



Children shelter from the harsh heat in one of northwest Syria's IDP camps. © IOM 2022

IOM VISION

Building on IOM's expertise in providing life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable, and recognizing the dynamic context within Syria, IOM will address humanitarian and recovery needs, and support efforts towards addressing protracted and sudden-onset displacement. IOM mainstreams protection, accountability to affected populations, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, and risk mitigation throughout all its programming while working closely with, and strengthening the capacity of, non-governmental organization partners. IOM will prioritise an integrated response that incorporates humanitarian, development and peace approaches to address the root causes of the crisis, promote durable solutions and meet the most urgent needs in crisis-affected communities.

\$98,270,000
Funding Required



■ F. Confirmed: 69.74 M
■ F. Gap: 28.53 M

1,905,000
People Targeted

186
Entities Targeted

CONTACT INFORMATION

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IOM PROPOSED RESPONSE

OBJECTIVE	FUNDING REQUIRED	FUNDING CONFIRMED
Saving lives and protecting people on the move	74,770,000	68,520,395
Driving solutions to displacement	6,000,000	0
Contribute to an evidence-based and efficient crisis response system	8,500,000	1,221,584
Strengthen preparedness and reduce disaster risk	9,000,000	0

PRIMARY TARGET GROUPS

1. Internally displaced person
2. Local population / community

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD) 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITY AREAS	2023
Saving lives and protecting people on the move	
Shelter and settlements	55,200,000
Provision of water, sanitation and hygiene in emergencies	4,500,000
Protection	4,200,000
Basic needs, including food and multi-purpose cash assistance	9,000,000
Direct health support	1,800,000
Mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian response	70,000
Driving solutions to displacement	
Durable Solutions	6,000,000
Strengthen preparedness and reduce disaster risk	
Emergency preparedness	7,500,000
Water, sanitation and hygiene in preparedness and risk reduction	1,500,000
Contribute to an evidence-based and efficient crisis response system	
Support services for response actors	8,500,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIRED	98,270,000

2023 - Syrian Arab Republic Crisis Response Plan 2023

CONTEXT ANALYSIS

On Monday, February 6th, two earthquakes hit southeast Türkiye and northwest Syria. The 7.7 magnitude earthquake that hit the region is one of the strongest to hit the area in more than 100 years and was followed by hundreds of aftershocks and another 7.5 magnitude earthquake. IOM teams are coordinating with Governments and partners to respond to the needs of those affected. For more information please read the [IOM appeal](#), visit www.iom.int or [donate](#).

Nearly 12 years of conflict has left millions of Syrians in dire need of humanitarian assistance for their survival. In 2023, 15.3 million people, out of a total population of 22.1 million, are estimated to require humanitarian assistance, compared to 14.6 million people in 2022 (OCHA). The persisting conflict, compounded by economic hardships, has displaced more than 6.6 million people (as of November 2022, HNAP Mobility and Needs Monitoring (MNM)). Two thirds of internally displaced people (IDPs) across Syria need access to livelihoods (68%) and basic services (67%), and more than half (55%) need food (HNAP, October 2022). The sheer number of those currently displaced, the growing number of newly displaced families, the lack of basic services, as well as the deepening health crisis highlights the sustained need for humanitarian assistance.

In NWS alone, more than 4.1 million people continue to rely on humanitarian assistance. Ninety-seven per cent of the population lives in extreme poverty and over 80 per cent of the population is food insecure ([OCHA](#)). The situation is likely to deteriorate further; already, the price of the standard food basket is at its highest ever recorded price ([WFP](#)). Overburdened host communities and those who have returned to their (often destroyed) areas of origin continue to face significant challenges meeting their basic needs (HNO). Those living in camps and informal sites continue to endure extremely difficult living conditions, residing in tents or makeshift shelters that are often damaged, and overcrowded, with limited access to reliable shelter, basic WASH, and protection services. The situation is especially dire during the winter and rainy seasons, in a context where 93 per cent of tents are more than one year old, and 3.37 million people live in damaged shelters ([HNO](#)). WASH infrastructure is also severely inadequate, evidenced most recently by the ongoing cholera outbreak. In 2022, it was estimated that at least 70 per cent of sewage is untreated and at least half of the sewerage systems are not functional ([OCHA](#)). The health system is heavily overburdened – nearly half of public health care centres are not fully functional and there is a widespread health worker and supply shortage. This impacts the availability and quality of health services, especially for the most vulnerable, and impedes the response to disease outbreaks such as COVID-19 and cholera.

