The Syria Shelter and Non-food Item (NFI) assessment aims to provide comprehensive information on the shelter status and NFI access of populations across Syria. This factsheet presents findings drawn from a representative sample of 1,406 households surveyed across 13 sub-districts in South Syria. Data was collected from 6 July to 10 August 2017. Results are representative of assessed communities in each sub-district at a 95% confidence level and 10% margin of error. The factsheet occasionally refers to data from a similar assessment carried out in December 2016 for the purpose of comparison, although these comparisons are only indicative due to differences in sub-districts covered between the two assessments.

Overall, 26% of households assessed in Northwest Syria were IDPs, although a larger proportion (43%) was reported in Quneitra. Over 50% of households in South Syria reported shelter damage, of which two-thirds were unable to conduct shelter repairs. While households reported low levels of availability and affordability challenges for most NFIs, over 30% could not find or afford cooking fuel, batteries and portable light sources. These items, along with clothing and shoes, were frequently reported amongst top NFI needs.

### OVERVIEW

**Assessed sub-districts:**
- RURAL DAMASCUS
- DARA
- AS-SWEIDA
- QUNEITRA
- Umm al Khair
- Dar'a
- Al Basrah
- Al Rehab
- Al Qunaythar
- Jibret
- Al Kheireh
- Al Khir Qtar
- Al Masallem

**Unassessed sub-districts:**
- Dair Azza
- Al Shafar
- Al Kheir
- Al Ghab
- Al Dair

**Estimated total population across the governorate:** 1,000,398 people

**Estimated population of assessed sub-districts:** 794,350 people

### DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Population distribution by gender and age:**
  - Age:
    - 60+: 1%
    - 18-59: 24%
    - 15-17: 5%
    - 11-14: 6%
    - 6-10: 4%
    - 3-5: 3%
    - 0-2: 3%

- **Population displacement status:**
  - 64%: Non-displaced population
  - 26%: IDPs
  - 10%: Returnees

- **Average household size:** 5.9 people

### DISPLACEMENT

- **For the 30% of households that include IDPs, top 3 reasons for moving to their current location:**
  - Conflict in area of origin: 81%
  - Relative access to employment, income and shelter: 37%
  - Family ties or good relations with the host community: 37%

- **For these 7%, top 3 reasons for intending to leave their current location:**
  1. Improve access to or upgrade shelter
  2. Proximity to relatives/friends
  3. Improve access to income and employment

2. Multiple choices allowed.
**SHELTER**

Average number of households per shelter: 1.3
Average number of people per shelter: 7.1
Average number of people per bedroom: 3.6

Percentage of households with IDPs and non-IDP households living in each shelter type:

- Solid finished house: 72%
  - Non-IDP households: 40%
  - Households with IDPs: 24%
- Solid finished apartment: 18%
  - Non-IDP households: 17%
  - Households with IDPs: 11%
- Unfinished building: 7%
  - Non-IDP households: 0%
  - Households with IDPs: 7%
- Informal settlement: 11%
  - Non-IDP households: 11%
  - Households with IDPs: 0%
- Other: 2%

Percentage of households with IDPs and non-IDP households living in each occupancy arrangement:

- Ownership: 79%
  - Non-IDP households: 8%
  - Households with IDPs: 2%
- Renting: 8%
  - Non-IDP households: 9%
  - Households with IDPs: 1%
- Hosted without rent: 8%
  - Non-IDP households: 13%
  - Households with IDPs: 2%
- Squatting: 2%
  - Non-IDP households: 5%
  - Households with IDPs: 0%
- Other: 5%

Average monthly rent over the past three months: 28 USD*
(Dec 2016: 22 USD)

15% of households reported renting. Change in rental price over the past 3 months:
- Remained stable: 69%
- Increased: 31%

Of these 15%, ability to pay rent on time over the past 3 months:
- Always able to pay on time: 56%
- Missed a payment but able to cover later: 35%
- Missed a payment and unable to cover later: 5%
- Missed multiple payments: 3%

**HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY (HLP)**

74% of households reported possessing legal documentation to prove their occupancy status. Of these, top 3 most common types of documentation:
- Formal real estate registry: 82%
- Buyer-seller contract: 10%
- Court contract: 4%

16% of households reported HLP problems, most commonly due to Lack of connections.

Of these 16%, 66% reported that HLP problems made them uncertain of their ability to remain in their shelter.

