

I. Allocation Overview

Project Proposal Deadline: 15 September 2019 23:59, Damascus Time

A) Introduction / Humanitarian situation

1. **The Syria Humanitarian Fund (SHF) is a Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF) managed by the Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU) of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) based in Damascus.** Established in 2014, under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator a.i. for Syria, its role is to support life-saving, protection, and life-sustaining activities by filling critical funding gaps; promote the needs-based delivery of assistance in accordance with humanitarian principles; improve the relevance and coherence of humanitarian response by strategically funding priorities as identified in the HRP; and expand the rapid delivery of assistance to underserved, high severity and hard-to-reach areas by partnering with the best placed actors.¹
2. **On 20 June, the SHF Advisory Board agreed to allocate US \$25 million under the First Standard Allocation to support life-saving activities and service delivery in underserved areas of southern Syria – specifically, Dar’a, Quneitra and Rural Damascus (with a focus on eastern Ghouta) – where severe humanitarian needs persist.** The decision came following a detailed prioritization exercise undertaken by the Inter Sector Coordination (ISC) group in Syria which involved a multi-factor analysis of *levels of need* (with an emphasis on highest severity need areas); *accessibility* (both in terms of newly-accessible and access-restricted locations); *population movement* (focusing on those locations where there is a high concentration of both IDPs and returnees); *presence and functionality of basic services* (including health and education facilities), and *coverage* (in terms of people reached).
3. **A First Standard Allocation of this size will allow an emergency reserve fund of approximately US \$5 million to be retained to ensure a rapid and flexible response to unforeseen and sudden onset crises, including developments in North West Syria, to be activated by the Humanitarian Coordinator a.i. as and when the need arises.** Since January 2019, some thirteen donors² have generously contributed a total of US \$42.3million to the SHF, covering around 53 per cent of the 2019 funding requirement based on the US \$80 million target agreed by the Advisory Board in March 2019.³ Of contributions received thus far, approximately US \$15.8 million has been dedicated to responding to needs in North East Syria, mainly in Al Hol camp, in addition to 10 National NGOs projects recommended in previous years and cleared by the government in 2019.
4. **The humanitarian situation in Southern Syria remains extremely complex and highly fluid despite the signing of a reconciliation agreement in July 2018. In the first few months of 2019, armed attacks have risen⁴ while high-levels of population movement (particularly spontaneous IDP returns) continue to be recorded, along with extensive explosive hazard contamination, large-scale destruction of civilian infrastructure, a fragmented and disrupted health system, major gaps in basic services – especially electricity and water and sanitation networks – and decimated education and agricultural sectors.** Overall, there are some **2.8 million people in need of humanitarian assistance** across Dar’a, Quneitra and Rural Damascus.⁵ Of these, however, only half have been reached in 2019, while populations assisted in Rural Damascus account for more than 60 per cent of the overall 1.4 million supported.⁶

1 Syria Humanitarian Fund Strategy 2019

2 Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Jersey, , Netherlands, Norway, , Sweden, Switzerland, Qatar, Luxemburg and UK.

3 The SHF also carried over US \$14.3 million into 2019.

4 Between August 2018 and February 2019 the average number of incidents per month has doubled.

5 684,689 people in Dar’a; 71,805 in Quneitra and 2,045,602 in Rural Damascus. Syrian Arab Republic, 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview

6 According to the 4Ws data, only 190,000 people have received WASH support and 200,000 education as of end-April 2019.

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Across the three governorates, there is a comprehensive lack of basic service provision, particularly access to safe and clean water and healthcare, with a recent assessment undertaken in five sub-districts of Dar'a identifying heavily damaged or destroyed water systems, tanks and pumps in all locations, as well as limited drinking water – including, in the case of one sub-district (Dar'a al Balad), availability of between just two to four hours per day – and a heavy reliance on water trucking as a result.⁷ In the same sub-districts, one third of all school children are out of school while almost half of all education facilities are closed with the remainder only partially functioning and in need of some form of rehabilitation.⁸ According to health actors, as many as 5 out of 6 hospitals are partially damaged in Dar'a governorate, while the number of health workers available in the same governorate has fallen by more than two-thirds in the last eight years – from 6,500 in 2010 to 1,850 today.⁹ Across the south, rehabilitation efforts – both of personal property and civilian infrastructure – are consistently hampered by a lack of resources and materials, as well as high prices.¹⁰

5. At the same time, southern Syria continues to experience considerable population movement, receiving almost 226,000 spontaneous IDP returns since the beginning of 2018¹¹ – 20 per cent of the overall total – with 50,935 people returning to Dar'a between January and April 2019 alone.¹² With local authorities reporting spontaneous IDP return rates of around 20 to 30 families a day, considerable strain is being placed on already limited and partially functioning basic services. An additional 1.25 million IDPs are currently hosted in these governorates, with more than one-third (36 per cent) living in Rural Damascus.¹³ According to the latest Mobility and Needs Monitoring report, the top three priorities of spontaneous IDP returnees in Rural Damascus are rehabilitation of basic services, livelihoods support and shelter – mainly in Duma, and Az-Zabadani sub-districts.¹⁴
6. Given that the proposed allocation represents the first time that the humanitarian community has made a unified effort to access these three governorates through sustained and comprehensive programming since shifts in control last year, this allocation will target six sectors providing time-critical and life-saving support in areas where multiple, urgent needs have converged and significant gaps exist – **Food Security and Agriculture, Education, Health, NFI, Protection, and WASH**. This allocation breakdown is therefore in line with the **SHF Advisory Board recommendation of March 2019 to enhance support to the education and protection sectors** which are anticipated to experience increased needs over the coming months given shifts in operational context, **and also aligned to the four priority thematic areas identified by the Emergency Relief Coordinator for CPBF funding in January 2019: i) support for women and girls, including tackling GBV, reproductive health and empowerment; ii) programmes targeting disabled people; iii) education in protracted crises; and iv) other aspects of protection**. Local authorities were also consulted in the development of this allocation strategy outlining their broad support for the prioritization of education, health and WASH interventions – noting that the loss of civilian infrastructure in Dar'a alone is approximately 147 billion Syrian pounds¹⁵ – as well as the need for psychological activities for youth, women's empowerment and sustainable programmes relating to livelihoods.
7. **The allocation envelopes suggested reflects the prioritized needs based on findings of recent assessments, overall levels of HRP funding as well as the absorptive capacity of sectors to implement activities in these governorates given the relatively limited number of partners on the ground. Funding for the envelopes has been recommended as follows: Education (\$4 million); Food & Agriculture (\$4.5 million); Health (\$5.5 million); NFI (\$3 million); Protection (\$3 million) and WASH (\$5 million).**

