

Project Proposal Deadline: (23 July 2020, Damascus time: 11.30 pm)

I. ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

A) Introduction

The Syria Humanitarian Fund (SHF) plans to allocate US\$40 million through a Standard Allocation. This Standard Allocation intends to **(1) address humanitarian needs** in underserved areas, as based on the severity of needs and the current humanitarian response. In addition, the allocation will **(2) support mitigation of the socio-economic impacts** stemming from economic and financial crisis in addition to restrictive measures to prevent COVID-19. Finally, it will **(3) prepare for an enhanced response** for medium-term COVID-19 interventions based on the HRP and the Syria Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19¹.

The Inter Sector Coordination (ISC) group in Syria undertook a detailed prioritization exercise, involving a multi-factor analysis of levels of need with an emphasis on **highest severity need**; population movement with a focus on locations of a **high concentration of IDPs and / or returnees**; presence and functionality of **basic services** including but not limited to water, electrical, sewage, health and education facilities; and current coverage of people reached with sustained programming, based on a response analysis.

The **geographic scope** of underserved locations is primarily focused on, but not limited to, rural Aleppo, northern rural Hama, eastern rural Homs, northern rural Lattakia, among other locations identified in Rural Damascus, Deir-ez-Zor, Ar-Raqqa, Dar'a and As-Sweida.

B) Humanitarian Situation

Rural areas including main towns in rural Aleppo (Big Orm, As-Safira and Tall Refaat), Homs (Hasyaa, Ar Rastan and Al-Qusair) and Hama (Muhardeh, Murak and As Saqalbiyeh are considered in high severity of needs due to **low availability of basic services while at the same time high levels of IDPs**. These locations also typically have overburdened and weak health systems and lack sufficient primary and / or secondary health care, in addition to poor education options (overcrowded schools), poor and damaged water and sewage networks as well as limited livelihood opportunities.

Level of damaged houses and social and productive infrastructure, including health, water and sewage networks is observed, particularly in rural areas in Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Dar'a, Rural Damascus and northern rural Lattakia. In Dar'a, only one out of seven public hospitals are fully functional and only 17 out of 105 (16 per cent) public health centers are fully functional. Based on the draft HNO 2020, **8 per cent of all housing stock is destroyed and 22 per cent is partially damaged** in Aleppo, Hama, Homs and Dar'a Governorates. In addition, Aleppo, Hama, Homs and Dar'a have witnessed high numbers of explosive incidents over the past five years, arguably increasing the likelihood of widespread explosive ordnance contamination, limiting affected populations' access to humanitarian assistance,

¹ See Annex– CONSOLIDATED PLANNING AND REQUIREMENTS FOR COVID-19 ACROSS SYRIA, Annex to 2020 Syria HRP

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basic service infrastructure such as schools, water supply systems, and hospitals, and engaging in agricultural/livelihood related activities. It is estimated that nearly 50% of communities reporting some form of contamination from explosive ordnance are located in Aleppo, Hama, Homs and Dar'a.

At the same time, Aleppo, Homs and Hama continue to experience considerable population movement, 151,110 **spontaneous IDP returns were observed since the beginning of 2019 – 37 per cent of the overall** (a total of 404,542 persons). Out of which, 66,282 people returned to Aleppo between January and May 2020 alone². Additionally, an estimated **two million school-aged children are internally displaced**. Protracted and new displacements and returnee movements put further pressure on the severely overstretched and overburdened education system where **one in three schools are partially damaged or destroyed**. This has led to a reduction in access to education facilities and overcrowded classrooms. In addition, other factors, including the departure of qualified staff, means an overall insufficient quality of education exists.

There is also existing considerable strain on already limited and partially functioning basic services. An additional 1.8 million IDPs³ are currently hosted in these governorates, with 69 per cent living in Aleppo. According to the latest Mobility and Needs Monitoring report⁴, the **top three priorities of population in these underserved areas are rehabilitation of basic services, food assistance and livelihoods support** notably to farmers and herders that are lack initial start-up agricultural input and livestock, especially in rural Homs and Hama. In the summer months, the situation has been exacerbated by fires in agriculture land. As of the end of June 2020, 14,600 ha of wheat areas has been affected by fires, representing about 1.1 per cent of the total wheat area in Syria. Fire incidents has **affected an estimated 4,100 households (24,600 people)**. More than 90 per cent of the affected area is located in Al-Hasakeh governorate, followed by Hama (590 hectares), Aleppo (302 hectares) and Dar'a (291 hectares). Based on the national productivity average and on the assumption that 100 per cent of the wheat production; 29,200 tons in total has been lost, comprising the **grain needs of about 146,000 people for one year**. Meanwhile, livestock keepers were the most affected by the measures designed to restrict the spread of COVID-19, while animal disease problems are causing worrying mortality among herds particularly in Lattakia, Tartous, Homs and Hama.

