



Together with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, WHO is helping coordinate the deployment of mobile clinics to collective shelters for families from East Ghouta.

*Photo: WHO Syria*

**50,000+**

People hosted in 8 collective shelters in Rural Damascus

**1865**

WHO-supported consultations provided on 26 March

**648**

Patients referred to hospitals from 11-26 March

**289**

Children vaccinated on 26 March

**13**

Nutrition surveillance sites operational

### SITUATION

- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) hosted in shelters has decreased by 35% (from 75,417 IDPs since the opening of the shelters to 48,926 IDPs on 26 March).
- There is a significant decrease in the number of IDPs in Adra School (by 67%), Adra Electricity Complex (by 65%), Nashabieyh (by 50%) and Dweir (by 49%).
- Usually, women, children and elderly get picked up by their relatives to join them in Damascus or Rural Damascus. Men are also free to leave the shelters after security clearance procedures are completed.
- The number of IDPs in Akram Abu Nasser shelter has increased by 40%. Now hosting (1,023 persons).
- Currently, the largest two shelters in terms of number of IDPs are Harjaleh (17,457 persons) and Dweir (9,583 persons). Both are over capacity.
- Acute diarrhea, upper respiratory infections, and lice are still the most reported communicable diseases among IDPs. Lab results showed a positive TB diagnosis for two patients detected in Najha on 26 March.
- One child with severe acute respiratory infection was reported by the medical team in Dweir shelter and is in need of hospitalization. The medical teams reports that security has not yet allowed the child to leave the shelter.

**East Ghouta IDPs shelter sites figures update as of 27 March (source OCHA)**

Site	Total # of IDPs who arrived at the site since its opening	# of IDPs as of the morning of 26 March	# of IDPs arrived at the sites on 26 March	# of IDPs who left the site on 26 March	Accumulative # of IDPs who left the site	# of IDPs as of the morning of 27 March
Electricity Building in Adra	13500	5160	0	400	8740	4760
Schools Compound in Adra	5400	1800	0	0	3600	1800
Nashabye	5777	2946	15	86	2902	2875
Herjalleh	19184	17944	0	487	1727	17457
Dweir	16118	10083	0	500	6535	9583
Najha	8357	6763	0	152	1746	6611
Fayhaa	6369	5317	0	500	1550	4817
Akram Abu Al Naser	1087	709	358	44	64	1023
Boueda	0	0	0	0	0	
Al Mattaleh	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>75792</b>	<b>50722</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>2169</b>	<b>26864</b>	<b>48926</b>

## **WHO RESPONSE**

### **I. IMMEDIATE INTERVENTIONS**

#### Coordination

- WHO continue to coordinate with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, national health authorities, and health partners on the ongoing and planned response.

#### Outreach essential services

- WHO has dispatched a shipment of health supplies to SARC, sufficient for a total of 20,000 medical treatments.
- 3007 WHO-supported consultations were provided on 27 March through mobile health units and medical mobile teams run by NGOs in Najha and Al Nashabyeh collective shelters, Dweir, Adra, Adra Al balad, Harjallah and Fayha.

### Mental and psychosocial health support services

- More than 600 persons in Adra shelters (Electricity, Schools and Abo Al Naser) received psychological first aid and counseling sessions by WHO-supported teams of community psychosocial support workers.
- In addition, more than 150 children participated in recreational activities organized by teams from the Association for Poor Charity and Syria Pulse NGOs.
- Coordination meetings were conducted with the management of Tamayouz for Orphan Association and Mobadaret Ahl Al Sham NGOs to increase the Mental and psychosocial health support services in the shelters.
- More than 20 doctors previously trained on mhGAP-Intervention guide working at PHC and NGOs health facilities and mobile teams in East Ghouta received on-the-job training by WHO.

### Immunization and communicable diseases

- To strengthen coordination between DoH medical teams and other teams from SARC and NGOs, DoH workers have distributed cases definitions of priority diseases, and contact information of DoH health officers.
- One DOH vaccination team entered Saqba city for the first time after seven years of siege. 159 children under 5 were vaccinated (139 were dropout children). 10 women were vaccinated against tetanus in Saqba. New vehicles were allocated for the Saqba team, in addition to incentives.
- In total on 27 March, 102 children were vaccinated in Adra shelter, 97 children vaccinated in Herjeleh and 39 children vaccinated in Najha.
- Medicines were provided to two patients in Najha diagnosed with TB on 26 March. The cases were registered in the TB programme and medicines were provided to the patients.

### Nutrition

- 17 teams from MOH, DOH and SFPA are responding with nutrition surveillance and nutrition screening. WHO has supported SFPA with 3 child health volunteers from the private sector to work in mobile clinics.

## **II. HOSPITALIZATION OF CRITICAL CASES**

- WHO continues to monitor the hospitalization of patients. As of 27 March 2018, 669 patients have been referred to public hospitals.

*The ongoing response for East Ghouta involves 13 health partners inside Syria, including the Syrian Ministry of Health, WHO, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, International Medical Corps, Syrian Arab Red Crescent, Monastery Saint James the Mutilated, Syria Family Planning Association, Association for Poor Charity, Al Sham and Circassian Charity Association, and The Youth Charity Association of Dummer.*