

SITUATION UPDATE



A staff member distributes hygiene kits in Rural Damascus.

Hostilities persist across Syria, particularly in the northeastern region, affecting Aleppo, Ar Raqqa, the Tishreen Dam, and the Al Hasakeh and Ar Raqqa governorates. Clashes in Menbij have recently displaced 25,000 people, increasing the total number of displaced to 652,000. Tribal clashes and looting in coastal areas have restricted civilian movement, while Israeli incursions in the south have been reported in Quneitra.

There are more than 7.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) across Syria, with approximately 5.1 million residing outside IDP sites and 2.2 million remaining in formal displacement camps. There are hundreds of thousands of IDP returnees, while tens of thousands have recently departed camps. These displacement and return trends for Syria are significant, as the return of so many people places additional pressure on already overstretched infrastructure and services. Returnees may face challenges in accessing basic services, especially in areas where security remains volatile.

Ongoing instability across Syria has severely damaged critical infrastructure, particularly access to electricity. In northwest Syria, 30 health facilities in former frontline areas remain non-functional. In regions such as Hama and Homs, electricity is available for only 45 to 60 minutes every eight hours. Nationwide, approximately 43% of hospitals and 63% of primary healthcare centers are partially or completely non-functional.

Reduced services and areas rendered inaccessible due to conflict are leaving vulnerable populations without basic healthcare and hindering organizations' ability to deliver essential services. In addition, though banks have reopened, difficulties in accessing cash and financial resources persist. These liquidity issues are particularly affecting vulnerable populations, who struggle to withdraw money or receive payments, and humanitarian organizations, which face challenges in securing funds to sustain aid efforts.

Access to essential maternal and child healthcare services in Syria remains critically limited. Many women lack access to prenatal care, access to safe childbirth services or postnatal support, posing significant risks to the well-being of women and children. Mental health services are also severely lacking, leaving many without support for stress-related disorders, anxiety, depression and violence against women and girls. These combined challenges continue to deepen the humanitarian crisis, making access to healthcare increasingly difficult.

FAST FACTS

- The number of newly displaced individuals has increased from 627,000 to 652,000.
- Though banks have reopened, limited access to cash remains a challenge for vulnerable populations and humanitarian organizations.
- Syria's healthcare system continues to face severe challenges, with 43% of hospitals and 63% of primary healthcare centers either partially or completely non-functional.

OUR FOOTPRINT

- International Medical Corps has been providing humanitarian aid in Syria since 2008, operating in 12 of 14 governorates, providing essential services in seven hospitals, 22 primary healthcare centers (PHCs), nine mobile medical units (MMUs) and 24 specialized facilities in underserved areas.
- In 2024, we reached more than 1 million people with healthcare, nutrition, MHPSS, WASH, GBV and child-protection services.

OUR RESPONSE

- International Medical Corps has recently expanded our response to support an additional 11 hospitals, 13 PHCs, 21 MMUs and six specialized healthcare facilities.
- International Medical Corps has distributed 45,000 liters of fuel to hospitals in Aleppo and Hama to address critical shortages.
- International Medical Corps has distributed 340 hygiene kits, 438 winterization items and 416 dignity kits in Rural Damascus.
- Since November, we have conducted 34,061 health consultations, distributed 864,675 medications, delivered 1,931 MHPSS services and offered 2,288 protection services.

International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps has provided essential humanitarian aid in Syria since 2008, operating in 12 of the country's 14 governorates. Throughout our emergency response we have scaled up our support and are now providing services across a network of facilities, including 18 hospitals, 35 primary healthcare centers (PHCs), 30 mobile medical units (MMUs) and 30 specialized healthcare facilities. We have placed these resources strategically to serve underserved areas and ensure that vital healthcare services reach those in need. We collaborate with Syria's Ministry of Health (MoH) and Department of Health (DoH) to strengthen public health infrastructure, improve healthcare facility operations and support local partners managing PHCs by providing medical supplies, operational assistance and workforce training.

In response to increasing displacement, International Medical Corps has enhanced access to healthcare by deploying 21 MMUs specifically supporting the emergency response across multiple locations in Aleppo, Daraa, Deir El Zor, Hasakeh, Homs, Idleb, Kobani, Latakia, Raqqa, Rural Damascus, Tabqa and Tartous, reaching those in underserved areas. These MMUs provide a broad range of healthcare services, including maternal and newborn health, while integrating mental health, nutrition and protection support. We are preparing rapid response teams to manage outbreaks of disease, such as cholera, and we have expanded ambulance services to ensure that people needing specialized care can reach facilities such as Kobane Hospital and Tabqa Maternity Hospital. These initiatives improve access to advanced treatments for vulnerable populations.