The global acute malnutrition rate for children 6-59 months across Syria is low at 1.7 per cent; but higher rates of acute malnutrition exist in various sub-districts, demonstrating the need for **close monitoring of nutrition at the sub-district level**. The national prevalence of chronic malnutrition of children is 12.6 per cent, with **Deir-ez-Zor, Idleb, Aleppo, Al-Hassakeh and Quinetra** governorates either already reached or near the WHO high level of stunting classification. In addition, 4.6 million pregnant and lactating women and children are now in need of nutrition assistance, of which 3.7 million are in acute need. If not properly addressed, rising malnutrition across Syria may have devastating, long-term and intergenerational impacts. In January 2020, the estimated number of children under five with wasting is 56,511 (1.7 per cent)⁵, however, this number is **expected to increase** to 84,766 (2.6 per cent) within one year.

Depleted socio-economic resources due to the **economic crisis** by the end of 2019, combined with continuous depreciation of Syrian Pound between April until June 2020, had its toll primarily on affected population where prices of basic commodities and food increased significantly. The national average cost of WFP's reference food basket

² Population Task Force Update May 2020

³ Population Task Force Update May 2020

⁴ Mobility and Needs Monitoring – May Overview, 2020

⁵ SMART Survey 2019

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reached SYP 84,095 in June increasing by 48 per cent compared to May 2020. All governorates recorded monthly food basket price increases by 40 per cent or more. Quneitra, Rural Damascus and Deir-ez-Zor recorded the largest increases in price, up 78 per cent, 62 per cent and 61 per cent, respectively. The increases in price have been led primarily by the Lebanese financial crisis which has affected Syria's ability to import. Other reasons for the increase have been the Syrian government's COVID-19 movement restriction measures. Traders have been reporting that they are unable to procure the required imports at government agreed prices. Some traders have already reduced their stock, and many are reconsidering their importing options. Access to hard currency is becoming an increasing issue for trader impact trade routing and capacity. As a result, WFP's **national average reference food basket in June was 231 per cent higher compared to October 2019** (start of Lebanese financial crisis) and by 240 per cent compared to June 2019⁶ (a year ago). Despite the government allowing movement of food items between the governorates, the high price of transport and production inputs have contributed to rising food prices, while traders may have engaged in some opportunistic price gouging.

The increase in food as well as non-food items has had a serious deteriorating effect compelling people to engage in increasingly **negative coping mechanisms**. Many families are now revising their priority purchases on a weekly basis as they cannot keep track with the rising cost of living in Syria. Meat purchases, a key item in a balanced diet, is unaffordable. Sales of lamb are reportedly down 80 per cent compared to last year and chicken sales, initially a substitute for lamb, are also decreasing as families are prioritizing their income to only critical purchases. Chicken production has been affected particularly by COVID-19 control measures; the closure of restaurants (the main market outlet) has caused many small-scale units to drop out of production which will have further impact on the availability and prices of chicken meat in future. **Syrians' income has not kept pace with the steep increases in prices**. For example WFP's national average reference food basket, a group of basic dry goods providing 1,930 kcal a day for a family of five during a month (the basket includes 37 kg bread, 19 kg rice, 19 kg lentils, 5 kg of sugar, and 7 litres of vegetable oil), costing on average SYP 84,095 in June, is now more expensive than the highest paid official government monthly salary of SYP 80,240. Outlining the serious deterioration of purchasing power in Syria over the last 8 months. In October 2019, WFP's national average reference food basket was SYP 25,424.

Food insecurity is not only on the rise but becoming more severe – 9.3 million people are now food insecure compared to 7.9 million people just six months ago (an increase of 1.4 million) while the number of people severely food insecure has also increased – from 570,000 to more than 1 million. A deterioration in Syrians' food security levels is expected as prices continue to rise affected by a highly volatile informal SYP/USD exchange rate. This is expected to become particularly noticeable during the next wheat growing season (December 2020-June 2021).

COVID-19 has added a further layer of complexity to the operating environment, aggravating existing needs and an already grim socio-economic outlook. **As of 30 June 2020, the Ministry of Health (MoH) had confirmed 279 cases in Syria with nine fatalities and 105 recoveries**. While the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases is relatively low compared to other countries, high levels of internal displacement, densely populated areas and overburdened communities, acute levels of pre-existing vulnerability, a fragile health system, poor water and sanitation infrastructure, and a huge informal labor-market, all leave **Syria at considerable risk to a catastrophic outbreak if appropriate prevention measures are not taken in a timely manner**. Vulnerable sections of the population, including persons living with disabilities (PLWDs) are especially prone to infection. Female headed households and those living in poverty are also at risk to the adverse socio-economic impacts and related precautionary measures.

⁶ WFP VAM: Food Security Analysis Report, June 2020

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Precautionary measures have also required the temporary closure of the schools and education activities, further increasing gaps in the education sector.

Although preventive measures have recently been relaxed in Syria, there has already been a negative impact on livelihoods, particularly of micro, small and medium enterprises, daily wageworkers and informal laborers, as well as small farmers. **Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, an estimated 80 per cent of people in Syria already lived below the poverty line.** With the loss of job opportunities due to the impacts of COVID-19, including those involved in agriculture and other production industries, and for those reliant on daily wage labor or seasonal work, it is likely food insecurity, malnutrition and adoption of undesirable coping mechanisms will increase, exacerbating existing substantial humanitarian needs across the country.

