



Country card

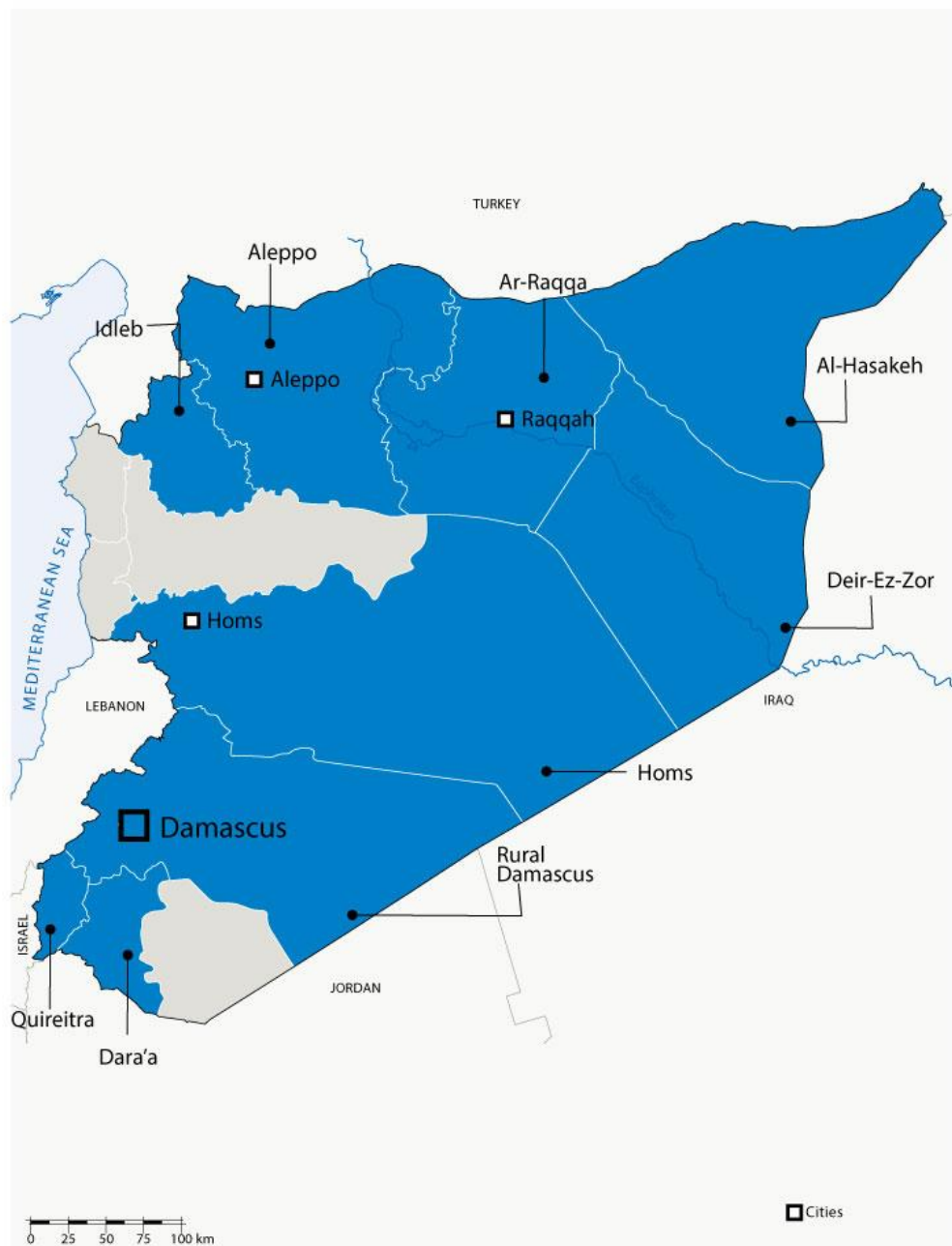
Syria 2022



HI Team and intervention areas

HI has 335 staff members in Syria.