With conflict compounding high poverty and unemployment rates, it has become clear that the disruption in livelihoods is widespread. Only 53 per cent of men and 4 per cent of women in NWS have regular income. About one third of employed individuals work in the agricultural sector, which is regularly affected by droughts and high production costs. In addition, the median monthly salary for employed individuals is USD 71, which is far below the cost of the current survival minimum expenditure basket of USD 111.51 (UNDP, HNAP). According to community-level assessments conducted by IOM partners, IDPs mention the lack of job opportunities and of required skills to qualify for jobs as the primary reason for lacking a stable income. Women and persons with disabilities (PWD) reported facing additional barriers to access jobs, primarily due to cultural norms, household obligations, inadequate community infrastructure, and movement restrictions. The combination of economic stagnation and deterioration, widespread poverty, growing food insecurity, and lack of work opportunities or viable options for improved living conditions may compel households or individuals towards high-risk coping strategies that can cause severe harm. Practices such as early or child marriage may be seen as an avenue to reduce household pressure or as a means of protection; hazardous, obscure, work or travel opportunities that may normally be avoided, may be seen as the only economic option and can result in labour exploitation, child labour, sexual exploitation and various forms of sexual violence, extortion, debt bondage, practices similar to slavery, and a general increased vulnerability to violence and abuse.

COORDINATION

IOM's cross-border humanitarian activities are implemented in line with the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and are closely coordinated with interagency clusters, technical working groups, and inter-agency coordination forums, at the country and global level. In particular, IOM plays an important role in the cross-border Shelter/NFI, WASH, CCCM, Protection, Early Recovery (ERL) and Health clusters. IOM is a key actor in the Humanitarian Liaison Group and Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, and at the regional level, IOM is an active member of the Whole of Syria Strategic Steering Group. IOM is also actively involved in the regional and country-based Durable Solutions Working Group led by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). IOM works through Syrian NGO partners as well as international NGOs to implement programming in NWS, with dedicated systems in place to ensure quality, monitoring and accountability of

project activities. Through these partnerships, IOM also undertakes regular capacity-building initiatives with its partners, to strengthen capacities and support a sustainable and effective response.

IOM CAPACITY

IOM has been providing aid in Syria for over seven years and has longstanding experience and expertise at the country, regional and global level. The response is supported by regional and global thematic experts from IOM’s Headquarters in Geneva and its Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa, along with dedicated presence and technical expertise to lead the response. IOM has established strong oversight and risk management systems to mitigate risk, facilitate monitoring and learning, and inform programme effectiveness. While remote management remains a challenge, IOM is implementing a rigorous and effective monitoring approach that focuses on: 1) Tracking assistance via IOM developed Commodity Tracking System; 2) Third party monitoring mechanisms; and 3) Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP). This allows the organization to mitigate risk and helps ensure that assistance reaches those most in need. Technical and high-level oversight also helps ensure that IOM’s programming is conflict, climate and gender-sensitive, upholds humanitarian principles, mainstreams protection and adheres to-do-no harm principles.

SAVING LIVES AND PROTECTING PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Funding Required
\$74,770,000

People Targeted
1,800,000

People Targeted Description

IDPs and affected communities in NWS who will be selected based on assessed vulnerabilities. Vulnerability criteria will ensure that assistance reaches individuals and households with the greatest needs, including newly-displaced, female-, elderly- and child-headed households, and persons living with disabilities. Planning, prioritization and targeting will be based on the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview and the sectoral severity ranking.