Globally, there are 143 cash programs in 81 countries that have been expanded or adapted due to COVID 19. Of those programs, 65 in 43 countries are new initiatives introduced as part of the response to the pandemic⁷. **Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) has substantially increased in Syria**, from US\$1.8 million in 2018, to \$2.6 million in 2019, and \$40 million in the first half of 2020. Communities are supportive of the use of CVA. According to the update cash and voucher feasibility assessment⁸; the majority of households prefer cash as a first option, followed by vouchers. In a January assessment on priority needs, 70 per cent of those surveyed put cash transfer in their top three needs. As an indicator for the needs for cash assistance, on 13 April 2020 the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (MoSAL) launched the National Campaign for Emergency Social Response, which includes cash transfers for those who have lost work as a result of COVID-19 preventive measures. As of 12 June 2020, more than 320,000 people had registered. Of these, 91 per cent were reported to be daily laborers, 10.9 per cent older persons, and 8 per cent are people with disabilities, with the highest levels of registration in Rural Damascus, followed by Damascus, As-Sweida, Lattakia and Homs. Humanitarian partners are already building on existing Multi-Purpose Cash Transfers (MPCT) programming by scaling up as well as reaching broader geographic areas. **By mid-2020, 63 per cent of the CVA assistance was provided as direct cash with the majority provided as multi-purpose cash, allowing for optimal flexibility.**

C) Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)

This allocation strategy was developed based on the most recent information from humanitarian partners and sector consultations. It also uses information from a number of sources including the *draft* 2020 HNO, weekly situation reports, HRP COVID-19 annex and various rapid assessments and tracking tools. While the 2020 HRP is still a draft, this allocation will align with the three 2020 **HRP objectives**;

- 1) Provide lifesaving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people with an emphasis on those in areas with high severity of needs;
- 2) Enhance the prevention and mitigation of protection risks and respond to protection needs through supporting the protective environment in Syria, by promoting international law, IHL, IHRL and through quality, principled assistance;
- 3) Increase the resilience of affected communities by improving access to livelihood opportunities and basic services, especially among the most vulnerable households and communities.

⁷ More information on cash transfer also available on [The Cash Learning Partnership](#)

⁸ CVA feasibility conducted by group of consortia NGOs in Syria at the end of 2019.

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The response strategy for this allocation, while focusing on striking a balance between humanitarian needs and resilience building, will also be aligned to the four priority thematic areas identified by the Emergency Relief Coordinator for CPBF funding in January 2019⁹, as well as the main objectives of the Syria Humanitarian Fund strategy for 2020 which aims to use the fund to: respond to protection and life-sustaining needs in underserved, high severity areas, including those that are newly accessible; address critical gaps in sector strategies and expand coverage to areas of highest need; and meet the protection needs of particularly vulnerable groups, especially women, children, the elderly and those living with disabilities.

II. ALLOCATION STRATEGY

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

Based on the information provided by the ISC, humanitarian needs in underserved areas remain critical across different sectors, as does the need to support mitigation measures of COVID-19 and impacts of the current socio-economic crisis in those areas and in others. In line with the over-arching parameters of the 2020 HRP and the guidance provided by the Humanitarian Coordinator 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 those activities such as the repair, rehabilitation and maintenance of civilian infrastructure – such as schools, health facilities, water systems and sewage networks as well as supporting the restarting of agricultural production – that serve a crucial humanitarian function which are essential to life and dignity and directly related to improved protection outcomes on the ground.

⁹ Emergency Relief Coordinator four strategic steers: (i) support for women and girls, including tackling GBV, reproductive health and empowerment; (ii) programmes targeting disabled people; (iii) education in protracted crisis and (iv) other aspects of protection.

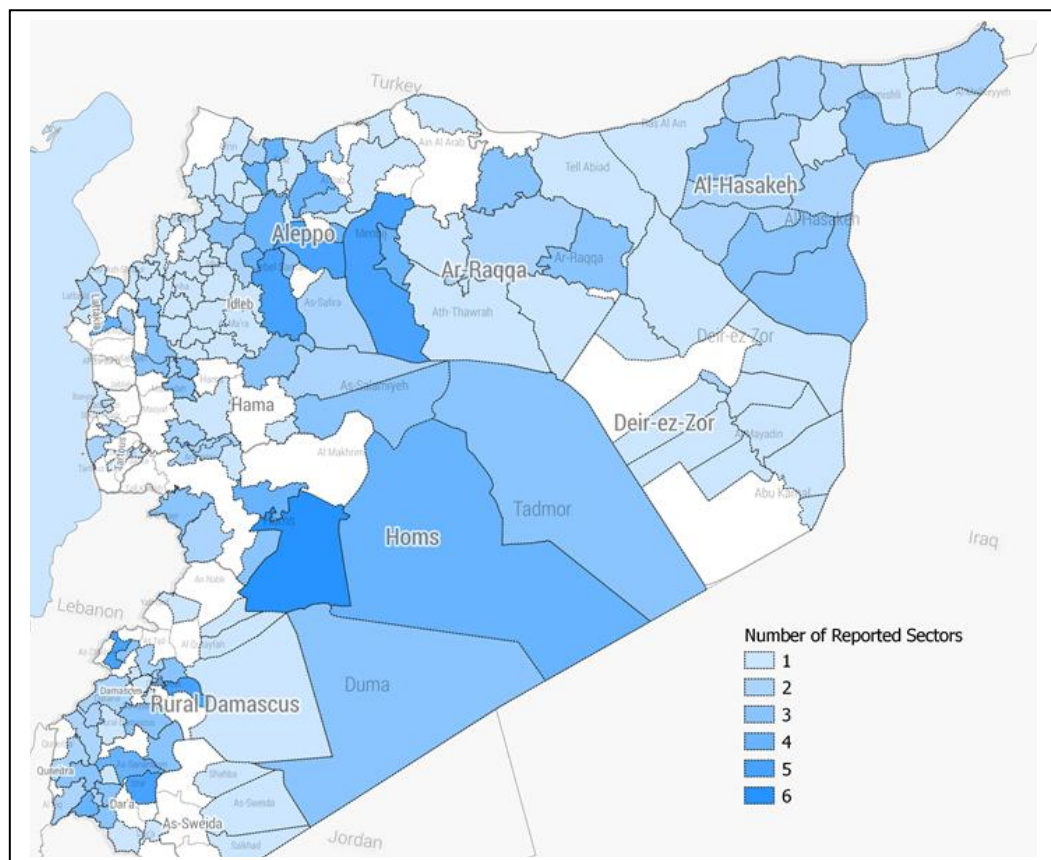
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Within the overall parameters of the HRP, and in accordance with priorities identified by the Humanitarian Country Team, the Humanitarian Coordinator, in consultation with the Advisory Board, has therefore decided to launch the 1st Standard Allocation of 2020 to provide timely and effective response to urgent needs and critical funding gaps already identified by operational partners in

