



Displaced families sought shelter at a school in the Eastern Maliha community in Dar'a Governorate. 25 July 2025. Photo Credit: ©Action For Humanity NGO

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian access due to roadblocks, insecurity, and other impediments to As-Sweida remains constrained, hampering the ability of humanitarians to assess need and to provide critical life-saving assistance.
- As of 24 July, at least 176,000 people were displaced within As-Sweida and towards Dar'a and Rural Damascus governorates, the majority of them were displaced mainly within As-Sweida Governorate.
- OCHA led two Inter-Agency assessment missions to reception centers in Rural Damascus and Dar'a governorates to meet displaced families and enhance coordination with stakeholders on the ground.
- WHO confirmed five attacks on healthcare in As-Sweida Governorate that include killing two doctors, obstruction, and targeting of ambulances and temporarily occupying hospitals.
- IDPs from As-Sweida experienced significant distress and trauma. Many fleeing families were left without essential belongings or civil documentation. Threats from explosive ordnance remain one of the key safety concerns for families seeking safety.
- Aid distributions are ongoing from the second SARC convoy that reached As-Sweida Governorate, including food, water, and medical supplies.

*\*Source of displacement data is the IDP Task Force (OCHA, CCCM, UNHCR, IOM-DTM, REACH, Al-Ameen (IRVD), ACU, Global Communities and others)*

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

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The humanitarian situation in As-Sweida Governorate remains critical amid ongoing instability and intermittent hostilities. Despite the ceasefire framework, clashes reportedly resumed on 23 July near Walgha town, with reports of sporadic fighting with casualty figures have not been independently verified. According to the Protection Sector, the humanitarian access due to roadblocks, insecurity, and other impediments to As-Sweida remains constrained, hampering the ability of humanitarians to assess need thoroughly and to provide critical life-saving assistance on a large scale.

Interim authorities continue efforts to maintain order in the area. However, mortar shelling was reported to have impacted some residential areas in As-Sweida City, causing damage to civilian property and affecting grain silos in Um Elzaytun, located in northern As-Sweida, resulting in damage to part of the stored wheat. Increased military activity attributed to the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) has been reported in the southwestern Rural Damascus and Quneitra countryside, including near the Golan Heights.

On 25 and 26 July, the Syrian Civil Defense reported the evacuation of more than 3,200 people, including 20 injured and 34 bodies, facilitating the voluntary movement of civilians from As-Sweida Governorate through Busra Esh-Sham crossing in Dar'a Governorate, and facilitated the transport of around 366 people, primarily women and children who were trapped in As-Sweida City. Reported reasons for departure included concerns related to personal safety, limited access to essential services and supplies, and uncertainty regarding the overall situation, despite reassurances from local community members.

## HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

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### At Least 176,000 Displaced; Critical Shortages in Power, Water, and Protection Services in As-Sweida

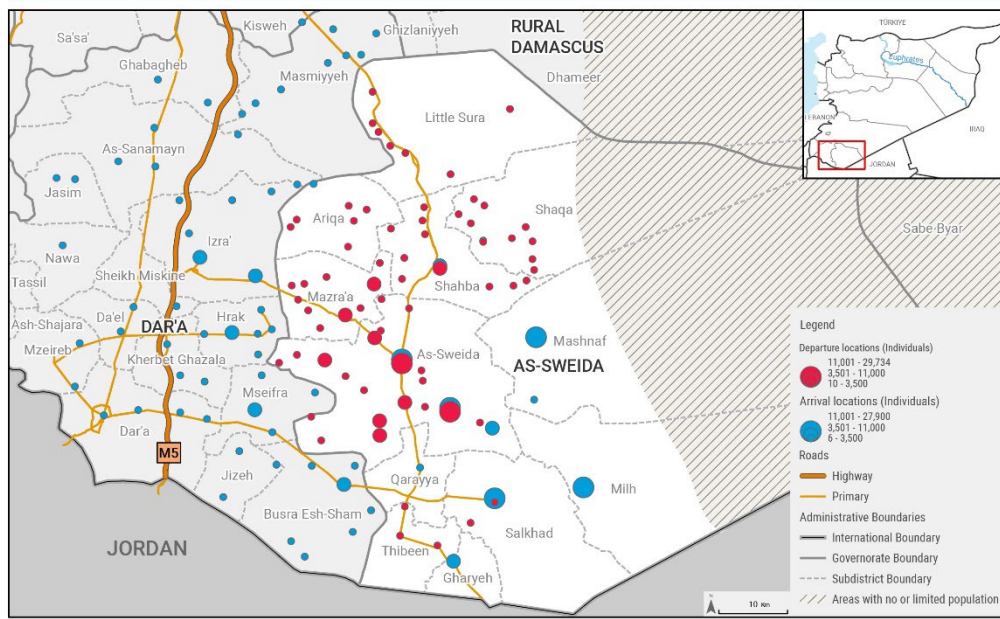
As of 24 July, the IDP Task Force reported that at least 176,000 people were displaced due to the escalation of hostilities in As-Sweida Governorate that started on 13 July. Since the last [update](#), approximately 27,700 people have been newly displaced within the As-Sweida district, bringing the total number of IDPs in As-Sweida Governorate to around 122,000, with the majority located in As-Sweida and Salkhad districts. In Dar'a Governorate, the total number of IDPs has reached approximately 52,500, primarily settled in Dar'a and Izra' districts.