7 The five sub-districts assessed were Ankhal, Ash- Shajara, Bisir Elharirr, Dar'a Al Balad and Sahn El Golan. Access Working Group Assessment, Dar'a, June 2019

8 Of the 24,370 school-aged children living in these sub-districts, some 8,000 are out of school while 41 of 87 educational facilities are closed and the remaining 46 partially damaged and in need of rehabilitation. Access Working Group Assessment, Dar'a, June 2019

9 Health Sector in Syria, Update for Southern Syria, 19 May 2019

10 Communities particularly affected in Quneitra include Sweiseh, Hamedidyeh, Beer Ajam, Um Batna and Mashara. World Food Programme, Dar'a and Quneitra Rapid Assessment, Food Security Update, 11 June 2019

11 162,911 people returned to these areas in 2018; 62,780 people have returned in the first quarter of 2019.

12 Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme, Mobility and Needs Monitoring Report, June 2019

13 Of the total population of 3,218,016, some 1,172,182 are IDPs.

14 Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme, Mobility and Needs Monitoring Report, June 2019

15 Communicated during OCHA meeting with the Office of the Governor of Dar'a on 30 June 2019.

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B) Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) / Appeal

8. The allocation strategy has been developed in accordance with the **2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)** and in **collaboration with the Inter-Sector Coordination (ISC) group overseeing the implementation of projects and following a series of assessments to the targeted governorates in 2019**. Findings from recent assessment missions to the affected governorates in 2019, such as those which have taken place in Dar'a and Quneitra by the World Food Programme, the Access Working Group, as well as by UN partners, have also been taken into account in the prioritization exercise.
9. While this allocation will support all three objectives of the HRP – **saving lives and alleviating suffering, enhancing protection, and increasing resilience** – **the latter will be focused on the delivery of essential services to affected people, such as education, health care and WASH, as well as through livelihoods interventions**.¹⁶ In this regard, the allocation is aligned with the overarching strategy of the HRP which emphasizes: critical life-saving action; relevant and prioritized responses; efficient, effective and transparent utilization of resources; the centrality of protection and people-centred approaches. Sector-specific objectives to which this allocation will contribute can be found in the 2019 Syria HRP (forthcoming).

II. Allocation Strategy

A) Purpose of the Allocation Strategy and linkages to the HRP / Appeal

10. Based on the information provided by the ISC, humanitarian needs in the south remain critical across a number of different sectors as per the latest assessment data. In line with the over-arching parameters of the 2019 HRP and the guidance provided by the Humanitarian Coordinator a.i. and SHF Advisory Board, the fundamental objective of this allocation is therefore to meet the most severe and urgent needs through systematic and sustained humanitarian response. The allocation also recognizes, however, the need to cover critical gaps in service provision which, if not met, may lead to a further deterioration in their condition, thereby negatively impacting the well-being of the population and prolonging their suffering. In this regard the allocation takes into account that activities such as the repair, rehabilitation and maintenance of civilian infrastructure – such as schools, health facilities, water systems and sewerage networks – serve a crucial humanitarian function which are essential to life and dignity and directly related to improved protection outcomes on the ground.
11. In light of the above, the Humanitarian Coordinator a.i., in consultation with the Advisory Board, have agreed that **US \$25 million** will be allocated from the SHF to projects targeting communities living in the geographic locations outlined under Annex I. These are:
 - **The priority communities identified by the Education, Health, NFI, Protection and WASH sectors om Dar'a, Quneitra and Rural Damascus with urgent, life-saving needs. Many of these communities are underserved – that is, less than 50 per cent of the PiN has been reached so far this year despite the high severity of need (scale 4 to 5) and require multiple forms of humanitarian support are required i.e. more than one form of sectoral assistance.**
 - **The sub-districts identified by the Food Security & Agriculture sector as in urgent need of agricultural and livelihoods interventions.**
12. The Humanitarian Coordinator a.i. and Advisory Board also encouraged prioritization to be given to fewer, larger and high impact projects to reduce the time taken to review and approve projects and ensure that funds are disbursed in accordance with the agreed timelines and early project implementation.
13. Assuming that the entire available envelope of \$25 million is disbursed through this First Standard Allocation, the remaining balance of the SHF will be \$15.8 million.

¹⁶ For example, a reduction in the availability of clean water and lack of repair to damaged infrastructure can lead to a subsequent increase risk of water borne diseases and outbreaks. Likewise, education is both life-saving and life-sustaining by providing physical, psychosocial and cognitive protection to children, while restoring a sense of normalcy and structure in lives upended by crisis.

