



Al-Ameen for Humanitarian Support
Data & Need Assessment Unit (DNA)

HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW IN DARAA GOVERNORATE

RAPID NEED ASSESSMENT SOUTH SYRIA - JULY 2021





Al-Ameen for Humanitarian Support:

Is a non -governmental organization established in 2012 by a group of volunteers in northern of Syria within the crises and Starting as a group of activists with a mission of helping all conflict-affected people of Syria, registered in USA, Turkey, Yemen, Lebanon and Sweden.

Vision:

A world where every human has access to basic human rights and resources without discrimination.

Mission:

Ensure the accountable and transparent provision and access of cross-sectoral humanitarian support for all communities within crises to have the access to basic needs and human rights while empowering them to take active civic role.

Value:

Obligation for all Humanitarian principles of main 4 principles Al-Ameen commitment are: Humanity, Neutrality, Impartiality, Independence & Do No Harm.

Data and Needs Assessment Unit (DNA)

The Data and Needs Assessment Unit (DNA) is committed to providing accurate information and research backed support. The organization has been able to develop a multitude of comprehensive needs assessments and scenario reports on different areas in Syria and other countries (Yemen, Lebanon, Turkey), providing background information to aid in better coordination with valuable research. in addition to develop Programs and to enhance the effects of projects implementation.

Comprehensive Reports

•With a strong team of researchers and analysts, DNA is able to provide the humanitarian community with analytical reports containing possible future scenarios on specific areas in Syria and other crisis areas. The team works with experienced individuals who know humanitarian situation very well, as well as cross check information, provide background, to develop accurate reports with strong analysis.

Consultancy

•The DNA Unit provides consultancies to local and international organizations, who are seeking new opportunities, need an accurate Needs Assessment report in a certain area or are seeking a comprehensive background on possible areas and partners.

Evaluation

•The DNA unit provides evaluations on Al Ameen projects and is also able to provide third party evaluation reports on project impact implemented by Al Ameen or other organizations.

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Key Findings:

- Around one million are living in this governorate of the host community, while the IDPs are around 65,000 individuals, and this low number of IDPs are related to the bad living and security situation for this area, which affected the pull factors for this area.
- Need for food and livelihoods projects was one of the top three priorities in this area, which reflect the bad living conditions for the whole population, also to mention, that urgent need for food baskets, availability of food items in the markets.
- The top three reported intended destinations that KIIs had mentioned to be the next destination for IDPs in the next weeks was for 62% of residents and IDPs is going to communities near the borders so they can be left to other countries out of Syria.
- For the communities where no IDPs were present, were related to kidnapping concerns by more than 78% of the assessed communities and concerns related to killing and this was in more than 15% of the communities.
- The shelter type in this governorate, it was found that in more than 65% of the communities' residents were living in solid finished houses or apartments that owned, while around 20% of the communities that the main shelter type was solid finished houses or apartments that rented.
- The difficulties that had been faced by IDPs in collective centers and IDPs sites in Dara governorate, the report found that around 38% of the communities that had IDPs sites and collective centers are facing difficulties with main services like electricity, water, heating, ...etc, that were not enough.
- One of the main needs was water reservoirs which makes the main needs the same in other locations, and expecting this need for NFI will be increased as the hot weather is getting worse on IDPs and host community with the lack of electricity to use fans while this need was by around 11% of the communities in this area.
- The inability to fully access the main markets in this area, which is due to obstacles such as road failures and physical constraints to market access like damage in the roads or shelling during the last period, the report showed that %39 of the villages in South of Syria.

- Around 24% of the communities in South of Syria were depending on using batteries as alternatives or generators to the lack of electricity.
- Despite the widespread of agriculture in the South of Syria many challenges and difficulties are facing agricultural wealth besides burdening farmers in this region, and among these challenges is the high fuel prices in the region, where this difficulty reached mainly 42 % Of the total villages that were targeted in this region.
- Most commonly reported coping strategies for lack of food used by households in assessed communities, the report had found that reducing the meal size was mainly in 31% of the communities.
- Health facilities in Dara governorate had shown that around 66% of communities had small hospitals but most of them are not functional due to lack of staff and materials and this was in around 45% of the communities that had hospitals.
- As the COVID 19 pandemic, not just people but also the health facilities and the medical staff, especially the need for precaution measures which is not available in most of the covered communities, furthermore around 90% of the covered sub-districts in this part of Syria had shown the unavailability of any of precaution measure against COVID 19.
- the number of educational facilities, Dara had shown that there are around 203 schools in this area, for the functionality of these schools it had been shown that around 34% of educational facilities are working with a very good facility by 75-100% of the capacity in this area.
- The priorities of education change from time to time due to the change in the humanitarian situation but with time the gap become worse and the needs increasing, for the education priorities in Dara governorate, it was found that most of the urgent needs were appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in schools which is one of the precaution measures against COVID 19 to take in consideration and this reflect the main reason behind the dropping out of schools, this need was in around 34% of schools in this area.

- Around 49% of the communities in this area the drinking water networks are not functioning and had light damage and this damage like infusion and piping which require light repairs.
- Waste disposal methods, around 15% of the communities in this area are using public networks that function partly and need maintenance, this type of waste disposal was mainly in all sub-districts in this governorate.

METHODOLOGY

Al-Ameen for Humanitarian Support, in an attempt to capture a view of the humanitarian situation in the South of Syria in Daraa governorate, performed Rapid Needs Assessment, due to rapid change in the security situation, displacement, and the demographic change on the ground, besides the need to updated information for these locations, also in some locations no information was submitted, also to shed the light on the afflicted people who suffer from the lack of the most life basics over the past three years since the regime had controlled this area.

This report provides a community-level analysis of the humanitarian situation in the South of Syria. It analyzed changes in major humanitarian sectors of displacement, shelter, NFI, food security and livelihood, protection, WASH, education, health, and emergency for 17 sub-districts that had been distributed in the South of Syria over three months from May 2021 to early July 2021.

Despite an escalation in conflict and a reported decline in humanitarian conditions in the South of Syria in the communities, the area has received less international media attention than other countries experiencing mass displacement in the region, to help humanitarian actors with information about the developments and the last change in the humanitarian needs.

This report is covering one governorate in Dara with all sectors except the nutrition sector as had been mentioned, the selection of the period and area covered was informed by conflict dynamics and the humanitarian situation on the ground which changed after MSNA 2021.

Sampling was to take all sub-districts and communities in the South of Syria Mainly in Dara governorate to take an extensive and comprehensive overview of the situation in this area.

Al-Ameen access in the South of Syria in the communities was under the self-control areas also remotely to regime areas, was to 17 sub-districts and 189 communities, in the meanwhile Data Collection Coverage targeted all sub-districts and communities in these covered sub-districts.

Data collection was completed through Key Informants KI interviews with at least five KI in each community (662 KIs) (%70 Males, %30 Female). Types of KI included a range of representatives of civilian bodies, such as local council members, teachers, NGO workers, and directors.

Al-Ameen for Humanitarian Support teams conducted face-to-face and remotely KI interviews (10% face to face, 90% remotely) due to COVID 19 precaution procedures. The selection of KI was based on the criteria of knowledge regarding population, local context and situation, professional background, leadership responsibilities or personal experience, gender balance.... etc.

Introduction:

In August 2018 the Syrian government forces started military operations to the South of Syria Daraa and Al-Qunitra governorates, which ended by their advantage and control the entirety of Southern Syria except for some places like Tafas, Daraa Al-Balad (small parts), Busra Al-Sham, where these parts under self-control with Russian forces authority.

The Syrian government under Russia's auspices, with the south elite of population, signed a settlement which contained several terms, first, gradual reoperation of government civil service corporations, schools, and hospitals, second, the release of detainees, and the Settlement of legal situations of the most of the population and who are summoned to serve military services, as well as paving the way for the return of displaced and refugee residents. The Russian army deployed dozens of military police personnel to observation posts to oversee the implementation of the agreement, which was part of their plan to calm down the situation in this area, besides to pave the way to the presidential election in the next years.

Three years after the agreement was signed, Daraa residents felt that most of the government's promises and settlement terms did not meet any of their demands. The government security services did not release the people they detained earlier in the conflict just a few people that the report will talk about in the next section, many of whom remain unaccounted for. Furthermore, government corporations and directorates are only formally operating and almost unable to provide the province with services, particularly in the western and eastern parts of the province, as well as in Daraa al-Balad, where power and water networks—restored by locals at their own expense—are barely functional.

Education and healthcare facilities are similarly not functional due to lack of electricity and the worker also for other reason will be mentioned in each sector. Also to mention that the government did not changed anything for the legalization of wanted people's status and passed several dismissal decisions against teachers and employees in the provinces of Daraa and Quneitra and sentenced many of them to prison on various charges.