- **Hama** (rural Al Hamra, Morik, Helfaya, Suran, Ziyarah, Madiq Castle, As-Suqaylabiyah and Muhradah sub-districts),
- **Homs** (including Palmyra Ashiera, Dierbalabeh Mahin, Farqalas, Sokhneh, Talbieseh and Al-Qusayr sub-districts),
- **Aleppo** (Tall Ed-daman, Alhader, Jebel Saman, Al Shaar, Al Bab, Dayr Hafir, Tall Refaat, Al-KHafsa, Maskana, As-Safira, Daret Ezat, Atarb, Zarbah and Haritan sub-district).
- Northern rural **Latakia** (Al Haffeh, Qastal Maaf and Rabee'a sub-districts),
- **Dar'a** (Izra),
- **Rural Damascus** (Az Zabadani, Douma, Darya and Rural Damascus center),
- **Ar-Raqqa** (including Ar-Raqqa and Ath-Thawrah, Karama and Elz Issa sub-districts) and
- Southern rural of **Deir-ez-Zor** (Al Mayadin and Khasham).
- Rural areas of **As-Sweida**



Lastly, sub-districts with needs of acute onset during allocation can be considered in addition to those specified by sectors.

A) Allocation Breakdown

The Syria Humanitarian Fund (SHF) has allocated US\$30 million so far in 2020. Of this, \$23 million was allocated under the first reserve allocation to support COVID-19 prevention and response efforts. Since the beginning of the year, the SHF has received generous and timely contributions of 11 donors and has a current balance of \$58.3 million. This first standard allocation will amount to a maximum of \$40 million. The SHF will have a remaining \$17.3 million available for contingencies, including an enhanced response in the event of a spike in COVID-19 cases. The reserve will also support outreach efforts to new communities in need, including those living in crossline areas and to returnees, the latter of which has seen an increase in 2020.

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The table below summarise allocation breakdown based on the draft HRP 2020 funding requirement, compare to the funding gap projected between the period of July – October 2020.

Sector	2020 HRP Required Funding (US\$)	Funded (US\$)	Funding Gap (Jul - Oct)	Allocation Envelop (US\$)	% of Funding Gap covered
Protection	376,980,085	43,985,231	\$230,714,528	3,500,000	2%
Early Recovery and Livelihoods	174,404,117	11,132,081	\$24,500,000	4,000,000	16%
Education	264,432,212	56,512,739	\$22,064,058	2,000,000	9%
Food Security and Agriculture	1,120,509,356	314,794,911	\$389,667,097	9,000,000	2%
Health	443,187,556	66,469,114	\$60,000,000	7,000,000	12%
Nutrition	79,297,174	6,690,728	\$26,000,000	2,000,000	8%
Shelter/ NFI	569,888,736	43,037,274	\$102,500,000	4,500,000	4%
			\$207,800,000		
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	314,425,243	34,305,367	\$25,000,000	4,000,000	16%
Logistics	11,766,345	2,396,029	\$1,930,000		
Multi-Sector		\$92,672,372		4,000,000	
Total			\$1,068,111,625	40,000,000	

The funding allocated per sector is indicative. As the situation on the ground remains very dynamic, the SHF would be in a position to support possibility of adjustment and reprogramming should the need arise. **Partners are required to develop their project with a strong risk management strategy.**

B) Prioritization of Projects / Envelopes

SECTOR	HEALTH
Main Objectives	Maximum allocation: USD 7 million Objective: To promote, prevent and maintain the health of people in need by delivering quality and safe health services at all levels of care (primary, secondary and tertiary) and strengthen referral systems.
Eligible Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of primary health care services including reproductive and child health care. • Support outreach health services through medical mobile clinics, teams, and community volunteers. • Support diagnostic and treatment services by procurement and provision of medicines, medical supplies and medical equipment to health facilities or mobile teams/clinics. • Support emergency referrals for secondary health care services. • Support rehabilitation of health facilities. • Capacity building of health care workers. • Support provision of safe and quality health services for Non-Communicable Diseases, communicable diseases and mental health. • Support health education and promotion. • Support monitoring and supervision to ensure quality of health services.