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B) Allocation Breakdown

14. Funding for the envelopes has been recommended as follows:

Sector	Envelope
Education	\$4,000,000
Food & Agriculture	\$4,500,000
Health	\$5,500,000
NFI	\$3,000,000
Protection	\$3,000,000
WASH	\$5,000,000
TOTAL	\$25,000,000

15. As it stands, the funding amounts for sectors are indicative and will be reviewed and finalized based on the relevance and quality of the proposals received under this call for proposal as per the process and criteria outlined in this strategy paper. **Sector envelopes may therefore be adjusted based on the submissions received and the outcome of the project review process.**

C) Prioritization of Projects / Envelopes

16. All partners who have completed their due diligence and capacity assessment as of 15 August 2019 are eligible for this Allocation. Projects that are submitted within the deadline of 15 September 2019 (23:59 Damascus time) will be reviewed by OCHA's Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU) to make sure that they meet the specified criteria before being shared with sector coordinators and undergoing a strategic and technical review through a committee using a scorecard. **Depending on eligibility based on operational modality, partners can apply for a minimum of \$250,000 per project and maximum \$2 million.**

17. To be considered for funding, activities and projects must:

- a. **Be aligned with the three Strategic Objectives of the 2019 Syria HRP;**
- b. **Meet at least one of the strategic priorities of this allocation as articulated in paragraph 9;**
- c. **Factor in clearance time when planning the duration of the project:** sector responses and individual project proposals must articulate clear access strategies, including modalities to stay and deliver and monitor responsibly. Projects should also include robust risk mitigation practices demonstrating clear understanding of needs and risks;
- d. **Be sensitive to and inclusive of conflict, gender and disability considerations in their programming:** all projects will be expected to demonstrate alignment with the four priority thematic areas identified by the Emergency Relief Coordinator in January 2019: i) support for women and girls, including tackling GBV, reproductive health and empowerment; ii) programmes targeting disabled people; iii) education in protracted crises; and iv) other aspects of protection;
- e. **Exemplify quality programming:** (i.e. reflect do no harm approaches; respect international humanitarian and human rights law; demonstrate accountability to the affected population, including through the establishment of appropriate mechanisms for communities to evaluate the adequacy of interventions and address concerns or complaints; promote protection mainstreaming approaches which uphold the safety and dignity of the people being served, and integrate protection activities where possible);
- f. **Ensure complementary with other actors and minimize duplication:** sectors should demonstrate that their requirements reflect other resources available to partners operating in the same area;
- g. **Be technically sound and cost effective** (i.e. meet the technical requirements to implement the planned activities and contain a budget which is fair and proportionate in relation to the context e.g. cost per beneficiary is reasonable; support costs are in line with accepted levels for that given activity); **and**
- h. **Adhere to the OCHA Country Based Pooled Fund (CPBF) guidelines, in particular for budget preparation.**

18. In addition, sectors are asked to take into account the following:

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- a. The grant ceiling per applicant is defined based on the partner risk level and project duration, as outlined on the Operational Modalities table listed in the annex. **Under this allocation, eligible applicants will be allowed to submit a maximum of 2 projects across all sectors prioritized.**
- b. Consideration will be given to those partners whom are able to implement projects directly – that is, without subcontracting to partners, if feasible.
- c. The SHF will only fund those organizations already actively participating in coordination mechanisms at the national and sub-national level and contributing to the 4Ws (who, what, where, when).
- d. The HFU together with the sector committees will review projects according to their strategic and programmatic relevance, cost effectiveness, engagement in coordination, and monitoring mechanisms.

Education – US \$4 million

19. Education needs across Syria remain considerable with some 2.1 million children out of school, and a further 1.3 million at risk of dropping out.¹⁷ Displaced children are especially disenfranchised, with only 31 per cent of returnees of secondary school age enrolled in school, indicating a dearth of education services in areas of return, such as Dar'a and Rural Damascus.¹⁸ In Dar'a alone there are currently 41 schools out of service and 46 schools partially damaged in just five sub-districts leaving some 8,000 children out of school and compromising the future of many more who are being educated in sub-standard and often overcrowded facilities.¹⁹ Indeed, with schools reported as the most common building type used for IDP sites in Syria, accounting for an estimated 32 per cent of collective centres, those schools that do exist are frequently oversubscribed. In public schools in certain locations across Dar'a, Quneitra and Rural Damascus, for example, classroom sizes reached 150 students per teacher in September 2018.²⁰ Financial resources are therefore urgently required for the rehabilitation of damaged schools, the provision of learning and teaching materials and recreational kits, as well as the implementation of adolescent development and participation-related activities.

Eligible Actions & Locations

- The expansion and rehabilitation of protective and safe learning environments including gender-sensitive WASH facilities in school and school inclusiveness for children with disabilities.
- Provision of awareness raising and community mobilization to encourage out of school children back to learning
- Provision of school furniture, supplies, stationary, heaters and water tanks.
- Provide transportation where needed to support children and reduce barriers to education; and to support specialized teachers to come to various areas.
- Delivery of non-formal education through the provision of self-learning programmes, remedial and catch-up classes, early childhood care and education to vulnerable children and youths that are out of school or at risk of dropping out.
- Capacity development of teachers in areas of active and inclusive learning, life-skills education, psychosocial support and risk education to improve the quality of teaching and learning in formal and non-formal settings. In addition to providing them with the training materials and curriculum delivery manuals.
- Provision of technical vocational trainings and education for adolescent and youths.
- Advocate with child protection partners to raise awareness on mine risk education, risks of early marriage and child labour.
- Advocate with social policy programs to provide children with winter clothes and provide their parents with livelihood opportunities in case children are engaging in labour, where possible.