New Protests in Daraa governorate later, even though Bashar al-Assad claims that he controls Daraa and other parts of the south, most notably is the fact that these protests were even allowed to take place. For anyone that follows the Assad regime closely, it is extremely choreographed in the way it runs society, what it allows and does not allow.

In 2020, civilians in Syria faced another year confronting stark challenges and abuses, first and foremost at the hands of the Syrian government and other authorities, despite a discernible decrease in violent conflict.

The recurrently violated agreement turned rampant insecurity routine throughout Daraa. Assassinations spiked and locals held numerous protests demanding the release of detainees. In retaliation, the government attempted to subjugate the province through excessive force, summoning military reinforcements to several cities where tensions peaked, such as al-Sanamayn and the western countryside, where former opposition fighters continue to live and carry light weaponry.

With military reinforcements, the Syrian government aimed to set the stage for the 2021 presidential elections, imposing military pressure on the areas it controlled to repress any potential display of protest among the locals. Repression; however, made people furious throughout the region. As a result, attacks were carried out against government-affiliated military and security posts, soldiers kidnapped, repeated exchanges of fire broke out, and several demonstrations were organized in solidarity with the areas that government forces threatened to storm.

With the unprecedented depreciation of the national currency, the imposition of further international sanctions, and crises in neighboring countries, the Syrian economy went into freefall for much of 2020. For ordinary Syrians, this translated into an inability to procure food, essential drugs, and other necessities. As a result, more than 9.3 million Syrians have become food insecure and over 80 percent of Syrians live below the poverty line.

This also demonstrates, in light of other acute problems related to the economy, Covid-19, and the continued lack of legitimacy of Bashar al-Assad, the events of March 2021 further undermines the claim that Assad has “won” the conflict and is entitled to legitimate rule of the country, also his white-knuckle approach to keeping power, has not done anything to rectify the original demands of protestors.

Meanwhile, human rights abuses in government-held territory continued unabated. Authorities brutally suppressed every sign of re-emerging dissent, including through arbitrary arrests and torture. Authorities also continued to unlawfully confiscate property and restrict access to areas of origin for returning Syrians.

The decade-long war has decimated the country's economy and healthcare system, significantly complicating efforts to respond to and mitigate the Covid-19 outbreak, even in areas where active fighting has receded. Despite official numbers being low, doctors and nurses in government-held areas cast doubt upon the accuracy of these official statistics and estimate that hundreds of thousands have been infected with the coronavirus. Overwhelmed hospitals turned patients away, and severe shortages of personal protective equipment contributed to large numbers of deaths. The pandemic also exposed existing fissures in the country, including the discriminatory distribution of essential medical supplies.

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Security Situation



Security Situation

In June, Sweida residents began to organize mass gatherings to protest against the worsening economic conditions in the country. Syrian security forces and counter-protesters responded with brutal violence, quelling the protests, and arresting several anti-government activists. According to the COI, at least 34 men, one woman, and 10 children were disappeared in Daraa, Homs, Quneitra, Rif Damascus, and Sweida governorates by government security forces, including the Military Intelligence Directorate and the Military Police.

Russia was attempting to stabilize the situation in Daraa ahead of the last Syrian presidential elections. The activists reported that the government released over 200 persons from the province in several batches from 19 May 2019 to late 2020, adding that the majority of those released were also detained despite the settlement agreements they signed with the government.

The reported releases correspond to almost daily arrests carried out by Syrian government forces. Over February 2021, Horan Free League documented at least 22 arrests, including two women. Three of the detainees were released the same month.

The releases also overlapped with the new settlement agreement signed on 8 February 2021 in Tafas city, in the western countryside of Daraa province, where there remain former opposition fighters. The settlement was signed to put an end to security tension within the city following the military operation government forces launched against the city in late January 2021. The government released the first batch of detainees, including at least 63 militants and civilians, among them five women and four former relief and humanitarian organization employees.

The government released the second batch of detainees on 16 March 2021. The batch consisted of 43 detainees from Daraa province, including civilians but mostly recruits within the ranks of Syrian government forces.

The majority of those released were arrested following the settlement agreement signed with the Syrian government in July 2018. Most of the detainees had conducted a settlement/reconciliation with the government. However, their supposedly legalized status did not help spare them arrest by Syrian security services on various charges, including working for education and relief organizations while the area was controlled by the Syrian opposition. Others were detained due to malicious reports filed against them, the detainees spent days or months in the prisons of security services; others spent nearly a year there. Also to add that the larger number of detainees was neither tried nor convicted before they were released.

the families of a number of the recently released civilians were forced to pay exorbitant sums of money or bribes to lawyers or officers within Syrian government forces to free their loved ones from detention. Some families paid almost 8 million Syrian pounds (SYP).

While the city of Daraa is witnessing a severe siege by the regime forces for a period exceeding three weeks, as the siege focused on the city of Daraa al-Balad, and human rights activists fear the dire consequences for the people living there, who have been cut off from food and other forms of basic supplies such as medicine and drinking water due to the siege. The Syrian regime and its allies, which began on June 24, 2021 approximately, and continued without interruption until the date of preparing the report in mid-July.

While the results showed a major cut in communications and electricity infrastructure, and as the Al-Sadd neighborhood and camps were closed on July 4, 2021, the report indicates that about 50,000 people are completely besieged from all sides by the Syrian regime living in this area.

Also, the security situation was getting worse and worse with the high grip of the government overpopulation in the South of Syria, where it was found that kidnapping was spread over all the government and this was mainly spread for the adolescent group between 18-25 years, where it was found that around 2561 individuals had been found killed after the weeks of kidnapping, also to mention that kidnapers had asked for ransom sometimes from the families who were unable to provide.

Also in 2021, the report had shown that around 695 girls had been kidnapped while moving in the governorate, which affected access to this age group for most of the lifelines even for education and work.

The security situation to get worse with the spread of landmines that the war had left in the whole governorate, the report had shown that around 153 persons had been killed due to intelligent explosives and land mines, while around 10% of these persons were kids.

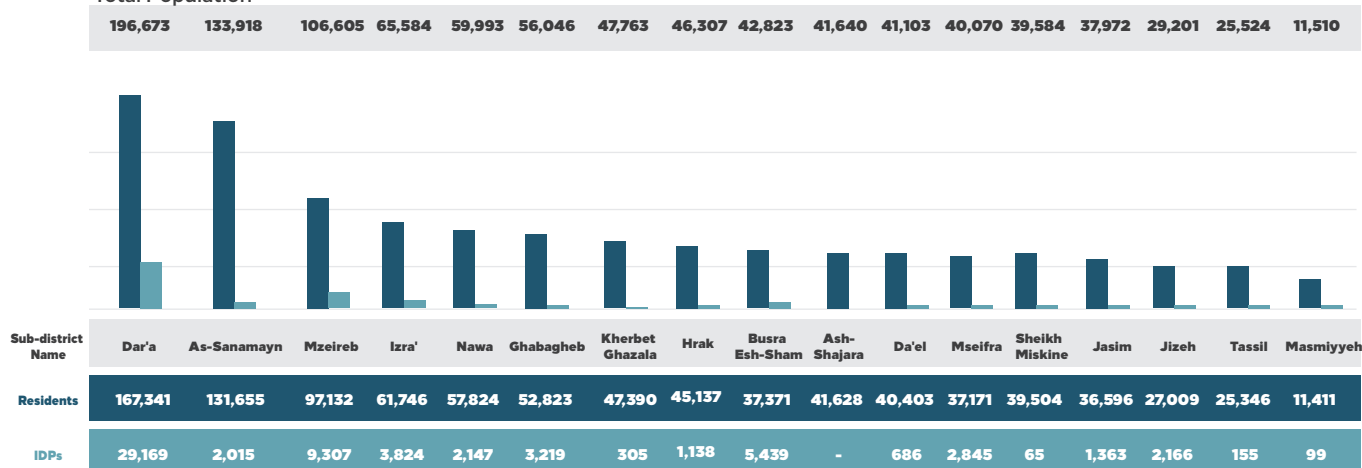
Due to the aforementioned reasons, the report had shown restrictions for movements and which had forced many people to left the governorate to Damascus city mainly and then to other parts of Syria or out of Syria.