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Sector specific guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Health Guidance and protocols of health services delivery at public health centres and hospitals. • Health Sector HRP Guidance on projects.
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SECTOR	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion (WASH)
Main Objectives	Maximum allocation: USD 4 million Objective: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support to water, sanitation/sewage and solid waste management systems to ensure regular services for affected people in Syria. 2. Deliver humanitarian WASH supplies and services and improve hygienic behaviour and practices of most vulnerable people. 3. Improve WASH facilities and services in institutions to minimize substandard WASH conditions of the most vulnerable people in Syria.
Eligible Actions	<p>In Communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake light rehabilitation of water supply and sanitation facilities. • Support provision of water disinfection reagents and consumables (<i>e.g. sodium hypochlorite</i>). • Support operation and maintenance of water, sanitation and solid waste management systems. • Conduct hygiene promotion interventions (<i>to also include provision of hygiene supplies e.g. soap, hygiene kits, targeting families with children with disability, people living with disability, the elderly, female headed households</i>). <p>At IDP camps and sites¹⁰:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake light rehabilitation of water supply and sanitation facilities. • Support operation and maintenance of water, sanitation and solid waste management systems. • Conduct hygiene promotion interventions (<i>to also include provision of hygiene supplies e.g. soap, hygiene kits</i>). <p>At educational centres / schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct risk communication, and promotion of hand hygiene (e.g. through availing of soap to students). • Undertake light rehabilitation of WASH facilities in schools. <p>In Health care facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake light rehabilitation of WASH facilities (including hazardous waste management systems).

¹⁰ Throughout this document the term "IDP camps and sites" should be understood to include all of the following site/settlement types: Managed camps established by an accountable humanitarian actor; Formally established, planned sites and settlements; Spontaneous (unplanned) sites and settlements; Formal tented sites and settlements with a dedicated Camp Management Agency; Informal sites and settlements without a dedicated Camp Management Agency; Collective centres where displaced populations are hosted in existing public infrastructure not originally designed as shelter.

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Sector specific guidance	In the preparation of partner project proposals, partners are encouraged to make reference to, but not limited to, the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 HRP WASH Response Plan and Log frame • WASH and Waste Management – UNICEF and WHO • The Sphere Handbook (available online) • IASC - Guideline integrating gender-based violence interventions in humanitarian action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery (available online) • IASC – Guideline Inclusion of Persons with Disability in Humanitarian Action (available online) • WHO Guidelines for drinking-water quality (available online)
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SECTOR	SHELTER / Non-Food Items (S/NFI)
Main Objectives	Maximum allocation: USD 4.5 million Objective 1: Save and sustain lives through the provision of timely, targeted and appropriate shelter assistance and emergency relief items. Objective 2: Strengthen the resilience and cohesion of vulnerable communities by improving housing and related community or public infrastructure.
Eligible Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of basic and essential commodities/NFIs through in-kind, cash and voucher modalities. • Winterization support through in-kind and cash modalities. • Light repair to collective shelters and emergency shelters including shelter kits. • Rehabilitation of damaged houses. • Rehabilitation of community public infrastructure including sewage systems, water networks, debris removal, roads rehabilitation, street lighting and sanitation.
Sector specific guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID Guidance in English and Arabic available here • Guidance for NFI and Emergency Shelter distributions during COVID-19 • Guidance for Collective shelter repair during COVID-19 • Guidance for Longer-term shelter repair during COVID-19 • NFI Technical guidelines with estimated price ranges (<i>for prices contact sector coordinator</i>) • NFI Sector online catalogue • Collective Shelter technical repair guidelines and Damaged housing repair (<i>Please contact sector coordinator</i>) • CWG guidelines on cash modalities and values (<i>see Multi sector section and contact Cash Working Group</i>)

SECTOR	NUTRITION
Main Objectives	Maximum allocation: USD 2 million Objective: Strengthen and sustain humanitarian lifesaving preventive and curative nutrition services for vulnerable population groups focusing on appropriate infant and young child