¹⁷ Syrian Arab Republic 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview

¹⁸ Ibid

¹⁹ Access Working Group Assessment, Dar'a, June 2019

²⁰ Syrian Arab Republic 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview

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Food & Agriculture – US \$4.5 million

20. Between 2014 and 2018 the animal population of heads of cattle, sheep, and goats reduced by more than 50 per cent in both Dar'a and Quneitra governorates, severely impacting affected households as a result of reduced production, productive capacities and productive assets, leading to a loss of livelihoods and unemployment which have thereby limited access to food and resulted in the adoption of negative coping mechanisms.²¹ In Izra district, Dar'a, for example, 82.5 per cent of families have outstanding debts, with 35.4 per cent of these severely food insecure and 39.4 per cent moderately food insecure.^{22,23} This is a trend replicated across the South, where limited financial means combined with high prices (the cost of the food basket in Dar'a is the second highest in Syria and approximately 1,000 SYP higher compared to the national average) have compelled people to engage in negative coping mechanisms. At the same time, limited funding for the agriculture component of the sector – as of June only 7 per cent of requested resources have been received²⁴ – has meant that only 11 per cent of the related PiN has been reached as of June 2019.²⁵ This has meant that 14,000 small-scale household farmers previously supported by cross-border actors have not been assisted since shifts in control last year. Agricultural support to this caseload, as well as to IDPs and spontaneous IDP returnees to help restart their livelihoods, are therefore priority interventions.

Eligible Actions & Locations

Priority sub-districts for agriculture-related interventions are reflected in Table II in Annex I. proposed interventions should target the priority sub-districts located in As-Sanamayn, Dar'a and Izra districts of Dar'a; Al Fiq, and Quneitra districts in Quneitra and Al Qutayfah, An Nabk, At Tall, Az-Zabadani, Darayya, Duma, Qatana, Rural Damascus and Yabroud districts in Rural Damascus.

- Provision of agricultural inputs especially cereal and legumes.
- Provision of small-scale food production kits, livestock inputs and income generation inputs to IDPs, returnees and overburdened host communities.
- Protection of critical key breeding livestock herds through animal health services, winterization feeds and provision of critical stocks for returnee herders.
- Light rehabilitation of critical productive infrastructure especially irrigation infrastructure.

Health – US \$5.5 million

21. The crisis in Syria has contributed to the significant disruption and overall deterioration of basic service provision across much of the country. Some 46 per cent of Syria's health facilities – including maternal health services – are either partially functional or not functional, with 167 health facilities reportedly completely destroyed. Access to healthcare is particularly limited across Southern Syria, where 5 out of 6 hospitals are partially damaged and there is minimal coverage by health sector partners. These problems have been compounded by a lack of human resources and electricity across both Dar'a and Quneitra meaning that hospitals are forced to depend on generators and solar energy systems that only provide the minimum power requirement. Currently, there are only 54 physicians available out of the 300 that are needed, and only 10 per cent of required laboratory technicians and 7 per cent of anesthesiology technicians, while electricity is only available for 12 hours in Dar'a National Hospital, 13 hours at Izra hospital, 6 hours at Busra hospital and 3.5 hours at Tafas hospital – with no electricity available at all at Nawa and Jasem hospitals.²⁶ There is thus an urgent need for health centres to be supplied with electricity generators, in addition to other essential equipment, medicine and supplies, and additional manpower to be secured. In Eastern Ghouta there is just one partner and two mobile teams operating with no referral capacity nor mental health and

21 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Missions, October 2018

22 Needs were assessed through community focal points in three sub-districts of Dar'a governorate: Busra Esh-Sham, Ghabagheb and Nawa. UN Partner Assessment in Dar'a, June 2019

23 Whole of Syria, Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment, 2018

24 2019 HRP Food & Agriculture Sector Mid-Year Review (forthcoming)

25 Food & Agriculture sector response analysis for agriculture-based livelihoods (SO2) as of July 2019.

26 Health Sector in Syria, Update for Southern Syria, 19 May 2019

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psychosocial support (MHPSS) services available. Further, of 164 Primary Health Care facilities in Dar'a and Quneitra, just 43 (26 per cent) are fully functional while 89 facilities have sustained damage.

22. Recent assessment findings show that even where health centres have been reactivated or rehabilitated that they are still only operating at minimum capacity and providing a modest range of services – mainly vaccination and reproductive healthcare – and with part-time or insufficient medical personnel to cover the totality of needs present. The situation is particularly grave in Dar'a Al Balad sub-district where only one health clinic and one health centre are currently supporting a population of approximately 20,000 people.²⁷ Likewise, there are few clinics or hospitals providing maternal or neo-natal support, with reports received in Jillen community that anaemia is widespread.²⁸ There is also a distinct lack of specialized services available for persons living with disabilities and in need of mental health and psychosocial support across the South, along with the need for enhanced nutrition surveillance data in Izra district and the establishment of a nutrition stabilization centre.

Eligible Actions & Locations

- Repair of damaged public health facilities (PHC level) and replacement of damaged health and medical equipment.
- Procurement and delivery of medicines, safe delivery kits, medical equipment and generators; reestablishment of the cold chain.
- Maintain child health care: vaccination activities, components of related Essential Package of Health Services.
- Sustain detection and response to communicable diseases through community health education/promotion; integration of vertical programming with other services.
- Enhance issues of sexual and reproductive health through sustainable provision of MISP and beyond; minimal availability for MISP, including emergency obstetric care (EmOC); integration of interventions, including antenatal care (ANC), prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) programmes, nutrition and immunization.
- Enhance diagnosis and treatment of non-communicable diseases, as home care for patients with chronic diseases.
- Address an increased demand for services for patients with injuries: rehabilitation of persons with disability; strengthen capacity for prostheses and rehabilitation.
- Strengthen mental health and psychosocial support via maintained community mental health system.
- Organization of temporary fixed health posts and scheduled presence of medical mobile teams/health clinics with strengthening the emergency referral system to access secondary care in public health facilities.

