

Monthly Response

Shelter/NFI Cluster members are actively responding to the needs of both newly internally displaced persons and protracted IDPs in north-west Syria.

In May 2024 alone, NFI assistance was provided to over **9,345** individuals in the form of core NFI kits.

Additionally, the shelter needs of over **39,350** individuals were met in May including infrastructure improvements in IDP sites, dignified shelters, emergency shelter provision, and rehabilitation of damaged or unfinished shelters.

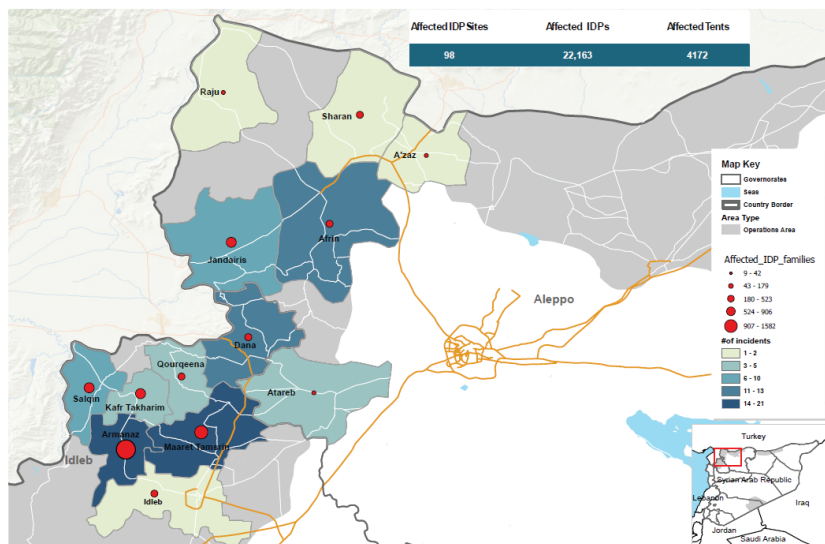
Flood responses Update (May 2024)

According to CCCM Cluster the summary of flood incidents that occurred in May 2024, which have significantly impacted several IDP sites in NWS.

During May, CCCM cluster recorded a total of 102 flood incidents across various IDP sites. These incidents affected 98 IDP sites, resulting in widespread damage.

A total of 4,172 tents were affected, with many of them either completely destroyed or partially damaged.

CCCM - Summary of Flood Incidents in May 2024



In total 4 SNFI members responded to 1687 households in 54 camps spread throughout the area affected with various shelter and NFI assistance.

Source: CCCM Cluster Flood Incidents in May 2024 Report.

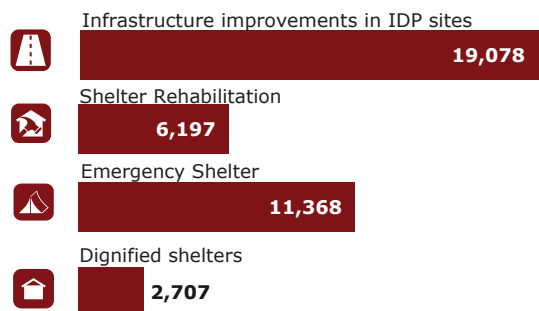
Shelter response

39,350
People reached in May

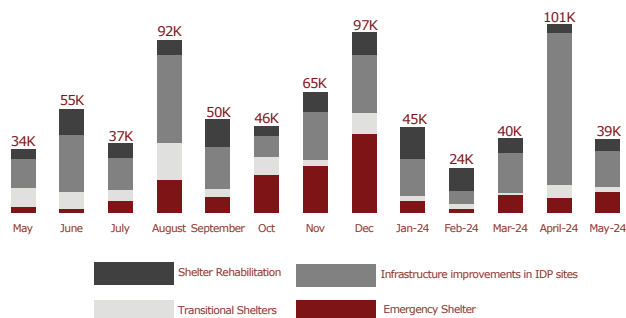
Approximately **248K** individuals have been reached with Shelter assistance since January 2024.

