

SYRIA SITUATION UPDATE

Data Briefing

January 2026 | PRISM Humanitarian Analytics Platform

1. Crisis Overview

1.1 Key Headline Figures

People in Need (2026): **16.5 million** (up from 16.47M in 2025)

People in Need (2025): **16,471,143**

Population: **24.3 million**

Total Refugees From Syria: **6,119,508**

Refugees Registered in Syria: **599,147**

Internally Displaced: **7,409,000**

New Internal Displacement 2024 (Conflict): **768,000**

Women as % of Affected Population: **47%**

Children as % of Affected Population: **46%**

1.2 INFORM Risk Profile

Indicator	Score	Classification
INFORM Risk Index	7.5	Very High (Rank 9 globally)
Hazard & Exposure	7.9	—
Natural Hazard	5.0	—
Human Hazard	9.4	Extreme
Vulnerability	7.7	—
Socio-Economic	5.9	—
Vulnerable Groups	8.9	Extreme
Lack of Coping Capacity	7.0	—
Institutional	8.7	Extreme
Infrastructure	4.0	Moderate

1.3 ACLED Conflict Index

Syria ranks **3rd globally** on the ACLED Conflict Index (December 2025) with an **Extreme** index level.

Dimension	Rank	Value
Overall Index	3	Extreme
Deadliness	7	9,265 fatalities
Diffusion	4	0.117
Danger	5	3,919
Fragmentation	8	76 armed groups

1.4 Underfunded Crisis Status

Syria has been consistently classified as an underfunded crisis:

Year	Rank	Status	Cumulative Funding Met %	Funding Received (\$M)
2025	18 (national) / 8 (regional)	Severe / Chronic	49.9% / 37.9%	11,223 / 10,859
2024	21 (national) / 9 (regional)	Moderate / Severe	55.1% / 40.8%	11,903 / 11,952
2023	17 (national) / 9 (regional)	Moderate / Severe	59.3% / 47.3%	11,362 / 13,585

2. Funding Analysis

2.1 Humanitarian Response Plans

Year	Requirements (\$)	Funded (\$)	Gap (\$)	Coverage %	Response Name
2026	\$3.19 billion	\$116.7 million	\$3.07 billion	3.66%	HRP 2026
2025	\$3.19 billion	\$1.22 billion	\$1.97 billion	38.21%	HRP Jan-Dec 2025
2024	\$4.07 billion	\$1.62 billion	\$2.45 billion	39.79%	HRP 2024

Key finding: Syria's 2026 HRP is severely underfunded at only 3.66% coverage (as of January 2026). Requirements remain at \$3.19 billion — virtually unchanged from 2025 — yet funding has drastically decreased year-on-year: from \$1.62B (2024) to \$1.22B (2025).

2.2 GHO 2025 People in Need vs Targeted

Plan	People in Need	People Targeted	Requirements	Funded	% Funded
Syria (National)	16,471,143	10,301,201	\$3.19B	\$573.2M	18.0%
Syria 3RP (Regional)	17,145,930	11,512,450	\$4.70B	\$312.2M	6.7%

2.3 CERF Allocations

Year	Type	Indicator	Amount (\$)
2024	Funded	Displacement/Migration: Rapid Response	\$1,500,000
2024	Under Review	Displacement/Migration: Rapid Response	\$3,177,291
2024	Funded	Violence/Clashes: Underfunded Emergencies	\$650,000
2024	Under Review	Violence/Clashes: Underfunded Emergencies	\$20,000,000
2025	Funded	Displacement/Migration: Rapid Response	\$1,500,000
2025	Under Review	Displacement: Underfunded Emergencies	\$18,000,000