NFI – US \$3 million

23. Following shifts in control in Rural Damascus and Southwest Syria in May 2018, areas that were previously inaccessible have opened up with 20,850 households (104,253 persons) returning to Rural Damascus since January 2018²⁹ and additional returns expected.³⁰ Sector focal points on the ground have reported that there is significant destruction on the ground and, in some areas, poorly functioning markets³¹ with an extensive need for basic items. While food is in the markets, costs are quite high and in the non-urban hub markets do not have consistent supplies. Although limited distributions of emergency shelter kits took place in Quneitra and Dar'a in December 2018, nothing has been delivered in the way of NFIs according to the sector. NGO partners report that 5,000 households are in need of NFIs in Sheikh Maskine, Kerbet Ghazala and Namer in Dar'a, while information from the Municipality and subsequently confirmed by SARC and UNHCR through two monitoring missions indicates that 1,300 households need

27 Access Working Group Assessment, Dar'a, June 2019

28 World Food Programme, Dar'a and Quneitra Rapid Assessment, Food Security Update, 11 June 2019

29 Population Movement Task Force, 2019

30 According to Darya municipality and SARC

31 World Food Programme, Dar'a and Quneitra Rapid Assessment, Food Security Update, 11 June 2019

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NFIs in Ash-Shajara; 2,175 households in Salam El Golan, and 5,000 households in Dar'a Al-Balad.³²³³ There are also a further 3,500 households in need of core relief items in underserved communities of Az-Zabadani in Rural Damascus.³⁴³⁵ In Quneitra and Dar'a governorates, priority areas would include: as well as Hamidiyeh, Um Batna and Ofania; Al Yarmouk Basin, Ash-Shajara, Dar'a Al-Balad, Sheikh Maskine, Kerbet Ghazala and Namer³⁶ as they are hosting IDP and returnee households and have experienced high-levels of destruction where access to functioning markets is limited. Finally, an estimated 3,000 host community households located in the previously hard-to-reach communities in need of extensive infrastructure rehabilitation should also be considered. Basic assistance interventions can help reduce the inter-communal tensions between host community, returnees and IDPs which was identified by the Protection Sector as a particular concern in the Southwest.

24. As of end-July 2019, no NFI partners have planned winter interventions due to funding gaps. Given the significant lead-time required to procure items – on average between two and three months for local procurement and longer if international – winter items should be prioritized to ensure newly-displaced and returnee populations can protect their families from the elements. In Dar'a, Quneitra and Rural Damascus governorates, there are a limited number of partners and in particular items like winter clothing and new-born kits are needed to ensure that the basic needs of infants and children are met. SHF funding would allow partners to begin operations in the area and deliver assistance.

Eligible Actions & Locations

A. Immediate lifesaving:

- Rapidly procure, distribute and monitor core NFIs to newly-displaced or new returnees in underserved communities to ensure they have basic items, in particular Az-Zabadani area of Rural Damascus, Hamidiyeh, Um Batna and Ofania in Quneitra; and Ash-Shajara (1,300 HH) of Al Yarmouk Basin, Dar'a Al-Balad (5,000 HH), and 5,000 HH in Sheikh Maskine, Kerbet Ghazala and Namer in Dar'a.
- Distribute and monitor NFIs to people in need who are living in prioritized communities that were previously inaccessible to humanitarian partners and have high rates of return in order to foster peaceful co-existence. Prioritized communities include Hamidiyeh, Ofania and Um Batna in Quneitra; and Ash Shajara and surrounding villages in Al Yarmouk Basin, Dar'a Al-Balad, Sheikh Maskine, Kerbet Ghazala and Namer in Dar'a.
- Procure, distribute and monitor winter NFIs to returnees/displaced in high-priority areas of Rural Damascus, Quneitra, and Dar'a to reduce critical gaps in advance of winter, with an emphasis on child clothing.

Protection – US \$3 million

25. Severe and urgent protection concerns persist throughout southern Syria, particularly in the Yarmouk Basin, Dar'a where especially high levels of contamination of unexploded ordnance (UXOs) have recently been observed in Ash Shajara and Sahm El Golan sub-districts.³⁷ The impact of UXOs on the civilian population is both devastating and long-lasting, frequently causing life-changing injuries – often to the most vulnerable members of society, such as women and children, but also to farmers and shepherds³⁸ – and occasionally resulting in death. Mine Risk Education (MRE) therefore remains a substantial and critical need across the south.
26. Protection risks associated with a lack of civil documentation are also a concern, particularly in Nawa sub-district of Dar'a where two-thirds of the population recently reported that they lack identity documents, thereby restricting their freedom of movement and ability to register for humanitarian assistance and resulting in increased tension between communities.³⁹ With public sector salaries also extremely low – around \$85/month in Quneitra and US

32 According to UN partner and confirmed by the Municipality in June 2019.

33 Dar'a inter-agency assessment June, 2019

34 5,500 HH estimated to be in need, but 2,000 assisted by UNHCR in November 2018, December 2018 and April 2019.

