Response to New Arrivals in the North and Akkar

As of 30 September 2025

General Overview

The hostilities in the Tartous, Lattakia, Homs, and Hama Governorates of Syria in early March 2025 have forcibly displaced thousands of vulnerable families into the North and Akkar Governorates of North Lebanon. Newly arrived refugees are now located across 41 distinct locations, predominantly in Akkar in **35** villages near to the border with Syria. The Disaster Risk Management (DRM) of Akkar cites **17,260** individuals (**4,545** families) as of 30 September 2025.

The highest concentrations are in Massaoudiye, Hissa, and Tall Hmayra. Following the Lebanese Red Cross's enumeration exercise, a total of **10,973** individuals (**2,549** families) were counted in North Lebanon. Geographically, most families are residing in Jabal Mohsen area of Tripoli and Dhour el Hawa.

Majority of families reside in private homes hosted by families and relatives while an estimated 10% of the new arrivals families are residing in collective shelters in North and Akkar. Humanitarian partners strive to provide key assistance both in and outside of collective shelters including access to information on available humanitarian services, safe identification and referrals and community outreach. Critical gaps are present across all sectors due to funding constraints, assistance coverage is insufficient and community-based interventions are limited.

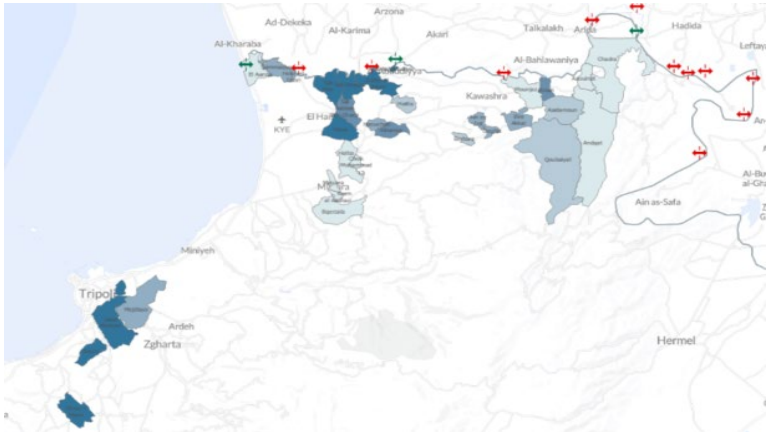
Population

	Akkar	North	Total
individuals	17,260	10,973	**28,233**
Families	4,545	2,549	**7,094**

Collective Shelters

	34	7	**41**
individuals	4,181	348	**4,529**
Families	955	103	**1,058**

Distribution of population



Basic Assistance

Mattresses	26,525	Blankets	32,811
Clothing items	72,001		

Gaps

Winter preparedness remains a gap. Five partners can provide winter jackets to newcomers, at least 40% of newcomers may not receive this support. Also, 36 CSs have received floor mats/carpets out of 42 CSs, leaving 6 CSs still not covered.

Actors	
13	AICA, ANERA, DRC, IOM, IRC, LRC, NRC, SC, SI, UNICEF/AND, UNHCR/Caritas, WVI, MSF

Food Security and agriculture sector

Hot and cold meals	Ready to eat meals	Food Parcels	Bread Packs
2,123,536	19,993	12,933	91,790

WFP continues to deliver emergency food assistance to newly arrived individuals through distribution of hot and cold meals (2 meals per day), bread and RTE to families residing in shelters. For the out-of-shelter response, Round 5 of food parcel distribution by WFP, LRC, and SI has been completed.

Gaps

The gap in food assistance remains a significant concern for the upcoming period, with limited capacity to meet the needs of all new arrivals in North and Akkar.

Actors	
14	AICA, B&Z, Caritas, CIL, DRC, ICRC, LRC, Nusaned, PCPM, RMF, SCI, SI, WeWorld,WFP

WaSH

34,298	# of NEW affected people assisted with temporary access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and water for domestic use
3,818	# NEW of affected people with temporary access to improved safe sanitation
21,865	Total # of Syrians who have experienced a WASH behaviour change activity or session

One partner SI with capacity to perform maintenance of the already installed WASH facilities in the biggest shelters in Hissa, Massoudiyeh, Tal Hmaira, Tal Bireh and others.

Gaps: No maintenance or upgrade of shelters which were supported by other WASH/Shelter actors. New needs assessment should be conducted by MSNA for additional needs in these shelters.

Actors	
10	AICA, ACF, CARE, DRC, I'm Possible, UNICEF/AND, UNICEF/LRC, UNICEF/SI, WE World GVC

Education

72	# of children referred to appropriate education services
2,198	# of children receiving individual student kits and/or learning materials (including ECD and Recreational kits)
2,488	# of children receiving individual student kits and/or learning materials (including ECD and Recreational kits)

RMF, AICA, and SHiFT continue to deliver critical integrated Education in Emergencies support. To date, 2,630 children have been reached through EiE classes, SEL and recreational activities, catch-up learning, and Sports for Development initiatives. Expansion of ongoing activities is underway.

Gaps: Difficulty locating households and transportation/mobility barriers; informal school attendance due to documentation issues; restricted participation of adolescent girls; boys' engagement in daily labor; limited access to safe, appropriate learning spaces.

Actors: 5	AICA, AND, Shift, RMF, UNICEF

Health

Nbr of children vaccinated	1,929
Nbr of Health Consultations	21,132
Nbr of NCD consultations	4726
Nbr of people benefited from MHPSS services	2,336
Nbr of RH consultations	743
Number of People scanned for TB	5,286

Gaps

Lack of MHPSS services due to funding cuts.