2.4 Top Donors to Syria (All Years)

Rank	Donor	Total Funding (\$)
1	EU (ECHO)	\$337,251,504
2	United States (USAID)	\$327,572,364
3	United Kingdom	\$295,684,286
4	Germany	\$295,027,343
5	US Department of State	\$166,982,364
6	Saudi Arabia	\$130,652,767
7	Syria Cross-border Humanitarian Fund	\$119,014,905
8	Canada	\$97,778,992
9	Qatar Fund for Development	\$87,740,283
10	France	\$85,222,754
11	Syria Humanitarian Fund	\$81,695,487
12	Japan	\$79,159,911
13	Switzerland	\$63,357,499
14	Denmark	\$59,555,496
15	CERF	\$58,523,188

3. Conflict & Security

3.1 Political Violence Events (ACLED)

Annual political violence events have declined from a peak of 30,734 in 2017 but remain at crisis levels:

Year	Political Violence Events	Year-on-Year Change
2017	30,734	—
2018	18,459	-40%
2019	18,307	-1%
2020	10,381	-43%
2021	9,506	-8%
2022	10,895	+15%
2023	10,243	-6%
2024	12,376	+21%
2025	6,606	-47% (partial year data)
2026	280	January only

3.2 Aid Worker Incidents

40 documented security incidents affecting aid workers in Syria (2023-2025):

Year	Total Incidents	Nationals Killed	Internationals Killed	Total Killed
2023	15	7	0	7
2024	29	14	0	14
2025	11	2	0	2

Means of attack breakdown: Aerial bombardment (10), Shooting (9), Shelling (6), Bodily assault (4), Landmine (3), Kidnapping (3), Unknown (3), Detention (1), Roadside IED (1).

3.3 Protection Risk Severity

Syria has 15 documented protection risks. Eleven are rated at severity 4 (highest) and four at severity 3:

Protection Risk	Severity
Abduction, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary arrest/detention	4 (Critical)
Attacks on civilians and civilian objects	4 (Critical)
Child and forced family separation	4 (Critical)
Child, early or forced marriage	4 (Critical)
Disinformation and denial of access to information	4 (Critical)
Forced recruitment of children in armed groups	4 (Critical)
Presence of mines and explosive ordnance	4 (Critical)

Psychological/emotional abuse	4 (Critical)
Theft, extortion, forced eviction, property destruction	4 (Critical)
Torture or cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment	4 (Critical)
Trafficking in persons, forced labour, slavery	4 (Critical)
Discrimination, denial of resources/services/access	3 (High)
Gender-based violence	3 (High)
Impediments to legal identity, remedies, and justice	3 (High)
Restrictions on freedom of movement, siege, forced displacement	3 (High)

4. Climate & Natural Hazards

4.1 Disaster History (EM-DAT, 2000-2025)

21 recorded disaster events affecting Syria since 2001:

Year	Disaster Type	Total Affected	Deaths
2008	Drought	1,300,000	—
2019	Flood	235,000	2
2020	Wildfire	140,079	3
2021	Drought	5,500,000	—
2021	Flood	142,003	1
2022	Blizzard/Winter storm	362,700	2
2023	Earthquake (Feb 6)	8,012,394	5,670
2023	Drought	650,000	—
2023	Wildfire	50,005	—
2024	Wildfire	15,000	—
2024	Flood	9,700	—
2025	Drought	14,500,000	—
2025	Wildfire	55,000	—
2025	Blizzard/Winter storm	158,000	2

Note: The 2025 drought affected 14.5 million people — nearly 60% of the entire population. The February 2023 earthquake remains the deadliest single event with 5,670 fatalities and over 8 million affected.