35 According to assessments by the Mayor of Zabadani and SARC.

36 According to local authorities in Dara'a governorate and SARC.

37 Access Working Group Assessment, Dar'a, June 2019

38 World Food Programme, Dar'a and Quneitra Rapid Assessment, Food Security Update, 11 June 2019

39 World Food Programme, Dar'a and Quneitra Rapid Assessment, Food Security Update, 11 June 2019

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\$100/month in Dar'a – families are struggling to cover their monthly needs and resorting to ever-more harmful practices to generate enough means to survive. Almost all households in Dar'a and Quneitra report having to borrow money or purchase credit, and in some instances have had to remove children from school and/or engage them in early marriage (as young as 13 years of age) to bring in additional income to the household.⁴⁰ For IDP and spontaneous IDP returnee households living with family or friends or in overcrowded accommodation, additional protection concerns exist. Findings from a recent WASH survey indicates that 39 per cent of all IDP households and 21 percent of all spontaneous IDP returnee households in Quneitra share toilets with more individuals than their household size, exposing them to gender-based violence and hygiene-related risks as a result.⁴¹ Other vulnerable individuals deserving of specific attention include female and child-headed households. According to recent assessment data, 25 per cent of households in Nawa sub-district are female and 15 per cent of households in Sahm El Golan are child-headed and in need of specialized protection support and services.⁴² Challenges in obtaining civil status documentation was reported in 10 locations in east Ghouta, where protection teams conducted missions to **assess needs and follow up** with vulnerable persons of concern. In east Ghouta, 75 per cent of persons were reported by partners to be without vital forms of civil status documentation including national IDs, family booklets, marriage and birth registration for children. Forty-five per cent of the population of eastern Ghouta live in the northern part of the enclave, while the remaining 55 per cent are in the central and southern part. There are only four civil registry offices in eastern Ghouta, Kafar Batna, Duma, Arbin and Harasta. IDPs and returnees are struggling to obtain their legal documentation, due to the lack of capacity of the civil registries.

Eligible Actions & Locations

The below protection activities are needed in the following locations:

In Dara'a governorate, areas of Dara'a Al-Balad, As-Shajara, Sheikh Miskeen, Da'el, Nawa, Kherbet Ghazala, Busra Esh-Sham, Tassil, Jassim and Mzeirib are in need for the below mentioned protection activities, though some of these locations are remotely reached with mobile services.

In Quneitra governorate, the southern locations which have become lately accessible by partners, such as Nabi Al-Sakher, Khan Arnaba, Jaba, Hadar, Hurriyeh, Jabata Al Khashab, Tarnaja, Ayoba, Nabe Elfawar, Mashara, Kom Elwisseh-Marj Barghut, Kom Elbasha, Kawm Al Wibsah, Ofania, Halas, Ein Al-Nuriyah and the accessible locations in Al-Khashniyyeh sub-district to the south of Quneitra are in need for the protection services highlighted below.

In Eastern Ghouta, the main areas with high intervention needs are; Saqba, Kafar Batna, Zamalka, Duma, Harasta, Nashabieh, Hamouriah, Ghezlanieh Arbin, Otayba, Aien Tarma, Hazzeh, Jisrin, Mesraba, Deir Salman, Ziabieh, and Zibdin, Qasemiyeh, Zamaniyeh, Hteitet Elturkman particularly for MRE awareness and community led initiatives.

- Case management & referral pathways (with emphasis on PSS and persons with disabilities).
- GBV specialized services and enhance integration of GBV services into RH
- Psychosocial service (PSS) activities (focus on vulnerable profiles such as children, adolescents and women).
- Awareness raising with special focus on early marriage, GBV, PSEA, violence against children, documentation.
- Recreational and social cohesion activities and Psychological first aid.
- Support to community-based structures, including children clubs, child welfare committees and women/men committees.
- Community led initiatives (focus on projects that emphasize, social cohesion and involvement of children and youth).
- Provision of assistance for GBV survivors and support (through establishment of women safe spaces).
- Livelihood activities, including vocational training and tailored toolkits for particularly vulnerable individuals and returnees.
- Legal aid (focusing on rehabilitation of governmental registries and technical support for capacity development).
- MRE awareness.

40 Ibid

41 Whole of Syria WASH Cluster, WASH Situational Overview, REACH, January 2019

42 World Food Programme, Dar'a and Quneitra Rapid Assessment, Food Security Update, 11 June 2019

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WASH – US \$5 million

27. Across southern Syria, the destruction and limited restoration of essential public infrastructure has meant that many communities are completely dependent on water trucking to survive. In Eastern Ghouta specifically, the number of working wells in Erbin and Zamalka sub-districts has reduced from 42 and 31 in 2011 to zero in 2019 meaning that 55,000 people are now reliant on monthly deliveries of water.⁴³ In the few cases where light rehabilitation and repair works have taken place these have often been laid to waste due to electricity shortages and repeated power cuts. In Quneitra, for example, despite water being abundant, families have reported that they are unable to access it due to non-functioning wells and pumps,⁴⁴ while across eastern Dar'a recent assessments have revealed severe water shortages with drinking water only available for four hours each month in Ghabagheb and communities in Ein Thakar and Jillan reportedly spending up to 70 per cent of their income to purchase drinking water.⁴⁵ Almost half of the population in Quneitra report that water trucking is their primary water source, compared with just 2 per cent in Hama and Homs, and 70 per cent of households report disposing of garbage by leaving it in the streets, burning, or burying it given no proper means of waste management.⁴⁶ Overall, there is a distinct lack of solid waste management across the south, including garbage bins to collect waste, leading to the accumulation of solid waste piles throughout the districts and posing a significant health and protection hazard to residents. In some cases, the combination of minimal or poor maintenance of destroyed or damaged water systems and poor environmental sanitation has led to disease outbreaks, including in BISR Elharir sub-district, Dar'a, earlier this year.⁴⁷

Eligible Actions & Locations**A. Immediate lifesaving:**

- Improve, upgrade and sustain existing WASH facilities in existing IDP shelters in Doueyr.
- Provision of safe drinking water through water trucking as a last resort if other alternative sources of safe water are not available, most notably in the Eastern Ghouta, as well as communities in rural Dar'a (Jlein, Nawa and Mzeireb) that are usually water scarce in the summer months.