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	feeding practices, micronutrient interventions and treatment of malnutrition among children under 5 years of age, and pregnant and lactating women (PLW).								
Eligible Actions	<p>Scale-up of on-going preventive and curative nutrition services is required with different levels of urgency based on the sector severity ranking, with an emphasis on serving the hard-to-reach areas and the most vulnerable women and children. The nutrition sector will address the immediate nutritional needs of women and children targeting 35 sub-districts with high severity scale as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th># of sub-districts</th> <th>Severity Scale</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5 sub-districts</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 sub-districts</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 sub-districts</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The prioritized activities will focus on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of awareness raising sessions and consultations on optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding practices (IYCF) for parents/caregivers at the community and health facility levels. • Provision of preventive nutrition supplies, including micronutrients for children (boys and girls) under-5 and pregnant lactating women (PLWs). • Screening and identification of malnourished children under-5 and pregnant lactating mothers for referral and treatment. • Treatment of Acute Malnutrition cases among children under-5 and PLWs. • Pre-position nutrition commodities at health facilities providing nutrition services in different governorates. • Transform to online/remote delivery modality particularly for community engagement activities and capacity building activities for frontline health workers and community volunteers. • Implement a simplified protocol for treatment of acute malnutrition and ensure increased access for both children aged 6-59 months, and PLWs. • Enhance capacity of community health workers to provide treatment for uncomplicated malnourished children at community level. • Strengthen capacity of mothers and caregivers to detect and monitor their children's nutritional status. 	# of sub-districts	Severity Scale	5 sub-districts	5	20 sub-districts	4	10 sub-districts	3
# of sub-districts	Severity Scale								
5 sub-districts	5								
20 sub-districts	4								
10 sub-districts	3								
Sector specific guidance	Nutrition Sector HRP Guidance on projects, as shared with sector partners.								

SECTOR	PROTECTION
Main Objectives	<p>Maximum allocation: USD 3.5 million</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve protection of population affected by the crisis through community-based and individually targeted protection interventions and through advocacy with duty bearers.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve survivor’s access to quality and lifesaving GBV response services, and put measures in place to prevent and mitigate risks of GBV • Reduce the impact of explosive hazards. • Increased and more equitable access for boys and girls to quality child protection interventions in targeted locations in line with the Child Protection Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Action.
Eligible Actions	<p><i>Please refer to the Annex for prioritized locations specific of Protection sector</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide quality and integrated protection services, with a focus on community-based approaches, including awareness-raising, psychosocial assistance, legal services, civil status documentation /registration as well as on housing, land and property (HLP) issues in accordance with national legislation, targeted support to persons with specific protection needs and other community initiatives, through community centers and outreach mechanisms. A priority will be to reach the most affected population in hard to reach areas, return areas and areas hosting large number of IDPs, refugees and returnees. • Community led initiatives (focus on projects that emphasize, social cohesion and involvement of children, women, youth and vulnerable elderly). • Individual assistance for protection: including cash assistance to vulnerable female headed households and women at risk, with the aim to protect families, particularly children and women at risks due to COVID-19, from negative coping mechanisms, some of which may be irreversible. Negative coping mechanisms for children include deprivation of healthcare, schooling, separation from family, child labour and early marriage. Cash for isolated elderly and persons with specific needs including the medical, mental health and psycho-social support of vulnerable groups is also encouraged. <p>Child protection areas of responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of child protection services for child survivors of violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse (including child recruits, laborers, GBV survivors, and unaccompanied or separated children), including provision of Psychological First Aid and psychosocial support through structured activities, case management and specialized services for boys and girls, and capacity building for community structures and social workforce. Raising awareness and advocacy on the identified child protection risks and establishing a livelihood and multi-sectoral support to most vulnerable children including those in child labour and those out of school. GBV comprehensive services, psycho-social counselling, case management, vocational, awareness sessions. <p>Gender Based Violence areas of responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide quality and lifesaving GBV response services, including case management and psychosocial support, enhance vulnerable groups' access to these services, with a focus on women and girls with disabilities and adolescent girls, and reinforce referral pathways. • Enhance strategies to empower women and girls and prevent GBV, with a particular focus on most at risks groups, e.g., adolescent girls and female-headed households, and divorced and widowed women and girls. • Promote GBV risk mitigation into all aspects of the humanitarian response.

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	<p>Mine Action areas of responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mine Action: age/gender and social occupation tailored risk education/risk awareness to communities living in areas contaminated by explosive hazards, including in IDP settlements; provision of victim assistance services to persons suffering from injuries and people living with disabilities, including survivors of explosive ordnance incidents; surveys to assess the presence of explosive contamination, particularly in the proximity of key infrastructure, camps, settlement and return areas.
<p>Sector specific guidance</p>	<p>a) Social cohesion and community led initiatives as a means to support/enhance the recovery programme in conflict-affected areas as well as areas hosting large number of IDPs, refugees and returnees. Small-scale projects to support and enhance existing good practices among community-based groups that promote social cohesion between IDPs, returnees and host communities and have positive outcomes for protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects should be community-based to benefit the community (IDPs, returnees and all different vulnerable groups); • Projects should mainstream, protection, gender considering the needs of men, women, boys and girls; • Highly populated IDPs or return locations; • Priority will be to projects planned in the most affected population in hard to reach areas, recently taken areas, return areas and areas host large number of IDPs, refugees and returnees. • Projects should also consider the needs of persons with specific needs including marginalized groups, disabilities; • Maximum participation of different communities' groups in identification, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects; • Community participation and contribution (material contribution, land and workforce to be converted to monetary value) should be encouraged; • Encourage joint interventions and support from other sectors. <p>Example of interventions including but not limited to support to vocational/life-skill training institutions; rehabilitation of sport areas with equipment /recreation centers; cleaning up campaigns (removal of rubble/garbage collection/waste management); small business initiatives (especially women-led initiatives); and rehabilitation of government civil registries.</p> <p>b) For cash for protection: please see protection sector document in cash and protection HERE</p> <p>c) GBV: guidelines on GBV interventions in humanitarian settings, Women and Girls Spaces, Case Management for GBV survivors, GBV mainstreaming for Non GBV actors, clinical management of rape survivors (WHO's protocol)</p> <p>d) Child Protection: Child protection minimum Standards for Child protection in Humanitarian Action will be rolled out (link here).</p>

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- e) **Protection mainstreaming** and protection risk analysis will be shared with all partners – please contact sector coordinator for this.