Syrian Arab Republic



General data of the country

a. General data

Country	Syria	Neighbouring country (Jordan)	Neighbouring country (Lebanon)	France
Population	22 125 249 ¹	10 203 140	6 769 151	67 391 582
IHDI	0.567 (HDI) ²	0.73	0.744 (HDI)	0.9
Gender-related Development Index	0.829	0.875	0.892	0.987
Maternal mortality	31 ³	46	29	8
GINI Index	37.5 ⁴	33.7	31.8	31.6
Population within UNHCR mandate	6 600 217	769 260	868 919	458 919
INFORM index	7.1 ⁵	4.4	5.1	2.2
Fragile State Index	111.5	75.43	91.3	30.48
Public social protection	1.9	8.9	41.3	32.6
Net official development assistance received (M USD)	10 231.5*	3941.7	1 525.49	N/A

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Not signed
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Not signed
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified in 2009

d. Geopolitical analysis

Arab Spring demonstrations started in Syria on March 2011, which later have evolved into a complex military conflict, which has already caused an enormous number of casualties, vast destruction across the country and lead to one of the largest humanitarian crises of our time.

¹ UN estimates 22 125 249 (01/07/2022) versus Syria official estimates 22 137 576 (31/07/2022) - <https://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/syria-population>

² <https://hdr.undp.org/inequality-adjusted-human-development-index#/indicies/IHDI>

³ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.STA.MMRT?locations=SY> (latest updates from 2017)

⁴ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI?locations=SY> (latest update from 2003, pre-crisis, no further update since)

⁵ <https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk/Country-Risk-Profile>



Four main actors currently control different parts of the country, the Government of Syria (GoS) controlling the majority of the country. The GoS also controls the center and the Mediterranean coast. Several Opposition Armed Groups (OAGs) alongside Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) control northern Aleppo governorate. The Salvation Government supported by Ankara and backed up by HTS as well as other armed groups control Idlib governorate, while the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) supported by the international Coalition Forces (CF) control most parts of the North Eastern governorates of Hasakeh, Al-Raqqa and Deir Ez-Zour. The Islamist State Group lost its last territorial control in Syria during the first quarter of 2019 and has focused into an insurgency mode with reliance on sleeper cells and local support in NES.

As previously mentioned, regional and international states actors also play a key role in shaping the Syrian context. The Government of Russia (GoR) and Iran backed armed factions (Hezbollah and Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps) in support to the GoS; the Coalition Forces in support of the SDF, while Turkey provides support to the OAGs in northern Aleppo and Raqqa.

The inability of the UN Security Council and the international community to find a consensus on the political system in Syria has caused the failure of several attempts to negotiate a political compromise and bring the conflict to an end. This has emphasized the actors to resolve to the use of military instead of political discussion to resolve their differences. There are no signs that this political consensus will be reached soon despite the restarting talk with Damascus from Arab states.

In summer 2022, there has been a battle between GoS/GoR and HTS in southern Idlib, which caused a major displacement of around 1 million civilians towards the Syrian/Turkish borders. Several civilian infrastructures, including schools and hospitals are damaged. The Islamist State group continue to orchestrate insurgency attacks against SDF in the north east of the country and against GoS the desert of Homs, Deir Ezzor and Raqqa. Other anti-GoS incidents have been recorded in Daraa and Sweidah governorates mostly motivated by the socio-economic crisis and GoS mis-governance. In addition, the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) continue to launch attacks against Iranian and Hezbollah targets in Syria on a regular basis.

Increasing US sanctions on Iran and Syria has resulted in major economic challenges for the GoS in areas under its control. These challenges are translated into increasing prices, electricity and fuel shortages as well as a major drop in the value of the Syrian Pound. This will contribute to renewing the waves of demonstrations, increase the alternative incomes mechanism through drugs trafficking and smuggling as well asymmetric attacks against GoS and its allies, as we have seen recently in the South.

The future of Syria relies on the decisions, agreements and compromises which international and regional actors are willing to make. The trilateral discussions between the Russian, Iranian and Turkish presidents seem to have reached their limitations as the three countries seem to have moved to proxy wars through the GoS and OAGs located in North Syria. Furthermore, Ankara, Damascus and Teheran use proxies to extend their influence and to



fight on other conflicts. This jeopardizes political or peace agreement and increase Syrian crisis on the long term.

With the beginning of the war in Ukraine, Russia disengaged most of its experience soldiers as well as military supplies. However, Moscow will keep its roots in Syria considering the geo-strategy of Syria in order to pressure US and NATO allies.