**SHELTER ADEQUACY/DAMAGE**

55% of households reported shelter adequacy issues (compared with 66% in December 2016). Of those, top 5 issues:
- Leaking during rain: 59%
- Lack of insulation from cold: 51%
- Unable to lock home securely: 39%
- Lack of lighting: 34%
- Lack of space inside shelter: 30%

54% of households reported shelter damage (compared with 62% in December 2016). Of those, the top 5 issues:
- Broken or cracked windows: 66%
- Some cracks in some walls: 51%
- Doors unable to shut properly: 43%
- Heavy fire damage: 35%
- Gaps or cracks in roof: 19%

**SHELTER REPAIR AND SUPPORT**

Of the 54% of households reporting shelter damage, 67% were unable to conduct repairs to shelter. Of those, top 3 reasons:
- Shelter repair materials too expensive: 70%
- Cannot afford to pay a professional for repairs: 68%
- Shelter repair materials unavailable in markets: 6%

Top 3 unavailable and unaffordable shelter repair materials reported:

- Most commonly unavailable: Timber (Concrete), Wood (Basic tools), Nails/screws (Basic electrical items)
- Most commonly unaffordable: Concrete, Wood, Nails/screws

Reported preference for shelter support:
- Unconditional cash support: 68%
- No preference: 21%
- External actors directly make repairs: 7%
- Shelter repair materials: 4%

52% of households reported receiving no information about shelter support in the last year.

1. 14,291 SYP, using UN Operational Rate (514.85) on 1 August 2017.
2. Multiple choices allowed.
Reported availability and affordability of NFIs on markets (July 2017):

- Winter blankets: Available/Affordable 91%, Not affordable 2%, Not available 2%
- Winter shoes: Available/Affordable 91%, Not affordable 2%, Not available 2%
- Winter clothes: Available/Affordable 91%, Not affordable 2%, Not available 2%
- Winter heaters: Available/Affordable 91%, Not affordable 2%, Not available 2%
- Mattresses/Sleeping mats: Available/Affordable 91%, Not affordable 2%, Not available 2%
- Bedding items: Available/Affordable 91%, Not affordable 2%, Not available 2%
- Cooking utensils: Available/Affordable 87%, Not affordable 3%, Not available 2%
- Shoes: Available/Affordable 86%, Not affordable 7%, Not available 2%
- Heating fuel: Available/Affordable 92%, Not affordable 8%, Not available 2%
- Clothing: Available/Affordable 92%, Not affordable 8%, Not available 2%
- Water containers: Available/Affordable 90%, Not affordable 10%, Not available 2%
- Cooking fuel: Available/Affordable 80%, Not affordable 20%, Not available 2%
- Batteries: Available/Affordable 63%, Not affordable 37%, Not available 2%
- Portable light sources: Available/Affordable 88%, Not affordable 9%, Not available 2%

Change in NFI availability over the past 3 months:
- Remained stable: 55%
- Increased: 25%
- Decreased: 20%

Priority NFI needs reported per age and gender groups:

1. Girls (0-17y)
   - 1. Clothing
   - 2. Shoes
   - 3. Winter clothes

2. Boys (0-17y)
   - 1. Clothing
   - 2. Shoes
   - 3. Portable light sources

3. Women (18-59y)
   - 1. Cooking fuel
   - 2. Clothing
   - 3. Cooking utensils

4. Men (18-59y)
   - 1. Portable light sources
   - 2. Batteries
   - 3. Clothing

5. Elderly (60+ y)
   - 1. Clothing
   - 2. Portable light sources
   - 3. Cooking fuel

78% of households adopted coping strategies in response to a lack of NFIs, most commonly:
1. Borrowing money or buying on credit
2. Spending savings
3. Selling household assets

ELECTRICITY

7% of households reported no main source of electricity. For the remaining 93%, the main sources were as follows:
- Solar panels: 55%
- Car Batteries: 18%
- Main network grid: 11%
- Batteries other than car batteries: 10%
- Generator: 6%

92% of households reportedly adopted coping strategies in response to a lack of electricity, most commonly:
1. Use electricity for certain purposes only
2. Use battery powered devices such as torches
3. Use electricity only at certain times of the day

FUEL

Top 3 main sources of heating and cooking fuel:
- Cooking fuel: Gas 86%, Heating fuel: Wood/charcoal 56%
- Wood/charcoal: 7%
- Diesel: 4%
- None: 12%

ACCESS TO MARKETS AND NFI SUPPORT

17% of households reported challenges accessing a market, most commonly:
- Markets too far away: 51%
- Lack of transportation to markets: 51%
- Safety or security concerns at markets: 26%

Reported preference for NFI support:
- 70% Unconditional cash distributions
- 18% No preference
- 8% NFI distributions
- 4% Conditional vouchers

38% of households reported receiving no information about NFI support in the past year.

Top 5 most likely NFIs to be purchased with cash/voucher-based aid:
- Portable light sources: 62%
- Cooking fuel: 62%
- Batteries: 47%
- Heating fuel: 42%
- Clothing: 24%

1. Multiple choices allowed.
Map 2: Proportion of households reporting shelter adequacy issues (by sub-district)

Map 3: Average levels of NFI availability and affordability problems¹ (by sub-district)

1. Calculated as an average of the percentage unavailability/unaffordability reported for each NFI item displayed in the availability/affordability graph on the previous page.