🏠 **SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS**

To meet the shelter needs of affected populations in NWS, IOM through its partners will:

- Conduct an IOM-designed HLP due diligence process to verify land tenure and reduce the risk of land/property disputes
- Repair and rehabilitate housing units and upgrade collective centres;
- Procure, preposition and distribute emergency non-food items to newly displaced persons and the most vulnerable households;
- Conduct basic IDP site upgrade works;
- Procure and distribute family tents for newly displaced and the most vulnerable households;
- Pilot more durable and dignified transitional shelters with a holistic approach (including site upgrades to protect against weather elements);
- Deliver winterization assistance through cash-based modalities; and
- Provide interagency services for common pipeline, preposition, and stock delivery.

Funding Required
\$55,200,000

Funding Confirmed
\$40,557,227



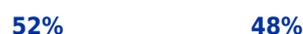
🚰 **PROVISION OF WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE IN EMERGENCIES**

To address the WASH needs of affected populations in Syria, IOM will:

- Provide immediate lifesaving WASH activities in IDP sites (including the provision and maintenance of sex-segregated latrines, provision of safe water, solid waste management, hygiene kits distribution, and hygiene promotion);
- Construct decentralized sewer network systems and septic tanks in IDP sites and

Funding Required
\$4,500,000

Funding Confirmed
\$2,346,035



- ensure proper operation and maintenance;
- Conduct hydrogeological surveys and improve water networks in IDP sites;
- Support the operation and maintenance of existing WASH infrastructure in informal IDP sites, particularly in sites where IOM is also providing shelter support; and
- Improve WASH facilities and provide basic WASH services in health facilities.



PROTECTION

To address the significant protection needs of affected populations in Syria, IOM will:

- Raise awareness on protection risks related to child protection, GBV, trafficking in persons, civil status documentation, housing, land and property (HLP) and risk education, based on up-to-date situational assessments;
- Establish and strengthen existing internal and external referral pathways, including providing income-generation activities and cash assistance to complement protection outcomes;
- Provide GBV, child protection (CP) and legal advisory services to prevent and respond to protection risks and violations, including various forms of exploitation such as TIP, including through case management, static facilities and gender-inclusive mobile outreach teams;
- Provide in-kind individual protection assistance (IPA) to address time-bound, acute protection needs;
- Ensure the provision of integrated, specialised protection services in all IOM-supported camps in NW Syria;
- Expand protection service coverage of informal IDP sites and hard-to-reach areas with mobile teams, including in the most under-served areas close to frontlines with a low protection service coverage. Services will include prevention and response activities such as raising awareness, Child Protection and GBV case management, IPA, structured PSS, anti-TIP activities where relevant, and protection monitoring and legal counselling in hard-to-reach areas. IOM and partners will work on rehabilitating and equipping rooms within schools in the targeted communities and rely on partners' facilities as well to be used as static locations for conducting specialized activities to ensure access and maximum confidentiality;
- Enhance access to legal advisory services, including individual legal counselling, with a focus on reaching informal/self-settled IDP sites, with a focus on the most vulnerable. A sub-component targets specifically women and girls with their legal concerns through women's orientation sessions on inheritance, divorce and marriage, as well as access to civil documentation. Another sub-component focuses specifically on the rights of adolescents, again through awareness-raising sessions;
- Provide HLP due diligence support, trainings and operational guidance across sectors;
- Provide dignity kits to newly-displaced women and girls to support the wider GBV response;
- Ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all protection interventions, based on the Washington Group methodology;
- Provide capacity building and protection mainstreaming support to IOM and partner staff, including on GBV risk mitigation and safe identification and safe referral in case of GBV disclosure;
- Engage in ongoing community mobilization and outreach; and
- Conduct regular protection monitoring and protection risk analysis to inform ongoing programming.