Demographic



Dara

Total Population



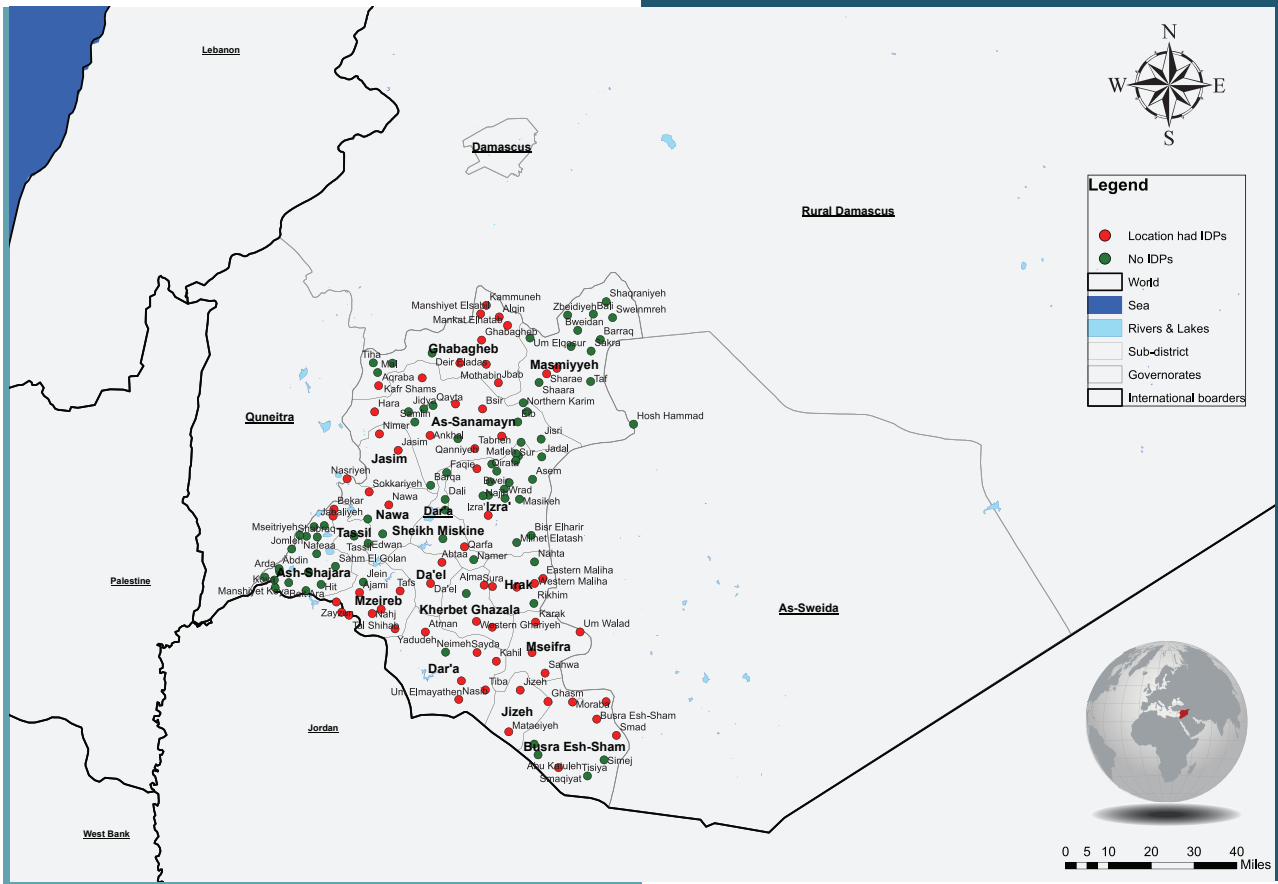
Around one million are living in this governorate of the host community, while the IDPs are around 65,000 individuals, and this low number of IDPs are related to the bad living and security situation for this area, which affected the pull factors for this area.

While the most population in Daraa governorate are living in Daraa city by around 200,000 individuals in this area, also Daraa city had the largest IDPs by around 30,000 individuals and these IDPs forming half of the IDPs in this governorate.

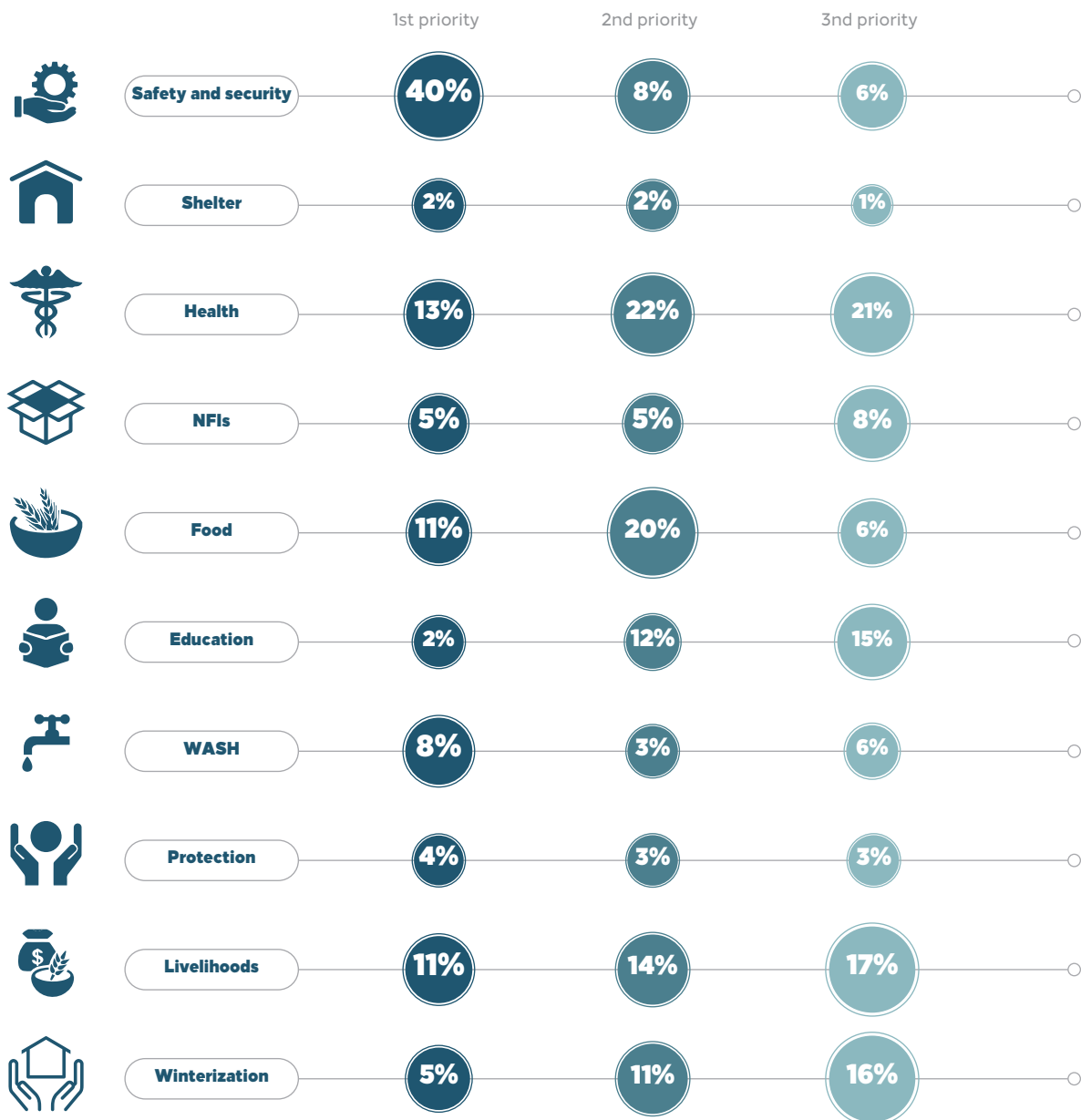
As-Sanamayn sub-district had the second largest population by around 134,000 individuals most of them are from the host community, while a very small percentage from IDPs.

For the age group categorization, it was found that adolescents from 15-25 years forming the biggest percentage by around more than 35% of the population in this governorate, while mention that adolescent girls forming around 65% of the total adolescents.

It was noticed that most of the men in this governorate had left or were displaced to other places due to the bad security situation and living conditions.



PRIORITY NEEDS



The report had focused on the top three reported priority needs in each covered community, also these needs or gaps had been categorized according to priorities, the report found that the need for safety and security due to the spread of killing and kidnapping in most of the communities was the main 1st priority in Daraa governorate, in the meanwhile, health gaps and needs were one of the most urgent needs in this governorate, and mainly all these needs are related to new health centers, rehabilitation of health facilities, availability of COVID 19 vaccines.

While the need for food and livelihoods projects was one of the top three priorities in this area, which reflect the bad living conditions for the whole population, also to mention, that urgent need for food baskets, availability of food items in the markets, also to mention that the regime had proposed new restrictions on receiving of bread from private and public bakeries due to the lack of main items and materials for bread.

It was noticed in this report that winterization is one of the biggest needs but due to the summer delay, it was noticed that come in the 3rd ranked priority, also to mention that in this regard the needs were basically around the need for heating fuel, shelter rehabilitation to avoid the harsh winter, and the need for winterization items availability.