On the other hand, the US and its allies seem to prioritize stabilization in NES by ensuring a political transition mostly dominated by Kurds. Their presence in Syria remains fragile and limited to counter-terrorism operations on the field. On the international scene, US shields Ankara attempt to launch a military offensive in NES.

The crisis has exacerbated conflicts and divides between ethnic and confessional groups such as Sunni, Shia, Druze, Christian and Kurds and between political groups (supporters of the government vs supporters of the opposition groups). Restoring trust and social cohesion will pose an extremely daunting challenge. Protracted social divisions will provide breeding ground for future forms of armed opposition and/or insurgency and will contribute to future instability.

All areas in Syria are affected by COVID-19 pandemic. The authorities in NES, NW and GoS who were facing several difficulties to ensure medical capacities following years of war are facing this crisis with limited trans-border access due to UN Security Council Resolution and international sanctions.

In this environment, any humanitarian action is confronted to many interconnected issues that constrain the respect of humanitarian principles and the delivery of assistance: increased politicization and instrumentalization of aid by all actors including donors, access and security issues, counter terrorism measures and limitations, breaches in IHL and protection of civilians' rules... Furthermore, the complexity of the political, confessional, economic and military situation leads to complex operational schemes, with different implementation modalities for different parts of Syria.

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI operates since 2012 through cross-border modalities from neighbouring countries:

Northwest Syria: HI launched its intervention from Turkey in November 2012, opening a field base in northern Idlib governorate. HI opened a second field base in northern Aleppo governorate in April 2015. Both bases are active in 2022 through remote management of HI local staff and partnerships with local actors. HI opened a third field base in eastern Aleppo governorate (Kobane) in May 2015, through direct management of HI expat and local staff, but this base was closed in March 2016 due to loss of cross-border access.



Central Syria: HI launched its intervention from Lebanon in March 2013 through remote management of partnerships with local actors. Several HI partners closed their programs in former opposition-controlled areas of rural Damascus and rural Homs during the 1st half of 2018, due to their takeover by the GoS. In 2022, 3 partners of HI are still active in Damascus city, Homs city, Aleppo city and Dar'a governorate. The Centre hub is now referred to as Beirut office.

North-East Syria: HI launched its intervention from Iraq in December 2016 through direct management of HI expat and local staff. HI is active in Hasakeh, Raqqa and Deir ez Zor governorates with projects in Health, Land release, and Inclusion. HI works in a combined modality of direction intervention and through local partners.

HI's volume of intervention and level of humanitarian access in Syria had been continuously growing from 2012. The merge of the North program and the Centre and South programs (previously two separate missions) in a unified Syria mission in July 2016 has allowed pooling together resources and expertise and defining a unified, coherent strategy and methodology of intervention for the whole country. HI has gradually built a strong positioning within the humanitarian community, through the participation in coordination mechanisms and in a major consortium, and is recognized by the humanitarian community.

Since its creation the Syria program had become very large and complex, with four sectors of activity in four different areas of Syria. The mission team had developed specific tools and methods to coordinate the work of the different teams, based in different countries.

From 2020, the Syria program initiated a major phase of transition, firstly with the application of ROOTS transformation to the program, and secondly due to a progressive yet substantial reduction in donor funding in response to Syria crisis. This still ongoing transition was coupled with remaining severe needs for the Syrian population, in a context of early recovery. The conjunction of these factors caused will continue to cause evolutions in Syria program geographic and programmatic footprint.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Project title and main sector(s) of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries in 2021	Location	Project start and end dates	Partners	Donors funding the project
Community-based Psychosocial Support Health & Prevention	<p>Provide individual caregiver sessions as well as group support interventions (together with other caregivers and community members).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide sessions by trained PSS workers, in which low intensity techniques are utilized, mainly based on stress managements, problem solving and decision making techniques. Provide sessions by trained PSS worked at community level and focus on strengthening community and social support structures and self-help mechanisms. 	The project started at the beginning of 2022	Idleb and Aleppo governorates (Northwest Syria) – Phase I	2021-10-01 to 2022-09-30	No operational partners under this project	Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance - BHA
Inclusion	The project aims at the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the humanitarian response and in the community, as well as promotes DGA inclusion, especially in Health and Livelihood sectors.	2 386 direct beneficiaries	Idleb and Aleppo governorates	2016-09-01 to 2022-09-30	Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)	Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance BHA