As of 27 July, humanitarian conditions in As-Sweida Governorate continue to deteriorate due to ongoing hostilities and access constraints. Infrastructure remains crippled as the main power station for electricity in As-Sweida is still out of service, and water pumping is still largely limited and unavailable in As-Sweida City. As-Sweida Governorate is reliant mainly on boreholes for water sources and requires strong pumping capacity powered by electricity or fuel generators, and these two are very scarce at the moment. Water trackers are also facing challenges dispatching water due to the limited existing fuel. The delivered fuel is prioritized for hospitals and bakeries. Telecommunications are unstable, as network towers also depend strongly on electricity and fuel.

WHO [confirmed](#) five attacks on healthcare in As-Sweida Governorate that include killing two doctors, obstruction and targeting of ambulances, and temporarily occupying hospitals. WHO-supported mobile medical teams have been [deployed](#) to displacement areas, providing urgent outpatient consultations, maternal and child health services, mental health support, and essential medicines. These efforts have already reached thousands of people from rural As-Sweida and other affected communities. There are reports of significant psychological distress among frontline service providers.

Displaced women and girls face heightened risks of gender-based violence (GBV) due to the breakdown of community protection mechanisms. Overcrowded shelters in Dar'a Governorate, lack of privacy, and absence of gender-segregated spaces have increased exposure to GBV and negative coping mechanisms, including risks of sexual exploitation and abuse. There are also critical shortages of dignity and hygiene items for displaced women.

**Syrian Arab Republic**  
 Displacement from the Escalation of Hostilities in As-Sweida Governorate As of 24 July 2025



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.  
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## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

### UN Inter-Agency Missions Assess IDP Needs in Rural Damascus and Dar'a Governorates

On 24 and 27 July, OCHA led two Inter-Agency missions with the participation of UN agencies and NGOs. During the first mission on 24 July, the UN delegation comprising WHO, WFP, UNHCR, UNFPA, and NGOs visited the Sayyeda Zeinab community in Rural Damascus Governorate to assess the humanitarian situation of the displaced populations there and coordinate with the stakeholders on the ground. As of 23 July, reportedly, 750 families (3,000 people) are residing in 14 operational hotels, which are used as a collective shelter. The delegation met with displaced families who reported experiencing significant distress and trauma, with some recounting incidents of violence during displacement, including injuries sustained while fleeing and the destruction of their homes. Many fleeing families left without essential belongings or civil documentation, indicating that some people from affected areas remain unaccounted for and unreachable. IDPs were concerned that only one public hospital is functioning in the area, and the nearest operational health centre is located 6 KM away in Babella town. The ongoing humanitarian response has largely been driven by local initiatives and private contributions, including the establishment of a collective kitchen serving two meals daily to up to 6,000 people. Volunteer teams have been registering displaced families and distributing assistance, though these efforts face sustainability challenges due to limited funding and growing needs.

On 27 July, OCHA led an Inter-Agency, Inter-Sector mission to the Tal Shihab reception center in the Western Maliha community in Izra', Dar'a, for assessment as a potential location to host more IDPs with the participation of FAO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and WHO, and several INGOs to meet with local authorities and assess the needs of the displaced families. In Dar'a Governorate, authorities have expanded shelter capacity for displaced populations from 13 to approximately 50 sites, supported by local communities and aid from other governorates. Another inter-sector mission is planned on 28 July 2025, to assess the Harjelleh and Dweir reception centres in Rural Damascus and explore possibilities for support.

UNICEF reported that the escalation of hostilities has significantly impacted children and families, with urgent needs identified in protection, health, nutrition, education, and WASH. UNICEF has mobilized emergency supplies, including health kits, hygiene items, and recreational materials, and is coordinating with partners to scale up child protection and psychosocial support services. The agency is also conducting assessments to inform a broader response and has emphasized the need for safe access to affected populations and sustained funding to meet growing humanitarian needs.