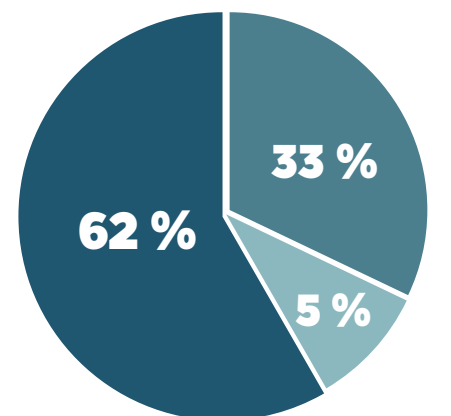
MOVEMENT INTENTIONS

Of the 77 IDP-hosting communities that had been data collected, most of KIs reported that at least part of the IDP population was intending to leave in the following weeks after data collection. The cost of living was the most commonly cited reason for intending to leave besides the unstable security situation in this area, which most of KIs had confirmed that it was due to the spread of regime forces in this governorate, besides the spread of killing and kidnapping as it had been mentioned earlier.

Comparatively, KIs in 39% of all assessed communities reported that some residents intended to leave, and safety and security concerns were the most commonly cited reason for resident populations to leave their community of origin.

37% Proportion of assessed communities where it was reported that some residents intended to leave in the two weeks following data collection.

43% Proportion of assessed IDP hosting communities, where data was available, where it was reported that some IDPs intended to leave in the two weeks following data collection.



**Host communities
(in the same or another governorate)**



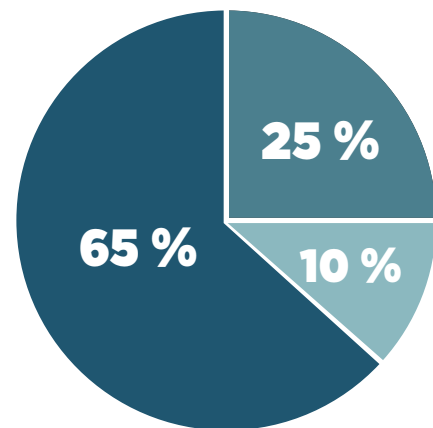
Leave for outside of Syria



Go back to the community of origin

The top three reported intended destinations that KIs had mentioned to be the next destination for IDPs in the next weeks was for 62% of residents and IDPs is going to communities near the borders so they can be left to other countries out of Syria, also it was noticed that since the borders are closed with Jordan, IDPs and residents are intending to go for the North West or East of Syria so they can have ways to the Turkey Republic.

The report had focused not only on the communities where IDPs were reportedly intending to leave, but also the top three reported reasons to leave were and found that the main reasons for leaving is the security situation with regime forces besides the increased spread of killing and kidnapping and this was in around 65% of the covered communities in this report, also to mention that this reason had affected other reasons like the closing of shops and the stop of trading and other activities due to the siege especially in Dara city, so this factor had affected the high prices of items in more than quarter of the covered communities in this governorate.



Safety and security concerns here



Cost of living is too high here



Lack of access to income and employment opportunities here

PROTECTION

Safety and security was the most reported priority need across all communities, with 82% of communities reporting it as a priority need. Most commonly reported protection concerns varied significantly between IDP-hosting communities, where lack or loss of civil documentation, child labour and exploitation were more often reported as concerns for the communities that had hosted IDPs in this area.



65%

Child labor



20%

Exploitation

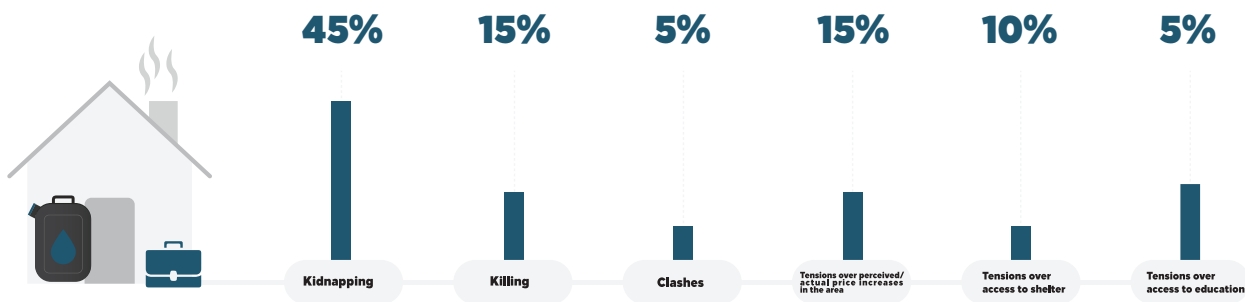


15%

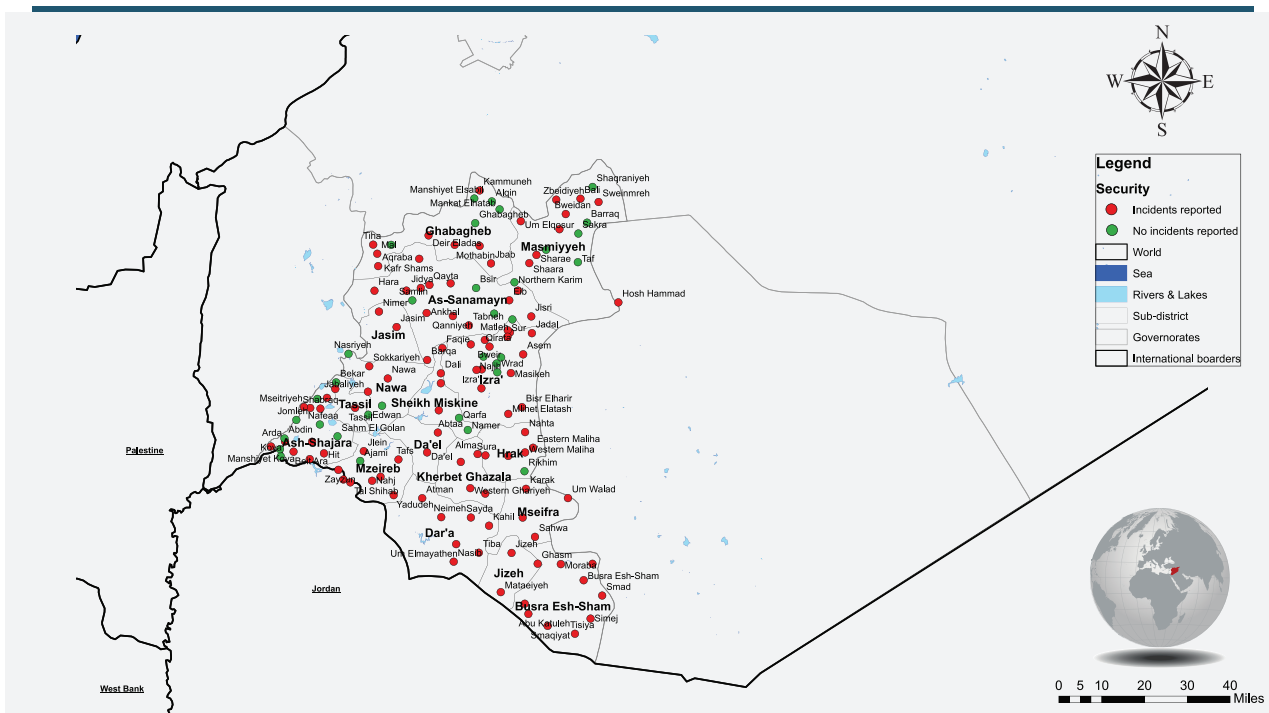
Lack or loss of civil documentation

While for the communities where no IDPs were present, were related to kidnapping and killing concerns by more than 78% of the assessed communities and concerns related to killing and this was in more than 15% of the communities. Intercommunal tensions were reported across all assessed communities except in few locations and were most commonly related to tensions over perceived or actual price increases and this was in 72% of the covered communities.

Also, the report had shown that tensions over the increase of prices in this area were noticed in more than 10% of the covered communities, while the access of shelter due also to high prices of rents, besides the inability to provide rehabilitation besides the destruction and demolition that left due to the sever clashes during 2018 by regime forces.