SECTOR	EDUCATION
Main Objectives	<p>Maximum allocation: USD 2 million</p> <p>Objective: By increasing access to education facilities (schools and centers), enhancing the quality of education services provision to children and strengthening the education system through capacity development for education personnel.</p>
Eligible Actions	<p>As per evidence-based planning and utilising people in need’s accountability and Children with Disabilities integration approaches, the education sector will provide the needed support to the mentioned targeted areas by comprehensive approach as below:</p> <p>Increasing access to learning spaces by providing protected, safe and friendly environment as immediate term response through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Care and Education, Formal General Education and Non-Formal Education (Remedial Classes, Catch-up and SLP). • Back to Learning Campaign and Awareness on Education and COVID-19. • Education Facilities Enhancement: construct and rehabilitate Classrooms (temporary and permanent), provide school furniture and safety equipment, improve and rehabilitate gender-sensitive WASH facilities in formal and non-formal settings. • Provision of education supplies for both students and teachers by stationery, school bags and teaching materials to mitigate the financial load of targeted beneficiaries. <p>Enhancing quality of education services in immediate and mid-term response by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education personnel professional development on child-centred and protective pedagogy, formal, non-formal and life skills education. • Teaching and learning materials provision: textbooks, self-learning and supplementary materials/kits for formal and non-formal settings. • Schools-based PSS and case management support. <p>Build and develop capacity of the Education Personnel/System Strengthening as mid- to longer-term response by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the mainstreaming of Child Rights and humanitarian response in the National Plans. • Investing in the capacity of education actors in data collection and analysis for better planning basis. • Training education personnel on education in emergencies as well as build the capacity of education authorities to lead, coordinate, manage and monitor the education sector.
Sector specific guidance	Detail of specific guidance are attached in the Annex

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SECTOR		FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE
Main Objectives	Maximum allocation: USD 9 million Objective: Ensure immediate as well as consistent access to food to the most food insecure people in Syria. The response will be driven by both geographical and household level targeting and needs-based assistance. The sector will also ensure availability of food by boosting household/local productive capacity through the provision of inputs and trainings as well as enhancing communities' capacity to sustain their productive assets. Supporting the rehabilitation of critical agriculture infrastructure to boost household food production will also be one of the core responses under agriculture and livelihoods	
Eligible Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of food and cash/voucher assistance to food insecure households in underserved locations with the highest severity levels of food insecurity (phase 3 and above). • Supporting quick impact livelihoods projects with immediate consumption benefits to enhance food consumption and availability at household level. This could include support to household vegetable production, household poultry production and cash for work. • Supporting animal production targeting vulnerable small-scale breeders, in particular winter feeds and vaccination and provision of veterinary kits, to help protect their production assets, minimise the selling of animals as negative coping mechanisms and increase animal products availability in the markets. • Provision of agriculture inputs to support the production of staple food crops in locations facing high levels of food insecurity such as cereals. • Light rehabilitation of critical livelihoods infrastructure with direct benefits for food production and distribution to enable availability and accessibility of food at affordable costs, such as rehabilitation of community and field level irrigation schemes. 	
Sector specific guidance	All of the sector guidance available online here .	

SECTOR		EARLY RECOVERY AND LIVELIHOOD (ERL)
Main Objectives	Maximum allocation: USD 4 million Objective: Improve access to basic and social services and infrastructure and strengthen access to livelihoods by creating income-generating opportunities and by improving access to production and market infrastructure to restore local economy recovery.	
Eligible Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income generating opportunities including Cash For Work. • Labour intensive Infrastructure rehabilitation. • Support to small enterprises and small manufacturing units at the community level. • Supporting the restoration of access to electricity and renewable energy. • Specific support to People Living with Disability (PLWD). 	
Sector specific guidance	N/ A	

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SECTOR	Multi-Sector
Main Objectives	<p>Maximum allocation: USD 4 million</p> <p>Objective: Promoting integrated and coordinated multi-sectoral response for people considered most in need or vulnerable in areas with “high” or “major” severity of needs.</p> <p>The multi-sector approach aim to reduce the most immediate life-saving and and life-sustaining needs through the most efficient and well-targeted approach that includes multi-purpose cash transfer (MPCT) that would only be approved based on precondition of (i) stabilisation of preferential exchange rate; (ii) adequate beneficiary selection mechanisms and (iii) additional monitoring and reporting mechanism as per the advice of the Cash Working Group (CWG).</p>
Eligible Actions	<p>Multi-sector response approaches would be eligible for a maximum of two sectors with the specific focus of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanitarian response to people living in areas with limited access, or in newly accessible areas, including due to the necessity to (re)-establish the presence of humanitarian actors • Humanitarian response to spontaneous / self- organized returnees that generate a variety of needs including the communities in surrounding areas. Partners are encouraged to address the needs of those who choose to return spontaneously and of the communities where they attempt to reintegrate, which are often destroyed and impoverished. • Humanitarian response to refugees including Palestine Refugees. • Multi-Purpose Cash Transfer (<i>please refer to the specific guidance and only applicable as per the pre-conditions advised by the CWG</i>)
Sector specific guidance	<p>All guidance for sectors above is applicable for multi-sector.</p> <p>Cash related activities and MPCT must be in line with guidance from the CWG. All materials are available here.</p>

