



United Nations Population Fund / Syria  
صندوق الأمم المتحدة للسكان / سورية

**UNFPA Syria**

# Humanitarian Response to the Humanitarian Needs in Dara'a

## Flash Update #1

01 - 07 August 2021



## Situation Overview

Approximately 55,000 people reside in Dar'a Al-Balad, an area of Dara'a city. The current clashes follow weeks of tensions in the area. At this time, one road – Dar'a Al-Balad - Sijneh – remains open to civilian and commercial traffic and local markets and two bakeries are functional.

As of 6 August, it is reported that 20,565 people have been displaced across Dara'a governorate since 27 July. **From reports of UNFPA implementing partners (IPs) on the ground, the great majority of the displaced population is women and children.** Most of those displaced are hosted by the local community while 1585 are in shelters.

Following weeks of growing tensions, on 28 July, heavy shelling and intensified clashes were reported in Dara'a Al-Balad. According to OHCHR, the hostilities resulted in eight civilian deaths including one woman, one girl and three boys, and six injuries.<sup>1</sup>

In response to the situation in Dara'a, humanitarian partners have been providing emergency assistance to IDPs and affected communities in Dara'a city and surrounding areas. The humanitarian community continues to advocate with all parties to facilitate the rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian assistance to all affected areas and communities, including Dara'a Al-Balad directly.<sup>1</sup>

The recent hostilities have severely disrupted access to life-saving sexual and reproductive health services and hampered the ability to respond to gender-based violence, at a time when women and girls need these services most.



### Immediate Response



### Protecting Women and Girls and mitigating risks of Gender Based Violence

- The GBV coordination unit in coordination with the UNFPA field staff in Daraa, updated the referral pathway of GBV and shared it during the ad-hoc protection working group meeting to enable Protection Sector parties to refer GBV cases, may exist exist due to the displacement itself.
- 306 Sanitary Napkins (two packs per woman), targeting 153 women of reproductive age, 110 Female Dignity Kits (FDKs) and 10 Male Dignity kits (MDKs) were distributed by UNFPA IPs in four shelters, namely: Alnitaqenand and Heteen schools, and Moussa Ibn Noussair and Abdulrahman Ibn Ouf Mosques in Dara'a.
- On August 2, 2021, UNFPA's IP, the Syrian Family planning Association (SFPA) deployed two mobile teams (MTs) to the two shelters (Alnitaqen school and Heteen school) to distribute FDK after identifying the needs. On August 3, 2021, SFPA provided GBV services (psychosocial support (PSS) and case management) through the MTs in Mousa Inb Nousair Mosque/shelter.

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<sup>1</sup> [UNOCHA | SYRIA: DARA'A FLASH UPDATE Hostilities in Dara'a Governorate As of 2 August 2021](#)

<sup>2</sup> [UNOCHA | SYRIA: DARA'A FLASH UPDATE Hostilities in Dara'a Governorate As of 2 August 2021](#)



## Access to Reproductive Health

- SFPA integrated mobile team, supported by UNFPA, provided primary health care services in the shelters, including reproductive health needs, antenatal care, postnatal care, neonatal care, and referral to advance services to SFPA static clinics in Daraa city.



## Young People

- Planned interventions targeting young people were largely affected with the recent hostilities and shall be resumed once the situation on the ground allows resumption of the activities.



## Operational and Logistic Support

- UNFPA prepositioned 500 FDK, 200 MDK and 200 Adolescent Dignity Kits (ADK) in Dara'a.

### Next in response:

- In coordination with the SFPA, referral for women from inside the shelters to the UNFPA-supported RH static clinic will continue to provide RH services in a safe and secure environment and in a dignified manner.
- The UNFPA GBV Unit, with support from the GBV Sub-sector soon is due to start providing online coaching sessions on case management and safe referral for the case managers who work with UNFPA and other humanitarian actors to ensure provision of quality services in a timely, dignified and confidential manner.



## Challenges

- The tension and instability caused by the ongoing military operations, is resulting in considerably large displacement out of Dara'a Albalad area.
- As reported, accessibility to the shelters on a daily basis to provide services to the IDPs is not granted by all IPs. However, UNFPA, along with its IPs, is leveraging with relevant authorities to overcome this challenge.
- Identifying the locations of the IDPs who have been displaced to places other than the designated shelters.
- The lack of sufficient warehouses in the city of Dara'a imposes a challenge in regard to prepositioning kits to be later distributed. UNFPA is relying on a limited-capacity warehouse belonging to the facility run by SFPA.
- The power outages, especially during nighttime.
- Targeting IDPs hosted inside the community might need more resources as the provision of kits and services must reach the hosting community beside the IDPs to avoid any harm by responding only to the IDPs' needs.



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