Security incidents reported in assessed communities Map



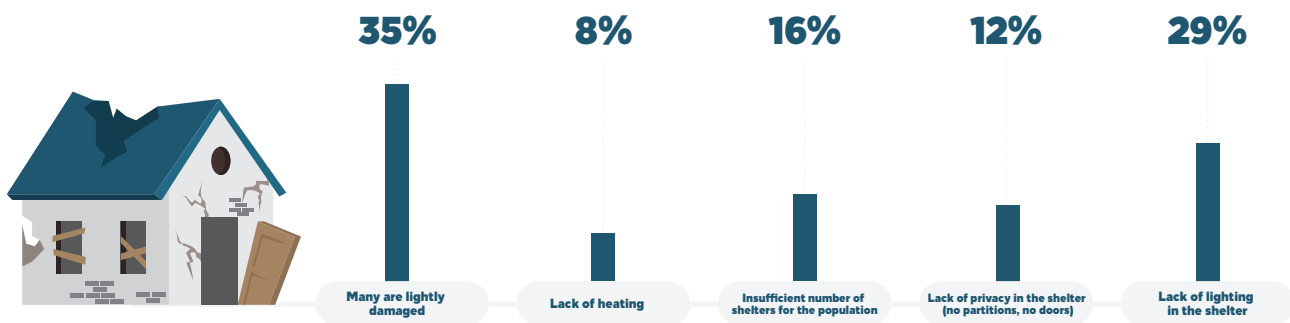
SHELTER

The shelter was considerably and reported as most common among the four main priority needs in all communities, the report had shown that the main reasons for IDPs shelter type were mainly hosted free with host communities by around 55% of the communities that had noticed IDPs in it.

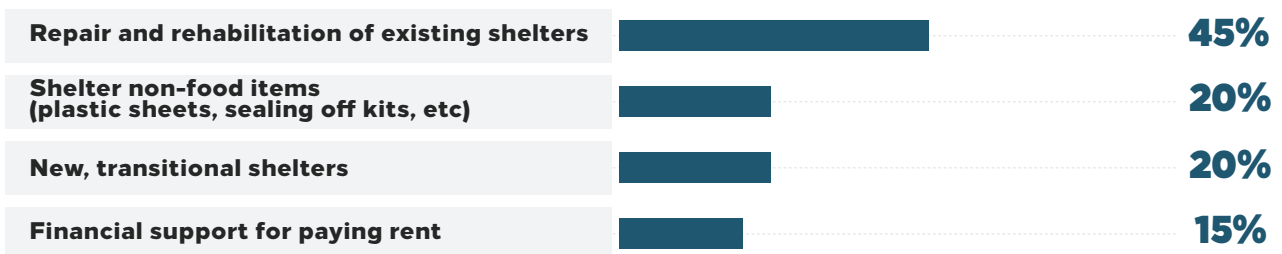
While around 45% of communities had shown that IDPs are living in camps in most of the locations these camps were informal, while also mention that the spread of individuals tents had been noticed by Al-Ameen enumerators while working in the field.

For the shelter type in this governorate, it was found that in more than 65% of the communities' residents were living in solid finished houses or apartments that owned, while around 20% of the communities that the main shelter type was solid finished houses or apartments that rented, for the 15% remaining of communities the report had found that the shelter type was unfinished building or houses that need repair due to the demolition that had been mentioned earlier.

For the most commonly reported shelter adequacy issues for IDPs and host community in this report, it was found that due to the destruction and the damage that most of the building had is the main concern by around 35% of the issues related to shelter adequacy, while the lack of lightning and electricity is the second main concern that had been noticed in around 29% of the communities.



Most commonly reported shelter support needed to address IDP shelter inadequacies, by the proportion of assessed communities where IDPs were present, the report had shown that the need for repair and rehabilitation of existing shelter for IDP is the main concern matching with the host community issues related to shelter adequacy, also to mention that the need for shelter NFI like plastic sheets, sealing off kits, and other materials is the main concern for around 20% of the communities, while with the same percentage around 20% of communities IDPs had a need for new and/or transitional shelters.







Regarding the difficulties that had been faced by IDPs in collective centers and IDPs sites in Daraa governorate, the report found that around 38% of the communities that had IDPs sites and collective centers are facing difficulties with main services like electricity, water, heating, ...etc, that were not enough, this type of difficulties was mainly in Dara, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Jasim, Tassil, and Masmiyyeh sub-districts.

Also in the same context around 33% of IDPs are facing difficulties in sanitation and hygiene, according to the Al-Ameen enumerators by their field observation” the sanitation is all around in the streets, besides tents, and the smell is killing beside the mosquitoes, rodents, the situation is very stifling”, this was mainly in Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, and Mseifra sub-districts by more than 34% of the covered communities in this area.

other reasons like lack of tools and materials for shelter repair by around 8% of the covered communities in this area, while around 6% of the communities had mentioned that the main reason for the increase of IDPs in collective centers and IDPs sites was due to high cost for renting.

NON-FOOD ITEMS and ELECTRICITY

	 Household items	 Fuel items	 Winter items	 Hygiene items
Most of these items are available but are unaffordable for a majority of people	85%	79%	90%	65%
Most of these items are available but are unaffordable for a majority of people	12%	13%	10%	30%
Most of these items are unavailable in markets	2%	8%	0%	5%

The basic needs for Non-Food Items(NFI) were mainly focused on heating fuel and this is normal as the report had focused on the priorities of main NFI items needed during the data collection of this report which was during Jun and July 2021, furthermore, this need reached about %19 of the communities in Daraa governorate, furthermore, this need was concentrated in the Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, and Sheikh Miskinesub-districts by %25 of its covered villages.

Cooking fuel had come as the second need in about %22 of the communities in Daraa governorate, furthermore, this need was mainly in Dara, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, Masmiiyeh, sub-districts by around 25% of the communities in these sub-districts.

One of the main needs was water reservoirs which makes the main needs the same in other locations, and expecting this need for NFI will be increased as the hot weather is getting worse on IDPs and host community with the lack of electricity to use fans while this need was by around 11% of the communities in this area, and the need for this item is due to the approaching summer season generally.

According to the report of the situation in the Daraa governorate in the South of Syria about access to reach non-food items, the report had found that the majority stated that 60% of villages can get their NFI directly through the markets, and this was mainly in Dar'a, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, and Ghabagheb sub-districts by more than 75% of the communities in this governorate.

The inability to fully access the main markets in this area, which is due to obstacles such as road failures and physical constraints to market access like damage in the roads or shelling during the last period, the report showed that %39 of the villages in South of Syria due to the mentioned difficulties, this difficulty was mainly in Dar'a, Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, and Masmiiyeh, sub-districts by more than 40% of the communities in these sub-districts, in the meanwhile, difficulties in accessing markets as a result of lack of transportation especially and people with special needs were about in %22 of all covered villages in this region.

The most used strategy in South of Syria was sales of households for assets or goods like jewelry, telephone, furniture, lands,etc, to cope with the lack of NFI, this was by around 29% of the communities in Daraa governorate, furthermore, this coping strategy was mainly in Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, and Busra Esh-Sham sub-districts by more than 40% of the communities.

The second used coping strategy was selling productive assets or means of transportation like sewing machines, trolleys, cars, and motorcycles, also, this strategy was used in 26% of the communities in this area, furthermore, this strategy was mostly used in Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, and Masmiiyeh, sub-districts by 33% of the communities.

