

# SNAPSHOT

## As-Sweida Emergency Response

Update as of 16 October 2025



SYRIA

SHELTER AND NFI SECTOR

Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements



Photo credit: UNHCR/PUI



Total Collective Shelters  
(Dar'a & As Sweida): **79**

Collective Shelters in need  
of rehabilitation (Gap): **25**

Rehabilitated Collectives  
Shelters: **6**

Planned/ongoing  
Rehabilitation: **10**



## Needs

- **Core NFIs:** Approximately 70% of Core NFI kits (mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets, solar lamps) distributed were complete, while the remainder were partial kits, leaving several families still in need of full NFI support to meet minimum standards.
- **Winter NFIs:** No winterization distributions have been conducted so far. With temperatures already dropping, there is an urgent need for full winterization packages (blankets, mattresses, heaters, plastic sheeting, clothing, and fuel). Without timely assistance, displaced families face heightened risks of cold exposure and related health impacts.
- **Collective Shelter Upgrades:** Many collective centres urgently require basic repairs (doors, windows, partitions, lighting) before winter. In Dar'a, authorities identified 17 long-term shelters, of which 12 need immediate rehabilitation. In As-Sweida, 53 shelters remain active, 58% of them located in schools, with 17 shelters prioritized for urgent rehabilitation to ensure safety, privacy, and dignity for displaced families.
- **Tented Sites:** Around 176 tented sites are reported across Dar'a hosting displaced families (10–13 tents per site), many recently evacuated from schools.
- **Shelter Repairs in Areas of Origin:** Numerous houses in rural As-Sweida and Dar'a have been looted, vandalized, or burned, requiring minor to moderate repairs to facilitate safe, voluntary, and dignified returns.

## Response

- **Overall Coverage:** As of 16 October, partners have assisted 24,643 households (~121,123 individuals) across Dar'a, As-Sweida, and Rural Damascus with Shelter/NFI support.
- **Implementing Partners:** The majority of distributions were carried out by UNHCR (67%), followed by MWL (7%), DRC (5%), and NRC (4%), with the remaining 17% covered by AFH, AKF, Emirates Red Crescent, GOPA, ONSUR, ICRC, IFRC, IYD, IOM, IRS, MSF-Holland, PUI, PRCS, QRCS, SHAFK, SKT, EPDC, SARC, SSSD, TAS, and Violet.
- **Geographic Focus:** Assistance has been concentrated in Dar'a (53%), followed by As-Sweida (34%) and Rural Damascus (13%).

- **Planned Distributions:** Upcoming NFI distributions include 255 kits by DRC and 495 kits by AFS.
- **Collective Shelter Upgrades:** In **Dar'a**, UNHCR rehabilitated five shelters (Sahwa and Namer), which were later evacuated. Technical assessments for four additional sites (Izra, Mahja, Ghasm, Nahta) are ongoing, with rehabilitation works expected to start by end of October 2025. In **As-Sweida**, one shelter at Sports City, Salkhad has been fully rehabilitated by UNHCR/PUI, while works on four additional shelters (Shahba, Suwayda City, Marduk) are in progress. In **Rural Damascus**, UNHCR will commence rehabilitation of apartment rooms at Harjalleh Collective Shelter Centre to accommodate displaced families.
- **Energy Component:** UNHCR has installed solar lighting in 26 shelters in As-Sweida (90% progress) and 28 shelters in Dar'a (60% progress), enhancing safety and night-time security for displaced families and residents.

## Gaps and Constraints

- **Funding:** Current funding remains insufficient to meet winter NFI and shelter rehabilitation needs, resulting in significant coverage gaps.
- **Shelter Repairs:** Progress remains limited — in accessible areas due to funding shortfalls, and in inaccessible areas due to security restrictions, limited access, and low return movements
- **Relocation Options:** Families displaced from schools face a shortage of suitable relocation sites, heightening protection and dignity risks as winter approaches.
- **Collective Sites:** Many temporary shelters require urgent rehabilitation to meet basic safety, privacy, and dignity standards.

## Responding Organisations (26)

Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) | Action For Humanity (AFH) | Aid Fund for Syria (AFS) | Danish Refugee Council (DRC) | Emirates Red Cross | Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East (GOPA) | International Association for Relief and Development (ONSUR) | International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) | International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) | International Humanitarian Relief Association (IYD) | International Organization for Migration (IOM) | Islamic Relief Syria (IRS) | Medecins Sans Frontieres - Holland | Mercy without Limits (MWL) | Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) | Palestine Red Crescent Society | Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) | Qatar Red Crescent (QRCS) | Shafak Organization (SHAFAK) | SKT Organization (SKT) | St. Ephrem Patriarchal Development Committee (EPDC) | Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) | Syrian Society for Social Development (SSSD) | Takaful Al Sham Charity Organization (Takaful Al Sham) | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) | Violet Organization (Violet)



Photo credit: IOM/IYD