

# UNMAS Response to Displacement: The Case of Syria



Mine Action and Displacement Side Event  
20<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of Mine Action National  
Programme Directors and United Nations Advisors  
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# Overview of Displacement in Syria

- Syria is the largest displacement crisis globally
- Displacement into Syria from Iraq
- Multiple displacement
  - Compounds the already severe consequences for survivors of explosive hazards
- Movement is unsafe for a variety of reasons , including the threat posed by explosive hazards
- IDPs and returnees are particularly vulnerable to explosive hazards



Kobane, Aleppo, Northern Syria

# Displacement in Syria (as of end December 2016)

## → IDPs

**186,652** this month      **5.7M** in total

**41,738**  
households

**1,222**  
locations

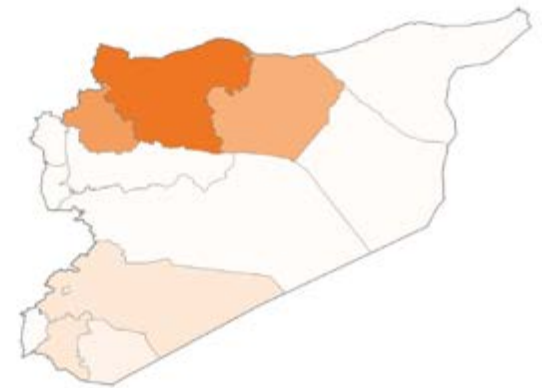
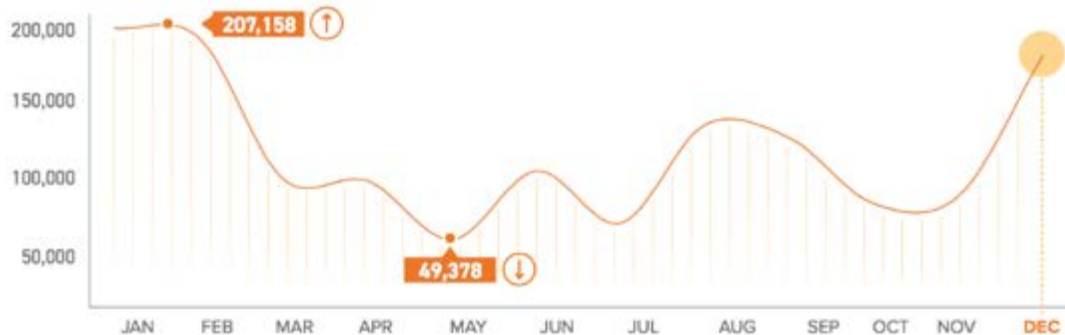
**40%**  
live in abandoned buildings