Health & Prevention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Persons with disabilities Mapping - Case Management 2. Humanitarian actors capacity building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DGA Inclusive livelihood trainings - DGA inclusive training to humanitarian actors 3. Community awareness on disability/DGA inclusion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community and stakeholder awareness sessions - DGA Inclusion Community awareness sessions 4. Accessibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Markets and Individual facilities' Accessibility work - Health / CBOs facilities' Accessibility work 5. Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation - Persons with disabilities training and participation 	Northwest Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care (lead) • Danish Refugee Council (DRC) • International Rescue Committee (IRC) • Mercy Corps (MC) • Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) 	<p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) • Danish International Development Assistance (DANIDA) • Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) 	
Global Rehabilitation	<p>Provision of comprehensive physical and functional rehabilitation to persons with disabilities and persons with injuries</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of multi-disciplinary rehabilitation services tailored to specific needs of each beneficiary. Services provided: Physical rehabilitation (including tele-rehabilitation), Assistive Mobility Devices provision, Prosthetic and orthotic services, Individual or Group psychosocial support. 		Hassakeh governorate Northeast Syria	<p>2017-01-01 to 2022-12-31</p>	<p>UPP Consortium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Un Ponte Per (UPP) • CADUS • Kurdish Red Crescent
Rehabilitation, Health &					



Prevention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Provision of information and education sessions and PSS sessions to caregivers of persons with functional limitations 3. Continuous assessment and tailored support to implementing partners and health facilities supported, including protection 4. Mainstreaming practices using DGA elements 	8 723 direct beneficiaries	Deir Ez Zor governorate	2017-01-01 to 2022-12-31	Local partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kasra Hospital • Busaira Hospital • Sawsan 	Global Affairs Canada – GAC
			Ar-Raqqa Governorate	2017-01-01 to 2022-12-31	Local partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ar-Raqqa National Hospital • Tabqa National Hospital 	German Federal Foreign Office GFFO
	Provision of comprehensive physical and functional rehabilitation to persons with disabilities and persons with injuries.				Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)	Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)
Global Rehabilitation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of multi-disciplinary rehabilitation services tailored to specific needs of each beneficiary 2. Provision of information and education sessions and PSS sessions to caregivers of persons with functional limitations 	4 409 direct beneficiaries	Aleppo, Homs, Rural Damascus, Dar'a governorates	2017-01-01 to 2022-12-31	Consortium : Care (lead), DRC, IRC, MC, NRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIDA – DANIDA - NMFA
Rehabilitation, Health & Prevention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Continuous assessment and tailored support to implementing partners and health facilities supported, including protection 4. Mainstreaming practices using DGA elements 		Central Syria		Local partners 4 associations or organizations of national civil society	Global Affairs Canada – GAC MAEE Luxembourg



<p>Global Rehabilitation Rehabilitation, Health & Prevention</p>	<p>Provision of comprehensive physical and functional rehabilitation to persons with disabilities and persons with injuries. Activities: 1. Provision of multi-disciplinary rehabilitation services tailored to specific needs of each beneficiary. or Group psychosocial support. 2. Provision of information and education sessions and PSS sessions to caregivers of persons with functional limitations 3. Continuous assessment and tailored support to implementing partners and health facilities supported, including protection 4. mainstreaming practices using DGA elements 5. Internal and external referral to existing specialized services according to feasibility and/or service orienting</p>	<p>20 230 direct beneficiaries</p>	<p>Idleb, Northern Aleppo, Tal Abyad governorates Northwest Syria</p>	<p>2016-01-01 to 2022-09-30</p>	<p>(excluding DPOs)</p> <p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <p>Consortium : Care (lead), DRC, IRC, MC, NRC</p>	<p>Swiss Development Cooperation – SDC</p> <p>Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance BHA</p> <p>Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs – BuZa</p> <p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIDA – DANIDA - NMFA
<p>Inclusive Humanitarian Action & Inclusive Livelihood Health & Prevention</p>	<p>Provision of technical assistance on inclusion to international partners implementing livelihood activities Provision of RE and PSS for livelihood project's beneficiaries</p>	<p>3 565 direct beneficiaries</p>	<p>Northeast Syria</p>	<p>2016-09-01 to 2022-12-31</p>	<p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <p>Consortium : Care (lead), DRC, IRC, MC, NRC</p>	<p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIDA – DANIDA - NMFA