Funding Required
\$4,200,000

Funding Confirmed
\$1,468,754

34% 66%



All Protection activities will be conducted in consultation and collaboration with communities in order to ensure meaningful participation of vulnerable groups especially women and girls, children, persons with disabilities, or any other group in vulnerable situations. Protection principles are mainstreamed across interventions to ensure safety and dignity, avoid causing harm and guarantee meaningful access to assistance for all persons in need, without discrimination. This includes GBV risk mitigation as well as Disability Inclusion of Persons throughout the program cycle. Particular attention will be

given to effective participation and empowerment of the community, ensuring that Complaint and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) and other reporting mechanisms related to Prevention against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and the Child Safeguarding Policy are in place to prevent misconduct and guarantee accountability to affected populations (AAP), in line with the IOM AAP Framework.



BASIC NEEDS, INCLUDING FOOD AND MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

To address the immediate food needs of affected populations in NWS, IOM will:

- Provide monthly food baskets to the most vulnerable households;
- Provide ready-to-eat rations for newly-displaced households;
- Provide monthly assistance through cash-for-food interventions for food-insecure persons; and
- Provide one-off short-term food assistance through cash as an emergency response for crisis-affected vulnerable people.

Funding Required
\$9,000,000

Funding Confirmed
\$3,398,219

37% 63%



DIRECT HEALTH SUPPORT

To support the health needs of affected populations in NWS and reduce the spread of communicable diseases in supported displacement sites, IOM will:

- Help address the critical gaps in healthcare services in NWS by supporting primary healthcare facilities, covering the facilities' running medical supplies, costs, salaries of essential staff, and urgent rehabilitation, and conducting health promotion through Community Health Workers (CHW);
- Operate mobile health teams to provide health-care services in camps that are in remote locations and currently lacking access to services, and provide referrals to health facilities when necessary; and
- Respond to disease outbreaks such as cholera by establishing, supporting, and operating Cholera Treatment Units (CTUs) and, in coordination with WASH, through improved access to WASH facilities.

Funding Required
\$1,800,000

Funding Confirmed
\$992,407

55% 45%



MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT IN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In 2023, IOM will continue to:

- Provide MHPSS services at all 4 tiers of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) pyramid of intervention in emergency settings, including psychosocial considerations in the provision of basic services and security, and family and community support. IOM's activities will aim to strengthen collective and interpersonal support systems essential to psychosocial wellbeing. IOM will also provide focused psychosocial support, and specialized services, including psychotherapy provided by clinical psychologists;
- Support communities in organizing socio-relational, cultural, ritual, sport, and art-based activities. These activities can allow children and adults to safely vent feelings, express tensions, problems and emotions through metaphors, and foster social connections, while helping people develop positive coping skills;
- Distribute PSS kits to children aged 6-12 years old and organize structured activities to reduce levels of distress among children and adults, including peer support groups and guided discussions;
- Provide psychoeducation in the form of sessions on how to cope with distress, sensitization on and de-stigmatization of mental disorders and indirectly through parenting skills training; and
- Provide individual psychosocial consultations along with referrals for clinical psychological services for people with severe mental health conditions.

Funding Required
\$70,000



MHPSS activities will be offered in all IOM-supported camps and other locations in community centres in Jarablus and Afrin districts, and through multidisciplinary psychosocial mobile teams in hard-to-reach areas, such as Ariha district.



IOM partners constructed new roads and drainage systems in 13 informal settlements in northwest Syria, as part of IOM's flood preparedness and response. © IOM 2022

DRIVING SOLUTIONS TO DISPLACEMENT

Funding Required
\$6,000,000

People Targeted
65,000

People Targeted Description

IDPs and affected communities in NWS will be selected based on assessed vulnerabilities. Vulnerability criteria will ensure that assistance reaches individuals and households with particular vulnerabilities, including newly displaced, female-, elderly- and child-headed households, and persons living with disabilities. Planning, prioritization and targeting will be based on the Humanitarian Needs Overview and the sectoral and inter-sectoral severity ranking.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

To promote durable solutions for affected populations in Syria and in line with IOM's Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations Framework (PRDS), IOM will, in IDP sites and planned camps:

Funding Required
\$6,000,000

- Conduct financial or in-kind support for entrepreneurial activities, particularly for micro, small, home-based enterprises and community groups;
- Conduct labour market-informed vocational and skills training including financial or in-kind support business grants;
- Provide income-generating activities and skills development to community members through cash for work (CfW);
- Rehabilitate key socio-economic services and infrastructures e.g., markets, shops, storehouses, irrigation facilities, and processing facilities;
- Enhance inclusive community participation and social cohesion through community engagement and improved equitable access to basic services; and
- Provide income-generating activities such as food processing, small business grants with technical support and cash for work (CfW), aiming to support the graduation efforts of beneficiaries from humanitarian aid reliance to self-reliance.