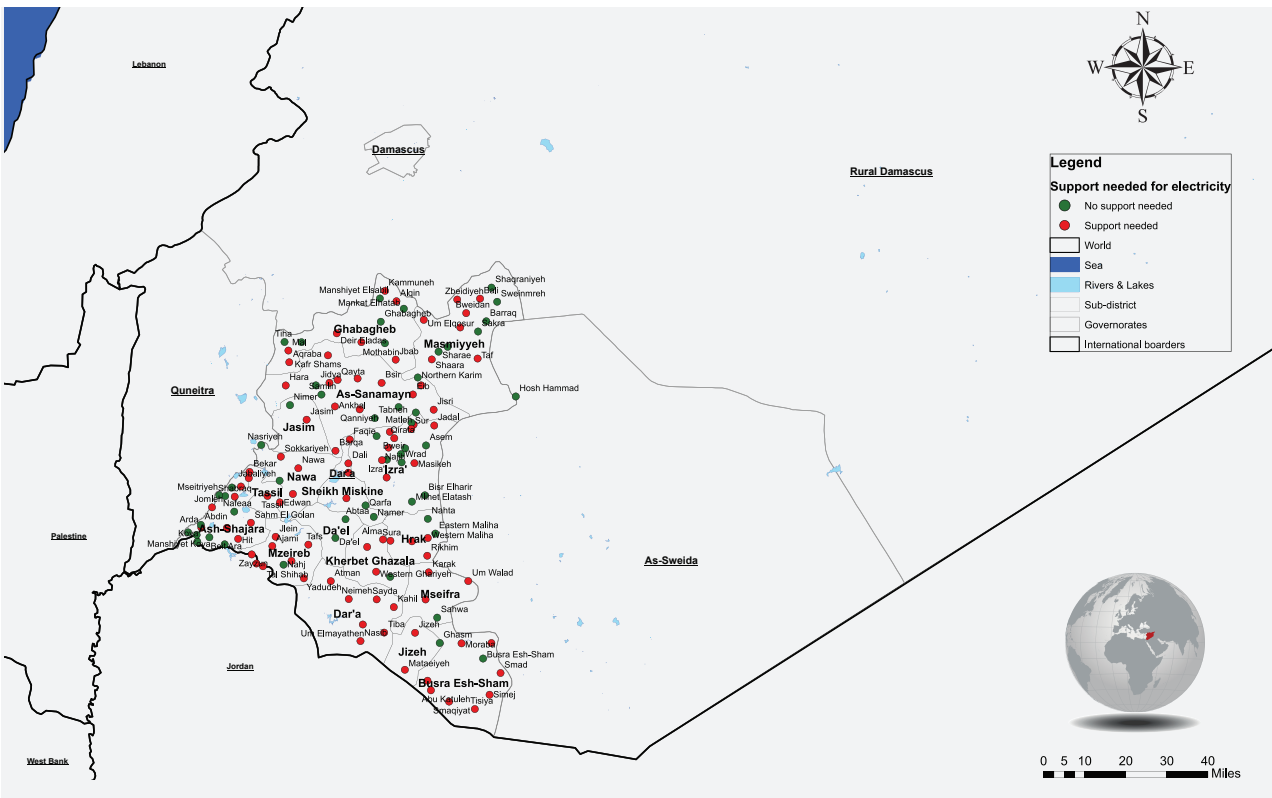
Electricity

Due to the heavy use and reliance on electricity as cooking fuel and heating fuel in some villages in South of Syria, the report highlighted the status of the public electricity network in this area, the results show that most dependence in this area on electricity was in Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, and Mseifra sub-district villages, and this was due to the daily availability of electricity in these sub-districts, while it was noticed that these sub-districts is receiving electricity about ten hours a day and this main source of electricity in this area is private generators.

While the availability of electricity and use was decreased in the villages of Dar'a, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, and Kherbet Ghazala sub-district, the report had shown that these sub-districts had availability for electricity in average for four hours per day, while the statistics had shown that the availability of electricity rate the rest of sub-districts was less than two hours per day This explains that the lack of displaced and residents of these sub-districts were not using electricity as a source of cooking or heating fuel in general.

Furthermore, around 24% of the communities in South of Syria were depending on using batteries as alternatives or generators to the lack of electricity, in the meanwhile, the use of batteries was mostly spread in Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, and Mseifra sub-districts by %35 of the villages. To address the shortage of electricity, residents in %21 of the villages in Dara governorate were reducing the general use of electricity, is that the population use electricity at certain times of the day, while the statistics had shown that this was mainly in Al Bab, Dar'a, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, and Hrak sub-districts by more than 40% of the communities in these sub-districts.

Support for electricity



FOOD SECURITY

In talking about the main sources of income for women in Daraa governorate, it was found that around 65% of women in this governorate depend on animal production, furthermore, this type of income source mainly in Nawa, Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, and Mseifra sub-districts by more than 75% of the women in these communities.

For Men the main Source of income was agriculture and trade by around 37% of the covered communities in this governorate, also to mention that this source of income was mainly in Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, and Masmiyyeh sub-districts by more than 65% of the population in this area.

With the great dependence on animal and agricultural production as sources of income in Daraa governorate, it was necessary to focus on irrigation sources because of their importance in meeting the needs for sources of income and their reflection on agriculture and forage agriculture, because of the possibility of continuing sources of income for men and women living in this governorate.

The main source of irrigation in Dara governorate was wells which almost in more than half of the communities in this area, also to mention that around 85% of communities in Dara governorate depend on well to irrigate crops in this area, this source of irrigation was mainly in Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, and Sheikh Miskine sub-districts.

The report pays attention to the crops used in the regions due to their effects on inhabitants of this region mainly besides the effect on agricultural wealth. The results in this report show that the majority of the population in this region depends mainly on olive as the main crop, in the meanwhile, the percentage reached about 48% of the villages that were targeted in this report.

Despite the widespread of agriculture in the South of Syria many challenges and difficulties are facing agricultural wealth besides burdening farmers in this region, and among these challenges is the high fuel prices in the region, where this difficulty reached mainly 42 % Of the total villages that were targeted in this region.

high fuel prices, this obstacle was in around 59% of the communities, as it had been noticed that this obstacle affecting mainly Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, and Busra Esh-Sham communities.

In the same context, around 22% of the communities are facing the inability to purchase agriculture inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides....etc. This issue was focused mainly in Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, and Kherbet Ghazala sub-districts by more than half of the communities.

Other obstacles as the main problem had been noticed in this governorate like lack of availability of markets, lack of agriculture centers, lack of markets to disposal of agriculture products, and high maintenance cost for the agriculture machines.

Despite the heavy reliance on livestock in this governorate, there are many obstacles that livestock in this region suffers from, and increasingly in the light of an acute shortage to meet the needs.

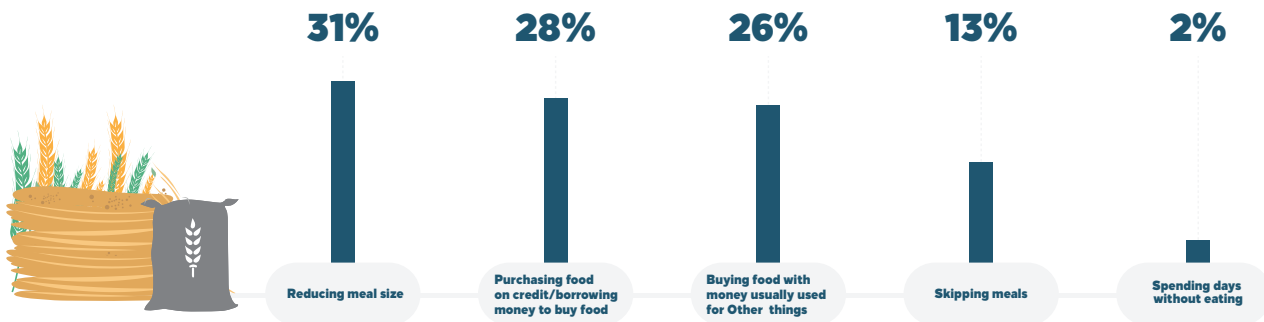
As the results showed that 24% of the villages covered in Dara governorate suffer from the lack of vaccines and veterinary medicines, as they are not available continuously, and this need is concentrated in the Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, and Masmiiyeh, sub-districts by more than 25% of the communities.

Also in the same context, it was found that the main obstacle for 19% of the communities in Dara governorate was for lack of veterinary cadres As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra', Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, and Hrak sub-districts by more than 28% of the communities.

The percentage was equal for inability to buy foddors and lack of veterinary centers this issue was in 16% of the communities in this governorate.

Food was reported among the top three priority needs in 34% of all assessed communities, Despite this, skipping meals, reducing meal size, and spending days without eating were reportedly the most commonly adopted strategies to cope with a lack of food in most communities hosting new IDP arrivals. Food assistance was reportedly delivered in 20% of all communities assessed and was all provided by community leaders where they had mentioned it was by Zaka or from rich people who are working outside Syria.

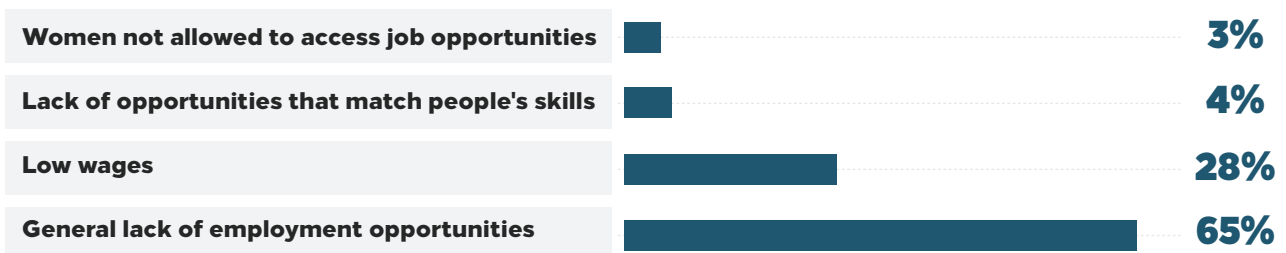
Coping Strategy for lack of Food



Most commonly reported coping strategies for lack of food used by households in assessed communities, the report had found that reducing the meal size was mainly in 31% of the communities and this was mainly in Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, and Jizeh sub-districts by more than half of the villages and communities in this area.

While to mention that around 28% of the communities were depending on purchasing food by credit or borrowing money to buy food and this was mainly in Dara, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra', Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala sub-districts by more than 35% of the communities.