Protection
Social &
Inclusion
Armed
Violence
reduction

<p>Support to Livelihoods Social & Inclusion</p>	<p>1. Conduct market assessment and profiling in the areas of interventions. 2. Increased access to short-term income support through cash for work interventions in the community 3. Improved access to business skills and capital 4. Inclusion and social support</p>	<p>944 direct beneficiaries</p>	<p>Rural Damascus, Quneitra, Hama, Homs, Dara'a, Central Syria</p>	<p>2019-01-01 to 2022-12-31</p>	<p>UPP Consortium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPP (lead) • CADUS • KRC <p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <p>Consortium : Care (lead), DRC, IRC, MC, NRC</p>	<p>Swiss Development Cooperation – SDC</p> <p>Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency – SIDA</p> <p>Centre de crise et de soutien – CDCS</p> <p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIDA – DANIDA - NMFA <p>Swiss Development Cooperation – SDC</p>
<p>Explosive Ordnance Risk Education</p>	<p>1. Contamination Impact Survey 2. EORE direct sessions: households sessions (door to door), groups sessions including adapted sessions for children 3. Explosive Ordnance Public Information activities (EORE Indirect activities): theatrical presentations for populations and</p>	<p>136 761 direct beneficiaries</p>	<p>Ar-Raqqa, Deir ez Zor governorates Northeast Syria</p>	<p>2016-01-01 to 2022-12-31</p>	<p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <p>Consortium : Care (lead), DRC, IRC, MC, NRC</p>	<p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIDA – DANIDA – NMFA



Armed Violence reduction	community leaders, drawings of main EORE messages on walls of the main facilities, 4. Training of trainers					UPP Consortium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPP (lead) • CADUS • KRC 	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs – BuZa
							German Federal Foreign Office GFFO
							Centre de crise et de soutien – CDCS
Explosive Ordnance Risk Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contamination Impact Survey (CIS) at initial phase in a targeted area of intervention 2. Accidents Surveys (AC) and Victims Surveys (VS) 3. Direct EORE Sessions provision: face to face sessions with groups (schools) or homes visits 4. Safety Briefing Sessions (for NGO, public and private sector staff). 5. EORE Training of Trainers (TOT): recruitment and training of volunteers to deliver EORE. 	89 816 direct beneficiaries	Idleb and Aleppo governorates Northwest Syria	2016-01-01 to 2022-09-30	Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)	Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)	
Armed Violence reduction					Consortium : Care (lead), DRC, IRC, MC, NRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIDA – DANIDA - NMFA 	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs – BuZa
							Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance BHA
Explosive Ordnance Clearance	Clearance (including conduction of impact survey, marking of EO, clearance and destruction)	Due to the nature of HI Clearance capacity in NES, the project is not	Ar-Raqqa Governorate (Northeast Syria)	2018-01-01 to 2022-12-31	No operational partners under this project	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency – SIDA	
Armed Violence reduction							



yet in
capacity to
collect direct
beneficiary
data

**Dutch Ministry of
Foreign Affairs
BuZa**

**German Federal
Foreign Office
- GFFO**

Donors

<p>Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance - BHA</p>  <p>USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE</p>	<p>Syria Resilience Consortium Multi-Donor Fund (MDF)</p>  <p>European Union EXTERNAL ACTION</p>
<p>Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency – SIDA</p>  <p>Sida SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY</p>	<p>Centre de crise et de soutien</p>  <p>CENTRE DE CRISE ET DE SOUTIEN Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères</p>
<p>Global Affairs Canada – GAC</p>  <p>Global Affairs Canada Affaires mondiales Canada</p>	<p>German Federal Foreign Office GFFO</p>  <p>Federal Republic of Germany Foreign Office</p>
<p>MAEE Luxembourg</p>  <p>LE GOUVERNEMENT DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes</p>	<p>Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs BuZa</p>  <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>
<p>Swiss Development Cooperation – SDC</p>  <p>Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra</p> <p>Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC</p>	