On the next steps the Envoy said that he intends to reconvene talks in early September, and asked the parties to be ready to offer clear, substantive positions on issues related to political transition, elections, a new constitution and counter-terrorism.

[http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/22B97E792150668AC125815F002DB370?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/(httpNewsByYear_en)/22B97E792150668AC125815F002DB370?OpenDocument)

UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador meets Syrian and Lebanese refugees

UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Angelique Kidjo met on 15 July with Syrian and Lebanese youth in refugee settlements in Lebanon to mark the World Youth Skills Day.

"Supporting the hopes of children and young people has never been more important. Their future is our future," said Angelique Kidjo after speaking to them in the Bekaa Valley. While visiting the projects implemented by a UNICEF youth partner, the Lebanese NGO LOST (Lebanese Organisation for Studies and Training), she spoke to the children and young people about the challenges they face in pursuing an education, finding opportunities, living in refugee settlements and breaking down barriers between the two communities.

https://www.unicef.org/media/media_96645.html

Millions of Syrians benefit from cross-border aid operations

Three years after the adoption of a Security Council resolution on humanitarian delivery across border lines in Syria, cross-border operations continue to play a pivotal role in the provision of assistance to millions of Syrians. "Representing over a third of all humanitarian deliveries, the role of cross-border operations is absolutely vital. It's a lifeline," said Ramesh Rajasingham, UN Deputy Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria in Gaziantep. "Millions of Syrians receive critical life-saving assistance and services as a result of UN Security Council Resolution 2165 (2014)." Since the launch of cross-border deliveries in 2014, the UN and its partners have provided 3.5 million people with food assistance. In the past three years, at least 3.8 million people have been able to access shelter and non-food items.

<http://www.unocha.org/story/millions-syrians-benefit-cross-border-operations>

UN Radio in Arabic

الفاو وبرنامج الأغذية العالمي: الأمطار الجيدة تمنح بعض الأمل للسوريين الذين يعانون من الحرب

FAO/WFP: Good rains give some hope to war-affected Syrians

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/247808/index.html#.WW-TtMufcfs>
-18 July

دي ميستورا: في الجولة السابعة من المحادثات السورية لم يتم إنجاز اختراقات، لكن تم تحقيق تقدم مرحلي

Special Envoy de Mistura: in the seventh round of intra-Syrian talks there was no breakthrough, but progress was achieved

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/arabic/radio/archives/247680/index.html#.WW-Ty8uwfcs>

-14 July

Twitter

OCHA Syria @OCHA_Syria – 19 July

Food security improved in parts of #Syria but overall situation still far worse than before the war @WFP @FAOnews <http://ow.ly/eiNN30dK5ZZ>

UN in Syria @UNinSyria – 19 July

#Syria UN RC/HC Ali Al-Za'tari @WFP warehouse in #Qamishly #Hassaka inspecting nutritional supplements & food baskets.

OCHA Syria @OCHA_Syria – 17 July

Conditions in #Ar Raqqa city are reported to be extremely dire as 30,000 to 50,000 people remain trapped #Syria <http://ow.ly/7I9T30dIhYy>

UN Refugee@Refugees- 17 July

Thousands of Syrian families can now light up their homes, charge their phones and chill their food by solar power: <http://trib.al/iXKkWt2>

UN Geneva16 - July

READ: Transcript of @UN Syria Envoy's press conference at close of latest #SyriaTalks round <http://goo.gl/RUASQh>

UN Geneva @UNGeneva -15 July

.@UN Envoy calls next #SyriaTalks for early Sept. Hopes to focus more on pol. transition, elections, new constitution & counter terrorism.

United Nations Retweeted World Food Programme @WFP – 14 July

WFP can finally deliver food to families in parts of NE #Syria by road, instead of by air. The benefits of road access are many👉

Social media campaigns

#My Voice-My School is an UNRWA project launched in 2015 and implemented by Digital Explorer to connect schools in Gaza, Syria, Lebanon with schools in Europe and USA through Skype exchanges. Through live video conversations and customized teaching materials, students and teachers explore how education can help them meet their future aspirations. www.unrwa.org/myvoicemyschool

@ShareTheMeal: In April 2016, the World Food Programme launched its phone application to support fundraising efforts for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. ShareTheMeal's fundraising aims to support 1,400 refugee children. Through the app, smartphone users can join thousands of other people in making donations and support a selected community and monitor progress. Since the launch of the campaign, nearly 7.5 million meals have been shared. www.sharethemeal.org

#Unite4Heritage is a global movement run by UNESCO that aims to celebrate and safeguard cultural heritage and diversity around the world. Launched in response to the unprecedented attacks on world heritage sites, the campaign calls on everyone to stand

up against extremism and radicalization by celebrating the places, objects and cultural traditions that make the world such a rich and vibrant place.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1254/>

#NoLostGeneration: The initiative was launched by UNICEF and partners in 2013 to focus attention on the plight of children affected by the Syrian crisis. By articulating real concerns about the possible 'loss' of a generation of children to the effects of violence and displacement, the initiative put education and child protection at the centre of the response inside Syria and across the refugee hosting countries (Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt).

<http://nolostgeneration.org/about>

Relevant links to UN Secretariat, Agencies, Funds and Programmes on Syria

DPI Focus Page on Syria:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=146&Body=Syria&Body1=>

UN System agencies :

UNICEF: <http://www.unicef.org/media/index.html>

WFP: <http://www.wfp.org/countries/syria>

OCHA: <http://unocha.org/syria>, twitter.com/ocha_syria, facebook.com/UNOCHA.Syria

WHO: <http://www.who.int/countries/syr/en/>

UNHCR: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4f86c2426.html>

UNFPA: <https://www.unfpa.org/emergencies/crisis-syria>

OHCHR: <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/NewsSearch.aspx?CID=SY>

UNRWA: <http://www.unrwa.org/>

UNESCO: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/syria-crisis-response/>

UNESCO Emergency Safeguarding of the Syrian Cultural Heritage Project:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/beirut/areas-of-action/culture/syria/emergency-safeguarding-of-the-syrian-heritage/>

UNESCO Observatory of Syrian Cultural Heritage <https://en.unesco.org/syrian-observatory/>

UNESCO Bridging Learning Gaps for Youth: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/syria-crisis-response/bridging-learning-gaps/>