12 Partners

People reached with shelter activity



Trend analysis of people reached by shelter activity per month (2023-2024)



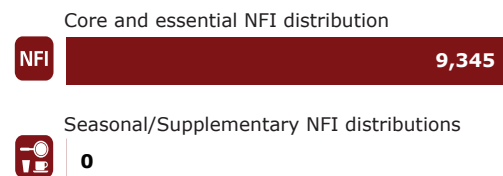
NFI response

9,345
People reached in May

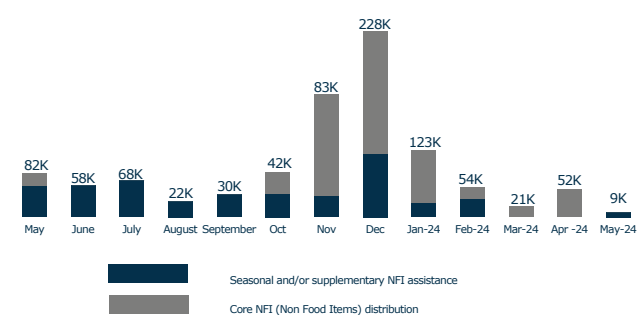
Approximately **260K** individuals have been reached with NFI assistance (including both core and seasonal NFIs) since January 2024.

11 Partners

People reached with in-kind items assistance



Trend analysis of people reached by NFI activity per month (2023-2024)



Winterization After Action Review Workshop 2023-24 Update

The Winter After Action Review Workshop for 2023-24 took place in Gaziantep on May 29th. Shelter/NFI Cluster members from INGOs, LNGOs, IOs, and UN agencies were invited to present and discuss best practices, lessons learned, and field feedback to improve the approach to Winterization projects in Northwest Syria. The Cash WG, SCHF representative, and some SAG members also attended the workshop.

Eight members with the largest winter assistance caseloads presented lessons learned, best practices, and their PDM findings results. They also shared anecdotal information they may have encountered. The workshop was attended by 35 participants from 27 organizations.

Summary of Lessons Learned:

1. Essential coordination with SNFI Cluster for effective interventions.
2. Clear communication and engagement with the affected population.
3. Robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for assessing impact and effectiveness.
4. Cash remains the preferred modality among assisted and affected households.
5. The E-voucher system significantly contributed to efficient and effective assistance management.
6. Community consultation in selecting the winter in-kind items increases efficiency and can reduce the selling of in-kind items.
7. The ability to use E-vouchers multiple times contributes to a seamless redemption process, mitigates crowding at redemption points, and respects different redemption hours for different family members.
8. Investing in strong quality control procedures ensures the effectiveness of the intervention.
9. Vulnerability Criteria: Using inclusive guidelines mitigated potential tension among affected vulnerable people, reducing the number of complaints about our winterization response.

Summary of Challenges:

1. Cash Flow Disruption: Cash flow to Northwest Syria was disrupted due to new Posta ve Telgraf Teşkilatı (PTT) regulations, requiring adjustments in transfer methods and cash withdrawals. During this period, cash distribution activities were temporarily suspended.
2. Winter Cash Value: There were concerns about the value of distributed assistance not being enough to cover needs due to inflation and deteriorating macro-economic factors.
3. Scarcity of Smaller Denominated Bank Notes: There was a shortage of USD 50 banknotes, both in terms of quality (old, torn, etc.) and quantity.
4. Shrinking Funding and Waning Donor Interest: Due to diminishing competing priorities and donor interest in Northwest Syria, members raised only 30% (approximately 29 million) of the financial requirement, reaching only 760K individuals out of the 2.1 million persons in need.
5. The Selective Targeting Approach for humanitarian assistance, specifically winterization support, continues to face resistance from local authorities and the affected population due to pressing needs and challenging economic circumstances in Northwest Syria.

Recommendations:

1. Continued Advocacy for Increased Funding: Collaborate with the S/NFI Cluster to advocate for increased funding.
2. Adjust Cash Distribution Amount: Consider altering the cash distribution amount based on family size and local price variations. However, due to funding limitations, it was deemed unfeasible at this time.
3. Integrate E-system into Winter Interventions: Use the E-voucher system for our winter intervention, distributing the same monetary value in 2 or 3 rounds. This practice provides consistent support during the winter months and aids beneficiaries in managing their resources effectively.
4. Relevance of Assistance: Given the positive feedback on winterization assistance, the continuation of this activity is recommended.
5. Cash Assistance is the preferred modality.
6. For E-voucher assistance: Beneficiaries appreciated the inclusion of clothes and shoe items in the list of redeemable e-voucher items since it provided families the opportunity to choose clothes that fit them. E-vouchers come with multiple advantages and cluster members are encouraged to explore this modality.
7. Selected Targeting: With shrinking funding, the S/NFI Cluster has agreed to shift from a blanket approach to a fully targeted winter approach next season. Further meetings with a smaller group will discuss the specifics and issues and make recommendations on how to implement this transition.



Picture Credit: SNFI Cluster