Barriers to accessing livelihoods



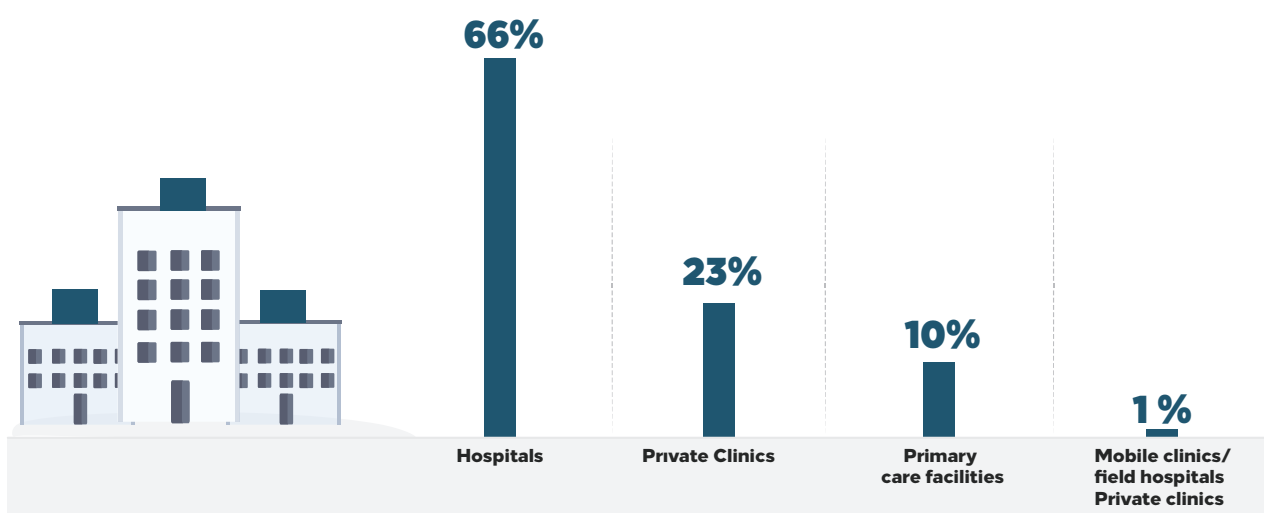
For the barriers to access livelihoods, the report had found that general lack of employment opportunities is the main barrier and this was found in around 65% of the communities, this barrier was mainly in Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, and Tassil by around more than half of the communities in this governorate.

Also to mention that around 28% of the communities had shown the main barrier is the low wages, this barrier was mainly in Dara, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra', Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra by around 36% of the communities in this area.

HEALTH

KIs in all assessed communities reported that households were able to access health services at nearby facilities, however, healthcare remained among the top 3 priority needs in 55% of the communities assessed. Patients were reportedly transferred to health facilities by car, most commonly, in nearly all communities assessed (97%); however, KIs in 34% of communities assessed reported that the nearest health facilities disposed of an ambulance.

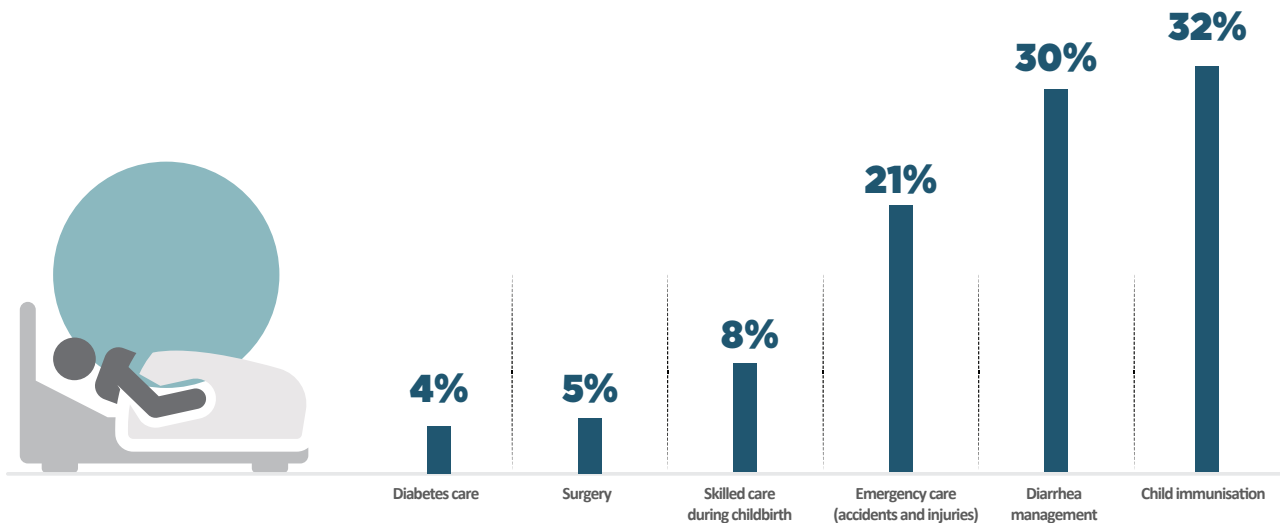
Available health facilities



Health facilities in Dara governorate had shown that around 66% of communities had small hospitals but most of them are not functional due to lack of staff and materials and this was in around 45% of the communities that had hospitals, this was mainly in Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, and Mseifra sub-districts, while in around 35% of these communities the hospitals are not functional due to demolition partly or wholly for these health facilities, this was mainly in Dara, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra sub-districts.

The most spread of health facilities in this governorate was private clinics, and this was mainly in Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, and Masmiyyeh sub-districts by more than 39% of the communities.

Available health services



The report had shown that the most spread type of health services in the areas where that had at least one functional health facility was child immunization, this was mainly in Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, and Hrak sub-districts by more than 36% of the communities in this area.

While diarrhea management was found in around 30% of the communities in this governorate, and this was mainly in Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, Masmiyyeh by more than 32% of the communities in these sub-districts.

As the COVID 19 pandemic, not just people but also the health facilities and the medical staff, especially the need for precaution measures which is not available in most of the covered communities, furthermore around 90% of the covered sub-districts in this part of Syria had shown the unavailability of any of precaution measure against COVID 19, this was by more than 45% of the communities in these sub-districts.

KIs reported that the level of concern related to COVID-19 has somewhat, or significantly increased in the previous three months, according to the statistics that around 49% of the health facilities lack female focal points in comparison with their male counterparts.

The report had shown that there is an increasing trend in new COVID-19 cases has been seen in this governorate during the reporting period while preparations for a vaccination campaign are not available beside the regime hadn't provided any type of vaccine during the last three months for around of 86% of the communities.

EDUCATION

The educational year was stopped in 2020 before four months at least of the final exams, also to mention that most of the parents had shown fears of sending students to schools due to COVID 19, all these reasons had made a gap in the learning process beside the lack of online tools that could help in continuing the learning process.

For the number of educational facilities, Dara had shown that there are around 203 schools in this area, for the functionality of these schools it had been shown that around 34% of educational facilities are working with a very good facility by 75-100% of the capacity in this area, this type of functionality was mainly in Nawa, Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, and Hrak sub-districts by more than 75% of schools in this area.

While 24% of the educational facilities are working with less than 25% of its capacity, also in the same governorate other educational facilities had shown it's working by more than half of its capacity and this was in 15% of the educational facilities, this type of educational facilities was mainly in Dara, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Kherbet Ghazala, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Tassil, Masmiyyeh sub-districts by more than half of the schools in this area.

For the IDPs in these schools, the report had shown that in Dara governorate the primary schools are almost overcrowded with IDPs, the report had shown that around 21% of the primary schools in this area had IDPs with the percentage of 75% of the students in this area, this was mainly in Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, and Tassil sub-districts by more than half of the schools in this area.

School dropout is one of the factors that have a great impact on the educational process, and this problem affects both the displaced and the original population alike, but it takes place at the level of the displaced in a greater and wider way in terms of harm, and the report showed in Dara governorate around 38% of schools had shown students drop out in the primary schools by 50-75% of students, this was mainly in Dara, As-Sanamayn, and Mzeireb sub-districts by more than half of the schools.

Also to mention that in primary schools around 30% of schools shown students drop out by less than half of the students, this was mainly in Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim sub-districts.

The priorities of education change from time to time due to the change in the humanitarian situation but with time the gap become worse and the needs increasing, for the education priorities in Dara governorate, it was found that most of the urgent needs were appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in schools which is one of the precaution measures against COVID 19 to take in consideration and this reflect the main reason behind the dropping out of schools, this need was in around 34% of schools in this area, this need was mainly in Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, and Mseifra sub-districts by more than half of the schools.

The second priority need was for, which reflect the COVID 19 precaution measures, is the availability of classrooms, this priority was needed in 22% of the schools, and mostly in Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, Ghabagheb, and Kherbet Ghazala sub-districts by more than half of the schools.