4.2 Rainfall Anomalies by Governorate

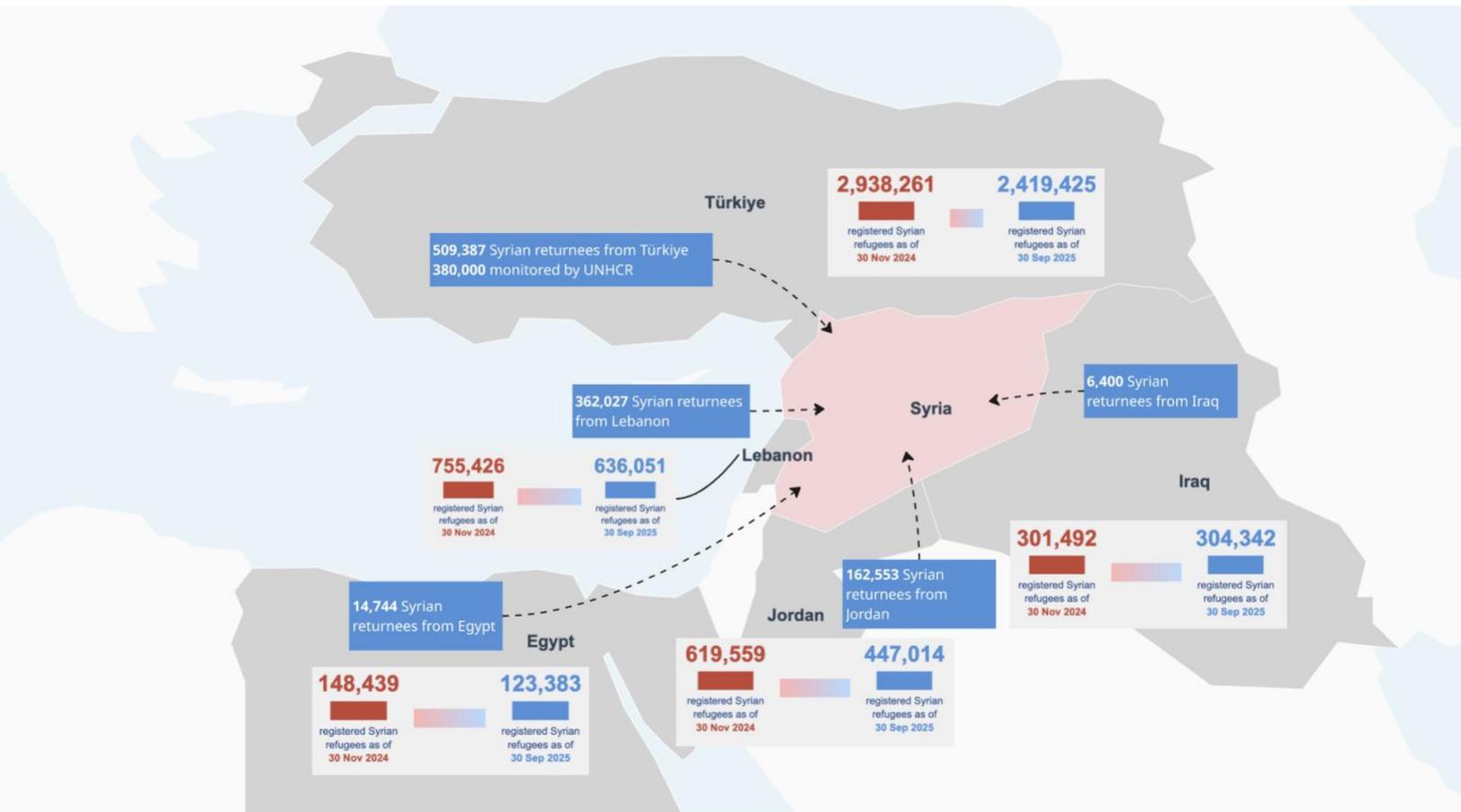
Latest available rainfall data shows significant anomalies across Syrian governorates (% of long-term average):

Governorate	Rainfall (mm)	Long-term Average (mm)	Anomaly (%)
Quneitra	104.4	36.8	+161.5%
Lattakia	140.9	51.0	+160.4%
Damascus	33.6	13.8	+105.2%
Dar'a	36.6	16.1	+96.9%
Idleb	44.8	30.3	+40.8%
Homs	13.8	8.9	+35.8%
Ar-Raqqa	16.5	12.4	+23.6%
Rural Damascus	11.6	6.8	+40.8%
Aleppo	15.7	14.7	+5.1%
As-Sweida	10.3	9.9	+3.0%

Note: Rainfall anomalies above 100% indicate above-average precipitation, which may signal flooding risk in a country with damaged infrastructure. Sub-national data from HDX HAPI covers 809 records across Syria's governorates.