SARC sent its second aid convoy to Dar'a on 26 July, carrying UN aid among other including food baskets, NFI kits, hygiene kits, and other supplies including diapers, blankets, mattresses, kitchen baskets, solar chargers, water containers, and drinking water, in addition to medicines and medical supplies to support hospitals that are now under heavy pressure. Earlier, on 23 July, the second SARC aid convoy comprising 25 trucks arrived in As-Sweida carrying flour and food supplies to meet the needs of around 17,000 people, medical supplies, 14,000 Liters of diesel, water, and sanitation equipment. The medical items were delivered to the As-Sweida national hospital, and the wheat flour was dispatched to bakeries, while the other assistance is under distribution by SARC teams.

OCHA is coordinating with governorate offices and emergency teams on displacement tracking, shelter coordination, and response mobilization. Approval of inter-agency field missions to As-Sweida Governorate has not been received yet.



Inter-Agency assessment mission to Sayyeda Zeinab community in Rural Damascus Governorate. 24 July 2025. Photo Credit: ©UNFPA - Syria / Alaa Al-Ghorra

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### Needs:

- The majority of collective centers are overcrowded, with limited access to basic services such as clean water and sanitation.
- Power outages have hindered access to water and disrupted communication in several sites, increasing the urgency of the response.
- Urgent emergency relief supplies are required, such as Ready-To-Eat Rations (RTEs), bread, safe drinking water, hygiene kits, NFIs, and fuel.
- Need for collective and reception centers monitoring and coordination capacity at all collective sites in stable sites.

- As of 24 July, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Sector reported that 12,600 IDPs, comprising 2,470 households, are displaced to 22 collective centers, schools, and government buildings in Dar'a. The IDPs are mainly hosted in Busra, Ghasam, Um Walad, Hrak, Eastern Maliha, Rakham, and Izra' areas.
- In Rural Damascus, local authorities are hosting 3,750 IDPs in hotels across the Sayyeda Zeynab community. In total, 117 hotels have been prepared in collaboration with private hotel owners to accommodate new arrivals for 90 days till mid-October.
- Local authorities are exploring contingency arrangements to host up to 5,000 people at a former IDP reception center in Harajjah in Rural Damascus, in the event of sustained displacement.

### Response:

- The site monitoring teams continue to assess and update daily arrivals and conditions in IDP sites at the collective centers in Dar'a.
- On 24 July, the CCCM sector, in coordination with Shelter/NFI, Protection Sectors, and UNOCHA, met local authorities in Rural Damascus over displacement to the governorate to guide the coordination of humanitarian response in IDP sites and temporary shelters.



### Needs:

#### In the Sayyeda Zeinab community in Rural Damascus Governorate:

- During the Inter-Sector assessment mission to Sayyeda Zeinab, Rural Damascus, the Health Sector reported that a total of 750 elderly people are suffering from chronic diseases and disabilities and are in urgent need of health support and 25 women require comprehensive antenatal, delivery, prenatal and maternal health services, including regular check-ups, nutritional counselling, and access to skilled birth attendants to ensure a safe pregnancy and delivery.
- There is an immediate need for emergency referrals for IDPs who are suffering from severe injuries and critical health issues, ensuring they receive prompt medical attention and support during their vulnerable situation.
- The closest hospital is located 6 kilometres away, which poses significant challenges for IDPs, who often lack reliable means of transportation. This distance can prove to be a barrier during medical emergencies, as access to healthcare becomes increasingly difficult.
- There is an urgent need for establishing a 24/7 emergency referral pathway, ensuring nearest referral hospitals provide provision of emergency and trauma care services.

### Response:

- NGOs' medical teams and ambulances are on the ground and continue to provide medical consultations, emergency care, and essential medications to patients among the displaced families in Dar'a, among ongoing waves of displacement from As-Sweida countryside. There are four fully equipped ambulances that are stationed at Izra's national hospital and are responding.
- WHO handed over a shipment of body bags to SARC.
- In coordination with the Ministry of Health, a local NGO donated essential medical and surgical consumables to the Damascus Health Directorate.
- In coordination with Dar'a Health Directorate, between 19 and 25 July, four mobile medical teams provided 874 consultations, delivering essential primary health services, including medications, MHPSS, and health education sessions. Each team is comprised of three physicians, a gynecologist, an internist, and a pediatrician, along with nurses, a case manager, a pharmacist, and health educators. They also provide medications and maintain an active referral system for patients requiring secondary healthcare services.