III. Timeline and Procedure

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA and PRIORITISATION

All partners who have completed their due diligence and capacity assessment as of 30 June 2020 are eligible for the allocation. Additionally, project proposals should follow the criteria below:

- Be aligned with the three Strategic Objectives of the 2020 Syria HRP and / or Syria preparedness and response plan of COVID 19 and addressed the ERC four strategic steers.
- Be aligned with the sector specific eligible actions as stipulated in this standard allocation paper, with clear evidence of needs-based approach, incorporating mechanisms for accountability to affected populations, monitoring plan and gender and age marker.
- Be implemented by partners with access and operational presence in the targeted locations.
- Indicate a comprehensive response when multisector project is proposed.
- **Minimum budget per project is \$250,000**, while eligible grant size will be determined by partner’s capacity assessment status as outlined in the operational modality; proposal below the minimum budget would be automatically rejected.
- **Maximum of two proposals allowed per partner.**
- **COVID response activities to be indicated under sector indicators.**

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- **Multi sector projects are limited to inclusion of two sectors only and/or may include multipurpose cash transfer.**
- 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)
- Adhere to the OCHA Country Based Pooled Fund (CPBF) guidelines, for budget preparation as well as the general guidelines stated in the Operational Manual.
- Higher score and preference will be given to projects implemented directly by the applying partner with further sub-granting strongly discouraged.
- Eligible applicants should have **no outstanding SHF oversight (including but not limited to reporting obligations) and compliance issues and should be part of the sector coordination mechanisms in Syria.**

MAXIMISING RESOURCES: LOCALISATION, RISK MITIGATION & VULNERABLE GROUPS

- Recognizing that one of the major constraints in the implementing of activities in Syria is access, the SHF will give preference to those partners who have a proven track record of implementing projects directly on the ground. The allocation will focus particularly on partners with operational capabilities or potential to operate in targeted areas. Partners with projects already included in the HRP will be further prioritized as part of this allocation.
- Given the need to receive approvals at both central and governorate level before activities can start, it is understood that immediate implementation may not be possible. If project implementation has not begun after three months of receipt of SHF funds, the funds shall be returned to the SHF for reallocation. Sector responses and individual project proposals will be expected to articulate clear access strategies as well as robust risk mitigation practices demonstrating a strong understanding of needs and risks.

Detailed timeline

Phase	Step	What	Who	Date
Preparation	1 Development of the Draft Cluster Priorities	Cluster Prioritization	CC, OCHA	2-4 June
	2 Development of the Draft Allocation Paper	HC and Cluster Priorities	OCHA	7-18 June
	3 Cluster feedback on Draft Allocation Paper	Draft Allocation Paper	CC, OCHA	21-25 June
	4 HC/Advisory Board Strategy Endorsement (meeting or email, etc.)	Draft Allocation Paper	HC, AB	6 July
	5 Launch of Allocation Paper	Allocation Paper	OCHA	8 July
Proposal Development and Review	6 Proposal Development Phase	Proposal Preparation	IP, CC	8-23 July
	7 Proposal Submission Deadline	Proposal Preparation	IP	23 July
	8 General and administrative review by SHF team	Eligibility of partner in case of suspension, compliance with template, duplication of proposal, etc.	OCHA	26-27 July
	9 Strategic Review ¹¹	Strategic Project Prioritization	SRC, OCHA	28-9 August

¹¹ Strategic and Technical reviews may be combined as per Global Guidelines and Guidance Note on CBPF Allocation Planning regarding Reserve Allocations.

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	10 HC/Advisory Board proposal endorsement	HC and AB endorse cluster portfolios/projects	HC, AB	10-13 August
	11 Technical and Financial Review	Technical review of endorsed projects; IP feedback	TRC, OCHA	16-27 August
	12 Proposal Revision and Adjustments	IPs address feedback, OCHA final clearance	IP, OCHA	17-28 August
Approval	13 Grant Agreement Preparation	GA prepared/start date agreed with IP	OCHA	20-30 August
	14 HC Grant Agreement signature	HC approves project	HC	21-31 August
	15 IP Grant Agreement signature	IP signs / start of eligibility	IP	22 August- 1 September
Disbursement	16 Grant Agreement final clearance	GA cleared and signed	OCHA	23 August- 3 September
	17 First disbursement	Payment request processed	OCHA	10 Working days

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".

V. Annexes

- Annex 1: Information on geographic areas as well as detail guidance from sectors, available [here](#)
- Annex 2: Required indicators per sector (including technical criteria from sectors)
- Annex 3: Budget preparation guidance if not available elsewhere; or links and/or references
- Annex 4: Contact details for sector coordinators

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