The third priority for education in Dara governorate was related to the need for financial resources to cover teacher's wages, this need was 18% of the schools and mostly in Da'el and Mseifra sub-districts, and in these sub-districts this need to be considered the main one and for all schools in the mentioned sub-districts.

Around 65% of schools in Dara governorate had shown that teachers didn't receive any type of training, these schools were mainly in Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, and Masmiyyeh sub-districts by more than 73% of the schools.

This severe lack of educational training for teachers and administrators in this region is due to the absence of humanitarian organizations and support in general, in addition to the lack of staff capable of managing and providing such training, and in the same context, the results showed in this report that the schools located in all districts need training courses like Education in Emergency, Educational Management, Safety and Security Measures and Teaching Methods.

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

The report focused on the sources of drinking water in Dara governorate and this source of life is considered more important as the summer season starts, in this government that around 54% of communities of this area depending on water tracking (Paid) and with almost with the same percentage for wells as the main source of drinking water.

In Dara governorate, the main source of drinking water was wells in 54% of the communities in this governorate that had been covered in this report, this source was mainly in Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, and Masmiyyeh sub-districts by more than 62% of the communities.

The almost same percentage was drinking water was water tracking (paid) for around 53% of the communities in this area, while mention this source was more concentrated in Ghabagheb, Kherbet Ghazala, Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, and Mseifr sub-districts by more than 56% of the communities.

As a result of repeated bombardment on this region besides continuous clashes during the last period, besides the lack of maintenance of drinking water sources, all these factors show that the damage has extended to drinking water infrastructures, in the meanwhile this damage was in different percentages.

As the importance of drinking water sources especially of the limited depending on water networks, the report had focused and highlighted the condition of these infrastructures and it was noticed that around 49% of the communities in this area the drinking water networks are not functioning and had light damage and this damage like infusion and piping which require light repairs, furthermore, this type of networks was mainly in Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, and Jasim sub-district by around 55% of the villages in this governorate.

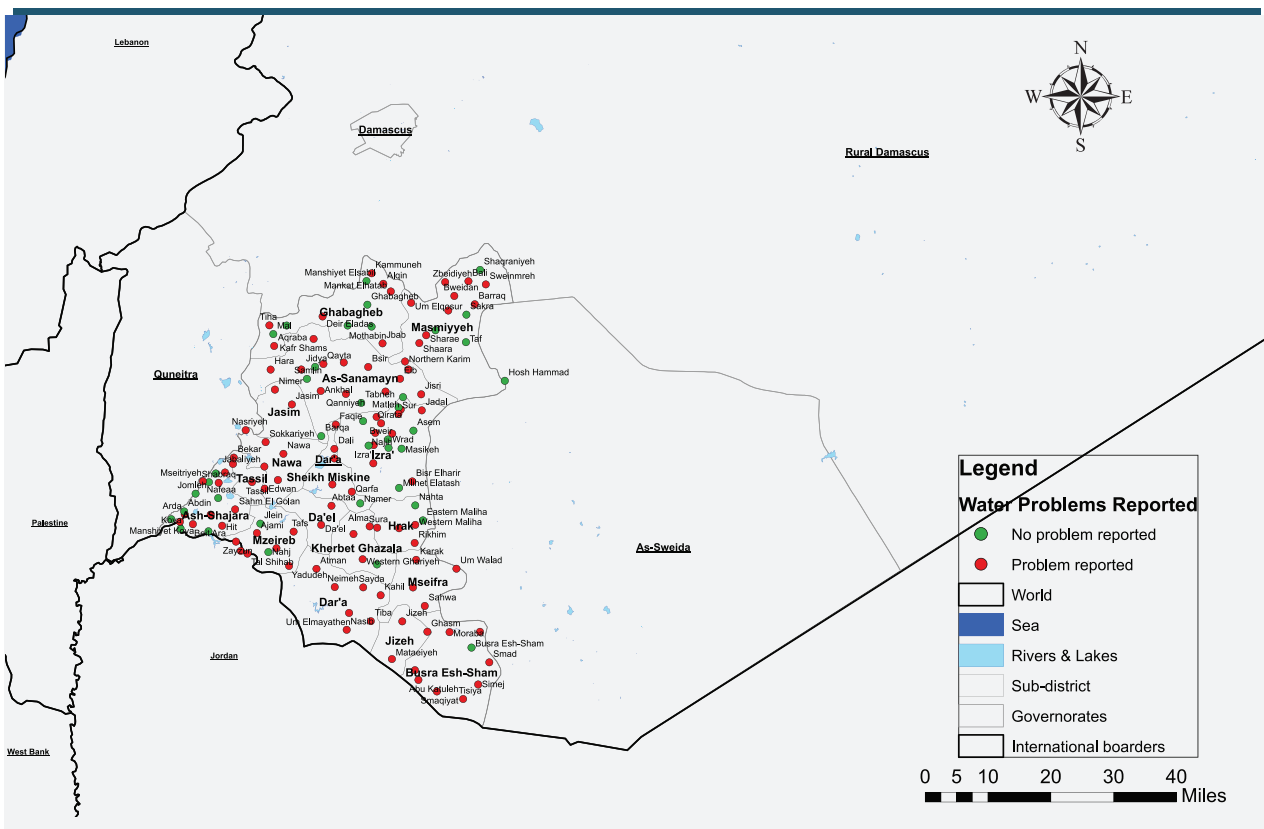
Not only the limited sources for drinking water in Dara but also residents in this area are facing many problems for getting the daily drinking water, the report had found that these problems are many as the needs in this area, in more details, also to mention that not miscellaneous but also the needs and gap have differed between communities in Dara governorate.

The main problem for getting the drinking water was lack of chemicals for treatment regarding the network to provide water in this area and this could be noticed as most of the people depending on water tracking in this area, also to mention that this problem was mainly in 22% of the villages, furthermore, this problem was mainly in Dara, As-Sanamayn, Mzeireb, Izra', Nawa, and Ghabagheb sub-districts by more than 20% of the communities in this area.

With the lack of electricity and fuel to operate the water networks in this area around 17% of the villages had mentioned that the main problem is water networks are available but it's not working or functioning, also in the recommendation from KIs that if these drinking networks are available that would solve the problem and alleviate the suffering of people in this area.

In the same context, the report had found that one of the most vulnerable groups was residents that are hosting IDPs in their shelter or houses and this was in around 16% of the covered communities, also to mention that this vulnerable group for drinking water was mainly in Hrak, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, and Masmiyyeh sub-districts by 39% of the villages.

Reported problems with the main source of drinking water Map



For waste disposal methods, around 15% of the communities in this area are using public networks that function partly and need maintenance, this type of waste disposal was mainly in all sub-districts in this governorate, other communities had shown other methods but in a very low percentage like through irrigation channels or streams, rivers, and tributaries, furthermore, this type of method is so serious and needs swift intervention due to the diseases that would spread of using this method on population health because these channels are used for irrigations.

The problem of solid waste and disposal is one of the main problems, the report had shown that in this governorate around 25% of its villages are found to have increase rodents like mice, in addition to the presence of these rodents in waste dumps close to the presence of the population, also in homes and the irregularity of waste collection, which was reflected in the health and hygiene of the population, while this problem was more spread in Dara city, Busra Esh-Sham, Ash-Shajara, Da'el, Mseifra, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Jizeh, Tassil, and Masmiyyeh sub-districts by around 26% of the communities.

Recommendation

- Stop the siege on the besieged areas and allow civil society organizations to intervene.
- Work to implement global protection law and international human rights law.
- Securing jobs for displaced people and supporting small projects and development assistance.
- Financial support for most vulnerable people living in rented premises because the house's rent is a burden.
- Implementing rehabilitation projects to provide better shelter for the population.
- Supporting the agricultural sector by providing inputs of fertilizers and pesticides with promotional prices.
- Supporting the livestock sector by securing feed at incentive prices and opening agricultural extension centers that provide vaccines and medicines for livestock keepers.
- Supporting development projects and strategic crops and creating markets for agricultural products and facilitating export procedures.
- Providing prosthetics, trained staff, and physiotherapy centers.
- Supplying hospitals with medical specialists in all disciplines.
- Providing COVID 19 vaccines.
- Securing water resources like water tanks and water network maintenance.
- Monetary support for the water and sanitation sector and supporting operating expenses.
- Restoration of partially destroyed schools and rebuilding destroyed schools.
- Rehabilitation of shelter units and providing cash-based support for housing purposes.
- Supporting all non-food items, including clothes, cooking fuel, and cash assistance.
- Securing a source of electricity supply and repairing the public electricity network, and providing electrical transformers.



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Rapid Need Assessment
South Syria - July 2021