## Shelter / Non-Food Items (NFIs)

### Needs:

- Urgent NFI needs include blankets, mattresses, plastic sheets, solar lamps, jerry cans, and kitchen sets. These items are especially critical for IDPs currently sheltering in overcrowded schools, religious buildings, and other public facilities with inadequate access to basic services.
- Shelter interventions may be required should displacement be prolonged. This includes improvements to collective shelters and minor repairs to conflict-affected homes to enable safe and dignified voluntary returns.

### Response:

- As of 23 July, UNHCR and SNFI Sector partners have provided 1,803 Core NFI Kits, reaching more than 9,000 people across Dar'a and Rural Damascus governorates.
- Out of the total, a significant number of kits were reported as complete, including key items such as blankets, mattresses, plastic sheets, and kitchen sets. However, several partners provided partial kits, primarily consisting of mattresses, blankets, and plastic sheets, depending on stock availability and local needs.
- The response covered collective shelters and vulnerable host communities in areas such as Busra Esh-Sham, Hrak, Sayda, Izra', Mseifra, Ghasm, Sahwa, Moraba, Simej, Khrbet Ghazaleh, Sayyeda Zeinab, and other areas.



PSS team provides support to IDPs at a reception center in Mseifra town in Dar'a. 22 July 2025. Photo Credit: © IRVD NGO

## Protection

### Needs:

- In As-Sweida, GBV partners face shortages of fuel and security concerns, limiting mobile teams' ability to deliver critical first-line GBV support and monitor evolving needs. Restricted mobility, reduced availability of safe spaces, and disrupted referral pathways continue to impede women and girls from seeking protection or reporting violence.
- In all Dar'a shelters, GBV prevention, case management, PSS, and provision of dignity kits remain essential for displaced populations in both formal shelters and hosting communities.
- Around 3,000 displaced women and girls in Rural Damascus, hosted in Sayyeda Zeinab, urgently require dignity kits, psychosocial support, and legal assistance.
- Ongoing awareness-raising on MHPSS, prevention of sexual exploitation, and GBV risk mitigation is vital to meet the mental health and protection needs of affected women and girls.
- The Child protection needs remain dire in As-Sweida, there is no accurate information given the access constraints, given the human resource intense nature of child protection services, assessment of needs remain vague, there is no internet and electricity making communication with field teams impossible, very limited support has been provided given the limitation of access to only SARC, reports from IDPS into Dara report so many children remain unaccompanied and separated, many have experienced violence, witnessed violence and need PFA and MHPSS services, injuries continue as result of exposure to military assets, Explosive Ordnance (EO) and risks of recruitment for teenage boys remains high and a troubling concern.
- In Rural Damascus and Dara, child protection partners are responding to address immediate and urgent child protection needs such as case management support for victims of violence, abuse including family tracing and reunification of separated and unaccompanied children, high needs for PFA and MHPSS for children and parents as well as high information requirements for various services, referrals and NFI that are being referred to relevant sectors.
- IDPs finding refuge in Dar'a and Rural Damascus remain at risk from explosive ordnance contamination, with urgent need for Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) as the first lifesaving measure, Non-Technical Survey (NTS) to

identify contaminated areas, emergency clearance to remove EO from critical infrastructure, and support for survivors of EO accidents, including psychosocial support.

## Response

- More than 1,000 IDPs have received protection services and undergone assessments, and around 400 IDPs have benefited from Psychosocial Support (PSS) since the onset of hostilities in As-Sweida on 13 July.
- Community centers across the southern region continue to provide services, with six centers operational in Dar'a Governorate, one in As-Sweida, and one in Quneitra. In As-Sweida, UNHCR's protection partner has resumed limited operations from a temporary location after the UNHCR-supported community center in Sweida City became inaccessible due to hostilities. A joint field visit by UNHCR and its partner confirmed damage to the center and the need to relocate critical equipment to prevent further damage and potential looting. Some staff members and volunteers remain displaced or unaccounted for, which affects operational capacity.
- In Rural Damascus, protection assessments were conducted for newly displaced families in Al-Nashabiya and Beit Saber areas. UNHCR partners are reaching displaced populations in Rural Damascus and Dar'a through mobile units and outreach volunteers. Individuals in need of protection services are being referred to UNHCR-supported community centers, with complex cases escalated to UNHCR for coordination with relevant actors.