Limited coverage of Secondary Health Care services (hospitalization) by UNHCR (60% lifesaving only and 50% deliveries)

No coverage of critical non-acute health conditions such as cancer, dialysis, blood disorders and others.

Gaps in Chronic Medications at PHCCs/PSUs level.

Overcrowding increasing risk of outbreaks.

Actors 13: Caritas, ICRC, IMC, IOM, IRC, LRC, MSF-B, Order of Malta, PUI, UNFPA, UNHCR UNICEF, WHO

Nutrition

Children under 5 years old and PBW screened for wasting	49,225
Children under 5 years old, adolescent girls, and PBW reached with micronutrient and energy supplements	6,530
Caregivers reached with IYCF and ECD awareness and counselling	349

Nutrition sector partners are actively engaged in all shelters hosting newly arrived Syrians. They provide support to children and pregnant or breastfeeding women (PBWs) through nutrition awareness activities, distribution of supplies, screening for wasting, referrals and follow-up on treatment, as well as IYCF counselling for caregivers. They also contribute to building the capacity of primary health care centers (PHCCs).

Protection

Individuals receiving counseling	2,524
Individuals attended awareness/PSS sessions	1017
Indiv. receiving emergency protection case management	173
Dignity kits distributed	12,274
Individuals receiving PSEA messages (GBV response)	12,274
Individuals receiving awareness sessions on legal topics	3,755

Protection Monitoring & PWSN

Protection partners continue to deliver awareness sessions, individual consultations, and PSS for persons with specific needs, prioritizing referrals for the most vulnerable individuals. Case management remains limited to high-risk cases due to ongoing funding constraints. Identification and referrals are further supported through mobile information desks to ensure outreach to hard-to-reach populations.

Gaps: he need for specialized protection services for persons with specific needs was already significant and has now become even more critical in light of current funding shortfalls. Reduced partner capacity has weakened referral pathways and response coverage, particularly in underserved areas. Sustained funding and coordinated advocacy are urgently required to prevent service gaps and ensure timely assistance to the most vulnerable individuals.

Actors: 8 DRC, IRC,NRC, PUI, UNCHR/InterSOS, UNHCR/IOCC, UNHCR/Caritas, UNHCR/Lecorvaw

Legal

Legal partners continue to provide awareness, counseling and assistance to newly arrived Syrians facing barriers to legal stay and civil documentation. The widespread lack of legal identification remains a significant challenge, limiting freedom of movement, access to services, and livelihood opportunities.

Gaps: The reduction in funding for a key legal actor, which has had a notable impact on the overall coverage of legal services. The inability to regularize legal stay continues to expose newly arrived Syrians to arrest, exploitation, and restricted access to justice.

Actors: 5 DRC, MOSA, NRC, UNHCR/INTERSOS

Child Protection

397 children are benefiting from FPSS and CBPSS.

84 cases of children facing high risk received or still receiving case management.

Gaps

Child labor is most common coping mechanism adopted by new arrivals families and requires dedicated funding to be addressed. Lack of access to education for newly arrived children contributes to create unsafe environment. Partners also observe high number of children in need of PSS following the trauma witnessed in Syria. Current living conditions in collective shelters are considered a child protection risk being mixed-gender environments that do not provide the personal space for play; the lack of safe spaces is key gap too.

Actors: 7 AICA, AND, Intersos, IRC, Himaya, RMF, SCI

GBV

58	# of persons benefitting from information sessions, GBV awareness sessions, and individual consultations on how to access services
615	# of women and adolescent girls who received dignity kits
555	*#children and adults reached* through *awareness-raising activities and community* mobilization *interventions on PSEA*
43	# of persons at risk of GBV and survivors accessing quality GBV response services, including focused and non-focused PSS

GBV partners enhanced access to life-saving services for newly arrived women, adolescent girls, and other persons at risk through community awareness sessions, individual counseling on service access, and psychosocial support. High-risk survivors were prioritized for case management. Both mobile and center-based interventions contributed to strengthening engagement, referrals, and immediate protection responses.

Gaps: Despite progress, service coverage remains limited by funding constraints, access challenges, and the scarcity of functional safe spaces. Overcrowded shelter living conditions, lack of documentation, and social stigma continue to heighten risks of sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence, and early marriage, underscoring the need to expand safe spaces and survivor-centered response mechanisms.

Actors 9: ABAAD, AKKAROUNA, AND, DRC, IMPOSSBILE, Shift,UNHCR and UNFPA through LECROVAW

Shelter and site coordination

886	# of individuals benefited from MINOR REPAIR of substandard residential and non-residential buildings.
130	# of individuals benefited from the Upgrading of substandard residential shelters to meet minimum/humanitarian standards.
200	# of shelter units repaired/ maintained within collective shelters

Gaps

Risk of evictions as landlords started asking for rent; Nearly 90% of newcomers are residing in shelters out of CS; Shelter with structural damages cannot be repaired. Minor repairs in the CS are limited; Overcrowded conditions with no housing stock capacity; No connection to the water nor to sewage networks; Access to the electricity; UNHCR is the only agency with shelter kits.

Actors 7: Careliban, NRC, PU-AMI, SI, UNHCR/RMF, UNHCR/Concern

Social Stability

As part of its SWM projects, UNDP provided 155 metal bins to Akkar Governorate.

Gaps: There is a clear and critical gap in solid waste management, with only limited interventions implemented so far. This has led to mounting complaints from local authorities and the risk of evictions, particularly in areas like Tel Bire where frustration is escalating. Urgent, substantial interventions are essential to prevent further displacement.

Actors: 2 UNDP