STRENGTHEN PREPAREDNESS AND REDUCE DISASTER RISK

Funding Required

People Targeted

\$9,000,000

40,000

People Targeted Description

IDPs and affected communities in NWS will be selected based on assessed vulnerabilities. Vulnerability criteria will ensure that assistance reaches individuals and households with the greatest needs, including newly-displaced, female-, elderly- and child-headed households, and persons living with disabilities. Planning, prioritization and targeting will be based on the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview and the sectoral severity ranking.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Related to Objective 1 Shelter/NFI activities IOM plans to:

- Preposition emergency non-food items to prepare for new displacements and to respond to disasters such as floods, as well as carry out basic infrastructure improvements in IDP sites to improve living conditions and reduce flood risks.

Funding Required
\$7,500,000



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE IN PREPAREDNESS AND RISK REDUCTION

IOM plans to mitigate the risk of WASH-related diseases including, but not limited to water-borne diseases such as cholera, vector-borne diseases such as malaria and communicable diseases such as COVID-19 within IOM-supported displacement sites by:

- Training community focal points on physical distancing, good hand and respiratory hygiene practices;
- Providing hygiene promotion and awareness-raising sessions, increasing safe water access;
- Distributing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and hygiene kits inclusive of context-appropriate menstrual hygiene management (MHM) items; and
- Conducting regular sanitization campaigns as needed.

Funding Required
\$1,500,000



CONTRIBUTE TO AN EVIDENCE-BASED AND EFFICIENT CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM

Funding Required
\$8,500,000

People Targeted
150,000

People Targeted Description

Humanitarian actors participating in the inter-agency Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Networks in all hubs for joint implementation of international PSEA commitments, as well as those contributing to the protection of civilians, the reduction of suffering and to building the resilience of affected populations throughout the Syria response will benefit from the provision of technical and operational information management support.



Funding Gap



SUPPORT SERVICES FOR RESPONSE ACTORS

IOM will continue to provide Whole of Syria (WoS) displacement information management support for the humanitarian community and will continue to host the WoS PSEA program and support the interagency humanitarian response in the joint implementation of PSEA commitments. Through an established, robust interagency PSEA Network, IOM will continue to support the inter-agency partnership to decrease

Funding Required
\$8,500,000

Funding Confirmed
\$1,221,584

the risk of crisis-affected communities experiencing incidents of SEA by humanitarian workers and provide technical and operational support to humanitarian actors to prevent, prepare for, and respond to SEA cases. Activities will include:

- Coordinate between the interagency PSEA Networks in all hubs, as well as between PSEA Networks and GBV actors to ensure a survivor-centred approach and systematic referrals to available services;
- Build the capacity of humanitarian workers and other stakeholders on PSEA, including investigatory capacity building;
- Raise awareness of and consult with affected populations;
- Support implementation of risk and mitigation measures;
- Integrate and mainstream PSEA into the broader humanitarian infrastructure and linking to existing referral pathways; and
- Establish inter-agency community-based complaints mechanisms (CBCMs).

Additionally, recognising that building the capacity of local and international NGO partners (IPs) remains critical to enhance the quality of implementation and to contribute to the sustainability of the humanitarian response, IOM will facilitate trainings, coaching sessions, workshops, learning exchanges, and develop guidance documents in key areas such as:

- Procurement, transshipment, logistics, and strategic planning;
- WASH infrastructure implementation and management;
- Humanitarian Access Negotiation;
- NFI, Operations and Cash Based Interventions;
- Food Security, Early Recovery and Livelihood;
- Community engagement, accountability and governance; and
- Improving institutional processes and procedures in resource mobilization and management.