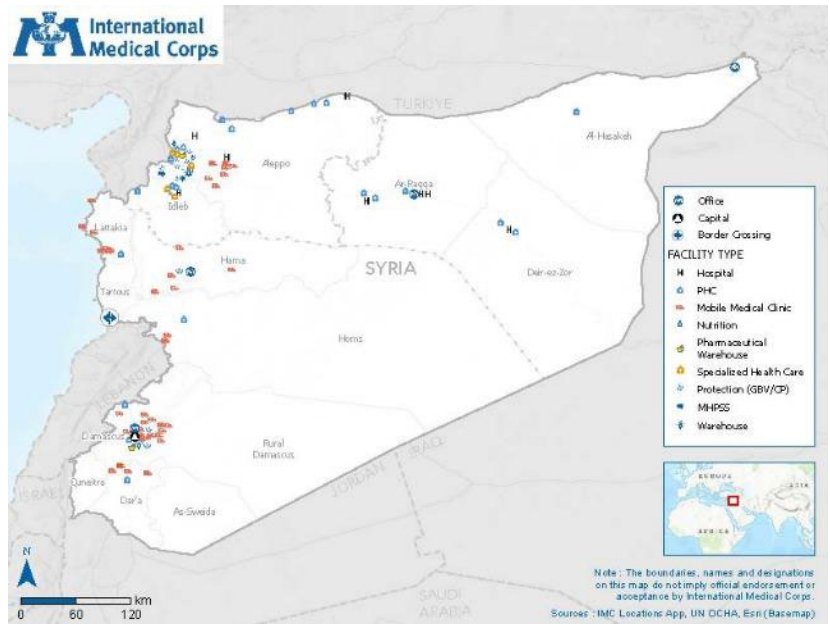
We are addressing fuel shortages at healthcare facilities in coordination with the DoH in Aleppo, responding to critical shortages at Aleppo University Hospital. With fuel supplies on the verge of depletion within two days, the hospital faced an imminent shutdown of lifesaving departments, including operating theatres, intensive-care units and incubators. Recognizing the urgency, International Medical Corps swiftly delivered 10,000 liters of fuel to avert the crisis, and then expanded this support to five additional hospitals in Hama, providing 35,000 liters of fuel. International Medical Corps also supplied Al-Zahraa Hospital in Homs governorate with 12 tons of liquid oxygen to ensure the continuity of critical medical services.

We continue to focus on long-term plans to rebuild health infrastructure, train local healthcare staff and create sustainable programs addressing physical and mental health needs. We have expanded services to include communicable disease monitoring, immunization, mass-casualty management, physical rehabilitation, maternal and newborn health, surgical services, and trauma and emergency care, and have integrated mental health, nutrition and protection services. Our rehabilitation efforts help people with war-related injuries, disabilities or mobility challenges regain independence and improve their quality of life.

We have scaled up emergency operations to enhance healthcare facilities and provide critical medical supplies. Our emergency operations provide PHCs, hospitals and healthcare facilities with essential resources, such as assistive devices, infection prevention materials, laboratory supplies, medical consumables, medical equipment, medications and trauma kits. One example is expansion of our support to healthcare facilities in desperate need of supplies at the front line is Menbij hospital, where we have delivered one shipment in January and one in February of pharmaceutical and medical supplies.

Since the second week of January, we have distributed 340 hygiene kits, 438 winterization items (jackets, socks, shoes, etc.) for children aged 2–14, and 416 dignity kits for women and girls in Rural Damascus. This distribution supported 279 returnee families, with assistance tailored to their needs. International Medical Corps also identified and verified 275 vulnerable households in Hama and 567 in Homs requiring further support, and will be distributing more supplies soon.

To increase awareness and increase community resilience, International Medical Corps engages communities on such topics as disease prevention, health education, hygiene promotion and psychosocial support, delivered via community centers, family centers, MMUs and safe spaces.



To support national health strategies and maximize resources, International Medical Corps works closely with key stakeholders—including the DoH, MoH and WHO—to ensure that critical assistance reaches the most vulnerable populations. Since November, we have provided 34,061 health consultations, distributed 864,675 medications, delivered 1,931 MHPSS services and offered 2,288 protection services. These initiatives underscore our dedication to meeting urgent needs while contributing to the long-term strengthening of Syria's healthcare system.



International Medical Corps staff prepare for distribution of hygiene, winterization and dignity kits in Rural Damascus.