### In Rural Damascus:

- UNICEF and Child Protection AoR partners conducted psychological first aid, case management, and recreational activities in Sayyeda Zeinab and Jaramana communities for 110 children (35% boys).
- The GBV Area of Responsibility (AoR) joined the inter-sectoral needs assessment mission conducted on 24 July in Sayyeda Zeinab community, visiting around 14 shelters hosting around 3,000 IDPs from As-Sweida.
- In Sayyeda Zeinab Shelters, UNFPA, through its partners, distributed 186 female dignity kits and conducted three GBV awareness sessions on psychosocial support, stress management during crises, and sexual exploitation, reaching 186 displaced women across Al-Ittihad, Zulfiqar, and Masa hotels and provided 35 GBV case management services, coordinating referrals through SARC.
- Mine action partners continue with NTS and clearance activities in Al-Nashabiyah sub-district, where movements of IDPs from As-Sweida have been noted. NTS and clearance activities are currently taking place in Shebaa and Deir al-Asafir in southern Rural Damascus, and Duma in the northern part of the governorate.



Installation of lighting in a school that hosts IDPs in Eastern Maliha in Dar'a Governorate. 25 July 2025. Photo Credit: © Action For Humanity NGO

### In Dar'a:

- UNICEF and Child Protection AoR partners continue providing psychological first aid and recreational activities in IDP shelters in Dar'a, reaching 294 children (60% girls).
- UNFPA, through its partners, delivered group and individual psychosocial support sessions, provided GBV case management, and distributed 792 female dignity kits in Karak, Moraba, Masmiiyeh, Jemrine, Mahjeh, and Hrak communities and via deployed mobile teams in underserved shelters and informal settlements in eight communities: Al-Ghariyah Al-Sharqiyah, Ghasm, Nahteh, Al-Musayfira, Saida, Al-Kahil, Eastern Maliha, and Naamer, reaching 549 displaced women and girls.
- UNHCR, through its partners, distributed 224 female dignity kits and provided GBV services in Tafas, Saida, Al-Musayyima, and Jabab; and conducted awareness sessions at the Karbt Gazal shelter.
- In Azraq, a GBV partner delivered psychological support to 222 people, conducted 17 PSEA awareness sessions, and 17 GBV prevention sessions.

- An NGO conducted assessments, conducted GBV awareness sessions, and provided case management services in IDP shelters in Bosra Al-Sham, Al-Hirak, and Eastern Maliha.
- Mine action partners are to resume activities in Dar'a, with urgent EORE and NTS to be delivered to the affected populations. Nine teams will be in place to assess the needs and impart lifesaving EORE messages, especially to IDPs who are unfamiliar with the area.
- UNHCR managed community centre in Ghabagheb sub-district in Dar'a conducted recreational activities for over 140 children to help alleviate emotional stress caused by displacement.

#### In As-Sweida:

- UNICEF and Child Protection AoR partners identified 30 children who need specialised case management and urgent referrals in the Slim community; the children received psychological first aid. Case management protocols and support have been triggered. Once access is gained, further processes will follow.
- In Slim village, UNFPA, through its partners' mobile teams, conducted psychosocial support sessions focused on coping mechanisms and GBV risk mitigation, and distributed 182 female dignity kits to displaced women and vulnerable families living with hosting households.
- In Salkhad District, UNFPA, through its partners' mobile teams, continued the provision of psychosocial support services and distributed 102 female dignity kits to displaced women and girls in 27 shelters across Salkhad town and Orman village, ensuring timely referrals via coordination with the Community Wellbeing Center (CWC) and mobile teams.

## Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

#### Needs:

- There is a need to distribute around 100,000 bottles of drinking water (1.5 liters each) to displaced populations in reception centers and residential zones in Dar'a, As-Sweida, and Rural Damascus governorates.
- Deployment of water tanker services to deliver 400 m<sup>3</sup> of water daily for two months to be distributed in the reception centers in As-Sweida and Dar'a governorates.
- Provision of 30,000 liters of diesel to As-Sweida Water Establishment for generator-powered water pumping during electricity disruptions.
- Rehabilitation of around 25 wells in Dar'a and As-Sweida and restoration of 20 vandalized and looted wells across the western countryside in As-Sweida.
- There is a need for 10,000 hygiene kits for the shelter centers in Dar'a, As-Sweida, and Sayyeda Zeinab community in Rural Damascus.

#### Response:

- WASH Sector partners provided 90,000 bottles of water through SARC to IDPs residing in Dar'a and As-Sweida governorates.
- WASH Sector partners provided 12,000 liters of fuel to operate critical WASH facilities in Dar'a and As-Sweida governorates.
- Humanitarian partners have provided 22 plastic water tanks of various sizes, along with 55 faucets, to the IDPs in Dar'a and provided several water tanks to the centers that host IDPs in Dar'a Governorate, which are currently being dispatched to reception centers across the affected areas.

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