B. Sustaining/resilience response (for priority locations mentioned in annex 2):

- Quick repair, rehabilitation and maintenance of public water supply and sewerage networks (both rural and municipal areas) to meet immediate WASH services to the affected populations. This could include the introduction and implementation of water safety planning to secure safe water from existing water supply systems connected from surface and ground water sources (bore holes).
 - Rehabilitation of water supply is needed in all Eastern Ghouta communities, Al-Lajat, Busra Esh-Sham, Sheikh Miskine, Jasim, Namar, Hara and Ankhal.
 - Rehabilitation of sewerage network is needed in Abrin, Ein Terma, Maliha, Zabadin, Tiha, Kafr Shams, Hara, Nimer, Samlin, Ankhal, Jasim, Nawa, Ein Thakar, Tassil, Nafeaa, Abdin, Ash-Shajara, Sahm El Golan, Sheikh Saed, Sheikh Miskine, Abtaa, Da'el, Tafs, BISR Elharir, Mlihet Elatash, Sura, Alma, Hrak, Kherbet Ghazala, Eastern Ghariyeh, Karak, Mseifra, Um Walad, Ghasm, Moraba, Busra El-Sham and Smad.
 - Quick repair of the Water networks in Hammura, Zamalka, Harasta, Dar'a Al-Balad, Sheikh Miskine and BISR Elharir; Al-Khashniyyeh sub-district in Quneitra.
- Management of solid and liquid waste to protect and promote healthy and hygienic environment; in Duma, Harasta, Eian Tarma, Arbin, Zamalka, Dar'a City, As-Sanamayn, Nawa, Mashara and Jobata-Alkhashab.
- Monitoring of drinking water quality implementation of hygiene campaigns in EG communities.
- Procurement of spare parts, pipelines and other related supplies, equipment's to regularly maintain and sustain existing water and sewerage networks in newly accessible areas.

43 UN partner, Eastern Ghouta Humanitarian Brief, June 2019

44 World Food Programme, Dar'a and Quneitra Rapid Assessment, Food Security Update, 11 June 2019

45 Ibid

46 Whole of Syria WASH Cluster, WASH Situational Overview, REACH, January 2019.

47 Access Working Group Assessment, Dar'a, June 2019.



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III. Timeline and Procedure

28. The submission deadline for project proposals under the First Standard Allocation is **15 September 2019, 23.59** Damascus time.
29. Only project proposals submitted online via the GMS will be accepted. Consultation with the sector-coordinator on the proposed logical framework, activities to be implemented, and geographic prioritization is a pre-requisite for submitting a proposal. Projects will be assessed based on quality, cost effectiveness and alignment to the sector priorities outlined in this allocation paper.

Phase	Step	What	Who	Key Date	# of Days (43 WDs)
	Development of the Draft Sector Priorities	Sector Prioritization	SC, OCHA	12 July	-
	Development of the Draft Allocation Paper	HC and Sector Priorities	OCHA	19 July	2
	Sector feedback on Draft Allocation Paper	Draft Allocation Paper	SC, OCHA	21 – 31 July	2
	HC/Advisory Board Strategy Endorsement (meeting or email, etc.)	Draft Allocation Paper	HC, AB	09 – 15 Aug	2
	Launch of Allocation Paper	Allocation Paper	OCHA	22 Aug	-
Proposal Development and Review 	Proposal Development Phase	Proposal Preparation	IP, SC	25 Aug- 15 Sept	15
	Proposal Submission Deadline	Proposal Submission	IP	15 Sept	-
	HFU Initial review and analysis	Eligibility check	OCHA	15-17 Sept	3
	Strategic and Technical Review	Strategic Project Prioritization	SRC, OCHA	18 -24 Sept	5
	HC/Advisory Board proposal endorsement	HC and AB endorse Sector portfolios/projects	HC, AB	25 – 29 Sept	3
	Technical and Financial Review	Technical review of endorsed projects; IP feedback	TRC, OCHA, IP	30 Sept- 08 Oct	7
	Proposal Revision and Adjustments	IPs address feedback, OCHA final clearance	IP, OCHA	06 – 10 Oct**	2
Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Agreement Preparation	GA prepared/start date agreed with IP	OCHA	08 – 15 Oct **	3
	HC Grant Agreement signature	HC approves project	HC	13– 16 Oct **	1
	IP Grant Agreement signature	IP signs / start of eligibility	IP	14– 20 Oct**	2
	NNGOs to be endorsed by the HC and sent to MoFA for clearance	GA prepared for NNGOs	OCHA, IP	60 days	
Disbursement 	Grant Agreement final clearance	GA cleared and signed	OCHA	15– 22 Oct**	2
	First disbursement	Payment request processed	OCHA	10 working days	
** (overlapping with previous step)					

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IV. HFU Information and Complaints Mechanism

- The following email address, OCHA-Syria-HFUComplaints@un.org, is available to receive feedback from stakeholders who believe they have been treated incorrectly or unfairly during any of the SHF processes. OCHA will compile, review, address and (if necessary) raise the issues to the HC, who will then take a decision on necessary action. Please send any complaints with the subject line “SHF COMPLAINT”.
- OCHA-Syria-HFUComplaints@un.org