**26%**  
live with host family

**82%**  
fled due to violence

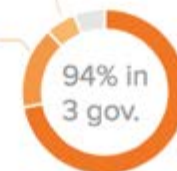
**56%**  
displaced for the first time

**18%**  
live in rented accommodation



6% in Ar-Raqqa

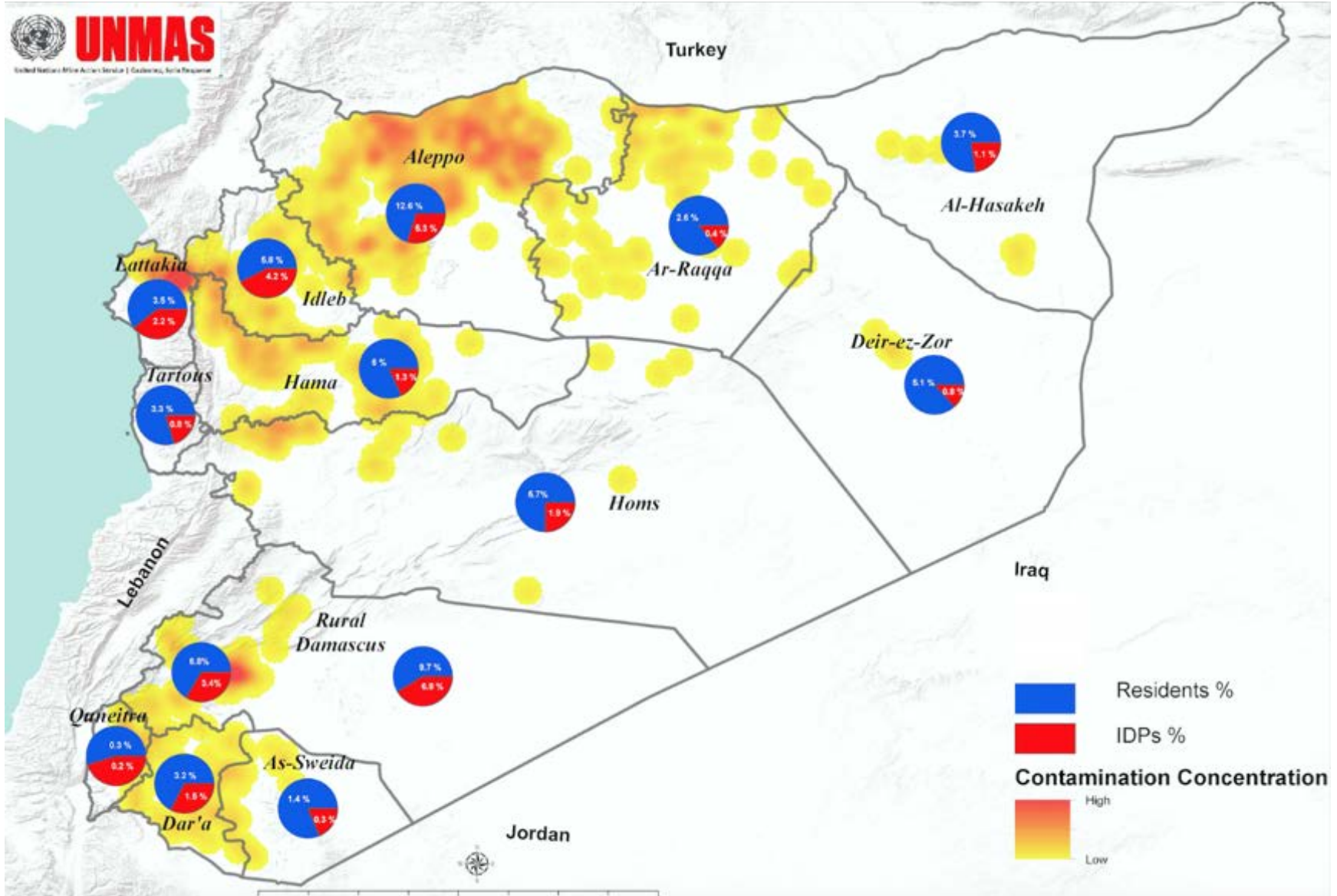
16% in Idlib



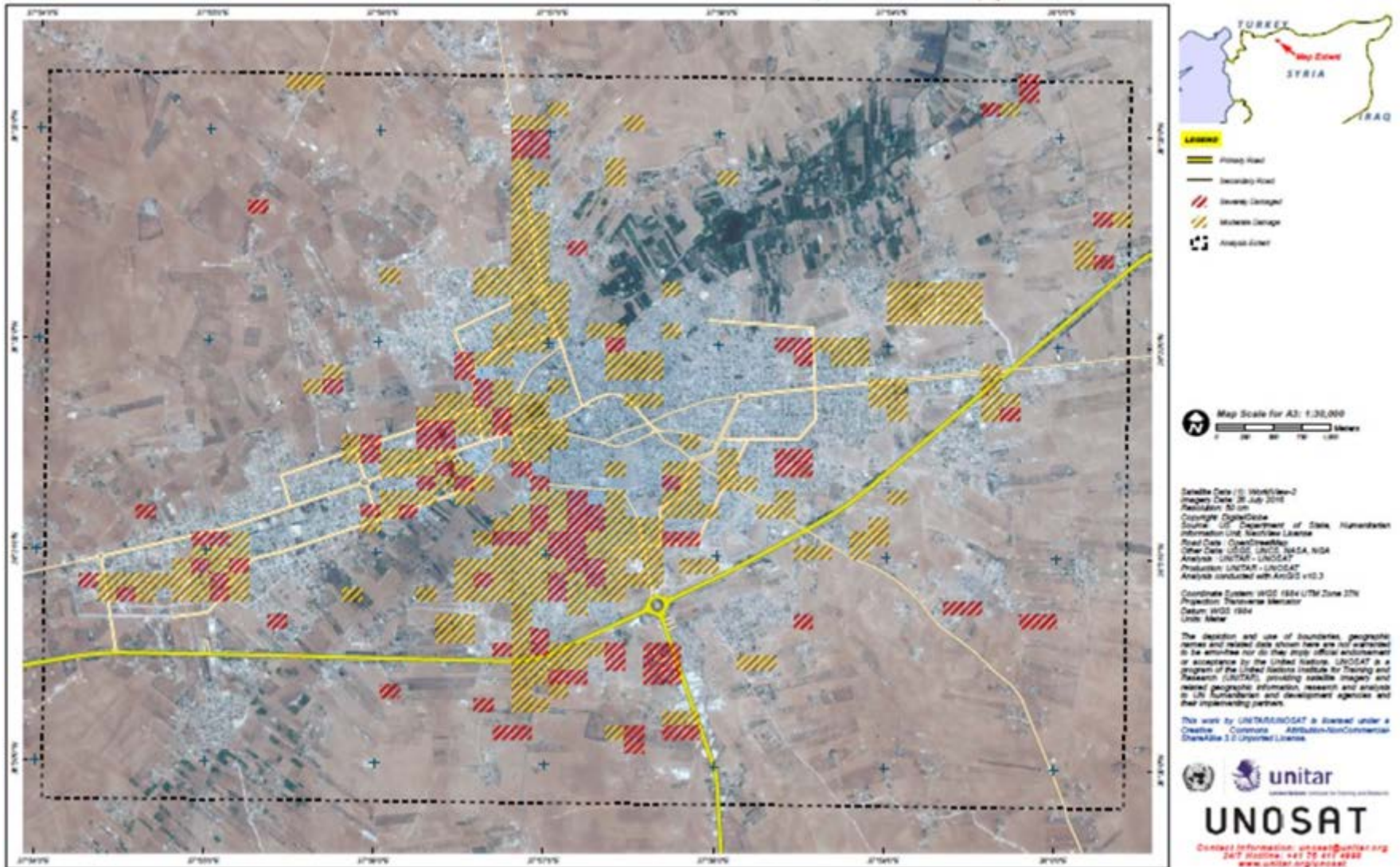
72% in Aleppo

91% in Jebel Saman sub-district

# Contamination and Displacement



# Emergency Response: A Case Study of Menbij



# UNMAS Response to the Long-Term Impact

*We are afraid of shelling. My daughter is ten years old. She was injured in an air strike. She sleeps clinging to my clothes.*

- Focus Group Discussion with displaced women
- (Mine Action Sub Cluster, Syria Response, 2016)

- Handicap International Report
  - 67% of those assessed sustained injuries directly related to the conflict
  - Of these: 53% are due to the use of explosive weapons.
- Long-term consequences exacerbated in the context of displacement:
  - 89% of people with injuries due to the use of explosive weapons have permanent or temporary physical impairments.
  - 80% expressed signs of high psychological distress.
  - 66% were unable to carry out essential daily activities because of feelings of fear, anger, fatigue, disinterest and hopelessness.
- UNMAS will expand the VA response in Syria in coordination with Health Cluster

