

# SNAPSHOT

As-Sweida Emergency Response

Update as of 7 August 2025



SYRIA

SHELTER AND NFI SECTOR

Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements



Photo credit: Action For Humanity (AFH)

## NEEDS



**191K** displaced individuals



**10%** in schools & public facilities



Need for essential HH items



Require shelter upgrades for safety & dignity

## RESPONSE



**36K** received essential HH items



**133HH** received cash for essential HH items



**5** sites upgraded with solar kits



**2.6K** essential HH items planned for distribution

## Situation Overview

- Since mid-July 2025, escalating inter-communal tensions and insecurity in As-Sweida Governorate have triggered widespread displacement and sharply increased shelter and NFI needs.
- As of 5 August 2025, over 191,000 people have been affected across multiple locations, including key sub-districts such as Salkhad, Busra Esh-Sham, Hrak, Mseifra, and Sayda.
- Initial assessments highlight overcrowding in collective shelters, widespread damage to public infrastructure, and critical NFI needs, particularly among newly displaced and returnee families. More than 90% of IDPs are hosted within local communities, while others reside in overcrowded schools and public facilities.



# Priority Needs & Gaps

- Emergency shelter is urgently needed for displaced households in Salkhad, Qrayya, and rural areas of Sweida, where many are currently sheltering in public buildings and religious sites.
- Immediate distribution of Core Non-Food Items (NFIs)—including blankets, mattresses, plastic sheets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, and solar lamps—is essential.
- Rapid upgrades to public infrastructure, especially schools and buildings used as collective shelters, are required to ensure dignified and safe living conditions.

## Operational Challenges

- Insufficient emergency shelter support for collective center establishment and upgrades; only 5 sites improved to date despite growing displacement.
- Funding gaps limit the scale and coverage of Shelter and NFI interventions, particularly in remote and underserved areas.
- Overburdened public buildings, particularly schools, risk disrupting education as the academic year approaches.
- Access constraints persist due to active hostilities, road closures (e.g. Damascus-Sweida highway), and insecurity, hindering timely aid delivery.

## Coordination & Next Steps

- The Emergency Response Mechanism (ERM) has been activated by the Shelter/NFI Sector, facilitating fast-tracked and coordinated partner response.
- Partners are urged to update ActivityInfo 4Ws and regularly populate the Sweida Emergency Response Tracker for timely reporting and response coordination.
- Continued engagement with the Cash Working Group (CWG) is underway to prevent duplication with MPCA activities in cash-capable areas.

## Responding Organisations

- Action For Humanity (AFH)
- Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
- Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch & all the East (GOPA)
- International Association for Relief and Development (ONSUR)
- International Humanitarian Relief Association (IYD)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Islamic Relief Syria (IRS)
- Mercy without Limits (MWL)
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- SKT Organization (SKT)
- St. Ephrem Patriarchal Development Committee (EPDC)
- Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC)
- Takaful Al Sham Charity Organization (Takaful Al Sham)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Violet Organization (Violet)



Photo credit: Mercy without Limits (MWL)