V. Annexes

Annex I: Priority Locations

Table I: Matrix for Education, Health, NFI, Protection and WASH sectors

Governorate	Community	WASH	Health	NFI	Protection	Education
RURAL DAMASCUS	Zamalka	X			X	X
	Duma	X			X	X
	Dweir	X				
	Madyara	X				X
	Mesraba	X			X	X
	Hammoura	X			X	X
	Mleiha	X				X
	Ein Terma	X			X	X
	Saqba	X			X	X
	Jesrin	X			X	X
	Kafar Batna	X			X	X
	Hazzeh	X			X	X
	Harasta	X			X	X
	Arbin	X			X	X
	Beit Sawa	X				X
	Nashabieh	X			X	X
	Ghezlanieh	X			X	
	Otayba	X			X	
	Zibdin	X			X	
	Ziabieh	X			X	
	Al Qutayfah	X				
	Ma'loula	X				
	Raheiba	X				
	Rankus	X				
	Sidnaya	X				
	Az-Zabadani	X		X	X	
Dimas	X					

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	Madaya	X				
	Sahnaya	X				
	Haran Al'awameed	X				
	Nashabiyeh	X				
	Sabe Byar	X				
	Qudsiya	X				
	Yabroud	X				
	Deir Salman	X			X	
	Darayya			X		
	Zamaniyyeh				X	
	Qasemiyeh			X		
	Hteitet Elturkman			X		
DAR'A	Dar'a city	X	X	X		
	Dar'a Al-Balad	X	X	X	X	
	As Sanamayn	X				
	Izra	X				
	Jasim	X	X		X	
	Sahm El Golan	X	X		X	
	Jillein	X	X		X	
	Ein Thaker	X	X		X	
	Nawa	X	X		X	
	Ash Shajara	X	X	X	X	X
	Al Hrak	X	X			X
	Tafas	X	X			
	Busra Esh-Sham	X	X		X	
	Al Lajat	X	X			
	Ataman					X
	Kherbet Ghazala	X		X	X	X
	Mokhayam Dar'a					X
	Naiyma					X
	Deir Adas					X
	Sheikh Miskine	X		X	X	X
	Namer	X		X		X
	Bosr Al Harir	X				X
	Nahta					X
	Al Kark	X				X
	Mzeirib	X			X	
	Mseifra	X				
Um Walad	X					
Ghasm	X					

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	Moraba	X				
	Smad	X				
	Abtaa	X				
	Mleihet Elatash	X				
	Sura	X				
	Alma	X				
	Eastern Gharieh	X				
	Sheikh saed	X				
	Abdin	X				
	Nafea	X				
	Samlin	X				
	Dael	X			X	
	Ankhal	X				
	Nimer	X				
	Hara	X				
	Kafr Shams	X				
	Tiha	X				
	Tassil	X			X	
QUNEITRA	Nabi' Alsakher				X	
	Fiq					
	Al-Khashniyyeh	X			X	
	Um Batna			X		
	Hamidiyeh			X		
	Mashara	X		X		X
	Rwahnah					X
	Jobata-Alkhashab	X			X	X
	Jobata					X
	Tarnaja				X	X
	Ofania			X	X	X
	Khan Arnaba				X	
	Jaba				X	
	Hadar				X	
	Hurriyeh				X	
	Ayoba				X	
	Nabe Elfawar				X	
	Koum				X	
	Halas				X	
	Ein Al-Nuriyah				X	
	Kom Elwisseh-Marj Barghut				X	
	Kom Elbasha				X	
	Kawm Al Wibsah				X	

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Table II: Priority locations for Food Security and Agriculture sector (at Admin 3 level)

Governorate	District	Sub-District
DAR'A	As-Sanamayn	As-Sanamayn
		Ghabagheb
		Masmiyyeh
	Dar'a	Ash-Shajara
		Busra Esh-Sham
		Da'el
		Dar'a
		Jizeh
		Kherbet Ghazala
		Mseifra
		Mzeireb
	Izra'	Hrak
		Izra'
		Jasim
		Nawa
	Sheikh Miskine	
	Tassil	
QUNEITRA	Al Fiq	Fiq
	Quneitra	Al-Khashniyyeh
		Khan Arnaba
		Quneitra
RURAL DAMASCUS	Al Qutayfah	Al Qutayfah
		Jirud
		Ma'loula
		Raheiba
	An Nabk	An Nabk
		Deir Attiyeh
	At Tall	At Tall
		Rankus
		Sidnaya
	Az-Zabdani	Az-Zabdani
		Dimas
		Ein Elfijeh
		Madaya
		Sarghaya
	Darayya	Markaz Darayya
		Sahnaya
	Duma	Dhameer
	Duma	
	Ghizlaniyyeh	

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	Haran Al'awameed
	Harasta
	Nashabiyeh
	Sabe Byar
Qatana	Bait Jan
	Qatana
	Sa'sa'
Rural Damascus	Arbin
	Babella
	Jaramana
	Kafr Batna
	Kisweh
	Maliha
	Qudsiya
Yabroud	Esal El-Ward
	Yabroud

Annex II: Budget preparation guidance

Please see enclosed document.

Annex III: Syria Humanitarian Fund Operational Manual 2019

Please see enclosed document.

Annex IV: Sector Coordinator Contacts

Contact List - Sector Coordinators Syria		
Name	Title	E-mail
PROTECTION/COMMUNITY SERVICES		
Nicholas Hart	Protection Sector Coordinator - UNHCR	hart@unhcr.org
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