

WHO's Humanitarian Response in Syrian Arab Republic



**World Health
Organization**

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Background:

Key Humanitarian Health Issues

- Syria has been subjected to **almost five years of conflict**, characterised by a serious deterioration of the entire health system.
- There are **12.2 million people in need** of humanitarian aid within Syria, including over **7.6 million IDPs** and **3.2 million refugees** in neighbouring countries.
- **57%** of public hospitals are **partially functioning or completely out of service**. **39%** of public health centres are **damaged**.
- **220,000 people have been killed** and over **1 million have been injured**.
- More than **50%** of the population does not have access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and **90%** of waste water goes untreated.
- **600,000 Syrians** are suffering from **severe mental disorders**, another **4 million** are suffering from **mild to moderate mental disorders**.

WHO Syria Actions in 2014

- Over **13.8 million treatments** were delivered to people in need, **32%** of WHO's shipments went to opposition-controlled areas.
- **10** nationwide polio immunisation campaigns were completed reaching **2.9 million children**. **1.1 million children** were immunised against measles.
- Over **17,000 healthcare** providers were trained across the country.
- The EWARS coverage was expanded from 441 in 2013 to **650 reporting sites**, of which **1/3 are in opposition-controlled** areas.
- **100%** of **public hospitals** and **92%** of **PHCs** were assessed for functionality and accessibility through HeRAMS.

WHO Syria Innovative Approach

- Reaching more people in need through **56 NGO partners**. Many of them operational in hard-to-reach and opposition-controlled areas.
- Decentralization of WHO presence through a **system of medical focal points (27 FPs)**, including in hard-to-reach and opposition-controlled areas, and besieged locations.
- Collaborating with donors beyond project support to include participation of experts on behalf of the health sector in field visits and constructive dialogue.
- **Increasing the number of sub-offices** to Homs, Aleppo and Al-Hassake with plans to establish presence in Daraa.
- **Engaging academia to a new extent**, drawing on students to serve as key informants across the country and conduct tele-assessments for monitoring of key health interventions.

Health Sector Response Plan for 2015

- The Health Sector Working Group, led by WHO active since 2012 to foster a coordinated response (UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, ICRC, IFRC, IOM, SARC, as well as the INGOs ADRA, IMC, Première Urgence, and Medair).
- **Key interventions:** Strengthening trauma management, EPI, mental health and physical rehabilitation services, as well as supporting communicable disease surveillance and provision of essential medicines and medical supplies.
- **Challenges include:** i) access to hard-to-reach areas; ii) exodus of specialists due to the increasing violence.
- For 2015, the Sector will start to conduct **Health Sector Convoys**, this in addition to participation in the UN Inter-Agency Convoys.

Facilitating the Implementation of the Whole of Syria Approach (WoS)

- Under the WoS Approach WHO and the health responders in the three hubs (Damascus, Amman and Gaziantep) will:
 - Ensure that aid is delivered with **minimum overlap**, in a principled, effective and timely manner;
 - **Jointly assess** health needs, identify priorities, and provide prompt, credible health information;
 - Follow the **most appropriate/effective delivery method** (i.e. cross-line and/or cross-border) to equitably reach people in need across the country.
- WHO and the health responders have **jointly prepared** the health component for the HNO and the SRP 2015 all capturing the **Whole of Syria Strategic Approach**
- A common **humanitarian needs analysis** is currently under development for **inform and strengthen** the response action

Facilitating the Implementation of the Whole of Syria Approach (WoS)

- Since the adoption of the UNSCR 2165 (July-December 2014), WHO and UN partners in the three hubs delivered almost **3 million medical treatments** to people in need via cross-line (from Damascus) and cross-border operations (from Amman and Southern of Turkey):
 - Southern of Turkey Hub
 - Surgical kits sufficient **for 200 surgical interventions** in Aleppo and Idleb
 - Amman Hub
 - **58,260** people in Daraa and Quneitra
 - Damascus Hub
 - **2,856,779** people in Aleppo, Idleb, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hassake, Deir ez-Zor, Homs, Daraa, Damascus, and Rural Damascus

Funding Requirements for 2015

Funding Requirements for 2015	Required amount	Received amount	Carry-over funds	Gap (%)
Health Sector	US\$ 193,544,702	NA	-	
WHO	US\$ 124,425,614	US\$ 2,861,418	US\$ 1,568,266	96%
Total	US\$ 317,970,316	US\$ 2,861,418	US\$ 1,568,266	

- For every **US\$ 1 million we fail** to mobilize: **227,640 people will be deprived** of essential healthcare services.
- Top Donors in 2014: **Canada, CERF, DfID (UK), ECHO, Finland, Kuwait, Norway, Russia, UAE, and USAID.**

THANKS