5. Return of Syrian Refugees and IDPs

Number of Refugee Returnees:	1.099.768	
Admin Name	Percentage of returnees	adm1_pcode
Al-Haakeh	1%	SY08
Aleppo	16%	SY02
Ar-Raqqa	2%	SY11
As-Sweida	0%	SY13
Damascus	18%	SY01
Dar'a	9%	SY12
Deir-ez-Zor	2%	SY09
Hama	9%	SY05
Homs	13%	SY04
Idleb	14%	SY07



Lattakia	2%	SY06
Queneitra	1%	SY14
Rural Damascus	12%	SY03
Tartous	9%	SY10

Source: [UNHCR Regional Flash Update #49 Syria Situation](#), 17 October 2025

Number of IDPs:	7.096.053	
Admin Name	Percentage of returnees	adm1_pcode
Al-Hasakeh	5.30%	SY08
Aleppo	22.56%	SY02
Ar-Raqqa	3.95%	SY11
As-Sweida	0.10%	SY13
Damascus	8.30%	SY01
Dar'a	0.74%	SY12
Deir-ez-Zor	1.68%	SY09
Hama	2.74%	SY05
Homs	3.13%	SY04
Idleb	30.06%	SY07
Lattakia	6.34%	SY06
Queneitra	0.04%	SY14
Rural Damascus	13.15%	SY03
Tartous	1.97%	SY10

Number of IDP Returnees:	1.894.435	
Admin Name	Percentage of returnees	adm1_pcode
Al-Hasakeh	0.2%	SY08
Aleppo	39.9%	SY02
Ar-Raqqa	0.4%	SY11
As-Sweida	0.1%	SY13
Damascus	0.6%	SY01
Dar'a	2.1%	SY12
Deir-ez-Zor	4.3%	SY09
Hama	16.2%	SY05

Homs	14%	SY04
Idleb	14%	SY07
Lattakia	2.2%	SY06
Queneitra	0.1%	SY14
Rural Damascus	5.5%	SY03
Tartous	0.1%	SY10

6. Suggested Narrative Angles

Based on the data inventory above, the following angles are supported by PRISM metrics:

The Funding Cliff: 2026 HRP at 3.66% funded vs 38-40% in prior years. \$3.07B gap. Compare with donor fatigue trajectory from underfunded crisis index (dropping from 55% to 50% coverage nationally).

A Forgotten Crisis in Numbers: 16.5M PiN (68% of population), 7.4M IDPs, 6.1M refugees abroad. 90%+ poverty. INFORM rank 9 globally. 11 of 15 protection risks at maximum severity.

Compounding Crises: Conflict Meets Climate: 2025 drought affected 14.5M people on top of 12,376 political violence events in 2024. February 2023 earthquake killed 5,670 and affected 8M. Infrastructure too damaged to cope with rainfall anomalies (+160% in some governorates).

Aid Under Fire: 40 aid worker incidents in 3 years, 23 killed (all nationals). Aerial bombardment as leading means of attack. Contrast with chronic underfunding.

The Regional Spillover: 3RP requirements at \$4.7B with only 6.7% funded. 6.1M refugees across the region. Regional underfunding rank #8 with 'chronic' status.

Prepared by PRISM Platform | Data as of January 2026

Sources: OCHA FTS API, CERF, ACLED, EM-DAT, INFORM, HDX HAPI, UNHCR, Global Protection Cluster

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